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TOP STORY

Asia Pacific (APAC) Space Highlights from ICANN58



APAC community members discuss regional issues at the APAC Space at ICANN58 on 15 March 2017.

ICANN58, which ran from 11-16 March 2017, was the first ICANN Public Meeting held in Copenhagen, Denmark. Of particular interest to the APAC community was the **APAC Space** session, which was attended by over 60 remote and in-person participants.

The APAC Space is a platform for APAC community members to raise issues, share views and coordinate activities relating to regional participation in ICANN's work. It is either conducted as a web conference outside ICANN meetings or as a face-to-face session during an ICANN meeting.

The following is a recap of the ICANN58 APAC Space session.



Chuck Gomez from the RySG talks to the APAC community about the group's work.

Meeting with the Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG)

This was the first time the RySG participated in the APAC Space, and the group took the opportunity to introduce its work to the APAC community. Some highlights included:

Forming Interest Group(s) in RySG

The RySG encouraged the APAC community to set up interest group(s) to facilitate participation in the various RySG working groups. For more details about participating in the RySG's interest groups, read the [RySG Charter](#).

Voting for the Global Amendment to the Base New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Registry Agreement

The RySG also called on ICANN-contracted registries to cast their votes on the Global Amendment to the Base New gTLD Registry Agreement. Voting ends on 10 April 2017, 23:59 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). [Find out more](#).

Conducting Outreach on Universal Acceptance (UA)

The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) urged for greater attention on UA in the APAC region, and requested the RySG's assistance in spreading awareness to registries to ensure their systems are UA-ready.



Avri Doria, Co-Chair of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group, encourages the APAC community to participate in the PDP.

Continued Discussions on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process (PDP)

The APAC community carried over discussions on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP from previous APAC Space sessions. Working Group Co-Chair Avri Doria urged the APAC community to get involved in the **four different PDP work tracks** and the [PDP Working Group Community Comment 2](#).

There was a call for active participation in Work Track 4: Internationalized Domain Names (IDN) / Technical & Operations. IDNs will be crucial to bringing the Internet to the next billion users, many of whom are non-English speaking. As APAC is one of the key targeted areas, this is an important regional issue.

To join the effort, email the GNSO Secretariat at gns-secs@icann.org.

gns-secs@icann.org.



APAC Space Survey 2017

ICANN's APAC hub recently conducted an APAC Space survey, which closed on 31 March 2017. The aim was to determine the community's preferences for discussion topics that would be relevant to the APAC community. **Preliminary results** from the survey were shared during the APAC Space session, which generated further dialogue among community members on possible discussion topics. The final results will be shared at the next APAC Space session in May 2017.

IDN Implementation Guidelines

Edmon Chung, CEO of DotAsia and Co-Chair of the IDN Implementation Working Group, encouraged the APAC community to submit public comments on the IDN Implementation Guidelines. Learn more about the [public comment period](#), which closes on 17 April 2017.

If you missed this APAC Space, you can [listen to the recording](#) and [view the notes](#). To suggest topics for the next APAC Space, subscribe to discuss@tld.asia.



ICANN Launches Testing Platform for the KSK Rollover

ICANN is offering a testing platform for network operators and other interested parties to confirm that their systems can handle the automated update process for the upcoming Root Zone Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) Key Signing Key (KSK) rollover. The KSK rollover is scheduled for 11 October 2017.

[Read the full announcement.](#)



[Click here to watch the interview with CTO David Conrad.](#)

KSK Quick Guide Is Now Available

We've created materials to help you understand the upcoming root zone key signing key (KSK) rollover. The KSK Quick Guide is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Japanese and Korean translations are coming soon.

Download the [KSK Quick Guide](#).



[Click here to watch the interview.](#)

Watch Wrap-Up Interview of ICANN58 Copenhagen

As ICANN58 concludes in Copenhagen Denmark, Luna Madi, ICANN's Communications Director in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, sits down with Stephen Crocker, Board Chair, and Göran Marby, President and CEO. Crocker and Marby talk about ICANN58's highlights and takeaways, and expectations for the Policy Forum in Johannesburg, South Africa. Watch what they have to say!

