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Policy Update



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Feedback



¡Felices Fiestas! Boas Festas

كل عام وأنتم بخير

İyi Tatiller

节日快乐！

Joyeuses fêtes!

Счастливых праздников!

Happy Holidays



One World, One Internet

President's Corner: Closing Out 2016

It's been a big year - for ICANN - and for me, personally. I've traveled around the world, meeting and working together with many of you. It has been a pleasure, and I want to thank all of you for your hard work this year.

This year, the ICANN community came together, trusting each other, to create the final proposals and complete the IANA stewardship transition, after many years of compromise and collaboration. The success of this effort is a real testament to the strength of the multistakeholder model in tackling issues like this.

The result of these efforts is that ICANN is truly rooted in accountability. The entire ICANN ecosystem is more accountable to each other and to you. Thank you for that.

As we look ahead at what the next year will bring, my focus, as CEO of the ICANN organization, is on doing what we do even better, under the new mission and bylaws, and supporting our strategic objectives.

Thank you for your patience and support over the course of the past year. I'm looking forward to 2017 - to

meeting more of you and to continue working together. Happy holidays to you and your family. I wish you all the best in the New Year.

Regards,
Göran Marby
ICANN President and CEO



SPOTLIGHT

Reflecting on the Africa Strategy at ICANN57



ICANN's Pierre Dandjinou (left) is recognized by Dr. Jimson Olufuye for ICANN's work in Africa.

ICANN57 was the first ICANN Public Meeting after 1 October 2016, when the Internet Assigned Names Authority (IANA) functions contract with the U.S. National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) expired. Africa was well represented at this historic meeting, with over 100 participants from 31 countries. The program offered two sessions related to Africa: **Africa Strategy Update** and **Joint AFRALO-AfrICANN Meeting**.

Africa Strategy Update

This session updated participants on the flagship programs in ICANN's Africa strategy over the past three years, including the DNSSEC roadshow, the Africa DNS entrepreneurship program and YouthComm. Participants also learned about some newer initiatives. Our regional partners provided details on other activities, including the Ethiopic label generation rules under the Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) Africa project. The session reinforced ICANN'S involvement with regional partners in the Internet ecosystem.

ICANN's Pierre Dandjinou, VP of Stakeholder Engagement in Africa, received a token gift from Dr. Jimson Olufuye, Chairman of the Africa Information and Communications Technologies Alliance (AfICTA) in recognition of ICANN's continuous support of AfICTA's activities. Thank you, AfICTA!

Joint AFRALO-AfrICANN Meeting

Introduced to the ICANN meetings four years ago by the African Regional Organization (AFRALO), the session is a venue for the African community to meet and discuss progress on the continent's participation in ICANN to date. ICANN's President and CEO Göran Marby addressed the community, highlighting the importance of the IANA functions transition. He thanked African community members for their full involvement in the transition process. During the comment period with Marby, a recurring theme was the need for ICANN to deepen its support in Africa so that Africa can become a true participant and contributor to ICANN's policy development and other activities.



ICANN NEWS

ICANN Participates in IGF in Mexico

The 11th Internet Governance Forum (**IGF 2016**) was held just outside Guadalajara, Mexico, from 6-9 December. This year marked the third time, and second consecutive year, that the setting for the IGF was in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region. Board Chair Stephen Crocker and President and CEO Göran Marby were among many ICANN participants.

The ICANN organization and community organized diverse activities, all well attended. We started the week with ICANN's Town Hall Meeting called "**ICANN - Reflections on the evolution of the multistakeholder model in the context of the IANA Stewardship Transition.**" At the session, Göran Marby looked back on what made the transition successful. "Many people from so many countries came together for the IANA stewardship transition - it's proof the multistakeholder model works."

At Monday's High-Level Meeting, Stephen Crocker stressed that openness is vital to foster innovation and creativity. Marby, speaking at Tuesday's Opening Session, stated that ICANN "will continue to support the IGF at all levels, regionally and nationally."



Göran Marby, ICANN President and CEO, speaks at the ICANN Open Forum at IGF 2016: "The Internet is our shared responsibility - that's why it's so important for you to participate in ICANN."



