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AfTLD PRESS RELEASE

AfTLD Ends 4th Annual African ccTLD Event in Nairobi

Nairobi, March 10, 2010 – The African Top Level Domains Organization (AfTLD) has ended its 4th Annual African ccTLD event in Nairobi. This year's event included an Initial Registry Operation Course (IROC) in English and the 2010 Annual Meeting. The event was held back-to-back with the ICANN 37 Nairobi Public Meeting from the 2- 7 March 2010.

The IROC, which had 21 participants from 13 ccTLDs across Africa was held from 2 to 6 March.. Topics treated included, registry models and architecture, Domain Name System (DNS), security topics and a lot of hands-on activities. Steve Croaker, head of the ICANN Security & Stability Assurance Committee (SSAC) gave a half hour lecture on DNSSEC (security for DNS), during the workshop. At the end of the course, participants were given certificates and returned home with the skills to fix their registries to run according to best practice.

The Annual meeting was held on Sunday 7 March, with over50 participants in attendance. Presentations included, registry services by providers, updates from regional TLD organizational, some Af*members of the African Internet community, ISOC, ICANN and a discussion on ccTLD best practice by KeNIC , the local host. At the annual general meeting (AGM) of members, the Chairman presented his annual report, followed by the financial and operational reports. A decision was made on the need for every member-ccTLD to pay at least a minimum membership fee, which was agreed upon by the general assembly.

Two retiring directors were replaced by two elected board members at the AGM. Mr. Joe Kiragu, the keNIC manager and local host of AfTLD/ICANN meetings in Nairobi, was elected to replace Vincent Ngundi, while Dr. Alioune Traore of .ML replaced Mohamed El Bashir of .SD.

The Workshop and Annual Meeting/AGM was generously hosted by KeNIC and supported by ICANN, ISOC, NSRC, CORE TLD registry and AfriNIC, the African Regional Internet Registry (RIR). The social event was sponsored by GMO Registry and AGM lunch by AusRegistry.

Presentations and photos from the workshop and annual meeting can be found on the event homepage at <http://www.aftld.org/ke2010>

About AfTLD

AfTLD was established in 2002 to act as a focal point for African Country Code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) managers in coordinating, formulating, developing and presenting a unified approach to issues related to the Domain Name System. AfTLD also presents a forum for sharing ideas between the regions Internet community with an aim of promoting the utilization of national country's Top Level Domains.