ICANN Accra Meeting

Orientation Workshop
11 March 2002
8:00-9:00am

Andrew McLaughlin
Vice President and Policy Guy
ICANN: The Basic Idea

ICANN =
An Experiment in
Technical Self-Management
by the global Internet community
ICANN: The Basic Bargain

ICANN =

Internationalization of Policy & Management Functions for DNS and IP Addressing systems + Private Sector (non-governmental) Management
What does ICANN do?

Coordinates policies relating to the unique assignment of:

- Internet domain names
- Numerical IP Addresses
- Protocol Port and Parameter Numbers

Coordinates the DNS Root Server System
- through Root Server System Advisory Committee
Says *The Economist*:

- “ICANN is in many ways a completely new institutional animal.”
- “It is a hybrid between an online community and a real-world governance structure, an untested combination.”
- “It is also a new type of international organisation: an industry trying to regulate part of itself, across the globe, with little or no input from national governments.”

(10 June 2000)
Domain names & IP addresses

- **Domain names** are the familiar, easy-to-remember names for computers on the Internet
  - e.g., amazon.com, icann.org, nic.org.gh

- Domain names correlate to **Internet Protocol numbers** (IP numbers) (e.g., 98.37.241.130) that serve as routing addresses on the Internet

- The **domain name system** (DNS) translates domain names into IP numbers needed for routing packets of information over the Internet
Types of Internet Domains

• Generic Top Level Domains (gTLDs)
  • <.com>, <.net>, <.org> open to all persons and entities on a global basis
  • <.int> for international treaty organizations
  • <.arpa> for Internet Infrastructure purposes
  • <.gov>, <.mil> for U.S. government, military
  • <.edu> for US universities

• New: <.info>, <.biz>, <.name>, <.areo>, <.coop>, <.museum>, <.pro>
More Types of Internet Domains

- Country Code Top Level Domains (ccTLDs)
  - \(<.gh>, <.hk>, <.jp>, <.ca>, <.br>, <.de>, <.tv>, <.cc> \ldots\)
  - Imprecise name: ccTLD includes *countries* and *geographically distinct territories*
  - Derived from ISO 3166-1 list
  - Key feature: Local Internet community decides
  - Registration requirements vary by domain:
    - Residency requirement
    - Price (or no charge)
    - Ability to transfer
    - Dispute resolution policy
Basic DNS Registry Structure

Example: <.com>

- **ICANN**
  (= overall coordinator)

- **Registry**
  (= authoritative database of domain names and corresponding IP addresses)

- **Registrars**
  (= interact with customers/registrants; handle billing; place data in registry database; provide WHOIS service)

- **Registrants**
  (= domain name holders)

- **Root Zone File**

- **Shared Registry System (SRS)**

- **Registrar A**
- **Registrar B**
- **Registrar C**
The DNS Tree

Root Zone File

TLDs

- jp
- uk
- ......
- com
- org
- edu
- co
- ac
- icann
- keio
- med
- sfc
List of the Root Servers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>name</th>
<th>org</th>
<th>city</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>NSI</td>
<td>Herndon, VA, US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>USC-ISI</td>
<td>Marina del Rey, CA, US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>PSInet</td>
<td>Herndon, VA, US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>U of Maryland</td>
<td>College Park, MD, US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>NASA</td>
<td>Mt View, CA, US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f</td>
<td>Internet Software C.</td>
<td>Palo Alto, CA, US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g</td>
<td>DISA</td>
<td>Vienna, VA, US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h</td>
<td>ARL</td>
<td>Aberdeen, MD, US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>NORDUnet</td>
<td>Stockholm, SE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j</td>
<td>NSI (TBD)</td>
<td>Herndon, VA, US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k</td>
<td>RIPE</td>
<td>London, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l</td>
<td>ICANN</td>
<td>Marina del Rey, CA, US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m</td>
<td>WIDE</td>
<td>Tokyo, JP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Root server architecture of today

- Change decision
  - ICANN/IANA
- Verification/approval
  - US Department of Commerce
- Update of the zone file:
  - Zone file management (currently, via A)
  - Synchronized with the database
- Distribution of the zone information
  - To the rest of root servers
Internet Addressing - IPv4

