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# APAC Newsletter

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## TOP STORY

### Join the Next Quarterly Stakeholder Call on 15 February

In the second call in our new format, you'll hear how ICANN has implemented community policy and recent news from the ICANN Board. The regional focus for this call will be on Africa and the Middle East. Everyone is welcome. If you haven't already done so, [register here](#).



**15 February 2017 at 15:00 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)**

Live interpretation is offered in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. The call will be recorded and posted in all languages on the [Quarterly Reports page](#). Read the [full announcement](#).



## APAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

### Deploying DNSSEC for .VN



*Vietnamese representatives from government, Internet service providers and registrars at the official launch ceremony for the deployment of DNSSEC for .VN, 6 January 2017. (Photo credit: VNNIC)*

The world is becoming increasingly connected as seen in the shift towards digital data and borderless transactions. With more cyberattacks and high-profile breaches happening worldwide, it is no longer an option to leave networks unsecured. To bolster security, one of the tools organizations and governments can consider is the deployment of **Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC)**.

Vietnam has recently joined other nations in deploying DNSSEC for its country code top-level domain, .VN. The **deployment** was performed by the Vietnam Internet Network Information Center (VNNIC) on 20 December 2016. It took months of preparation, including hosting DNSSEC capacity building workshops with ICANN and Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC) for the local technical community.

The deployment will help pave the way towards the evolution of Internet infrastructure and development of e-government and e-commerce services in Vietnam.

*\* ICANN APAC hub thanks VNNIC for their contribution towards this article.*



*Samiran Gupta explaining what it takes to make Indic language content accessible on the Internet at the #NAMAindic: Future of Indic Languages event in New Delhi, India on 18 January 2017.*

## India: How Much Longer to Accessing Content in Local Languages and Scripts?

Imagine an Internet world where domain names, content and advertisements are all in local languages and scripts. How far are we from reaching this future? What are some of the challenges?

With over 460 million Internet users in India, this issue is of special interest to the Indian community as the government encourages a digital Indic language movement. The linguistic makeup in India is complex: there are multiple Indic languages and scripts available, and many Indians speak and read them. The topic formed the crux of the discussion at the recent #NAMAindic: Future of Indic Languages event.

Samiran Gupta, ICANN's Head of India, attended the event. He spoke about how **Internationalized Domain Names (IDN)** and

**Universal Acceptance (UA)** could help in making Indic language content more accessible on the Internet. His presentation sparked interest, especially among content developers. Over 60 participants attended the event.

## The Importance of Rolling the Root Zone DNSSEC Key Signing Key at SANOG 29



*Champika Wijayatunga receiving an appreciation award from Minister Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman at the South Asian Network Operations Group (SANOG 29) in Islamabad, Pakistan, from 23-30 January 2017 (left); Participants from the DNS/DNSSEC workshop with Wijayatunga after a hands-on session focused on DNS security and DNSSEC deployment at SANOG 29 (right).*

When was the last time you changed your password? While it is common knowledge that we should change our passwords often to protect against cyberattacks, did you know that it is also good practice to change the top pair of cryptographic keys used in Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC)? This cryptographic key replacement, or **KSK rollover**, is a protection mechanism to make the DNS more secure and reliable.

This was highlighted by ICANN's Champika Wijayatunga (Security, Stability and Resiliency Engagement Regional Manager) at the South Asian Network Operators Group (**SANOG 29**) conference. Accompanying Wijayatunga at the conference was Sarmad Hussain, Internationalized Domain Names (IDN) Program Director from ICANN. Hussain shared about IDN and label generation rules for the root zone.

Wijayatunga also conducted a tutorial on DNS Operations and country code top-level domain (ccTLD) management following the conference. Subsequently, he held a five-day DNS/DNSSEC workshop, where technical and network professionals from Pakistan had hands-on practice in configuring DNS servers, implementing security features in DNS infrastructure and deploying DNSSEC. Wijayatunga also presented on DNSSEC deployment at the **ION Islamabad**, which was held alongside SANOG 29.

As part of ICANN's engagement efforts, Wijayatunga and Hussain met with other stakeholders on the sidelines of the event.

