

GhNIC Board Meeting Background Information

1. ON-Going GhNIC Reforms

As per reform report, GhNIC has commenced a series of reforms to make the registry more efficient. The key reforms include the following:

- a) Changing of existing mixed structure and adoption of a hierarchical domain naming structure for scalability.
- b) Development of a Shared Thick Registry System with its ensuring online application for online domain registrations.
- c) Certification of Registrars to be sole authorities to register .gh domain to registrants.
- d) Continuation of process of participation in the global ccTLD community through engaging with ICANN and the global ccTLD community and examining the prospects of joining the ccNSO, the new ccTLD constituency of ICANN.
- e) Continuing engagement with WIPO to finalize the .gh Domain Dispute Resolution mechanism as already adopted and appoint WIPO as Domain Name Dispute Resolution Provider (DNDRP).
- f) Beginning the process to delegate management of existing Second Level Domains (SLD) such as .com.gh, .edu.gh, .net.gh, .org.gh as well as new ones such as .biz.gh, .info.gh to prospective delegees.

2. Geographic Names

The Geographic 2nd Level Domain (2LD) names falls within the 2LD policy regime as adopted by the registry and subject to review over time by the PAC and approved by Board. The geographic names are of critical importance in the wake of Government's ICT policy of ICT4AD. This mean it will be necessary to assign special identifier for regions and districts as well as cities and town with Ghana.

Considering our system adopted, we need to figure out how the naming will be

done for governmental and non-governmental organization. Many countries have adopted different approach. In Australia, a national committee was appointed to manage the process. I have attached RFC 1480 to meeting documents which describes the .US domain system and in particular the geographic domain. Also attached is the .AU 2LD Geographic name policy draft.

3. GhNIC Program for 2004

The main program of GhNIC would be to begin a process of public participation in policy development. In this respect, public participation will dominate all GhNIC programs.

Program

March 2005 Public Forum for Discussion on Geographic Name

April 2005 ccTLD Technical Training Workshop for Registrars/ Prospective Delegees of SLD

June 2005 Public Forum on Delegation of Second Level Domains

October 2005 GhNIC Annual General Meeting