MEETING REPORT

2016 African Chapters Advocacy Meeting

Yaoundé Cameroon
19th to 20th September 2016

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Introduction & Objective:

The objective of the 2016 African Chapters Meeting in Yaoundé - Cameroon, was to bring together African Chapters representatives to learn about **advocacy** techniques and discuss important **policy** topics related to the open development of the Internet in Africa. We later on the 21st of September 2016 had a live node in Yaoundé to the **Intercommunity2016** that brought together the global community to share on how to help build a world that supports everyone's right to use the internet to share knowledge, Innovate and get their voices heard.

Following the completion of the meeting, this report therefore presents highlights and key issues that emerged from the African Chapters Advocacy Meeting that was held on 19th to 20th September 2016 in Yaoundé Cameroon. The meeting was organized by Internet Society Cameroon Chapter with support from The Internet Society.

Key Issues that were in focus

1. Thinking about advocacy, 2. Stakeholder role play, 3. Updating action plans

The meeting begun with introductions from all participants who attended the meeting and everyone gave their expectations for attending the 2016 Africa Chapters Meeting.

The major issue that was in focus was "**Thinking about Advocacy**"

Carl Gahnberg, a policy advisor from Geneva Switzerland facilitated this session with a presentation that gave highlights on the explicit rules that affect how we use internet. He talked about Internet policy advocacy techniques to influence Internet public policy development at the national level.

We later had a breakaway session had the following guiding questions;

a) What do I want?
b) What do I need to know?
c) Do I have a clear goal? Can I concretize it? Give examples.
d) Who do I need to talk to?

Carl presented about Internet Access, Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) and Local Internet Content. Carl also gave an Introduction and presentation of ISOC policy briefs and other advocacy resources for chapters (Local content, IXPs, Interconnection). Guiding questions were: 1. Set a goal, 2. What are my priorities? 3. What are my constraints? 4. What would help me achieve my goals?

Carl also made an Introduction and presentation of ISOC policy briefs and other advocacy resources for chapters (Privacy, Identity on the Internet, Trust framework). The last breakaway session required us to formulate two groups one focusing on "Regulation" and the other on "Access". Each group was required to answer these two questions using their area of approach; "*What are the greatest challenges, and what can we do to promote Access?*"

Recommendations:

I would recommend that ISOC Uganda Chapter starts up a campaign to set up a common fund where all ISPs in Uganda can make a percentage **contribution** to this fund. This money can from time to time be used to extend infrastructure to far reach areas like northern Uganda and other areas in an attempt to promote easy access to internet.

Conclusion:

In an attempt to stay in touch as chapters, we want to cultivate **collaborations between chapters** and then have **peer review of policy documents** in case of any. We resolved to keep updating each other in group emails.

I would like to extent my sincere appreciation to the **ISOC Uganda Chapter** for the opportunity to represent the chapter at such a meeting. The knowledge harvested at this meeting will be used in the development of the Chapter.

ISOC policy briefs and other advocacy resources for chapters (**Privacy, Identity on the Internet, Trust framework, Local content, IXPs, Interconnection**) will be available on the website www.internetsociety.ug or you can contact me directly on smartjosh2k@gmail.com to get these resources.

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Internet Society Uganda Chapter