



Board Report – February 2017 Workshop

February 2017

Period Covering: 7 October 2016 – 6 January 2017

ICANN Org Executive Team Reports

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ICANN Org Report to the Board

Office of the CEO

Göran Marby, President & CEO

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

This period saw significant time and attention dedicated to global community outreach. Following my visits to Europe, which were detailed in my previous report to the board, I attended ICANN57 in Hyderabad, India. After ICANN57, I hosted a stakeholder reception held in Washington, D.C. to thank those involved in the IANA Stewardship Transition. I then visited our Geneva office to conduct a series of bilateral meetings with the UN, ITU and WIPO. Finally, I attended the IGF in Guadalajara, Mexico.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

On 20 October, I hosted a What's Up call with staff to provide them an update on ICANN's ongoing and future activities and answer any questions. From 1-9 November, I was in Hyderabad, India, for ICANN57. This was my second ICANN Public Meeting as President and CEO, and the largest ICANN meeting to date, with 3,182 attendees. These meetings continue to be an excellent opportunity to interact with both established community members and newcomers to the ecosystem. This meeting was attended by a significant number of regional community members, with 70% of attendees (2,306) coming from Asia-Pacific (APAC).

I returned to the Washington, D.C., Engagement Office on 29 November to attend a reception, alongside Steve Crocker and Larry Strickling, in honor of U.S. stakeholders involved in the IANA Stewardship Transition process. Between 30 November and 1 December, I visited ICANN's Geneva Engagement Office to conduct a series of bilateral meetings with the United Nations Director General in Geneva Ambassador Michael Moeller, the ITU Secretary General Houlin Zhao and officials from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). I also attended a reception with the Geneva stakeholder community for further outreach about ICANN issues.

From 5-8 December, I attended the 11th Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Guadalajara, Mexico. While there, I worked closely with staff to raise awareness of the ICANN ecosystem and the role LAC stakeholders can play within the community, especially in regards to ongoing work (accountability, jurisdiction, KSK, etc.). I delivered speeches during the opening session and I* reception, hosted multiple ICANN-theme sessions, including a "Town Hall" on the evolution of the multistakeholder model and an Open Forum, and participated in a variety of other IGF sessions. The Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE) team also set up a series of bilateral meetings with key stakeholders.

Throughout this period, I met individually with members of the Senior Management team to review their performance and to discuss opportunities for improved efficiency, as well as progress made against ICANN's strategic objectives.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

In my previous report, I noted that my primary focus is to reinforce ICANN's commitment to (1) technical competency and (2) supporting the community. In furtherance of that goal, I have moved Jamie Hedlund to the position of Senior Vice President (SVP), Contractual Compliance and Consumer Safeguards. In this position, he will work closely with the community to uphold the integrity of ICANN's

mission and contractual agreements. His years of ICANN and legal experience will enable him to build upon the strong foundation already laid out by our contractual compliance team. Additionally, Duncan Burns, who is based out of Washington, D.C. will take on Hedlund's former responsibilities overseeing U.S. government relations, in addition to his current responsibilities. Finally, as part of ICANN's commitment to long-term financial accountability, stability and sustainability, Xavier Calvez, Chief Financial Officer (CFO), will now be reporting directly to me.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES & APPROVED RESOLUTIONS

Dates: 1-9 November, 2016

Meeting: Board Workshop & Meetings at ICANN57, Hyderabad, India

Outstanding Issues:

- Strategic Outlook Part II: Staff to incorporate input from the Board on trends into ongoing Strategic Outlook program, and ultimately into ICANN Org action plan.
Status: Will be discussed during session at the LA Board Workshop
- Positioning & Communications Content Approach:
 - The Board agrees there is a need for a new narrative
 - Redefine "make the Internet work": address the fact there are other organizations that deal with interrelated issues but are not close to what we do from a technical perspective.
 - Address the thought that maybe "org" is not the best word; have Communications team look into that.
 - Revisit framing: who we engage with vs. who we work with, and for what purpose; we are part of a Community
 - Share Narrative with Former Directors**Status: Ongoing work – Item will be removed from list.**
- Delegation of Authority:
 - Update ICANN Delegation of Authority Guidelines document before resolution passed on 8 Nov. (Done; see below)
 - Organize further discussion with CEO, COO and Board Operations regarding possible improvements to quality of and process for Board materials.**Status: Completed - Item will be removed from list**
- Community Resource Inventory Initiative: Community Support in the Post-Transition Environment:
 - The Board recommends sharing the plan with the Community, as there is nothing particularly sensitive in it. The Board delegates to ICANN Org to decide when the plan is ready to share with the Community.
 - Look at outcome table for each activity as a way to look at how money is balanced.
 - Develop a comparison method for next presentation to the Board.
 - Schedule a session on this topic for the Board Workshop at ICANN58 in Copenhagen.**Status: Topic will be added to session at the Copenhagen Board Workshop and shared with the community after Board Session.**

Resolutions:

5 November 2016 | Regular Meeting of the ICANN Board

- **Posting for Public Comment – Draft ICANN Community-Anti-Harassment Policy**
- Resolved (2106.11.05.01), the Board hereby authorizes the posting of the draft ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy for public comment for 60 days in order to give the Community sufficient

time to discuss the draft Policy, as well as formulate and submit public comment(s) on the draft Policy.

- Resolved (2016.11.05.02), following receipt of public comment, the Board will evaluate those comments and will again engage with the Community to the extent significant changes to the proposed Policy are suggested.

8 November 2016 | Regular Meeting of the ICANN Board:

Consent Agenda:

- **Approval of Board Meeting Minutes**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.01), the Board approves the minutes of the 9 August, 15 August, 17 September and 30 September 2016 meetings of the ICANN Board.
- **Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) Member Appointments**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.02), that the Board appoints Jacques Latour and Tara Whalen to the SSAC for three-year terms beginning immediately upon approval of the Board and ending on 31 December 2019.
- **Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) Member Reappointments**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.03), the Board accepts the recommendation of the SSAC and reappoints the following SSAC members to three-year terms beginning 01 January 2017 and ending 31 December 2019: Jeff Bedser, Ben Butler, Merike Kaeo, Warren Kumari, Xiaodong Lee, Carlos Martinez, and Danny McPherson.
- **Appointment of D-, E-, G-, and H-Root Server Operator Representatives to the Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.04), the Board appoints to the RSSAC the following representatives from the D-, E-, G-, and H-root server operators: Tripti Sinha, Kevin Jones, Kevin Wright, and Howard Kash, respectively, through 31 December 2019.
- **Investment of Auction Proceeds**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.05), the Board authorizes the President and CEO, or his designee(s), to take all actions necessary to distribute the auction proceeds across three different investment managers, which will be tasked with investing those proceeds in safe and liquid financial instruments.
- **ICANN Delegation of Authority Guidelines**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.06), the Board hereby adopts the "[ICANN Delegation of Authority Guidelines](#)" to provide clear guidance and clarification of roles between the ICANN Board and the ICANN CEO/Management ("Guidelines"). The Guidelines shall be reviewed regularly and amended from time to time by resolution of the Board.
- **Renewal of .TEL Registry Agreement**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.07), the .TEL Renewal Registry Agreement, as revised, is approved and the President and CEO, or his designee(s), is authorized to take such actions as appropriate to finalize and execute the Agreement.
- **Thank You to Community Members**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.08), Dmitry Kohmanyuk and John Sweeting have earned the deep appreciation of the ICANN Board of Directors for their terms of service, and the ICANN Board of Directors wishes them well in their future endeavors within the ICANN community and beyond.
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.09), Becky Burr, Celia Lerman Friedman, Vika Mpisane, and Ron Sherwood have earned the deep appreciation of the ICANN Board of Directors for their

- terms of service, and the ICANN Board of Directors wishes them well in their future endeavors within the ICANN community and beyond.
- Resolved (2016.11.08.10), David Cake, Mason Cole, Jennifer Gore, Volker Greimann, Carlos Raúl Gutiérrez, Michele Neylon, Darcy Southwell, and Rudi Vansnick have earned the deep appreciation of the ICANN Board of Directors for their terms of service, and the ICANN Board of Directors wishes them well in their future endeavors within the ICANN community and beyond.
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.11), Satish Babu, Humberto Carrasco, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Timothy Denton, Sandra Hoferichter, Barrack Otieno, Vanda Scartezini, Jimmy Schulz, Alberto Soto, and Siranush Vardanyan have earned the deep appreciation of the ICANN Board of Directors for their terms of service, and the ICANN Board of Directors wishes them well in their future endeavors within the ICANN community and beyond.
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.12), Jim Cassell, Ashley Heineman, Lars-Johan Liman, and Jim Martin have earned the deep appreciation of the ICANN Board of Directors for their terms of service, and the ICANN Board of Directors wishes them well in their future endeavors within the ICANN community and beyond.
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.13), Shinta Sato has earned the deep appreciation of the ICANN Board of Directors for his terms of service, and the ICANN Board of Directors wishes him well in their future endeavors within the ICANN community and beyond.
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.14), Stephen Coates, Sylvia Herlein Leite, Hans Petter Holen, Zahid Jamil, Wolfgang Kleinwächter, Yrjö Länsipuro, and Stéphane Van Gelder have earned the deep appreciation of the ICANN Board of Directors for their terms of service, and the ICANN Board of Directors wishes them well in their future endeavors within the ICANN community and beyond.

Main Agenda:

- **Two-Character Domain Names in the New gTLD Namespace**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.15), the Measures for Letter/Letter Two-Character ASCII Labels to Avoid Confusion with Corresponding Country Codes as revised are approved, and the President and CEO, or his designee(s), is authorized to take such actions as appropriate to authorize registry operators to release at the second level the reserved letter/letter two-character ASCII labels not otherwise reserved pursuant to Specification 5, Section 6 of the Registry Agreement, subject to these measures.
- **Consideration of the *Corn Lake, LLC v. ICANN Independent Review Process Final Declaration***
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.16), the Board accepts the following findings of the Final Declaration: (i) Corn Lake is the prevailing party in the Corn Lake, LLC v. ICANN IRP; (ii) Corn Lake's challenges to the Expert Determination and the BGC's denial of Corn Lake's Reconsideration Request 14-3 were time-barred; (iii) the Board acted without conflict of interest; (iv) "the Board members exercised independent judgment, believed to be in the best interests of the community"; (v) "the [Board] action of omitting .CHARITY from the [Final Review Procedure] was inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws"; and (vi) the parties shall each bear their own costs.
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.17), the Board directs the President and CEO, or his designee(s), to take all steps necessary to implement the Panel's recommendation that "the Board extend the [Final Review Procedure] to include review of Corn Lake's .CHARITY Expert Determination."

