Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in ICANN.

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

---

Cheryl Langdon-Orr (right) and Nii Quaynor (left), winners of ICANN Multistakeholder Ethos Award 2015

**TOP STORY**

**Who will be the 2016 ICANN Multistakeholder Ethos Award Recipient(s)?**

**Nominations Close 12 March 2016**

The nomination period for ICANN's Multistakeholder Ethos Award is now open and closes on 12 March 2016. Community members interested in submitting a nomination are invited to send an email to ethosaward2016@icann.org and include:

- Name of nominee
- Community of nominee
- Reasons for nomination
Award recipient(s) will be announced in June 2016 at ICANN56 Panama City.

The award was launched in June 2014 to recognize long-standing community members who have served in leadership roles in multiple ICANN working groups or committees and demonstrated collaboration with different Supporting Organizations and/or Advisory Committees.

For more information, please visit the ICANN Community Wiki.

**Visa and Registration information for ICANN55 Marrakech (5-10 March 2016)**

ICANN55 is just around the corner and ICANN and our hosts are working hard on the preparations and arrangements. In the meantime, we want to remind you that some participants may need a visa to visit Morocco. It's important to determine whether you need a visa and to obtain one as quickly as possible to secure entry.

Visit Morocco's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation [website](#) for a complete list of exempt countries. If you need a visa, click [here](#) to request formal invitation letters for the meeting. You'll also need to contact your nearest Moroccan diplomatic mission to apply for a visa. If Morocco does not have diplomatic representation in your country, please submit your application directly to the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Consular and Social Affairs via email to visa@maec.gov.ma with the following attached documents:

- Copy of valid passport (at least six month of validity)
- Copy of the invitation letter
- Flight details (if available)

Don't forget to register for ICANN55 [here](#) and see you in Marrakech!

**Meet the ICANN55 Fellows in Marrakech**

Forty-five fellows from 35 countries have been selected to participate in ICANN's Fellowship program at the 55th Public Meeting in Marrakech, 5-10 March 2016. Twenty-seven of them are returning fellows; seven are alumni who will act as coaches to the 22 first timers. The fellows represent all sectors of society including civil, government, academia, business, technical, security and end user groups. The country code names supporting organization is also represented.

As of today, these are selected candidates from our region:

- Amrita Choudury - India
- Anand Raje - India
- Aris Ignacio - Philippines
- Ganesh Sreekumar Varma - India
- John Sushil Chand - Fiji
- Rajewa Abeygunarathna - Sri Lanka
- Sonam Keba - Bhutan
- Zhai Wen - China
Calling for Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance (APrIGF) Forum Proposals

The annual APrIGF will take place in Taipei, Taiwan from 27 - 29 July 2016. The Multi-Stakeholder Steering Group (MSG) is asking for any pre-event or workshop proposals with the overarching theme A New Internet Era. More details on the suggested subthemes can be found here and the online submission form is available here. The deadline for submissions is 2 February 2016, 24:00 UTC. For further enquiries, please contact the secretariat at sec@aprifg.asia.

APrIGF is one of the key regional Internet governance events in Asia Pacific. It provides an open platform for multistakeholders to discuss and identify issues and priorities. More importantly, the end goal is to advance the development of Internet governance in the region.

Getting to know ICANN’s Work: Capacity Building Webinars for End Users

The APRALO*-APAC Hub bimonthly webinar series continues in 2016 with a lineup of interesting topics including: DNS Security and DNS Abuse, Privacy and Intellectual Property, Universal Acceptance and Civil Society engagement. If there’s a topic you’d like our team to cover, please email: apachub@icann.org.

The APRALO-APAC Hub bimonthly webinar series kicked off in April 2015, as part of the agreement between APRALO and APAC Hub to organize capacity building webinars for end users. Since then, a total of five webinars have been conducted, with topics suggested by our At-Large communities. These topics included: Internationalized Domain Names, Internet Governance, basic Domain Name System (DNS) and DNS Ecosystem, the New gTLD Program and country code Top-level Domain Names (ccTLDs) and post-ICANN54 IANA Stewardship Transition Update. We look forward to bringing more useful webinars in 2016.

