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## APAC Newsletter

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Feedback



### TOP STORY

#### ICANN Engages the Technical Community at APRICOT 2017, APNIC43 and APTLD71



*ICANN Board members and staff at APRICOT 2017 and APNIC43*

ICANN Board members and staff were recently at the combined **Asia Pacific Regional Internet Conference on Operational Technologies (APRICOT) 2017 and Asia-Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC) 43**, held from 20 February to 2 March in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and highlighted ICANN's work related to the Domain Name System (DNS).

Sessions included a five-day technical workshop on the DNS and DNS security extensions (DNSSEC); and presentations on the rollover of the root zone DNSSEC key signing key (KSK), as well as Identifier Technologies Health Indicators (which measure DNS health). We also shared the latest updates on ICANN in the region, and the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) post-transition, known as **Public Technical Identifiers (PTI)**.

Also in Ho Chi Minh City, ICANN staff attended the **Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association (APTLD) 71** meeting from 2-3 March, engaging the region's country code top-level domain (ccTLD) operators. We shared with the APTLD members on topics such as the latest ICANN news, PTI, KSK rollover and the Cross-Community Working Group on the Use of Country and Territory Names as TLDs (**CCWG-UCTN**), participating in discussions related to the above topics. In addition, we supported the pre-meeting training on 28 February and 1 March.

We look forward to continued engagement with the technical, network operations, regional Internet registries and DNS community.



### Achieving a Multilingual Internet for India

English is the top language used by Internet users, according to the [Internet World Stats](#). Unfortunately, none of the many languages or scripts used in India are featured in the top 10 languages. Is it possible to build a "Digital India" when English is still the language of the Internet? Will this prevent the next wave of Internet users in India from coming online?

Last month, Samiran Gupta, ICANN's Head of India highlighted the importance of making the Internet multilingual for the majority of Internet users in India. Speaking at [Convergence India 2017](#), [Indian Digital Summit](#) and [BlogX 2017 Conference](#) in New Delhi, India, Gupta introduced [Internationalized Domain Names](#) and the need to develop rulesets for Indic languages to help the non-English speaking Indian population come online. He also spoke about the multistakeholder model of Internet governance and encouraged Indian stakeholders to participate in ICANN's work.



*Samiran Gupta speaks at BlogX 2017 Conference, held on 11 February in New Delhi, India*



### Help Us Improve APAC Space by Taking Our 2017 Survey

ICANN's Asia Pacific (APAC) hub is looking for your input to help make the APAC Space more relevant to our community. We want to understand your interests and priorities regarding current ICANN-related policy issues so we can prepare discussion topics for the APAC Space.

Help us improve the APAC Space by taking part in the [survey](#), which remains open until 8 March 2017.

The next [APAC Space](#) will be held on 15 March, 08:30-10:30 Central European Time (CET) at ICANN58 in Copenhagen, Denmark. If you are attending ICANN58, we look forward to seeing you there in person. Remote participation is also available!



### Don't Forget Today's Pre-ICANN58 Policy Open House!

**Monday, 6 March 2017  
10:00 UTC and 19:00 UTC**

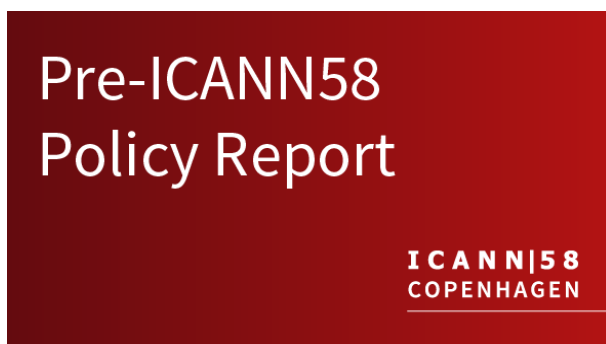
To prepare community members for the upcoming Community Forum in Copenhagen, the Policy Development Support Team is hosting a Pre-ICANN58 Policy Open House today. Subject matter experts will provide brief updates on the policy and advice development work of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. The new interactive format will also feature an open question-and-answer exchange and a general overview of what to expect at ICANN58.

As usual, we will conduct two 60-minute sessions to accommodate participants from different regions and time zones. We plan to publish all relevant documents and materials beforehand, giving community members time to review all materials before the open house sessions.

