REPORT ON THE AFRICA REGIONAL AT LARGE LEADERSHIP (AFRALO) TRAINING AT THE AFRICA NETWORK INFORMATION CENTRE (AFRINIC) DURING THE AFRINIC 21 MEETING

The AFRALO leadership comprised of Aziz Hilali Chairperson, Barrack Otieno Secretary and Tijani Ben Jamaa, ALAC Vice Chair attended the AFRINIC 21 Meeting   held from 21st November 2014 to 28th November 2014.

This training was organized under the framework of cooperation between the Africa Network Information Centre and the Africa Regional At large Organization.

The AFRALO leaders attended AFRINICs INRM training http://training.afrinic.net/index.php/en/learn-modules-2/for-managers.

The objective of the training was to enable AFRALO's leadership understand and appreciate the role of the regional internet registry. After the training sessions AFRALO leadership was taken on a tour of AfriNIC offices at Raffles towers after which they had a full session with the head of membership services Arthur Nguessan.

Session With AFRINIC Head of Members Services Arthur Nguessan.

AFRALO leadership led by Chairman Aziz Hilali, ALAC Vice Chair, Tijani Ben Jamaa and Secretary Barrack Otieno had a training session with AFRINIC's head of member services Arthur Nguessan. During the Session Mr. Nguessan explained to AFRALO's leadership how the Africa Network Information Centre operates with respect to serving the Internet Community in Africa. Mr. Nguessan outlined the role of the Africa Regional At Large Organization in educating Internet Users on AfRINICs policy developement process. This is crucial in enabling users who are an important constituency participate in the Africa Networrk Information Centre Community. Mr Nguessan noted that it had been six years since Afrinics policy was last updated. He reiterated that there was need for the African community to be actively engaged in the Regional Internet Registries Policy developement and that AFRALO was a very important vehicle for the African Internet Community as a representative of Internet Users.

AFRICA Strategy Review and ICANN Session

AFRALO leaders also participated actively in a retreat whose objective was to review   ICANN's strategy for the AFRICA region. Leaders from other African Internet Organiations were present at the meeting as well.

AFRALO leadership also participated at the ICANN session where participants were introduced to the AFRICA Regional At Large Organization including its mandate and functions. This was done by AFRALO Chairman Aziz Hilali. Tijani Ben Jamaa also did a presentation on the Nom Com and encouraged participants to apply for ICANN leadership positions. This presentations were streamed live to online participants as well.

Conclusion

The visit to AFRINIC was very usefull to the AFRALO leadership. It strenghthened the relationship between AFRALO, AFRINIC and the ICANN Africa Stakeholder Engament team. It also enabled AFRALO's leadership to establish new contacts and partnerships   that would result in greater service to the African Internet Users Community.