Dear friends from the Latin America and the Caribbean Region,

As 2018 is just around the corner, I want to thank you again for this productive year of activities in our region.

One of this year’s highlights is our new International Office Strategy. As Göran Marby, ICANN CEO and President, explained in a blog published in June 2017, we’ve moved from having three global hubs to having five regional offices - and Montevideo, Uruguay is now one of them. We now also have a strategic partnership in Asunción, Paraguay, that will help us reach even more stakeholders in the region. Finally, I am pleased to be the Managing Director for Montevideo, serving the Latin American and Caribbean region.

This was also a proud year for our region as León Sánchez Ambía (Mexico) began his three-year term as an ICANN Board Director at the end of ICANN60. With León’s election on February 2017 by the At-Large Community, our region now has two representatives on the ICANN Board. Rafael Lito Ibarra (El Salvador) started his term in October 2015 and will end it at our 2018 Annual General Meeting.

We also have news from our LAC Strategic Plan. Please stay tuned for our 2017 LAC Year in Review Report, where we will share what we did during the year and you can expect in 2018. We also produced a trifold in April 2017 where you can learn how you can get involved.

I look forward to next year! 2018 will be the fifth anniversary of our regional strategy and we hope to celebrate all our achievements with you. I know I’ll also see many friends from the Latin American and the Caribbean region in Puerto Rico for ICANN61. I’m excited about ICANN coming back to the region for ICANN62 in Panama.

Thank you again for your tireless support and enthusiastic work. I wish you and your loved ones a wonderful holiday season and a successful 2018!

Rodrigo de la Parra

ICANN’s VP for Latin America and the Caribbean, and Managing Director of the Montevideo regional office

Universal Acceptance Around the World

At ICANN60, community members discussed why Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) and Email Address Internationalization (EAI) are essential to enabling users to communicate and navigate the Internet entirely in their local languages. Watch this video to hear their stories and learn how
Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) members are helping make the vision of a truly multilingual Internet a reality.

**ICANN Office of the Ombudsman 2017 Annual Report**

Herb Waye, ICANN Ombudsman, is pleased to announce the publication of the ICANN Office of the Ombudsman 2017 Annual Report. The report is available in English, and will soon be posted in all official ICANN languages. [View the report.](#)

**ICANN Community Onboarding Pilot Program Call for Nominations by SOs/ACs**

On 20 November, ICANN issued a call for nominations by the Supporting Organizations (SOs) and Advisory Committees (ACs) to the Community Onboarding Pilot (COP) Program for [ICANN61](#). The COP seeks to improve ICANN community newcomer engagement and retention rates through mentorship and knowledge and experience sharing. Nominations are due no later than Friday, 15 December 2017, 23:59 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). Additional details can be found [here](#).

**Transparency of Security Efforts in ICANN**

*Terry Manderson, Senior Director, Network Engineering and Security, ICANN*

Security vulnerabilities in systems are an unfortunate fact of life. The Engineering and Information Technology team in the ICANN organization is working hard on many fronts to protect and enhance the security of our systems. From time to time events occur that result in specific and focused security-related activity that can impact the ICANN org and/or community. Because of our commitment to openness and transparency, we are disclosing the following two events to the community. To our current knowledge, neither of these incidents resulted in any compromise of ICANN data. [Read more...](#)

**Data Protection/Privacy Activity Recap**

*Akram Atallah, President, Global Domains Division; Theresa Swinehart, Senior VP of Multistakeholder Strategy and Strategic Initiatives*

We have just returned from a very busy ICANN60 meeting in Abu Dhabi, where there were many productive community discussions focused on the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). We want to provide you with a brief recap of these dialogues, recent developments and what’s next in terms of the legal analysis. As you’ll recall from previous blogs on this topic, we are taking the following steps to determine the GDPR’s scope of impact: We published a Personal Data Use Matrix based on contributions from stakeholders, and we commissioned a legal analysis from European law firm Hamilton to assess the data in the matrix and answer other questions related to the legislation’s impact. [Read more...](#)
LAC Domain Name System (DNS) Forum
Daniel Fink, ICANN’s Senior Manager, Stakeholder Engagement in Brazil

The fourth LAC DNS Forum was held in the high-tech city of Monterrey, Mexico, on 16 November. This forum was integrated with the Entrepreneurship Festival INCmty and was targeted at this audience. Sessions covered the DNS ecosystem, DNS health index, tips for domain naming and how to keep domains safe, and doing internet and e-commerce business in Mexico.