- Resolved (2016.11.08.18), the Board directs the President and CEO, or his designee(s), to refrain from taking any further action or decision in relation to Spring Registry Limited's .CHARITY application until after the results of the Final Review Procedure are known, and then to proceed pursuant to established processes with the processing of both Corn Lake's and Spring Registry Limited's applications in accordance with the results of Final Review Procedure.
- **Thank You to the Global Multistakeholder Community**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.19), the Board expresses its deep appreciation for the tireless efforts of the global multistakeholder community, including the leadership of the various community-led groups contributing to the Proposals. The development of the coordinated Proposals across the global community, that met the criteria set out by NTIA, and the work to achieve implementation to allow for the contract to lapse on 30 September 2016, is unprecedented and serves as an historical record of the success of the work of the community to achieve a longstanding goal.
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.20), the Board expresses its deep appreciation to the US Department of Commerce, for standing by the long-standing commitment to end the IANA Functions contract, and for its dedication, and tireless efforts as a partner with ICANN and the community to achieving this historic goal.
- **Thank You to Bruno Lanvin for his service to the ICANN Board**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.21), Bruno Lanvin has earned the deep appreciation of the Board for his term of service, and the Board wishes him well in his future endeavors within the ICANN community and beyond
- **Thank You to Erika Mann for her service to the ICANN Board**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.22), Erika Mann has earned the deep appreciation of the Board for her term of service, and the Board wishes her well in her future endeavors within the ICANN community and beyond.
- **Thank You to Kuo-Wei Wu for his service to the ICANN Board**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.23), Kuo-Wei Wu has earned the deep appreciation of the Board for his term of service, and the Board wishes him well in his future endeavors within the ICANN community and beyond.
- **Thank You to Suzanne Woolf for her service to the ICANN Board**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.24), Suzanne Woolf has earned the deep appreciation of the Board for her term of service, and the Board wishes her well in her future endeavors within the ICANN community and beyond.
- **Thank You to Bruce Tonkin for his service to the ICANN Board**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.25), Bruce Tonkin has earned the deep appreciation of the Board for his term of service, and the Board wishes him well in his future endeavors within the ICANN community and beyond.

8 November 2016 | Organizational Meeting of the ICANN Board

- **Election of ICANN Board Chair**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.26), Steve Crocker is elected as Chairman of the Board.
- **Election of ICANN Board Vice Chair**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.27), Cherine Chalaby is elected as Vice-Chairman of the Board.
- **Appointment of Membership of Board Committees**

- Resolved (2016.11.08.28), membership of the following Board Committees is established as follows:
 - **Audit**
 - Mike Silber (Chair)
 - Steve Crocker
 - Ron da Silva
 - Chris Disspain
 - Lousewies van der Laan
 - **Compensation**
 - George Sadowsky (Chair)
 - Steve Crocker
 - Chris Disspain
 - Ram Mohan (Liaison)
 - Jonne Soininen (Liaison)
 - **Executive**
 - Steve Crocker (Chair)
 - Cherine Chalaby
 - Chris Disspain
 - Göran Marby
 - **Finance**
 - Asha Hemrajani (Chair)
 - Ron da Silva (Vice-Chair)
 - Becky Burr
 - Cherine Chalaby
 - Markus Kummer
 - George Sadowsky
 - Lousewies van der Laan
 - **Governance**
 - Chris Disspain (Chair)
 - Rinalia Abdul Rahim
 - Cherine Chalaby
 - Asha Hemrajani
 - Markus Kummer
 - Ram Mohan (Liaison)
 - Mike Silber
 - **Organizational Effectiveness**
 - Rinalia Abdul Rahim (Chair)
 - Khaled Koubaa (Vice-Chair)
 - Rafael "Lito" Ibarra
 - Markus Kummer
 - George Sadowsky
 - **Risk**
 - Ram Mohan (Liaison) (Co-Chair)
 - Mike Silber (Co-Chair)
 - Maarten Botterman
 - Rafael "Lito" Ibarra

Akinori Maemura
Kaveh Ranjbar (Liaison)
Jonne Soininen (Liaison)

- **Board-GAC Recommendation Implementation Working Group**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.29), membership of the Board-GAC Recommendation Implementation Working Group is established as follows:
 - Markus Kummer (Co-Chair)
Maarten Botterman
Chris Disspain
Ram Mohan (Liaison)
Mike Silber
Lousewies van der Laan
- **Board IDN Variant Working Group**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.30), membership of the Board IDN Variant Working Group is established as follows:
 - Ram Mohan (Liaison) (Chair)
Rinalia Abdul Rahim
Khaled Koubaa
Akinori Maemura
Kaveh Ranjbar (Liaison)
Jonne Soininen (Liaison)
- **Board Working Group on Registration Directory Services**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.31), membership of the Board Working Group on Registration Directory Services is established as follows:
 - Chris Disspain (Chair)
Rinalia Abdul Rahim
Cherine Chalaby
Steve Crocker
Markus Kummer
Akinori Maemura
Kaveh Ranjbar (Liaison)
- **Board Working Group on Internet Governance**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.32), membership of the Board Working Group on Internet Governance is established as follows:
 - Governance is established as follows:
Markus Kummer (Chair)
Rinalia Abdul Rahim
Ron da Silva
Chris Disspain
Rafael "Lito" Ibarra
Khaled Koubaa
George Sadowsky
Lousewies van der Laan
- **Confirmation of Officers of ICANN**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.33), Göran Marby is elected as President and Chief Executive Officer.
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.34), John Jeffrey is elected as General Counsel and Secretary.
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.35), Xavier Calvez is elected as Chief Financial Officer.

- Resolved (2016.11.08.36), Akram Atallah is elected as President, Global Domains Division.
- Resolved (2016.11.08.37), Susanna Bennett is elected as Chief Operating Officer.
- Resolved (2016.11.08.38), David Olive is elected as Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support & General Manager, ICANN Regional Headquarters – Istanbul
- Resolved (2016.11.08.39), Ashwin Rangan is elected as Senior Vice President Engineering & Chief Information Officer.
- **Confirmation of President of PTI**
 - Resolved (2016.11.08.40), in its role as the Member of Public Technical Identifiers (PTI), the ICANN Board elects Elise Gerich as President, PTI.

Full documentation of each resolution is available at these links:

- <https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2016-11-05-en>
- <https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2016-11-08-en>
- <https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2-2016-11-08-en>
- <https://features.icann.org/resolutions>

Outstanding Issues from Board Workshop – November 2016

- **Engagement Strategy:** The Global Stakeholder Engagement team is leading a comprehensive review of ICANN engagement against the Mission and has provided recommendations for discussion at the February 2017 Board Workshop on ICANN’s International Office strategy.
- **Board Advice Registry:** Input and comments received since the Brussels board workshop and subsequent discussions are being taken into consideration, with an ongoing focus on defining and implementing an enhanced process for handling GAC advice, which includes working closely with the Board-GAC Recommendation Implementation Working Group (BGRI WG) led by Markus Kummer. We expect to adopt the enhanced process starting with the Copenhagen Communique. We are also defining an enhanced process for handling of Board (and CEO) correspondence. We expect to implement that process by Copenhagen. With respect to “advice” received in the pilot of the Board Advice Register itself, we are continuing to process SSAC, RSSAC and ALAC advice using the same general Advisory Committee handling process. Since our correspondence with the Advice providers in mid-October 2016, we have received 13 new “advice” documents: 7 from ALAC, 3 from SSAC, and 3 from RSSAC. The table below provides statistics as of the end of 2016. These statistics includes both the “recent” advice and the unclosed historical advice that was promoted to the pilot for closure. These numbers reflect the number of cases (individual actionable items within requests) which exceeds the number of advice documents.

Phase	ALAC	RSSAC	SSAC	Total
New	7	3	3	13
Establishing Understanding	1	-	3	4
Evaluation	-	-	14	14
Implementation	4	3	15	22
Total “In Progress”	12	6	35	53
Closed (no action required)	-	-	15	15

Finally, in order to obtain a better understanding of the processes by which the community provides input to the Board and how that input is currently processed from inception to ultimate resolution, we

are initiating a review of how all input to the board is handled. This review will be focused on documenting the various processes as they currently, with a second phase in which options by which those processes may be improved will be proposed.

CEO REPORT TO THE BOARD

Santa Monica Board Workshop (February 2017)

Outstanding Matters from Board Resolutions (7 October 2016 – 12 January 2017)

[OPTION 1]

5 November 2016 Board Meeting

- **ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy:** The Board will evaluate the public comments recently submitted on the Draft Community Anti-Harassment Policy, and will re-engage with the community if significant changes to the Policy are needed.

8 November 2016 Board Meeting

- **Consideration of the Corn Lake LLC v. ICANN Independent Review Process Final Declaration:** The Organization is in the process of implementing the Independent Review Process (IRP) Panel’s recommendation that “the Board extend the [Final Review Procedure] to include review of Corn Lake’s .CHARITY Expert Determination.” In the interim, no further action or decision has been taken on Spring Registry Limited’s .CHARITY application.

13 December 2016 Board Meeting

- **GAC Advice: Helsinki Communiqué (June 2016):** The Board and the Organization have follow-on actions (outlined in a [scorecard](#)) related to the Board’s responses to the GAC Helsinki Communiqué. The topics relate to the GNSO Privacy and Proxy Service Provider consensus policy recommendations, protections for IGO names and acronyms, and policies and procedures for future rounds of the New gTLD Program.
- **March 2018 ICANN Meeting Hotels Contracting:** The Organization is engaging in discussions and negotiations concerning all necessary contracting and disbursements for the March 2018 ICANN public meeting in Puerto Rico.

The chart below provides some additional details about each of the outstanding matters from the Board’s resolutions adopted during the period covering 7 October 2016 – 12 January 2017.

	Board Meeting Date	Resolution Title	Resolution Number	Current Status (as of 12 January 2017)
x1	5 November 2016	Posting for Public Comment – Draft ICANN Community-Anti-Harassment Policy	2016.11.05.02	In progress. The public comment period on the Draft Community Anti-Harassment Policy closed on 12 January 2017. ICANN org will prepare a summary and analysis of public comments and the will present it to the Board for further discussion. The Board will evaluate the comments and will again engage with the community to the extent significant changes to the proposed Policy are suggested.

	Board Meeting Date	Resolution Title	Resolution Number	Current Status (as of 12 January 2017)
2	8 November 2016	Consideration of the Corn Lake, LLC v. ICANN Independent Review Process Final Declaration	2016.11.08.17	In progress. ICANN org is in the process of implementing the IRP Panel's recommendation that "the Board extend the [Final Review Procedure] to include review of Corn Lake's .CHARITY Expert Determination."
3	8 November 2016	Consideration of the Corn Lake, LLC v. ICANN Independent Review Process Final Declaration	2016.11.08.18	In progress. Pursuant to the Board's action, no further action or decision has been taken in relation to Spring Registry Limited's .CHARITY application pending the results of the Final Review Procedure.
4	13 December 2016	GAC Advice: Helsinki Communiqué (June 2016)	2016.12.13.05	In progress. The Board's action to address advice from the Governmental Advisory Committee in its Helsinki Communiqué is outlined in a scorecard dated 13 December 2016. The scorecard includes some follow-on actions that are required by ICANN org and/or the Board. The scorecard is available here: https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/resolutions-helsinki56-gac-advice-scorecard-13dec16-en.pdf .
5	13 December 2016	March 2018 ICANN Meeting Hotels Contracting	2016.12.13.06	In progress. Pursuant to the Board's action, ICANN org is engaging in discussions and negotiations concerning all necessary contracting and disbursements for the March 2018 ICANN public meeting in Puerto Rico.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

