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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Highlights of Göran Marby's meetings in Beijing, which included a workshop and visits to the offices of various Chinese stakeholder groups. Top left: Addressing Chinese community leaders in an open dialogue workshop. Top right: China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT). Bottom left: China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC). Bottom right: Internet Society of China (ISC).

**Göran Marby, ICANN President and CEO, Meets with Chinese Community in Beijing**

Göran Marby, ICANN President and CEO, visited Beijing from 19-21 April 2017. He met with members of the Chinese multistakeholder community, including government, private sector, domain name system industry, academia and At-Large. In addition to these visits, Marby attended an open workshop with Chinese community leaders, which discussed various ICANN related issues.

During the visit, Marby encouraged the Chinese community to continue and increase their participation in
ICANN. There was very good dialogue which further strengthened the relationship between ICANN and the Chinese community.

Accompanying Marby were ICANN's Tarek Kamel, Senior Advisor to President, and Jia-Rong Low, VP and Managing Director of ICANN Asia Pacific. ICANN looks forward to continuous engagement with the Chinese community.

ICANN59 Community Webinar

ICANN will be holding an informational webinar on Tuesday, 16 May 2017, at 16:00 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) to provide the community with a full update on ICANN59. The webinar will go over logistics, accommodations and travel, as well as details of the meeting schedule. The call is open to all to attend, and the presentation and recording will be posted after the call.

For details on how to join, please click here.

It's Time to Register for ICANN59
Johannesburg, South Africa, 26-29 June 2017

The ICANN59 Policy Forum is just six weeks away. The program will focus on policy work and cross-community dialogue, with topics driven by ICANN's Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. Registration is now open.

Before booking your flight, check the ICANN59 home page to find out if you need to obtain a visa to travel to South Africa. This page links to the immigration page on the Government of South Africa's official website. There, you'll find detailed information about visa requirements, the application process and deadlines.

Also, the ICANN59 mobile app is now available for download on the App Store, Google play, Windows Store and BlackBerry World. You can use it to manage your meeting experience - access the meeting schedule, network with fellow participants, view the venue map, find information about Johannesburg and more.

We hope to see you in Johannesburg!

ICANN Organization: Complaints Office Update

The Complaints Office is being established to help the ICANN organization with its effectiveness, and to provide additional transparency and accountability, all in service of ICANN's mission. In a recent blog, Krista Papac, ICANN's Complaints Officer, discusses her plans for the office, the objectives, the process and the timeline moving forward, including the news that the office is now accepting complaints. Any complaints related to the ICANN organization - for example, a process that appears broken or insufficient handling of an issue - can now be submitted to the Complaints Office.

Read Krista Papac's blog.

Capturing the Past: ICANN's History Project

The ICANN History Project is capturing the institutional memory of the organization, community and Board through the posting of
interviews, documents, pictures and videos. We have recorded several conversations with key players in ICANN’s past, which are now posted on the new ICANN History Project microsite.

The project explores ICANN’s past through various tracks or themes. The first one - The U.S. Government’s Historical Relationship with ICANN - will soon be supplemented by additional interviews, while other historical themes are still being developed. As such, the project will constantly be expanding and evolving.

Those who want to share their blogs, videos and pictures relating to ICANN History Project tracks are encouraged to do so via Twitter using #ICANNHistory.

ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy

A guiding goal of the anti-harassment policy is to "emphasize, encourage, and promote the spirit of mutual respect expected within the ICANN community." This document explains the expected standards of behavior and the procedures for reporting and filing complaints. Download the document.

FY17 Q3 Quarterly Stakeholder Call

Did you miss the ICANN Quarterly Stakeholder Call that described the activities for the quarter ending 31 March? The presentation and recordings are available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.

APAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

Promoting Greater Participation in ICANN in the Pacific

Challenges such as inadequate Internet access and a lack of human resources can hinder participation in ICANN. How can we foster better collaboration between the Pacific Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) representatives and ICANN and increase participation in ICANN? These were some of the topics discussed at the ICANN GAC capacity development workshop for the Pacific in Nadi, Fiji, on 28 and 29 April 2017.

Attending the workshop were 20 GAC representatives from 16 Pacific countries. ICANN’s Savé Vocea (VP of Global Stakeholder Engagement for Australasia), Anne-Rachel Inne (VP of Government Engagement) and Champika Wijayatunga (Security, Stability and Resiliency Engagement Regional Manager) also attended.
The workshop’s agenda included an overview of the ICANN ecosystem, a discussion of key topics that required action from the participants, and best practices to ensure a secure, stable and resilient Internet in the Pacific. The workshop was well received by the Pacific GAC representatives, who engaged in robust discussions.