- IPv4 = 32 bits
  - Example: <192.34.0.64>
- Initially, 256 networks ... then mix of:
  - Class A (128 with 16 M hosts)
  - Class B (16,384 with 65K hosts)
  - Class C (2M with 256 hosts)
- Now, Classless Inter-Domain addresses
  - Theoretically, up to 4 Billion hosts, hundreds of thousands of networks
Next Generation Internet - IPv6

- IPv6 = 128 bits of addressing
- Theoretically, $10^{38}$ hosts
- Significant transition effort needed
  - (Sort of like changing engines on the aircraft while in flight)
- IANA officially announced first allocations to RIRs (July 14, 1999)
Regional Internet Registries (RIR)

- **ARIN**
  - North America
  - Latin America
  - Caribbean Islands
  - Sub-Saharan Africa

- **RIPE NCC**
  - Europe
  - Middle East
  - North Africa
  - Parts of Asia

- **APNIC**
  - Most of Asia
  - Australia/New Zealand
  - Pacific Islands
Emerging RIRs

AfriNIC - Africa

LACNIC - Latin America/Caribbean
Most Internet DNS and IP Address coordination functions performed by, or on behalf of, the US government:

- Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)
  - Stanford Research Institute (SRI)
  - Information Sciences Institute (ISI) of University of Southern California
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
  - IBM, MCI, and Merit
  - AT&T, General Atomics, Network Solutions, Inc. (NSI)
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- US Department of Energy
IANA

- “Internet Assigned Numbers Authority”
- A set of technical management functions (root management; IP address block allocations) previously performed by the Information Sciences Institute (ISI) at the University of Southern California, under a contract with the U.S. Government
- Also: Protocol parameter and port number assignment functions defined by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)
- Now performed by ICANN
IANA

Jon Postel
1943-1998
Need for Change

- **Globalization** of Internet
- **Commercialization** of Internet
- Need for **accountability**
- Need for more **formalized management structure**
- Dissatisfaction with lack of competition
- Trademark/domain name **conflicts**
White Paper Principles

USG White Paper: new DNS policy & management structure must promote 4 goals:

- Stability
- Competition
- Private, bottom-up coordination
- Representation
White Paper Implementation

- Internet community to form non-profit corporation meeting White Paper’s 4 criteria
- US Government (through Commerce Department) to transition centralized coordination functions
- Amendment of Network Solutions agreement to require competitive registrars in gTLD registries
- Request to WIPO to study & recommend solutions for trademark/domain-name conflicts
Status of Transition from USG

✓ 1998
✓ November - ICANN recognized in MoU

✓ 1999
✓ June - Cooperative agreement among ICANN, US Government, root server operators
✓ November - ICANN and Network Solutions (NSI) sign gTLD registry and registrar agreements; USG transfers root authority over gTLDs to ICANN

✓ 2000
✓ February - Contract with US Government to complete transfer of IANA functions
✓ November - Selection of 7 new Top-Level Domains

✓ 2001
✓ January - Transfer of InterNIC functions from NSI to ICANN
✓ September – Agreement with .au Registry

✓ 2002
✓ February – Agreement with .jp Registry
ICANN and ccTLDs

- Basic organizing principle: Local Internet communities make decisions about country code TLD Registries (ccTLDs)

- ICANN’s role
  - Very hands-off on policy
  - Basic responsibility to delegate ccTLD so as to serve the interests of the local and global Internet communities
  - Coordinate stable root server system

- ccTLD managers’ role
  - Technically competent registry and nameserver operations
  - Commitment to administer as trustee for the local community (local laws, culture, customs, preferences, etc.)

- Local government’s role
  - Depends on the local situation
ICANN and Global TLDs

• For the global TLDs (such as .com, .net, .org), ICANN serves as the vehicle for consensus policy development

• Examples of policies:
  – Competitive registrars
  – Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy
  – Data Escrow
  – Redemption Period for Deleted Names (?)
New Top-Level Domains

• First group chosen in November 2000
  – Global Open: <.info>, <.biz>
  – Individuals: <.name>, <.pro>
  – Specialized: <.museum>, <.aero>, <.coop>

• Proof of Concept - Launch with caution, observe carefully, learn from experience
  – Selection process was transparent & predictable

• If these are successful, there will be future rounds
  – Goal: Less burdensome, less expensive, more objective

• Biggest challenge: Launch phase
  – Intellectual Property & cybersquatting fears
  – Opening day rush; fairness to everyone
Top Policy Objectives for Year 2002