*APRALO = Asian, Australian and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization

China Hosts 2nd World Internet Conference

The 2nd World Internet Conference themed "An Interconnected World Shared and Governed by All" was held in Wuzhen, China.
Cyberspace Governance Sub-Forum Panel

Contractual Compliance Team Members from 16 - 18 December. A team comprising board members and staff from ICANN attended the event, which was hosted by the Cyberspace Administration of China.

Fadi Chehadé, President and CEO of ICANN was invited to be a panelist at the Cyberspace Governance sub-forum and also delivered a speech at the closing ceremony of the conference. He spoke about ICANN's globalization plan, IANA Stewardship Transition and the role of ICANN in maintaining a global Internet. The conference drew over 2,000 representatives from over 120 countries.

Clarifying Compliance Audit Program with APAC Contracted Parties

Following enquiries on the Compliance audit program, the Contractual Compliance team conducted several audit webinars on 30 November 2015. The webinars were targeted at APAC registries and registrars. Approximately 80 participants from the region attended the webinars, with attendees from countries like Australia, China and Vietnam. It was an opportunity for the contracted parties to learn more about the compliance audit program, address common audit questions and learn about the structure of the audit report. On 1 and 2 December 2015, APAC contracted parties also took the opportunity to have meetings with the audit team on a one-on-one basis, to ask more detailed questions regarding the audit program and processes. Do contact us if you need more information or have questions.

New Community Leaders Begin Work

RSSAC is pleased to welcome Brad Verd, Vice President of Production Operations at Verisign as its co-chair. He joins co-chair Tripti Sinha, Assistant Vice President and Chief Technology Officer within the Division of Information Technology at the University of Maryland.

The GNSO Council elected James Bladel, Vice President of Policy for GoDaddy, as chair and Donna Austin, Policy and Industry Affairs Manager at Neustar, and Heather Forrest, Associate Professor of Law at the University of Tasmania, as vice chairs.

Congratulations!

Join a new GNSO Working Group!

The GNSO Council seeks volunteers for its new policy development process working group on a "Next Generation gTLD Registration Directory Service to Replace WHOIS." Interested parties are invited to visit the workspace or email gnso-secs@icann.org for more information on how to join.
Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues Working Group Publishes Final Report

The Final Report containing recommendations to guide the creation of an accreditation program for privacy and proxy service providers is now available. The report contains over 20 consensus recommendations. The recommendations are pending approval by the GNSO Council and the Board of Directors before implementation.

RSSAC Publishes Advisory on Service Expectations of Root Server Operators

In RSSAC001: Service Expectations of Root Servers, the RSSAC defines a set of service expectations that root server operators must satisfy. RSSAC001 was published concurrently with RFC7720, which specifies DNS root name service protocol and deployment requirements.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Make your voice heard!

There are five public comment proceedings currently open that require your input. Please see the list below and share your contributions.

CLOSING SOON:

Proposed Implementation of GNSO Thick WHOIS Consensus Policy Requiring Consistent Labeling and Display of RDDS (WHOIS) Output for All gTLDs
Public Comment Period Closes: 18 January 2016, 23:59 UTC

Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) Operational Profile for gTLD Registries and Registrars
Public Comment Period Closes: 18 January 2016, 23:59 UTC

Launch of Supplementary Registration Proxy Service for gTLDs Operated by XYZ.com LLC
This public comment period is to gather community input on the proposed amendments to .XYZ,
College, .Rent, .Theatre, .Protection, and .Security Registry Agreements to allow XYZ.COM LLC, the Registry Operator of these six TLDs, to offer a new registry service, which is a proxy service that will provide secondary gateway access to SRS/EPP, RDDS (via WHOIS - port 43, web-based Directory Service, RDAP, or any combination of the three), or both for the purposes of operating these TLDs in local domain name markets.

Public Comment Period Closes: 22 January 2016, 23:59 UTC

**PROVIDE INPUT:**

**Label Generation Ruleset for the Root Zone Version 1 (LGR-1)**
The Integration Panel (IP) successfully evaluated the finalized Proposal for Arabic script Root Zone Label Generation Rules (LGR) submitted by the Arabic Script Generation Panel (GP), following the release of the proposal for public comments. The IP has integrated this proposal by the Arabic script GP into the first version of the Root Zone LGR. As per the Procedure to Develop and Maintain the Label Generation Rules for the Root Zone in Respect of IDNA Labels, LGR-1 is being released for public comments before finalization.

