

Board Report – Los Angeles Workshop

January 2019

Period Covering: 16 August 2018 – 17 December 2018

ICANN Org Executive Team Reports

Table of Contents

CEO	3
Organization People	5
Organization Finances	9
Legal	10
Global Domains Division (GDD)	12
Contractual Compliance and Safeguards	16
Operations	20
Human Resources	24
Information Technology (IT)	26
Chief Technology Officer (CTO)	30
Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE)	32
Development and Public Responsibility Department (DPRD)	32
Communications and Language Services	35
Policy Development Support	37
Government and IGO Engagement	44
Multistakeholder Strategy and Strategic Initiatives (MSSI)	48
Regional Office Reports	55

Office of the CEO Göran Marby, President & CEO

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

The ICANN org Executive Team is working diligently and making progress on a variety of key projects, including the Information Transparency Initiative (ITI), Open Data Initiative, development of the FY21-25 Operating Plan, creation of a unified access model for non-public registration data that is compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and more. In addition, we held multiple Executive Team meetings and provided support for the Board workshops.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

As the ICANN org continues to mature and evolve, it's critical that we continuously look for ways to increase our efficiency and ensure that we're using our resources and funds in the most logical, responsible way. Since the start of my tenure as CEO, we've made significant strides in reaching that goal, but this is an ongoing effort. At the same time, as I've stated before, the org needs to understand and prepare for the various risks that threaten not just ICANN, but the wider Internet ecosystem.

To this end, I'm working closely with the Executive Team to align the organization-wide strategic trends, Excel@ICANN, and risk assessments. An integrated, collaborative approach will allow us to have a better understanding of our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats so we can plan and prioritize our activities. Combining these efforts will allow for more cross-department teamwork, where we can learn from and support one another's successes.

We are also moving forward with the implementation of a New Activity Risk Assessment Procedure, which will provide us with a method to identify risks while new activities are being planned. At the same time, I've asked our Engineering & IT team to identify ways to increase our internal efficiency and reduce service costs by streamlining our current portfolio of services and platforms.

The ICANN org developed its third report on global legislative and regulatory developments, highlighting a limited list of recent and pending legislative and regulatory initiatives on privacy/data protection and cybersecurity across the world. The report is a continuation of the initiative launched last year to identify legislative efforts across the globe early-on, to raise awareness within ICANN, and consider potential impacts. Previous reports are available here, and the third one will be posted when finalized.

During this period, I traveled to Europe and the Middle East. From 29-31 August, I was in Tallin, Estonia for the ICANN's 18th Studienkreis, where I delivered a keynote speech on how the multistakeholder model must evolve to keep up with the changing legal and regulatory landscape. From 13-19 September, I was in Genval, Belgium, for the Board Workshop, followed by a visit to Brussels, where I held a bilateral meeting with Commissioner Mariya Gabriel and met with European Commission Directorate-Generals Roberto Viola and Tiina Astola.

From 28-29 October, I attended the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Plenipotentiary Conference in Dubai, UAE, where I addressed attendees during its opening. In my speech, I highlighted the strong relationship that exists between ICANN and the ITU, and

stressed the importance of maintaining the Internet as an open, interoperable resource available for all. Finally, from 11-15 November, I attended the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Paris, France. While there, I participated on a panel about the new challenges the Internet is facing.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

Since the October resignation of Akram Atallah, President of the Global Domains Division (GDD), I've been working with the Executive Team to determine how to handle his responsibilities going forward. As we continue the search for his replacement, Cyrus Namazi is serving as interim department head for GDD, and David Conrad is providing support for the IANA team.

In my previous report, I noted that the search for a replacement department head for ICANN's Global Communications and Language Services team was still ongoing. I am pleased to announce that Sally Newell Cohen has joined the ICANN Executive team in the role of Senior Vice President, Global Communications.

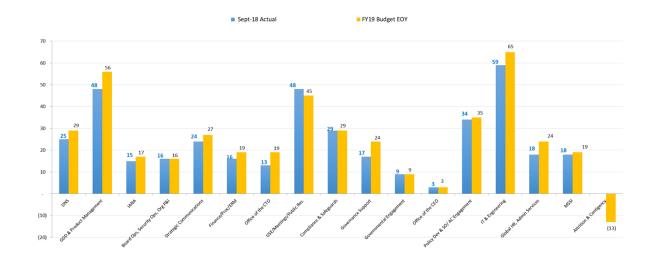
I continue to keep a close eye on the development of a proposed governance model for the Domain Name System (DNS) root server system.

Organization People Gina Villavicencio, SVP, Global Human Resources

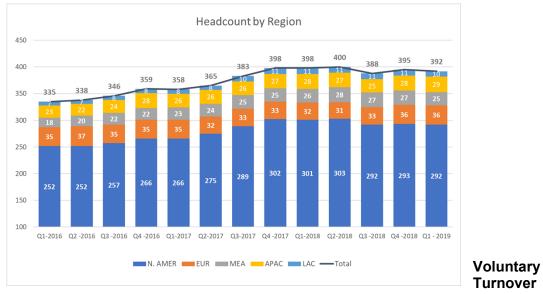
ORGANIZATION PEOPLE HIGHLIGHTS

Since the last report, ICANN org metrics as displayed below remain relatively stable.

As of 30 September 2018, ICANN org had 392 active staff, 16 active requisitions, and 6 pending hires.

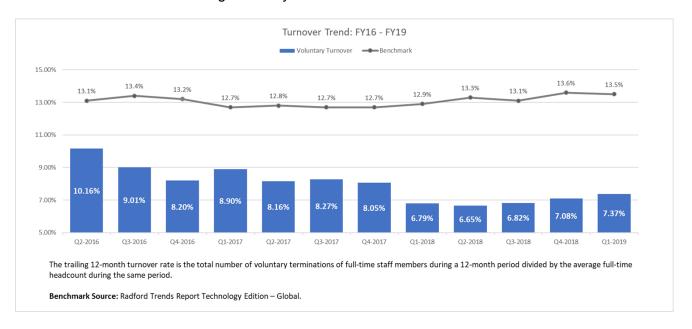


ICANN Org by Regions: As of 30 September 2018, the staff distribution by region was 292 (74%) in North America, 36 (9%) in Europe, 25 (6%) in the Middle East, 29 (7%) in the Asia Pacific, and 10 (3%) in Latin American and Caribbean, for a total of 392.



as of 30 September 2018 was 7.37% and has remained relatively stable from the previous

reporting period in 30 June 2018. In comparison, the worldwide voluntary benchmark is 13.5%, 6.13% more than the ICANN org voluntary turnover.



Over the last three months 7 staff members joined ICANN org and another 10 departed, resulting in a growth rate of 0%.

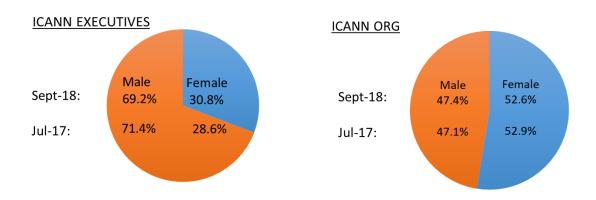
Annual growth rates (from June to June):

2017 – to Date	0%
2016 – 2017	+ 11%
2015 – 2016	+10%
2014 – 2015	+12%
2013 – 2014	+46%

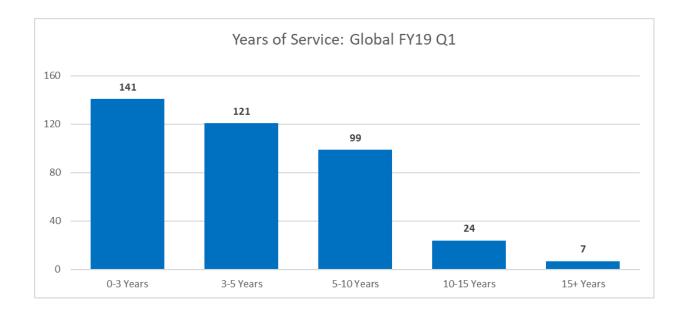
^{*} The headcount as of 30 June 2018 was 395. Growth rate formula is calculated (present headcount – past headcount) divided by past headcount.

^{*}Growth rates that are 0% and below are represented simply as 0%.

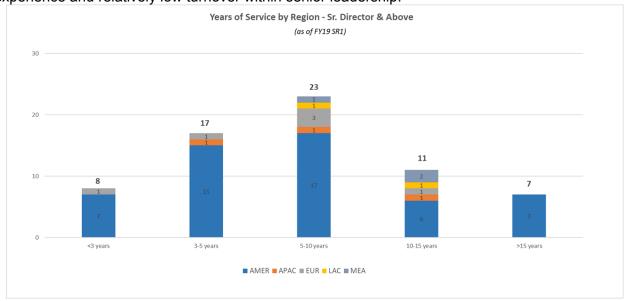
The **gender diversity** of ICANN org is well-balanced with females (52.6%) having a slight majority. The Executive Team gender balance is 30.8% / 69.2% (female/male). ICANN org has gender balance from a numerical perspective and provides an opportunity when it comes to leadership positions.



Age distribution of the organization has also been stable over the last 3 years, averaging around 42 years of age and represents the typical mid-point of most professional careers. The organization's average **years of service** as of September 2018 is 4.5 years, reflecting consistent growth and stability in ICANN org positions.



Sr. Directors & Above global distribution has remained stable for the last couple of years, with the largest population between 5 to 10 years of service. This reflects ICANN org depth of experience and relatively low turnover within senior leadership.



Organization Finances

Xavier Calvez, SVP & Chief Financial Officer

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Please refer to the FY19 Q2 Unaudited Financials report located on the Current Financial Information web page: https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/current-en. The report is also provided at the end of this document.

Legal & Complaints Office Activities

John Jeffrey, General Counsel and Secretary

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

Delivered a set of Supplementary Procedures for the Independent Review Process to the Board for consideration, after participation in the development of the same. Supported the Customer Standing Committee work to modify the IANA Naming Function Contract process to change Service Level Expectations. Supported the work of the Board Accountability Mechanisms Committee in considering the Reconsideration Request filed by the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) member states challenging the Board resolution directing ICANN org to proceed with the .AMAZON and related new gTLD applications and to continue facilitating further discussions with the parties.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

- Complaints Office: Received four new complaints during the reporting period, for a total of
 forty-four complaints submitted to date. Published the second <u>Complaints Office Semi-Annual report</u>. The report focuses on improvements made, key statistics and supporting
 activities and reflects that 65% of complaints have led to improvements within ICANN org.
- General Legal: Provided general legal support and advice across ICANN on various matters.
- Legal Contracting: Advised the GDD Team on a variety of contracting matters, including
 the registrar renewal process, the re-platforming of the Centralized Zone Data Service, data
 escrow agreement issues and multiple amendments and contract interpretation
 requests. Provided legal contracting support for all other ICANN departments, including
 Communications Department vendor agreements, venue/hotel agreements and IT vendor
 contracts for the Information Transparency Initiative.
- Legal Support for GDD and Policy Teams: Advised the GDD Team on gTLD issues, including implementation of the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data ("Temporary Specification"). Provided legal support on policy development work on the expedited Policy Development Process considering the Temporary Specification as a consensus policy and to develop subsequent procedures for the next round of new gTLDs.
- Legal Support for Global Stakeholder Engagement, Strategic Initiatives and Implementation of IANA Stewardship Transition: Supported the delivery of the draft FY2020-2025 Strategic Plan to the Board. Provided strategic advice on the Specific Reviews processes, including draft Operating Standards and how to bring review recommendations to the Board for consideration. Provided legal input into the process for considering the recommendations from the Work Stream 2 on Enhancing ICANN Accountability work. Focused on strengthening regional relationships through support of the LAC regional "all-hands" meeting.
- Litigation and Internal Services: Following the GCC v. ICANN Independent Review Process (IRP), the Board resolved that the pending application for .PERSIANGULF not proceed. Following the AGIT v. ICANN IRP, the Board resolved that the applications for

.HALAL and .ISLAM not proceed. Afilias initiated an IRP regarding .WEB. The appellate court in Ruby Glen v. ICANN affirmed the dismissal of the case, upholding the covenant not to sue in the New gTLD Applicant Guidebook. The Court set new Judicial Estoppel trial date in the DotConnectAfrica lawsuit for 6-7 February 2019. In ICANN v. EPAG, ICANN asked the appellate court to reconsider its denial of an injunction against EPAG. The appellate court reiterated that injunction proceedings do not provide the appropriate framework for addressing the contractual disputes at issue, and again did not address the merits of the issues with respect to the application of GDPR as it relates to WHOIS.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

The litigation issues are mitigated by maintaining a litigation readiness plan for relevant legal filings as well as utilization of the risk fund for fees and costs. We regularly provide an attorney-client privileged version of a litigation report to the Board under separate cover, with specific notes to the Board regarding significant litigation results as they occur. Ongoing litigation activities are published on the litigation page on the ICANN website: https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/litigation-en.

Global Domains Division: Domain Name Services & Industry Engagement, RDS/WHOIS Initiatives, Product Management, Operations, Global Support Center, Registrant Program, Subsequent Procedures for gTLDs Cyrus Namazi, VP, DNS& Industry Engagement, Global Domains Division

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

General

 Cyrus Namazi, Global Domains Division (GDD), was appointed interim department head for GDD following the departure of GDD President, Akram Atallah. David Conrad, Chief Technology Officer, will provide executive support for the IANA team in the interim.

Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)

- A Generation Panel was formed to develop Hebrew Script Root Zone Label Generation Rules (LGRs).
- As of 17 December, proposals for 18 scripts (out of 28 identified scripts) have been completed. Six of these scripts have been integrated into the second iteration of the LGRs.
- Presentation materials have been developed in collaboration with communications team for community outreach purposes in support of a <u>Board resolution</u> relating to the SSAC advisory (SAC095) on issues with the use of emojis in domain names.
- Work on IDNs and Universal Acceptance was presented by the IDN team at ICANN WATRA ITU Workshop in Burkina Faso in October and at South Asian International Conference (SAICON) in Pakistan in November.

Registrants

• The Registrant program team published <u>a report</u> and shared it with the community for feedback which compiled and analyzed data from the Global Support Center (GSC), Contractual Compliance department, and Complaints Office identifying common issues and challenges that registrants are having managing their domain names. An updated report will be published on a semi-annual basis to capture industry trends, help target educational needs and raise awareness within the ICANN community about the challenges facing registrants. New <u>educational content for registrants was</u> also published on the importance of renewing domain names and the Expired Registration Recovery Policy (ERRP).

Action Request Register

- During this reporting period, the ICANN Board received three advisories related to RSSAC (RSSAC041), SSAC (SAC103) and the GAC (Barcelona Communique) advice, representing over 14 pieces of individual advice (advisories often contain multiple pieces of advice). Of these, 13 require action from the ICANN Board, and one (SAC103) is a statement/informational advisory that does not contain a specific recommendation for the ICANN Board.
- ICANN org also processed over 60 items of correspondence directed to the ICANN Board or org during this reporting period.

WHOIS Self-Test Tool

 An update to the <u>WHOIS Self-Test Tool</u> was released as part of Registry System Testing (RST). The updated tool allows Registry Service Providers to self-test WHOIS functionality for fields with redacted data. The new feature is a follow-up to the <u>RST update</u> announced on 1 August 2018, which allowed for the acceptance of redacted data responses during WHOIS testing, in accordance with the <u>Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data</u> adopted by resolution of the ICANN Board of Directors on 17 May 2018.

RDS/WHOIS

 The EPDP Initial Report was posted for a 30-day Public Comment period on 21 November 2018. GDD continued to participate as a liaison on the EPDP Team to provide implementation input as per the EPDP charter. RDAP profiles completed Public Comment on 13 October 2018, and the Comment Report is due 14 December 2019.

GDD Summit

The <u>2019 GDD Summit</u> will be held 6-9 May in Bangkok, Thailand. The event will be colocated with the <u>Registrations Operations Workshop</u> (9 May), the <u>ICANN DNS Symposium</u> (10-11 May), and <u>DNS OARC</u> (12-13 May).

Public Comment Activity

- Recommendations for Managing IDN Variant Top-Level Domains (opened 25 July, closed 17 Sept.)
- Proposal for Devanagari, Gurmukhi, and Gujarati Scripts' Root Zone Label Generation Rules (opened 27 July, closed 8 Oct.)
- Study on Technical Use of Root Zone Label Generation Rules (opened 2 Aug., closed 11 Sept.)
- Proposals for Kannada, Oriya and Telugu Scripts' Root Zone Label Generation Rules (opened 8 Aug, closed 8 Oct.)
- Modification of Domains Protected Marks List Service (opened 15 Aug.; closed 24 Sept.)
- Proposed gTLD-Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) Profile (opened 31 Aug., closed 13 Oct.
- Proposal for Sinhala Script Root Zone Label Generation Rules (opened 2 Oct., closed 14 Nov.)
- Proposal for Malayalam and Tamil Scripts' Root Zone Label Generation Rules (opened 25 Sept., closed 7 Nov.)
- Policy Status Report: Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy (IRTP) (opened 14 Nov.; closes 24 Dec.)
- Application for New Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) Dispute-Resolution Service Provider (opened 16 Nov., closes 4 Jan.)
- Maximal Starting Repertoire Version 4 (MSR-4) for Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR) (opened 26 Nov., closes 10 Jan.)

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

GDD Operations

- A Request for Proposal (RFP) was published seeking one or more partners to provide Emergency Back-End Registry Operator (EBERO) services. The ICANN organization's EBERO program ensures protection of registrants in the event of a registry failure. ICANN org is evaluating proposals and anticipates awarding the RFP during the first quarter of 2019.
- A total of 115 Registrar Accreditation Agreements were renewed, and over 170 renewals
 were in progress at the end of the reporting period. Four new registrars were accredited, 10
 registrars were terminated, (four voluntary and six involuntary) and 11 registrar data escrow
 agent change requests to ICANN org's designated agent in Europe were completed.

 Assignments for nine TLDs, seven Registry Services Evaluation Policy (RSEP) and four Registry Agreement terminations were processed. There was a significant number of Registry Data Escrow Change requests that resulted in 32 TLDs changing escrow agents.

New gTLD Program

 As of 17 December 2018, 1232 new gTLDs have been delegated, including 20 that were subsequently terminated and removed from the root zone. Only 64 applications remain in the 2012 Round.

WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System (ARS)

 The cycle 7 report of the ARS has been paused as we consider updates to the process based upon GDPR and changes to available public registration data as a result of Registry and Registrar implementation of the Temporary Specification.

ICANN63

 The GDD team held several sessions during ICANN63 ranging from registrant information, to an RDS/WHOIS update, to multiple IDN-related sessions. The team also held several meetings with community members including contracted parties and had a booth in the exhibit area to answer questions and open/resolves cases.

Contracted Party Engagement

- GDD continues to work closely with the GSE team to improve engagement and relationships with contracted parties. Activities this period included a cross-functional trip to Japan for workshops/meeting with registries and registrars. In addition, registry and registrar training sessions were held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in conjunction with the LAC DNS Forum.
- The GDD team engaged with the registry operators for .BIZ, .ORG, INFO, AERO and .ASIA regarding renewing their registry agreements, which (except for .ASIA) expire in June 2019. Renewals will follow the standard process that includes public comment and Board consideration.

Subsequent Procedures for gTLDs

GDD continued to support the GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy
Development Process (PDP) discussions by providing relevant implementation input. The
PDP team issued its first Initial Report for Overarching Issues and Work Tracks 1-4 on 3
July 2018 for a 60-day public comment period. ICANN org submitted implementation
feasibility feedback on the preliminary recommendations to the Public Comment Forum on
26 September 2018.

IANA Naming Function Review (IFR)

 The first IFR was <u>convened by the Board</u> on 16 September 2018. ICANN organization is working with the appointing organizations on ensuring the review team slate meets the Bylaws requirements, (<u>Article 18.8.c.</u>)

Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG)

• The UASG continued engaging developer and IT-focused media, with articles in IT Ops Times [itopstimes.com] and eWeek [eweek.com]. The team also participated in relevant industry events around the world, including APTLD74 (Uzbekistan), M3AAWG (U.S.), IAMAI (India) and others, to raise awareness of UA at the local level. Driving awareness of IDNs and EAI continued to be a priority, with the creation of blog content on IDN benefits for enterprises [uasg.tech] and the announcement of UASG's EAI testing tool [uasg.tech]. All of

these activities were amplified across UASG's social media channels. The UASG continues to prepare for an EAI milestone release in the new year.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

On 26 October 2018, the NTIA and Verisign amended the terms of their Cooperative Agreement. This agreement has implications on the registry agreement between ICANN and Verisign for the operation of .COM. The parties agreed that Verisign will continue to operate the .COM registry in a content neutral manner and that Verisign will participate in ICANN processes that promote the development of content neutral policies for the operation of the DNS. In recognition of changes in the DNS marketplace, the parties agreed that the yearly price for registration and renewal of domain names for .com, currently \$7.85 per registration, can be increased a maximum of 7 percent per year in accordance with various terms, essentially beginning in 2020. Further information about the amended Cooperative Agreement are published in Amendment 35. A statement issued by NTIA is published here. Any proposed modifications or amendment will be conducted through a public comment process.

Contractual Compliance & Safeguards

Jamie Hedlund, SVP, Contractual Compliance & Consumer Safeguard and Managing

Director – Washington D.C. Office

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

Contractual Compliance and Consumer Safeguards Initiatives and Improvements

Audit Program

The Registry audit round started in March was completed in September and the <u>Audit Report</u> is published on ICANN.org. Compliance issued final individual confidential audit reports to all audited registries; of the 20 TLDs in scope, 13 will be re-tested at a later date to verify the effectiveness of the implemented remediation measures post. This was a full audit and included expanded questions and testing to address Domain Name System (DNS) abuse.

In November, ICANN org launched an audit round focused specifically on DNS infrastructure abuse, security threats and review of security reports for completeness in comparison to publicly available reports. Prior to the audit launch, on 5 November, Contractual Compliance held two registry audit outreach webinars with registry operators to go over the audit objective, criteria and scope and to address their questions.

For the gTLDs who have DNS abuse related obligations in their respective registry agreement, ICANN will follow the process to ensure deficiencies are addressed. For gTLDs that do not have these obligations, ICANN will inform the registry operator of the findings, if any.

On 6 November, Contractual Compliance audit team sent the audit notification also referred to as Request for Information (RFI) to Registry Operators of 1222 gTLDs. As of 13 December, responses were received for 1202 gTLDs. Over the next few months, ICANN will review the audit responses, prepare the initial individual audit reports by gTLD and work with each Registry Operator to get clarification on responses, if needed, and to address non-compliance findings.

Compliance Publications

Contractual Compliance published the <u>July-September Quarterly</u> updates on ICANN.org. The updates included a variety of reports providing metrics related to operations, resolution of complaints, reporter categories and enforcement. In addition, the SVP of Contractual Compliance and Consumer Safeguards published a <u>blog</u> to inform the community that ICANN is conducting an audit of gTLDs specifically focused on the topic of DNS infrastructure abuse. This very important initiative takes place at a time when large sections of the community have raised concerns about the prevalence of this abuse and questioned the willingness and ability of the ICANN organization and contracted parties to address it.

Enhanced Transparency in Compliance Reporting

In an effort to enhance transparency in the audit program reporting, Compliance is publishing the list of contracted parties who are under a current audit. Previously, the list was only available to the community at the end of an audit. The list is available on the Audit Page under The Registry auditees selected for current round of compliance audit program. In addition, ICANN published the DNS Infrastructure Abuse-focused Registry audit questions (Pro Forma).

Temporary Specification Efforts

As previously reported, Contractual Compliance works closely with ICANN org on the assessment, discussions and reviews of all matters related to the Temporary Specification to ensure alignment and readiness for both the external and internal areas.

The team is sending inquiries to unique registrars based on reported external complaints and compliance review and observations. In the inquiries, ICANN org asks the registrars to explain their approach in light of the Temporary Specification. Most registrars respond positively and proactively took action to correct the observed concerns by changing how they display registration data in public WHOIS. Some registrars are in the process of remediating items raised. However, a few registrars have challenged the specification's legitimacy, and other existing, unchanged contractual requirements in light of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Contractual Compliance Enforcement - All notices can be found <u>here</u> **Notice of Termination**

During this reporting period, Compliance issued seven registrar terminations for failure to cure their breaches. The terminations were for <u>Ten Network Technology Limited</u> (CN), <u>Tong Ji Ming Lian (Beijing) Technology Corporation Ltd.</u> (CN), <u>Blue Hi Interconnect (Beijing) Technology Limited Company</u> (CN), <u>JIANGSU CHENGFUTONG NETWORK TECHNOLOGY CO., LTD.</u> (CN), <u>Shenzhen Domainstar Technology Co., Limited (CN)</u>, <u>NameStream.com, Inc.</u> (US) and <u>SaveMoreNames.com Inc.</u> (US).

Notice of Breach

Thirteen Notices of Breach were issued during this reporting period; 11 registrars and two registries.

Some of the registrar violations were related to WHOIS format, WHOIS inaccuracy, web posting obligations, failure to escrow registration data and pay past due fees. The registry violations related to failure to pay past due fees. Other items of noncompliance were found during the compliance checks and addressed in the notices. Of the 13, five registrars were escalated to termination.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

Compliance Outreach

For the period of August thru December, the Contractual Compliance team participated in multiple activities to engage with the contracted parties and the ICANN community; an outreach in Seoul, Korea in August, a North American registrar visit in September, the At-Large Capacity Building Working Group webinar on the Topic of "Protection of Global Public Interest in Contractual Compliance, Consumer Rights", Nordic Registrar outreach and the ICANN63 Annual General Meeting in Barcelona, Spain in October. Read more here.

Compliance Matters Related to Registrars

From August to December, Compliance conducted over 5140 Compliance Status Requests (CSRs), also referred to as compliance checks, in support of the 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement renewals for eligible registrars. The compliance check is a review of a contracted party's compliance with its agreement prior to a contract related matter. CSR efforts consist of checking registrar's audit status, data escrow deposit status, enforcement and performance history information (including prior breaches sent to registrar within the last 24 months). The check is done at 90-days and then again at 20-days during the renewal process for each

registrar and its affiliates. The team will continue to support and manage the renewal of an estimated 2500 agreements over the next few months.

