APAC Newsletter
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DECEMBER 2018

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TOP STORY

All Southeast Asian Economies Are Now Members of Governmental Advisory Committee

Last month, the Lao People's Democratic Republic joined the ICANN community as a member of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC). The addition now completes the membership of all Southeast Asian economies in the GAC.

The GAC representatives from the Lao Internet Network Information Center (LANIC) first collaborated with ICANN as part of the Generation Panel developing Root Zone Label Generation Rules (LGR) for Lao script. Their work was completed in 2017 when the **second version of the Root Zone LGR was released**.

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To better understand their responsibilities as potential GAC members, they also participated in the **GAC Underserved Regions Working Group Capacity Development Workshop for Asia GAC Representatives** in Kathmandu, Nepal, in February 2018.

Congratulations to the new GAC representatives on their appointments and the ICANN community looks forward to their contribution!

APAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

Participants at the Domain Name Management and Domain Name System Security Extensions workshop in

Capacity Development in the Philippines to Encourage DNSSEC Deployment

ICANN conducted a training workshop on Domain Name Management and Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) in the Philippines last month.

The primary objective of the workshop was to help facilitate and encourage the local network operators to deploy DNSSEC. It was supported by the Philippines government. Participants underwent extensive hands-on sessions with DNSSEC configurations, signing, and the management of keys. Following the workshop, DotPH aims to deploy DNSSEC in 2019.

Samiran Gupta, ICANN Head of India (far right) and Valerie Heng, Senior Manager, Registry Services and Engagement, (second from right) with ICANN stakeholders in India for a meeting last month.

More New Generic Top-Level Domain Case Studies From India Coming Soon

ICANN's engagement with Indian top-level domain (TLD) registry operators is now showing progress. In these engagements, ICANN discussed the need to address various issues such as increasing adoption of the new generic TLDs (gTLDs), addressing Universal Acceptance, and developing use cases for gTLDs.

ICANN hopes to see more usage of gTLDs in India in the coming year. Some operators are also keen to engage with the broader community to share awareness and catalyze interest in new gTLDs.

There were 15 new gTLDs delegated to Indian companies as part of the 2012 New Generic Top-Level Domain Program. These are mostly brand TLDs belonging to banks, automobile manufacturers, entertainment, and telecom enterprises.

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Multistakeholder Advice Development Process

Want to learn more about how ICANN works with stakeholders to develop advice on global gTLD, ccTLD, and IP address policies? We've created a new infographic which explains the multistakeholder Advice Development Process from start to finish across the four major policy advisory committees.

Click **here** to explore.

ICANN65 Fellowship Round Now Open

ICANN is now accepting applications for the ICANN65 Fellowship Program. This round is open only to those who have previously completed an ICANN Fellowship because ICANN65 is a Policy Forum. The meeting is from 24-27 June 2019 in Marrakech, Morocco. The deadline to apply is 14 December 2018.

ICANN's **Fellowship Program** seeks out individuals who are interested in, or already engaged in, the various aspects of ICANN's work in policymaking, the operation of the Domain Name System, and the security and stability of the global Internet. The goal of the program is to strengthen the diversity of the multistakeholder model by fostering opportunities for individuals from underserved and underrepresented communities to become active participants in the ICANN community.

ICANN at the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) 2018 Plenipotentiary Conference

ICANN President and Chief Executive Officer Göran Marby spoke at the opening of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) 2018 Plenipotentiary conference (PP-18) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Every four years, this conference brings together representative governments and members from telecommunications, information and communications technologies (ICT), and academic institutions from all over the world to decide the ITU's course of action for the next four years. Decisions taken during this meeting have direct effects on how the world of communications will evolve, impacting the way billions of users communicate on a daily basis.

The security, stability, and resiliency of the Internet remain paramount for ICANN's work to ensure a global, interoperable Internet for all. ICANN's engagement with all stakeholders and organizations, including the ITU, is an important part of our commitment to raise awareness and enhance opportunities.

Read the full speech on the **ICANN blog**.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY

G. Harsha Wijayawardhana
Sinhala Generation Panel Co-Chair

Harsha Wijayawardhana is the Co-Chair of the Generation Panel for the Sinhala script. He has more than 25 years of experience in information and communications technology (ICT) and has been involved in UNICODE Sinhala research for more than 10 years. He is currently the Chief Operating Officer of Theekshana, a company at the University of Colombo School of Computing in Sri Lanka.

He has authored numerous scientific papers and several books based upon his research into Sinhala, an official language of Sri Lanka. He serves on numerous language committees of the Information and Technology Agency (ICTA), which implements UNICODE standards in Sri Lanka.

Wijayawardhana has been recognized as one of the Internet pioneers of Sri Lanka. He served on the board of directors of Lanka Government Information Infrastructure from 2010 to 2015. He has been a board member of **nic.lk** (the LK domain registry) since its inception. He was the founding president of the Internet Society LK Chapter and is a Fellow of the British Computer Society (FBCS).

POLICY UPDATE

TLD-OPS Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Planning

Community volunteers under auspices of the TLD-OPS Steering Committee are currently drafting a playbook containing basic concepts for disaster recovery and business continuity specific to ccTLDs.

During a collaborative session at ICANN63, TLD-OPS organized an in-depth discussion focused on the various aspects of disaster recovery. Participants discussed detection, activation, analysis of incidents, and action and communications planning. One of the takeaways from the workshop is the need to develop a ccTLD playbook to assist ccTLD registry and DNS operations. A draft of the playbook should be presented at ICANN64. Learn more about TLD-OPS **here**.

