Hi, just a reminder that you’re receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in ICANN. Don’t forget to add apachub@icann.org to your address book so we’ll be sure to land in your inbox!

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Get Ready for ICANN63
Register now for ICANN63! The Annual General Meeting will be held from 20-25 October 2018 in Barcelona, Spain. Come and network with your peers, engage in face-to-face discussions, ask questions, and help develop and implement Internet policies. Before booking your travel, make sure to check the travel and visa requirements needed for Barcelona. Please note that Spain requires at least two blank pages in your passport for entry and three months validity remaining on your passport. More ICANN63 details can be found here.

Regional Youth Participate and Learn about Internet Governance
Thirty-six regional participants learned about the importance of Internet governance when they joined the third Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy (APIGA) in Gwangju, South Korea. Read more about APIGA in this blog.

**China’s ICANN62 Readout Extends Beyond Beijing**

For the first time, we activated remote participation for our post-ICANN meeting readout in China. This allowed ICANN62 Readout to be one of the largest to date, with 55 participants (30 of them remote) from government agencies, contracted parties, ccTLD operators, UDRP service providers, IT companies, and research institutes.

As expected, the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data was the main focus of discussion. The readout was co-hosted by ICANN Beijing Engagement Center and China Academy of Information and Communication Technology on 9 July 2018 in Beijing.

**Capacity Development for Network Operators from the Pacific Islands**

The Pacific Network Operators Group’s held its 22nd meeting (PacNOG 22) in Honiara, Soloman Islands from 25 - 29 June 2018. Close to two-thirds of the participants were newcomers, so ICANN took the opportunity to introduce its role, program and key topics, and invite participation. There were also lectures and demonstrations on DNS security, root servers, and the DNSSEC Key Signing Key (KSK) Rollover.

PacNOG is a long running premier technical training platform that contributes to network engineer capacity development in the Pacific Islands. It is also an opportunity for regional and international representatives to meet and interact with engineers and technical experts working in the region. Cybersecurity issues continue to be the hot topic; the region requires continuous capacity development as islands are being connected through new submarine cables and new technology is introduced.
On 8 June, ICANN and Internet Society of China (ISC) organized the very first DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) training in Beijing - and the response was overwhelming. The training boasted 53 participants, primarily from Internet service providers (ISPs), demonstrating the Chinese community's strong interest in DNS-related knowledge. This training was initiated by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) in response to the low DNSSEC deployment rate in China.

From 18 - 20 June, ICANN and Singapore Network Information Centre (SGNIC) jointly conducted a three-day DNS/DNSSEC hands-on workshop for 32 representatives from domain name registrars, ISPs, and Singapore government agencies. The workshop aimed to raise the awareness and competency levels of the local community on DNS, DNSSEC deployment, and validation.

**APAC Space Survey Results Report**
The APAC Space Survey results are out. Read this blog on "Improving APAC Space for a maturing APAC community" by Joyce Chen, Senior Manager, Global Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and Development, to learn more about the results from the APAC Space Survey 2018.

**Data Protection/Privacy and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) News and Updates**
Read the most recent ICANN announcements and latest blog posts since the adoption of the Temporary Specification for Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Registration Data. Multiple announcements are focused on the ICANN organization's efforts to preserve WHOIS data as well as blogs sharing guidance from the European Data Protection Board, seeking community feedback on the proposed unified access model, and enforcing the Temporary Specification. Stay up to date with the latest ICANN org's data protection and privacy news [here](#).
Methodology Review of the Domain Abuse Activity Reporting (DAAR) System

On 20 July, ICANN announced the publication of a paper describing the methodology used in the Domain Abuse Activity Reporting (DAAR) system and two reviews of that methodology. DAAR was designed to provide the ICANN community with reliable, persistent, and reproducible data from which security threat (abuse) analyses could be performed. Read more [here](#) and share your comments on the reports and reviews.

Minimal User Impact Expected from Root Zone Key Signing Key (KSK) Rollover

As a result of recent analysis, the ICANN organization believes that the Key Signing Key (KSK) rollover is expected to affect only a very small number of DNS users. The decision to roll the root zone KSK is being made after a significant outreach effort and careful consideration of all available data. Read more in the latest blog from Matt Larson, ICANN VP of Research, Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO), [here](#).

Second Annual ICANN DNS Symposium

The ICANN organization's Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) organized the second annual ICANN DNS Symposium (IDS), a one-day event focused on all aspects of the Domain Name System (DNS). IDS 2018 was held on 13 July, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada with the theme: "Attention, Domain Name System: Your 30-year scheduled maintenance is overdue." Read more about the presentations, feedback from participants, and the plans for the next edition, [here](#).

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY

Jennifer Chung
Member of Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG)

Jennifer Chung works for the DotAsia Organisation and represents .Asia Registry in the Registry Stakeholder Group (RySG). She previously was the Secretariat for the IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group (ICG). Chung was appointed this year to the United Nations Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) which oversees the IGF agenda.

An avid supporter of innovative technology, Chung has worked on Internationalized Domain Names (IDN)-related projects since 2003. She is a member of the Chinese Generation Panel (CGP) and takes part in the Chinese-Japanese-Korean (CJK) coordination work on the Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR).

