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APAC Newsletter

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Policy Update



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Feedback



TOP STORY

Plan to Transition Stewardship of Key Internet Functions Sent to the U.S. Government



Culmination of a Two-Year Effort by the Global Internet Community

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers Board Chair Dr. Stephen D. Crocker submitted to the U.S. Government a plan developed by the international Internet community that, if approved, will lead to global stewardship of some key technical Internet functions.

"This plan is a testament to the hard work of the global Internet community and the strength of the multistakeholder model," said Crocker, who transmitted the plan on behalf of the global community. "The plan has now been sent to the U.S. Government for its review, and assuming it meets the necessary criteria, we will have reached an historic moment in the history of the Internet."

The plan provides a comprehensive package to transition the U.S. Government's stewardship of these technical functions, called the IANA (Internet Assigned Numbers Authority), which are critical to the Internet's smooth operation. It also proposes ways to enhance ICANN's accountability as a fully independent organization. The transition is the final step in the long-anticipated privatization of the Internet's Domain Name System (DNS), first outlined when ICANN was incorporated in 1998.

The ICANN Board received the package from the community during its 55th public meeting in Morocco, and transmitted it to the U.S. National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA).

[Click here to read more.](#)



APAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS



ICANN Board and staff at APRICOT 2016

APRICOT 2016

The Asia Pacific Regional Internet Conference on Operational Technologies (APRICOT) 2016 was held in Auckland, New Zealand last month. ICANN Board members and staff attended the event.

ICANN engaged the technical community through training sessions, workshops and discussions. Members of the Asia Pacific Top-Level Domain Name Association (APTLD) learned about implementing a security framework. Discussion forum topics included the IANA Stewardship Transition, IPv4 exhaustion and the transfer market, and issues affecting incident response and security teams.

To learn more about how ICANN engages with the technical community in the APAC region, watch this [video interview with Adiel Akplogan](#), ICANN's VP for Technical Engagement.

Involving the Next Generation in Shaping the Internet

Who is involved in the policy-making process at ICANN? What is the New gTLD Program? These were some of the questions raised by third-year communications and new media students from the National University of Singapore (NUS) in a youth engagement session held last month at NUS.

ICANN's Kelvin Wong, Head of Outreach and Public Responsibility for Asia Pacific, and Mary Wong, Senior Policy Director, responded to these questions. They also spoke about ICANN topics such as the role of ICANN in the Internet ecosystem and the multistakeholder model of Internet governance. Kelvin Wong encouraged the "next generation" to help shape the future of the Internet by joining the [NextGen@ICANN Program](#) and the [ICANN Fellowship Program](#).



Kelvin Wong and Mary Wong at the NUS youth engagement session

It was heartening to see the students' enthusiasm - we look forward to hosting similar sessions in the future.



Workshop on Lao Script Root Zone LGR held on 18 February 2016 in Vientiane, Laos

Completion of Proposals for Lao and Khmer Scripts

The languages of Southeast Asia feature unique and complex scripts. Regional communities are involved in ICANN's [Internationalized Domain Names Program](#). By participating, they play a role in specifying the linguistic rules that determine the validity and variants of top-level domain names in these scripts.

Recently, Khmer and Lao panels finalized proposals for the Label Generation Rules (LGR) for the Root Zone for the [Khmer script](#) and the [Lao script](#). The panels already had significant technical and linguistic expertise, but to keep the process open and inclusive, they reached out to the larger community and organized local workshops to finalize the proposals.

ICANN thanks panel members and local communities for their hard work and productive discussions. ICANN is also grateful for the support of the following institutions: (1) for Khmer: National Institute of Posts, Telecom and ICT (of the Ministry of Posts and Telecom of Cambodia); and (2) for Lao: E-Government Center of Ministry of Posts and Telecom of Laos.

ICANN's Jia-Rong Low Speaks at G-77 Meeting in Bangkok

Jia-Rong Low, VP and Managing Director of ICANN Asia Pacific, was in Bangkok for the Group of 77 (G-77) Meeting of Experts on Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Sustainable Development for South-South Cooperation.

Low spoke about the importance of ICANN's [IDN Program](#). The IDN Program helps communities come online by providing domain names in their native languages or scripts. The process involves working closely with local communities to create Generation Panels to develop Label Generation



Jia-Rong Low at G-77 meeting

Rules to form valid top-level domains in local scripts. Low helped to raise awareness about the IDN program, which is especially important for the Asia Pacific region, home to more than 3,000 languages.

Watch for Jia-Rong Low's blog post on this topic on the ICANN website later this month!



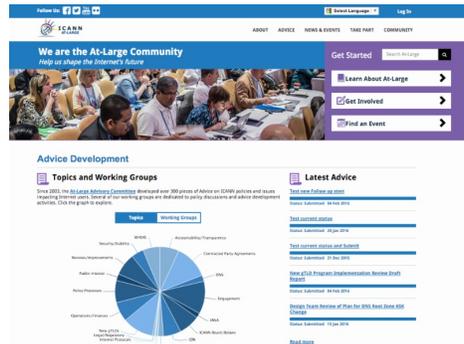
POLICY UPDATE

Nominating Committee Seeks Candidates

The Nominating Committee invites interested individuals to submit applications and/or to recommend candidates for key leadership positions: three members of the ICANN Board of Directors, two At-Large Advisory Committee representatives (one each from the European and North American regions), one member of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council, and one member of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council. Apply for these positions by completing the [online application](#) or by emailing nomcom2016@icann.org. All applications are confidential and should be received by 20 March 2016 (23:59 UTC) for full consideration. Selections will be announced in August or September 2016.



