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TOP STORY

Update on the Root KSK Rollover Project

Matt Larson, VP of Research, Office of Chief Technology Officer

The ICANN organization will not roll the root zone key signing key (KSK) in the first quarter of 2018.

We have decided that we do not yet have enough information to set a specific date for the rollover. We want to make clear, however, that the ICANN org is committed to rolling the root zone KSK and we will continue to discuss this important process with the community, gather their feedback, and give all interested parties advance notice of at least one calendar quarter when we set the date for the rollover.

[Read more...](#)



APAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS



ICANN's Champika Wijayatunga doing a media interview to announce the formation of the Sinhala GP at the media briefing in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka Is One Step Closer to a Multilingual Internet

ICANN was in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 11-15 December 2017 to facilitate the formation and work of the Sinhala Generation Panel (GP). The GP will develop a proposal for the Root Zone Label Generation Rules (LGR) for the Sinhala script, which is commonly used in Sri Lanka. The **announcement** was made at a media briefing and was reported in major Sri Lankan media outlets: [Daily News](#), [Lanka Business Online](#), and [Sri Lanka Mirror \(Sinhala\)](#).

Joining the Sinhala GP in Colombo was the Neo-Brahmi GP, which came to discuss its ongoing LGR work for the nine Neo-Brahmi scripts, including Tamil, another script in common use in Sri Lanka. The work of these GPs will enable the Sri Lankan community to access the Internet's top-level domains in their

ICANN Conducts First Outreach Events in Maldives



ICANN and members of the Maldivian community explore the formation of a GP for the Thaana script.

ICANN held a series of engagement activities in Male, Maldives, from 5-7 December 2017. In addition to organizing technical and capacity-development workshops in cybersecurity and Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs), ICANN met with Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and Chief Information Officers (CIOs) of government and technical agencies. The events raised awareness about ICANN in general and emphasized the importance of:

- Participating in ICANN's Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)
- Forming the Thaana GP to allow domain names in their native language
- Deploying DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) for the Maldives country code top-level domain (ccTLD)

Bhutan Joins Other Nations in Deploying DNSSEC

On 2 December 2017, after months of preparation, Bhutan Telecom Ltd. deployed DNSSEC for .bt, Bhutan's ccTLD. Technical staff at the .bt operator worked closely with ICANN, which provided capacity building, and technical and engagement support.

DNSSEC

ICANN Reaches Out to Indian Registrars



Samiran Gupta (left) and Howard Li (second from left) discuss key issues with an Indian registrar.

ICANN's Howard Li, Registrar Services and Industry Relations Senior Manager for APAC, and Samiran Gupta, Head of India, met with six Indian registrars in Mumbai and New Delhi, India, from 11-14 December 2017. These discussions helped ICANN understand their concerns and find ways to assist them better. Some topics discussed were the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), dynamics of the Indian domain name market, and ICANN's compliance policies.

Latest Update on Korea Engagement

Earlier this month, ICANN and Korea Internet & Security Agency (KISA) entered a new phase of collaboration to engage the Korean and broader regional Internet community in relation to the Internet's Domain Name System (DNS), by establishing a partnership center known as the Internet and DNS Engagement Center in Seoul. [Read the announcement.](#)



ICANN NEWS

Internet Community Gathers at 2017 IGF in Geneva



More than 2000 participants from 142 countries attended last year's Internet Governance Forum (IGF), which was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 18-21 December 2017. Members of the global Internet community came together to discuss some of the most pressing issues impacting the Internet, such as cybersecurity, data protection, privacy, surveillance, and encryption. ICANN held three workshops and participated in the Open Forum, which gave us an opportunity to touch on key topics, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and its effect on the ICANN community. The IGF continues to be one of the most important venues for discussing critical Internet-related matters.



Data Protection/Privacy Activities

In December, we published details on how to submit a proposed model for providing registration directory services and meeting other data retention requirements while remaining compliant with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The most recent legal analysis from law firm Hamilton is also available - visit [ICANN's data protection/privacy page](#) regularly to stay up to date.

Kim Davies Appointed VP, IANA Services, and President, PTI

In this role, Davies will be ensuring that the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions are performed in a secure, stable, and efficient manner with a commitment to operational excellence. As VP of IANA Services, he will report to Akram Atallah, President of ICANN's Global Domains Division. As President of PTI, Davies will also serve as one of the five directors on the Public Technical Identifiers (PTI) Board.



[Read the full announcement.](#)

Get Ready for ICANN61

Register now for ICANN61! The Community Forum will take place from 10-15 March 2018 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Come and network with your peers, engage in face-to-face discussions,

Register Today!



ask questions, and help develop and implement Internet policies. Before booking your travel, check the travel and visa requirements for Puerto Rico. Foreign nationals generally need a visa to enter the United States. U.S. citizens do not need a passport to enter Puerto Rico, but starting in January 2018 must present a driver's license that complies with the REAL ID Act. [Find out more.](#)

ICANN Publishes Updated gTLD Marketplace Index

Produced twice annually since July 2016, the gTLD Marketplace Health Index (Beta) presents statistics related to generic top-level domains (gTLDs). These statistics track progress against the goal of supporting the evolution of the domain name marketplace to be robust, stable and trusted. [View the Health Index](#) to learn more, see the worldwide regional distribution data and graphical representations for each category.



Nomination Period Opens for ICANN Multistakeholder Ethos Award *Award Targeted for ICANN62 | Nominations Close 19 March 2018*

ICANN has opened the nomination period for ICANN's Multistakeholder Ethos Award, which will be presented at ICANN62. The award recognizes ICANN participants who have invested deeply in consensus-based solutions, acknowledged the importance of ICANN's multistakeholder model of Internet governance, and contributed substantively to the ICANN organization and community.

