The Latin American Telecommunications Congress (CLT) is the most important forum for public policy and information and communications technology in our region. The fourth CLT16 assembled political authorities, senior executives, members of the technical community and academia, and international experts from the digital ecosystem.

CLT16 has provided a forum for debating the most important issues in the industry and for building a common agenda. It's clear that we require new regulatory framework for the digital ecosystem. We need more investment in telecommunications networks, more spectrum, more commercial flexibility, better quality of service and user protections, more infrastructure competition, lower tax burdens, more public-private partnership. We live in an era of convergence, which forces us to rethink our policies and regulatory frameworks. We must establish new rules if we want to maximize the potential benefits for consumers and if we want all players to be able to compete on equal terms.

Latin America has undergone a digital revolution and faces both challenges and opportunities in closing the digital divide and moving from Internet consumption to Internet production.

Networks and telecommunications services are the most advanced infrastructure in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region. We can move toward the information society if governments, regulators, companies and international organizations have a shared agenda and work hand in hand.

We have the talent, creativity and entrepreneurial spirit to build a single digital networked economy. In this economy, we can implement public policies that encourage the development of Internet content, applications and services - from the region, for the region and for the world.

By Pablo Bello, Secretary General
Asociación Interamericana de Empresas de Telecomunicaciones (ASIET)
Preserving the Security, Stability and Resiliency of the Internet

ICANN and Verisign have completed discussions and negotiations for the Root Zone Maintainer Services Agreement (RZMA).

The RZMA is intended to maintain stable, secure and reliable operations of the root zone for direct root zone management service customers (registry operators, registrars and root server operators). The security and stability of the Internet’s domain name system is also maintained, due to an extension of the .com Registry Agreement that coincided with the term of the new RZMA.

- The RZMA has been posted for a 30-day public review period.
- The Proposed Amendment to the .com Registry Agreement has been posted for a 43-day public comment period.

Read more...

CCWG-Accountability Launches Work Stream 2 in Helsinki

Over 70 individuals met in Helsinki for a full-day meeting of the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG-Accountability) to begin introductory discussions on Work Stream 2. Joined by many other participants via Adobe Connect, the group started conversations on each of the nine Work Stream 2 topics, ranging from diversity across ICANN to the role and function of the Ombudsman. Many participants presented their views on specific topics of their choosing by hosting five-minute "lightning talks," which sparked many healthy debates throughout the day. Co-Chair Thomas Rickert concluded the meeting by praising the group’s accomplishments and recognizing that it had a clearer path to developing its Work Stream 2 Report.

If you are interested in becoming a participant or observer of the CCWG-Accountability, please send an email to acct-staff@icann.org.

Read the Co-Chairs' blog leading into ICANN56.

Open Public Comment and Public Review Periods

Public Comment Periods:

- Proposed Amendment to .COM Registry Agreement (30 June-12 August 2016)
- Draft Post-Transition IANA Articles of Incorporation (1 July-31 July 2016)
- Draft Post-Transition IANA Bylaws (8 July-7 August 2016)
- Draft Post-Transition Governance Documents (8 July-7 August 2016)

Public Review Period:

- Root Zone Maintainer Agreement (30 June-30 July)

Watch Wrap-Up of First Policy Forum in Helsinki

ICANN's Duncan Burns speaks with Board Chair Steve Crocker and ICANN CEO Göran Marby. Crocker and Marby look back on ICANN56, discussing how the policy focus changed the dynamics of the meeting. They also give an update on the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Transition in light of the recent report from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Watch the video.
2016 Multistakeholder Ethos Award Recognizes Two Members of the Global Internet Community

ICANN is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2016 Multistakeholder Ethos Award. This year, the community evaluation panel recognized two long-time members of the ICANN community: Chuck Gomes and Keith Davidson. The awards were presented on 27 June at ICANN56 in Helsinki, Finland.

The Multistakeholder Ethos Award honors members of the ICANN community who have made outstanding contributions to ICANN's multistakeholder model of Internet governance.

Read more...

Celebrating 200 At-Large Structures

On 23 June, ICANN celebrated an exciting milestone in the history of the At-Large Community - the At-Large Advisory Committee has accredited the 200th organization as an At-Large Structure (ALS).

From the Arctic to the Cook Islands, ALSes form the basis of the At-Large Community, which represents the best interests of Internet users in ICANN’s multistakeholder model. Across the world's five geographic regions, 92 countries and territories now have ALSes, with 42 in Africa, 44 in Asia Pacific, 37 in Europe, 50 in Latin America and the Caribbean Islands, and 27 in North America.