ICANN hosted the workshop, in cooperation with the ICANN GAC Underserved Regions Working Group and supported by the Fiji Government’s Department of Communications.

New Report: Universal Acceptance Represents $10 Billion Opportunity

The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG), in partnership with ICANN, recently published a white paper documenting the benefits of Universal Acceptance (UA). The report, prepared by technology consulting and research firm Analysys Mason, underscored the economic, social and cultural benefits of becoming UA-ready. The findings highlight a nearly $10 billion opportunity for organizations that update their IT systems to accept all domain names and email addresses.

"Our analysis shows that the main impediment to Universal Acceptance is a lack of awareness issue, rather than any technical challenges," said Andrew Kloeden, Principal at Analysys Mason. "This is not a heavy lift. The efforts required by software and application owners to implement UA are not particularly onerous; in fact, most companies treat UA issues simply as 'bug' fixes."

Ram Mohan, Chair of the UASG, reiterated this point in a media interview while in New Delhi, India. According to Mohan, the cost of fixing is low and can be accomplished in a matter of weeks. Read more about Mohan’s interview in the published article or download the white paper.

In the Asia Pacific region, China has been actively involved in UA testing. English is not the first language for most of its citizens, so UA is a key requirement for them to be able to navigate the Internet in their local languages.

At ICANN58, the Chinese community shared a report on UA testing of Chinese domain names. Supported by the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT), the report provides fundamental data for further collaboration among Chinese-speaking communities to tackle and boost the UA of Chinese domain names. The Chinese community envisions performing similar testing each year. Download the UA test report in Chinese.

ICANN staff with the Korean accredited registrars in Seoul, Korea, after a fruitful discussion on ICANN policies and ways for the ICANN APAC hub to better support the Korean registrars.

ICANN Reaffirms Relations with Korean Stakeholders

Jia-Rong Low, VP and Managing Director of ICANN Asia Pacific, visited Seoul, Korea, on 25 and 26 April 2017. He was accompanied by Kelvin Wong, Head of Outreach and Public Responsibility, Billy Cheon
Low met with Korean stakeholders, including Korea Internet & Security Agency (KISA); Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning (MSIP); Korea Internet Governance Alliance (KIGA) and Korean accredited registrars. In an open workshop with the Korean accredited registrars, the team gathered valuable feedback on how ICANN could further improve services to the registrars in Korea. It was agreed that the workshop was useful and will be conducted regularly.

The meetings elicited positive discussions on how to enhance cooperation between ICANN and Korean stakeholders. They also fostered dialogue for the Korean community to learn more about ICANN and to participate in ICANN’s policy development process.

A key project for 2017 is the second run of the Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy (APIGA), intended to nurture future young leaders to be active in ICANN and Internet governance discussions. Learn more about APIGA.

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**New Domains Create Fresh Opportunities for Vietnam**

ICANN’s Jia-Rong Low, VP and Managing Director of ICANN Asia Pacific, spoke at a media briefing in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 3 May 2017. He emphasized the importance of new generic top-level domains (gTLDs) and Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) to help boost Vietnam’s fast-growing digital economy. ICANN’s Joyce Chen, Global Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and Development Senior Manager, talked about ICANN and Internet developments in the Asia Pacific region.

According to Internet World Stats, Vietnam is ranked 17th among the countries with the highest number of Internet users, with a penetration rate of 52.1 percent. The rapid adoption of the Internet has sparked the need to expand the Domain Name System (DNS) - in the form of new gTLDs and IDNs. New gTLDs can help to promote competition, consumer choice and innovation. IDNs can further facilitate more Vietnamese to access the Internet in their own native language.

The briefing was hosted by the Vietnam Internet Network Information Center (VNNIC), which is currently participating in ICANN’s Latin Generation Panel. VNNIC took the opportunity to speak about its work on IDNs.

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**ICANN58 Readouts in Japan and India**

The Japanese and Indian communities recently organized readout sessions for their respective community members who were unable to attend ICANN58. At these sessions, members of the ICANN community and organization shared highlights of the meeting and gave updates on ICANN initiatives and constituencies.
On 21 April in Bengaluru, India, the presenters at the India readout focused on India’s involvement in the following topics:

- Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), focusing on India’s involvement
- New generic top-level domains (gTLDs)
- Numbers Resource Organization (NRO), especially the numbering resource initiative given the increasing demand for Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6)
- Discussions and initiatives of the Asian, Australasian and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO)

The event was hosted by JPNIC and Internet Association Japan (IAjapan). Among the speakers was Akinori Maemura, ICANN Board member.

