MESWG 2nd Teleconference
21-Jan 2013
10:00-11:00 UTC

Attendees: Imad Honallah, Mohamed El-Bashir, Manal Ismail, Christine Arida, Khaled Koubaa, Charles Shaban, Ali Almeshal, Nabil Bukhalid, Sarmad Hussain, Rafik Dammak.

Summary of discussions:
- Started off the call with a question on whether the list of questions / points compiled by Sarmad and circulated yesterday in a Template could provide a good starting point to move forward; several views where shared including:
- The group need to start with something and build on it rather than spending too much time on planning; the Template should be a good starting point;
- Filling in the Template could lead to the formulation of three main elements of the strategy: Scope/Objectives; Methodology (the list underneath the "engagement" section); Content or substance (the list underneath "areas of interest");
- Start with indentifying strategic objectives for the region; build a matrix that maps what is currently in the Template with ICANN's strategic objectives; parallel to that a sub-group could work on a draft outline (skeleton) for the strategy document, how it would look like; use the Africa strategy as a reference; also use mailing lists such as ArabICANN for public consultations;
- More focus should be on the 2nd half of the Template "areas of interest" because it is where the substance is, and the suggestion for the WG was to start by identifying certain areas of interest to our community (may need to go through more than one iteration to reach consensus on those areas); then see where they fit within ICANN's strategic plan;
- It was made clear that items currently listed under "areas of interest" (capacity building and DNS industry) were only examples; the WG will have to come up with a list; it was also agreed that while looking into the different areas the WG would also identify problems /

weaknesses / gaps, in these areas and suggest solutions or plan of action;

- Once the WG agree on "areas of interest" or "buckets" then a sub-group could be created to work on the details of each area including objectives, actions/projects, metrics, etc.

Proposal for next steps:
- Each WG member to come up with their own list of a) overall objectives of the strategy; b) priority areas (buckets) for the region, and have discussion over email to compile the two lists;
- A sub-group to start drafting an outline (skeleton) for the strategy document; Mohamed El-Bashir volunteered to be on the sub-group; more volunteers needed;
- Next call (on 4-Feb) to focus on the draft outline, and remaining working under each area/bucket.

Action Items

1. Baher to start with throwing preliminary lists of objectives / priority areas for the WG to discuss, modify and improve; deadline 22-Jan;
2. Each WG member to put forward two lists: a) overall objectives of the strategy; b) priority areas for the region; deadline 26-Jan;
3. WG to continue the discussion over email and compile lists; deadline 3-Feb;
4. A sub-group to draft an outline (skeleton) for the strategy document; deadline 3-Feb.