



GHANA COMMUNICATION MINISTER TO INAUGURATE THE GHANA NETWORK OPERATORS' GROUP

For Immediate Release

July 8, 2009: Honorable Haruna Idrissu, the Minister of Communication will on Friday, July 31 deliver the keynote address and officially launch the Ghana Network Operators' Group (ghNOG), at a gathering of ICT specialists at the University of Cape Coast, Ghana. The inauguration will take place immediately after the first 'AfNOG E0 Localization' Unix Systems Administration Workshop, which is an initiative of Internet Society, in partnership with Network Startup Resource Center (NSRC) and Africa Network Operators' Group (AfNOG).

The Ghana Network Operators' Group will be the main organizer of the AfNOG E0 **Localization Workshops**, which will take place twice annually to build ICT capacity in the country. The Group is a country-based network operators' group fashioned along the continental AfNOG, with a focus on sharing technical experience, knowledge, as well as challenges in operating networks in Ghana. The Group will include network operators from commercial entities, government and not-for-profit organizations, and academia. To see AfNOG E0 Localization workshop press release, please go to http://www.isoc.gh/pressrelease_e0_localization.pdf

A series of presentation are lined up for the launch, including the role of National Research and Education Networks (NREN) in national development, prospects and challenges of an enhanced Internet infrastructure for Ghana, and issues on the Information Society and the Internet Governance Forum (IGF). Key persons from the ICT sector in academia, government and industry will be present at meeting to speak on these issues.

The Internet Society Ghana Chapter is facilitating the workshop and first meeting of ghNOG. For more information about the workshop and GhNOG meeting, please got to <http://www.isoc.gh/e0local>

About AfNOG (www.afnog.org)

The Africa Network Operators Group is a forum for the exchange of technical information. The goal of AfNOG is to share experience of technical challenges in setting up, building and running IP networks on the African continent. AfNOG holds annual workshops in various venues in Africa offering advanced training to network operators who are participants in the process of developing and enhancing a national Internet with regional and international connectivity.

About Network Startup Resource Center (www.nsrc.org)

The Network Startup Resource Center (NSRC) is a non-profit activity that has worked since the late 1980s to help develop and deploy networking technology in various projects throughout Asia/Pacific, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and the New Independent States. Partially supported by grant award 0726077 from the US National Science Foundation, the NSRC provides technical and engineering assistance to international networking initiatives building access to the public Internet, especially to academic/research institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The NSRC is based at the University of Oregon.

About Internet Society (www.isoc.org)

The Internet Society (ISOC) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1992 to provide leadership in Internet related standards, education, and policy. With offices in Washington D.C., USA, and Geneva, Switzerland, it is dedicated to ensuring the open development, evolution and use of the Internet for the benefit of people throughout the world.

For over 15 years ISOC has run international network training programs for developing countries and these have played a vital role in setting up the Internet connections and networks in virtually every country connecting to the Internet during this time.

The Internet Society has more than 80 organizational and more than 28,000 individual members in over 80 chapters around the world.

About Internet Society Ghana Chapter (www.isoc.gh)

The Internet Society Ghana Chapter (ISOC-Ghana) is a not-for-profit organization and official Chapter of the Internet Society. The mission of ISOC –Ghana is to inform the private and public community of Internet users, on recent developments in Internet technologies and their impact on today's global society.

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