Compliance Matters Related to Registry Operators

As previously reported, ICANN issued a Notice of Breach on 12 July 2018 to a registry operator for a violation of Specification 11.3.c, which requires operating the top-level domain "in a transparent manner consistent with general principles of openness and non-discrimination by establishing, publishing and adhering to clear registration policies." The breach/ was cured on 3 October 2018.

From August to December, Compliance also conducted over 337 CSRs related to registry operators, reviewed Registry-Registrar Agreements that were submitted to ICANN for amendment, participated in the ongoing Emergency Back-End Registry Operator (EBERO) Request for Proposal (RFP) effort and Expedited Registry Service Request security team meetings and collaborated with Registry Services on proposed changes to the Public Interest Commitment Dispute Resolution Procedure (PICDRP) improvements stemming from the Compliant Officer's report on the .feedback PICDRP related complaints.

Participation in ICANN Policy Development Process

Contractual Compliance team continued to support policy development process (PDP) working groups and reviews related to the Affirmation of Commitment (AoC) led by the Multistakeholder Strategy & Strategic Initiatives (MSSI) team. A summary of the work during this period:

- Second Registration Directory Service (RDS-WHOIS2) Review project engaged with several review team members to address additional questions related to compliance handling of WHOIS Inaccuracy complaints with a focus on the metrics related to closed complaints before 1st Notice for WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System. In addition, the team assessed 10 draft recommendations and completed review of the Board paper.
- Transfer Policy Review (Support and Review Phase) –reviewed the draft report analysis of transfer complaints and updated the data related to the Transfer Policy (2012 to 2018).
- Expedited Policy Development (EPDP) Compliance joined the team during their face-to-face meeting in the Los Angeles office to discuss requirements for operational and audit data.
- Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) project finalized the new taxonomy and addressed auditors questions related to compliance pages and files on ICANN.org.
- Security, Stability and Resiliency (SSR2) Review Team –responded to the questions providing information to support the review of said implementation.
- Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Implementation (PPSAI) –reviewed the Privacy and Proxy Accreditation Agreement draft and contributed to ICANN org input.
- New gTLD Subsequent Procedures –reviewed and contributed to the draft responses
- Competition, Consumer Trust & Consumer Choice Final Recommendations –completed the assessment of 15 final recommendations.
- Work Stream 2 (WS2) Enhancing ICANN Accountability review under way.

Consumer Safeguards

From August through December, the Consumer Safeguards department engaged with the community on a number of fronts to facilitate conversations around DNS abuse, as well as voluntary efforts by registries to address identified DNS abuse occurring within their respective gTLDs. In addition to participating with Contractual Compliance in the above-mentioned discussion with the At-Large Advisory Committee, the Consumer Safeguards team met with the following stakeholders and community members:

- In September, along with the Chief Security Officer, the Consumer Safeguards Director traveled to Seattle, Washington to meet with the Domain Name Association, Healthy Domain Initiative members, and to attend a two-day INHOPE conference, hosted by Microsoft. The conference focused on various Internet ecosystem efforts to combat the creation and distribution of Child Sexual Abuse Materials. A few registries also attended the conference.
- Also, in collaboration with the Chief Security Officer, the Consumer Safeguards
 Department met with registries and registrars in Japan to discuss DNS abuse. In some
 meetings, individual Domain Abuse Activity Reporting (DAAR) data furthered education
 and conversations about activity occurring within particular gTLDs.
- Prior to ICANN63, the Consumer Safeguards Director spoke about ICANN, DNS abuse and local regulatory efforts that could lead to a fragmentation of the Internet at Complutense and Nabrija universities in Madrid. Following the Barcelona meeting, the same topic was presented at the College of Europe (Natolin), the American Chamber of Commerce, and the University of Lödz in Poland.
- The Consumer Safeguards Director remains an active partcipant in the Internet & Jurisdiction domain suspensions working groups. In addition, the department attended the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Paris given the number of sessions addressing safeguard topics.
- Following the IGF, the Consumer Safeguards Director traveled to London in response to invitations to speak at Oxford's Centre for Doctrinal Training in Cybersecurity and to attend the Child Dignity Alliance's Technology Working Group's meeting, during which they released a report on Child Sexual Abuse Material that names ICANN within its recommendations. Finally, along with Global Stakeholder Engagement, the Consumer Safeguards Director met with various London-based community members to discuss takeaways from ICANN63 and the path to ICANN64.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

None.

Operations: Board Operations, Global Operations, Security Operations, Organization Assessment and Improvement, and Internal Controls Audit Susanna Bennett, SVP & Chief Operating Officer

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

The Operations Team has been carrying out the goals and aspirations derived during the August Team workshops focusing on functional improvements and cross-functional collaboration to optimize resource/cost management, bubble-piercing and reducing complexity. The highlights of such collaborative achievements include Board Retreat/Workshop & ICANN63 deliverables, Integrated & Collaborative Approach to the org-wide Strategic Trend/ Excel@ICANN/ Risk Assessment, FY21-25 Operating Plan development planning, Open Data Program kick-off, FY19Q2 Quarterly Risk Assessment kick-off, Org-wide Resilience Plan development kick-off, International Regional Office initiative, Regional Security Management Model implementation, and Global Legislative & Regulatory Development Reporting.

During the FY19SR1 performance evaluation and FY19SR2 goal planning process, the team also continued the focus on career development updates and team structural improvements, which aligns with the org-wide "Span of Control" initiative, one of which is the elimination of a 1:1 reporting while combining 3 functional departments into 1 – Global Operations, Risk Management, OA&I are now all included together with the Office of the COO – further driving team collaboration and reducing complexity such as multiple functional/ recurring activity codes. The Operations Team is proud of the continuous improvements and collaborative org-wide teamwork in advancing the organization.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

Board Operations has been making headway on the improvements as planned in the Team's FY19-SR1 goals to elevate effectiveness and efficiency while focused on the ongoing activities. Here are some highlights of the improvement efforts and ongoing activities:

Improvement Activity Highlights

- Updated <u>FY19 Board Ops Team Goals & Priorities</u> and <u>Roles & Responsibility Matrix</u>
- Drafted two <u>Board Post-Retreat/Workshop action reports</u> (Genval & Barcelona) for CEO & General Counsel to finalize and release
- Secured <u>Board Retreat 2019 venues</u> one-year in advance, targeting two-year advance planning, both to optimize planning and cost effectiveness
- Developing an improved <u>Board Manual</u> and <u>Committee Manual</u> to better serve the Board and Org
- Enhanced <u>Board travel policy/process</u> to increase savings and improve efficiency
- Fine-tuned the Correspondence process for harmonizing inputs from the Board
- Mapping <u>training programs across Org</u>, <u>Board and Community</u> to collaborate on opportunities
- Transitioned Board's web conferencing tool to the more superior <u>Zoom from Adobe Connect</u>
- Assessed ATRT2 recommendations impacting the Board in preparation for ATRT3

Ongoing Activity Highlights

• Board Member Transitions – on-boarded 5 new while off-boarded 5 departing members

- Board workshop and ICANN63 focused on agenda planning and organizing, Board interactions with the Community, content and logistics management of Board workshop, Board meeting, new Board member on-boarding training, Strategic Planning and Risk Workshop sessions.
- Assisted the work of the <u>Board, Committees, Working Groups and Caucus Groups</u> worked closely with the Legal Team and others on the agendas and over 70 resolutions, and managed the scheduling and proceedings of 70+ face-to-face and telephonic/ electronic meetings.
- Re-organized the supporting processes related to the new Board & Committee slate
- Produced <u>Board Quarterly Travel Cost Report</u> timely for increasing transparency and cost savings

Risk Management continued to implement the revised Risk Management Framework contained in the Risk Management Policy.

- Concluded a complete <u>refresh of the ICANN org-level Risk Register</u>. An extensive crossorganization calibration process and review was carried out by each functional representative through the Function Risk Liaison Network to provide consistency of the rating of risks. The Executive Risk Management Committee reviewed the Risk Register to reach a consensus on the risks to be included in the register and identify top risks, and the Risk Register was approved by the CEO.
- New Activity Risk Assurance Procedure was implemented which requires an org-wide review of any planned new or expanded activities with a broad, cross-functional impact. It is better to identify risks at the planning stage.
- Prepared the process to update the <u>Continuity Plan</u> and expanding the <u>Disaster Recovery Plan</u>. Org will complete an Impact Analysis of resources suddenly becoming unavailable and develop continuity plans. This will include contingency planning for systems, facilities, assets, and people.
- Maintained a steady schedule of <u>Risk Management Committee meetings</u>. The committee are the members of Executive team and provides oversight to org risk management activities.
- Prepared the risk report from the <u>Board Risk Committee</u>, and Risk Management was actively involved in the presentation to the Board.
- Conducted a <u>Risk Workshop</u> in Barcelona with the Board Risk Committee and several other Board Members to discuss the risk management model, including risk appetite, maturity phases and actions.

Security Operations Continued to <u>drive cross-functional and cross- regional liaison</u> in order to optimize operational effectiveness, foster a greater shared understanding and unify our mission.

- Worked closely with HR on medical support and workplace violence issues
- Security team members participated in regional calls, off-sites, and visited offices, to enhance org's awareness of Security Ops, better understand the regions and assist with Regional Security Manager (RSM) model implementation.
- Per the RSM model, and a micro vs macro approach, supported ICANN regions with bespoke security solutions, such as earthquake training and establishment of emergency funds (with secure storage and access systems) in Istanbul.
- Identified and trained Linda Chin on <u>Regional Security Coordinator</u> (RSC) role to further bolster regional security efforts "on-the-ground" and maximize cost-effectiveness. Linda joined a physical security review of the Beijing office and was trained on open source intelligence. Her role will continue to grow and include meeting on-site/remote event

- security, intelligence, and incident response. The RSC model will be expanded to all regions.
- Launched the <u>Travel Safety Working Group</u> (TSWG), a cross-functional group consisting of Operations, Security Operations and Human Resources, responsible for ensuring high-risk travel is appropriately assessed and safe/secure. The TSWG assessed several applications for travel to high-risk jurisdictions per the TSWG agreed guideline and process.
- Initiated our <u>second Global Training Initiative</u> (the first being Travel Security Training) with the acquisition of an Active Shooter eLearning module, and in-person training in the regions (started with APAC in November) to furnish staff and their families with a necessary (unfortunately) "life-skill".
- Conducted an externally validated <u>training session for the Global Crisis Management Team</u> to maintain crisis preparedness and promote transparency.
- Further grew our <u>organic capabilities</u> to reduce external operating costs, such as the recent risk and threat assessments produced by the team instead of the outside parties.
- Pleased to share that Olly Kay was promoted to the rank of <u>Captain in the US Army</u> Reserves, further broadening the team's skills sets and capabilities well done, Olly!

Global Operations continued to focus on regional and cross-functional initiatives such as:

- International Regional Office Initiative: Continued to collaborate with Regional Office Managing Directors (MDs) and several functional teams with accomplishments such as established open collaborative channel for regional office staff to seek support, raised issues and collaborate on solutions, created functional and regional points of contact to facilitate the connection and future collaborations cross-functionally as well as between headquarter and regional offices. In Barcelona, the MDs and several Executives had a focused session to advance this initiative. Post ICANN63, the MDs completed narratives on each office's purpose and resources needs, which the Executives had an initial discussion in early December and will continue through the beginning of 2019 to further advance this initiative.
- Advancing the <u>partnership with Security Operations</u> in the regional security management model – concluded Beijing Engagement Office security assessment and improvements; completed training to be a Security Operations resource for ICANN64; and planning multiple regional security program trainings and presentations to raise awareness, instill knowledge and develop teams' confidence in mitigating potential security issues.
- Teaming with several functional teams on the <u>Strategic Trend/Excel@ICANN/Risk</u>
 <u>Assessment</u> an integrated & collaborative approach in progressing org-wide effectiveness
 and efficiency.
- Partnered with the cross-functional core-team and progressed the <u>Global Legislative and Regulatory Development</u> Reporting for more impactful reviews and discussions with the Executives and Board.

Organizational Assessment and Improvement (OA&I) Team has been integrated into the Office of the COO. This simplifies the org's structure and reflects the ongoing efforts to integrate and simplify.

Other examples of integrated approaches include the <u>approach to planning</u>. As the draft FY21-25 Strategic Plan was being concluded for public comment, the MSSI, Operations, Finance and Communications Teams have been collaborating on the structure and plan to develop the FY21-25 Operating & Financial Plan along with the FY21-22 Operating Plan & Budget. Another is the integration between MSSI, Operations, and Risk Management to use shared <u>collaborative sessions</u> to obtain org-wide input to the Strategic Trend analysis, Excel@ICANN assessment and Risk Assessment. This collaboration not only reduces the

- demand of time and resources org-wide but very importantly also enables the input alignment of the analysis for the various result reporting.
- Other major progressive programs include collaborating with OCTO, Legal, and E&IT teams
 on the planning of Open Data Program; aligning Accountability Indicators with the draft
 FY21-25 Strategic Plan; furthering the improvements through the Reports@ICANN; and
 teamed with E&IT and Procurement to reduce Workfront licenses due to the positive impact
 of the streamlining projects and realized \$72K annual savings!