CCWG-Accountability Co-Chairs Issue Statement at ICANN58

On 10 March 2017, the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG-Accountability) held a full-day meeting at ICANN58 to further discussions on Work Stream 2. Ninety members and participants attended in person, and many others joined remotely through the virtual meeting room. The CCWG-Accountability received updates from its subgroups and informed the ICANN community about the status of its work. Co-Chairs Thomas Rickert, León Sánchez and Mathieu Weill issued a statement on behalf of the CCWG. Read the statement [here](#).

Read the Post-ICANN58 Reports

The ICANN58 Community Forum concluded in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 16 March 2017. As part of ICANN's commitment to transparency, we publish reports after every ICANN Public Meeting. The data in these reports will help ICANN improve future meetings. The post-conference reports are now available in English, and will soon be posted in Arabic, Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish and Turkish.

Post-ICANN58 Policy Report



Post-ICANN58 Policy Report. Read updates from our Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. Our community develops and refines policies that ensure the security, stability, and resiliency of the global Internet, and the ICANN organization is proud to facilitate this work.



ICANN58 Community Feedback. Find out the outcome of the survey that asked you to rate aspects of ICANN58 - the Community Forum format, sessions, venue, and networking opportunities. You can also read constructive feedback from attendees in their own words.

ICANN gathers metrics and examines data and survey results so we can continue to improve your meeting experience.

Register Now for ICANN59!

Registration is open for ICANN59, which will be held from 26-29 June, in Johannesburg, South Africa. This meeting will be a Policy Forum, where the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees focus on topics that contribute to policy development and cross-community dialogue.

Please check to see if you need to obtain a visa to travel to South Africa before you book your travel. [Register here.](#)



APAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

ICANN Conducts Workshops on Domain Name System (DNS) Topics in Vanuatu



Savé Vocea and Champika Wijayatunga with the participants of the DNS and DNSSEC workshop in Port Vila, Vanuatu.

ICANN's Savé Vocea (VP of Global Stakeholder Engagement for Australasia) and Champika Wijayatunga (Security, Stability and Resiliency Engagement Regional Manager) were in Port Vila, Vanuatu, to conduct a workshop on the DNS and DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) from 27-30 March 2017.

Hosted by the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator (TRR) of Vanuatu, participants at the workshop included technical and networking professionals from Vanuatu's government, telecommunications agencies and financial institutions. The participants had hands-on practice configuring DNS servers, implementing security features in DNS infrastructure and deploying DNSSEC. They also learned about the

rollover of the root zone DNSSEC key signing key (KSK), which will be taking place on 11 October 2017.

Subsequently, Wijayatunga conducted a workshop on DNS Abuse Handling for law enforcement officers in Vanuatu on 31 March 2017. The participants learned about analyzing abuses and misuses of Internet identifier systems and using various strategies, techniques and tools to handle DNS abuse. On the sidelines of the workshops, Vocea and Wijayatunga also met with other stakeholders as part of ICANN's engagement efforts.

Overall, there was positive feedback on the workshops, and the Government of Vanuatu has invited ICANN to future events in Vanuatu.

Taking the Road Less Traveled for India's Internet



Left: Samiran Gupta (second from left) and the organizers of All India Digital Skills Mission, travel to an underserved region in Durgapur, India, to speak to students about the Internet. (Photo credit: All India Digital Skill Mission); Right: This map shows all the stops on the team's recent road trip.

What was the purpose of visiting over 50 major cities and 100 villages in India, having a road trip of more than 20,000 kilometers? The All India Digital Skill Mission initiative sought to spread the awareness of the Internet and the entrepreneurship opportunities it provides to university students in rural and underserved regions in India. This two-month project started in Kashmir on 15 January 2017.