Read more...

Call for Volunteers for SSR2 Review Team

ICANN is looking for volunteers to serve on the Second Security, Stability and Resiliency of the DNS Review Team (SSR2-RT). The Call for Volunteers for SSR2-RT will open on 30 June 2016 and will
We are seeking a diverse team that reflects gender and geographic diversity. We’ve developed a presentation that describes the team, its work and the expertise needed. Please help spread the word!

**Webinar: Mitigation Plan for LAC Region**

Earlier this year, ICANN decided to move ICANN56 from Panama City, Panama, to Helsinki, Finland, and ICANN57 from San Juan, Puerto Rico, to Hyderabad, India. ICANN’s Global Stakeholder Engagement team drafted a mitigation plan to alleviate the negative repercussions from the decisions. On 16 June, the team hosted a webinar and outlined the plan.

Areas of focus include:

- **Local events.** Identify key events in the region and provide additional engagement opportunities for our LAC community.
- **Regional and global events.*** Provide additional support for people in the LAC region to attend: LACNIC-LACNOG, LACTLD Workshop, LAC DNS Forum, LACIGF, Caribbean IGF and Global IGF.
- **Remote hubs.** Organize strategic remote hubs in the region for ICANN56 and ICANN57.
- **Webinars and read-out sessions.** Coordinate webinars leading up to ICANN56 and ICANN57 and read-out sessions afterward to debrief the community on highlights of the meetings.
- **Leadership presence.** Identify events in the LAC region where the presence of the ICANN leadership (CEO, Executive Team) and other experts would benefit the region (e.g., LAC DNS Forum in August 2016).

* Latin American and Caribbean Internet Addresses Registry (LACNIC)
  Latin American and Caribbean Network Operators Group (LACNOG)
  Latin American and Caribbean Country Code Top-Level Domain Association (LACTLD)
  Latin American and Caribbean Domain Name System Forum (LAC DNS Forum)
  Latin American and Caribbean Internet Governance Forum (LACIGF)

Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

Adobe Connect recording (English) | Audio (English) | Audio (Spanish)

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**Göran Marby Emphasizes Global Diversity in Internet Governance**
From 21-23 June, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) held its Ministerial on the Digital Economy in Cancún, Mexico. This year's Ministerial focused on the effect information and communications technologies have on economic and social structures, and the role an open Internet plays in generating growth and innovation. ICANN's CEO Göran Marby participated in the panel "Economic and Social Benefits of Internet Openness." He spoke about the importance of safeguarding the Internet for everyone, the need for global diversity in Internet policymaking and the unique nature of the multistakeholder approach.

Over the past 20 years, the OECD, with 34 member countries, has built a reputation for intelligent and authoritative discourse on the digital economy and the Internet. The OECD held the first Ministerial on the Information Society in 1998 in Ottawa, Canada. At the second Ministerial in 2008 in Seoul, Korea, the group agreed on high-level principles for the Internet. At this event, the technical community was formally recognized as a stakeholder, and took a seat at the table with business, trade unions and civil society.

LAC NextGenners Give Back to the Community
On 14 June, NextGen@ICANN participants hosted the second Governance Primer at Unisinos University in Southern Brazil. The Governance Primer is an initiative by Mark Datysgeld, an ICANN NextGenner, and ICANN's Development and Public Responsibility Department. The idea was to create a smart, informal and open workshop on Internet governance topics for audiences of any level.

Lucas Moura, Unisinos alumnus and fellow NextGenner, led the organization of the event in his home city, Porto Alegre, host to the upcoming Brazilian IGF. Porto Alegre is also home to other ICANN young leaders - Alexandre Arns, Vinicius Linden and Fabricio Solagna. Renata Aquino joined us remotely from Ceará state, on the other side of Brazil. We were also proud to welcome Mr. Luciano Franz, President of InternetSul (a regional Internet service provider association) and Professor Flavio Wagner from CGI.br (the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee).

Many thanks to Unisinos University Professors Daniel Bittencourt, Marcia Diehl, Karine Freire and Gustavo Borba for making this event possible.

Read more about the Governance Primer (in Portuguese).

Watch a short video about the first edition of the Internet Governance Primer.

Interconnection and Peering in the Caribbean
On 8-9 June, the Caribbean Peering and Interconnection Forum (CarPIF) was held in Curaçao. A unique forum, CarPIF provides participants with regional and global insights into how the Caribbean can maximize opportunities for greater local, regional and international interconnection and peering.