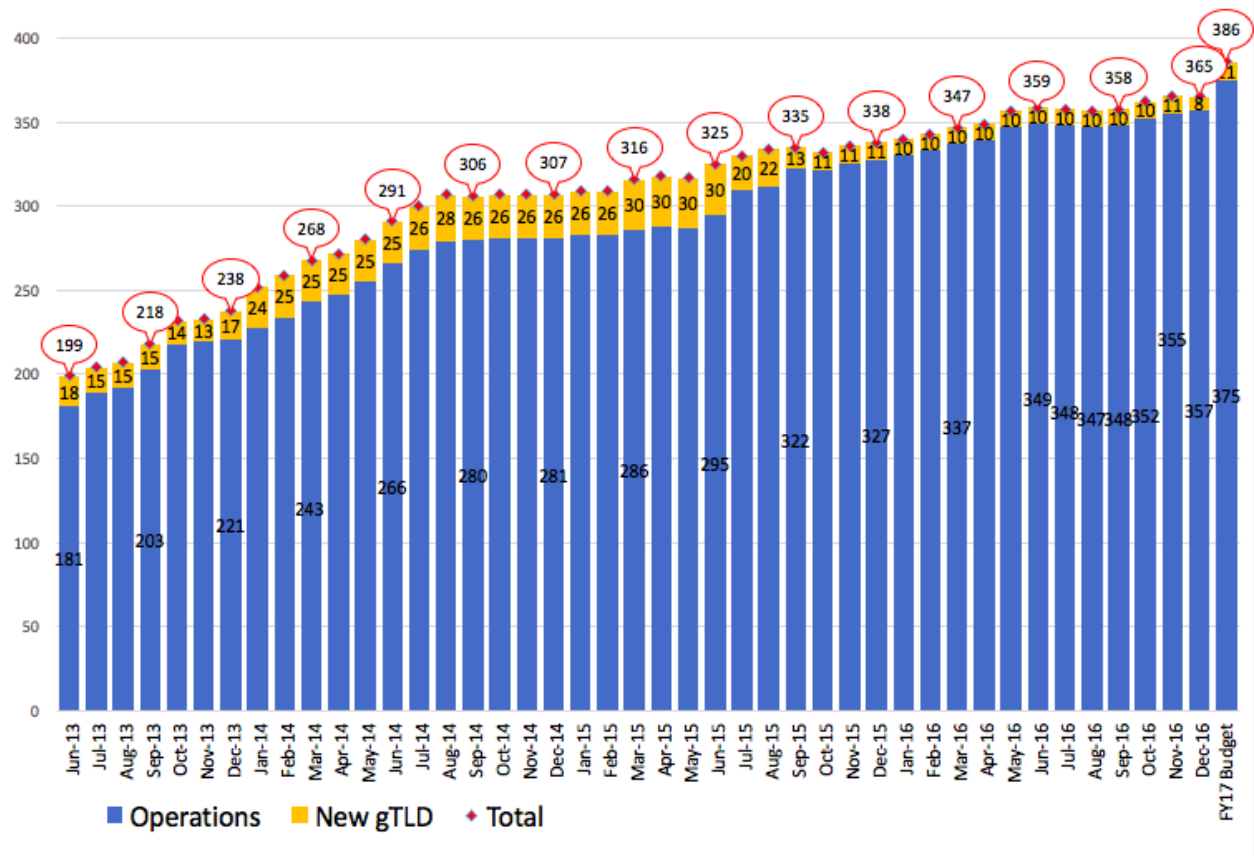
Organization People

Diane Schroeder, Senior Vice President, Global Human Resources

ORGANIZATION PEOPLE HIGHLIGHTS

Since the last report, ICANN org metrics as displayed below remain relatively stable.

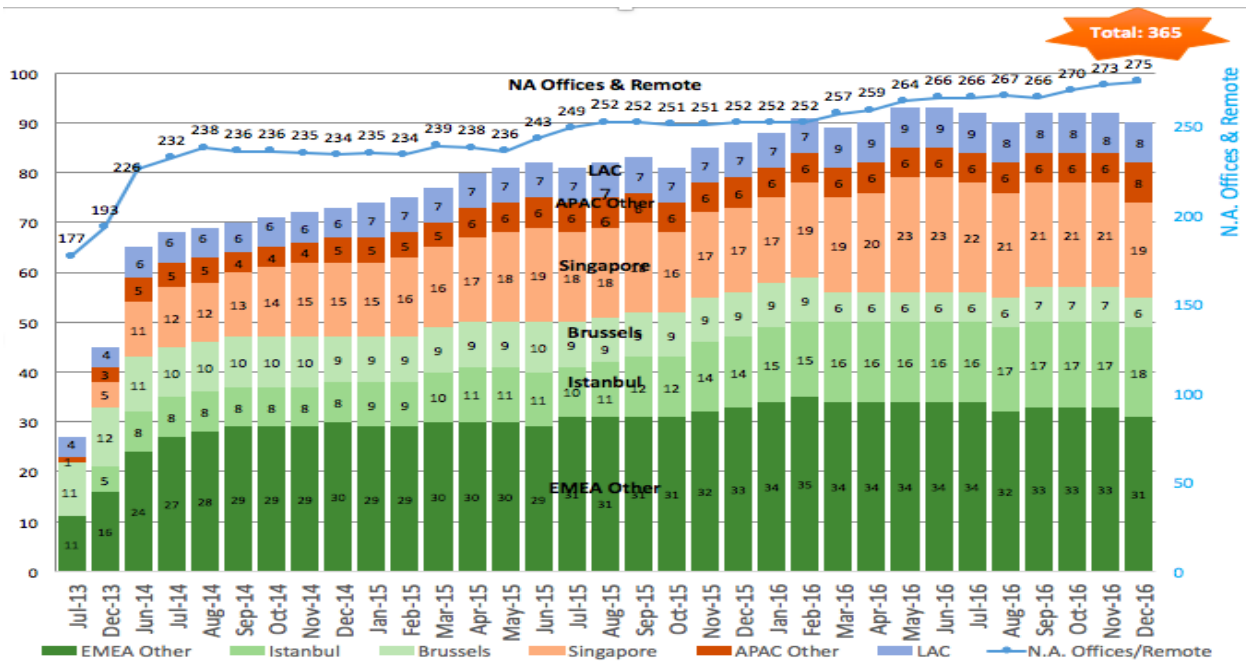
As of the end of December 2016, ICANN org has 365 people, that is 21 people less than the FY17 year-end budget projection of 386. Over the last three months, 15 joined and another 8 left.



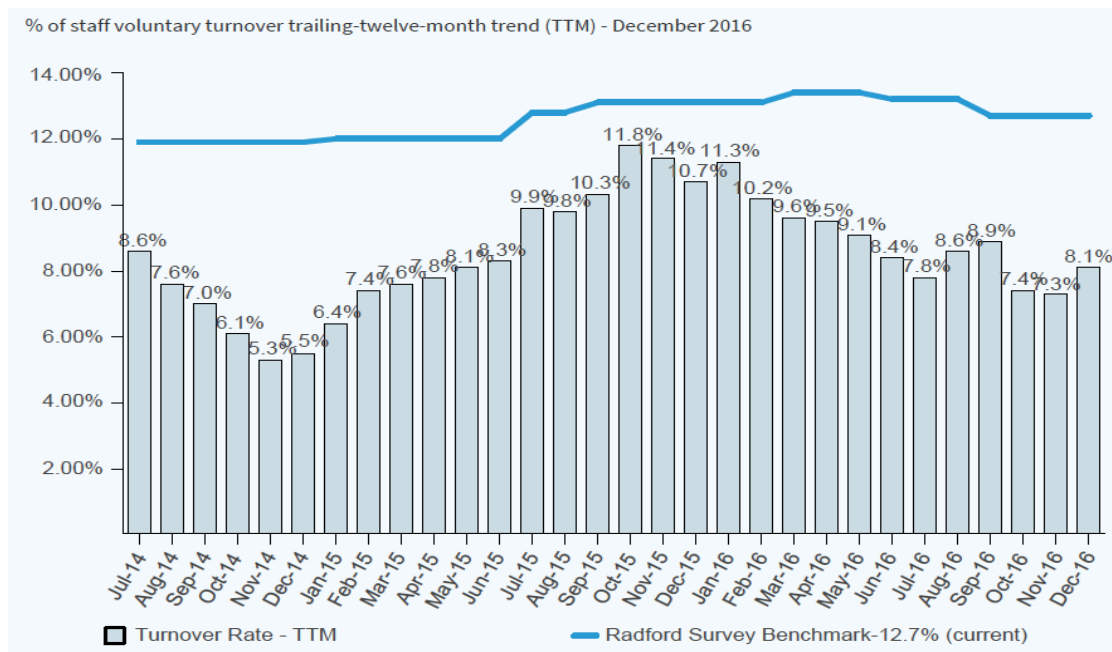
Annual growth rates (from June to June):

2013 - 2014	+46%
2014 - 2015	+12%
2015 - 2016	+10%
2016 – 2017 (to date)	+ 2%

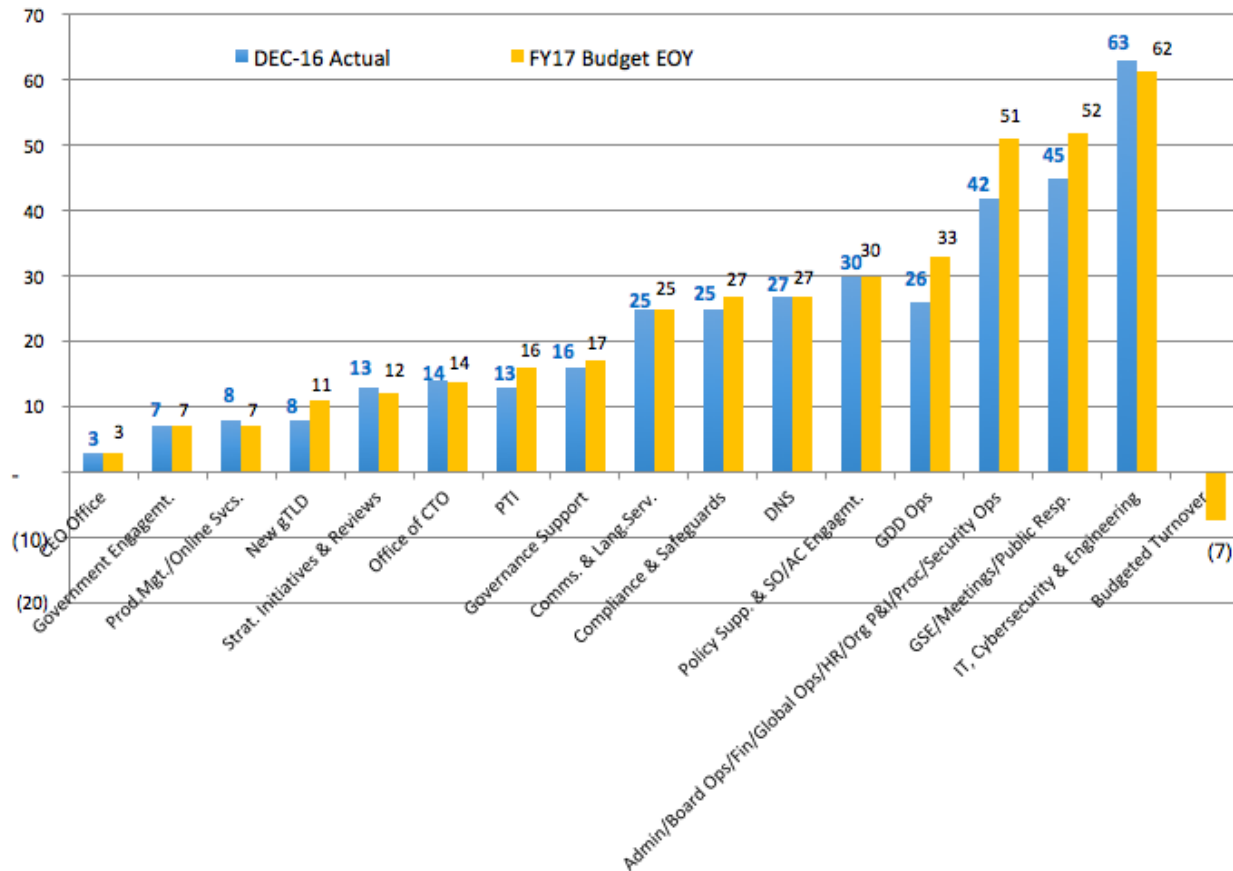
ICANN Org by Locations: As of December 31 2016, **North America Offices & Remote** consists of 217 (79%) in Los Angeles office, 28 in Washington DC office, 29 work remotely in US, 1 work remotely in Canada, totaling 275 (75% of the total organization).



