ICANN & Global Partnerships

ICANN

Baher Esmat
Manager, Regional Relations
Middle East

ccTLD Training, Amman
26-29 Nov, 2007

What is ICANN?

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) is an internationally organized, non-profit corporation that has responsibility for Internet Protocol (IP) address space allocation, protocol identifier assignment, generic (gTLD) and country code (ccTLD) Top-Level Domain name system management, and root server system management functions.
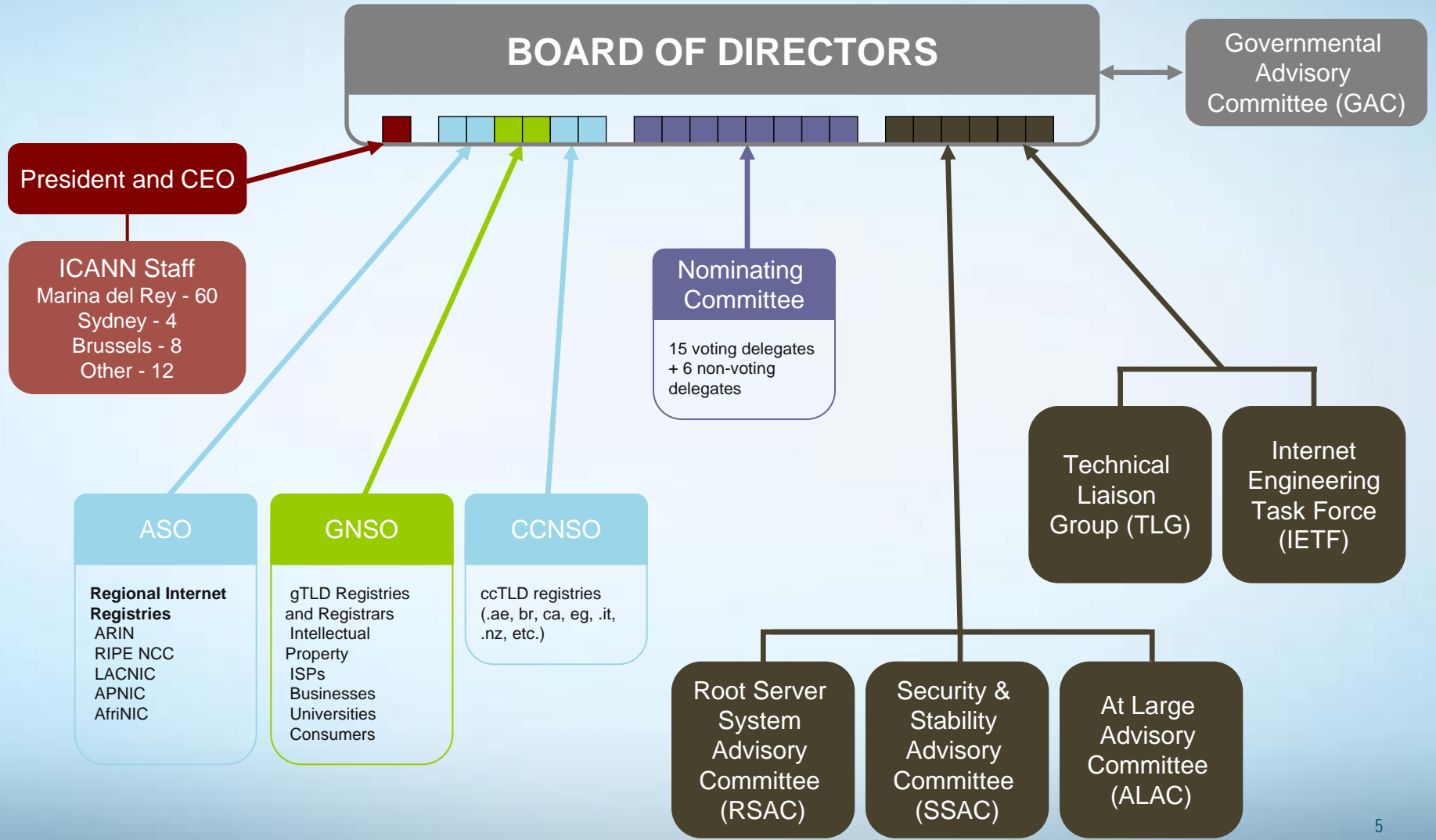
Mission Statement

