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
Dear Friends from the Latin American and the Caribbean Region,

Another year is coming to a close. 2016 has been an intense and fruitful year for engagement activities in our region. Of course, I must start with the happy ending to the two-year process leading up to the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) stewardship transition. I am deeply grateful to all of you for your involvement in this process.

It was unfortunate that the ICANN Public Meetings were moved from Panama and Puerto Rico this year, but I hope that our mitigation plan succeeded in making up for the missed engagement opportunities. I was particularly happy with the third Latin American and Caribbean Domain Name System Forum (III LAC DNS Forum), which our CEO Göran Marby attended. The meeting was held in the Dominican Republic, marking the first time the meeting was held outside an ICANN meeting.

During the year we launched CEI LAC - our Entrepreneurship and Internet Center - in Asunción, Paraguay, in partnership with the Secretaría Nacional de Tecnologías de la Información y Comunicación (SENATICs) and the Latin American and Caribbean Top-Level Domain Association (LACTLD), and many other partners that participate actively in the Consultative Committee. With the support of community members Michele Neylon and León Sanchez, we held the first training in key aspects of the DNS. Thanks!

Also in 2016 we published the LAC DNS Marketplace Study. You've responded positively and have told us that you find it useful. We're happy to see engagement and interaction from our community, and are ready to work with you to implement the recommendations from the study.

We held two sessions of the LAC Space, at ICANN55 Marrakech and ICANN57 Hyderabad. The LAC Space has become a consolidated space for our region during ICANN Public Meetings.

Also, by year's end, the LAC-i-Roadshow will have made four stops (Philipsburg, Sint Maarten; Tegucigalpa, Honduras; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and soon in Quito, Ecuador). At these events, we're noticing an increased interest in key topics like new generic top-level domains (gTLDs), Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6) and Security, Stability and Resiliency (SSR).

You can see that in 2016 we implemented many great new projects from the LAC Strategy. There's so much to share! More details will come in our 2016 LAC Year in Review report. Please stay tuned.

We have seen an increasing number of LAC stakeholders participating actively in ICANN. I would like to thank our community for the understanding and support that helped make this happen. We should all be proud of this achievement. I feel grateful and privileged to work with this amazing LAC community.

Finally, I wish you and your loved ones a restful holiday and the best in the coming year. May 2017 be as successful as 2016 has been for the ICANN community.

Rodrigo de la Parra
ICANN's Vice President for Latin America and the Caribbean

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.

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**Post-ICANN57 Policy Report**

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.

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**ICANN57 Community Feedback**

The ICANN57 Community Feedback report 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.

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**ICANN57 By The Numbers**

The ICANN57 By The Numbers 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.

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**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.

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**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.
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.”

LAC-i-Roadshow 2016 Makes a Stop in South America

On 29 November, ICANN and the Cámara Argentina de Internet (CABASE) hosted the 2016 South American edition of the LAC-i-Roadshow.* Discussion topics pertained to the DNS critical infrastructure, and included SSR issues and the impact of the New gTLD Program. The group also addressed specific topics of interest to the Argentinian audience. See the agenda (in Spanish).

This is the third South American roadshow organized since the project was launched in 2014, and the first one in Argentina. (Previous South American editions were held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and Asunción, Paraguay).

*The LAC-i-Roadshow is part of the LAC Strategy, which was developed by the different stakeholder groups from the Latin American and Caribbean region represented at ICANN. Its goal is to raise awareness across the region on key topics related to the DNS critical infrastructure.

LAC Community Assembles in Hyderabad

During ICANN Public Meetings, the Latin American and Caribbean Space, better known as the LAC Space, serves as a place where our community can come together and ask questions and discuss economic issues. About 40 people attended the LAC Space in Hyderabad.

Participants learned about two projects in the LAC region that relate to the Internet ecosystem and the DNS marketplace.

- Stacie Walsh and Mark McFadden from InterConnect Communications spoke about the LAC DNS Marketplace Study. The study identifies and defines the strengths and weaknesses in the industry ecosystem in the region, and develops recommendations on how to advance the industry and bring it closer to available...
Hub in Brazil enables remote participation in Hyderabad meeting.

Nicolas Caballero from SENATICs Paraguay introduced participants to the Centro de Emprendimiento e Internet (Entrepreneurship and Internet Center) that was inaugurated in October. The center’s goal is to contribute to the evolution of the Internet ecosystem in the Latin American and the Caribbean region.

Caribbean Lunch at ICANN57 Promotes New Connections
A working lunch was held at ICANN57 to promote relationship building and discussion among Caribbean meeting participants. Attendees came from the At-Large, Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), Address Supporting Organization (ASO) and Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns (NPOC) constituencies. Also attending was ICANN Board member Lito Ibarra.

The main topics discussed were:

- ICANN LAC DNS Marketplace Study
- ICANN LAC Mitigation Strategy
- LAC Strategy Project: Caribbean Working Group

Attending ICANN57 Through Remote Hub in Brazil
São Paulo was connected to the ICANN57 Hyderabad meeting through a hub prepared by InternetLab. The local event, held 7-8 November, started with a mini-course on ICANN and the Internet governance ecosystem delivered by Dr. Daniel Oppermann, researcher from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. He conducted a fun and interactive simulation of a new gTLD application process, which included dividing the audience into five groups, all disputing the same simulated new domain name.

On the second day, the group met to follow the meeting in Hyderabad. They watched the Opening Ceremony and the Public Forum. The group also participated in the Fellowship training days and sessions of the Brand Registry Working Group and Governmental Advisory Committee. Another highlight was connecting through Skype with Brazilian stakeholders in India. They had two calls - one with Diego Canabarro and Vinicius W.O. Santos from CGI.br, and the other with Vanda Scartezini from Polo Consultores Associados.

Many thanks to all participants, InternetLab leaders (Chico Brito Cruz, Dennys Antoniali, Mariana Valente, Clarice Tambelli) and to Professor Oppermann for the lessons in "ICANNese"!

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.

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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.

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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...

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

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.

Eleven New gTLDs Were Delegated in November 2016
See the full list here.

.AOL
.BOX
.RELIANCE

.FREE
.MOTO
.BOSTON

.FOOD
.CRUISE
.RMIT

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY

Maritza Y. Aguero Minano is a Peruvian lawyer specializing in intellectual property and new technologies. She is a researcher and also teaches at three of the most prestigious Peruvian universities. Her involvement with ICANN began as a Fellow at ICANN47 Durban, where she realized that there were many remaining challenges for the Internet community to address.

She is currently Secretary of the Latin American and Caribbean Islands Regional At-Large Organization (LACRALO), a position she embraces enthusiastically.

She considers that the main challenge for her region is to get more women involved in Internet issues. She wants women to understand that through education and communication, the Internet can be a tool that empowers them to change lives.
Her call to action: "Why aren't we doing more to inspire women everywhere? Let's democratize our cyberworld!"

Spanish

- El .com es cosa del pasado, ICANN revolucionará el Internet

English

- ICANN backs Caribbean technology development
- Raising The Guardians of The Caribbean Internet
- CaribNOG 12 off to a successful start in St Maarten

UPCOMING EVENTS

15 December  LAC-i-Roadshow Andean Region 2016  Quito, Ecuador

(More information on Twitter @icann_es or on icannlac.org.)