Thanks to the great support of our host Network Information Center Mexico (NIC.mx), we were able to offer a great live remote participation and high-quality session recordings to share the knowledge with our community. We also appreciate the great support from the Latin American and Caribbean Top-Level Domains Association (LACTLD), the Latin American and Caribbean Network Information Centre (LACNIC), the Internet Society (ISOC), and the Public Interest Registry (PIR). These organizations joined forces and created an unforgettable forum that raises the bar for future editions. Session recordings will be posted here soon - stay tuned!

Other Events in LAC
Last month, ICANN supported Internet Governance Forums in three South American countries:

- **IGF Argentina** (16-17 November)
- **IGF Bolivia** (16-17 November). Rodrigo Saucedo, ICANN’s Senior Manager, LAC Strategy, made a presentation on new generic top-level domains (gTLDs) and innovation.
- **IGF Paraguay** (29-30 November). Daniel Fink, ICANN’s Senior Manager, Stakeholder Engagement in Brazil, was a panelist in the session on the DNS industry.

ICANN also supported two social media day events in Argentina: in Rosario on 10 November, and in Jujuy on 24 November. During those events, the new gTLD program was highlighted. More information here (in Spanish).

Meanwhile in the Caribbean, the 16th Caribbean Ministerial Strategic Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) Seminar was held from 29-30 November in the Bahamas under the theme "Internet imperatives for the Caribbean Single ICT Space." The event highlighted the significant, cross-cutting role that ICT plays in development of every sector, focusing on the growth and development of the Internet and its potential to foster development. Albert Daniels, ICANN’s Senior Manager, Stakeholder Engagement for
LAC Highlights from ICANN60 in Abu Dhabi


The LAC Space, held on 31 October, was well attended. At the session, the LAC community discussed and presented various topics of regional interest.

During the LAC Space and the session on the future of Internet identifiers at ICANN60, Fernando López, representative of the National University of La Plata, and Anthony Harris, representative of CABLE (the Argentine Chamber of Internet), presented a joint project between ICANN and the National University of La Plata to perform tests to explore the potential of persistence in the Digital Object Architecture within the DNS. This is a unique experiment with unique Internet identifiers.

LAC STRATEGIC PLAN NEWS

The South American 2017 LAC-i-Roadshow was 2017’s last edition. It was held in Coquimbo, Chile, on 22 November. Previous LAC-i-Roadshows in 2017 were:

- Guyana (Caribbean LAC-i-Roadshow, October)
- Peru (Andean LAC-i-Roadshow, June)
- Guatemala (Central-America LAC-i-Roadshow, March)

The event in Coquimbo attracted about 50 participants interested in learning more about the Domain Name System. The agenda included presentations from Rodrigo de la Parra, ICANN’s VP for Latin America and the Caribbean, and Rodrigo Saucedo, ICANN’s Senior Manager, LAC Strategy. The agenda is available here (in Spanish).

GDD UPDATE

Transferring Your Domain Name

Are you up to date on how to transfer your domain name? Let us help you learn the five things every domain name registrant should know about ICANN’s transfer policy, including the rules and specific steps registrants must follow to ensure a proper transfer. Read more.

Identifying Natural Disasters as Extenuating Circumstances

You never know when or how dramatically a natural disaster will impact your business or your ability to maintain day-to-day business operations. We have recently learned that registrants affected by Hurricane Maria may not be able to renew their domain names due to ongoing power and telecommunications issues.

In light of these events, ICANN has identified Hurricane Maria as...
an extenuating circumstance as part of RAA section 3.7.5.1. This event highlights the potential need for a policy initiative to protect registrants in the event of natural disasters. Read more in this blog.

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**DELEGATED NEW GTLDS**

No New gTLDs Were Delegated in October and November 2017

See the full list here.

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**POLICY UPDATE**

**ccNSO Elects Nigel Roberts to ICANN Board Seat 12**

On Thursday, 30 November, the ccNSO elected Nigel Roberts to ICANN Board Seat 12. Nigel Roberts will begin his term at ICANN63, replacing Mike Silber, who will be concluding his third term.

**GNSO Council Updates**

- Councilors of the 21-member Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council, as well as liaisons from the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) and Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), began their terms at the end of ICANN60. Learn more.
- The GNSO Council appointed Julf Helsingius as the GNSO Liaison to the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) through the end of ICANN63. This appointment is expected to be reconfirmed annually.
- The "Introduction to the GNSO" ICANN Learn course was updated last month. The course is aimed mostly at newcomers, but also helps veterans refresh their knowledge. Topics include GNSO stakeholder groups and constituencies, the GNSO policy development process, and ways to keep current with the GNSO.