• ICANN Reform!
  – DNSO Restructuring

• Progress toward agreements:
  – ccTLD registry agreements
  – IP Address registry agreements
  – Root server operator agreements

• Mechanism(s) for Individual Participation

• gTLD Policies
  – UDRP Review
  – Whois Requirements
  – Handling of deleted domain names
Structure of ICANN
ICANN Board of Directors

At Large Directors:
• Karl Auerbach (USA)
• Ivan Moura Campos (Brazil)
• Frank Fitzsimmons (USA)
• Masanobu Katoh (Japan)
• Hans Kraaijenbrink (Netherlands)
• Andy Mueller-Maguhn (Germany)
• Jun Murai (Japan)
• Nii Quaynor (Ghana)
• Linda S. Wilson (USA)

ASO Directors:
• Rob Blokzijl (Netherlands)
• Ken Fockler (Canada)
• Sang-Hyon Kyong (South Korea)

DNSO Directors:
• Amadeu Abril i Abril (Spain)
• Jonathan Cohen (Canada)
• Alejandro Pisanty (Mexico)

PSO Directors:
• Helmut Schink (Germany)
• Vint Cerf (USA) - Chairman
• Phil Davidson (U.K.)
ICANN Staff

New Model: Lightweight
(minimal staff = minimal bureaucracy)

Current Staff:

- President and CEO (Dr. Stuart Lynn)
- V.P./General Counsel (Louis Touton)
- V.P./Chief Policy Officer (Andrew McLaughlin)
- Counsel for Int’l Legal Affairs (Theresa Swinehart)
- C.F.O. (Diane Schroeder)
- Manager, Technical Operations (John Crain)
- Manager, Technical Systems (Kent Crispin)
- Director of Communications (Mary Hewitt)
- Registrar Liaison (Dan Halloran & Ellen Sondheim)
- ccTLD Liaison (Herbert Vitzthum)
- IANA staff (Michelle Schipper, Bill Huang)
- Network Administrator (Jim Villaruz)
Funding

- ICANN Budget = ~4.5 million US
- Sources of funding: Registry & Registrar agreements
  - gTLD Registries (com, net, org, info, biz, etc.)
  - gTLD Registrars
  - ccTLD Registries (few agreements yet)
  - Regional Internet Registries (when agreements finalized)
At Large Study

• Charge to At Large Study Committee: Study the process, draw lessons, redesign for the future
  – Chair of study committee: Hon. Carl Bildt (Sweden)
  – Vice-chairs: Pindar Wong (Hong Kong S.A.R., China) and Charles Costello (USA, Carter Center)
ICANN = CyberGovernment?

• A: NO!

• ICANN has no inherent coercive power, only the ability to enter into contractual relationships through a process of consensus & consent

• Objectives: Network of agreements, that formalize and make transparent

• ICANN is not a substitute for the powers of governments (i.e., courts and laws)
ICANN = CyberGovernment?

• No: ICANN coordinates unique identifiers.

• But: technical coordination of unique values sometimes touches on non-technical policy interests:
  – Data privacy protection
    • (WHOIS database)
  – Intellectual property/trademark law
    • (UDRP)
  – Competition law
    • (Registrar accreditation for .com, .net, .org)
What ICANN doesn’t do

- Network security
- Financial transactions
- Data Privacy
- Internet Content
  - Pornography; hate speech
  - Copyright violations
  - Deceptive business practices / consumer protection
- Multi-national commercial disputes
- Definition of technical standards
  - Network surveillance and traceability
- Internet gambling
- Spam
What ICANN is NOT

- Technical Standard-Setting Body
- Internet Police Force
- Consumer Protection Agency
- Economic Development Agency
- Legislature or Court
What ICANN does do:

• Coordinate the Internet’s systems of unique identifiers
  – And address directly related policy issues

• Set registry policies for the gTLDs
Lessons from the Experiment?

• Private-sector self-management is possible, if narrowly chartered

• Global consensus on policy is difficult to define; even harder to achieve
  – Consensus is a tradition in the technical community in which ICANN is rooted, because you can test solutions & refer to objective data
  – Consensus on policy questions can be elusive, because it depends upon subjective values
Message to You:

(and to all Internet communities)

GET INVOLVED!!!

Consensus means you have to show up to be heard.

www.icann.org
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