Samiran Gupta, ICANN's Head of India, joined the organizers at one of the stops in the eastern state of Bengal. Gupta visited Durgapur, located about 180 kilometers from the city of Kolkata, to speak to almost 200 university students. Presenting in Bengali (one of the local languages in India), he spoke about the birth of the Internet, the DNS and the multistakeholder model of Internet governance. His presentation sparked great interest among the students. This outreach was part of ICANN's ongoing efforts to educate and engage the next generation, to get them involved in their regional communities and take part in the future growth of global Internet policy.

Chinese Participation Is Key to Chinese IDN Development

ICANN's Jia-Rong Low, VP and Managing Director of ICANN Asia Pacific, and Song Zheng, Head of China, attended the Chinese IDN Innovation and Application Forum held in Beijing, China, on 28 March 2017.

More than 250 participants from the government, business and technical community gathered at the forum. A highlight of the event was the community-led formation of the "Chinese Domain Name Industry Development Alliance", which comprised over ten Chinese registries and close to one hundred Chinese domain name registrars and resellers. The Alliance pledged to look into innovative applications of Chinese IDNs and ways to improve the Chinese IDN ecosystem, one of which included providing excellent customer service.



Jia-Rong Low speaks about IDN and new gTLDs at the Chinese IDN Innovation and Application Forum in Beijing, China.

Low spoke at the opening ceremony, where he introduced ICANN's work on IDN and new gTLDs. He touched on how participation in label generation panels and Universal Acceptance can help to promote the usage of Chinese IDNs. He concluded by inviting the Chinese community to participate actively in ICANN's work.

Indian Businesses Turn Attention to IDNs

A large percentage of the next billion Internet users will be from the Asia Pacific region. Businesses looking to boost their revenue would benefit from tapping into this pool of users. The only problem? English may not be their first language. IDNs, which allow Internet users to access domain names in their native languages and scripts, will be useful in bringing non-English speaking Internet users online. In India, the work of the **Neo-Brahmi Generation Panel (NBGP)** is helping to meet this multifaceted challenge.

There has been an increasing interest in IDNs and Indic content following the success of ICANN57 in Hyderabad, India, especially from the Indian business community, through the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI). On 8 March 2017, an NBGP Industry Onboarding meeting was held in New Delhi to welcome new business community participants into the panel. ICANN hopes to keep the momentum going and bring in business, technical and academic community members to complete the work of the NBGP.



Chinese community members gather at the ICANN58 readout session.

Chinese Community Organizes ICANN58 Readout for Fellow Community Members

Over 90 Chinese community members representing the government, business, technical and academic groups were in Beijing, China, on 29 March for the ICANN58 readout session. ICANN's Jia-Rong Low, VP and Managing Director of ICANN Asia Pacific, and Song Zheng, Head of China, attended the session.

Besides updates on ICANN58 meeting sessions, the community members also discussed key topics, including two-character second-level domain names, Chinese IDN Label Generation Ruleset and Universal Acceptance, and encouraged greater participation from fellow community members. A separate session

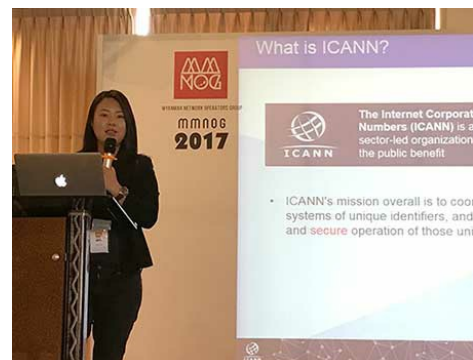
was held to discuss the questionnaire issued by the Jurisdiction Subgroup of the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG-Accountability) Work Stream 2.

Low gave an overall update of ICANN58, highlighting ICANN's efforts to improve transparency and the open data initiative. He also announced the appointment of Jian-Chuan Zhang as the **new ICANN Head of China**.

ICANN Participates in Conferences in Myanmar and the Philippines

With an **Internet penetration rate** of around 20%, more can be done to boost Internet development in Myanmar. This was the consensus at a panel discussion at the **Myanmar Network Operators Group (mmNOG) Conference 2017** on 4 March 2017, where network operators and private sector representatives discussed the challenges facing Myanmar's Internet growth.