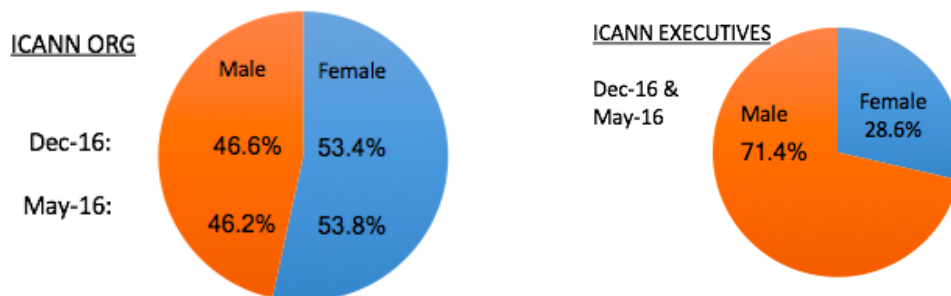
Voluntary turnover over the last three months decreased by 0.74 %, to 8.16% as of December 2016 from 8.9% as of September 2016 (both on trailing-twelve-month basis). In comparison, the benchmark is 12.7% worldwide. Most of ICANN's voluntary turnover has been in the US and Singapore. The benchmarks for these 2 regions are 12.6% US and 13.0% Singapore.



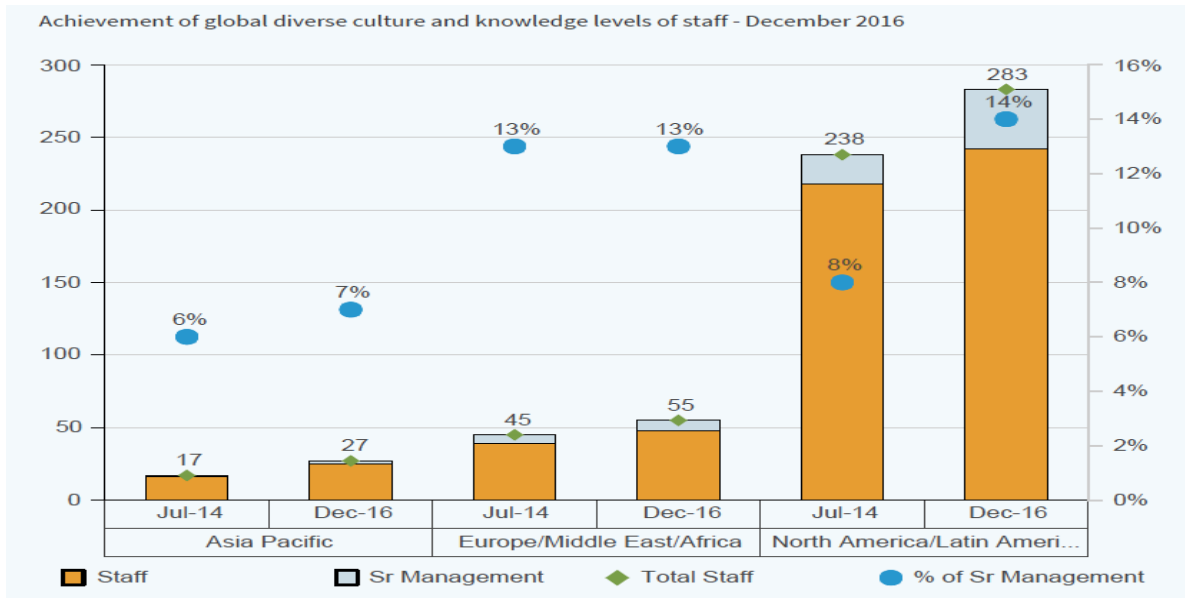
Comparing to FY17 year-end budget, most of the functional groups are close to the year-end target except GDD Ops has 21% (7 people) fewer, Operations has 18% (9 people) fewer, and GSE has 13% (7 people) less. Besides turnover, the variances are primarily related to reorganization for efficiencies and start up new functional focus on organizational sustainability and advancements. Such new functions include Security Operations, Organizational Planning and Improvements, and Internal Controls Audit.



The **gender diversity** of ICANN org is well balanced with females having a slight majority. The 50-member senior management team is 62% male and 38% female. The Executive Team gender balance remains at 29% / 71% (female/male).

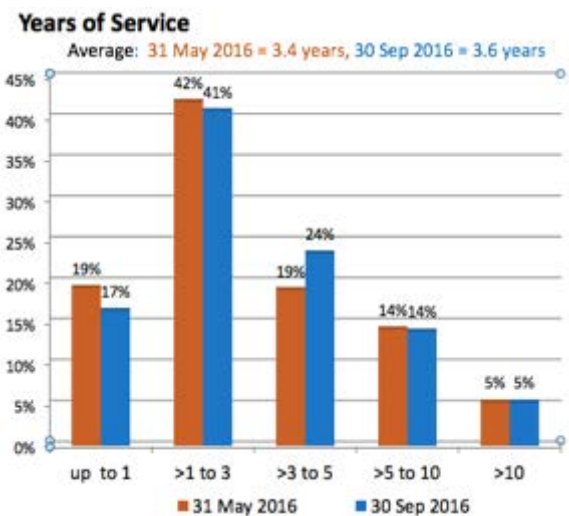
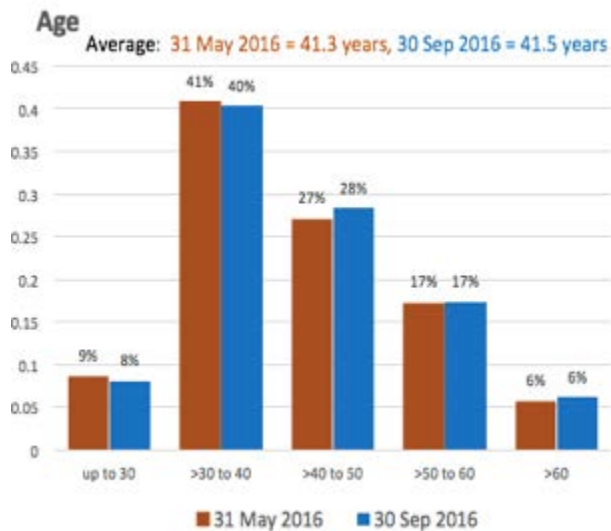


The **senior management** distribution is higher in the Americas and European & Middle East regions than the Asia Pacific region, which has higher percentage of operational functions (such as Contractual Compliance and GDD Operations). These are teams with less seniority and experience than the other regions. The distribution has been stable for the last couple of years, consistent with relatively low turnovers.



Age distribution of the organization has also been stable over the last 3 years, averaging around 40 years of age, which is around the mid-point of most professional career progressions and is as expected relative to the high professional acumen requirements in most ICANN org positions.

The average **years of service** continues to be around 3.5 years, reflecting the growth in 2013 and relatively low turnover.



ICANN Org Report to the Board

Organization Finances

Xavier Calvez, Chief Financial Officer

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHT

Please refer to the financial section of the [Quarterly Stakeholder Call](#).

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Legal Activities

John Jeffrey, General Counsel and Secretary

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

Initiated work to implement new processes needed to align the ICANN organization with new Bylaws and post-transition processes. Continued managing accountability-related matters and defending lawsuits concerning the New gTLD Program.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

Legal Support for GDD and Policy Teams: Advised the GDD Team on gTLD issues, including implementation of the Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Policy, changes to the Transfer Policy, and transitioning all gTLDs to Thick Whois. Assisted GDD Team addressing implementation challenges related to Registration Data Access Protocol. Provided legal support on policy development processes, including those addressing Subsequent Procedures of the New gTLD Program and protections for IGOs/INGOs.

Legal Support for IANA Stewardship Transition: Coordination across departments to support the new post-transition processes, including advising on Specific Reviews (Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice; Security, Stability, and Resiliency of the DNS; and Registration Directory Service) and team composition, and guidance on supporting the Empowered Community Processes. Continued to support the organizing activities of the Public Technical Identifiers Board. Supported Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability Work Stream 2 proposal development. Coordinated with ICANN org internal departments on how to consider the new ICANN mission.

Litigation and Internal Services: Defended ongoing lawsuits regarding .AFRICA and .WEB, as well as domain name-related matters pending in India and China. Successfully moved to dismiss the .WEB lawsuit, which plaintiff has appealed. Successfully opposed plaintiff's motion for a temporary restraining order and then a preliminary injunction in the .AFRICA lawsuit. Managed several requests for Independent Review and Reconsideration filed by new gTLD applicants. Initiated efforts to implement accountability mechanisms processes under the new Bylaws. Implemented the Board's action addressing the Independent Review Process regarding .CHARITY. Provided legal support for the ICANN organization functions, including Human Resources, Finance, and Information Technology.

Contract Management: Advised the GDD Team on contracting-related matters, including the global amendment to the base Registry Agreement, legacy Registry Agreement renewals, and Registrar Accreditation Agreement data retention waivers. Supported HR, IT and Procurement Teams with vendor contracting, testing, and review for the launch of new human capital and ERP system rollouts. Advised the Meetings Team on meeting relocations and upcoming ICANN meetings, which included expedited renegotiation and review of agreements.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

We provide support and briefing documents in ongoing litigation, in support of Independent Review Process (IRP) filings concerning new gTLD Program applications. The litigation issues are mitigated by maintaining a litigation readiness plan for relevant legal filings as well as utilization of the Risk Fund for costs. We provide an attorney- client privileged version of a litigation report to the Board under separate cover. Ongoing litigation activities are published on the litigation page on the ICANN website: <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/litigation-en>.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Global Domains Division: Domain Name Services & Industry Engagement, WHOIS Initiatives, IANA Functions, Product Management, Operations, Global Customer Support, Transition Implementation

Akram Atallah, President, Global Domains Division

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

In December, the ICANN organization implemented the framework established by the [Measures for Letter/Letter Two-Character ASCII Labels to Avoid Confusion with Corresponding Country Codes](#) by authorizing the release of all reserved letter/letter two-character ASCII labels (not otherwise reserved by Specification 5, Section 6 of the Registry Agreement) at the second level for registry operators subject to these measures. This framework is intended to help Internet users avoid confusion between country codes and corresponding letter/letter two-character domain names. This action resulted in the release of an additional 282,940 labels.

We continued to see good progress related to Internationalized Domain Names. Since late October, a Greek script generation panel was formed and we published a report on the results of the public comment for the Lao root zone Label Generation Rules (LGRs). In addition, the Georgian and Thai script communities finalized their root zone LGR proposals, bringing the total to six after Arabic, Armenian, Khmer and Lao.

