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## APAC Newsletter

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### TOP STORY



#### Jamie Hedlund Takes on Senior Contractual Compliance and Consumer Safeguards Role at ICANN

On 4 January 2017, ICANN announced that Jamie Hedlund, Vice President of Strategic Programs for ICANN's Global Domains Division, will take on Allen Grogan's role as Senior Vice President (SVP), Contractual Compliance and Consumer Safeguards, following Grogan's **previously announced** departure.

"Contractual compliance, consumer safeguards and public responsibility are areas of central importance to ICANN," said CEO

Göran Marby. "Jamie has years of ICANN and legal experience, which he will be using to build upon the great work already done by Allen and the rest of the global Contractual Compliance team."

[Read more...](#)



### APAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

#### Introducing the New ICANN Korea Team



Minjung Park (left) and Billy Cheon (right), the new seconded staff from the Korea Internet & Security Agency (KISA) to ICANN. Park will replace Kang Soo Song, Global Stakeholder Engagement Manager for Korea, while Cheon will replace In-Pyo Hwang, Head of Korea, to form the new ICANN Korea team. Read the blog [here](#).



## Thai Script Community Paves the Way for a Multilingual Internet

With the recent release of the proposal for Thai script root zone label generation rules (LGR), Thai script community members are now one step closer to determining valid top-level domain names that provide access to content in their own native language. This is the sixth proposal to be finalized (after the Arabic, Armenian, Georgian, Khmer and Lao scripts). The

proposal is available for **public comment** from 15 December 2016 to 29 January 2017. Based on the feedback, the Thai Script Generation Panel will finalize the proposal to submit for evaluation and integration into the LGR for the root zone. **Learn more** about Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) and how they are helping to enable a multilingual Internet.

## Successful ICANN57 Leads to Inaugural ICANN Readout in India

ICANN57 in Hyderabad, India, had a record turnout of 3,182 participants - a third of whom were local participants. Following this successful meeting, the Indian community held its first ICANN readout session on 21 December 2016 in New Delhi, India.

Typically, Asia Pacific's ICANN readout sessions are organized by local community members following ICANN Public Meetings to update fellow members who did not attend the meeting. However, in this readout session, Indian community members who attended ICANN57 focused on discussing the next steps in participating in ICANN.

Topics were focused on policy areas that received high interest from the Indian stakeholders. There were four segments:



Indian community member, Jyoti Panday, presents at the first ICANN readout session in India. Close to 30 community members attended the session, either in person or remotely.

- IANA stewardship transition, with an update on the efforts to enhance ICANN's accountability, focusing on Work Stream 2
- Security and stability of the DNS
- Business and private sector engagement
- Internationalized domain names and Indic computing (software development in Indian scripts and languages)

Each of the four segments sparked vibrant discussions. Several stakeholders discussed the next steps going forward. Representatives from the Government of India concluded the session, reiterating the government's support for the multistakeholder model. They also encouraged greater participation from the Indian community.



*Mary Wong speaks about mechanisms for resolving domain name disputes and the New gTLD Program at the Domain Name Dispute Resolution Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.*

## Conference in Malaysia Focuses on Resolving Domain Name Disputes

What can you do if someone challenges your registered domain name? Or if someone is infringing on your legal rights by registering a similar domain name? These were some of the topics discussed at the **Domain Name Dispute Resolution Conference**, held on 1 December 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. About 80 attendees - mostly arbitrators, mediators and lawyers in the intellectual property field - attended the conference.

ICANN's Mary Wong, Senior Policy Director, and Joyce Chen, Global Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and Development Senior Manager, were in attendance. Wong gave a comprehensive presentation on the newly launched policy review of the existing domain name dispute resolution mechanisms and

the New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Program. The presentation was well received; panelists spoke positively about the recent changes to the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP). They engaged in a lively discussion on the differences between the UDRP and Uniform Rapid Suspension System (URS).

On the sidelines of the event, Chen and Wong met with various Malaysian stakeholders to strengthen relations.

## ICANN Hosts Inaugural ICANN Day and Two Workshops in Cambodia



*Joyce Chen (left) speaks about ICANN's work to about 50 participants at ICANN Day. Champika Wijayatunga (right) explains the DNS and DNSSEC to 45 workshop participants.*

ICANN recently collaborated with the Cambodian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MPTC) on a series of engagement events in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. ICANN's Champika Wijayatunga (Security, Stability and Resiliency Engagement Regional Manager) and Joyce Chen (Global Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and Development Senior Manager) presented at the events.

