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**TOP STORY**

**NTIA Announces Intent to Allow IANA Functions Contract to Expire 1 October**

In a letter to ICANN on 16 August 2016 regarding the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions contract with ICANN, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) stated:

"NTIA has thoroughly reviewed the report. Based on that review, barring any significant impediment, NTIA intends to allow the IANA functions contract to expire as of October 1."

The letter was sent as a result of NTIA’s review of ICANN’s [IANA Stewardship Transition Proposal Implementation Planning Status Report](#), which was submitted to the administration on 12 August. In that report, ICANN informed NTIA that it has completed or will complete all the necessary tasks in advance of 30 September 2016 to allow the IANA functions contract to expire.

ICANN is pleased with NTIA’s statement and is focused on the few remaining tasks to be completed by the end of the month.

[Read more...](#)
Participants gather at the workshop on Digital Economy and Cyber Law in Yaounde, Cameroon.

About 40 participants from 11 different countries, plus 14 faculty members, came together at the Middle East and Adjoining Countries School on Internet Governance in Beirut, Lebanon. Over 250 people had applied to attend the MEAC-SIG.

MEAC-SIG Brings Together Participants From Around the World

The third edition of the Middle East and Adjoining Countries School on Internet Governance (MEAC-SIG) took place from 8-12 August 2016. Since its inception, the event has grown to become a rich and visible platform for the next generation of stakeholders from the region to engage in debates on Internet governance at the national, regional and global levels. Past participants have gone on to become ICANN Fellows.

The five-day agenda included hot topics such as ICANN and the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Stewardship transition, regional Internet registries, systems of unique identifiers, Internet governance for development, the Internet of Things, Internet fragmentation, the digital Economy, and the Internet and accessibility. The participants engaged in five days of extensive knowledge sharing and debates on Internet governance.

For first-hand impressions of the event, watch this YouTube video or read a blog post written by our local host, SMEX.

Learn more about the MEAC-SIG.

Workshop on Digital Economy and Cyber Law in Africa

The workshop on Digital Economy and Cyber Law took place in Yaounde, Cameroon, on August 1-3. Participants from Cameroon and the Republic of Congo attended the event. They came from diverse stakeholder groups - universities, local nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), women community leaders, members of parliament, IT and Internet-related service providers. ICANN's Yaovi Atohoun, Stakeholder Engagement and Operations Manager for Africa, presented on domain names and Internet Protocol (IP) addresses, regional Internet registries and new generic top-level domains (gTLDs).

JURISTIC, a local NGO, organized the event. ICANN and the Organization Internationale de la Francophonie were co-sponsors.

Symposium TIC Afrique

The annual Symposium TIC Afrique addresses topics related to information and communications technology (ICT). This year's symposium took place on 3-4 August in Yaounde, Cameroon. More than 150 people attended the event. ICANN's Global Stakeholder Engagement team in Africa took the opportunity for
Delegates gather at the Internet Governance Workshop at the University of Dodoma, Tanzania, in August.

Nairobi Engagement Office Supports Outreach to Academia

On August 16-18, ICANN sponsored and participated in a workshop on ICANN and Internet Governance at Dodoma University, the largest public university in Tanzania. The aim of the event was to promote active involvement of local communities in Internet governance, create awareness about ICANN, build capacity of local community volunteers (especially academia), and urge involvement in the Internet and ICANN ecosystems.

Over 60 participants from Tanzania, including faculty, students and government departments, attended this three-day event.

Participants discussed Internet governance and the role of ICANN in the Internet governance ecosystem. Other topics included the ICANNWiki and the dotTZ ccTLD. Participants engaged in a hands-on ICANNWiki Edit-a-thon session in Kiswahili at the university’s computer lab.

Bonface Witaba and Matogoro Jabera, both ICANN fellowship alumni, co-facilitated the workshop. Dodoma University was the local host; ICANN, Amazon and tzNIC were co-sponsors.

ICANN Public Conference in Benin Republic

ICANN organized a public conference on 1 August in Benin on critical resources and the digital economy. The conference supported the Benin government’s recent goals for investment in the digital economy. Benin Telecoms S.A., the country code top-level domain registry for .bj, hosted the conference. Pierre Dandjinou, ICANN’s VP of Stakeholder Engagement, was a panelist at the event.

The presentations included comparisons of data among countries in the West Africa region. At the end, participants called for the ccTLD registry to implement Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and to improve their management of domain name registration (both process and cost).

Training Courses for RIPE NCC Members

In September, there will be training courses for members of the Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Center (RIPE NCC) members in Tajikistan, the United Kingdom, Israel, Sweden and Poland. RIPE NCC will also be hosting webinars for new local Internet registries on the RIPE Database and Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6).

There are still spaces available. Sign up today!

Upcoming Meetings

ENOG 12 / RIPE NCC Regional Meeting, 3-4 October 2016, Yerevan, Armenia
The Eurasian Network Operator's Group (ENOG) and RIPE NCC will hold a joint regional meeting. Meeting participants include leading international and regional experts, network operators, service providers and other representatives of the Internet community. The goal of this meeting is for operators from this region to share experiences and discuss common interests and ideas for the local and global Internet community. Attendance is free and open to anyone interested.

