**High Level Government Meeting - Kigali:**

**June 9th, 2024**

***(v”0.3” – March 2024)***

**Sunday – June 9th:**

08:45 – 09:15: Welcome and Introductory Remarks

* Ms. Paula Ingabire, Chair of the HLGM. Minister of [Information and communications technology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information_and_communications_technology) and Innovation
* ICANN CEO or ICANN Chair of the Board
* HLGM 2018 Host Representative – Spain (TBD)
* Video Message from Ms Doreen Bogdan, Secretary General ITU (exploring alternative option for participation)
* Mr Nicolas Caballero Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Each session will begin with a brief overview of the session topic followed by a panel discussion (around 40 minutes) and an open floor (60 minutes).

***All the names below are suggested by GE and must be confirmed.***

\_\_\_\_\_\_

09:15 – 11:00 **Session 1 - ICANN and the Multistakeholder Model**

***Timing***:45 minutes of presentation/panel discussion and 60 minutes for interventions from the floor

***Objectives of the Session***:

* Explain the role of ICANN in the global Internet Governance ecosystem
* Discuss ICANN’s evolution and contribution in supporting the growth of the Internet during the last 25 years
* Discuss the potential impacts of emerging technologies on the DNS and on ICANN future policy development

***Chair***: Ms. Paula Ingabire, Chair of the HLGM

***Moderator***: TBC

***Subject Matter Experts***:

* Role and evolution of ICANN: TBC
* Role of the GAC: TBC

***Panel***: Invited discussants **-** TBC

***Potential discussion points***:

* Accomplishments of the multistakeholder community over the last 25 years
* References to emerging technologies that may impact future DNS policy development
* Government involvement or participation in ICANN; its impact or potential for stronger cooperation ?

11:00 – 11:15: Coffee Break

11:15 – 13:00: **Session 2 - Cooperation and Governance**

***Timing***: 45 minutes of presentation/panel discussion and 60 minutes for interventions from the floor

***Objectives of the Session***:

* Stress the current main challenges the Internet Community is facing
* Emphazise the value of a strong cooperation between UN, ICANN, ITU and all relevant stakeholders to succesfuly address challenges and avoid Internet fragmentation

***Chair****:* Ms. Paula Ingabire, Chair of the HLGM

***Moderator****:* TBC

***Subject Matter Experts***:

* Overview of the ongoing/up coming UN Discussions
* Internet fragmentation and the value of single internet ecosystem

***Panel****:* Invited discussants **-**TBC

***Potential questions for the Panel***:

* Main issues to be adressed (digital divide, cybersecurity,…)
* The future of Internet governance?

13:15 – 14:30: Lunch (for Ministers, Heads of Delegations and ICANN high officials)

14:30 – 18:00 Afternoon Meeting Sessions:

Each session will begin with a brief overview of the session topic followed by an open floor and exchange of views.

14:30 – 16:15: **Session 3 - Towards a better Digital Inclusion**

***Timing***: 45 minutes of presentation/panel discussion and 60 minutes for interventions from the floor

***Objectives of the Session****:*

* Stress the importance of a holisitic answer to the Digital Divide issues (connectivity, local content and security/resiliency)
* Provide an overview on Meaningful Connectvity initiatives and current challenges

***Chair****:* Ms. Paula Ingabire, Chair of the HLGM

***Moderator***: TBC

***Subject Matter Experts***:

* Digital Divide challenges, State of Play: TBC
* The concept of Meaningful connectivity: TBC

***Panel***:Invited discussants **-**TBC

***Potential discussion points***:

* Connecting the next Billion, current initiatives and challenges?
  + The development of local content (Internationalized domain names/Universal Acceptance, ccTLDs)
  + The need to ensure a single, stable, secure and resilient Internet
* The development of “digital economies” in Africa and other underserved regions
* New round of generic top level domains applications, Applicant Support Program, Universal Acceptance

16:15 – 16:30: Afternoon Coffee Break

16:30 – 18:00: **Session 4 - Support the Development of Meaningful Connectivity in Africa**

***Timing***:40 minutes of presentation/panel discussion and 50 minutes for interventions from the floor

***Objectives:***

* Overview of the current State of Play (Challenges, Initiatives)
* Report on main Coalition for Digital Africa initiatives

***Chair****:* Ms. Paula Ingabire, Chair of the HLGM

***Moderator***: TBC

***Subject Matter Expert***:

* Overview of Digital Divide challenges and Meaningful Connectivity initiatives in Africa
* Presentation of the Coalition for Digital Africa (Objectives, Partners, Initiatives)

***Panel***: African Ministers/Head of Regulators, Coalition for Digital Africa Partners, TBC

***Potential discussion points***:

What are the main challenges African countries are facing in terms of Digital Divide?

What ICANN Org and ICANN Community are doing/can do to support African countries in the development of their digital national ecosystem?

18:00 – 18:15: **Closing Ceremony**

* Summary remarks from Nicolas Caballero, Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee
* Closing remarks by ICANN Board Chair or ICANN CEO
* Chairman Report/Summary and Closing delivered by Chair: Ms. Paula Ingabire, Chair of the HLGM. Minister of Information and communications technology and Innovation

18:30 – 20:00: **Reception for High-Level Officials**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Operating Considerations**:

*Requesting Meeting Speaking Opportunities -*

Attending delegations are invited to seek specific comment/discussion slots in the topic areas of interest/objectives outlined for each session.

Delegations are kindly requested to plan for one three (3) minute statements for any session in which they have an interest. Efforts will be made to accommodate all requests.

Due to overall meeting time limits, if a delegation has an interest in requesting sessions time slots for more than one session, the delegation is asked to indicate their topic order of preference - as preference will be given to delegations who have not yet spoken during the program.

Requests for speaking slots should be directed to [gac-staff@icann.org](mailto:gac-staff@icann.org) (Cc [maeva.devoto@icann.org](mailto:maeva.devoto@icann.org) ; [laurent.ferrali@icann.org](mailto:laurent.ferrali@icann.org) ; [charles.gahungu@rura.rw](mailto:charles.gahungu@rura.rw))

(Email addresses to be confirmed by host government and speaking requests will be shared between host government and ICANN GAC Support staff only.)

*Impact of Speaking Requests -*

Meeting planners will be flexible in managing the timing of each session to accommodate the interest level of attendees. Based on the current timing of the HLGM agenda, each of the three plenary sessions will generally be able to accommodate 20 speaking slots – allowing for a brief 9-minute introduction to each topic and transition time between speakers. Available slots may be further reduced if additional content or “dynamic” discussion is anticipated. Session timing for the meeting day may be adjusted closer to the actual meeting date to reflect the overall interest in each topic – as indicated by speaking slot requests.

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

# # #