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## Universal Acceptance Quick Guide Now Available in Japanese



The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) has published a comprehensive collection of educational resources to explain universal acceptance and why it is important. The latest addition to the library is a UA Quick Guide in **Japanese**, which was translated by the Japan Network Information Centre (JPNIC). Japan Registry Services Co., Ltd. (JPRS) and ICANN APAC hub team members helped to review the translations. This is one of several collaborative efforts resulting from a **Memorandum of Understanding** signed by ICANN, JPNIC and JPRS to translate

ICANN materials into Japanese to serve the needs of the Japanese community. The UA Quick Guide is available [here](#) in 10 additional languages including Chinese and Hindi.

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## Learning and Sharing from the Community at the Japan Readout

To help the Japanese community better understand ICANN, the **47<sup>th</sup> ICANN Japan readout session** introduced two new segments: a presentation by ICANN Board member, Akinori Maemura and a panel discussion on a high-interest topic. These were in addition to the customary sessions shared by the Japanese community.



The segments at the readout included:

- Overview of ICANN57
- Report on the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)
- Update on the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)
- Report by newly elected Japanese ICANN Board member, Akinori Maemura
- Report on New Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) subsequent procedures, gTLD Marketplace Health Index and Global Registrant Survey
- Panel discussion on New gTLDs subsequent procedures and reviews

The revamped session is part of an ongoing effort to provide relevant updates to existing and new stakeholders.



*ICANN's Kelvin Wong giving ICANN updates to around 30 Japanese community members at the 47<sup>th</sup> ICANN Japan readout session in Tokyo, Japan on 19 January 2017. Readout sessions are organized by the community for community members who were unable to attend ICANN meetings.*

## Engaging the Community at the Ninth APRALO-APAC Hub Capacity Building Webinar

In case you missed it, the ninth **Asian, Australasian and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO) - APAC hub capacity building webinar** was held on 20 January 2017. Organized by ICANN APAC hub, At-Large staff and APRALO under the APRALO-APAC hub cooperation framework, the webinar focused on the updates and takeaways from the **2016 Internet Governance Forum (IGF)** in relation to the APAC community. More than 30 participants attended the webinar.

Several community members provided updates and shared their on-site experience at the IGF. This generated active discussion on ways to increase APAC participation in regional and global IGFs. One proposition was to leverage the Asia Pacific Regional IGF (APriGF) as a sounding board and practice ground for possible workshop proposals in IGF. Participants also suggested topics that the community could increase focus on at IGFs, including trust issues and trade in the digital economy.

For more information and updates on future APRALO-APAC hub capacity building webinars, click [here](#).



## SPOTLIGHT

### ICANN Hosts Successful Face-to-Face Workshop for Southeast Asia Registrars



*ICANN APAC hub's Registrar Services and Contractual Compliance teams with the Southeast Asia (SEA) registrars at a workshop in the ICANN Singapore office on 13 January 2017. The face-to-face*

workshop centered around the new [ICANN Transfer Policy](#) and common compliance issues faced by SEA registrars, which helped to address many of the registrars' questions on ICANN policies. The registrars who attended the workshop were Malaysia's Webnic and Shinjiru, Singapore's Vodien and Indonesia's Rumahweb.



## ICANN NEWS

### Counting Down to ICANN58 in Copenhagen

ICANN58 is less than four weeks away - it takes place from 11-16 March 2017 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Come and network with your peers in the community, engage in face-to-face discussions, ask questions and help develop and implement Internet policies.

If you need to obtain a visa to enter Denmark, you need to submit your application by 10 February 2017. But if you don't need a visa, there's still time to [register for ICANN58](#). Before booking your travel, review the [visa requirements](#) on the ICANN58 home page.



A draft of the [ICANN58 block schedule](#) is now available. To help you manage your meeting experience, you can use the online [ICANN58 meeting app](#) or download the mobile app, available in app stores.

**Download the ICANN58 mobile app.  
Now available in app stores.**



### Contractual Compliance 2016 Annual Report Now Available

The Contractual Compliance team just published its 2016 annual report as part of ICANN's commitment to transparency. The narrative provides summaries on registrar and registry compliance, the audit program, a financial overview and the initiatives and performance measurements for the year.

