Written by Ashil
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Anne-Rachel Inne receives the 2010 NI&I Service Award

The African Network Operators Group (AfNOG) has awarded Anne-Rachel Inne the Network Information & Infrastructure (NI&I) Service Award for 2010 in recognition of her contribution to improving and sustaining Africa's Internet environment. AfNOG presented the Award during its 11th Meeting and the celebration of AfriNIC's five years of operation held in Kigali, Rwanda on 2nd June, 2010.

The NI&I Service Award was instituted in 2009 during AfNOG's 10 years anniversary by Dr Nii Narku Quaynor, who himself received the Internet Society's prestigious Jonathan Postel Award in 2007 for his service in the region and example of dedication, commitment and leadership for the young generation to emulate.

"Anne Rachel Inne came from the business sector but engaged in the technical community work at global level to strengthen the African local community" says Dr Nii Quaynor, AfNOG Convener and honorary Chair of the NII Award. "This year's award recognizes a woman who very early engaged herself with the community and worked in supporting ccTLDs and communities through re-delegation processes and other Internet related issues'. According to Adiel Akplogan, CEO of AfriNIC and recipient of the 2009 NII Service Award "Recognizing her efforts and her work seem to me the obvious choice for the Award Committee. I am very proud to share this recognition with Anne-Rachel who, as a woman found her way through an environment dominated by men and excelled. I look forward to working with her to do more for our dear continent". Anne-Rachel currently works with the Internet Cooperation for Assigned Names & Numbers (ICANN) as the regional relations Manager. She is very active in leading the organization's efforts to improve Internet infrastructure and Policy in the Africa Region. Before handing over the Award to Anne-Rachel, Dr Nii Quaynor stated that "She has also demonstrated an immense commitment with her continued engagement with AfriNIC & AfNOG communities in the interest of Africa as a whole. Anne-Rachel has made the African Internet Technical community better known to many African economic and political organizations".

Anne-Rachel is holder of a Master of Literature and an MBA in International Finance/Economics. She used to work as a model, a translator/Interpreter, a sales manager and a highly appreciated ICT4D consultant. She produced and publicized Learning by Doing: Lessons emerging from the ICT Stories Projects for the benefits of projects and the wider community. She was a member of the Bureau of the African Group at WSIS; a representative of the African Private Sector Member of the Gender Coalition during WSIS and helped write Creating Your Own National Gender Programme – A Practical Guide. Anne-Rachel is featured as ICT Expert in the ILO/IOM book for the AUC: African Women at the Service of the Union.

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Michuki Mwangi receives the 2010 NI&I Young Professional Award

Michuki Mwangi is an Internet Technologist specializing in IXPs, DNS and Policy development.

Michuki joined ISOC in April 2008 as Senior Education Manager. working with the Education team to promote Internet growth and sustainability in the developing world.

Michuki was an Internet technology consultant and he previously served as the Administrative Manager at the .KE registry (KENIC). He is the President of the African Top Level Domain (AfTLD) Association and continues to serve as Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of the Kenya Internet Exchange Point (KIXP)in a volunteer capacity.

He is active in the African Network Operators Group (AfNOG), the Country Code Name Supporting Organization (ccNSO) of ICANN, AfriNIC (the Regional Internet Registry for Africa), and several other local and international technology groups.

Michuki holds a diploma in computer analysis and design from Data Center College in Nairobi, Kenya.