Nominating Committee



New At-Large Website

Visit the New At-Large Website!

The new [At-Large Community website](#) is now live. Over the past year, the At-Large Community and ICANN staff have worked to create a more engaging website for both newcomers and experienced members. The new website features simple navigation, dynamic features and accessible content. You can search policy advice statements, follow news and events, find regional activities and participate in the At-Large Community. Start exploring now!

SSAC Publishes Two Advisories

The Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) has published [SAC079](#), "SSAC Advisory on the Changing Nature of IPv4 Address Semantics." In this advisory, the SSAC considers the changing role of IPv4 addresses caused by the increasing scarcity, and subsequent exhaustion, of IPv4 addresses. The SSAC also published [SAC078](#), "SSAC Advisory on Uses of the Shared Global Domain Name Space." This advisory informs the ICANN Board and community that SSAC has formed a work party to study the security and stability issues associated with multiple uses of the domain name space.

Launch of Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP

Following the publication of the [Final Issue Report](#), the GNSO Council unanimously voted to launch a Policy Development Process (PDP) to review all Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in all generic top-level domains (gTLDs). This PDP will be a two-phased effort: the first phase will review the RPMs for the new gTLD program, including the Uniform Rapid Suspension System (URS), and the second phase will focus on a review of the Uniform Domain-Name Dispute-Resolution Policy (UDRP). For more information, please visit the [GNSO webpage](#) or email gnso-secs@icann.org.

Join TLD-OPS, the ccTLD Incident Response Community!

The goal of the TLD-OPS community is to enable country code top-level domain (ccTLD) operators worldwide to collaboratively strengthen their incident response capabilities. The TLD-OPS mailing list serves as a contact repository for ccTLDs. Subscribers regularly receive an automated email that contains an overview of all subscribed ccTLDs (170 of 293 ccTLDs have joined) and their incident response contact information. ccTLD operators also use the list to share security alerts with their peers and receive alerts from the Internet Assigned Names Authority (IANA) and the ICANN security team. TLD-OPS is open to every ccTLD - [find out how to join](#).

APNIC Community Consultations

APNIC41 was held 15-26 February 2016 in conjunction with APRICOT 2016 in Auckland, New Zealand. The APNIC Policy Special Interest Group met but did not consider any formal proposals for consensus. Participants discussed policy, registry procedures, and other mechanisms designed to address data quality in the APNIC WHOIS Database, looking closely at current APNIC Secretariat procedures for the verification of invalid contact reports. The APNIC Secretariat also reported on a range of strategies to improve overall data quality. Read more in the meeting [report!](#)



ICANN NEWS



ICANN's Luna Madi sat down with interim ICANN President & CEO Akram Atallah and ICANN Board Chair Steve Crocker to talk about ICANN's historic week. They discussed the community's extraordinary effort in developing the plan to Transition Stewardship of Key Internet Functions that was sent to the U.S. Government. They also discussed plans for the transition to the new CEO Göran Marby, the new gTLD program and IDNs.

Click the picture or visit [ICANN's YouTube Channel](#) to watch the interview.



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY



Kaili Kan

Kaili Kan Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications

Dr. Kaili Kan is a Professor Emeritus at the School of Economics and Management at Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications (BUPT). He also acts as Director of Policy and Development Institute of Information Industries (PDIII).

He attended his first ICANN meeting in 2007. Since then, he has been following the developments of ICANN. He is currently serving on the At-Large Advisory Committee and the Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team.

Dr. Kan recognizes that although the Asia Pacific (APAC) region accounts for almost half of the world's Internet users, its role in global Internet governance is not proportionate. He encourages fellow netizens in the APAC region to join him and participate in ALAC and ICANN.



GDD UPDATE

Universal Acceptance Fact Sheet and Quick Guide

Have you heard the term "Universal Acceptance" recently, but aren't quite sure what it's all about? The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) has published a [fact sheet](#) that provides a high-level overview of Universal Acceptance, as well as a [quick guide](#) for developers that includes definitions of key terms and recommended steps for becoming Universal Acceptance-Ready. Learn the basics with these handy documents.



First Version Label Generation Rules for the Root Zone Released

On 2 March 2016, ICANN released the first version of Label Generation Rules (LGR-1) for the Root Zone, which has support for the Arabic script. This is a significant step to achieving a truly multilingual Internet. [Find out](#) how the community achieved this exciting milestone and what it means for current and future Arabic script Internet users.



DELEGATED TLDs

Twenty-seven new gTLDs and two ccTLDs were delegated in February 2016

Here are some of them:

unicom , "Unicom", /liantong/
 , "food", /shokuhin/
 , "cloud", /kuraudo/ , "store", /sutoa/
 , "sale", /seru/ (, "book", /shoseki/
song , "fashion", /fashon/

[+ READ MORE](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

RightsCon Silicon Valley 2016 | 30 March - 1 April 2016

This year, RightsCon will be held in San Francisco, California. Business leaders, visionaries, technologists, legal experts, civil society members, activists and government representatives from across the globe will gather to discuss issues on Internet and human rights. Topics will include freedom of expression, privacy in the digital age, and Internet governance. ICANN's Sally Costerton, Senior Advisor to the President of Global Stakeholder Engagement, will speak at the event.

[+ READ MORE](#)

2016 APriGF | 27 - 29 July 2016

Held in Taipei, the Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APriGF) is a key Asia Pacific regional event.



APriGF promotes the multistakeholder model as a means of discussion, exchange and collaboration on Internet governance issues at a regional level. Topics at APriGF include the future impact of the IANA Stewardship Transition, cyber connectivity, security, human rights and global changes to the Internet.

[+ READ MORE](#)

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