



## **Press Release**

### **World IPv6 Launch, 6 June 2012**

#### **Cybercity, Ebene, Mauritius, 4 June 2012**

As the world celebrates the launch of the Internet Protocol version six (IPv6), we are proud to be associated with this global launch and deployment which represents the next evolution of the Internet. On this day, thousands of companies and millions of websites are permanently enabling the next generation of Internet Protocol (IPv6) for their products and services.

World IPv6 launch participants include the four most visited websites in the world – Google, Facebook, YouTube, and Yahoo! – as well as home router manufacturers and Internet Service Providers in more than 100 countries.

Although Africa is yet to exhaust its share of the current Internet Protocol version four (IPv4), there is need to ensure the continent moves forward with the rest of the world. This is an opportunity for the continent to demonstrate its commitment to the provision of a stable, reliable, open and affordable Internet to the majority of the people who are still disconnected from this important international resource. We thus call upon businesses, equipment vendors, Internet service providers, and governments to work towards ensuring that the Internet works for Africans.

AFRINIC is deeply committed to the development and embracement of IPv6 and is working with our partners and stakeholders to ensure stable and reliable Internet in Africa.

#### **Notes to Editors**

##### **About AFRINIC**

The African Network Information Center (AFRINIC) is the Regional Internet Registry (RIR) for Africa, responsible for the distribution and management of Internet number resources such as IP addresses throughout the African region.

AFRINIC's mission is to provide professional and efficient distribution of Internet number resources to the African Internet community, to support Internet technology usage and development across the continent and to strengthen Internet self-governance in Africa by encouraging a participatory policy development.



### **About the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs)**

Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) are independent, not-for-profit membership organisations that support the infrastructure of the Internet through technical coordination. There are five RIRs in the world today. Currently, the Internet Assigned Numbers Association (IANA) allocates blocks of IP addresses and ASNs, known collectively as Internet number resources, to the RIRs, who then distribute them to their members within their own specific service regions. RIR members include Internet Service Providers (ISPs), telecommunications organisations, large corporations, governments, academic institutions, and industry stakeholders, including end users.

The RIR model of open, transparent participation has proven successful at responding to the rapidly changing Internet environment. Each RIR holds one to two open meetings per year, as well as facilitating online discussion by the community, to allow the open exchange of ideas from the technical community, the business sector, civil society, and government regulators.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.afrinic.net>

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### **Issued by:**

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