Public Comment Period Closes: 27 January 2016, 23:59 UTC

**Continuous Data-Driven Analysis of Root Server System Stability (CDAR) Study Plan**
This study has been commissioned to examine the technical impact of the New gTLD Program on the root server system. As the first step, The Netherlands Organization for Applied Scientific Research (TNO) and its partners SIDN and NLnet Labs will publish the draft study plan for public comment. Feedback from the larger DNS community is critical to ensure a comprehensive approach to data gathering and analysis. Comments may be incorporated into the final study design.

Public Comment Period Closes: 3 February 2016, 23:59 UTC

The [Public Comment page](#) contains a full list of issues open for public comment and recently closed and archived public comment proceedings.

The [Upcoming Public Comment](#) page provides information about potential public comment opportunities. This page is updated after every ICANN public meeting to help individuals and the community set priorities and plan workloads.

---

**GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY**

**Thein Myint Khine**  
**Yatanarpon Teleport Public Co Limited**

Thein Myint Khine is an IP Network Engineer with over 20 years of professional experience in the IT field. She joined the industry in 1994 after graduating with a Bachelor Degree in Engineering.

Khine is also a CCIE* and currently holds the position of Head of Core Network in Yatanarpon Teleport Public Company.
As part of her job requirement, Khine constantly keeps in touch with new/updated technologies, international expertise and IT communities. She also regularly participates in the conferences, events and programs organized by APNIC, APRICOT, ICANN, MMNOG, etc.

By keeping in close contact with ICANN personnel, she is actively involved in ICANN communities, and is most interested in enhancing IT infrastructure in Myanmar.

*CCIE = Cisco Certified Internetwork Expert

---

### IANA Functions Customers Give ICANN High Marks

In an annual third-party survey, 94 percent of IANA functions customers reported being "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with services they received between September 2014 and August 2015. In regard to accuracy, which customers have identified as the most important performance indicator for the past three years, ICANN's IANA department earned a 98 percent satisfaction rate. The IANA Functions Customer Survey measures satisfaction across seven performance indicators, provides valuable feedback and helps drive process improvements.

---

### Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team Seated

In December 2015, seven people were selected to serve on the team of volunteers that will review the New gTLD Program in regard to Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice (CCT). Review team members represent a wide array of geographic regions and areas of expertise. Some are representing ICANN supporting organizations and advisory committees and others are serving as independent experts. Find out who was selected [here](#).

---

### DELEGATED NEW GTLDS / ccTLDs

**Sixty-nine new gTLDs delegated in December 2015**

There were no ccTLDs delegated, here are some of the new gTLDs delegated:

- "point", /pointo/
- "watches", /shoubiao/
- "jewelry", /zhubao/
- "Nokia", /nuojiya/
- wanggou
- shell
- zero
- travelinsurance
- watches
- redumbrella
Quarterly Stakeholder Call
Join us for the FY16 Q2 Quarterly Update on 28 January 2016 at 1500 UTC. Watch this space for registration details.

24th Convergence India 2016 Expo | 20 - 22 January 2016
Supported by the Indian government, industry and international associations, this expo in New Delhi will showcase new technologies and solutions to over 12,000 business leaders from across the globe. The event will focus on areas such as broadband and Internet, e-commerce and much more. Samiran Gupta, ICANN Head of India will be participating on the panel "Internet for All - Key to the Digital Lifestyles" on 20 January.

Asia Pacific Regional Internet Conference on Operational Technologies (APRICOT) 2016 | 15 - 26 February 2016
Hosted in Auckland, New Zealand, attendees to this conference will learn about the latest Internet networking trends through hands-on training at workshops and tutorial sessions, and through participating in one of the many forums about the development of the Internet.

Changes at the ICANN APAC Hub
Jia-Rong Low will be succeeding Kuek Yu-Chuang as Vice President and Managing Director for APAC Hub. Kuek is moving to a new career outside the Domain Name industry later this month. Please join us in thanking Kuek for his many contributions to ICANN and our multistakeholder community in APAC. Jia-Rong can be reached at jiarong.low@icann.org.
ICANN AROUND THE WORLD

Hub Offices
Los Angeles
Istanbul
Singapore

Engagement Offices
Brussels       Geneva
Beijing        Seoul
Montevideo     Washington

For address and contact information, visit: icann.org/contact