- To coordinate, overall, the global Internet's system of unique identifiers, and to ensure stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems. In particular, ICANN coordinates:

  1. Allocation and assignment of the three sets of unique identifiers for the Internet:
     - Top level domain names (gTLDs & ccTLDs)
     - Internet protocol (IP) addresses and autonomous system (AS) numbers
     - Protocol port and parameter numbers
  2. Operation and evolution of the DNS root name server system
  3. Policy development reasonably and appropriately related to these technical functions

Principles of Operation

- Contribute to stability and security of the unique identifiers system and root management

- Promote competition and choice for registrants and other users

- Forum for multi-stakeholder bottom-up development of related policy

- Ensuring on a global basis an opportunity for participation by all interested parties

ICANN's Community

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

President and CEO

ICANN Staff
Marina del Rey - 60
Sydney - 4
Brussels - 8
Other - 12

Nominating Committee
15 voting delegates + 6 non-voting delegates

ASO
Regional Internet Registries
ARIN
RIPE NCC
LACNIC
APNIC
AfriNIC

GNSO
gTLD Registries and Registrars
Intellectual Property
ISPs
Businesses
Universities
Consumers

CCNSO
ccTLD registries (.ae, br, ca, eg, .it, .nz, etc.)

Technical Liaison Group (TLG)

Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)

Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSAC)

Security & Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

At Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Diverse Representation & Open Participation

- ICANN maintains diverse representation in its Board of Directors

- ICANN's Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees maintain the same diversity in their Councils

- Bottom-up technical policy development and consensus-based decision making

- Participation in ICANN is open to all

- Online forums and mailing lists

- Public meetings are held three times each year – each time on a different continent

- Remote participation is also available: http://public.icann.org/

Current Topics

- New gTLDs introduction in the root
- Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)
- Registry failover plan
- Single letter domains
- Whois changes

Fellowships Programme

- The programme aims at providing financial scholarships to individuals from developing countries to facilitate participation in ICANN meetings

- Fellowships Committee (FC) is responsible for qualifying and selecting applicants and is advising ICANN staff on how the programme could be improved

- Application forms are available online: http://www.icann.org/fellowships/

Fellowships Programme

- Statistics:
  - San Juan Meeting:
    - 125 applications received
    - 43 accepted
    - 34 attended
    - 10 deferred to LA
  - Los Angeles:
    - 167 applications received
    - 35 accepted
    - 25 attended
    - 10 deferred to Delhi

Strategic Plan: Challenges & Opportunities

- In developing the strategic objectives for the years ahead, the ICANN community identified a number of challenges and opportunities:
  - Increased globalization of the Internet
  - Increased threats to stability and security of the Internet
  - The need to engage with a broader range of international entities
  - The need to be closer and more responsive to all stakeholders
  - The need to design appropriate structures and processes in completing the transition of technical coordination of the Internet system of unique identifiers

Global Partnerships

- The Global Partnership Strategy has been designed to help meet these challenges through the deployment of a Regional Liaison network

- The role of the Regional Liaisons is to engage proactively with their respective stakeholders and end-user community in their respective regions and respond to the needs of the Internet community and ICANN staff

Global Partnerships Team

- Current Liaisons are:
  - Africa: Anne Rachel Inné, annerachel.inne@icann.org
  - Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan: Veni Markovski veni.markovski@icann.org
  - Australasia/Pacific Islands: Save Vocea, save.vocea@icann.org
  - Latin America: Pablo Hinojosa, pablo.hinojosa@icann.org
  - Middle East: Baher Esmat baher.esmat@icann.org

- Vacancies
  - Manager, Regional Relations – East Asia
  - Manager, Regional Relations – South Asia
  - Manager, Regional Relations – Europe
  - Manager, Regional Relations – Caribbean

What do Regional Managers do?

- Engage proactively with all stakeholders and members of the Internet community in the regions and respond proactively to their needs

- Provide information to stakeholders on how to participate in policy development processes and identify how policy development can be improved to address needs of various stakeholders in regions

- Strengthen relationships with organizations which have expressed interest in participating in the ICANN multi-stakeholder environment

- Act as help-desk on any domain names and IP issues (e.g. registries, registrars, ccTLDs, At-Large, governments, participation, etc.)

Thank You

www.icann.org

baher.esmat@icann.org