In December, we updated the WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System report and scheduled an interactive webinar for 12 January 2017 to review findings. A key takeaway from the updated report is that nearly all WHOIS records contain information that can be used to establish immediate contact either via email or telephone.

We also published the first update to the gTLD Marketplace Health Index (first published in July 2016). We intend to continue to publish these statistics biannually to track progress against its goal of supporting the evolution of the domain name marketplace.

In January, we published a report on results of the public comment for the proposed revised Registry Registration Data Directory Services Consistent Labeling and Display Policy. The proposed revisions remove the requirement for registries to implement a Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) service in order to achieve consistent labeling and display of registration data. In addition, we expect to publish similar summary and analysis reports for public comments received on the root stability study and the Phase II Assessment of the Competitive Effects Associated with the New gTLD Program in January.

The Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy (IRTP) is a consensus policy adopted in 2004 to provide a straightforward procedure for domain name holders to transfer domain names between registrars. IRTP-C went into effect on 1 December 2016. During ICANN57, the GNSO Council sought guidance from the GDD team where the Policy pertains to the definition of Change of Registrant and its dependency on applying or removing Privacy or Proxy Services. The Council followed up via a letter to the Board, requesting suspension of enforcement of this part of the Policy until further review for an alternative approach. On 21 December Steve Crocker sent a letter to the GNSO Council Chair to inform him that the ICANN Board will review and follow up on this matter and in the meanwhile instructed

ICANN.org to defer compliance of the aforementioned issue. Göran Marby followed up via a letter to the Council committing his team to perform a thorough review to identify areas where ICANN policy implementations could be improved. Copies of the correspondence are published [here](#).

The Registrar Stakeholder Group agreed to extend the 2013 RAA Privacy and Proxy Specification until 1 January 2018. An updated implementation plan will be presented to the IRT in early 2017.

PTI, the IANA Services operator, completed the Customer Satisfaction Survey for 2016 and received the overall satisfaction rating of 94 percent. This is consistent with the satisfaction shown over the last couple of years. In addition, the Customer Standing Committee issued a report noting that PTI had satisfactorily met the IANA Naming Function Service Level Agreements for the months of October and November 2016. Additional highlights included the completion of the annual review of the DNSSEC suite of operational documents by the Root Zone KSK Operator Policy Management Authority and the close of the public comment period for PTI's FY18 Budget and Operating Plan on 10 December 2016.

In early January, ICANN and NTIA formally terminated the Affirmation of Commitments, implementing the recommendation of the community's Accountability proposal. Read this [blog](#) for more information.

Additional projects included launching the GAC website, which can be viewed [here](#).

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

Exiting 2016, a total of 1229 Registry Agreements of a possible 1249 have been executed, and 1215 of the 1229 new gTLDs have been delegated.

In November and December, we processed 803 registrar accreditation applications, generating \$2.08M in application fees. All applicants were accredited resulting in increased annual funding of \$3.2M. Affiliated registrars in the TurnCommerce (500) and Pheenix (300) groups represented the bulk of the accreditations. These new accreditations bring the number of ICANN-accredited registrars to 2,947, with TurnCommerce and Pheenix representing 42 and 12 percent, respectively.

In early December senior members within GDD participated in an offsite. Topics of discussion included identifying trends and their potential impact on ICANN's strategic outlook, priorities and roadmaps for 2017-2020.

In addition, we announced that the next GDD Summit will be held 8-11 May in Madrid, Spain. Additional information can be found [here](#).

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

We are making progress on issues with IGO protections. In December, we participated in a call to discuss logistics surrounding resolution of these issues. This was a non-substantive, planning-oriented, cross-community call that occurred on 21 December.

Twenty applications for the strings .HOME, .CORP, and .MAIL remain on hold, in accordance with 2014 and 2013 Board resolutions directing the delegation of these strings be deferred indefinitely due to the high risk of name collisions. In August 2016, the Board received a letter from several applicants for these strings requesting a process to propose mitigation measures for potential name collisions and

allow delegation of the strings. In December, the GDD team provided the Board with a summary of the issue and potential paths forward for discussion purposes.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Contractual Compliance & Safeguards

Jamie Hedlund, Senior Vice President, Contractual Compliance & Consumer Safeguards

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

Contractual Compliance Audit Program

Our Audit Program is a continuous and ongoing activity in Contractual Compliance. ICANN targets to conduct 2 audits a year for registrars and 2 for registries. Below a summary of current activities:

The 26 registrars from the 14 September 2015 audit round of the 2013 RAA completed their remediation plan and will be included in future audit rounds to verify the effectiveness of remediation measures.

The 15 registrars from the 17 May 2016 audit of the 2013 RAA addressed and resolved all audit findings. Six were retested and passed; nine will be retested in a future audit round. Three are still working on the remaining issues.

On 4 October 2016, ICANN launched another audit round of registrars under the 2013 RAA – total population is 54 registrars; 47 registrars are subject to a full scope audit; 7 registrars subject to a limited scope audit to retest the effectiveness of the remediation. The preliminary audit report will be issued to each registrar in January.

Preparations are underway to launch a January 2017 Registry Audit round.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

Continuous Improvement work:

1. **3rd Notice Continuous Improvement Project** – Goal is to improve registrar compliance and resolution rate. ICANN conducted outreach calls with seven registrars and monitored the activities until the end of December to measure the effectiveness of this effort. Based on the July through December 2016 data, the pilot accomplished its goal. Three registrars had a significant reduction in 3rd notice volume and four had no 3rd notices.
2. **Whois verification Project** – Goal is to test compliance with the 2013 RAA requirement to verify and validate Whois information. Of the 31 registrars from the Asia Pacific region, 20 registrars completed the review and are now in compliance, 3 are in remediation to address the non-compliance issues, 1 received a Notice of Termination, 6 registrars under review and 1 still in progress.

Other

Jamie Hedlund moved into Allen Grogan's role as SVP, Contractual Compliance and Consumer Safeguards, effective 1 January 2017. One of his first objectives is to hire someone to lead on Consumer Safeguards.

Please refer to the Contractual Compliance Quarterly Update for more information at <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/compliance-reports-2016-04-15-en>.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Operations: Board Operations, Global Operations, Security Operations, Organization Planning and Improvement, and Internal Controls Audit

Susanna Bennett, Chief Operating Officer

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

We continue to develop the Operations team structure. Very exciting that this team's focus is now heavily concentrated on organizational structure and process advancements. Such focus is essential post-IANA Stewardship Transition for the continued progression of ICANN. The key initial steps of this focus include building strong teams with the right size and structure, constructing functional roadmaps, collaborating with the Executives and their teams, and kicking off implementation.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

ICANN57 was a success from many perspectives, including the fruits of the dedication and stellar performance of both the Board Operations and Security Operations teams in addressing the needs of the organization, Board and the community at the meeting. Equally important was the learning from this meeting for future improvements. While the learning was constructive for the continuous improvement of the Board Operations team, it was invaluable for the newly formed Security Operations team.

After ICANN57, with the leadership of Melissa King, Vice President of Board Operations, the Board Operations team quickly shifted focus to the post-ICANN57 deliverables and process improvements, February 2017 Board agenda construction (which is under major restructuring efforts with the Board), building a functional roadmap, developing the FY17 forecast and FY18 operating plan and budget. Both team building and team development are part of the key priorities of the Board Operations roadmap to elevate the value-add by the team.

We are rapidly forming our new Security Operations team. Solidifying an ongoing team is critical to the security and safety of the ICANN team in the current environment of ever-escalating global risk. With the leadership of Simon Garside, our new Vice President of Security Operations, the new team has developed the functional roadmap, operating plan and budget aligning with the strategic needs of ICANN. Implementation is under way.

The Executive Team is progressing the globalization strategy with insights from our CEO and Board. The Global Operations team is ready to align and contribute to the success of the initiative. The team continues to create best practices with built-in flexibility designed to evolve with ICANN Org and the ICANN Community.

Organizational Planning and Improvement function has been focusing on the Five-Year Operating Plan update and FY18 Operating Plan, implementing the third annual organization-wide internal assessment based on the EFQM best practice model, version 3 of strategic goal-level dashboard roadmap (after the version 2 release in October 2016), and several key improvements related to the structural and process advancement of the organization. These key improvements include organizational-wide reporting, project planning, and the cross-functional correspondence/letter process.

The new Internal Controls Audit function is under construction.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

None.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Global Human Resources, Administrative & Travel Services

Diane Schroeder, Senior Vice President, Global Human Resources

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

All three areas delivered on major milestones during this time: the ERP project went live on Dec. 8.; construction on the additional office space in the Los Angeles office is nearing completion and moves of the organization into new space have begun; and Travel Services supported 257 travelers to ICANN57 in Hyderabad.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

Global Human Resources: The new Enterprise Source Planning System successfully went live on Dec 8. This replaced 11 disconnected legacy HR systems, which enables significant process efficiencies as well as integration of data for improvements in dashboards and reporting. This is a major change in the way the organization interacts with the HR systems. The team spent significant time configuring existing business processes in five different countries to work in the ERP environment, along with designing training modules to enable quick proficiency in the new system.

Language and cultural learning capabilities were enhanced by launching a 24 by 7 online language learning platform that offers access to 70 languages. Trainings and conversations around flexible environment and remote working guidelines and workshops continue.

Work progressed on HR policy updates, HR Business partner model design, global compensation/benefits benchmark assessment and job grade ladder design to enhance organizational development. Work has started on the next annual people survey. Most importantly for the organization, the performance management process for the first review period of FY17 closed on time, and at-risk payments were made as scheduled on 31 December 2016.

Travel Services: The team's major focus has been on ICANN57 and the challenging visa process. All travelers required a visa for this meeting, entailing additional paperwork and follow-up with most travelers. Lessons learned from the additional work necessitated by visa requirements have been reviewed and process improvements have been adopted for future meetings. The transition to the new travel vendor, FCM, is complete and the team continues to follow-up with travelers to ensure best practices.

Administrative Services: the construction on the additional space in Los Angeles will be completed before the Board Workshop. Approximately 60% of the staff based in Los Angeles will be changing their workspace and these moves will be completed before the Board Workshop. The project has been completed within budget and the new space is being very well received by the staff in Los Angeles.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

None.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Engineering and Information Technology

Ashwin Rangan, Senior Vice President, Engineering & Chief Information Officer

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

The new GAC website, leveraging dotCMS, ICANN's newly-acquired Content Management System (CMS), was demonstrated during ICANN57. It was well received by the GAC community. Shortly thereafter, the site was launched into a limited beta for training and user acceptance testing. Additionally, because this is a new platform for ICANN, two independent audits were completed to ensure platform and configuration security. The site is on target for an ICANN58 General Availability launch.

The new Oracle Cloud ERP suite of services was launched to General Availability following thorough internal testing in early December. The new ERP replaces all IT-enabled services supporting Accounting, Financial Planning, Budgeting and Reporting, Human Capital Management and Procurement. Essentially, this is the replacement of Great Plains, Reqlogic and a plethora of HR applications. The launch was a success. Business operations continue, with less than 10 post-implementation tickets logged during the first month of activity on the new ERP.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

The Pillars: Focus on Community Collaboration

Finding material on ICANN.org has been a long-standing issue. ICANN.org is just the "face" of this problem. The underlying problem is the internal organization of institutional "memory". And the representation of that memory appropriately, with searchable terms and tags on ICANN.org.

