Africa's map in the digital inclusion!

11 February 2008

Suzanne R. Sene,
Office of International Affairs,
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 4701
Washington, DC 20230
(pdf via email JPAMidTermReview@ntia.doc.gov)

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Re: Midterm Review of Joint Project Agreement (JPA) between United States Department of Commerce (DoC) and ICANN

The Dot. Africa Organization is to be the Sponsoring Organization and Registry Operator for the Dot. Africa sponsored Generic Top Level Domain. DotAfrica would like to support ICANN's submission to the NTIA with regard to the Midterm Review of its Joint Project Agreement. In particular:

- ICANN is meeting its responsibilities under the JPA
- The JPA and the seven Memorandums of Understanding before it have, over nine years, helped ICANN to become a stable organization
- ICANN has become more operationally efficient and has increased stakeholder participation
- As an organization ICANN can and should always do more and that must always be the case to keep pace with Internet developments;
- The ICANN Board believes that the JPA should be concluded
- The ICANN model of multi-stakeholder participation has developed for over nine years; and
- We now need to finalize that model and enshrine it by the time the JPA concludes in September 2009.

NOTE: DotAfrica believes that ICANN has made progress in all the 10 areas contained in the agreement, however, we also note and observe to date, the achievements within IDN falls short of ICANN's objective of wider markets, representation, and outreach; we remain hopeful that ICANN will give due consideration of these areas in the near future.

Overall, DotAfrica supports the conclusion of the JPA.

I would like to take his opportunity to reiterate our continued support to ICANN and it's activities in the future.

Sincere regards,

Sophia

Sophia Bekele
Former GNSO Board Councilor
Executive Coordinator (.Africa)
sbekele@dotconnectafrica.org
[*www.dotconnectafrica.org*](http://www.dotconnectafrica.org)