Read the [Contractual Compliance 2016 Annual Report](#).

**February 2017 Executive Team Report to the ICANN Board Is Now Available!**

Click [here](#) to download your copy.

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## ATRT3 Call for Volunteers Announced

Apply to be considered for the third [Review of ICANN Accountability and Transparency \(ATRT3\)](#). This review team will analyze and make recommendations to help ensure that ICANN is a transparent and accountable organization. To learn more about the ATRT3 Review and how to apply, click [here](#).

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## Request for Proposal: NomCom Review

ICANN is seeking a provider to conduct an independent assessment of its [Nominating Committee \(NomCom\)](#). The NomCom is an independent committee tasked with selecting members of the Board of Directors and other key positions within ICANN's structure. This review will focus on the NomCom's purpose, operations, structures and accountability. [Click here to learn more](#). The deadline to apply is 17 February 2017.

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## At-Large Community Needs Your Input

The independent examiner ITEMS has published the initial report of the At-Large Review and seeks broad community input on its findings and recommendations. The report covers many areas, including the mandate and purpose of the At-Large community, its structure and effectiveness, regional and global meetings, funding issues and support staff. It proposes several recommendations that are based on quantitative and qualitative data collected through a global online survey, community interviews and secondary research. The [At-Large Review Working Party](#) played a critical role in the process by providing input, checking the accuracy of data and helping ITEMS develop targeted, concrete and implementable recommendations.

ITEMS will present its findings and recommendations during a webinar in early February and in an open session at ICANN58 (more details to follow). [View the report](#) findings and recommendations and [give your feedback](#).



## GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY



### Phan Thi Nhung Member of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

Phan Thi Nhung is currently the Public Relations and International Cooperation Manager at the Vietnam Network Information Center (VNNIC). As one of the pioneer staff at VNNIC, she has performed many roles over her 16 years at the organization. This included evaluating .VN registration applications from registrants, working as an Internet Protocol (IP) host-master and National Internet Registry (NIR) service staff. In addition, she also created policies concerning .VN domain names and Vietnam's IP/Autonomous System Number

(ASN) while serving as the secretariat of the Vietnam National IP version 6 (IPv6) taskforce.

Nhung is no stranger to ICANN. She is a member of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), and has participated in many Internet forums including ICANN Public Meetings, Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association (APTLD) meetings and Asia Pacific Network Information Center (APNIC) conferences. As an active community member, she was involved in the recent DNSSEC deployment for .VN, which helped lay the groundwork for the development of Internet infrastructure and e-services in Vietnam.



### ASO Address Council Elects New Chair

**Filiz Yilmaz**, community representative of the Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre (RIPE NCC), has been elected by the Address Supporting Organization Address Council (ASO AC) members as the new chair for 2017. Her appointment was confirmed during the ASO AC teleconference on 11 January 2017. ASO AC chair elections are held annually in January, and the term is for one year. The ASO AC also accepted the appointment of **Louie Lee**, from the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN) region, and **Ricardo Patara**, from the Latin American and Caribbean Network Information Centre (LACNIC) region, as vice chairs of the ASO AC. The ASO AC also recognized Louie Lee for his nine years of service and leadership as ASO AC chair.

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### Initial Report on the IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms Published for Public Comment

In the domain name space, international governmental organizations (IGOs) and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) may encounter difficulties to protect their names and acronyms against abuse. While the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) and the Uniform Rapid Suspension procedure (URS) are mechanisms to protect the marks of rights holders, not all IGOs and INGOs can use them due to the lack of trademarks or issues of jurisdictional immunity. Since June 2014, a policy development process working group in the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) has been tasked with developing policy recommendations that enable IGOs and INGOs to effectively access curative rights protection mechanisms. The working group has published an initial report with a set of preliminary recommendations and conclusions. [Read more](#) and participate in the public comment proceeding by 1 March 2017.

