## **REPUBLIC OF KENYA**



## MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS Office of the Minister

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Rod Beckstrom CEO ICANN 4676 Admiralty Way , Suite 330 Marina del Rey , CA 90292-6601 USA Phone:+ 1 310 823 9358 Fax: 1 310 823 8649 rod.beckstrom@icann.org

Dear

## **RE: KENYA'S POSITION ON DOT AFRICA gTLD PROJECT**

Following the Declaration of the African Union Heads of State Summit Held in February 2010 in Addis Ababa and the recommendation of the African Union Conference of Ministers in Charge of Communication and Information Technologies (CITMC) held in Johannesburg in 2009 and Abuja in 2010 respectively to carry out the steps to secure resources including Dot Africa TLD, the AU initiated a processes to secure the Dot Africa TLD for regional purposes.

The Government of Kenya, having supported the Heads of State Declaration and the Ministerial recommendations, applauds the AU initiative and urges the AU to proceed in earnest to have the dot Africa registry established.

Kenya, furthermore expresses that the regional geographic TLD strings Dot Africa, Dot Afrique and Dot Afrika be set aside by ICANN for the regions' use under the auspices of the African Union and that the new gTLD bid process should not result in the string(s) being inadvertently assigned without the African Union Commission(AUC)) determination.

In the light of the Declaration by the AU, permit me to say that it will be unacceptable for the Continental TLD to be treated as a generic TLD which creates a potential hijack of regional names on Africa for private use denying the continent presence in the DNS.

Yours furcely Sam Phin

Hon/Samuel Poghisio, EGH, MP **MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS** 

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