On 1 May 2017, ICANN’s Champika Wijayatunga (fourth from right) and Savé Vocea (third from right) with participants of the DNSSEC training in Fiji.

**ICANN Equips Fijians with DNSSEC Skills**

On 1 May 2017, ICANN's Champika Wijayatunga (Security, Stability and Resiliency Engagement Regional Manager) traveled to Suva, Fiji, to conduct training on the DNS and DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC). A total of 30 individuals participated in the session. The attendees came from various stakeholder groups, including country-code top-level domain (ccTLD) operators, academia, Internet service providers and network operational professionals.

As part of the training, Wijayatunga demonstrated server configurations and the practical aspects of DNSSEC deployment to the attendees. The session was well received, and ICANN looks forward to conducting similar training sessions in Fiji in the future.

**Deferral of ccNSO Organizational Review**

During its meeting at ICANN58, the Country Codes Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council requested a deferral of 12 months for the start of the ccNSO Organizational Review. The decision was in response to a letter from the chair of the ICANN Board Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC) to the ccNSO Council. The ccNSO is currently reviewing and updating its internal documents to ensure that they capture current practices, recommendations from the previous review, and the requirements as set in the new ICANN Bylaws. A public comment proceeding aimed at gathering community feedback about the proposed deferral closes on 19 May.
New GAC Website Coming Soon

The new website of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) will launch shortly after ICANN59. The website team held two webinars for GAC members on 3 May to walk through new features, answer questions and capture any additional feedback. Some of the new features include the ability to extract and import content for translations; notifications; news articles; and restructured content that highlights important work, advice, and meetings through consistent navigation.

ALAC and RALO Election Cycle Underway

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) and the Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs) started their election cycle to fill leadership positions that will begin at the end of ICANN60. The positions up for election include five ALAC member positions selected by RALOs, as well as the chair, vice chair, and secretariat positions within the RALOs. Some of these positions have term limits. In addition, the Nominating Committee will select three ALAC members this year. The nomination period ends on 12 May and regional elections, if needed, will take place 22-26 May. Read more.

At-Large Community Responds to the Independent Review Draft Report

Following the publication of the At-Large Review Draft Report by ITEMS, the ALAC and the At-Large Review Working Party (WP) submitted one comprehensive response as an ALAC statement in late March.

The ALAC fully supports 8 of the 16 recommendations proposed by ITEMS, partly supports 5, and rejects 3. The recommendations that the ALAC supports are generally about its roles in outreach, awareness raising, and participation in ICANN policy and processes. The ALAC believes many of these recommendations are already being implemented. A strong focus of the ITEMS recommendations and implementation suggestions involve significant structural changes to the At-Large Community. The ALAC believes that these proposals do not recognize existing policies that allow and support individual members.

Holding views similar to the ALAC and the WP, the five RALOs jointly submitted a separate statement focused on the issues and recommendations particularly relevant to them. Notably, 73 At-Large Structures (ALSes) participated directly in online ratification votes on the RALO statement, which resulted in overwhelming support.

GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process Working Group Engages with the ICANN Community

Starting in February 2016, the GNSO New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process Working Group (WG) has been evaluating the experiences of the 2012 round of the New gTLD Program and identifying possible areas for future GNSO policy development. To help the broader ICANN community gain insights into its important and complex work, the WG has been issuing a monthly newsletter since March 2017, providing detailed updates on its overall work progress and the development within its four work tracks.

Furthermore, as part of its efforts to engage the ICANN community on the issue of geographic names at the top-level, the WG held two webinar sessions on 25 April 2017. Various organizations and individual ICANN community members presented their positions on the treatment of geographic names. The webinars served as the beginning of a discussion that will continue at ICANN59. In Johannesburg, the WG leadership team will hold an extended session to evaluate the positions presented in the webinars and to propose solutions on how to establish common ground.

GNSO Council Comments on the ICANN FY18 Budget and Operating Plan

In response to the public comment proceeding on the proposed ICANN Budget and Operating Plan for FY18, the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council approved and submitted the comments prepared by a small drafting team. At the request of the GNSO Council, the ICANN Finance team conducted a webinar covering aspects of interest to the GNSO community. As a Decisional Participant within the new Empowered Community (EC), the GNSO Council recognizes the power of the EC to veto budgets adopted by the ICANN Board and the importance of fully understanding the funding and expenses of ICANN operations. Read the GNSO Council comments.

