Registries Stakeholder Group Statement

Issue:  Draft ICANN Africa Strategic Plan 2016-2020 Version 3.0

Date statement submitted:  10 September 2018


Background
A select committee of SO/AC representatives convened by the Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE) Africa team, reviewed the ICANN Africa Strategy 2016-2020 and compiled the draft reviewed strategy document, which is now up for public comment.

Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) comment:

The Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) wishes to express appreciation to all those working in and with developing regions on the development and execution of scalable and measurable programs to improve the diversity of ICANN, to inform and educate on the ICANN multistakeholder model, and to raise awareness of ICANN Internet policy.

The RySG welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Draft ICANN Africa Strategic Plan 2016-2020 Version 3.0 and wishes to make the following remarks:

•  *Strengthening ICANN’s Operations in Africa, including setting up a physical presence.*

  Setting up a physical presence in Africa has a budgetary impact and comes with recurring or longer-term budgetary commitments. Without details on the expected timeline, estimated setup cost and ongoing exploitation costs, and on how this fit into other budgetary projects and planning within ICANN, the RySG cannot comment, nor can support the initiative to set up an ICANN presence in Africa.

•  *African involvement in ICANN, Key measures*

  We believe that the set of metrics that can be used to gauge the current participation in the ICANN community by constituents from the African region should also include participation in the Fellowship Program.

  We encourage that the suggested metrics are collected and made available in a timely and financially responsible manner, so that they can serve as a baseline informing and guiding other projects and improvements going forward.

1 Background: intended to give a brief context for the comment and to highlight what is most relevant for RO’s in the subject document – it is not a summary of the subject document.