**RIPE 73, 24-28 October 2016, Madrid, Spain**

Featuring three days of plenary and two days of RIPE working group sessions, discussions will include a range of Internet-related issues from addressing policy to the RIPE Database and routing. The meeting fee for the entire week is EUR 350, EUR 50 for students. Day tickets are available for EUR 125.

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**SPOTLIGHT**

**Updates on ICANN57 in Hyderabad**

**ICANN|57 HYDERABAD**

**Register now!**

The ICANN57 Public Meeting will take place from 3 to 9 November in Hyderabad, India. This third meeting of the year will be ICANN's Annual General Meeting. To find out what to expect of this meeting format, read this blog.

And if you haven't already done so, register now! And remember to check our ICANN57 homepage frequently for updates.

**Important! Visa Requirements for ICANN57**

If you are a foreign national traveling to attend ICANN57, you must obtain a conference visa, even if you already have a valid business visa. Nick Tomasso, ICANN's VP of Meetings, recently posted a blog about the visa application process. This blog is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.

Be sure to bookmark the ICANN57 Travel and Visa and the India Visa Application Guide. ICANN will update the travel page with any news or clarifications about the visa requirements and process.

If you have any questions, email the ICANN visa helpdesk: icann57visasupport@icann.org.

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**ICANN NEWS**

**ICANN 2016 Nominating Committee Announces Selections**

The ICANN 2016 Nominating Committee is pleased to announce its selections for seven leadership positions within ICANN.

ICANN Board of Directors
Maarten Botterman, Europe
SSR2-RT Deadline Extended to 15 September

The 15 September deadline to apply for ICANN’s Second Security, Stability and Resiliency of the DNS Review Team (SSR2-RT) is approaching. ICANN is seeking a geographically diverse team of security experts. The team will look at operational stability and resiliency issues relating to the coordination of the Internet’s system of unique identifiers.

The SSR2 Review Team will assemble candidates with a range of expertise:

- Understanding Internet unique identifiers, including: Domain Name System, Internet Protocol (IP) numbering, autonomous system (AS) numbers, protocol parameters
- Identifying and mitigating abuse within those sectors
- Understanding operation of the DNS root name system
- Understanding malware and abuse vectors and mitigations
- Conducting risk assessment and management
- Understanding corporate incident response

Apply now!

ICANN Hires Top Security Expert

Mark Jardina, an expert in global security and health and safety, has joined ICANN as VP of Security Operations. ICANN is building on existing plans developed in partnership with Control Risks and International SOS.

Jardina will oversee physical security operations. Among his responsibilities are travel advisories (for ICANN meetings, Board meetings and other business-related travel), onsite security at ICANN Public Meetings and events, and security for ICANN offices around the world.

Read the full announcement.

ICANN Announces NextGen@ICANN57 Participants

ICANN has selected 15 applicants from various universities in the Asia Pacific region to participate at ICANN57 Hyderabad. These individuals are engaged in a broad range of studies: policy, business, technical, security, law and communications. Additionally, 5 previous NextGenners will serve as ambassadors for these newcomers to ICANN.

An independent selection committee assessed the applications. It selected candidates based on their current studies and interest in Internet governance, the future of the Internet and other topics covered at
ICANN meetings. The selected individuals commit to engage with the ICANN community at the meeting, and give a short presentation relating the work of ICANN to their studies.

Read more about the NextGen@ICANN program.

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**Missed the Quarterly Stakeholder Call?**

On 16 August 2016, ICANN held its quarterly stakeholder call for the fourth quarter of the 2016 fiscal year. If you couldn’t attend live, you can access the presentation materials and recordings:

- Download the [presentation materials](#) (in English).
- View the [Adobe Connect presentation](#) (in English).
- Listen to the [recording](#) in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese or Spanish.

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**IANA STEWARDSHIP NEWS**

**ICANN Announces Incorporation of PTI**

On 12 August 2016, ICANN announced that the incorporation documents for the "Post-Transition IANA" organization were filed and received by the California Secretary of State under the name Public Technical Identifiers (which will now be referred to as PTI). With this filing and receipt, PTI is now formed as a nonprofit public benefit corporation and controlled affiliate of ICANN.

The PTI incorporation documents were drafted to reflect the recommendations of the IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group (ICG) proposal, as provided to the ICANN Board and transmitted to NTIA on 10 March 2016. PTI was formed to perform the naming-related IANA functions under contract with ICANN. However, for purposes of coherence of the IANA functions and overall operational logistics, the ICG proposal also requires that the performance of the IANA numbering and protocol parameter functions be subcontracted to PTI.

Although PTI now exists as a legal entity, it is not yet performing any work. PTI will not perform any services under the IANA functions contract with NTIA. PTI will only start performing the IANA functions upon the successful completion of the transition.

