

Going forward with ICANN - The African Region Perspective

on

Policy Development for ICT and Internet- based Economy

Wednesday 28th March – 0900-1030

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Common Goal

To get the African communities involved in the
ICANN Process

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■ **SITUATION (at a Glance)**

1. National ICT Policy Development – key to Internet-based business development:

- Varied levels achieved – some countries have ICT Policies in place
- Lack of awareness-some are not **officially** aware of developments in ICT applications
- Not a **priority** (in many cases)

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■ SITUATION (at a Glance)(continued)

2. Human Capacity, Infrastructure and Financial constraints: these **issues are common.**
3. **Visibility** – ICT sector is perceived to be small-scale business ventures therefore interactions with ICANN are limited to a few aspirants (eg. academics, techies and volunteers)

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MAIN FACTORS

- Perceptions and changes in business and life styles
- Trust and confidence – difficult to carry out business transactions
- Reluctance to invest time and resources in a rapidly changing business environment due to emergence of new applications and technologies
- Regulations (who is actually responsible in the development of the Policy?)

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INTERVENTIONS (what is being done?...)

- ccTLD Managers and GAC members are **instrumental** in informing their respective Govts on Policy Development.
- NGOs are being seen as the **best practice** in the management of ccTLDs
- Communication Regulation Authorities and Ministries are active in the **development of ICT Policies** – assumed role in many cases.

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INTERVENTIONScontinued..

- Voluntary (Informal) Groups/Individuals are engaged in **raising awareness** and dissemination of developments that are taking place. Some success stories in some countries is the positive indicator.
- Some Heads of Governments have taken the **initiative to promote** the development of ICTs in their sub-regions
- e-Government, e-Education, e-Health, and.. e-Everything phenomenon is emerging and raising expectations within the communities.

Thank You!

Surge forward with ICANN...