Statement of Interest

2027 NextGen@ICANN Mentor Program

Godsway Kwaku Kubi
Ghana | Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG) / Non-Commercial Users Constituency (NCUC)

I am pleased to express my strong interest in serving as a mentor for the 2027 NextGen@ICANN Program, covering ICANN88, ICANN89, and ICANN90. As an active member of the ICANN community, a two-time ICANN Fellow, and a youth and Internet governance advocate, I see this opportunity as a meaningful way to give back to the community by supporting the next generation of Internet governance leaders.

My journey within ICANN has been shaped by participation in the Fellowship Program at ICANN85 in Mumbai and ICANN87 in Bali. These experiences have strengthened my understanding of ICANN's multistakeholder model, policy development processes, and technical coordination responsibilities. Beyond the Fellowship, I have continued contributing to the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG), the Non-Commercial Users Constituency (NCUC), and discussions on domain name system (DNS) security, DNS abuse mitigation, and registrant rights.

During ICANN87, I delivered presentations on strengthening local DNS resilience through global security practices and on non-commercial stakeholder concerns relating to the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP). These engagements have given me practical experience translating complex technical and policy discussions into accessible, meaningful conversations for diverse audiences.

Beyond ICANN, I have demonstrated a sustained commitment to youth development, mentorship, and digital capacity building. I serve as Lead Facilitator of the Internet Society's Online Safety Community, have engaged in mentorship activities through the Ghana School on Internet Governance, and served as Local Coordinator for the 2026 Africa Youth Internet Governance Forum in Accra. These experiences have strengthened my abilities in facilitation, cross-cultural engagement, community building, and supporting emerging leaders.

My motivation to serve as a NextGen mentor is rooted in the belief that meaningful participation in Internet governance requires more than attendance at meetings. Young participants need guidance, accessible knowledge, professional networks, and encouragement to move from learning about ICANN to contributing actively to its work.

If selected, I would prioritize helping NextGen participants understand ICANN's structures, identify areas aligned with their interests, connect with relevant community members, prepare for meaningful participation in ICANN meetings, and establish pathways for continued

engagement beyond the program. I would also encourage inclusive participation and help participants develop the confidence to contribute their perspectives to policy discussions.

I am committed to dedicating the necessary time and effort to supporting participants throughout the mentorship process, including preparation before meetings, active engagement during meetings, and follow-up afterward.

I would be honoured to receive the support of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) for this nomination and to contribute to developing a new generation of informed, confident, and engaged ICANN community members.

Godsway Kubi
ICANN85 & ICANN87 Fellow
NCSG / NCUC Member