Read the Post-ICANN57 Reports

ICANN57 Hyderabad was the largest ICANN Public Meeting in our history, with 3,182 checked-in participants. A total of 205 sessions were dedicated to community policy and advice development. As part of ICANN's commitment to transparency, we publish reports after every ICANN Public Meeting. The data in these reports will help ICANN improve future meetings. The post-conference reports are now available in English, and will soon be posted in Arabic, Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish and Turkish.

- The **Post-ICANN57 Policy Report** captures updates from our Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. Our community develops and refines policies that ensure the security, stability, and resiliency of the global Internet, and the ICANN organization is proud to facilitate this work.
- **ICANN57 Community Feedback** gives results of the surveys that asked you to rate the new Annual General Meeting format and the ICANN57 event (sessions, venue, networking opportunities). You can also read constructive feedback from attendees in their own words.
- **ICANN57 By The Numbers** 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.

Register Today for ICANN58 in Copenhagen

Registration is open for ICANN58, which will be held from 11-16 March 2017, in Copenhagen, Denmark. Join us for an opportunity to network with your peers in the community, engage in face-to-face discussions, ask questions and help develop and implement Internet policies. [Register now.](#)



CCWG-Accountability Co-Chairs Issue Statement at ICANN57 Hyderabad

On Wednesday, 2 November, the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG-Accountability) held a [meeting](#) to discuss Work Stream 2. The purpose of Work Stream 2 is to disseminate the new accountability principles into several key parts of ICANN's day-to-day operations, and to develop a culture of accountability across the ICANN community, organization and Board.

Sixty members and participants attended in person, and many others joined the meeting remotely using the virtual meeting room. [Read the full statement.](#)



EUROPE



ICANN's Gabriella Schitteck presents the New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Program in Warsaw, Poland.

Domain (gTLD) Program.

ICANN Participates in Digital Economy Conference in Poland

On 24 November, ICANN participated in the Digital Economy-Management, Innovation, Society and Technology Conference ([DEMIST'16](#)), organized by the Technical University of Warsaw in Poland. The conference, targeting an academic audience, hosted discussions about the direction of changes in the digital market in areas ranging from social behavior to the development of new technologies.

Cooperation with academia in the Central and Eastern European region is central to ICANN's mission, and ICANN was pleased to support the conference. ICANN's Gabriella Schitteck, Global Stakeholder Engagement Manager of Central and Eastern Europe, attended the event, and presented the New Generic Top-Level



EASTERN EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA



Michael Yakushev and Alexandra Kulikova present at the ICANN57 session on ICANN's regional strategy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

First Session on ICANN Regional Strategy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia Held at ICANN57

On 8 November 2016, at the ICANN57 Public Meeting in Hyderabad, India, the Eastern Europe and Central Asia Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE) team held an update session on their regional strategy. This was the first time the team held a public discussion with the community during an ICANN Public Meeting.

Michael Yakushev (VP of Global Stakeholder Engagement in Eastern Europe and Central Asia) and Alexandra Kulikova (Global Stakeholder Engagement Manager of Eastern Europe and Central Asia) presented their work and vision of ICANN's strategic activities in this diverse region of 12 countries covering 9 time zones. Community members were invited to contribute their own ideas and suggestions to the engagement strategy.

At the heart of the discussion was a reiteration of the priority of the security, stability and resiliency of the Domain Name System (DNS). Other topics were the development of the DNS marketplace and engagement of local experts in policy development in ICANN's Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees.

Participants from Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Armenia and Kazakhstan flagged a few issues they expected ICANN to address, including data escrow services for compliance with local data protection legislation, terminology challenges for translation into local languages, and more training opportunities for stakeholder groups.

Review the session's [audio and video recordings](#).



MIDDLE EAST



Participants discuss ICANN's Middle East strategy in Hyderabad, India.