Albert Daniels, ICANN’s Senior Manager of Stakeholder Engagement for the Caribbean, spoke at the event. The event was well attended by Caribbean stakeholders and organizations such as: LACNIC, OECS, American Registry for Internet Numbers, Internet Society, Caribbean Network Operators Group, Caribbean Regional Communication Infrastructure Program, Caribbean regulators and Internet service providers.

Read more about CarPIF.

Webinar Highlights GAC and LAC Regional Topics
The seventh LAC webinar, held on 13 June, described how governments can join ICANN’s Government Advisory Committee (GAC). A second focus was building a discussion platform for topics of regional interest in preparation for ICANN56 in Helsinki.

Adobe Connect recording (Spanish) | Audio (Spanish) | Audio (English)

Read the Post-ICANN56 Policy Forum Report!
To learn about the cross-community sessions and accomplishments of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees at ICANN56, read the Post-ICANN56 Policy Forum Report! This new effort captures the important work of the ICANN community on key issues and tracks progress from ICANN Public Meetings in a simple, accessible format.
Now Available! New Findings About the gTLD Market
A global study has found that awareness and trust of generic top-level domains (gTLDs) continue to increase. Wave 2 of the Global Consumer Research Study measured current consumer attitudes towards the gTLD landscape and the Domain Name System (DNS). The study also assessed changes in consumer attitudes from the first wave of the study in 2015. Nielsen conducted the research for ICANN. The results will inform the work of the Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team. For key findings, read the report.

Amending the New gTLD Registry Agreement
On 31 May 2016, ICANN announced that it had posted for public comment a proposed amendment to the base New gTLD Registry Agreement. Like other business contracts, the Registry Agreement needs to be modified occasionally to clarify responsibilities and update terms. We encourage all members of the ICANN community to provide feedback. Comments close on 13 July 2016. Read the blog to learn more, or comment on the proposed amendment.

DNSSEC Validation: What's It All About?
When if you've ever used the Internet to look up something up, you've relied on the Domain Name System, or DNS, to provide give you with the information you requested. Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) is a security technology developed to protects Internet users against attacks that can result in forged DNS responses. DNSSEC validation ensures that DNS information hasn't been modified during transit. To learn more about this technology and important updates that will be implemented in the coming year, read the blog.

Forty-three new gTLDs delegated in June 2016
See the full list here: https://newgtlds.icann.org/en/program-status/delegated-strings
Margarita Valdés Cortés

Margarita Valdés Cortés is currently the Legal and Business Manager of NIC Chile, the registry operator for the .cl domain. She is in charge of designing the administrative and commercial policies and administering the domain name dispute resolution system for the .cl domain. She is also a member of the steering group of NIC Chile. Since 1999, Cortés has been a permanent representative of NIC Chile at ICANN. She is currently a Councilor on the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council, representing the Latin American and Caribbean region. Cortés is the former President of the Latin American and Caribbean Country Code Top-Level Domain Organization (LACTLD).

Cortés is invited frequently to teach postgraduate courses. She's been a professor in the master’s program in new technologies at the University of Chile. She's also taught at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Summer School in Chile.

Cortés earned a law degree from the University of Chile and a master’s degree in business management from Adolfo Ibañez University. Her specialties are intellectual property matters, management and leadership, negotiation, political relations, and the Internet and domain names. At ICANN meetings, Cortés is well known as a jazz singer!

SPANISH:

"Expertos se imaginan el futuro del Internet en 5 años"

"EUA aprueba el traspaso de las funciones de Internet a ICANN"

PORTUGUESE:

"Notícias Unisinos - Governance Primer Unisinos"

"Estados Unidos aprovam proposta para transição das funções IANA"

ENGLISH:

"Dominican Republic to Hold Internet Week, Celebrates 25 Years of .do"

UPCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13-16 July</td>
<td><strong>FISL 17</strong> - International Free Software Forum</td>
<td>Porto Alegre, Brazil</td>
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<tr>
<td>14-15 July</td>
<td><strong>CTO Broadband Caribbean Forum</strong></td>
<td>Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 July</td>
<td><strong>Youth LACIGF 2016</strong></td>
<td>San José, Costa Rica</td>
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<tr>
<td>27-29 July</td>
<td><strong>LACIGF 9</strong></td>
<td>San José, Costa Rica</td>
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AND THE CARIBBEAN

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