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

The **At-Large Review Implementation Working Group (ARIWG)** has made significant progress on the first ARIWG Milestone Report, due in December 2018.

The At-Large Advisory Committee confirmed endorsement of candidates and alternates for the 2019 ICANN Academy Leadership Program at ICANN64. The candidates represent a regionally diverse group of leaders interested in developing their knowledge of ICANN and Internet policy.

The **At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG)** has held weekly calls since ICANN63. Highlights of those discussions include: improvements to the At-Large advice development process; updates about the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data, and current ICANN public comment proceedings. Steve DelBianco from the Business Constituency presented on the **Unified Access Model**.

ALAC and At-Large community members took part in the **Internet Governance Forum 2018 in Paris, France**. **The European Regional At-Large Organization also signed a memorandum of understanding** with the Council of European National Top-Level Domain Registries (CENTR), agreeing to collaborate on areas of mutual interest.

EPDP Team Publishes Initial Report for Public Comment

The Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Team on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data published its Initial Report for **public comment**.

The Initial Report includes the EPDP Team's proposed responses to the charter questions. It also includes their preliminary recommendations and specific questions concerning the purposes of processing registration data, required data processing activities and terms, and updates to other consensus policies.

Commenters are strongly encouraged to use the **input form** to provide feedback. The public comment period is scheduled to close on 21 Dec. Read the EPDP Team Leadership **blog** for more details.

GNSO Council Update

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council reconfirmed one of its original candidates and nominated two additional primary candidates as the GNSO representatives for the third Accountability and Transparency Review (ATRT3).

These three candidates are: Wolfgang Kleinwächter (reconfirmed), Patrick Kane, and Osvaldo Novoa. The GNSO Council also named four additional nominees to be considered should additional places be available.

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🔔 **GDD UPDATE**

From left: Ajay Data (Xgen Plus CEO), Vasundhara Raje (Chief Minister of Rajasthan), and Samiran Gupta (ICANN Head of India on behalf of the UASG).
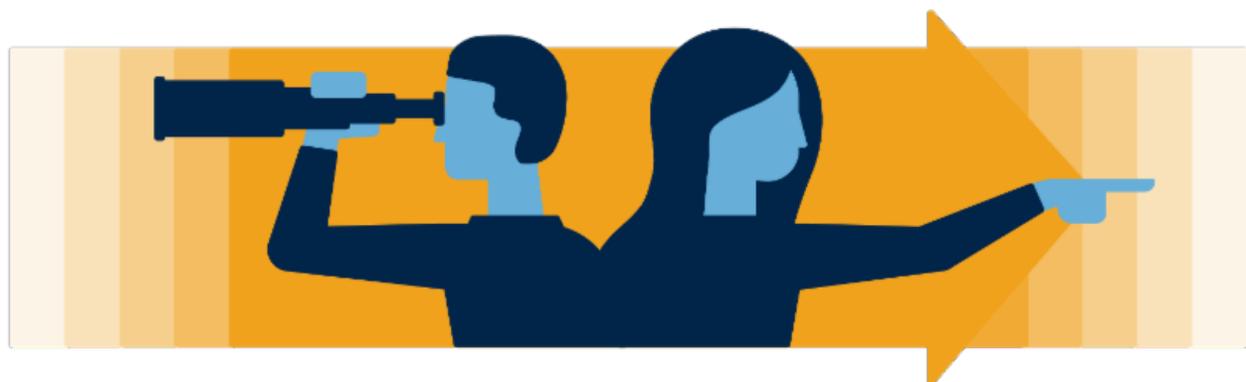
UASG Presents the Universal Acceptance Thought Leader Award

On November 12, the Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) presented the Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Vasundhara Raje, with the Universal Acceptance Thought Leader Award for her outstanding work fostering Universal Acceptance and Email Address Internationalization through her government email service, Rajmail. This service, developed in collaboration with email provider Data Xgen Plus, enables the people of Rajasthan to get an email address in their local language. Rajmail already benefits two million residents.

➕ **READ MORE**

📋 **WHAT'S NEW IN REVIEWS**

ICANN Announces Calls-to-Action for Community Participation in ICANN Reviews

ICANN has several calls-to-action for community participation in ICANN reviews. ICANN reviews are important accountability mechanisms that need community input to help ICANN deliver on its commitments to bottom-up policy development.

Specific Reviews

Join the fourth face-to-face meeting of the **RDS-WHOIS2 Review Team** on 10-12 December 2018. The team will review the public comments received on its **draft report**, determine any corresponding changes,

and finalize its recommendations before they are submitted to the ICANN Board. Remote attendance will be supported. Click **here** to learn how to join.

Organizational Reviews

Please take the **ccNSO Review survey**, now available for community input. The aim of the survey is to collect input from those who have interacted with ccNSO or have suggestions for ways to improve it. The survey is informed by learnings from Meridian Institute's research and the interviews it has conducted to date. The survey will close on 21 December 2018.

Please visit the **Review Status Update Table** for the latest status on Specific and Organizational Reviews and additional key resources.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ICANN will be participating in these upcoming events:

Date	Event	Location
4 December 2018	CNNIC IDN Roadshow	Hangzhou, China
5 December 2018	**Vietnam Internet Day 2018**	Hanoi, Vietnam
January 2019	APAC Space	Online
18 - 28 February 2019	**APRICOT 2019**	Daejeon, South Korea

Learn more about ICANN at **regional events near you**.

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