GNSO Council Endorses GNSO Candidates for the Registration Directory Service Review Team
On 20 April 2017, the GNSO Council unanimously passed a motion to nominate Susan Kawaguchi, Erika Mann, Stephanie Perrin, and Volker Greimann as its four primary candidates for the Registration Directory Service Review Team (RDS-RT). Furthermore, the GNSO nominated Marc Anderson, Stefania Milan, and Timothy Chen to be considered for inclusion in the RDS-RT, should additional places be available. These 7 candidates were among the 14 that requested GNSO endorsement for their participation. The GNSO Standing Selection Committee (SSC) carried out the review and selection of the candidates, and submitted its full consensus recommendations and the ranking of the candidates to the GNSO Council.

GNSO Council Confirms Liaison Appointments

The GNSO Council confirmed the appointment of councilors as liaisons to several cross-community working groups, GNSO working groups, and implementation review teams. The appointees and their respective groups are: Susan Kawaguchi, Thick WHOIS Implementation Review Team (IRT); Rubens Kuhl, Translation and Transliteration of gTLD Registration Data IRT; Ed Morris, GNSO Rights and Obligations under the Revised ICANN Bylaws Drafting Team; and Julf Helsingius, Cross-Community Working Group on Internet Governance. These appointments stem from the resignations of previous liaisons or the end of a council member’s term.

Participate in ICANN Reviews

ICANN Specific and Organizational Reviews are of vital importance to the ICANN community and how we operate. They only work with your participation, and you can play a big role in driving continuous improvement through the findings and recommendations that Reviews deliver. Theresa Swinehart has written about the latest opportunities to get involved. Find out how you can:

- Participate in shaping the future of the new gTLD marketplace
- Help improve ICANN transparency and accountability
- Provide input as to whether the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Review should be deferred
- Follow the progress of the At-Large Review and the Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency of the Domain Name System Review (SSR2)

For more information on all reviews, please click here.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY

Haoran Huang
Member of the Noncommercial Users Constituency (NCUC)

Haoran Huang is a postgraduate student at the Institute of Internet Governance and Law at the Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications (BUPT) in China. His focus is on Internet governance and cyberlaw.

Huang was a participant in the Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy (APIGA) 2016, a program aimed at nurturing future young leaders to participate in Internet governance discussions. The program provided him with insights into the world of Internet governance, and
spurred him to continue Internet governance discussions in global and regional platforms. Since APIGA, Huang has participated in two ICANN Public Meetings and in the Indian School of Internet Governance. In ICANN, he joined the NCUC and is participating in the Jurisdiction Subgroup in the Cross-Community Working Group-Accountability Work Stream 2. In addition, Huang participated in the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2016 and Asia Pacific Regional IGF (APrIGF) Multistakeholder Steering Group (MSG).

Read more about Huang’s journey in this blog. If you are also a newcomer and want to make a difference in the evolution of the Internet, apply for APIGA 2017.

New Procedure Published: Handling WHOIS Conflicts with Privacy Law

On 18 April 2017, ICANN published the updated Procedure for Handling WHOIS Conflicts with Privacy Law. This revision, which incorporates an additional trigger to invoke the Revised WHOIS Procedure, was effective immediately. Now a registry operator or ICANN-accredited registrar can invoke the procedure by providing ICANN with a written statement, from the applicable government agency, that indicates that an ICANN-contractual WHOIS obligation conflicts with applicable national law.

Read the announcement and the revised WHOIS Procedure.

NextGen and Fellows Video

The NextGen@ICANN and Fellowship programs are both aimed at bringing people to ICANN Public Meetings. ICANN has created a short video that walks you through each program - what sets it apart and who should apply. Explore your options and opportunities! Click here to start your journey with ICANN.

Empowered Community Powers infographic

We’ve created a new infographic to help explain the Empowered Community Powers - a process for raising concerns about the ICANN Board or organization. The infographic is available in all six U.N. languages at: https://www.icann.org/community.
Translations Available for KSK Quick Guide

These materials help you understand the upcoming root zone key signing key (KSK) rollover. The KSK Quick Guide is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Japanese and Korean translations are coming soon. Download the KSK Quick Guide.

New KSK Rollover Video Available in Four Languages

We've created a short video that explains in plain, accessible language how to prepare your systems for the KSK rollover.

Watch the video: English | French | Portuguese | Spanish

ICANN58 By the Numbers Report

Just published, this report uses easy-to-read graphics and charts to present data on a range of topics, including: attendees, most popular sessions, remote participation, use of the mobile app and website, and the technical infrastructure of the meeting. Download the report (in English).

Post-ICANN58 Policy Report - Translations Available

Last month, the English version of this report was published. Translations are now available in Arabic, Chinese, French, Spanish, Russian and Turkish.

Two New gTLDs Were Delegated in April 2017

rugby
hotels

DELEGATED NEW GTLDs

ICANN will be participating in these upcoming events:
Learn more about how ICANN will be participating in regional events near you.

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