ICANN's Joyce Chen, Global Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and Development Senior Manager, was one of the panelists at mmNOG. She spoke about ICANN's engagements in the region and the successful deployment of two L-root server instances in Myanmar.



Joyce Chen introduces ICANN at the Myanmar Network Operators Group (mmNOG) in Yangon, Myanmar, on 4 March 2017.

Following mmNOG, Chen visited the Philippines to speak at the **Philippines Network Operators' Group (PhNOG) Conference 2017** on 6 March 2017. She also attended the **1st Philippines Internet Protocol Peering Forum** the next day in Manila, Philippines. Citing the study on "**Connecting the Unconnected in Developing Asia**", Chen urged the Philippines to take urgent action to bring Internet access to the rest of its population.

In addition, while in Myanmar and the Philippines, Chen spoke to audiences about new gTLDs, IDNs and the **root zone key signing key (KSK) rollover**. As part of ICANN's engagement efforts, she also met with key stakeholders from both countries on the sidelines of the events.



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY



Ram Krishna Pariyar Member of the Second Security, Stability and Resiliency of the DNS Review Team (SSR2-RT)

Ram Krishna Pariyar is a member of the Second Security, Stability and Resiliency of the DNS Review Team (**SSR2-RT**). He was nominated by the At-Large Advisory Committee to participate in the SSR2-RT due to his expertise in Internet unique identifiers. He has worked for close to 15 years on Internet technologies and network security systems.

The first face-to-face meeting of the SSR2-RT was held at ICANN58. This was Pariyar's first ICANN meeting in person, which was an eye-opening experience for him. He will be contributing actively to the SSR2-RT, putting his technical expertise to good use by conducting training workshops for the community on the security, stability and resiliency of the DNS. At his next ICANN meeting, he hopes to see greater participation from the APAC community.

Pariyar is currently working as a Senior Network Engineer in Nepal.



POLICY UPDATE

Governmental Advisory Committee Issues ICANN58 Communiqué

The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) Communiqué from ICANN58 is available for review [here](#). ICANN receives input from governments through the GAC. Its key role is to give advice to ICANN on issues of public policy, especially where there may be an interaction between ICANN activities or policies and national laws or international agreements. The GAC meets three times a year at ICANN Public Meetings, where it discusses issues with the ICANN Board of Directors and other ICANN Supporting Organizations, Advisory Committees and other groups.



Just Published: A Lexicon for DNS Root Server System Terminology

On 14 March 2017, the Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC) published **RSSAC026: RSSAC Lexicon**. This document standardizes the terminology related to the Domain Name System (DNS) root server system. The lexicon will benefit technical and non-technical audiences alike: RSSAC members, RSSAC Caucus members, and the ICANN Board, organization and community.

New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group Seeks Public Comment

The leadership team of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG) is seeking input. The WG has created a set of four sub-team work tracks (WTs) that are addressing several subjects within the WG charter. The WG is soliciting feedback on certain questions and issues that stem from the charter and the initial deliberations of the WTs. Community input is critical in enabling these subjects to be considered fully and achieving a thoughtful outcome, which could include new policy recommendations, amendments to existing policy recommendations, or implementation guidance for future consideration. The public comment proceeding is open through 1 May 2017. **Provide your feedback today!**

Geographic Names at the Top Level

The leadership team of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group is seeking input on the issue of geographic names at the top level. All are welcome and encouraged to participate and contribute their perspectives.

To facilitate a broad, community-wide dialogue on this topic to feed into the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP, a **webinar will be held on 25 April 2017**. Two sessions will take place at 15:00-17:00 UTC and 22:00-23:59 UTC. All community members are welcome to submit positions on the treatment of geographic names at the top level to be presented in the webinars.

The webinar will be the beginning of a discussion that will continue at ICANN59. The leadership team will be holding an extended session in Johannesburg to work through the positions presented in the webinars and to propose solutions seeking common ground on a way forward. For additional information please visit [this page](#).