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

None.

Global Human Resources, Administrative Services Gina Villavicencio. SVP. Global Human Resources

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

Since the last CEO Report to the Board, we have continued to drive integrated Global HR & Administrative support across the organization. Highlights include completing employee reviews for the first period for FY19 (SR1), sharing results of the 2018 Engagement Survey, enhancing the new leadership development program, filling a number of key vacancies and rolling out the Annual Conflicts of Interest, Policies Acknowledgments and Outside Business Activities Disclosures.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

• FY19 SR1 Performance Reviews and At-Risk payout finalization:

- We facilitated the SR2 performance review process for 384 staff with At-Risk payouts scheduled for 31 December 2018.

2018 Engagement Survey:

- Following the completion of the 2018 Engagement Survey in June, results have been reviewed with individual departments/functions, and areas of focus across the organization as well as individual functional areas are being developed and actioned.

Staff Learning and Development:

- The manager training program has been rebranded as ICANN LEAD—Leadership Education and Development—and includes an enhanced approach to strengthen managerial skills in a global workforce. All people managers at ICANN will participate in this program.
- Based on the 2018 Engagement Survey results, additional learning paths to enhance staff skills are being built and made available via LinkedIn Learning, formerly Lynda.com.
- Regional training strategy has been established for the APAC region, team leads participated in their first leadership development session.

Talent Acquisition:

- Several critical hires were made this last quarter including the SVP Global Communications Sally Newell Cohen; Sr Director, Global HR Operations Henry Meyer; and Global Compensation & Benefits Director Annie Johnson.
- ICANN held its inaugural networking and recruiting event in September, targeting talent in the technical space. This event involved the collaboration of many departments and was successful in our attempt to reach new talent and increase the visibility of ICANN as an employer of choice.

Annual Conflicts of Interest, Policies Acknowledgments and Outside Business Activities:

 This acknowledgement process was automated this year utilizing the Taleo software platform to allow for electronic distribution, signature, data management and reporting.

• 2019 US Benefits Annual Open Enrollment:

- A flat renewal was negotiated with our carriers, which allowed for a passive Open Enrollment with no carrier or plan design changes for 2019.
- In-person and remote-participation educational sessions were held in our Los Angeles and Washington D.C. offices to increase staff knowledge of our rich benefit offerings and in turn make informed decisions.

• 2019 ICANN Holiday Calendar:

- Based on staff feedback and changes in local requirements, there was a review of the ICANN holiday calendar to bring about a more balanced number of observed holidays regardless of the location worked. This provides a more global approach to holiday observances and greater equity across the organization.

• Global Health and Wellness:

- A Global Health and Wellness Program was created to focus on our staff's total health (physical, mental, social and financial). This program was designed to encourage the formation of healthy habits through education and awareness as well as the creation of an organizational culture that embraces flexibility to be healthy in all aspects while meeting the objectives of the organization.
- The Ergonomics Program is being revised to enhance training offerings and ensure continuance to provide ergonomic assessments to all staff.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

None.

Engineering & IT

Ashwin Rangan, SVP, Engineering & Chief Information Officer

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

In September, Ash presented a keynote address at the CyFy2018 conference in India. His topic was Universal Acceptance with a focus on IDN's.

In October, during ICANN 63, two security vulnerabilities were disclosed by a community Researcher. In response, ICANN org's Computer Incident Response Team (CIRT) protocol was invoked. In an orderly manner, with little fuss and minimal fanfare, the impact of those vulnerabilities was handled by ICANN org staff within a couple of hours. The BTC was informed of details in a subsequent BTC meeting.

In mid-November, we launched a limited HackerOne service. It allows registered white-hat hackers to attempt to hack ICANN's external-facing services to identify vulnerabilities. Since then, well-intentioned white-hat hackers have identified several vulnerabilities, mostly low-grade ones, which have immediately been rectified.

In late-November, working closely with HR, Finance, GDD and Product Management, an organizational structure-change was announced. As a result, Chris Gift's reporting was moved – from reporting to Cyrus Namazi, Head of GDD, to Ashwin Rangan, SVP Eng & CIO.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

Organizational change

Chris Gift's reporting was moved – from reporting to Cyrus Namazi, Head of GDD, to Ashwin Rangan, SVP Eng & CIO. Chris serves as VP for Product Management.

This move was warranted by the fact that Product Management (which shapes and gathers Engineering demands) was structurally separated from Engineering (which has the supply-side resources). This separation had led to the evolution of a set of rhythms and rituals to reconcile demand and supply in a coordinated manner – however, also leading to inherent process-inefficiencies, and delays in responding to "By when?" questions.

Following The 'E&IT Parthenon' Framework

The Pillars

Community Collaboration Pillar

- The Information Transparency Initiative (ITI): The team deployed alpha.icann.org, leveraging the new dotCMS Content Management System. Using this site, the stakeholder Community can review ITI developments and provide feedback.
- Communications content (Blogs, Announcements, What's New, and For Journalist pages)
 were deployed to alpha.icann.org for Community feedback on 11 October 2018. These
 deliverables provide advanced filtering, leveraging the content tagging applied in the
 underlying Alfresco Document Management System.
- An architecture for integrating the Document Management System (DMS) with a Content Delivery Network (CDN) was established. This enables ICANN org to cache frequently-

accessed static content. This will improve performance for rendering images and downloading PDF's globally.

 A proof of concept for document translation requests initiation from the DMS and publication was completed. This will establish consistency in how translation requests are routed to Language Services, a process which today is inconsistent.

Contracted Parties Pillar

- The Naming Services portal (NSp): Contact Lifecycle Management tool was successfully launched in October.
- The first round of CZDS data migration to the NSp test environment was completed. A
 CZDS test bed was created to allow external users to begin testing the Secure Data API in
 December.

Technical services Pillar

• RRI 2.0: RRI 2.0 General Availability (GA) launched ahead of schedule in mid-September. This allows for data escrow agents to provide ICANN with reports of the data escrow deposits made by Registrars (similar to what already happens on the Registry side).

Staff Operations Pillar

Oracle

R13 Upgrade completed: Many enhancements to Human Resources, Finance and Procurement modules have been implemented, all available in the latest R13 version.

- Oracle ERP HR:
 - Benefits Open Enrollment: Leveraging Oracle R13, org staff can now initiate qualifying events and enroll in benefits. In Nov, US Open enrollment was successfully completed, and system performed as expected.
- Oracle ERP Finance:
 - Billing based on Families: Our first production run was (very successfully) completed 10/31 quarterly billing. This is a major accomplishment.
- Enterprise Data-Warehouse (EDW):
 - New requirements for Interfaces connecting Oracle HCM with Active Directory and OrgChart Plus were defined. The idea is to make our HR Directory (system of record) a source for other directories.

The Planks

Enterprise Architecture, Release Services & Sustaining Engineering

- Logging for GDPR: A new Enterprise-wide solution for logging, when someone enters GDPR-sensitive information, was architected and prototyped. This will help us if/when a "right to be forgotten" petition is filed.
- Configuration Management Database (CMDB): An updated list of all services supported by E&IT with additional information on business rationale was published, leveraging a "supplier /inputs /processing /outputs/customer" ("SIPOC") approach. Concurrently, a detailed description of Enterprise Architecture for all services in the Technical Services pillar was completed.

• Platform & Service Reduction: In support of Goran's goals (#7), E&IT published proposed roadmaps for sunsetting or moving legacy ICANN digital services to one of the E&IT approved platforms. The next step is to engage in dialog with the "buyer" SVPs to create a roadmap for (ideally) retirement and (otherwise) re-platforming.

Platform Engineering

• RZMS 3.0 Completed Milestone 2 to integrate with a new DNS technical check module and workflow engine.

Security and Network Engineering (SaNE), and DNS Engineering

- SaNE: Achieved a milestone in Splunk migration to support continued consolidation of SaNE engineering log analysis. Analyzed the impact of potential TLS 1.3 as a supported protocol on all systems as well as the load balancers. Finalized ICANN org's Public Vulnerability Discovery and Recognition Program. Based on that, a new InfoSec Review policy was drafted. Collaborated with HR and selected new InfoSec training in Navex, which replaces SANS training, reducing costs.
- Soft launched the ICANN Public Vulnerability Disclosure Program through HackerOne: reports, remediation and recognition of disclosed vulnerabilities has begun.
- DNS Engineering: Tested Disaster Recovery (DR) processes and systems for ICANN
 Managed Root Servers (IMRS) DNS managed Infrastructure. Reviewed and refreshed
 Operational telemetry to ensure IMRS performance and risk indicators were ready in time for
 the KSK roll.
- Enhanced the DNSSEC Generic Signer Infrastructure resiliency with improved data replication between sites.

Data Center Ops, Meetings Tech Services, Cloud Services & End User Support (EUS)

- Annual Disaster Recovery Testing: Successfully tested DR for all applicable services, failing services over from the primary Data Center on the West Coast to the secondary Data Center on the East Coast.
- Server configuration automation: Migrated from Puppet to Ansible for server configuration management automation.
- Single Sign On (SSO): Completed the SSO project for all staff, leveraging DUO. 2-factor authenticated (2FA) sign-in for all ICANN systems is a snap today. Easy and secure. Hurrah!
- Staff Chat Program Standardization: Based on feedback from an Org wide survey, we are planning to move forward with Slack as our approved chat tool.
- *ICANN63 Barcelona 20-25 October:* Despite some setbacks (see "Highlights"), the event was a success with regards to providing an excellent level of service to staff and community. Received lots of thank-you and kudos from community, Board members and staff following the meeting.

- *PGI Licensing Model:* We have migrated the PGI account from a per-minute model to a licensing model, which will save the org a minimum of \$100k per year.
- Zoom: The Board of Directors and Board Operations Team has successfully migrated to Zoom, replacing Adobe Connect.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION None.

Office of the Chief Technology Officer

David Conrad, SVP & Chief Technology Officer

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

- Completes first root Key Signing Key (KSK) rollover successfully.
- Assists in preparing and evaluating revised proposal for Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP).
- Converts Open Data Initiative to Open Data Program.
- Publishes Domain Name System Abuse Analytics and Reporting (DAAR) project methodology and reviews.
- Drives OCTO Technical Engagement and Training for ICANN Staff.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

First Root KSK Rollover Successfully Completed

After years of preparation, on 11 October 2018, the first-ever root zone with the new root KSK signing the zone's DNSKEY records was published. The root KSK roll took place as planned and on schedule. The project was successful and any impact to Internet end users was minimal. There were only anecdotal reports of individual administrators encountering minor issues. An Irish Internet Service Provider (ISP) suffered a DNS-related outage suspiciously close in time to the root KSK roll, but ICANN staff were unable to obtain any details, so this outage's connection to the root KSK roll is not confirmed. OCTO believes the one-year postponement likely contributed to the project's smooth outcome, since the delay allowed additional time to publicize the roll. For example, ICANN org surveyed over 16,000 network operators in August and September to understand their readiness for the root KSK roll. The survey request doubled as an announcement of the upcoming roll.

Assists in preparing and evaluating revised proposal for Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP)

OCTO provided input to members of the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) NCAP Administrative Team. The NCAP proposal calls for three studies to answer the Board's questions about name collisions in resolution 2017.11.02.30. After this revised proposal was submitted to the Board Technical Committee (BTC), the BTC asked for OCTO's assessment. OCTO had not yet offered editorial input to SSAC during the revision process, so the proposal represents SSAC's opinions. In late November, OCTO shared its assessment with the BTC. OCTO believes the NCAP work, as proposed, may not provide sufficient new information to be successful in answering the Board's original questions to justify the cost. OCTO recommended that only the initial portions of the proposal be undertaken, with the results evaluated to determine if the rest of the study should proceed or other actions be taken.

Open Data Initiative becomes Open Data Program

The ICANN Open Data Platform from OpenDataSoft (the vendor chosen through an extensive request for proposal process) was configured and made available for internal use. The platform has been customized to follow the ICANN web style and branding guidelines and a few initial data sets have been loaded for testing purposes. The platform was demonstrated at ICANN63 and received a positive response from the community. Open Data at ICANN is now ready to move from a research initiative to a supported production program. To accomplish this transition, OCTO has relinquished ownership of Open Data at ICANN to the Office of the Chief

Operating Officer. The renaming of Open Data Initiative to Open Data Program reflects the shift in production status.

DNS Abuse Analytics and Reporting (DAAR) project methodology and reviews published ICANN org recently hired a Lead Security, Stability and Resiliency (SSR) Specialist who will be focused on abuse analytics, including DAAR. The DAAR project is continuing to move forward. Recently, ICANN org solicited and accepted comments on the DAAR methodology. The org has collated and formulated replies to comments which will be published at the beginning of the new year.

Sample monthly reports were previewed to the Board, and a document providing clarifications on specific types of abuse is being developed, in response to a Board question. The production of the monthly reports themselves has been automated to provide both consistency and efficiency going forward. The current expectation is to publish initial reports in January 2019.

