

**Project Title:** Regulating the Internet: A Human Rights Legal Perspective

**Date:** 20 September – 1 October 2010

**Location:** University of Nottingham

**Unit:** Short Courses and Training

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**Funder:** Office of the Attorney General for Kano State of Nigeria

### **Project Summary**

In 2010, HRLC hosted a two-week residential training course for 12 officials from the Kano State of Nigeria. The project provided advice from leading experts in their field about the practical implications and considerations of regulating Internet law. The course placed special emphasis on the main human rights issues which arise when devising the legislative framework for Internet regulation.

### **Objectives**

The aim of the course was to provide Kano State officials with a deeper understanding of Internet regulation law, with an emphasis on human rights protections, to enable them to develop policy on Internet regulation.

### **Participants**

The training course was attended by 12 officials, including the Attorney General of Kano State, the Commissioner for Technology, the Commissioner for Planning and Budget and members of the Kano State judiciary.

### **Activities**

The programme comprised the main issues pertaining to Internet regulation such as intellectual property law, the management of critical Internet resources, negotiating public policy principles for the Internet, an introduction to E-commerce law, and Internet governance. In addition to this, the course considered the human rights issues which arise from Internet regulation, such as data protection and privacy, defamation, freedom of expression and child protection.

### *Method*

The course provided an in-depth theoretical grounding in the subject area, while also highlighting the realities of practice and key human rights issues to be considered when

developing Internet policy. The training methodology was highly participatory and interactive, which enabled reciprocal learning. The participants and trainers were able to exchange information, experiences and professional skills with one another.

### *Speakers*

The speakers included academic experts in Internet law, government officials and practitioners who specialise in Internet governance.

### **Outcomes**

Nineteen sessions provided in depth content, enabling participants to take into consideration the key human rights issues when developing Internet policy.