

ICANN | CONTRACTED PARTIES BRIEFING

20 February 2020

Greetings,

As you may have heard, the ICANN67 Community Forum will no longer be held in Cancún, Mexico and instead be a remote participation-only meeting. The decision was made as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, considered a public health emergency of international concern by the [World Health Organization \[r20.rs6.net\]](#). For more information on the decision, please read the ICANN announcement [here \[r20.rs6.net\]](#).

We understand this may cause disruptions to any premade meeting arrangements, but we hope you will still be able to participate and engage in this new remote format. We will continue to keep you updated as more details surrounding the remote participation-only meeting become available.

Below are some highlights of recent community-impacting activities and projects for your awareness.

New and Noteworthy

Recommended Call to Action for SHA-1 use in DNSSEC

Last year a [new attack on SHA-1 \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) was announced. Earlier this year, the [first practical implementation of this new attack \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) was published along with an [analysis on the implications of the attack in the use of SHA-1 in DNSSEC \[r20.rs6.net\]](#). More information about the attack is maintained [here \[r20.rs6.net\]](#). Although the use of SHA-1 in DS records does not appear immediately at risk by this attack, the cryptographic community already recommends using either SHA-256 or SHA-384. (Note that use of SHA-1 in NSEC3 does not appear to be vulnerable to this new attack.)

It is highly recommended to migrate from using SHA-1 in DNSSEC zone signatures and instead use algorithms 8 (RSA with SHA-256) or 13 (ECDSA Curve P-256 with SHA-256). It is also recommended to use SHA-256 or SHA-384 for DS records. Both of these changes should be made in the near term because it is expected for the attacks to get better due to increased scrutiny on the SHA-1 algorithm.

ICANN org has published a blog on the issue and its implications, available [here \[r20.rs6.net\]](#). If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to contact ICANN org's Global Support Center at globalsupport@icann.org.

2020 GDD Industry Summit and Additional Events to be Held in Paris, France

The sixth [GDD Industry Summit \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) is currently planned to be held in Paris, France from 3-6 May 2020. The event will be followed by the [\[r20.rs6.net\]Registration Operations Workshop \(ROW\) \[r20.rs6.net\]](#), the [\[r20.rs6.net\]DNS Symposium \[r20.rs6.net\]](#), and [\[r20.rs6.net\]DNS OARC \[r20.rs6.net\]](#). At this time, there are no changes to these events and they are proceeding as planned. Any updates or changes to the situation will be communicated as quickly as possible. Please visit the GDD Industry Summit [webpage \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) and view the sponsorship [brochure \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) for more information about the event hotel, registration, agenda, and sponsorship opportunities.

Update on Information Transparency Initiative (ITI)

The Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) has released an improved Public Comment feature based on invaluable input from members of ICANN's Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. Please check it out [here \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) [\[r20.rs6.net\]](#) and register your feedback.

Monthly Registry Reports Moving to Open Data Initiative (ODI)

ICANN is preparing to launch the Open Data Platform in March 2020. The Monthly Registry Reports are expected to be made available as datasets in this initial release. Both the per registrar transaction report and registry activity report submitted monthly for each gTLD will be available. Upon launch of the Open Data Platform these [Monthly Registry Reports \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) will continue to be available as they are today, in addition to in the new platform. However, it is expected that before the end of 2020, the Monthly Registry Reports will only be available via the Open Data Platform. In accordance with the Registry Agreements, ICANN org will continue to withhold publication of the reports until three months after the end of the month to which the reports relate. There will be NO change to the current process or tools (RRI) by which registry operators can submit monthly reports to ICANN org.

Universal Acceptance (UA)

The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) continues to move forward on its [FY20 Action Plan \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) to ensure that all domain names and email addresses are supported by all applications in an effort to promote consumer choice and competition. Its [working groups \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) have been meeting regularly to determine gaps and to develop mechanisms to remediate them. In addition, both the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) and the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) have initiated working groups to focus on Universal Acceptance (UA). If you are interested in joining a working group, please sign up [here \[r20.rs6.net\]](#). For more information, visit [www.uasg.tech \[r20.rs6.net\]](#).