ICANN Day was a half-day event held on 5 December 2016. Participants came from local Internet service providers (ISPs) and Cambodian government IT departments. Chen introduced ICANN's work and talked about the APAC hub. Wijayatunga spoke on domain name system (DNS) abuse handling and the root zone

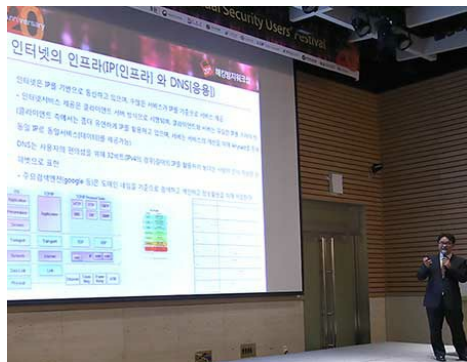
key signing key rollover (KSK rollover).

Two members from the community spoke on topics of special interest to the Cambodian audience. Rapid Sun, Cambodia's Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) representative and former ICANN fellow, spoke of his participation in ICANN's Khmer Script Generation Panel. Sopheak Tan, Chief of the Cambodia Computer Emergency Response Team (CamCERT), presented on cybersecurity development in Cambodia.

From 5-8 December, Wijayatunga conducted a workshop on DNS and DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC). Participants included network operators and ISPs. They configured DNSSEC validating resolvers and deployed DNSSEC signed zones in a lab environment. An additional topic was the KSK rollover.

On 9 December, Wijayatunga led a separate workshop for the Cambodian law enforcement community on Internet identifier abuse handling.

While in Phnom Penh, Chen and Wijayatunga also visited various Cambodian stakeholders to reaffirm relations.



*At the 20th Annual Security Users' Festival, Kang Soo Song explains how the DNS is a critical infrastructure of the Internet, and must be protected to prevent cyberattacks.*

## DNSSEC: The Key to Securing the Internet

2016 brought cybersecurity to prominence, with news stories on incidents such as the **distributed denial of service (DDoS) attack on Dyn**. This attack set the stage for many of the discussions at the **20th Annual Security Users' Festival**, held on 8 December 2016 in Seoul, Korea.

In-Pyo Hwang and Kang Soo Song from the ICANN's Seoul Office participated in the festival. Speaking in a session with 80 participants, Song introduced ICANN's role and DNSSEC. He used recent cyberattacks as examples and emphasized to DNS operators the importance of protecting the DNS. He highlighted how DNSSEC can be used to protect Internet infrastructure against future cyberattacks.



## ICANN NEWS

### Register Now for the Next Quarterly Stakeholder Call

In the second call in our new format, we'll continue to focus on how ICANN has implemented community policy, with a Board update and news from a specific region. This quarter's call features Africa and the Middle East. ICANN's Istanbul hub office will host the call at the end of the first day of the Turkey DNS Forum.

Everyone is welcome. [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](#).

### Register Now for ICANN58 in Copenhagen

Registration is open for ICANN58. This first ICANN Public Meeting of 2017 will take place from 11-16 March 2017 in Copenhagen, Denmark. If you attend, you can network with your peers in the community, engage in face-to-face discussions, ask questions and help develop and implement Internet policies. [Register now for](#)

## ICANN58.

Before you book your travel, [check the ICANN58 home page](#) to find out if you need to obtain a visa to travel to Denmark. Our page has links to the relevant pages on Denmark's official website, which gives detailed information about visa requirements, the application process and deadlines. If you determine that you do need a visa, you can request for the Danish host letter through the ICANN58 page. Please check as soon as possible so you don't miss any deadlines.



## GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY



### **Makara Than** **Member of the Khmer Script Generation Panel**

Makara Than is a Director in the General Department of Information and Communications Technology in Cambodia's Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. In his work, he manages and develops the national network infrastructure for e-government services. He has been involved in projects dealing with information security and security frameworks, data, content delivery, and wireless and fiber-optic communications.

An active member within the technical community in ICANN, Than is a member of the Khmer Script Generation Panel. In addition to working with the Khmer script community to develop the root zone label generation rules, he helps to organize ICANN activities in Cambodia. A recent activity was the capacity-building workshop on DNS and DNSSEC in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, held in December 2016. He hopes to work with ICANN to organize more capacity-building programs in Cambodia in the future.

Than got to know about ICANN through his work in the Regional Internet Registries. He has professional experience with Internet Protocol networking.