GSE Team Presents the Middle East Strategy at ICANN57

During ICANN57, close to 30 participants attended the Middle East regional update session. Baher Esmat (VP, Stakeholder Engagement for the Middle East) and Fahd Batayneh (Stakeholder Engagement Manager for the Middle East) conducted the session, which showcased:

- ICANN's work in the Middle East since ICANN55 in Marrakech - presented by the ICANN team
- Updates from the DNS Entrepreneurship Center (**DNS-EC**) - presented by Hadia Elminiawi, Director of the DNS-EC
- Work of the Middle East and Adjoining Countries Strategy Working Group (**MEAC-SWG**) and the 2016-2019 draft regional strategy - presented by Walid Alsaqaf, Chair of the MEAC-SWG

We received positive feedback and constructive comments on the new regional strategy and on our regional work in general. Review the session's [presentation materials and audio recordings](#).

ICANN Participates in Regional Cybersecurity Summit in Egypt

From 30 October - 1 November, the Egyptian National Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (**NTRA**) hosted the fifth edition of the Regional Cybersecurity Summit (**RCSS**) in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. The event attracted close to 200 participants, mainly from the local community. Topics at the event included the latest trends and threats and the importance of a networking platform with community emergency response teams, law enforcement agencies and other agencies involved in cybersecurity in the region.

ICANN attended as part of the Middle East regional strategy objective to promote a secure, stable and resilient DNS infrastructure. ICANN's Fahd Batayneh, Stakeholder Engagement Manager for the Middle East, spoke about the Internet's system of unique identifiers in the context of the Internet of Things (IoT), shedding light on dependencies and ICANN's role. He also covered the importance and ICANN's work on deploying DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC).



Last month, close to 200 participants came together at one of the most important cybersecurity events in the region.





Participants gather at UbuntuNet-Connect 2016 in Entebbe, Uganda.

ICANN Reaches Out to Academia at UbuntuNet-Connect 2016

On 3- 4 November, ICANN sponsored the [UbuntuNet-Connect 2016](#) conference in Entebbe, Uganda, as part of our strategic engagement with academia in the region. Around 150 participants from 30 countries, coming from a variety of backgrounds, attended the conference.

ICANN presented work on IDNs and emphasized the leadership of academia in leading the label generation rule panel for the Ethiopic script. ICANN invited the community to contribute to other relevant panels, including the Latin script panel, to support other African languages.

ICANN Attends the West Africa Internet Governance Forum in Niger

The West Africa Internet Governance Forum ([WAIGF](#)) took place 17-18 November in Niamey, Niger. Sani Hadiza Koubra, representing the Minister of Post, Telecommunications and Digital Economy, officially opened the forum. The Internet Society and the African Network Information Center (AFRINIC) were represented at the event. And it was encouraging to see a group of university students at the forum.

Presentations and discussions were on topics such as access and diversity, security and privacy in the Internet age and critical Internet resources. As a sponsor and participant in the event, ICANN's Africa GSE team gave an update on the IANA functions transition and the process to enhance ICANN's accountability to the community.



The theme of the West Africa Internet Governance Forum was using the multistakeholder model to develop the Internet in West Africa.

A key session addressed how to improve the structure of the bodies that coordinate the West Africa IGFs. Participants agreed that the Economic Community of West African States ([ECOWAS](#)) would be a virtual secretariat for the WAIGF, with a coordinator assigned from the community.



PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

Turkish

Read David Olive's interview in one of Turkey's major newspapers:

[David Olive ICANN'i Hürriyet'e anlattı](#)



POLICY UPDATE

ccNSO Councilor Elections

At ICANN57, the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council adopted the [Election Report for the General Council Elections](#) and the [Election Report for the Special Council Elections 2017 for the African Region](#). The following candidates were elected or re-elected as Councilors.

Regular Council Elections

These Councilors will begin their terms at the end of the ccNSO Council meeting at ICANN58:

- Souleymane Oumtanaga (.ci), Africa
- Hirofumi Hotta (.jp), Asia-Pacific
- Nigel Roberts (.jj and .ge), Europe
- Alejandra Reynoso (.gt), Latin America/Caribbean

- Stephen Deerhake (.as), North America

Special Council Election (term ends March 2018)

This Councilor began his term at the end of the ccNSO Council meeting at ICANN57:

- Abdalla Omari (.ke), Africa

Becky Burr stepped down from the ccNSO Council on 7 November 2016. To fill this vacancy on the Council, the ccNSO members in the North American region will **elect a candidate**. The new Councilor will begin service immediately, serving through the end of the term in March 2019.