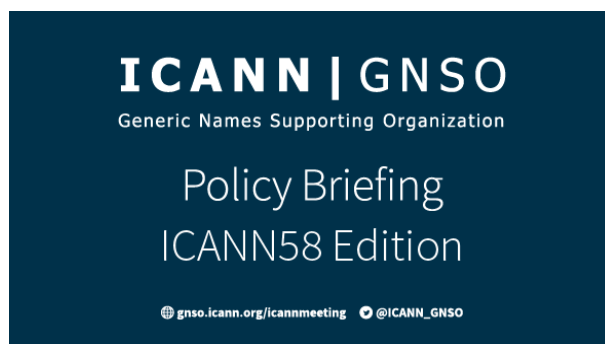
Read the [full announcement](#) and [register now](#).

## Read the Pre-ICANN58 Policy Report and GNSO Policy Briefing

Two reports are now available to help you prepare for ICANN58.



**Pre-ICANN58 Policy Report.** The Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees update you on what to expect for ICANN58. The report features information such as what to expect in policy and advice development work, background information and issue briefings, as well as session details.



**GNSO Policy Briefing for ICANN58.** The report describes relevant Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) policy efforts, topics to be discussed, policy development processes, working groups and implementation review teams. You will also find information about all GNSO sessions.

## Countdown to ICANN58 - Get Ready!

In just five days, ICANN58 kicks off in Copenhagen, Denmark. The meeting runs from 11-16 March. We have created a set of tools that will keep you informed before and during the meeting.

### Remote and On-Site Participants

- **ICANN58 Mobile App.** Manage your meeting experience - access the meeting schedule, network with fellow participants, view the venue map, find information about Copenhagen and more. Download the ICANN58 mobile app, available in app stores.
- **ICANN58 Meeting Schedule.** Find out everything about the sessions at ICANN58. The meeting schedule lists all sessions - with descriptions, dates, times and locations - plus information about how you can participate remotely.



### On-Site Participants

- **ICANN58 Guide.** Use this handy and comprehensive guide that contains a map of the Bella Centre, health and safety information, lists of notable and high interest sessions, schedule of social events and more.
- **Shuttle Schedule.** Plan your daily trip to and from your hotel and the Bella Center.
- **Copenhagen Travel Pass.** Take advantage of Copenhagen's reliable public transportation. All ICANN58 participants can obtain a reduced fare for the Copenhagen Travel Pass, which covers all forms of public transportation for the duration of the meeting. The pass is good for metro, bus and train, including transit to and from the airport.



## Participate Remotely in ICANN58

Not everyone can travel to Copenhagen to attend ICANN58, but ICANN strives to create an equal experience for everyone. We offer remote participation with livestream audio and video for all sessions. For some larger sessions, we also offer interpretation and transcription. All public sessions are recorded, transcribed, translated and archived in the Meeting Calendar on the [ICANN Meetings website](#).

ICANN has chosen Adobe Connect (AC) as our tool for remote participation. During the sessions, ICANN staff members oversee the AC technical services. The AC chat rooms offer a means for remote participants to

interact with other participants, ask questions in real time and alert staff to any technical issues.

How can you participate? On the [ICANN58 Meeting Schedule](#), on every session's page, you'll find a link to the AC "virtual room" - it has the same name as the on-site room. Click this link to enter the AC room. If you need technical or operational support in an AC room, contact the participant named "RP," visible in the Participant pod.

See you online at ICANN58!

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## What's New at ICANN's Development and Public Responsibility Department?

Recently, the ICANN organization has been taking stock of feedback from stakeholders on how to improve existing programs and tools to better support the ICANN community's work. A recurring theme is the need to clarify the role and scope of the Development and Public Responsibility Department (DPRD). We must also better define the label "development," which is often confused with involvement in political, social and economic development issues. To address this feedback and to better reflect the nature of our work, beginning 1 July 2017, the department will change its name to "Public Responsibility Support."

There is an increased demand from across the ICANN regions for capacity-development opportunities. We are in the planning stages of scaling up ICANN Learn to serve as a space for skill building and knowledge sharing for all stakeholder groups. We will be expanding language capabilities to include non-U.N. languages. We are grateful to the community for this type of feedback and guidance.

Our flagship meeting programs - the Fellowship Program, Newcomers Day and NextGen@ICANN - remain key to strengthening broad participation, knowledge and diversity across ICANN. As ICANN58 nears, we look forward to continuing to work closely with the community to improve the quality of the tools and support needed to carry out ICANN's mission.

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## Missed the Quarterly Stakeholder Call?

On 15 February 2017, ICANN held its quarterly stakeholder call for the second quarter of the 2017 fiscal year. If you couldn't attend live, you can access the [presentation, transcripts and recordings](#). The Adobe Connect recording and presentation materials are posted in English. Session transcripts and audio recordings are available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.



## GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY

### Shuyi Guo ICANN58 Fellow

Shuyi Guo is a policy liaison at the China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC). Her role at CNNIC involves analyzing policies in the information and communications technologies sector and coordinating Internet governance policy discussions. She is also a member or observer in various groups in international and regional organizations, including ICANN, Internet Governance Forum (IGF), Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APrIGF).



An ICANN Fellow at ICANN57 and ICANN58, Guo believes that ICANN provides an interactive and inclusive platform for people to exchange thoughts and opinions on Internet matters. She participates in ICANN's policy development processes, often submitting public comments. She hopes to see increased participation from the Asia Pacific region, especially from the youths, in ICANN's work.





### At-Large Review Workshop Planned Ahead of Public Comment Deadline

A public workshop on the At-Large review will be held at ICANN58 on Wednesday, 15 March, from 15:15-16:45 local time. It will follow up on the topics covered in a [webinar](#) held 27 February. The workshop will also provide an opportunity for a community-wide discussion on the findings and proposed recommendations, with the goal of developing useful and implementable final recommendations.

ITEMS International, the independent examiner, has been conducting the organizational review of the At-Large community. Its [draft report](#) proposes 16 recommendations that ITEMS believes will help improve the At-Large community's structure and effectiveness, regional and global meetings, funding regime and support staff.

The draft report is available for public comment for three more weeks. **[Provide your feedback by 24 March!](#)**

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### CCWG-UCTN Publishes Interim Paper for Public Comment

The Cross-Community Working Group on the Use of Country and Territory Names as TLDs ([CCWG-UCTN](#)) has decided that two-character codes (in ASCII) should remain reserved for country code top-level domains (ccTLDs), which adheres to the ISO 3166 standard. After analyzing community feedback on three-character codes, the CCWG-UCTN discussed a proposal during and after ICANN55. The CCWG-UCTN also held a broad cross-community session at ICANN56. Since ICANN57, the CCWG-UCTN has been developing its interim report for public comment, including its consensus views, issues faced, and its conviction that a harmonized framework for the use of country, territory and other geographic names is not feasible. This was the first task for the CCWG-UCTN, as outlined in its [charter](#). The [public comment proceeding](#) will remain open until 21 April 2017.

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### ICANN Board Accepts the GNSO Review Implementation Plan

On 3 February, the ICANN Board accepted the [GNSO Review Implementation Plan](#) for the 34 recommendations of the [GNSO Review Final Report](#). In particular, the ICANN Board supports the three-phased prioritization approach laid out in the implementation plan and indicated it would welcome more implementation details for Phases 2 and 3 regarding the high, medium and low priority recommendations. The ICANN Board directed the GNSO Review Work Party to provide updates - detailing progress and measurability - to its Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC) every six months. Any budgetary implications of implementing the GNSO review recommendations will be part of the ICANN Board's annual budgeting process. [Read more.](#)

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### Get Involved with ICANN Reviews



ICANN reviews are crucial tools that assess the health of ICANN, its Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. Reviews indicate how well they operate, how effective they are in achieving their purpose and how they are held accountable to the stakeholder community. If you're interested, here are ways you can learn more and participate.

- Meet the members of the Security, Stability and Resiliency of the Domain Name System (DNS) Review Team (**SSR2 Review Team**). Share your input on the scope of this review at the **open session at ICANN58**.
- **Apply to be considered** for the team that will conduct the Third ICANN Accountability and Transparency Review (ATR3). Deadline: Friday, 21 April 2017, 23:59 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).
- Learn about the work of the **Registration Directory Service (RDS) Review** (formerly WHOIS). Share your views on the effectiveness of recent improvements to WHOIS at the **public session at ICANN58**.



## GDD UPDATE



### Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review

### Available for Comment - Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Draft Report

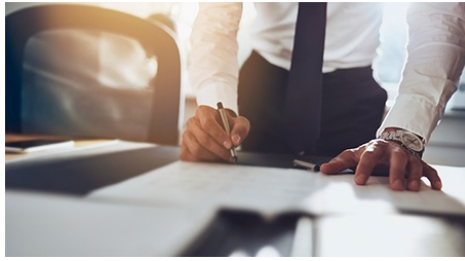
ICANN has published a draft report of findings and initial recommendations from the Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice review. The report examines the extent to which the introduction of new generic top-level domains (gTLDs) has promoted competition, consumer trust and consumer choice in the domain name system. It also assesses the effectiveness of the safeguards ICANN has implemented to mitigate issues related to the introduction new gTLDs. **Read the draft report** or submit a comment. Additionally, you can join the CCT Review Team