## POLICY UPDATE

### **GNSO and ccNSO Approve Final Framework for Future Cross-Community Working Groups**

In October 2016, the Council of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) **approved** the Final Framework of Operating Principles for Future Cross-Community Working Groups (CCWGs), followed by the Council of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) approval in November 2016. This Final Framework was developed by the **Cross Community Working Group to Develop a Framework of Principles for Future CCWGs (CWG Principles)**, which was jointly chartered by the GNSO and the ccNSO. The adoption by the GNSO and ccNSO Councils marks the official completion of work on the CWG Principles. A CCWG is a mechanism that allows two or more of any of ICANN Supporting Organizations (SOs) and Advisory Committees (ACs) to work together to address issues that are of common interest and do not fall within the sole remit of one SO or AC. The Final Framework intends to provide a general outline for the establishment, operations and closure of CCWGs, and will highlight certain principles that are considered fundamental to the effective functioning of a CCWG. **[Read the Final Framework here.](#)**

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### **CCWG on New gTLD Auction Proceeds Calls for Volunteers**

To date, over 230 million USD has been accrued through ICANN's authorized auction services to resolve string contention in the New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Program. A Cross-Community Working Group has been formed and will be tasked with developing one or more proposals on a mechanism to allocate these auction proceeds. Once the proposal is developed, its Chartering Organizations and the ICANN Board will consider the proposals. The CCWG is open to anyone interested. If you would like to volunteer for this effort, you can become an individual participant or a mailing list observer, or can respond to public consultations when these are held. In addition, each Chartering Organization will appoint up to five members to keep its respective group up to date on progress and deliberations. The CCWG is expected to convene for its first meeting the week of 23 January 2017. [Learn how to join here.](#)

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## Customer Standing Committee Begins Monthly Reporting on PTI

Byron Holland, Chair of the Customer Standing Committee (CSC), provided the country code top-level domain (ccTLD) community with the first monthly reports (October 2016 and November 2016) on how Public Technical Identifiers (PTI) is performing the IANA naming function. The CSC concluded that overall PTI performance was satisfactory - that PTI met its service level agreements. The CSC is aware of minor issues, but noted no trends. The CSC is in an ongoing discussion with PTI on how to remediate these issues. No persistent problems were identified, so no further action is needed. More background on the CSC and other useful information, including the full PTI reports, can be found [here](#).

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## GNSO Council Approves Review Implementation Plan

On 15 December 2016, the GNSO Council [approved](#) the plan developed by the [GNSO Review Working Group](#) to implement the 34 recommendations in the [GNSO Review Final Report](#). The Implementation Plan suggests a three-phased prioritization approach and specifies for each recommendation its dependencies, owner, resource requirements, budget effects and implementation steps. The ICANN Board will now consider adopting the proposed implementation plan. Following approval by the ICANN Board, the GNSO Review Working Group will execute and oversee the implementation, provide the GNSO Council with regular status updates, and identify any questions or concerns. [Learn more about the Implementation Plan.](#)

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## Two Candidates Proceed to Next Stage in Selection of At-Large Board Director

On 16 December 2016, the Board Candidate Evaluation Committee (BCEC) concluded its evaluation of the six applicants who submitted their expressions of interest for the ICANN Board Director position selected by the At-Large Community. The BCEC named Alan Greenberg and Leon Felipe Sanchez Ambia to proceed to the next stage, which is managed by the Board Member Selection Process Committee. The selection process will conclude by Friday, 21 April 2017, with the announcement of the successful candidate on that date. [Learn more about the process.](#)

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## ICANN Academy Begins a Pilot Program for Enhancing Chairing Skills

The ICANN Academy Working Group started a new course this month - the Chairing Skills Program. This course aims to help ICANN community leaders improve their effectiveness when chairing a working or community group. The program has two sessions: skills for chairing teleconferences, which began in January 2017, and skills for chairing in-person meetings, which will take place around the time of ICANN58. A professional coach from Incite Learning and multiple ICANN community coaches will facilitate this program. Besides providing a general framework and guidelines on developing chairing skills, coaches will observe their trainees during teleconferences and in-person meetings and provide targeted feedback. [Learn more.](#)

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## GNSO Council Submits Review of the GAC ICANN57 Communiqué

On 15 December 2016, the GNSO Council [adopted](#) the GNSO Review of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) ICANN57 Communiqué. Subsequently, the GNSO Council submitted the Review to the ICANN Board. The Review provides feedback on gTLD-related issues in the GAC Communiqué. The issues include future gTLDs policies and procedures, mitigation of domain name abuse, and two-letter country/territory codes at the second-level. The Review specifies whether those issues are within the remit of the GNSO, whether they are subject to existing or ongoing GNSO policy development work, and how the