This is a complex problem. Several months of effort was invested to better understand how best to create and, selectively, present content. While ICANN.org is the current focus, we want to ensure that the institutional "memory" solution met the needs of all websites offered and serviced by ICANN Org.

This has resulted in articulating a new project, formerly code-named Golden Gate. Golden Gate will be a combination of an internal Document Management System (DMS, for short, serving as the institutional memory); and an externally facing Content Management System (CMS, for short, serving as the face of ICANN Org). Given the volume of material which needs to be organized, and the importance of ICANN.org, we expect this initiative to be significant in many dimensions - effort, time, skills and talent, 3rd party expertise and money, to name a few. We expect to work with the Board closely to prioritize and resource this initiative appropriately in the first half of 2017.

The Planks

The Meetings Technical Services Team (MTS) pulled off a major success at the ICANN57 meeting in Hyderabad. As the Board will recall, there was a shipboard fire in Hamburg that resulted in first, just doubts about, and eventually, delayed shipment of equipment to support ICANN57. This team ensured that the aftermath of that incident was invisible to the participants at the public meeting.

Security assessments, especially for new software, have become more of the norm during the last 2 years. Several assessments were completed in support of major projects.

Significant security improvements to ICANN Email services were to mitigate threats. We now have started exercising a comprehensive Application Security Program. Cybersecurity incidents were minimal in Q2: a short term DDoS affecting icann.org, multiple low-impact phishing attacks and the discovery and remediation of a misconfiguration in the Community Wiki.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

The Registry portal, leveraging Salesforce.com, is delayed. Part of the reason is scope-creep. And part of the reason is ensuring that the new portal meets the requirements expected of the more secure and scaled-up foundation, which is expected to serve as a foundation for eventually also supporting a Registrar portal, along with Contractual Compliance activities.

Multiple audits, done both with a Salesforce Professional services team and an independent 3rd party, have informed steps now being taken to address the resulting findings.

The new Registry portal is being scheduled for a Beta launch in time for ICANN58. The Registrar portal and Contractual Compliance functionality will follow.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Office of the Chief Technology Officer

David Conrad, Chief Technology Officer

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

- Open Data Initiative project kicks off
- New root zone KSK generated on October 27 and intensive public communication about the project continues
- Identifier Technologies Health Indicators (ITHI) workshop and meetings held at M3AAWG in Paris, ICANN57 in Hyderabad, and AFRNIC-25 in Mauritius
- ICANN acts as SME in Avalanche Operation to dismantle botnet
- Office of the CTO continues tutorials on Internet Technologies

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

Open Data Initiative project kicks off: In response to requests from the community for greater visibility into ICANN's operations, the OCTO team, on behalf of the entire organization, is leading a project called the Open Data Initiative. The project's goal is to make as much non-sensitive data from all aspects of ICANN's operations as is possible and feasible available to the public in a consistent, structured, easily accessible way. The first phase of the project, currently underway, is an investigation to determine which datasets are candidates for publication. An internal kick off meeting was held in October and OCTO staff are now meeting with individual departments to catalogue potential datasets.

New root zone Key Signing Key (KSK) generated on October 27 and intensive public communication about the KSK Rollover project continues: The new root zone KSK was generated on October 27, 2016, at a regularly scheduled key ceremony at ICANN's Key Management Facility in Culpeper, VA. While the new key has not yet been used for signing nor is it visible to the public, its creation represents a significant milestone for the root KSK rollover project. In parallel, intensive communication about the project continues with public presentations at over a dozen events all over the world. OCTO representatives, staff from PTI and GSE, as well as one of the Trusted Community Representatives (TCRs) who participates regularly in the key ceremonies gave presentations on the KSK rollover. Using presenters not only from different parts of the ICANN organization but also from the ICANN community allows us to spread the message even more widely.

Identifier Technologies Health Indicators (ITHI) workshop and meetings held at M3AAWG in Paris, ICANN57 in Hyderabad, and AFRNIC-25 in Mauritius: A workshop with community members was held at the M3AAWG meeting in Paris in October. A successful session at ICANN57 in Hyderabad focused on using medical terminology to classify different "conditions" related to Internet health. A public comment period started on November 29 on this definition of Internet health and medical-related terminology. OCTO staff attended the AFRNIC-25 meeting in Mauritius in November to offer assistance and support as representatives from all five RIRs met separately to discuss Internet health from a numbering perspective. We are awaiting a response from the NRO with the outcome of that meeting and hope for closer coordination with the RIRs on the ITHI project going forward.

ICANN acts as Subject Matter Expert in Avalanche Operation to dismantle botnet: ICANN's SSR team was asked by EuroPol and the FBI to act as a Subject Matter Expert (SME) on DNS and ICANN processes in law enforcement actions to dismantle the botnet known as 'Avalanche', which is estimated

to have caused an estimated EUR 6 million in damages. The law enforcement action seized over 800,000 domains associated with the botnet. ICANN's SSR team provided expertise on DNS and ICANN's Expedited Registry Security Response (ERSR) process, enabling registrars to take coordinated action with law enforcement, which would normally incur fees per registrar contracts.

Office of the CTO continues tutorials on Internet Technologies: ICANN's Office of the CTO provides a "How it Works" series of tutorials at ICANN meetings. These tutorials are targeted at an audience who want a firmer understanding of the foundational technologies underpinning the Internet. These tutorials have included sessions such as: DNS Fundamentals; Protocols used within a Registry; An IETF Overview; and, Root Server Operators and Anycast. Internally, the Office of the CTO also holds regular "Brown Bag" lunch sessions for staff which covers topics that may be of relevance or interest to ICANN staff, such as; DNSSEC KSK Signing, IPv6 Measurement, Internationalized Domain Names, and others. ICANN's Office of the CTO has also launched an "iExpert" series for staff where invited professionals from outside of the ICANN organization come to talk about DNS-topical activity. This series has included talks from Gabriel Andrews from the US FBI, Paul Vixie of Farsight Security, and John Heidemann from USC/ISI.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Global Stakeholder Engagement, Development and Public Responsibility, Meetings
Sally Costerton, Senior Vice President, Global Stakeholder Engagement

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

This report covers Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE), Meetings and Development and Public Responsibility Department (DPRD) activities from November through December 2016.

The Meetings team has focused on preparations for ICANN58 in Copenhagen, future ICANN Meetings in Johannesburg, Abu Dhabi and San Juan, the GDD Summit and the OCTO Technical Forum taking place in Spain in May, Board Retreats in Los Angeles in February and Europe in May, and the NCPH Community Leaders Meeting being held in Reykjavik in February.

Several staff from GSE participated in the Internet Governance Forum in Guadalajara, Mexico and contributed to panels and workshops at the IGF.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

In November and December, the GSE team has participated in events in 43 countries and territories, in collaboration with and supported by the Government Engagement and Communications teams. In December ICANN supported the LAC-I Roadshow in Quito, the 20th annual KISA Security Users' Festival in Seoul, the Internet Innovation and Convergence Summit in Suzhou, China, a DNS Entrepreneurship Centre event in Benin, conducted a DNS and DNSSEC workshop in Cambodia, facilitated a meeting of the Cyrillic Generation Panel in Istanbul, DNS training in the Republic of Georgia, and the first Eastern European DNS Forum in Kyiv, Ukraine, among other events. In November, the GSE team participated at AFRINIC 25 in Mauritius, the Indonesia Internet Governance Forum, the Commonwealth Regional Workshop on Cybersecurity, Internet Week in Japan, among other events.

A snapshot of activity in the regions from GSE Salesforce data is included at the end of the report.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

The Middle East Regional team conducted a community webinar in December on the Middle East and Adjoining Countries Regional Strategy. This marked the final year of the strategy and the first year of the Implementation Plan. The webinar was the highest in attendance to date with 30 community members joining.

The GSE team participated at the Internet Governance Forum in Guadalajara, Mexico and facilitated many workshops and discussions with interested community participants.

The first Eastern European DNS Forum in Ukraine was a successful event, with over 250 participants from across the region, including Russia, Belarus, Czech Republic, Bulgaria and Serbia. Participation in the two-day forum from ICANN staff and Board included representatives from ICANN's Global Domains Division, Office of the Chief Technology Officer, Policy Development Support, Global Stakeholder Engagement, and Internationalized Domain Names teams. The event was well regarded by the local

and regional community in attendance and from the 400 remote connections following the event online. The Meetings team provided planning and onsite logistical support for this conference.

GSE continues to refine its metrics to better measure how engagement supports community participation in ICANN.

The Development and Public Responsibility Department (DPRD) prepared a brief on the state of gender and geographic diversity at ICANN for the Work Stream 2 on Diversity Subgroup. DPRD also facilitated discussions on the public interest, organizing a high-interest topic session and participating in relevant sessions at ICANN57.

To better anchor the activities of the department in support of ongoing work across the community and reflect the nature of its work, the department streamlined its focus areas and will likely be renamed Public Responsibility Support.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Communications, Language Services

Duncan Burns, Senior Vice President, Global Communications

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

Following the completion of the IANA Stewardship Transition, both the Communications and Language Services teams directed the bulk of their attention to ICANN57 in Hyderabad. Our overarching goal before and during the meeting was targeted regional outreach, to increase local participation.

We continue to make progress on core projects, including KSK Rollover, SSR Review outreach and the information transparency initiative. Our regional communications directors are working closely with their GSE counterparts in reaching out to their local communities and media outreach, and attended a variety of regional events. We also provided support throughout the IGF, both on the ground and remotely. During this period, the Language Services team translated a total of 12,162 pages (3,648,674 words) and provided teleconference interpretation support for 32 meetings.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

ICANN57: Our efforts to increase local participation in the meeting were largely successful, with 70% of the over 3,100 attendees coming from the Asia Pacific (APAC) region. We also generated three unique post-meeting reports (Policy Report; Community Feedback; By the Numbers) to aggregate meeting data, with the goal of improving future meetings. The Language Services team provided live interpretation for 99 sessions, produced 128 transcripts and deployed scribes for 63 sessions.

KSK Rollover/SSR Review Outreach: The communications team continues to raise awareness of the Key Signing Key (KSK) rollover, resulting in increased interest from media outlets and a moderate level of coverage of the topic. We also continue to assist the MSSI team in their continuing efforts to increase participation in the Security, Stability and Resiliency (SSR) of the DNS Review.

Regional Events/Outreach We Supported: Our regional directors attended a variety of events in their respective regions, as part of our ongoing efforts to raise awareness of ICANN and increase participation in the community. Events included the World Telecommunications Standardization Assembly (Tunisia), NANOG68 (Texas), ITU World Telecom 2016 (Thailand), Wuzhen Internet Conference (China), AFRINIC (Mauritius), CEABAD Hackathon Regional 2016 (Nicaragua) and EE DNS Forum (Ukraine).

IGF 2016: The LAC Communications team provided significant support for the 2016 Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Guadalajara, Mexico. We worked closely with the CEO's team and the Board throughout the meeting to increase attendee awareness of ICANN's role.