OCTO Technical Engagement & Training for ICANN Staff

OCTO has continued to provide training support to the Engagement team in various areas, including through a "Train the Trainers" program launched early in 2018. Several trained staff from the Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE) team have been able to deliver first level technical training to their communities on DNS basics. To further support that approach, we have supported the production of online technical training modules on DNS Fundamentals and DNS Abuse which can be taken as prerequisite to the hands on through ICANN Learn platform. OCTO will continue to strengthen this program throughout the remainder of the fiscal year while we are developing our new regional structure to handle second and third level capacity building courses more effectively. During the period under review, OCTO has also produced numerous technical briefs for the use of the Executive team and the Engagement team.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

Issue: Obtaining sponsoring registrar data for DAAR

We continue to see issues with being unable to systematically associate domain names with registrars through publicly available data (i.e., WHOIS) with the frequency needed to accurately reflect current status.

Mitigation: We have managed to increase the percentage of names we can refresh on a daily basis. We are investigating different mechanisms to increase the freshness of the data such as targeting queries to names of interest and exploring other data sources.

Global Stakeholder Engagement, Meetings, Public Responsibility Support Sally Costerton, Sr. Advisor to President & SVP, Global Stakeholder Engagement

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

This report covers Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE), Meetings and the Public Responsibility Support Department activities from August through December 2018. During this period, Global Stakeholder Engagement participated in events such as the global Internet Governance Forum in Paris, regional and national IGFs, ITU Plenipotentiary Meeting, DNS management and DNSSEC workshops in India, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Morocco, Kuwait, Malaysia, DNS abuse workshops in Malawi and eSwatini, and regional DNS forums such as the Eastern European DNS Forum and LAC DNS Forum. The team facilitated ICANN readout sessions with local stakeholders in Canada, China, Japan, Egypt, Turkey, Korea, India, the United States and Republic of Korea.

Global Stakeholder Engagement conducted a capacity development workshop in Grenada, with Nepal CERT/NPNOG, the first Indian Network Operators Group meeting, LKNOG and Sri Lanka CERT, TWNOG, participated in APNIC 46, INTERPOL Joint Cybercrime Workshop, International Symposium on Cybercrime Response, DomainX 2018 in India, TLDCon 2018 in Latvia, supported registrar training in Stockholm at the Nordic Domain Days, SSR training with FinCERT in Russia, and participated in regional Internet conferences such as CyFy 2018 in India, Wuzhen Conference in China, among others.

The Meetings team has been supporting CEO discussions with SO/AC leaders on a possible move of the Opening Ceremony to the late afternoon at the Kobe ICANN Public Meeting. ICANN Public Meeting venue selection for 2021-2023 is well underway, and the Meetings team will be presenting board papers over the coming months.

At ICANN 63 in Barcelona, Global Stakeholder Engagement and Public Responsibility Support teams provided briefings to At Large, participated in community sessions on the next ICANN Strategic Plan, regional sessions such as the LAC Space, Africa Regional Engagement Strategy, APAC Space, and technical community sessions. The Meetings team successfully managed ICANN 63 and published statistics following the event on community attendance, participation and the cost of ICANN meetings.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

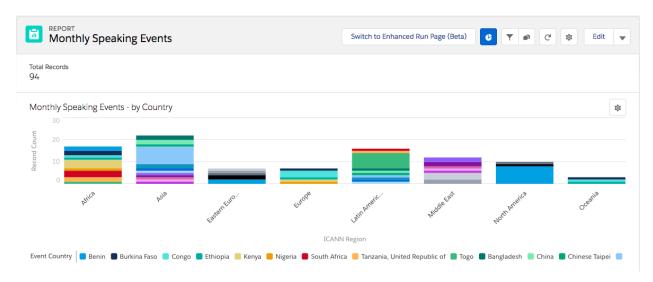
Global Stakeholder Engagement supported a variety of events and trainings between August and December 2018. These included the 5th edition of the Middle East and Adjoining Countries School on Internet Governance in Cairo, West African School of Internet Governance and West African IGF, Pakistan School on Internet Governance, Argentinian School on Internet Governance, LAC-I Roadshow events in Bolivia, Uruguay, iWeek and the Africa Peering and Interconnection Conference in South Africa, an Internet Governance workshop in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Vietnam Domain Name Industry Workshop, MENA ICT Forum, LACNIC 30/LACNOG 2018, East African NOG/Tanzania NOG, Ukrainian IGF, Belarus IGF, Georgian IGF, Armenian IGF, African IGF, Lebanon IGF, Danish IGF, Norwegian Internet Forum, German IGF, Asia Pacific Regional IGF, Southern Africa IGF, Polish IGF, Togo IGF, Central African IGF, UA Dom Conference, APT Policy and Regulatory Program for the Pacific, 3rd Pacific Regional Emergency Telecommunications Workshop, Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy 2018,

ARIN42, AfICTA Summit, Africa School of Internet Governance, African Forum on Cybercrime, engagement events in local stakeholders in Bangladesh, China, Korea, Japan, India.

Global Stakeholder Engagement facilitated community discussions with the MSSI team for regional stakeholders on a Unified Access Model and broader issues impacting access to registrant data (WHOIS). These discussions included events in the United States, Korea, India, Europe, Singapore. The team also supported community discussions on Universal Acceptance, Internationalized Domain Names, KSK rollover, root server system evolution and growing concerns about emoji domain names.

Global Stakeholder Engagement also facilitated the CEO visit to Washington DC in December 2018 for meetings with local stakeholders.

The graphic below shows events where Global Stakeholder Engagement spoke or represented ICANN from August-December 2018.



Public Responsibility Support helped facilitate an internal review of the draft recommendations from the internal Human Rights Impact Assessment (HRIA) of ICANN org's daily business operations. This process aims to ensure that the findings fully reflect existing ICANN org policies and practices. The independent third party in charge of carrying out the assessment produced a draft report analyzing human rights impacts in the areas of (1) Human Resources, (2) Procurement, (3) Event Planning and (4) Security Operations. The final report with actionable recommendations is expected in early 2019.

The implementation of changes to the ICANN Fellowship Program are underway. ICANN's Supporting Organizations (SOs) and Advisory Committees (ACs) will nominate their representatives to serve as members of the Fellowship Program selection committee and Fellowship Program mentors, both key in improving operational efficiency and overall program transparency. ICANN org has revamped the program application and scoring systems and is working to finalize online courses to help those interested better prepare for their Fellowship experience.

During this period, the Meetings team supported: the SSR2 F2F Meeting in Washington DC in August; the Board Workshop and Executive meeting in Brussels in September; the SSAC

Workshop in Los Angeles in September; the EPDP Team F2F meeting in Los Angeles in September; ICANN63 in Barcelona in November; IGF 2018 in Paris in November; the Eastern Europe DNS Forum 2018 in Moscow in December; the RDS-WHOIS2 RT F2F Meeting #4 in Brussels in December.

Travel Services Team:

- Travel Services serviced 457 travelers for the months of August through December, across 23 meetings.
- ICANN63 in Barcelona had 404 supported funded travelers.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

In October, Global Stakeholder Engagement launched a pilot survey for stakeholders in the Africa and Eastern European & Central Asia regions to understand their priorities for ICANN engagement and capacity development programs. An overview of the survey was presented to African and Eastern European/Central Asian stakeholders at ICANN 63 in Barcelona. Initial results from the survey have been positive, and the team is updating the survey questions to expand the survey with community stakeholders in other regions. The larger survey will launch in December 2018 and will help identify capacity development focus areas, community priorities and assist with GSE's planning and resource prioritization to be better aligned with community needs.

The GSE team is continuing to work closely with OCTO/SSR to deliver hands-on DNS training for ICANN Org. Briefings were provided at ICANN 63. Additional training is planned for January 2019 in the Singapore and Brussels offices for several ICANN departments. The training will enable ICANN Org representatives to speak more effectively on DNS technical subjects within ICANN's remit and will allow the team deliver capacity development in the regions as requested by the ICANN community. Other staff from Board Support, Government Engagement, GDD, MSSI, and Policy are participating in the Brussels and Singapore training.

Public Responsibility Support has added new options to ICANN Learn. The ICANN Learn curriculum strategy has expanded to address capacity development needs for knowledge and skill-building purposes. From Cybersecurity Basics to Policy Development Effectiveness, new courses are designed with the goal of enhancing community members contributions to the work of ICANN and lowering barriers to participation. Collaborations with OCTO, GSE, Registrar Services, and MSSI have added to the guality and breadth of our training catalog.

Planning is well underway for ICANN64 in Kobe and ICANN65 in Marrakech, with the Marrakech site visit being concluded the first week of December. Planning for ICANN66 and ATLAS III in Montreal is also underway.

The Meetings team are now focused primarily on fine-tuning all logistical arrangements for the Board workshop and Executive meeting in Los Angeles in January 2019; GNSO Council Strategic Planning Session in Los Angeles in January; SSR2 Review Team F2F in Los Angeles in January; ICANN Org Community Engagement and Policy team F2F Meeting in Washington DC in February; Middle East DNS Forum in Dubai in February and ICANN64 in Kobe in March. In addition, the team has been working closely with the SO/AC scheduling committee on development of the Kobe meeting schedule, which is due to be posted on 18 February 2019.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Communications, Language Services

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

Sally Newell Cohen joined ICANN org as the Senior Vice President overseeing Communications and Language Services. The team continued to provide comprehensive support for a wide array of critical projects, including the communications and language services needs around ICANN63, the Root Zone Key Signing Key (KSK) Rollover, activities related to the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and more. The team continues to look for ways to optimize the ICANN.org website within available resources, while also moving forward with the Information Transparency Initiative.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

ICANN63: ICANN63 in Barcelona, Spain, saw significant media interest, with a total of 65 news pieces published regarding the meeting. A majority of the coverage came from local (Spanish) media outlets, including La Vanguardia, El Nacional, and El Pais. A pre-meeting media advisory and an opening day press release were distributed to regional and global journalists, four media interviews were arranged for ICANN staff, and a blog regarding the High Level Government Meeting (HLHM) was published. The 20th anniversary celebration plan was executed successfully, with both the commemorative session and cocktail reception attracting a large number of participants. The team also published daily newsletters for attendees and coordinated video interviews that were posted on the ICANN YouTube channel.

KSK Rollover: The rollover took place on 11 October 2018, and in the following days, the ICANN org determined that an insignificant number of Internet end-users had been persistently and negatively impacted by the changing of the key. An announcement was published to share the results (<u>First Root KSK Rollover Successfully Completed</u>), which was also translated and shared on social media in multiple languages. The communications team published an internal report on the KSK rollover campaign, including both technical and communications efforts. Highlights from the campaign include:

- 100 speaking engagements at international, regional, and national conferences.
- An automated testbed for operators to test deployments (with a total of 1424 subscriptions).
- A survey sent to 16,308 network operators.
- More than 600 news articles published in media outlets around the world (access the link to the google repository in the report)
- A dedicated webpage with content available in nine languages.
- Social media outreach in multiple languages (see metrics in the report).
- Letters sent to telecommunications regulators, GAC representatives in over 150 countries and Internet Exchange Points (IXP) administrators around the world.

After the rollover, Paul Hoffman, Principal Technologist, ICANN's Office of the CTO, published a blog (<u>The Recent KSK Rollover: Summary and Next Steps</u>). The blog was translated and shared on social media in multiple languages.

GDPR: The Communications team continues to provide significant resources to both the internal and external tracks of the ICANN org's Data Protection and Privacy Issues and GDPD-related efforts. This has included writing support for announcements, blogs, and messaging documents that also relate to contracted party communications and media; assistance with staff and community webinars; managing updates to Data Protection and Privacy Issues materials on the ICANN.org website; and the development of outreach materials such as social media posts and presentation decks.

Information Transparency Initiative: In January 2019, the Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) entered its second year of implementation. Since the September 2018 CEO Report to the Board, much work has been completed. In October 2018, the new, multifaceted search experience for Announcements and Blogs was submitted for community input to feedback.icann.org. Registry Agreements will be available for community input in late January or early February 2019, and several other content types including ICANN Board Materials will be available for input in April 2019. The ITI team will be providing several opportunities for input into ITI at ICANN64 in Kobe, Japan, and a two-page Board update on ITI's status will be submitted to the Board in preparation for its January 2019 Meeting in Los Angeles.

Regional Events/Outreach We Supported: In addition to the support that ICANN's Communications team provides for the three yearly Public Meetings, our regional teams regularly attend and provide on-the-ground support for a wide range of events and activities. This may include interacting with local media, promoting participation in the ICANN community, interacting with local stakeholders, and assisting in executing the goals laid out in their respective regional strategies. During this period, these events included (amongst others) APNIC 46 in Noumea, New Caledonia; the 18th ICANN-Studienkreis in Tallinn, Estonia; the African School on Internet Governance in Zanzibar, Tanzania; CyFy 2018 in New Delhi, India; IGF 2018 in Paris, France; and the LAC DNS Forum in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

None.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Policy Development Support David Olive, SVP, Policy Development Support

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

 The ASO Address Council initiated the selection process for Seat 10 of the ICANN Board of Directors. There are three candidates.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

- The Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data published its Initial Report for <u>public comment</u> on 21 November 2018. In light of the uncertain status of GDPR-related work and the possibility of duplicative work, the GNSO Council terminated the Next-Generation gTLD Registration Directory Service (RDS) to replace Whois PDP.
- The GNSO Council approved the final recommendations on Red Cross Names and the requisite GNSO Council Recommendations Report for submission to the ICANN Board.
- The GNSO Council adopted the Work Stream 2 Final Report of the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability.
- The GNSO Council leadership developed the GNSO Policy Development Process 3.0 Final Report with next steps to develop an Implementation Plan.
- The GNSO Council adopted GNSO nominations from the Standing Selection Committee for the Third Review of ICANN Accountability and Transparency (ATRT3).