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**At-Large Community Activities**

- During ICANN60, the At-Large community’s accomplishments included a joint advice statement with the GAC and a successful General Assembly of the Asian, Australasian, and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO). The joint statement advises ICANN to develop a simple and efficient document management system and to produce easy-to-understand executive summaries for all relevant issues. For details, read the Post-ICANN60 Policy Report.
New ALAC members and liaisons and RALO leaders and Nominating Committee delegates began their terms at the end of ICANN60. The five-member ALAC leadership team has been formed with Alan Greenberg as chair, and Maureen Hilyard and Bastiaan Goslings as vice chairs.

At-Large members will participate in the Internet Governance Forum in Geneva, Switzerland, scheduled for 18-21 December. They will contribute as speakers and participants in various workshops and will conduct outreach activities at the At-Large booth. Learn more.

What's New with ICANN Reviews?

Participate in the Public Comment on the updated report of the Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review (CCT). You have the opportunity to review and give feedback on two new pieces of content: the results of a new generic top-level domain (gTLD) cost impact survey and the Statistical Analysis of Domain Name System (DNS) Abuse in gTLDs Final Report. Share your comments here.

How effectively do you feel the Root Server Advisory Committee (RSSAC) is fulfilling its role? Share your input in this community survey that will inform the RSSAC2 Review.

Bookmark the wiki landing pages to follow the progress of and opportunities to participate in Specific Reviews:

- ATRT3
- RDS-WHOIS2
- SSR2
- CCT

Since November 2017, Miguel Ignacio Estrada has been the newly appointed General Manager of LACTLD. Before joining LACTLD, he worked as an Internet policy consultant and was the National Director of Internet Policies and Development for the Argentinian government. From 2012 to 2016, Estrada was the Manager of Communications at the Argentinian country code
Miguel Ignacio Estrada (Argentina) is a top-level domain (ccTLD) operator, NIC Argentina. During his work at NIC Argentina, he led and launched ICANN’s LAC community website. Estrada started his involvement in ICANN through ISOC. ICANN60 was his sixth ICANN Public Meeting.

**PRESS HIGHLIGHTS**

- Diario El Día de La Serena (Print), [UCN realiza hoy foro organizado por ICANN](portal.nexnews.cl)
- Gerencia Magazine (Online): [Realizarán foro para debatir sobre el Sistema de Nombres de Dominio (DNS) de Internet](emb.cl)
- Mundo en Línea (Online): [Coquimbo será sede del primer foro en Chile diseñado para debatir sobre el Sistema de Nombres de Dominio (DNS) de Internet](mundoenlinea.cl)
- Transmedia (Online): [Chile será sede del primer foro para debatir sobre el Sistema de Nombres de Dominio de Internet](transmedia.cl)
- La Serena (Online): [Por primera vez en Chile se realiza foro para debatir sobre el Sistema de Nombres de Dominio de Internet](laserenaonline.cl)
- UCN (Online): [Por primera vez en Chile se realiza foro para debatir sobre el Sistema de Nombres de Dominio de Internet](noticias.ucn.cl)
- Alumni UCN (Online): [Por primera vez en Chile se realiza foro para debatir sobre el Sistema de Nombres de Dominio de Internet](egresados.ucn.cl)
- NIC Chile (Online): [ICANN organiza en Coquimbo foro regional sobre Gobernanza de Internet](nic.cl)
- El Día (Online): [UCN será sede del 1º foro en Chile para debatir sobre el Sistema de Nombres de Dominio de Internet](diarioeldia.cl)
- La Voz del Norte (Online): [Coquimbo será sede del primer foro en Chile para debatir sobre el Sistema de Nombres de Dominio (DNS) de Internet](lavozdelnorte.cl)
- Mediatelecom (Online): [Coquimbo será sede del primer foro en Chile para debatir sobre el Sistema de Nombres de Dominio (DNS) de Internet](mediatelecom.com.mx)
- Infogate (Online): [Coquimbo será sede del primer foro en Chile diseñado para debatir sobre el Sistema de Nombres de Dominio (DNS) de Internet](infogate.cl)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

| 12-14 December | 33 Meeting of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (COM/CITEL) | Punta Cana, Dominican Republic |
ICANN AROUND THE WORLD

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- Los Angeles, U.S.A (Headquarters)
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- Istanbul, Turkey
- Montevideo, Uruguay
- Singapore

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