Information transparency initiative: Our team continues to work closely with the other departments involved in furtherance of this project. Discussions surrounding its scope and goals are still ongoing.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

Both the Communications and Language Services teams are working to identify more efficient ways to handle requests as the demand for support increases. The Communications team has also absorbed Jamie Hedlund's former responsibility of overseeing U.S. government engagement and the Washington, D.C. Engagement Office.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Policy Development Support

David Olive, Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support & General Manager, Istanbul Hub

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

- John Curran (ARIN CEO) will serve as the chair of the ASO/NRO through 31 December 2017. Oscar Robles remains on the NRO Executive Council as LACNIC CEO.
- Filiz Yilmaz (RIPE NCC) will serve as chair of the ASO Address Council through 31 December 2017. Louie Lee remains on the ASO Address Council as a representative from ARIN.
- Two new ASO Address Council members began their terms of service on 1 January 2017: Omo Oaiya (AFRINIC) and Brajesh Jain (APNIC).
- The NRO Executive Council received 4 applications for the independent examiner to conduct the ASO Review. The NRO Executive Council will make a selection by 31 January 2017.
- The ASO approved the charter of the Cross-Community Working Group on New gTLD Auction Proceeds and will participate in its work.
- The ASO Address Council is preparing for its annual meeting to be held at ICANN58.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

- The GNSO Council approved the final framework for future Cross Community Working Groups which were developed by a Cross Community Working Group chartered by the GNSO and ccNSO
- The GNSO Council adopted the Charter for a Cross-Community Working Group on new gTLD Auction Proceeds and appointed 5 members to the CCWG including Jonathan Robinson, the GNSO appointed co-chair to the CCWG.
- The GNSO confirmed its conditional participation of the GNSO as a Chartering Organization for the Cross Community Working Group to discuss Internet governance (CWG-IG) issues affecting ICANN. The participation is conditioned on a comprehensive review of the CWG-IG Charter by the CWG-IG, in accordance with the CWG Framework. This review is expected to be presented by ICANN58.
- The GNSO Council appointed Carlos Raúl Gutiérrez as GNSO Liaison to the Governmental Advisory Committee and adopted the GAC-GNSO Consultation Group on GAC Early Engagement in GNSO Policy Development Processes Final Status Report & Recommendations.
- At ICANN57, James Bladel was reconfirmed as the GNSO Chair for another year, while Donna Austin and Heather Forrest were re-elected to serve as vice-chairs of the GNSO Council.
- The GNSO Council accepted the final report of the GNSO Bylaws Drafting Team which was tasked to fully identify all the new or additional rights and responsibilities that the GNSO has under the revised Bylaws, including but not limited to participation of the GNSO within the Empowered Community, and to develop new or modified structures and procedures (as necessary) to fully implement these new or additional rights and responsibilities. Further work is now ongoing to translate these recommendations into proposed changes to the ICANN Bylaws and/or GNSO Operating Procedures.
- The GNSO Council adopted the GNSO Review Working Group Implementation Plan which has been submitted to the ICANN Board for its consideration.
- The GNSO Council adopted of the GNSO Review of GAC Communiqué from Hyderabad for submission to the ICANN Board.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

- The ccNSO continues to work on updating /new internal guidelines to meet the requirements of the 1 October 2016 ICANN Bylaws and its enhanced accountability. The Council is gearing up for the upcoming ccNSO organizational review.
- The ccNSO Council **nominated Chris Disspain to fill Board seat 11** at the end of the AGM 2017. **Abadalla Omari (.ke) and Pablo Rodriguez (.pr)** have been elected as **new Council members** to replace Vika Mpisane and Becky Burr.
- As part of the launch of **the third ccNSO Policy Development Process** on the retirement of ccTLDs and a review mechanism for decisions pertaining to the delegation, revocation, transfer and retirement of ccTLDs, the ccNSO appointed a charter drafting team to define and refine the scope of the issues that need to be addressed. The results need to be available at the Copenhagen meeting.
- **The ccNSO Council adopted the Extended Process Similarity Review Panel (EPSRP) Report for IDN** and has proposed an updated Guidelines to the Board, following conversations and additional comments from SSAC and a subsequent review and update of the report by the WG EPSRP.
- **The ccNSO Council approved the final framework for Cross Community Working Groups** which were developed by a Cross Community Working Group chartered by the GNSO and ccNSO.

At-Large/At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

- Alan Greenberg, the current chair of the ALAC, has been reappointed for another one-year term, beginning on 9 November 2016 during ICANN57.
- ALAC Liaisons serving between the 2016 AGM and 2017 AGM are: ccNSO – Maureen Hilyard; GAC – Yrjo Lansipuro; GNSO – Cheryl Langdon-Orr; SSAC – Julie Hammer
- Policy Advice Development Activities – The ALAC submitted five statements in response to public comments.
- At-Large Structures – There are currently 213 At-Large Structures with another four applications currently being voted on by the ALAC.
- Board Seat 15 selection – The Board Candidate Selection Committee announced that Alan Greenberg and Leon Sanchez were the two candidates for Board Seat 15. The RALOs will be able to add any of the other applicants if three or more RALOs agree. The successful candidate will be announced on 21 April.
- The At-Large Review is underway focusing on the At-Large Structures and the Regional At-Large Organizations. The At-Large Review Working Party submitted their comments on the initial draft report on 6 January. Following a review by the Independent Examiner, a public comment will begin on 23 January.

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

- **Leadership Elections** – At ICANN57, Thomas Schneider was reelected as GAC chair. Elected as GAC Vice-Chairs were Manal Ismail from Egypt, Milagros Castañón Seoane from Peru, Ghislain de Salins from France, Mark Carvell from the United Kingdom and Guo Feng from China. Formally, the change of Vice-Chairs will be effective at the end of ICANN 58.
- **Follow-up on GAC Hyderabad Advice** – The GAC and the Board has held a joint call to clarify any questions regarding the most recent GAC Advice issued at ICANN 57. The GAC is awaiting the Board's reply to this Advice.

- **IGO and Red Cross Protections** – The GAC, thru its Chair and Vice-Chairs, is participating in Board-initiated discussions facilitated by Bruce Tonkin with a view to resolve differences with the GNSO regarding these two issues.
- **New Bylaws Implementation** – The interim appointment of the GAC Chair, Thomas Schneider, as GAC representative on the Empowered Community Administration was confirmed at ICANN57 as an ongoing arrangement. The GAC is continuing its discussion/decisions on process requirements for the Empowered Community and some related issues.
- **Review Team Appointments** - The GAC has appointed/endorsed three applicants for the SSR2 Review Team and three for the RDS Review Team.

Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

- The RSSAC re-elected Tripti Sinha (University of Maryland, D-Root Server Operator) to a second two-year term as co-chair (1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018). Brad Verd (Verisign, A/J-Root Server Operator) will continue to serve as co-chair for the second year of a two-year term.
- RSSAC/RSSAC Caucus working on 2 reports: naming schemes used by root servers and best practices for the distribution of anycast instances of the root name service.
- RSSAC will hold its fourth workshop on 2-4 May 2017 to follow up on addressing key issues related to the operation and evolution of the root server system.

Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

- 12 December SSAC published SACo89, Response to ccNSO Comments on SACo84. The SSAC explained that confusability is a security concern, and the need to consider the impact to the global internet community on delegations that deemed to only matter to local linguistic communities. The SSAC agreed with ccNSO that that a clear and consistent set of rules for confusing similarity should be developed and the resulting rules be applied to both ccTLDs and gTLDs.
- 23 December 2016 SSAC published SACo90, Advisory on the Stability of the Domain Namespace. The SSAC discussed the cause and the harmful consequences of domain namespace ambiguity. The report recommends ICANN Board take appropriate steps to establish definitive and unambiguous criteria for determining whether or not a syntactically valid domain name label could be a top-level domain name in the global DNS (recommendation 1 and 2). It also recommends ICANN Board establish effective means of collaboration on these issues with relevant groups outside of ICANN (recommendation 3). Finally, it asks the above recommendations be completed before making any decisions to add new TLD names to the global DNS.
- Three SSAC work parties in various stages of development: Centralized Zone Data Service/Whois Rate limiting, IDN Harmonization, and DNSSEC Workshop Planning.
- SSAC invited one technical experts to join SSAC: Paul Ebersman, DNS Architect & Principle Engineer at Comcast NBC Universal.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Governmental and IGO Engagement

Tarek Kamel, Senior Vice President, Government and IGOs Engagement

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

This report covers the Governmental and IGO Engagement activity since the Hyderabad Board meeting in November. During the report period the GE team has participated in a number of important governmental and IGO global and regional engagement events. In the first week of December the CEO visited Geneva for several meetings with government and intergovernmental representatives.

The most prominent meeting during the reporting period was the global IGF 2016 held in Guadalajara Mexico from December 5-9. This was the first IGF since the renewal of the mandate through the WSIS +10 process at the UN. ICANN was well represented at the IGF 2016 by a Board delegation; active community participation and staff. ICANN organized a pre-conference session and a number of conference sessions, and participated in other panels as detailed below. These provided outreach and engagement opportunities for ICANN's CEO, Board members and GE staff, as well as a number of leaders from the ICANN community, with a wider audience that does not attend ICANN meetings.

During the report period the GE/GSE staff also continued its regional government engagement activities with the related officials in different countries and regions as highlighted in the monthly report to the Government Advisory Committee (GAC.) Chief among the activities this month is the capacity building workshops for the African regional GAC members to be held in Kenya at the end of January described below.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

1. Liaising with the Government Advisory Committee (GAC)

GE team members in collaboration with the GSE African regional staff continue the work with the GAC Working Groups (WG) on Underserved Regions (URWG) and on Public Safety (PSWG) in preparation for capacity building workshops for African regional GAC members and the community, to be held at the end of January 2017 in Nairobi Kenya. The four day of workshops, January 23-26, were designed in collaboration with the GAC leadership, the regional engagement teams, and ICANN's SSR team. They will provide a common briefing background on ICANN, the role of the GAC and current topics of discussion. The regional governmental workshop will be followed by a PSWG/ African law enforcement organizations workshop. Attendees from the first workshop will be welcome to attend the PSWG workshop as well. The Kenyan Government is a sponsor and a participant alongside regional industry representatives.

Interest in the workshops has been strong and representation from 20 countries in the region are expected, with most countries sending several people. The Ministers for Kenya and Nigeria have confirmed participation. The events will provide a good introduction to the regional governments and community to Göran, who will continue on to a trip to Addis Ababa for meetings with the AUC and UNECA which are planned for 25th January.

2. Government and IGOs Engagement

The Government and IGO Engagement team continues its work with governments, global and regional intergovernmental organizations as well as the country missions and permanent representatives to the various IGOs in Geneva and New York.

The CEO visited ICANN's Geneva Engagement Office to conduct a series of bilateral meetings with the United Nations Director General in Geneva Ambassador Michael Moeller, the ITU Secretary General Houlin Zhao and officials from the World Intellectual Property Organization WIPO. Göran also attended a reception with the Geneva stakeholder community for further outreach about ICANN issues.

This month GE staff are working with ISOC, IEEE and partnering with the Permanent Mission of Bulgaria to the UN to host a reception for diplomats in New York from UN General Assembly First, Second and Third Committees, which deal with Internet-related issues, to discuss the UNGA 2017 agenda.

The Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) working group on Enhanced Cooperation (EC) will have its second working meeting in Geneva January 26-27. ICANN will support this working meeting through participation in the EC WG (ICANN as part of the Technical Community and I* representation) and also through assistance with the transcription of the dialogue. The January meeting will address 44 contributions made on the characteristics making up Enhanced Cooperation and what the Recommendations of the Group (to the UN in 2018) should highlight. Some proposals, on the latter, call for new UN mechanisms to address all Internet Governance (IG) issues.

