NTIA Announces Intent to Allow IANA Functions Contract to Expire 1 October

In a letter to ICANN on 16 August 2016 regarding the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions contract with ICANN, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) stated:

"NTIA has thoroughly reviewed the report. Based on that review, barring any significant impediment, NTIA intends to allow the IANA functions contract to expire as of October 1."

The letter was sent as a result of NTIA’s review of ICANN’s IANA Stewardship Transition Proposal Implementation Planning Status Report, which was submitted to the administration on 12 August. In that report, ICANN informed NTIA that it has completed or will complete all the necessary tasks in advance of 30 September 2016 to allow the IANA functions contract to expire.

ICANN is pleased with NTIA’s statement and is focused on the few remaining tasks to be completed by the end of the month.

Read more...

NIC.DO, the Network Information Center for the Dominican Republic’s .do country code top-level domain (ccTLD), just celebrated the 25th anniversary of the delegation of .do. The event served as a stage for learning, knowledge sharing and discussion of relevant Internet issues.

Internet Week Dominican Republic was an important event for the local Internet community. It gathered together in the Dominican Republic, for the first time, organizations like ICANN, the Latin American and Caribbean ccTLD Association (LACTLD), the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Addresses Registry (LACNIC), ICANN and the Dominican Republic Chapter of the Internet Society (ISOC RD). We were also delighted about the special participation of ICANN’s CEO and President Göran Marby.

The event held parallel sessions for more than 300 people, 85 percent of whom came from the local community. Representatives from government, academia, the technical community and civil society participated in the event.

The week has concluded, and we are grateful for the support we received from the Internet ecosystem organizations that were accompanying us. They helped us to put the Dominican Republic on the map of the countries that are contributing to the development of the Internet.

Clara Collado, NIC.DO Domain Administrator
ICANN Announces Incorporation of PTI
On 12 August 2016, ICANN announced that the incorporation documents for the "Post-Transition IANA" organization were filed and received by the California Secretary of State under the name Public Technical Identifiers (which will now be referred to as PTI). With this filing and receipt, PTI is now formed as a nonprofit public benefit corporation and controlled affiliate of ICANN.

The PTI incorporation documents were drafted to reflect the recommendations of the IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group (ICG) proposal, as provided to the ICANN Board and transmitted to NTIA on 10 March 2016. PTI was formed to perform the naming-related IANA functions under contract with ICANN. However, for purposes of coherence of the IANA functions and overall operational logistics, the ICG proposal also requires that the performance of the IANA numbering and protocol parameter functions be subcontracted to PTI.

Although PTI now exists as a legal entity, it is not yet performing any work. PTI will not perform any services under the IANA functions contract with NTIA. PTI will only start performing the IANA functions upon the successful completion of the transition.

Read more...

ICANN 2016 Nominating Committee Announces Selections
The ICANN 2016 Nominating Committee is pleased to announce its selections for seven leadership positions within ICANN.

ICANN Board of Directors
- Maarten Botterman, Europe
- Cherine Chalaby, Africa
- Khaled Koubaa, Africa

At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)
- Andrey Kolesnikov, Europe
- Javier Rua-Jovet, North America

Council of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)
- Erika Mann, Europe

Council of the Country Codes Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)
- Jian Zhang, Asia/Australia/Pacific Islands

Read more...

SSR2-RT Deadline Extended to 15 September
The 15 September deadline to apply for ICANN's Second Security, Stability and Resiliency of the DNS Review Team (SSR2-RT) is approaching. ICANN is seeking a geographically diverse team of security experts. The team will look at operational stability and resiliency issues relating to the coordination of the Internet's system of unique identifiers.

Read more...
The SSR2 Review Team will assemble candidates with a range of expertise:

- Understanding Internet unique identifiers, including: Domain Name System, Internet Protocol (IP) numbering, autonomous system (AS) numbers, protocol parameters
- Identifying and mitigating abuse within those sectors
- Understanding operation of the DNS root name system
- Understanding malware and abuse vectors and mitigations
- Conducting risk assessment and management
- Understanding corporate incident response

Apply now!

Updates on ICANN57 Hyderabad

Register Now!
The ICANN57 Public Meeting will take place from 3 to 9 November in Hyderabad, India. This third meeting of the year will be ICANN’s Annual General Meeting. To find out what to expect of this meeting format, read this blog.

And if you haven’t already done so, register now! And remember to check our ICANN57 home page frequently for updates.

Important! Visa Requirements for ICANN57
If you are a foreign national traveling to attend ICANN57, you must obtain a conference visa, even if you already have a valid business visa. Nick Tomasso, ICANN’s VP of Meetings, recently posted a blog about the visa application process. This blog is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.