[Read the full announcement.](#)

Follow the Latest Progress of the Nominating Committee (NomCom) Review

The assessment report of the NomCom Review was published on 8 January 2018. See "Key News and Updates" on the [NomCom wiki page](#). The Analysis Group, which is conducting the review, will hold a webinar in mid-January. Find out how you can [participate or access the recording](#).

For the current status and links to additional information about all Specific and Organizational Reviews, see: <https://icann.org/resources/reviews>.



ICANN60 By the Numbers Now Available

ICANN has published the ICANN60 By the Numbers report, which includes technical, demographic, and attendance statistics of the recent Annual General Meeting in Abu Dhabi. This report is part of ICANN's commitment to transparency and to improving your meeting experience.

Download [ICANN60 By the Numbers](#).



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY



Shuo (Sophia) Feng

Co-Chair of the New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG) Work Track 2 (WT2)

Shuo (Sophia) Feng is the Senior Director of the top-level domain (TLD) business division at the Internet Domain Name System Beijing Engineering Center Ltd. (ZDNS).

An active participant in ICANN's Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) since 2011, Feng has helped to develop policies on topics such as the Registry Service Provider Program and New gTLD Subsequent Procedures.

Feng was recently appointed Co-Chair of the New gTLD Subsequent PDP WG WT2. She will join other WG chairs to facilitate policy discussions on legal or regulatory matters, including contractual compliance, TLD rollout, and registrar and registry standardization. She also hopes to see greater participation from the Asia Pacific community.

Sophia holds a masters degree in science from University of Groningen, Netherlands. Before working and living in Beijing, China, she worked for Canon Europe and NetApp B.V. in Amsterdam.



POLICY UPDATE

ccNSO Council Elections

ICANN | ccNSO

At its 7 December meeting, the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council adopted the **Council Election Report FY 2018**. The Council decision took effect seven days later. These ccNSO Councilors will begin their three-year terms after ICANN61:

- Abdalla Omari (Africa)
- Young-Eum Lee (Asia-Pacific)
- Katrina Sasaki (Europe)
- Margarita Valdes (Latin America/Caribbean)
- Byron Holland (North America)



ccNSO Looks to ICANN61

ccNSO sessions will be limited to five days at ICANN61 and will start on 11 March. The full schedule for ICANN61 will be posted on 19 February. In the meantime, you can consult the **draft ccNSO Members Meeting agenda**.

GNSO Council Updates

- The GNSO (Generic Names Supporting Organization) Council submitted its review of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) ICANN60 Communiqué to the ICANN Board. The [review](#) covers topics such as intergovernmental organization protections, enhancing participation in ICANN, General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and applications for .amazon and related strings.
- The Council [directed](#) the Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues Implementation Review Team (PPSAI IRT) to consider the issue of privacy/proxy registration and the implementation of Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy (IRTP) Part C. The Council has concerns about whether the addition or removal of a privacy/proxy service potentially triggers the 60-day inter-registrar transfer lock. The IRTP recommendations did not address this issue, and the potential harms were not brought to the attention of the ICANN organization. Registrars and other affected parties are encouraged to work with PPSAI IRT to put forward recommendations.
- Heather Forrest, the GNSO Chair, was confirmed as the GNSO representative on the Empowered Community Administration until the end of ICANN63. She had been fulfilling this role on a temporary basis since the end of ICANN60.

At-Large Activity at Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2017

IGF 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland, marked the first time the At-Large community held a community-wide approach to workshop and outreach activity. For a number of years, through At-Large, the end-user community has been represented at the IGF. New this year were community-organized At-Large/ICANN-specific workshops, roundtables, and "lightning talks" focusing on end-user issues. They also introduced an [At-Large Booth](#), where community volunteers answered questions and recruited newcomers. [Learn More.](#)

New At-Large Working Group Activity

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) has renewed its focus on its nearly 20 working groups with the aim of streamlining the policy, process, and outreach activities of the At-Large community. Examples of these efforts are verifying that the At-Large [wiki workspace](#) and [website](#) are complete and up to date. Also, to ensure a more cohesive approach to At-Large policy development, several existing policy working groups were merged. The goal of merging these working groups was to improve the effectiveness of new and continuing At-Large activities - including At-Large Review Implementation, At-Large Structures Criteria and Expectations, and ICANN policy issues.



GDD UPDATE

Transferring your domain name?



Encountering Issues Transferring Your Domain Name?

Read Part III of our Domain Name Registrant educational series, "Do You Have a Domain Name? Here's What You Need to Know." This blog offers detailed information about why you might be having issues transferring your domain name and what you can do to resolve them.

[Read more...](#)



DELEGATED TLDs

[See the full list of delegated strings here.](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

ICANN will be participating in these upcoming events:

- 19-21 January | [52nd Annual Convention of Computer Society of India \(CSI 2017\)](#) | Kolkata, India
- 22-26 January | [New Zealand Network Operators Group \(NZNOG\) 2018](#) | Queenstown, New Zealand
- 23 January | [APAC Space web conference](#) | 03:00 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) / 11:00 Singapore Time (SGT)
- 3 February | [Hosting and Domain Conference 2018](#) | Hyderabad, India
- 19-28 February | [Asia Pacific Regional Internet Conference on Operational Technologies \(APRICOT\) 2018](#) | Kathmandu, Nepal
- 24-25 February | Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) Capacity Development Workshop | Kathmandu, Nepal

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

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