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### GAC Prepares for ICANN58

The leadership of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) has been working to create an agenda in line with the topics raised by GAC members and with meeting requests from the ICANN community. In Copenhagen, the GAC plans to meet with the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), the At-Large Advisory Council (ALAC) and the ICANN Board. Additionally, the GAC will also dedicate considerable time to discussing its implementation of the new ICANN Bylaws and to ongoing discussions on new generic top-level domains (gTLDs) and intergovernmental organization protections.

GAC internal matters will be tackled throughout the week as well. All GAC working groups will meet and update the GAC on their work in plenary sessions. Lastly, the GAC will lead two cross-community discussions: a session on domain name system (DNS) abuse mitigation, proposed by the GAC Public Safety Working Group, and a session on how to better engage in ICANN, proposed by the GAC Underserved Regions Working Group.

Next week, you will find the final GAC schedule on the [ICANN58 website](#).

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### GNSO Nominates Candidates for the Second Security, Stability and Resiliency Review Team

On 19 January 2017, the Council of the GNSO unanimously passed a motion to nominate James Gannon, Denise Michel and Emily Taylor as its primary three candidates for the second Security, Stability and Resiliency Review Team (SSR2-RT). Furthermore, the GNSO nominated Howard Eland, Scott McCormick, Rao Naveed bin Rais and Norm Ritchie as alternates. As part of the selection processes for the SSR2-RT, these seven candidates [requested](#) GNSO endorsement for their participation in the review team. The GNSO Council formed a small team to review the candidacies. Noting the lack of gender and geographic diversity of the applicants, the GNSO Council also encouraged ICANN staff to explore ways to promote diversity in applications for future review teams.



## ccNSO Drafting Team Begins Work

The Council of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) appointed volunteers to draft the charters for two working groups in the ccNSO **policy development process (PDP)** on the development of a review mechanism for the decisions on delegation, revocation and retirement of country code top-level domains (ccTLDs). The focus will be on delineating and scoping the issues that need to be addressed through PDPs and on working methods. The drafting team's results will be included in an issue report. The report will be presented to the broader community at ICANN58, and then to the ccNSO Council for decision-making. The first meeting of the drafting team took place on 11 January 2017.

## GNSO Council Mailing List Migrated to Mailman

In January 2017, the public mailing list of the GNSO Council was migrated to Mailman. This transition will allow anyone interested in GNSO Council activities to subscribe to the mailing list as an observer to receive emails, access the **archives** and follow GNSO Council discussions in real time. To join the mailing list as an observer (without posting rights), **send your request directly** or email **gns0-sec@icann.org**. Meanwhile, you may access the **archive** of the mailing list, which contains all emails predating the migration.



### GDD UPDATE



### Results of IANA Functions Customer Survey Now Available

In January 2017, ICANN published the results of an annual survey that measures the perception of satisfaction among IANA functions customers regarding the services they receive. In the survey, which accounts for transactions completed between September 2015 and August 2016, 94 percent of respondents reported being "satisfied" or "very satisfied." Notably, 99 percent of respondents reported being satisfied with the accuracy of their transactions. Customers also identified accuracy as the most important measure of performance for the fourth consecutive year. **View the survey**

**findings.**



### DELEGATED TLDs

### No New gTLDs Were Delegated in January

**See the full list here.**



### UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us at these upcoming events in the APAC region:

- **ICANN FY17 Q2 Stakeholder Call** | 15 February 2017 | 15:00 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)
- **APAC Space Web Conference** | 16 February 2017 | 03:00 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) / 11:00 Singapore Time (SGT)
- **Asia Pacific Regional Internet Conference on Operational Technologies (APRICOT) 2017**



| 20 February - 2 March 2017 | Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

- [Asia Pacific Telecommunity \(APT\) Preparatory Group for World Telecommunications Development Conferences \(WTDC-17\)](#) | 20 - 22 February 2017 | Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
- India Peering Forum 2017 | 6 March 2017 | Kolkata, India
- [Internet Governance Forum \(IGF\) - Japan 2017](#) | 7 March 2017 | Tokyo, Japan
- [ICANN58](#) | 11 - 16 March 2017 | Copenhagen, Denmark
- Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) Workshop | 26 - 30 March 2017 | Port Vila, Vanuatu

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

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