Press Release – Dr Nii Quaynor receives John Postel Award

AfriNIC, the Regional Internet Registry for Africa, is very pleased to announce that Dr. Nii Quaynor, convenor of AfNOG and one of the authors of the original project plan to set up an African Internet Number Registry has been awarded the Jonathan B. Postel Award at the IETF-70 meeting on 5th December 2007 which was held in Vancouver Canada.

Dr. Nii Quaynor becomes the first African to receive this prestigious award from the Internet community. Each year, the Internet Society awards the Jonathan B. Postel Service Award. The award is presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions in service to the data communications community. The award includes a presentation crystal and a prize of US$ 20,000.

"Dr. Quaynor has selflessly pioneered Internet development and expansion throughout Africa for nearly two decades, enabling profound advances in information access, education, healthcare and commerce for African countries and their citizens," said Internet Society president Lynn St. Amour. "Today, Dr. Quaynor continues to champion not just technological advances but also African involvement in Internet standards, processes and deployments, discussion on Internet policies and regulations, and ensuring African interests are well-represented globally. He has shaped a community of Africans who share his vision and reflect the dedication shown by Jon Postel."

According to Adiel A. Akplogan, the CEO of AfriNIC, "This is an important milestone for the African technical community presence in the International forum. We expect this Award to have a huge impact on the community and will certainly emulate more contribution and commitment for Internet Protocol technology and it use for Development in the AfriNIC service region."

Dr. Nii Quaynor has pledged to dedicate his prize to contribute to the new fund being setup by AfriNIC to support Internet development in Africa (African Fund for Capacity Building, Research and Internet Development). He said: "We need to develop our young engineers to emulate the dedication to network engineering as exemplified by Jon Postel. We have to harness the pioneering work done by the dedicated technical leadership who have trained hundreds of young engineers through AfNOG and AfriNIC. The fund will make a difference in support for education and research of young engineers in Africa."

We would like all the African community to join us to congratulate Dr Nii Quaynor for his great contribution to the Internet community in Africa.

AfriNIC is a non-governmental and not-for-profit membership based organisation. Its main role is to serve Africa region as Regional Internet Registry, like the four other continents which have their own RIR.

AfriNIC's mission is "To provide professional and efficient distribution of Internet number resources to the African Internet community, to support Internet technology usage and development across the continent and strengthen self Internet governance in Africa by encouraging a participative policy development."

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