The ccNSO Council also nominated Chris Disspain to be designated by the Empowered Community Administrative Committee to fill ICANN Board of Directors Seat 11 for a term of three years, which starts at the end of the Annual General Meeting in 2017.

Update on the ccNSO Guidelines Review Committee

The purpose of the Guidelines Review Committee (GRC) is to review existing guidelines and to ascertain whether they reflect current practices and working methods, identify potential gaps, and based on this analysis, propose changes to the ccNSO Council. During its latest **meeting at ICANN57**, the ccNSO Council adopted the guideline **ccNSO Nominations to Specific Review Teams**, as proposed by the ccNSO GRC. You can find documents, meeting recordings and additional information on the **GRC workspace**.

ccNSO Adopts Charter for CCWG on New gTLD Auction Proceeds

The ccNSO Council adopted the **charter of the Cross-Community Working Group (CCWG) on New gTLD Auction Proceeds** and will participate as one of the chartering organizations. A **call for volunteers** to fill the slate of between two and five ccNSO-appointed members was also launched. This call for volunteers is not limited to the country code top-level domain (ccTLD) community. It also targets representatives of organizations closely related to ccTLD managers, which have experience in the areas to be considered by the CCWG on New gTLD Auction Proceeds.

New! RIPE IoT Discussion Mailing List

The Réseaux IP Européen (RIPE) has set up a dedicated **IoT discussion mailing list** for people with an interest in the Internet of Things (IoT) and related topics. During RIPE 73, a group of community members in the RIPE region highlighted the need for more information exchange concerning IoT, especially in light of increasing security concerns around IoT devices.



GDD UPDATE



ICANN Kicks Off Open Data Initiative Pilot

ICANN has launched a pilot project for an initiative that will bring selected ICANN-generated data sets into the open. Various activities produce data related to ICANN's mission of coordinating the Internet's system of unique identifiers, including Domain Name System operations, domain name registration activities, performance monitoring and many other topics. The Open Data Initiative will make data available through web pages and programming APIs for the purposes of external party review and analysis. **Read more...**

Universal Acceptance: Enabling a Multilingual Internet

The world of domain names has changed dramatically - they are now available in many non-Latin scripts, including Hindi, Russian and Greek. Why is it important to make sure every browser, application and system can support and display all domain names correctly? Members of the Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) share their views in a new video. [Click here to watch.](#)



Ram Mohan, UASG Chair and Executive Vice President and CTO at Afiliis, explains the concept of Universal Acceptance.



ICANN's Brad White sits down with David Conrad, CTO, at ICANN57 to chat about the key signing key rollover.

Rolling the Root Zone Key Signing Key

ICANN is changing the "master key" of the Domain Name System. The root zone key signing key consists of a private key and a public key. The private component is securely stored by ICANN, but the public component is widely distributed and configured in a great number of devices, possibly numbering in the millions. In this short video David Conrad, ICANN CTO, talks about why the key is changing, what to expect throughout the rollover process and who needs to take action. [Click here to watch.](#)



DELEGATED TLDs

Eleven New gTLDs Were Delegated in November 2016

FOOD
BOX
CRUISE

AOL
BOSTON
JIO

[See the full list here.](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us at these upcoming EMEA events:

- 14 December 2016 - 2nd Youth Workshop, Tunis, Tunisia
- 25-27 January 2017 - [CPDP 2017: Computers, Privacy & Data Protection](#), Brussels, Belgium
- 15-16 February 2017 - [Turkey DNS Forum](#), Istanbul, Turkey
- 29-31 March 2017 - [RightsCon 2017](#), Brussels, Belgium

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

ISTANBUL HUB CONTACT DETAILS
ISTANBUL, TURKEY

Hakki Yeten Cad. Selenium
Plaza No:10/C K:10
34349 Fulya, Besiktas,
Istanbul,
Turkey

Tel: +90.212.999.6222



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