PRESS RELEASE

AfTLD's Initial Registry Operation Workshop to be held in Burkina Faso

The African Top Level Domains Organization (AfTLD), the association of African country code top level domains (ccTLDs), will be hosting an initial Registry Operation Course (IROC) workshop in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) for its Francophone African ccTLDs in January 2012. The workshop which will be hosted by ARCE, Burkina Faso's Telecommunication regulator, will be held from 9 – 13 January 2012. The medium of instruction will be French. The workshop is in line with AfTLD's key strategic objective of building capacity of African ccTLDs with an aim of improving and enhancing Africa's internet infrastructure.

The Ouagadougou workshop is the first of the regular events that AfTLD holds on an annual basis. The event follows a successful Attack & Contingency Response Planning (ACRP) workshop that AfTLD held in Accra during its 2011 annual conference. This is not the first time AfTLD is holding a registry operations (ROC) workshop. In fact in December 2009, AfTLD held a similar IROC workshop in Dakar, and this was followed by a similar workshop for both English and French speaking African ccTLDs which was held in Nairobi in March 2010.

An Advanced ROC workshop was subsequently held in Bamako (Mali) in September 2010 for both English and French speaking ccTLDs.

As has been normally the case with the past events, the Ouagadougou workshop is supported by NSRC, ISOC and ICANN – AfTLD's consistent sponsors and partners. Travel and/or

accommodation fellowships will be granted to qualifying ccTLDs. For further information about these and the event in general please contact AfTLD secretariat at secretariat@aftld.org.

About AfTLD

The African Top Level Domains Organization was established in 2002 to act as a focal point for African Country Code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) managers in coordinating, formulating, developing and presenting a unified approach to issues related to the Domain Name System. The African Top Level Domains Organization also presents a forum for sharing ideas between the regions Internet community with an aim of promoting the utilization of national country's Top Level Domains.