ICANN also participated in the Jurisdiction and Internet conference held in Paris in coordination with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs immediately after the ICANN 57 meeting. The invitation only conference brought together over 200 stakeholders from more than 40 countries. The key message of the conference is that addressing the transnational jurisdictional challenges posed by the Internet requires ongoing collaboration between all stakeholders. The roadmap for cooperation that came out of the conference will help structure the upcoming work of the Internet & Jurisdiction policy network and can also inform work at the ICANN Cross Community Working Group (CCWG) WS2 on Jurisdiction.

ICANN continued to work closely with the U.S. Government following the transition, including collaborating with NTIA on matters related to the scope and timing of reviews mandated by the Affirmation of Commitments (AoC). ICANN and the NTIA also agreed on a path forward to terminate the AoC consistent with the community's Accountability proposal and in light of the new Bylaws incorporating the substantive portions of the AoC.

ICANN was also represented at the ITU's Annual "Telecom World" Conference in Bangkok in late November, with Board member Akinori Maemura speaking.

3. Participation in Internet Governance Discussions

GE in close collaboration with GSE Latin American regional staff, led ICANN's participation in the Global IGF 2016 which was held in Guadalajara, Mexico from 5-9 December. The conference attracted over 2000 attendees from 123 different countries. ICANN's participation included Board members, staff and supported members of the ICANN community. On "Day Zero" before the formal opening of the IGF ICANN organized a town hall session on the IANA transition. ICANN was also represented in the High Level meeting organized by the Mexican Government in the afternoon through speaking invitations for

the Board Chair as an Internet Pioneer and for the CEO of ICANN. During the IGF ICANN presented an Open Forum with organizational updates, staffed a booth in the IGF Village to provide a locus for outreach and education and distribution of ICANN materials; and participated in several panels during the IGF led by ICANN staff or supported community members. In addition, there was a heavy schedule of bilateral meetings with government and IGO representatives throughout the conference. The bilaterals were attended by the CEO, senior management and/ or Board members depending on the topic of the meeting. These included meetings with UNESCO leadership; Council of Europe representatives; a delegation of Members of the European Parliament; and the UN Assistant Secretary General for DESA. There were also meetings with Minister Cwele of South Africa, FCC Commissioner Clyburn, and representatives from Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Germany, Japan, and Pakistan among others.

The main purpose of ICANN's participation in the IGF is outreach to the wider community that does not regularly attend ICANN meetings. The informational sessions and bilaterals provide opportunities to invite these individuals and groups to further participate in the ICANN process. Diplo, through support from ICANN and other organizations in the Internet governance ecosystem, provided "just in time" reporting on the conference to further distribute information on the issues discussed at the IGF.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

The primary focus of government engagement activity in November and December was to explain the next steps in the IANA stewardship transition implementation. This involved regular communication about the new structure and the role of the empowered community and especially outreach about the need for active and diverse participation in the "Work Stream 2" (WS2) process and working groups. This will be ongoing work as the Accountability WS2 questions and debate about jurisdiction and the possible triggering of the new bylaws come into play. The GE team will continue to work in coordination with MSSICANN staff and community on the WS2 topics and the discussions on jurisdiction, diversity, accountability and transparency and human rights.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Multistakeholder Strategy and Strategic Initiatives (MSSI)

Theresa Swinehart, Senior Vice President, Multistakeholder Strategy And Strategic Initiatives

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

Several milestones were achieved in connection with the department's areas of responsibility, including overseeing and managing CCWG Work Stream 2, Organizational Review, the Specific Reviews (formerly referred to as the AoC Reviews), and the Strategic Outlook process.

In relation to Work Stream 2, the team supported both the work of the CCWG chairs in their preparations and planning calls, as well as internal coordination and support for Work Stream 2 and the respective subject areas.

On Specific Reviews, the Competition, Consumer Choice and Trust Review Team (CCT-RT) is in its drafting phase, as it has developed several key findings and recommendations for inclusion in its Draft Report. The CCT-RT delayed the publication of its Draft Report, initially expected in December, in order to analyze several research inputs that were recently received, including a report on a survey of new gTLD applicants, and public comments received on the Analysis Group's Phase II Assessment of the Competitive Effects Associated with the New gTLD Program. The Draft Report is slated for publication at the end of January. The selection for the second review of the Security, Stability and Resiliency of the DNS (SSR2) is underway, with the SO/AC leadership empowered to select up to 21 members under the new Bylaws. It is anticipated that the SO/AC Leadership will conclude their deliberations and announce the SSR2 Review Team members by the end of January. The 2nd Review of Registration Directory Services (RDS) Review Team (formerly known as the 2nd WHOIS Review Team) commenced with the Call for Volunteers in October, which will close in January 2017, with this Review Team to be announced before ICANN 58. Preparations are underway to initiate the third Accountability and Transparency Review (ATRT₃), with the Call for Volunteers in January 2017.

Regarding organizational reviews, the GNSO-approved implementation plan for the 34 Board-approved recommendations will be presented for Board action in February. ITEMS, the independent examiner conducting the At-Large review, has prepared an initial draft report and is consulting with the Review Working Party in preparation for posting of the Draft Report for Public Comment in January. The NomCom has formed a Review Working Party, and preparations are underway to initiate a request for proposal in January, to identify an independent examiner. The second review of the ASO was initiated by the NRO, in accordance with the [Memorandum of Understanding](#). To strengthen transparency and accountability around the independent review of the ASO, an ad-hoc transitional process was put in place based on an agreement between the NRO and the OEC. In January, the OEC will offer its view regarding whether the process followed by the NRO to select an independent examiner fulfills established requirements.

Regarding the organization's Strategic Outlook work, the Board identified the 5 key trends for the organization to do a deep dive on, and this work will be proceeding. In addition, several strategic outlook sessions were held with respective departments, and are also scheduled for January-April of 2017, in preparations for the next cycle of trend identification and analysis.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

The MSSl team is actively supporting four Specific Reviews (CCT, SSR₂, RDS and ATRT₃) under the new Bylaws that replaced the reviews under the Affirmation of Commitments. The 2nd Security, Stability, and Resiliency of the Domain Name System (SSR) Review Call for Volunteers has closed, and the applications are undergoing SO/AC assessment. The SO/AC Leadership will select and announce the SSR₂ Review Team members from those who have been nominated. The members of the Review Team are expected to be announced in January 2017. The 2nd RDS Review (WHOIS-2) commenced in October, with a Call for Volunteers that will close in January, and may be conducted under a limited scope, should a proposal that is being circulated and discussed within the SO/ACs be approved. The 3rd Accountability and Transparency Review (ATRT-3) Review is to be launched in January, and may also be conducted under a limited scope, based on the [CCWG-Accountability WS₂ letter](#) to the SO/ACs asking for agreement that the scope of the ATRT₃ be limited to assessing the implementation results of the previous review team's recommendations to avoid overlap with the work underway in WS₂. The proposal is currently under consideration.

The MSSl team is supporting two Organizational Reviews (At-Large₂, NomCom₂) and overseeing the implementation work resulting from the second review of the GNSO.

The MSSl team is also supporting the work of the CCWG-ACCT Work Stream 2 and its subgroups along with a WS₁ subgroup, with preparations underway for a CCWG-Acct WS₂ face-to-face plenary meeting in Copenhagen before ICANN 58. A [dashboard](#) that reflects the status of each group's activities and progress according to the agreed timeline is being shared monthly with the community for group transparency and accountability purposes.

In collaboration with the Community and the Board, we are developing Operating Standards, a system by which to conduct reviews efficiently and effectively, in alignment with ICANN Bylaws, with community engagement and consultations that took place at ICANN57. Additionally, preparations continue for the second review of the NomCom scheduled for February 2017, with the Request for Proposals scheduled for January 2017.

Preparations have been made to launch an independent assessment of the ICANN Office of the Ombudsman, with a request for proposal in January 2017. This independent assessment will inform the work of Work Stream 2 Ombudsman subgroup and is in line with the recommendation issued by the Second Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT₂).

To better understand and mitigate potential failure points associated with ICANN's key processes, we are working with a cross departmental team to develop flowcharts and manuals on ICANN's policy, review, and advice processes, including ones depicting key aspects of the review process (Specific and Organizational).

In collaboration with Finance, we are implementing a review life cycle method of planning resources and budgeting for Reviews, with the expected benefit being a comprehensive end to end view of budget and resources required to support a review from inception to completion rather than by fiscal year. This approach is also reflected in the Review Fact Sheets designed to provide transparency into timing, resources, budget and milestones completion for each review. See [Fact Sheet for CCT-RT](#).

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

The Transition introduced new requirements applicable to Specific Reviews, causing uncertainty with regard to their applicability to those reviews in progress on Oct 1st. The new Bylaws shifted responsibility to the SO/AC leadership to select the members of the recently launched 2nd RDS Review and the 2nd SSR Review, and increased the number of members participating in these review teams. Although the Bylaws state that Operational Standards are to be developed with the Community for conducting Specific Reviews, these have not been developed yet for the newly introduced processes, such as the selection of Review Teams. As a result, there are no established processes for how SO/AC leaders are to reach agreement on these types of issues, or what level of consensus is needed to move forward. We are supporting the leaders as they tackle these new responsibilities.

Volunteer bandwidth and a busy review schedule continue to pose a challenge – reviews depend on active community collaboration by members with the requisite expertise. They also consume significant time and resources. With four Specific Reviews (CCT, SSR₂, RDS and ATRT₃) active over the next few months, there is a continued need to ensure sufficient Community participation in reviews, and sufficient financial resources made available to conduct them. In the case of the RDS Review, the Board Working Group on RDS collaborated with the SO/AC leadership to determine whether there is a way to conduct the review more effectively, to minimize the impact to the Community. A proposal to limit the scope of the RDS Review developed through this collaboration is under consideration to address these concerns. Initial concerns on the RDS Limited Scope Proposal raised by the GAC and possibly the GNSO will need to be considered and resolved by the SO/AC leadership. A similar proposal to limit the scope of ATRT₃ is also being considered.

In the case of the CCT Review Team, the delay in publishing its Draft Report will likely result in delays for the delivery of its Final Report into FY18, thereby requiring additional financial resources to bring this work to completion. As reflected in the [CCT Fact Sheet](#), although 74% of the financial resources budgeted have been expended, only 40% of the expected milestones have been reached. With several members of the CCT Review Team simultaneously volunteering on multiple ICANN-related projects, it may not be feasible for them to conclude their work in FY17. Looking ahead, we will be seeking significant resources to be included in the FY 18 Budget to reflect the increased level of activity required to support each of the four Specific Reviews that will be active.

With regards to implementation of recommendations generated by Reviews, there are several important considerations – ability to implement recommendations to achieve desired impact, with many recommendations broad and difficult to measure; bandwidth to complete the implementation work given other concurrent community priorities; and the financial resources that may be required. For example, the GNSO is working on the implementation of 34 recommendations and has adopted a phased approach, with the work scheduled to take two years. By any measure, this is a significant undertaking which is likely to compete for resources with other high-priority activities.

With regards to Work Stream 2, key issue is to work towards streamlining the work, ensuring it remains within its scope and resourcing, good coordination with internal areas relating to the subject areas, coordination with the Board, and that the framework for work focused on new solutions where needed, and utilizing existing mechanisms where possible, to avoid duplication of efforts. However, there is a significant risk that the CCWG-Accountability will be unable to complete all its work by June 2017 and will ask for its Charter to be extended until the work can be concluded.