The GNSO currently has 8 policy development processes in progress. These are at various stages of the Policy Development Process (PDP) life cycle. Issues being addressed in the Working Group phase include:

- Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data (Expedited Policy Development Process)
- IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms
- Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs
- New gTLD Subsequent Procedures

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

- The ccNSO Policy Development working group on retirement continues its work on the retirement of country code Top-Level Domains (ccTLDs) and the review mechanisms for decisions relating to the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs.
- The second ccNSO Organizational Review is well underway.
- The ccNSO Study Group on the use of emoji as second level domain is seeking input from ccTLD who accept Emojis as (part of) a second level domain name. The Study Group intends to publish its initial findings by February 2019. Further details can be found here.
- The December 2018 ccNSO membership is at 171. New members: SWITCH, the ccTLD operator of Switzerland (.ch), Liechtenstein (.li) and Lesotho (.ls).
- In December 2018, the ccNSO Council adopted the Election Report of the 2019 ccNSO Council Elections. Three new Councillors were elected: From the AF

Region Biyi Oladipo (.ng), from the AP Region Jordan Carter (.nz), and from the EU Region Nick Wenban-Smith (.uk). In addition, the LAC region re-elected Demi Getschko (.br) and the NA region re-elected Pablo Rodriguez (.pr). The newly elected Councillors will take their seat in March 2019, at the conclusion of ICANN64 in Kobe (9-14 March 2019).

At-Large/At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

- Policy Advice Development From 16 August through 16 December 2018, the ALAC submitted 9 statements. They are:
 - At-Large Workspace: Draft Final Report of The Second Security and Stability Advisory Committee Review (SSAC2)
 - At-Large Workspace: Registration Directory Service (RDS-WHOIS2) Review Team Draft Report of Recommendations
 - At-Large Workspace: ICANN Seeking Community Feedback on Proposed Unified Access Model
 - Proposed gTLD-Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) Profile
 - Next Steps on Reviews
 - Initial Report on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process (Overarching Issues & Work Tracks 1-4)
 - IPC/BC Accreditation & Access Model for Non-Public Data v1.7
 - Recommendations for Managing IDN Variant Top-Level Domains
 - Draft ICANN Africa Strategic Plan 2016-2020 Version 3.0
- At-Large Review and Implementation The At-Large Review Implementation Working Group (ARIWG) has adopted the first At-Large Review Implementation Plan.
- Leadership Changes The ALAC elected Maureen Hilyard as ALAC Chair for the period of one year, beginning at the end of ICANN 63.
- ALAC Leadership Team Africa Tijani Ben Jemma; APRALO Maureen Hilyard; Europe -Sebastien Bachollet; LACRALO - Ricardo Holmquist; NARALO - John Laprise. They took their seats at the end of ICANN 63. In addition, Maureen Hilyard established an At-Large Leadership - PLUS Team that included the RALO Chairs, ALAC Liaisons, and former Chairs.
- Liaisons All four ALAC Liaisons were re-appointed unanimously to serve one more year.
 The Liaisons are: ccNSO Barrack Otieno; GAC Yrjo Lansipuro; GNSO Cheryl Langdon-Orr; SSAC Andrei Kolesnikov.

At Large Structures and Individuals

 At-Large Structures – There are currently 232 At-Large Structures in 103 countries and territories and a total of 99 individual members. In the period covered by this report, the increase in numbers include: ALSes: 2 new ALSes; and Individuals: 23 new Individuals.

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

- The GAC issued the ICANN63 Barcelona Communiqué and provided the ICANN
 Board with consensus advice on IGO protections and two-character country codes at
 the second level see https://gac.icann.org/contentMigrated/icann63-barcelona-communique.
- Follow-up on the GAC Barcelona Advice The GAC and the Board held a joint call on 28 November to clarify Board member questions regarding the GAC Advice issued at ICANN63.

During this period, the issue of continuing concerns regarding two-character codes at the second level remains an important one for a number of GAC members. Follow-up discussions during the November Board-GAC Communique Clarification call clarified the timing and types of responses to the GAC being planned by the Board and ICANN org.

High Level Governmental Meeting Implementation:

A major component of the GAC's engagement activity in Barcelona was the fourth High Level Governmental Meeting (HLGM) to be held in conjunction with an ICANN meeting, hosted by the Spanish government. Nearly 200 ministers and senior officials from governments and various inter-governmental organizations representing 124 delegations from around the world, attended the HLGM. Delegates discussed and acquainted themselves with the technical, legal, and geopolitical challenges that ICANN faces as it works to fulfill its mission in an ever-changing Internet ecosystem

GAC Operational Matters:

- At the ICANN63 meeting, the GAC formally concluded its 2018 Leadership Election process. By acclamation, the GAC elected Manal Ismail (Egypt) as Chair for the term March 2019 March 2021. The GAC elected as Vice-Chairs for the term March 2019 March 2020: Chérif Diallo (Senegal), Pär Brumark (Niue), Thiago Jardim (Brazil), Olga Cavalli (Argentina), and Luisa Paez (Canada).
- Membership **GAC membership now is at 178 Members and 36 Observers** (IGOs) with the addition of Laos as during this period.
- ICANN Board members and GAC members agreed rename its coordination group ("Board-GAC Interaction Group" (BGIG). Discussion included the proposed timeline for responding to the Barcelona Communique and reviewed feedback on the Board's continuing initiative to record and track historical and current GAC advice.
- The GAC is considering options for a future independent secretariat. In the
 meantime, in an exchange of correspondence with ICANN org, a temporary
 arrangement is being established to enable ICANN staff to undertake additional
 support functions in 2019.

Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

The RSSAC continues to raise awareness about recent publications:

- 1. RSSAC037: A Proposed Governance Model for the DNS Root Server System;
- 2. RSSAC038: RSSAC Advisory on a Proposed Governance Model for the DNS Root Server System;
- 3. RSSAC039: RSSAC Statement Regarding ICANN's Updated Key Signing Key Rollover Plan;
- 4. RSSAC040: Recommendations on Anonymization Processes for Source IP Addresses Submitted for Future Analysis;
- 5. RSSAC041: RSSAC Advisory on Organizational Reviews.

Other activities of the RSSAC:

- RSSAC selected Fred Baker as its new co-chair, replacing Tripti Sinha, who concluded her term as RSSAC Co-chair. He is joined by Brad Verd as the RSSAC co-chairs.
- Nine new members have joined the RSSAC Caucus, expanding the base of technical experts contributing to work parties.

Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

- 20 August, the SSAC published <u>SAC102</u>, <u>SSAC Comment on the Updated Plan for Continuing the Root Key Signing Key Rollover</u>.
- The SSAC is publishing an updated version of <u>SAC101: SSAC Advisory</u> Regarding Access to Domain Name Registration Data.

Empowered Community and Empowered Community Administration

- The Empowered Community designated three Directors appointed by the Nominating Committee to take their seats at the October 2019 Annual General Meeting.
- As part of the Bylaws-required annual appointment of a representative from each of the five Decisional Participants to the Empowered Community Administration, the ALAC and GNSO have appointed its respective incoming chairs (Maureen Hilyard and Keith Drazek) to these positions, with their terms beginning after the October 2019 Annual General Meeting.

Root Zone Evolution Review Committee (RZERC)

No requests for consideration has been received during this period.

Customer Standing Committee (CSC)

- The CSC continues to meet monthly.
- The CSC, in close cooperation with PTI and ICANN org, is finalizing work on the Remedial Action Procedures and an amendment of the Service Level Change Mechanism.
- The CSC Charter review team's Initial Report's core finding is that CSC has
 performed its task well and no need for major change of the charter. However, the
 Review team will suggest some minor, mostly administrative changes, to the CSC
 charter.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

Empowered Community and Empowered Community Administration

Staff continues to facilitate the remaining Decisional Participants' (ASO, ccNSO and GAC) completion of necessary updates or changes to internal procedures for exercising the Empowered Community powers. The Empowered Community Administration continues to try to find ways to manage these deadlines/notice periods more efficiently.

Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

• The global Internet number community continues its consultations on structural recommendations in the final report of the ASO organizational review.

- The Number Resource Organization Executive Council (NRO EC) published a <u>statement</u> in September that distilled regional conversations into four points.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

- Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification Following the publication of its Initial Report for public comment, the EPDP has continued its deliberations on a number of outstanding issues. Further items are expected to be raised in response to the public comment forum. The timeline for delivering a Final Report remains challenging and may be impacted by the number of comments that are received. Similarly, there are a number of issues that the EPDP Team has not come to agreement on and/or where additional guidance is sought from the EDPB and/or external counsel to help inform the deliberations. A F2F meeting has been scheduled mid-January for the EPDP Team to review public comments received and finalize its report for submission to the GNSO Council. Progress during that meeting will be of crucial importance in order to meet the timeline.
- New gTLD Subsequent Procedures With the extensive nature of the Working Group's Initial Report, substantial public comment was received, with PDP leadership determining that sub groups were the best mechanism to perform the initial review of the public comment; This effort is expected to last through the end of February 2019. The public comment summary reports from the sub groups will still need to be reviewed by the full WG, for consideration and possible amendment to preliminary recommendations. This exercise may cause timelines to be extended. and there is a possibility that an additional public comment period may be needed, which would likely impact the Final Report target date of mid-2019. It may be challenging to consider the substantial input and then convert that into final recommendations.
- Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) This PDP has had to extend its planned timeline for Phase One several times. In addition, the Working Group has had to spend more time than anticipated on developing possible recommendations for Phase One of this PDP, due to longstanding divisions among various stakeholders on the issues leading to long and contentious discussions. Publication of a Phase One Initial Report for public comment is now targeted for the end of Q2 2019, meaning that a Final Report on Phase One will not be submitted to the GNSO Council before mid-Q3.
- IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs Although the Working Group has submitted its Final Report to the GNSO Council, with all recommendations achieving consensus or higher, concerns remain in the context of the broader issues around IGO protections. The GNSO Council has noted that the recommendations conflict with GAC advice and IGO submissions, that the recommendations are potentially contrary to the PDP charter, and that there may have been operational issues with the PDP. Given the challenges, the Council is seeking to navigate the challenges within the scope of its current procedures and determine what might be the best option moving forward. In the meantime, interim reservations put in place in 2013 and 2014 by the ICANN Board for IGO acronyms at the second level remain in place.

Reconvened PDP on Protections for IGO-INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs (note: scope limited only to certain names of the Red Cross) – The GNSO Council approved the Proposed Consensus Policy on Protections for Certain Red Cross and Red Crescent Names in All Generic Top-Level Domains in September 2018 and recommends its adoption by the ICANN Board. Following the close of the public comment proceeding on 14 December, the proposed Consensus Policy and all relevant input received will be forwarded to the ICANN Board for its consideration and action.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

- The ccNSO SSAC working party is finalising its work on the guidelines for the evaluation of risk mitigation measures.
- Additional work to amend the Fast Track process will most likely be deferred, and only
 undertaken as part of reviewing and updating the overall policy recommendations on IDN
 ccTLD, which will be kicked-off once the joint ccNSO-SSAC working party has concluded its
 work.
- The ccNSO intends to continue to work on issues pertaining to the use of names of countries and territories as TLDs tentatively in work track 5 of the GNSO PDP on subsequent procedures to ensure the two-letter code elements only remain available as ccTLDs.
- The PDP working group on retirement of ccTLDs is making progress slowly.

At-Large/At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

- At-Large Review and Implementation Working Group Adopts First
 Implementation Plan- The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) has endorsed the
 At-Large Review Implementation Plan (Plan) as approved by the At-Large Review
 Implementation Working Group (ARIWG). This Plan was prepared in response to a
 Board Resolution approved 23 June 2018 on the At-Large Review. The Plan sets out
 the timeline for 8 issues ranked in Priorities 1-3.
- Policy Issues Weekly calls of the At-Large Consolidated WG are focusing on EPDP issues.

Government Advisory Committee (GAC)

GDPR and WHOIS:

 The GAC remains committed to contributing to the swift delivery of a comprehensive RDS policy. The GAC is preparing comments on the Initial Report of the EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Team.

IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms:

• In Barcelona, the GAC took note that the GNSO had decided to not vote on the final report for the PDP on IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms, which it asserted adopted recommendations in direct conflict with longstanding GAC advice. The GAC said in Barcelona that it "remains optimistic that a substantive dialogue with the GSNO could help both sides better understand the issues at play and reach a lasting solution that can provide IGOs with GAC-advised protections for their acronyms while addressing the concerns of the GNSO."