GNSO will deal with them. This Review aims to promote coordination and information-sharing among the GAC, GNSO and ICANN Board on gTLD-related policy activities. [Read the Review here.](#)

## GAC Looks to 2017

On 15 December 2016, the GAC and the ICANN Board had a conference call relating to the GAC ICANN57 Communiqué. The call was organized by the ICANN Board-GAC Implementation Working Group. The purpose of the call was to make sure that the interpretation of the GAC Advice in the ICANN57 Communiqué is coherent and that both parties have a common understanding of what the GAC intended and can expect in terms of answers from the ICANN Board. Furthermore, following positive initial comments from GAC members at ICANN57, the GAC is considering participating as a chartering organization in the Cross-Community Working Group on New gTLD Auction Proceeds. Looking ahead to ICANN58, a survey has been launched within the GAC to help prioritize which matters must be addressed at ICANN58, and which topics can be handled through intersessional calls or email exchanges.



### GDD UPDATE



## New Report Presents Accuracy of WHOIS Data in gTLDs

In December 2016, ICANN published the latest WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System (ARS) report. WHOIS data is information about registered domains. The data is publicly available and includes the name, address, email and phone number of the registrant or registrar. Because WHOIS data connects individuals or organizations with domain names, registrants are required to provide accurate and reliable contact details. The WHOIS ARS project tests syntax and operability accuracy of WHOIS records in generic top-level domains (gTLDs). A report of findings is

published quarterly. [Read the key findings](#) or [listen to a recording](#) of the webinar about the latest report.

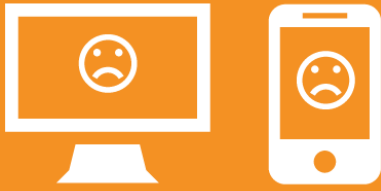
## Two-Character Second-Level ASCII Domain Names Authorized for Release

On 13 December 2016, ICANN authorized the release of all letter/letter two-character ASCII labels at the second-level for registry operators that implement "Measures for Letter/Letter Two-Character ASCII Labels to Avoid Confusion with Corresponding Country Codes." The measures - adopted by the ICANN Board during ICANN57 - provide a standardized framework to help Internet users avoid confusion between country codes and corresponding letter/letter two-character domain names. This change is the result of more than two years of work by members of the Internet community and the ICANN organization. [Read the measures.](#)



## Help Make Universal Acceptance a Priority!

Universal Acceptance addresses technical issues that prevent Internet users from successfully completing online transactions. Problems can arise when applications reject or do not treat all parts of domain names correctly, which can occur when domain names are longer than three characters or are in different languages and scripts. Worldwide adoption of Universal Acceptance will enable a truly multilingual Internet, which will help bring the next billion users online.



If you've found an application or system that's not Universal Acceptance-ready, **report the issue**. Our Global Support Center will track and work to resolve all reported issues. Interested in learning more about Universal Acceptance? Visit [uasg.tech](http://uasg.tech).

## Updated gTLD Marketplace Health Index Published

On 21 December 2016, ICANN published an update to the gTLD Marketplace Health Index (Beta), which presents statistics and trends related to generic top-level domains (gTLDs). The index was first published in July 2016. ICANN 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. A community advisory panel is working with ICANN to refine the index in preparation for publishing version 1.0. Read the [gTLD Marketplace Health Index \(Beta\)](#).

### gTLD Marketplace Health Index



## DELEGATED TLDs

### Ten New gTLDs Were Delegated in December

catholic	□□□, "Catholic", /tianzhujiao/
كاثوليك, "Catholic", /katholik/	католик, "Catholic", /katolik/
hair	hospital
phone	mobile
data	fun

[+](#) READ MORE



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us at these upcoming events in the APAC region:

- [ICANN57 Readout](#) | 19 January 2017 | Tokyo, Japan
- [Asian, Australasian and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization \(APRALO\) - APAC Hub Webinar](#) | 20 January 2017 | 05:00 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)
- [South Asia Network Operators Group \(SANOG 29\)](#) | 23-30 January 2017 | Islamabad, Pakistan
- APAC Space Web Conference | 16 February 2017 | 03:00 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)



- [ICANN FY17 Q2 Stakeholder Call](#) | 15 February 2017 | 15:00 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)
- [Asia Pacific Regional Internet Conference on Operational Technologies \(APRICOT\) 2017](#) | 20 February - 2 March 2017 | Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- [ICANN58](#) | 11-16 March 2017 | Copenhagen, Denmark

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

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