North America Newsletter
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MARCH 2016

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TOP STORY

Göran Marby named ICANN President and CEO

AFP PHOTO/JONATHAN NACKSTRAND

ICANN has named Göran Marby as its next President and Chief Executive Officer. Marby is Director-General of the Swedish Post and Telecom Authority and will assume his new position with ICANN in May 2016. He is a Swedish citizen based in Stockholm and will relocate with his family to Los Angeles. Marby will succeed President and CEO Fadi Chehadé, whose term ends on 15 March 2016. Akram Atallah, President of ICANN's Global Domains Division, will be acting CEO from 15 March until Marby arrives. Marby will have a chance to meet with ICANN55 attendees in Marrakech.

Read Marby's full bio and download photos here.

IANA Stewardship Transition and Enhancing ICANN Accountability Update

In January, the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN's Accountability (CCWG-Accountability) finalized three of its twelve recommendations. The group is currently completing a supplemental report that includes revised recommendations for the accountability mechanisms that must be in place or committed to prior to the IANA Stewardship Transition.

The CCWG-Accountability's goal is to reach consensus and distribute its supplemental report to its Chartering Organizations later this month. The Chartering Organizations will consider and, if all goes well, approve the recommendations before or during ICANN55.

Once approved, the CCWG-Accountability will submit the proposal to the ICANN Board for transmission to NTIA along with the ICG Final Proposal.

Read the full update here.

Only 21 Days Away from ICANN55 in Marrakech

ICANN|55
MARRAKECH
5 – 10 March 2016

If you plan to attend ICANN55, do register and make visa arrangements as soon as possible. It is important to determine whether you need a visa and to obtain one to secure entry. Visit Morocco's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation website for a complete list of exempt countries. If you need a visa, click here to request formal invitation letters for the meeting. You'll also need to contact your nearest Moroccan diplomatic mission to apply for a visa. If Morocco does not have diplomatic representation in your country, please submit your application directly to the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Consular and Social Affairs via email: m.barrada@maec.gov.ma or zaidi@maec.gov.ma with the following attached documents:

- Copy of valid passport (at least six month of validity).
- Copy of the invitation letter.
- Flight details (if available).

And for safety and security information, please read the latest blog by ICANN's Nick Tomasso, Vice-President, Meetings.

Don't forget to register for ICANN55 here and see you in Marrakech!

Interested in Learning about ICANN's Progress During FY16 Q2?

Did you miss ICANN's FY16 Q2 Stakeholder Call on 28 January? Not to worry! You can explore the presentation or listen to Stakeholder Call in Chinese, English, French, Russian or Spanish. Find all these materials and much more on ICANN's Quarterly Stakeholder Calls webpage.

FY16 Q2 Stakeholder Call
28 January 2016| For quarter ending 31 December 2015

POLICY UPDATE

At-Large Teleconferences to Use Captioning Services

The At-Large Community will start using computer-assisted real-time translation technology to provide greater access for members with disabilities or limited bandwidth. Nine teleconferences will offer this service as a pilot project. Judith Hellerstein, North America Regional At-Large Organization Secretariat, will lead the implementation of this project.

GAC Prepares for the High-Level Governmental Meeting

The GAC, ICANN and Morocco are working closely on the preparations and arrangements for the High-Level Governmental Meeting at ICANN55. The HGLM strives to raise awareness of ICANN and the GAC among government officials from around the world. Interpretation services will be provided for the open meeting. See the agenda for more information.

Join GNSO Working Group on Subsequent New gTLD Rounds!

Building on the first round of the New gTLD Program, the GNSO Council seeks volunteers to join the recently launched Policy Development Process to develop recommendations for subsequent rounds of new gTLDs. Interested parties are invited to visit the workspace or email gnso-secs@icann.org for more information.

GNSO Council to Discuss Launch of New Working Group

Following the publication of the Issue Report, the GNSO Council will discuss whether to launch a Policy Development Process to review all Rights Protection Mechanisms in all generic top-level domains. If the GNSO Council approves this PDP, it will issue a call for volunteers. For more information, check the workspace or email gnso-secs@icann.org.

ccNSO Council Submits Statement on CCWG-Accountability Third Draft Proposal

The ccNSO Council provisionally supports the direction of the third draft proposal. However, the ccNSO Council strongly recommends that the CCWG-Accountability implement the changes requested by the CWG-Stewardship. The ccNSO Council also notes that, based on comments and input from ccTLDs and Regional Organizations, the third draft proposal needs more refinement to increase the likelihood of adoption of the final proposal. Read the full statement here.

SSAC Comments on gTLD Marketplace Health Index Proposal

In its comments, the SSAC "encourage[s] ICANN to take a step back from what existing data is available and consider how best to inform the larger community, especially consumers, with respect to the security and stability of the DNS marketplace." The full statement, SAC077, offers further points for consideration.

ARIN Hosts Public Policy Consultation

Last week, ARIN hosted a Public Policy Consultation (PPC) at NANOG66 in San Diego, CA. The PPC is part of the ARIN Policy Development Process; it is an open public discussion of number resource policy. Several proposals were considered at the PPC, including ARIN-2015-7: "Simplified Requirements for Demonstrated Need for IPv4 Transfers." This proposal would add another way for recipients in the ARIN region to qualify for an IPv4 transfer by showing 50% use of all number space within two years, with officer attestation. Read the full meeting report here.

New gTLD Fast Facts Available to Download and Share

What is the New gTLD Program? If you've ever wondered about new gTLDs or tried to explain them to someone else without success, check out our New gTLD Fast Facts document.

The updated fact sheet provides an overview of the New gTLD Program and describes the benefits of new gTLDs in relation to competition, innovation, choice and security. It also provides information about how some entities, like governments and brands, are using their gTLDs.

New gTLD Fast Facts are available in seven different languages. It's intended for use as an educational resource, so feel free to share, print or redistribute it as desired.

Download New gTLD Fast Facts now.

Emergency Registry Operator Transition Simulation Successful

On 29 January 2016, ICANN completed a test of the Emergency Back-End Registry Operator (EBERO) program. The test resulted in the successful transition of operations from an existing registry to Nominet, an EBERO service provider based in the U.K.

The procedures that have been implemented as part of the EBERO Program to protect against a potential registry service interruption worked as planned. This test supports ICANN's efforts to ensure the security, stability and resiliency of the Internet and the Domain Name System.

Learn more about the EBERO Program.

Reviewing New gTLD Program Safeguards Against DNS Abuse

On 28 January 2016, ICANN held open discussions about abuse safeguards implemented as part of the New gTLD Program. The goals were to help formulate a definition of Domain Name System abuse, brainstorm methods for measuring abuse and gather qualitative, experiential input on whether safeguards to mitigate DNS abuse in new gTLDs have been effective.

About 70 people joined the discussions. Their input was captured and will be reflected in a report on the topic that ICANN plans to publish in mid-February for public comment. A revised version of the report, reflecting public comment, will be delivered to the volunteer team seated in December 2015 that will review the New gTLD Program in terms of competition, consumer trust and consumer choice.

View discussion recordings.

Twenty-eight new gTLDs were delegated in January 2016!

Below are just a few of the strings delegated in January. Click on the following link to see the full list of delegated strings: http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/program-status/delegated-strings

deloitte   nikon   health   tiffany   weather

makeup   softbank   dubai   lifeinsurance   alibaba

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