Two-Character Codes at the Second Level:

• There is still a desire in the GAC to fully resolve the status of this matter by getting a full explanation and understanding from the Board regarding how the current situation developed and how the concerns of certain countries can still be addressed. The GAC had a robust dialogue with ICANN Board members in Barcelona concerning the substantive issue of options available to concerned governments in the case of applications to use two-character country and territory names at the second level of gTLDs and the procedural issue of how the Board has dealt with previous GAC advice on this issue.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Governmental and IGO Engagement

Tarek Kamel, Sr. Advisor to President & SVP, Government and IGO Engagement

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

The range of events from August through the middle of December included preparatory meetings for the ITU PP-18; the plenipotentiary itself, outreach and engagement events in Geneva, Brussels and New York; support for the High-level Governmental meeting taking place at the start of ICANN 63 in Barcelona and the preparation and presentation of the GAC capacity Building Evaluation report process during and after ICANN 63 and active involvement with the planning committee of the global IGF 2018 Paris.

In addition, there were several government IGO engagement meetings where ICANN participated as part of the overall Internet Governance Ecosystem and bilateral meetings held in conjunction with the conferences listed above as well as others. These included the GE team meetings with government and intergovernmental representatives in New York, US: and Geneva Switzerland; as well as supporting the CEO and ICANN Board members in bilateral meetings during trips to Tallinn Estonia; Geneva, Switzerland; Barcelona Spain, Paris France and technical trainings at the UN missions in New York. Bilaterals were held with EC Commissioner for Digital Economy, and with MEPs and representatives from France, Brazil, Egypt, Canada as well as UNESCO, UNDESA, the EC DGs for Connect, Home and Justice, the executive for the Commission on Cybersecurity and the ITU SG. In addition, there were meetings with GAC members during ICANN63.

The GE team also organized technical briefings for the representatives to the permanent missions to the UN in New York in September and again in December addressing technical issues involving the KSK roll; DDOS and the structure of the DNS, the sessions provided opportunities for participant Q & A focused on the Internet infrastructure, the unique identifiers and the functioning of the DNS.

These briefings were in furtherance of discussions initially held with the UN Sec Gen last June in which he expressed interest in increasing the technical opportunities for the permanent representatives to receive training on topics that would inform their decision making.

GE, in cooperation with GSE staff, also continued its regional government engagement activities with the related officials in different countries and regions as highlighted in the monthly report to the Government Advisory Committee (GAC.)

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

1. Liaising with the Government Advisory Committee (GAC)

Work with the GAC during this time period focused on the preparation for the High Level Governmental Meeting (HLGM) held at the start of the ICANN 63 meeting. GE staff, working with GAC Support and GSE were involved in the design of the agenda and identification of speakers.

During this time GE worked closely with the GAC leadership on finalizing issues and the development of the agenda for the HLGM which was held in Barcelona on the Monday at the start of ICANN 63. The meeting consisted of 4 sessions that covered the following topics: The

Role and Opportunities for Governments in ICANN – Post IANA Transition; Thematic Challenges in the IG Ecosystem – Cybercrime, Data Protection and Privacy; The Internet Technological Evolution and the Role and Impact on ICANN; and Global Digital Agenda and Internet Policies.

The HLGM was very well attended with 127 delegations taking part. As the first HLGM since the IANA transition the meeting and its robust attendance and participation endorsed the evolution and maturity of the ICANN multistakeholder model and demonstrated the governments have found their place in the empowered community model. Since the close of the HLGM GE, in collaboration with the Spanish government representatives, has drafted the Chairman's report and the detailed supplemental document that covered the attendees and contributions of the delegates in each of the 4 sessions during the HLGM.

The GE team continued to support the GAC capacity building program through the development of the Evaluation report on the initiative. The evaluation process was initially discussed at ICANN 62 in Panama with a framework described during the GAC meeting. The comprehensive assessment report was subsequently drafted, and the next steps were presented to the GAC in the ICANN 63 meeting in Barcelona. These include the completion of the comprehensive program evaluation and the development of a process document to be discussed intercessionally with possible endorsement at ICANN 64 in Kobe. GE continues to work with the GAC leadership and the Underserved Regions Working Group (USRWG) on needs identified through the capacity building workshop evaluation process. This work includes identifying ways to leverage existing courses and tools to augment workshops and face to face meeting opportunities. Currently the USRWG is examining a range of possibilities for planning activities for the balance of FY19 and FY20.

2. Government and IGOs Engagement

The Government and IGO Engagement team continues its work with governments, global and regional intergovernmental organizations as well as the country missions and permanent representatives to the various IGOs in Geneva and New York.

Since August GE staff participated in several events and briefings with various IGOs including the ITU Council and its working groups on Internet and WSIS. GE continued to monitor the high-level discussions in the UN General Assembly and the discussions of resolutions that could potentially impact ICANN's remit. In addition, GE staff in collaboration with the regional GSE teams continued to follow the final regional preparatory meetings and discussions of possible country resolutions in development for the ITU – PP-18. This covered five meetings from August through October. Nairobi, Kenya (4th ATU meeting), Riyadh (4th Arab states meeting); Com-ITU in Bonn, Germany (CEPT prep meeting), CITEL in Washington DC and the 4th APT prep meeting in Kuala Lumpur. The team focused on draft resolutions with potential impact on the DNS to see if anything was gaining traction. During the ITU PP-18 GE had a team in Dubai working collaboratively with representatives from sister I* organizations, like minded governments and members of the ICANN community serving on country and sector member delegations. The ICANN CEO addressed the ITU on the first day with a well-received speech. In addition, GE and GSE staff supported several bilaterals for ICANN's CEO with ITU-SG and senior government officials from several countries including the UAE and Egypt among others.

This fall the GE team continued following discussions at the UN General Assembly and in committees on cybersecurity issues, including sharing information with Board members and

OCTO on latest initiatives in the field by countries which have expressed strong opinions about ICANN in the past.

The GE team continued its work with colleagues on discussions in ICANN community and the larger IG ecosystem on data protection and the GDPR as part of the trend analysis work with MSSI and the broader outreach and engagement work with governments and IGOs. This included outreach and engagement sessions in Geneva, Brussels and New York on the operation of the DNS, the potential impact of GDPR and the role of ICANN in the Internet Ecosystem.

3. Participation in Internet Governance Discussions

GE continued its active support of the global IGF through representation on the IGF MAG; and through its support for and participation in the Global IGF in Paris in November. ICANN fielded a delegation made up of Executives, Board members, CEO, GE GSE and other ICANN departments. As part of that engagement ICANN participated in the opening ceremony; presented an Open Forum that covered organizational priorities and operating principles; collaborated with APNIC on a GDPR themed workshop which looked at the issue from the standpoint of WHOIS and from the operational side; and conducted a flash session on IG policy issues and the needs of the stakeholders in developing economies. ICANN was also one of the hosts of the Technical Community Reception organized at the UNESCO venue at the IGF, working collaboratively with our sister I* organizations. ICANN also participated in the Peace Summit and presented on one of the featured panels in the high-level meeting organized by the French government at the start of the IGF.

The GE team has been notified by ECOSOC that as expected the ICANN accreditation application will be reviewed by the UN with other applications in the upcoming round in January 2019. No questions or requests for additional materials have been raised at this time.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

During ICANN 63 Barcelona government engagement activity focused on the HLGM and engagement with the participants. This also included the luncheon speech of the ITU Secretary General to the delegates, furthering relations between the two organizations.

During this time, GE worked closely with the GAC leadership on finalizing issues and the development of the agenda for the HLGM, and since the close of the HLGM, the drafting of the HLGM Chairman's report and detailed supporting document that described the participation of the delegates on the various issues raised in the HLGM.

In addition, the dialogue continued with various governments to address and define the concerns expressed about the use of 2 and 3-character codes at the second level. At ICANN 63 a presentation by GAC members on an analysis of the history of the issue and process was the basis for a session with Board members to further the understanding of each side of the others position.

Two other ongoing areas of activity remain the GDPR, its impact on ICANN Org processes and procedures and the development of mechanisms to more effectively monitor developing legislative and regulatory initiatives globally; and discussions regarding contested strings. GE in collaboration with the GSE continues to monitor the development of the e-privacy initiatives and various cybersecurity topics as they are raised in various fora. The work in these areas is to

identify any potential impact on ICANN within its remit and to provide factual information to decision makers whenever possible to help avoid unintended negative consequences. On contested strings GE continues to support the executive team and other departments in the liaison work and dialogue necessary to move to resolution of these items.

ICANN Org Report to the Board

Multistakeholder Strategy and Strategic Initiatives (MSSI)

Theresa Swinehart, SVP, Multistakeholder Strategy and Strategic Initiatives

KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES

Several milestones were achieved in connection with the department's areas of responsibility including overseeing and managing reviews (Specific and Organizational), data protection/privacy, strategic outlook and strategic planning, and the finalization and next steps of the CCWG WS2 draft recommendations.

In relation to Work Stream 2, the CCWG-Accountability WS2 concluded its work at its face-to-face meeting at ICANN62. The WS2 <u>Final Report</u> was approved by the Chartering Organizations and transmitted to the ICANN Board by the CCWG-Accountability Co-Chair's on 9 November 2018 for Board consideration and adoption.

Regarding the strategic outlook and strategic planning efforts, through a <u>webinar</u> in October, and a <u>public session</u> in Barcelona at ICANN63, members of the ICANN Board and ICANN org provided an overview of the strategic planning process to the community, and presented the findings from the strategic outlook trend sessions and the subsequent analysis completed by the Board and ICANN org over the past months. The community indicated its support for the approach taken, and provided constructive and useful feedback on the opportunities and challenges identified. On that basis the ICANN org and Board are developing a draft strategic plan. The draft strategic plan will be posted for public consultation prior to the end of December.

On specific reviews, the Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review Team (CCT) submitted the final report to the ICANN Board in September 2018, with the public comment period open through 11 December, to gather community input on the final report and recommendations. The ICANN org is conducting an analysis of the final recommendations to inform Board action in March 2019. The Second Security, Stability & Resiliency Review Team (SSR2) resumed its work in June 2018 (see announcement), marked by the addition of new review team members and the engagement of a facilitator to assist the review team with the transition process. The SSR2 held a 3-day facilitated meeting in August 2018 to complete the deliverables suggested by the SO/AC chairs, including the expansion of its leadership team. The review team updated and adopted its Terms of Reference in September 2018 and subsequently updated and adopted its Work Plan in November 2018. The team is concluding its work on assessing the implementation of SSR1 recommendations and is making plans to define its other workstream items. The Registration Directory Service Review Team (RDS-WHOIS2) published its draft report for public comment in September 2018 and held a face-toface meeting in December 2018, to analyze public comments and update the draft report and recommendations. RDS-WHOIS2 aims to finalize its work and submit its final report to the Board in February 2019. The third Accountability and Transparency Review (ATRT3) was initiated with the call for volunteers in January 2017, yielding 26 applications. The appointment of the review team had been delayed due to community bandwidth and resource concerns. Following public support of the proposed next steps to start the work of ATRT3 in January 2019 (as noted below), the Board passed a resolution to appoint Maarten Botterman to serve as a member of ATRT3. The SO/ACs finalized their confirmation of nominees and the SO/AC chairs announced the final composition of the review team on 20 December 2018.

To ensure transparency to the community on the progress and resources relating to the Specific Reviews, fact sheets are published on a quarterly basis. These can be found on their respective wiki pages (CCT – SSR2 – RDS-WHOIS2) and are annexed to this CEO Report.

In collaboration with the community and the Board, the department has drafted Operating Standards, a system by which to conduct reviews efficiently and effectively, in alignment with the ICANN Bylaws. An updated draft Operating Standards, including all community feedback received, was published for public comment in December 2018 with the goal of having the Board adopt these standards after ICANN64. In the meantime, the community is encouraged to use the draft Operating Standards as a guide for ongoing review work.

Regarding Organizational Reviews, for the At-Large Review the Board received the final report in June 2018, following which the At-Large formed an implementation team, which is finalizing a detailed implementation plan. The NomCom Review Final Report was submitted in June 2018. The NomCom Review Implementation Planning Team drafted the Feasibility Assessment and Initial Implementation Plan. Next, the Organizational Effectiveness Committee of the Board (OEC) will make a recommendation to the Board on appropriate action in early 2019. The RSSAC Review Final Report was published in July 2018. The RSSAC Review Working Party has submitted its Feasibility Assessment and Initial Implementation Plan to the OEC in October 2018. The OEC will make a recommendation to the Board on appropriate action in early 2019. The SSAC Review Draft Final Report was published for public comment in October 2018; six comments were received by the time the comment period ended. The final report was issued in December 2018. The ccNSO Review started in August 2018, and the independent examiner has conducted over 40 interviews. An online survey opened in November to gather input. Following the submission of the Final Report of the ASO Review, the NRO Executive Committee and the ASO Advisory Council have published a joint response. The GNSO Review has completed the implementation phase and the GNSO Review Implementation Working Group submitted its Final Implementation Report to the OEC in July 2018.

In relation to data protection/privacy, we continue to coordinate both internal and external efforts to address the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), as well as to track emerging legislation in other jurisdictions. Internally, we have managed coordination of ICANN organization departments' work to ensure compliance with the law and development of the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data, which went into effect on 25 May 2018. The Temporary Specification has been reaffirmed by the ICANN Board for successive 90-day intervals on 21 August 2018 and 6 November 2018. Externally, MSSI has closely coordinated with GDD, legal and respective departments and the Board on continued dialogue and work toward developing a possible unified access model for those with legitimate purposes under the law to gain access to non-public registration data. This has included the formation of a Technical Study Group on Access to Non-Public Registration Data.