Policy and Implementation Updates

IGO and INGO Identifiers Protection Policy Implementation: Red Cross & Red Crescent Name Lists Update

On 18 February 2020, ICANN org announced that it has revised the Protection of International Governmental Organization (IGO) and International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) Identifiers in All gTLDs Policy, to reflect an updated reserved names list for certain Red Cross and Red Crescent names at the second level of the Domain Name System (DNS). Official notifications of the Policy announcement were sent to all Registry Operators, and ICANN Accredited Registrars. The contracted parties have until 1 August 2020 to update their reserved names lists to comply with the policy. See the [official announcement \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) for more information.

Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP)

In October ICANN org [initiated the negotiation process \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) with the Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) and Registrars Stakeholder Group (RrSG) to amend the Base gTLD Registry Agreement (RA) and the 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA). The purpose of the amendments are to incorporate contractual requirements for RDAP and to define the plan and provisions to sunset the obligations related to the WHOIS protocol and services. If you have any questions please contact ICANN org's Global Support Center at globalsupport@icann.org.

gTLD Registration Data Policy Implementation (EPDP Phase 1)

ICANN org's policy implementation team continues to build an implementation plan with the Registration Data Policy Implementation Review Team (IRT). On 6 January 2020, ICANN CEO Goran Marby sent a [letter to the Governmental Advisory Committee \(GAC \[r20.rs6.net\]\)](#) in response to [GAC Advice \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) from 6 November 2019, recommending that the implementation team continue to follow the planning process to form a realistic schedule to complete its work. On 24 February 2020, the implementation team will conduct an [ICANN67 Prep Week Webinar \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) to provide a Registration Data Policy Implementation overview and update. At ICANN67, the IRT plans to hold two open working sessions on 11 and 12 March 2020. Until the new policy is published, all contracted parties **must** [\[r20.rs6.net\]](#) continue to implement the [Interim Registration Data Policy for gTLDs \[r20.rs6.net\]](#).

Registrars

Contractual Compliance Registrar Audit

The Registrar DNS Abuse Handling Audit will not occur before ICANN67 as ICANN Compliance continues to develop the approach and information request. The Compliance team will be available to remotely answer questions and provide updates for contracted parties.

Registries

TLS Client Authentication in MoSAPI and RRI

ICANN has initiated the implementation of an additional method of authentication in the Registration Reporting Interface (RRI) and the Monitoring System API (MoSAPI) systems. The additional authentication method relies on Transport Layer Security (TLS) client authentication with TLSA Resource Records to anchor the client certificates. The new method of authentication will allow, among other things, a registry, if they so choose, to permit a Registry Service Provider (RSP) to have separated credentials from those of the registry, and the RSP to update

credentials after the initial setup without going through the registry. We expect to release this new functionality by the mid-year 2020 and plan to announce the release when done. The specification for the new functionality can be found at [https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/mosapi-specification-2019-01-03-en\[r20.rs6.net\]](https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/mosapi-specification-2019-01-03-en[r20.rs6.net]).

Upcoming Bulk Registration Data Validation

ICANN org has implemented additional validations pertaining to the format and content of the Bulk Registration Data (BRDA) deposit files to ensure their compliance with the BRDA specification in the registry agreements. The enforcement of the new validations will escalate as follows:

1. **23 March 2020:** The ICANN Contractual Compliance team will begin to send compliance notifications concerning BRDA deposit files containing errors. No deposits will be rejected during this phase.
2. **1 August 2020:** BRDA deposit files that do not pass any required validation will be rejected starting a new compliance notification.

I hope this information provides you with additional insight and transparency into our ongoing activities and look forward to your feedback.

Best Regards,



Russ Weinstein
Sr. Director, gTLD Accounts and Services
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

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ICANN | 12025 Waterfront Dr., Suite 300, Los Angeles, CA 90094

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