Read more...

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**POLICY UPDATE**

**GNSO Council Adopts Response to GAC Communiqué**

The Council of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) formally adopted its response to the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) Helsinki Communiqué and transmitted its conclusions to the ICANN Board. The purpose of these reviews is to provide feedback to the ICANN Board as it considers issues referenced in the GAC Communiqué which the GNSO identifies as relevant to generic top-level domains.

Read the [GNSO review](#) of the GAC Helsinki Communiqué.

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**GAC Prepares for ICANN57**

The leadership of the GAC has been actively working to create an agenda for ICANN57.
The GAC plans to hold dedicated sessions to meet with the Generic Names Supporting Organization, the At-Large Advisory Committee, the Country Code Names Supporting Organization and the ICANN Board. It will also hold focused discussions on priority topics, including New Generic Top-Level Domains Subsequent Procedures, Work Stream 2 of the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability and various internal matters.

Each GAC working group will each have a one-hour session to advance its work and update the GAC. Also, at the invitation of India, the host country, the GAC will engage in local outreach and capacity-building activities on the first and last days of ICANN57.

ccNSO Members to Elect Councilors and Nominate Candidate for ICANN Board Seat 11

From September to December 2016, Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) members will elect one Councilor from each respective ICANN region. In the event that two or more candidates from the same region are nominated and accept their nomination, an election will be conducted among the members from that region. In addition, there will be a special election in the African region to fill a vacancy on the ccNSO Council. Moreover, ccNSO members will also nominate - and if two or more candidates are nominated, elect - a candidate for ICANN Board Seat 11. The term begins at the Annual General Meeting in 2017. Only ccNSO members, via their primary contacts, are eligible to vote.

Framework of Interpretation Implementation Advisory

The Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) received a request not to contact the administrative and technical contacts listed in the IANA database with issues of delegation or revocation or retirement of a country code top-level domain (ccTLD). Instead, these more serious changes to the IANA database warrant a separate procedure and contact person.

ICANN staff members working on the implementation of the Framework of Interpretation (FOI) have raised some questions on how to implement this request. Based on conversations and input received, the FOI Implementation Advisory Team, consisting of Becky Burr and Keith Davidson, recently advised IANA staff as follows:

- There has been no consistency in the feedback received from the very small pool of ccNSO Councilors. Opening up the consultation to seek more, additional opinions will be no avail.
- IANA should introduce a field to record the instruction from the ccTLD with respect to the approval contact in case of more serious changes to the IANA database. Each ccTLD manager should be asked to give individual instructions.

By Hadia El Miniawi
Director, Domain Name System Entrepreneurship Center (DNS-EC)

Thanks to ICANN’s Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with EURid, I was able to receive three weeks of training at the .eu Academy at EURid’s office in Pisa, Italy. The first part of the training focused on marketing. I was introduced to .eu promotion programs, co-funded marketing programs, testimonials, the registrars’ platform, effective marketing strategies, and means of encouraging new registrars’ accreditation (which included webinars and video conferences). In addition, I received training on different social media marketing tools. During the hands-on session, I wrote a paper that highlighted the impact of websites and social media on businesses. This part of the training was particularly important to the DNS-EC, as it will help us create an effective marketing strategy.

The second part of the training focused on business continuity. I was introduced to different business continuity standards, disaster recovery and the capability maturity model. As part of the training, I created a risk and business impact analysis for the DNS-EC, which included defining mitigating actions. Both the training and the exercise contributed to the achievement of one of the center’s strategic objectives: “Ensure
that DNS-EC is well established and is operationally sustainable in the long term.”

**Background:**
EURid, the registry manager of the .eu and .ею (Cyrillic script) country code top-level (ccTLD) domains, opened the .eu Academy in early 2015. The main objective of the academy is to educate industry peers, registrars and future stakeholders about the Internet. Hadia El Miniawi attended the .eu Academy in Pisa, Italy, in August 2016.

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### DELEGATED NEW GTLDS

**Fifty New gTLDs Were Delegated in August**

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For the full list of new gTLDs delegated in August 2016, click [here](#).

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us at these upcoming EMEA events:

- 19-23 September - [iWeek](#), Johannesburg, South Africa
- 22-23 September - [West Africa Internet Governance Forum (IGF)](#), Niamey, Niger
- 26-27 September - [European Cybersecurity Forum (CYBERSEC)](#), Krakow, Poland
- 26-28 September - [Task Force on Arabic Script Internationalized Domain Names Fifth Face-to-Face Meeting (TF-AIDN 5th F2F Meeting)](#), Istanbul, Turkey
- 27-28 September - [Telecoms World Middle East 2016](#), Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- 30 September - 2 October - [Internet Governance in the Middle East and North Africa Region Summit (iGMena Summit)](#), Tunis, Tunisia
- 7 October - [TheName.Show](#), Valencia, Spain
- 11-12 October - [Portugal Digital Summit 2016](#), Lisbon, Portugal

Learn more about how ICANN will be participating in [regional events near you](#).

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