**engagement session** at ICANN58, where the team will discuss its findings.

### Universal Acceptance: New Resources Available

The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) has made significant progress in the last year toward its goal of helping software developers and website owners understand how to update their systems to keep pace with an evolving domain name system. The group has launched a dedicated website that hosts a comprehensive collection of educational resources, such as quick guides for developers - available in multiple languages - on Universal Acceptance in general and Email Address Internationalization in particular. The guides include key terms and recommended steps to becoming Universal Acceptance-ready. The website also hosts case studies that





## Voting Now Open - Global Amendment to the Base New gTLD Registry Agreement

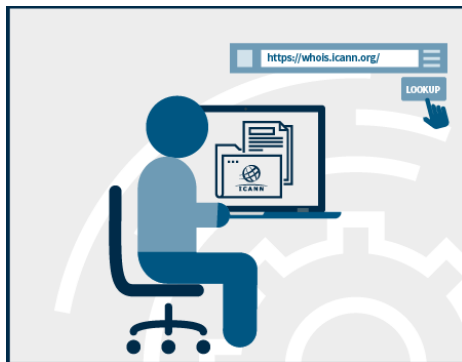
Applicable registry operators are now able to vote on the Global Amendment to the base New gTLD Registry Agreement. Voting is open until 10 April 2017 at 23:59 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

The proposed amendment is the result of discussions between ICANN and a working group established by the Registries Stakeholder Group. If applicable registry operators approve the proposed amendment, it will go to the ICANN Board of Directors for approval. If the Board approves the amendment, it will become effective 60 days after ICANN notifies registry operators of Board approval. If applicable registry operators do not approve the proposed amendment, the current Registry Agreement will remain in full force and effect.

Visit the [Global Amendment webpage](#) to access resources such as a summary of proposed changes, webinar recordings and answers to frequently asked questions.

## Now Available: Revised Report of the Independent Review of the Trademark Clearinghouse

An independent review of the Trademark Clearinghouse was conducted by Analysis Group, a third-party consulting firm, as part of the New gTLD Program reviews. The firm examined whether domains that relate to (but do not exactly match) trademarks should be considered for use in the Sunrise and Claims periods of a new gTLD's life cycle. The review also explores if extending the number of days of the Claims service would be of value. The revised report is expected to help inform discussions and policy development regarding Rights Protection Mechanisms in the New gTLD Program. [Read the report.](#)



## Thick WHOIS Registration Data Directory Services Requirements to Take Effect

On 1 February 2017, ICANN announced that gTLD contracted parties must update their registration data directory services to comply with:

- Thick WHOIS Transition Policy for .COM, .NET and .JOBS
- Registry Registration Data Directory Services Consistent Labeling and Display Policy

The policies require all gTLD registrations to be "Thick" with a consistent labeling and display of WHOIS output. [Learn more.](#)



## DELEGATED TLDs

### 1 new gTLD and 1 ccTLD delegated in February

africa

پاکستان, "Pakistan", /pakistan/



## ONE MORE THING

**Open Call for Pre-Event and Workshop Proposals for APriGF 2017**

The next **Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APriGF) 2017** will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 26-29 July 2017. The theme is "Ensuring an Inclusive and Sustainable Development in Asia Pacific: A Regional Agenda for Internet Governance." APriGF is one of the key initiatives in the APAC region to advance the development of Internet governance through open dialogue.

The APriGF Multistakeholder Steering Group (MSG) is now inviting the community to submit pre-event and workshop proposals for APriGF 2017 using the **online submission form**. The submission deadline is Wednesday, 15 March 2017, 23:59 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

If you have any questions, please email [sec@aprigf.asia](mailto:sec@aprigf.asia).



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us at these upcoming events:

- India Peering Forum 2017 | 6 - 10 March 2017 | Kolkata, India
- **Internet Governance Forum (IGF) - Japan 2017** | 7 March 2017 | Tokyo, Japan
- **ICANN58** | 11 - 16 March 2017 | Copenhagen, Denmark
- **APAC Space at ICANN58** | 15 March 2017, 08:30-10:30 Central European Time (CET) | Copenhagen, Denmark
- Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) Workshop | 26 - 30 March 2017 | Port Vila, Vanuatu
- **Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association (PITA) 21st Annual General Meeting** | 3 - 7 April 2017 | Rarotonga, Cook Islands
- India Internet Conference 2017 | 5 - 6 April 2017 | New Delhi, India
- **Pacific Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Days 2017** | 17 - 18 May 2017 | Port Vila, Vanuatu

Learn more about how ICANN will be participating in **regional events near you**.



## ICANN APAC HUB

38 Beach Road  
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