Be sure to bookmark the ICANN57 Travel and Visa and the India Visa Application Guide. ICANN will update the travel page with any news or clarifications about the visa requirements and process.

If you have any questions, email the ICANN visa helpdesk: icann57visasupport@icann.org.

ICANN Hires Top Security Expert
Mark Jardina, an expert in global security and health and safety, has joined ICANN as VP of Security Operations. ICANN is building on existing plans developed in partnership with Control Risks and International SOS.

Jardina will oversee physical security operations. Among his responsibilities are travel advisories (for ICANN meetings, Board meetings and other business-related travel), onsite security at ICANN Public Meetings and events, and security for ICANN offices around the world.

Read the full announcement.

ICANN Announces NextGen@ICANN57
ICANN has selected 15 applicants from various universities in the Asia Pacific region to participate at ICANN57 Hyderabad. These individuals are engaged in a broad range of studies: policy, business, technical, security, law and communications. Additionally, 5 previous NextGenners will serve as ambassadors for these newcomers to ICANN.

An independent selection committee assessed the applications. It selected candidates based on their current studies and interest in Internet governance, the future of the Internet and other topics covered at ICANN meetings. The selected individuals commit to engage with the ICANN community at the meeting, and give a short presentation relating the work of ICANN to their studies.

Read more about the NextGen@ICANN program.

Missed the Quarterly Stakeholder Call?
On 16 August 2016, ICANN held its quarterly stakeholder call for the fourth quarter of the 2016 fiscal year. If you couldn’t attend live, you can access the presentation materials and recordings:

- Download the presentation materials (in English).
- View the Adobe Connect presentation (in English).
- Listen to the recording in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese or Spanish.

ICANN Strengthens Presence in the Caribbean Through Two Important Events

A Week of Internet Activities in the Dominican Republic

Attracting more than 300 participants, Internet Week Dominican Republic was a resounding success. The week offered different workshops that addressed topics from Internet security to Internet governance. The week of events also celebrated the 25th anniversary of the .do domain, organized by the Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra, through NIC.DO.

On 23 August, the central interview of the most-watched morning news show in the country featured our regional VP, Rodrigo de la Parra. For 15 minutes Rodrigo talked about the Latin American and Caribbean Domain Name System Forum (LAC DNS Forum) and the new generic top-level domains (gTLD) program. Watch the interview in Spanish (part 1 | part 2).

On 24-25 August, ICANN (organization and community) hosted the III LAC DNS FORUM. The initiative brought together industry, Internet policy and technical professionals who are interested in issues pertaining to the domain name industry and the business opportunities it can provide. Many media outlets were present at the event.

The event closed with a keynote speech from ICANN’s CEO and President Göran Marby. Another highpoint of the week was the signing a Memorandum of Understanding between ICANN and LACTLD.

CANTO Holds Its 32nd Annual Meeting in Puerto Rico

ICANN sponsored and participated in the recently concluded Caribbean Association of National
CANTO is recognized as the leading trade association of the information and communications technology (ICT) sector. Founded in 1985 as a non-profit association of 8 telephone operating companies, CANTO has now grown to over 120 members in more than 31 countries. CANTO shapes ICT throughout the Caribbean region.

Julian Wilkins, Chairman of CANTO, gave the audience a preview of the high-powered conference attendees. "I am happy to announce that we have 12 ICT ministers in attendance, over 40 regulators from 16 countries, and 33 network operators with more than 100 senior executives. Indeed, this is a historic moment with two of the most powerful men in communications in this region speaking at this event: Denis O'Brien, Chairman of Digicel Group, and John Reid, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Cable & Wireless Communications."

Over the years, regional ministers have become increasingly aware of technical topics. Minister Alvin Dabreo, of Grenada, stated that all Caribbean networks should be made compatible with Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6). Minister Vincent Byron, of St. Kitts and Nevis, said that that each Caribbean territory should have a local root server.

Albert Daniels, Senior Stakeholder Engagement Manager for the Caribbean at ICANN, was an active participant at the meeting. He sat on a panel - with the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN), LACNIC and ISOC - examining how to coordinate the ICT agenda in the Caribbean. While on this panel, Daniels took questions from the floor, including one from the Puerto Rico regulator, who inquired about the status of the Internet Assigned Numbers (IANA) stewardship transition.

Read more about CANTO 32.

LAC DNS Marketplace - Share Your Views on the Report!

In January 2016, ICANN commissioned a study about the DNS marketplace in Latin America and the Caribbean region. The study investigates the current state of Internet and domain name industry, explores best practices for the uptake of domain names and analyzes the ecosystem. It also recommends new business potentials based on global benchmarks and proposes a way forward for the LAC region.

We are proud to have partnered with Oxford Information Labs and LACTLD to develop this project, which was presented during the III LAC DNS Forum in Santo Domingo. As announced there, we will release a detailed report for public comments in September.