Chung is also part of the Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APrIGF) organizing team. She hopes to drive greater participation in the APrIGF Synthesis Document process and believes that this can amplify Asia Pacific views and contributions on Internet governance.
Study Group on the Use of Emoji as Second-Level Domains Begins Work

Following an ICANN Board Resolution, the study group was established by the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council to provide the country code top-level domain (ccTLD) community and the Council with:

- A comprehensive overview of the issues associated with the use of emoji as second-level domains.
- Current practices by ccTLD managers who allow emojis as second-level domains.

Although the terms of reference were adopted in February 2016, the study group started its work following ICANN62. Further details about the background and scope of activities of the study group can be found here.

The study group has participants from diverse backgrounds and is made up of members from the broader ccTLD community, the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) - who will participate in an individual capacity, and ICANN staff from the Office of the Chief Technology Officer.

The study group is expected to present its findings to the broader ccTLD community and ccNSO Council by ICANN64.

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GNSO Council Launches EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data

On 19 July 2018, the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council commenced the GNSO’s first Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP): the EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data. The EPDP must be completed within 12 months of the implementation effective date of the Temporary Specification (25 May 2018), which was an interim measure to bring existing WHOIS obligations in line with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) requirements.

The Council voted to pass the EPDP Initiation Request and then adopted the EPDP Team Charter. The Council also appointed Kurt Pritz as the Chair of the EPDP team, following a unanimous recommendation from the selection panel. While the EPDP team has limited membership composition, the wider ICANN community can closely follow its deliberations and provide input through various channels. Read the ICANN organization announcement and GNSO Chair’s blog for more information.

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IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP Submits Final Report to GNSO Council

On 9 July 2018, the International Governmental Organization and International Non-Governmental Organization (IGO-INGO) Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group submitted its Final Report to the GNSO Council. The Final Report contains five consensus recommendations. Since October 2012, the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) has issued advice on the topic of IGO identifier protections. Several inconsistencies between the GAC advice and PDP consensus recommendations have yet to be reconciled, including on the topic of appropriate protections for IGO acronyms. The Council determined to review the PDP Final Report with a view toward facilitating the resolution of the outstanding inconsistencies between existing GAC Advice and prior GNSO policy recommendations on the overall scope of IGO protections. In the meantime, the Council informed the ICANN Board and the GAC that the PDP Working Group has completed its work.

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gTLD Marketplace Health Index Published

On 20 June, the ICANN org published an update to the gTLD Marketplace Health Index which presents statistics and trends...
The ICANN org plans to publish these statistics twice a year to track progress against its goal of supporting the evolution of the domain name marketplace to be robust, stable, and trusted. View the Health Index [here](#).

**Expanding IDNs in South Asian Scripts**

On 10 July, the Neo-Brahmi Generation Panel (NBGP) held a well-attended meeting in Dhaka, Bangladesh in collaboration with the Bangla Academy (the relevant government-run language organization) to discuss the current draft of the Proposal for Bangla Script Root Zone LGR with local stakeholders. This event was the last in a series of workshops and meetings organized by NBGP in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Sri-Lanka to finalize the work on relevant Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR) for Bangla, Devanagari, Gujarati, Gurmukhi, Kannada, Malayalam, Oriya, Tamil, and Telugu scripts.

NBGP released the RZ-LGR proposals in sets of related scripts. On 27 July, the RZ-LGR proposals for Devanagari, Gurmukhi, and Gujarati scripts were released for public comment. On 8 August, the RZ-LGR proposals for Kannada, Oriya, and Telugu scripts were released for public comment.

**Available for Comments - Recommendations for Managing the Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) Variant Top-Level Domains Report**

The ICANN community is encouraged to provide feedback during the public comment period for the Recommendations for Managing Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) Variant Top-Level Domains (TLDs) report that opened on 25 July. This report was developed in addition to the adopted RZ-LGR procedure and presents ICANN's proposed set of recommendations for the variant management mechanisms for TLDs. It will be finalized based on community input and is anticipated to be presented to the ICANN Board in March 2019.

Please provide your comments [here](#).

**Universal Acceptance Steering Group - Help Wanted**

The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) is looking for expert assistance to help further identify audience segmentations (geographic, industry, profession, etc.) and how to engage with them. The aim of this work will be to develop and run a direct or near-direct engagement pilot program. The UASG is also looking for a senior software developer practitioner. Learn more about these opportunities: [https://uasg.tech/help-wanted/](https://uasg.tech/help-wanted/).
Calls to Action for Community Participation in ICANN Reviews

ORGANIZATIONAL REVIEWS:
Read the final report of the second Root Server System Advisory Committee Review (RSSAC2). The RSSAC2 Final Report includes an assessment of the RSSAC and six principal recommendations for improving its operations. The recommendations focus on RSSAC's purpose, effectiveness, and accountability. The RSSAC Review Work Party will now prepare a feasibility assessment and initial implementation plan in response to the final report.

Visit the Review Status Update Table for the latest status on all active Specific and Organizational Reviews.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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