Apply to be Considered for the Third Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT3)

How well has ICANN implemented community recommendations from the second Accountability and Transparency Review? Is ICANN effectively facilitating public comments in its decision-making process? Apply to be considered for the **Third Accountability and Transparency Review (ATRT3)** Team which will explore these questions and others. This is your chance to help improve ICANN accountability and transparency by assessing its existing initiatives and making recommendations for how it can improve. Application deadline: Friday, 21 April 2017, 23:59 UTC.



ATRT3

Third Accountability and Transparency Review



SSR2

2nd Review of the Security, Stability and Resiliency of the Domain Name System



Follow progress of the 2nd Security, Stability and Resiliency of the DNS Review Team (SSR2)

What improvements can ICANN make to its security efforts to meet future challenges and threats? Follow the latest progress of the 2nd Review Team focusing on the Security, Stability and Resiliency of the Domain Name System and share your input on the security issues you feel need to be addressed by emailing: input-to-ssr2rt@icann.org. The SSR2 Review Team kicked off with their first face-to-face meeting at ICANN58 and heard from the community on issues and topics to consider incorporating into the SSR2 review. The next face-to-face meeting will be in Madrid, 14-15 May 2017. View the [SSR2 wiki](#) for participation details.



GDD UPDATE



Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review

It's Not Too Late! Share Your Input on the Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Draft Report

The draft 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 of new gTLDs. [Read the draft report](#) and [submit a comment](#).

Help Wanted! Preparing for Billions of New Internet Identities

The Internet has changed. Users can now register names on more than 1,200 new generic top-level domains, as well as create email addresses using Arabic, Chinese, Devanagari, Thai and other scripts. You can join the Universal Acceptance Steering Group to prepare for billions of new Internet identities.



www.UASG.tech

Visit www.uasg.tech to find out about volunteer and paid opportunities to get involved. The website also features learning resources and case studies to help software developers and website owners understand how to update their systems to keep pace with an evolving domain name system.

If you've found an application or system that's not Universal Acceptance-ready, [report the issue](#).



Register Now for the ICANN DNS Symposium!

The inaugural ICANN DNS Symposium, co-located with OARC 26, is a one-day event focused on all aspects of the Domain Name System (DNS). Join members of the ICANN organization to explore ICANN's current initiatives and projects relating to DNS research, operations, threats and countermeasures, and technology evolution. This event is geared to those who have a foundational understanding of the DNS and an interest in DNS operations, engineering, research and standards development or operational security. The 6th Registration Operations Workshop will be held on Friday, 12 May in the same venue prior to the DNS Symposium.

[Learn more](#) and [register](#)!

Meet and Greet Welcome Reception: Friday, 12 May (evening)

Sessions: Saturday, 13 May

Venue: Hotel NH Madrid Eurobuilding, Madrid, Spain



DELEGATED TLDs

No New gTLDs Were Delegated in March

[See the full list of delegated strings here.](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

ICANN will be participating in these upcoming events:

- **48th ICANN Japan Readout** | 20 April 2017 | Tokyo, Japan
- **Vivekananda International Foundation: National Seminar on Internet Governance** | 25 - 26 April 2017 | New Delhi, India
- **10th Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific (PRFP-10)** | 25 - 27 April 2017 | Nadi, Fiji
- **Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) Capacity Development in Pacific** | 28 - 29 April 2017 | Nadi, Fiji
- **Asia-Pacific Digital Societies Policy Forum 2017** | 8 - 9 May 2017 | Bangkok, Thailand
- **World Economic Forum on ASEAN 2017** | 10 - 12 May 2017 | Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- **Pacific Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Days 2017** | 17 - 18 May 2017 | Port Vila, Vanuatu
- **Pacific Network Operators Group (PacNOG) 20** | 3 - 7 July 2017 | Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
- **Commonwealth Broadband Pacific Forum 2017** | 25 - 27 July 2017 | Apia, Samoa
- **Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APrIGF)** | 26 - 29 July 2017 | Bangkok, Thailand

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

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