ICANN56 Readout Videos - See What Our Region Had to Say!

As part of the mitigation plan for Latin America and the Caribbean, ICANN’s regional team prepared a video that recaps the main highlights of the ICANN56 Helsinki meeting, from the perspective of Latin American and Caribbean participants and community members. This video is available in Spanish, English and Portuguese.
GNSO Council Adopts Response to GAC Communiqué

The Council of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) formally adopted its response to the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) Helsinki Communiqué and transmitted its conclusions to the ICANN Board. The purpose of these reviews is to provide feedback to the ICANN Board as it considers issues referenced in the GAC Communiqué which the GNSO identifies as relevant to generic top-level domains.

Read the GNSO review of the GAC Helsinki Communiqué.

GAC Prepares for ICANN57

The leadership of the GAC has been actively working to create an agenda for ICANN57.

The GAC plans to hold dedicated sessions to meet with the Generic Names Supporting Organization, the At-Large Advisory Committee, the Country Code Names Supporting Organization and the ICANN Board. It will also hold focused discussions on priority topics, including New Generic Top-Level Domains Subsequent Procedures, Work Stream 2 of the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability and various internal matters.

Each GAC working group will each have a one-hour session to advance its work and update the GAC. Also, at the invitation of India, the host country, the GAC will engage in local outreach and capacity-building activities on the first and last days of ICANN57.

ccNSO Members to Elect Councilors and Nominate Candidate for ICANN Board Seat 11

From September to December 2016, Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) members will elect one Councilor from each respective ICANN region. In the event that two or more candidates from the same region are nominated and accept their nomination, an election will be conducted among the members from that region. In addition, there will be a special election in the African region to fill a vacancy on the ccNSO Council. Moreover, ccNSO members will also nominate - and if two or more candidates are nominated, elect - a candidate for ICANN Board Seat 11. The term begins at the Annual General Meeting in 2017. Only ccNSO members, via their primary contacts, are eligible to vote.

Framework of Interpretation Implementation Advisory

The Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) received a request not to contact the administrative and technical contacts listed in the IANA database with issues of delegation or revocation or retirement of a country code top-level domain (ccTLD). Instead, these more serious changes to the IANA database warrant a separate procedure and contact person.

ICANN staff members working on the implementation of the Framework of Interpretation (FOI) have raised some questions on how to implement this request. Based on conversations and input received, the FOI Implementation Advisory Team, consisting of Becky Burr and Keith Davidson, recently advised IANA staff as follows:

- There has been no consistency in the feedback received from the very small pool of ccNSO Councilors. Opening up the consultation to seek more, additional opinions will be no avail.
- IANA should introduce a field to record the instruction from the ccTLD with respect to the approval contact in case of more serious changes to the IANA database. Each ccTLD manager should be asked to give individual instructions.
Fifty new gTLDs delegated in August 2016

See the full list here: https://newgtlds.icann.org/en/program-status/delegated-strings

LATINA
MCDONALDS
AMEX

WALMART
FERRARI
LOFT

ECO
FIAT
CALVIN KLEIN

Nigel Cassimire is an independent telecommunications and ICT consultant. He has over 30 years of experience in the telecommunications industry, with extensive knowledge of telecommunications technologies and services. Since July 2005, Cassimire has been a Telecommunications Specialist at the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU), an intergovernmental organization with its Secretariat in Port of Spain, Trinidad. His areas of focus are telecommunications policy development and ICT planning.

The CTU is an observer member of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) at ICANN. Cassimire has been involved in ICANN since 2006 and has attended seven ICANN Public Meetings!

"ICANN Publishes Plans for Upcoming Key Signing Key Rollover" | LACNIC newsletter article, available in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

SPANISH:
"Internet se alista para atender solicitudes casi infinitas de direcciones y dominios"

"EUA cederá control del sistema DNS a ICANN en octubre"

"Supervisión técnica será global desde el 1 octubre - Tecnología"

"Entrevista a Rodrigo de la Parra sobre III Foro LAC DNS y nuevos gTLDs" | El Despertador, Canal 9 Santo Domingo | Parte 1 | Parte 2

PORTUGUÉS:
"Governo dos EUA deixará de controlar a distribuição de domínios de internet"

"EUA avisam que contrato com IANA termina em 1º de outubro"
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<td>LACNIC 26-LACNOG 2016</td>
<td>San José, Costa Rica</td>
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<td>Salon de l'économie numérique - CONATEL</td>
<td>Port-au-Prince, Haiti</td>
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**ENGAGEMENT CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

“Casa de Internet” for Latin America and the Caribbean  
Rambla República de México 6125  
Montevideo, 11400  
Uruguay

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