We will continue to engage in collective discussions on this topic and provide updates on our efforts. We are also tracking developments in other jurisdictions, including the proposed ePrivacy legislation in the European Union, as ICANN understands that the landscape is undergoing change in many ways, as well as monitoring legislative and regulatory changes in other regions. Information on the work with the community can also be found at: https://www.icann.org/dataprotectionprivacy.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

The department is currently supporting four Specific Reviews (CCT, SSR2, RDS-WHOIS2, and ATRT3) and six Organizational Reviews (At-Large, NomCom, RSSAC, SSAC, ccNSO, and GNSO) under the Bylaws, as detailed above. As the work of the Specific Review teams concludes, these reviews move toward Board action and subsequent implementation planning and execution. The MSSI role shifts into facilitation and coordination of work of the relevant cross-functional subject matter experts, while driving the review program to achieve effective outcomes and informing the Board and the community of implementation progress.

The OEC oversees Specific and Organizational Reviews and related processes. Under the oversight of the OEC, and in line with best practices from transition related-work, Board caucus groups have been formed as a mechanism for the Board to provide input to Specific Reviews on scope of work, feasibility of recommendations and other key matters. The department supports this reviews-related work.

With regard to the GDPR specifically, activity has taken place in two tracks, one focused on contracted parties and engagement, and the other on the ICANN organization internal issues:

On the Contracted Parties and Engagement Track, ICANN org has published several communications to keep the community apprised of developments, including a community webinar on 8 October 2018, and notifying the contracted parties when the ICANN Board twice reaffirmed the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data. Per the requirement in ICANN's gTLD registry agreements and the Registrar Accreditation Agreement, the ICANN Board must reaffirm a temporary specification every 90 days, for no more than one year.

Following the adoption of the Temporary Specification, the Generic Names Supporting Organization launched the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) that is considering the Temporary Specification as consensus policy. The EPDP is expected to consider a standard access mechanism for third parties with a legitimate interest seeking non-public registration data. To inform this work, ICANN org has continued to develop a possible unified access model to facilitate further discussions with the European Data Protection Board and, where possible, increase legal certainty on whether such a model may be implemented within the law. This work is not intended to replace the multistakeholder policy development process, but rather to inform it. Many community members voiced support for this approach at ICANN63, including general acceptance and a shared goal that there is benefit to all stakeholders to determine whether a model is feasible, while also diminishing the legal risk for contracted parties.

In addition, in November the CEO announced the formation of a Technical Study Group on Access to Non-Public Registration Data. The group, which begun its work in December, is coordinated by Ram Mohan, as the former Security and Stability Advisory Committee liaison to the ICANN Board, and will focus on exploring technical solutions for providing access to non-public registration data. Technical representatives from the DNS industry with expertise in RDAP and authentication/authorization technologies were invited to participate. The group launched its work in December.

With regards to the Internal ICANN-organization related issues track, Legal has rolled out implementation recommendations to each of the departments based on the initial surveys submitted, subsequent deep-dive interviews, and consultation with our external counsel. The recommendations were divided into those specific to each department and those affecting the entire organization.

Recommendations that were implemented organization-wide include adjustments to some of its internal policies, such as an updated online privacy policy, terms of service, cookies policy, a new gTLD program personal data privacy statement, and notices of data privacy for ICANN personnel, Board members, and augmented staff. Contracts with third parties that may involve the handling of personal data have been and continues to be reviewed to include GDPR compliant data processing addendums where required. Records of Processing Agreements are currently in place for all business units and are on track to be reviewed and updated on a biannual basis. ICANN organization-wide training is conducted on an annual basis and/or when required. ICANN org has been and continues to process data subject requests for erasure and/or access pursuant to a procedure that has been developed for this process. The department will continue to work closely with Legal and the Engineering & Information Technology teams coordinating with each department to ensure ongoing compliance.

Regarding the Strategic Outlook and Strategic Planning work, the Board, with the support of ICANN org, completed its review of the many trends identified by the community. Unsurprisingly, there were significant similarities that naturally converged into five primary trends, on security, governance, the unique identifier systems, geopolitics, and financials. These trends represent challenges but also opportunities for ICANN to shape its future. After receiving input from the community in Barcelona, the Board continued integrating the main parts of the Strategic Plan. The draft strategic plan will be posted for public consultation prior to the end of December.

TOP ISSUES & MITIGATION

The Bylaws have introduced new requirements applicable to Specific Reviews. The community has not had time to develop mechanisms and processes to support these new requirements. Additionally, the ICANN community has expressed concerns about volunteer fatigue and the unsustainable nature of the current review schedule mandated by the Bylaws. In response to community concerns, in May 2018 the ICANN org posted for Public Comment short-term and long-term options to address the timing challenges associated with reviews. Due to the limited number of comments submitted and diversity of views (see Staff Report on Short-term Options and Staff Report of the Long-Term Options), the Board decided to publish a consultation paper in September 2018, to confirm our understanding of the community's feedback and agreement with next steps for ATRT3 and for the improvements to streamline Specific and Organizational Reviews. Community feedback indicated support for the proposed next steps and timeline for starting ATRT3. In terms of streamlining future reviews, the community provided input and broad support for the way forward, as noted in the consultation paper. The ICANN org will continue to analyze the input and engage with the community to develop detailed proposals aiming to make reviews more effective and impactful.

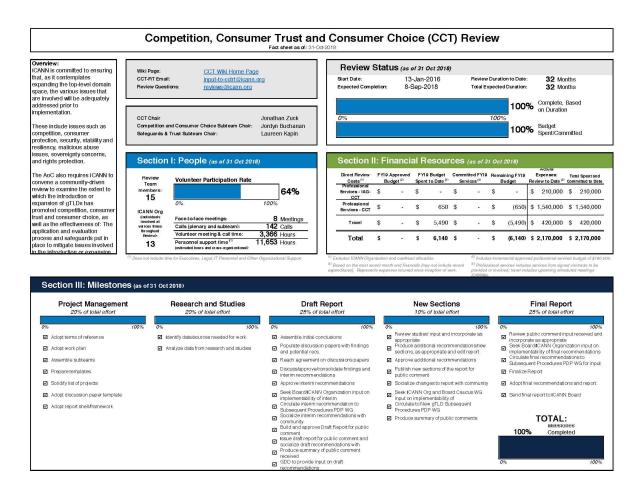
The work of developing Operating Standards, in collaboration with the community, in part has helped to identify and propose processes to address the new Bylaws requirements. The adoption of Operating Standards is expected to provide useful guidance to teams conducting Specific Reviews, with the goal of facilitating more efficient work process and productive review outcomes. The extensive community discussions and consultation on reviews have increased awareness of the importance of reviews and contributed to a better understanding of the significant commitment of volunteer time and ICANN resources. The ongoing process of streamlining reviews will aim to improve review effectiveness and impact.

In addition, GDPR also remains a top issue for the ICANN organization. A cross-functional team is focused on the next steps related to the continued enforcement of the temporary

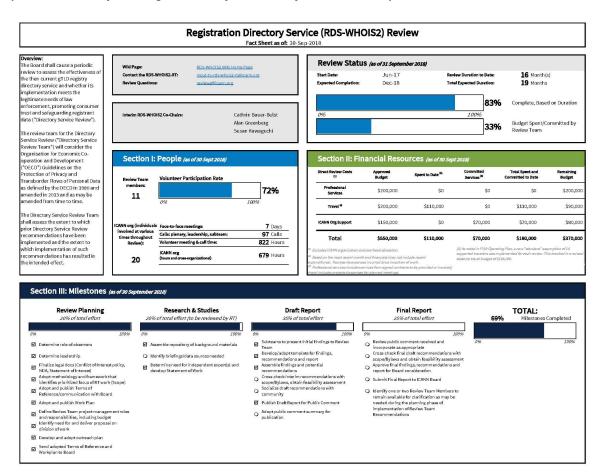
specification, as well as tracking progress toward its reconsideration by the Board every 90 days. The team is working with the ICANN community in assessing and incorporating community feedback, as appropriate, on a proposed unified access model, as well as maintaining transparency about ongoing discussions with European data protection authorities. Internally, the ICANN organization continues to monitor changes to privacy regulations including GDPR to ensure that ICANN org is compliant with such regulations.

Work on WS2 and the Strategic planning process continues as outlined in the discussions at the start of this departments' section.

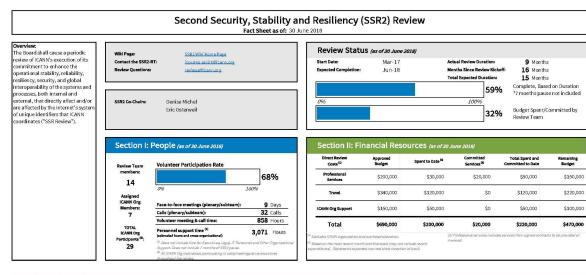
Fact Sheets CCT (Final Fact Sheet October 2018)

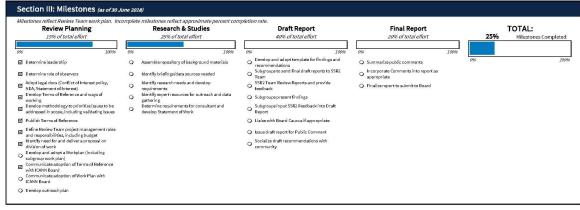


RDS (most recent quarterly version posted September 2018)



SSR2 (most recent quarterly version posted June 2018)





Regional Office Reports

APAC (Singapore)

Jia-Rong Low

Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Activity	No. of	Total No. of	Remarks
	Engagements	Participants	
APAC Space	2	99	Web Conference in Aug; Face-to-face meeting during ICANN63 Barcelona.
ICANN Readouts	4	112	Post-ICANN62 and ICANN63 Readouts in China, India, and Japan.
Technical Capacity Development	8	325	INTERPOL Singapore; New Caledonia; Malaysia; Papua New Guinea; Sri Lanka (2 workshops); Philippines; Chinese Taipei.
Contracted Parties Engagements or Workshops	Registries: 2 Registrars: 3	13 registries 40 registrars	Registries: Proactive 1-1 outreach in Japan and India Registrars: Registrar workshop in Korea; outreach in Japan.
Media Engagements	4	50 articles generated	Articles/media coverage in Bangladesh, China, India, Korea and Japan covering KSK, IDNs/UA, SSR, and ICANN64.
New Community Engagements	1	40	First ICANN Engagement event in Bangladesh.
Internationalized Domain Names (IDN) Program Engagements	2	60	India and Indonesia.

Executive and Board visits

Executive / Board	Activity	Location	Date
Theresa Swinehart	Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace - Cyberstability Hearing	Singapore	19 September
Ashwin Rangan	CyFy 2018	India	3-5 October
Sally Costerton, Akinori Maemura	Visit to China, followed by attending the Wuzhen Conference	China	5-9 November

Other Notable Activities

- Communications: Received enquiries from 4 media outlets in India and Bangladesh to further clarify an article about an "Internet shutdown" in relation to the KSK rollover. Coordinated with OCTO team to provide clarifications. The 4 outlets then published articles with correct information, which were widely circulated.
- Registry Services: Organised DNS Abuse workshop conducted by OCTO SSR team for contracted parties and technical community in Japan.

- Registrar Services: At the government's invitation, conducted training to China's officials of Provincial Communication Authority (PCAs) on ICANN Registrar Management (Nov). PCAs grant licenses to registrars to allow them to conduct business in China.
- Compliance: From June to September 2018, out of 1362 APAC related complaints filed, APAC Compliance processed 378 valid APAC registrar complaints and 52 valid APAC registry complaints.
- IDN Program: Root Zone Label Generation Rules Proposals for Kannada, Oriya, Telugu; Malayalam and Tamil; and Sinhala scripts were published for public comment
- Global Support Centre: Fielded 1,079 general inquiries for this reporting period. Majority of inquiries (80%) were from Registrants, of which more than half requested assistance with managing domain name registrations such as domain transfers and renewals. Inquiries from Contracted Parties comprised 16% percent of the volume. The Singapore team achieved an average score of 4.0 on a 5 point scale for the question "How satisfied are you with the service you received from ICANN?"

EUROPE (Brussels)

Jean-Jacques Sahel

The European Regional Team will be holding its second annual All Hands meeting on 15-16 January 2019 in Brussels office. It will include in particular discussions informing the development of the Strategic and Operating Plans, providing the essential European / international perspective that is necessary for an organization with an international mandate such as ICANN. We will be welcoming a number of new colleagues who have joined ICANN in the region recently, such as for the SSR team and EECA.

During the past few months, ICANN63 occupied colleagues in the European team for many months, notably the dozen-plus members of the Policy Support, Board Support and MSSI teams in charge of many of the policy and strategic matters at hand. The GSE Europe team also delivered a record number of outreach events for (and by) almost all SO/ACs and stakeholder communities, reaching a mix of stakeholders from Spain and beyond in Europe. It included major engagements such as a week-long Internet Governance school in Barcelona that ICANN's CEO and many community experts spoke at, and a keynote speech by ICANN's General Counsel to the Royal Spanish Academy of Law in Madrid.

GSE and GE teams have also been evolving their work in line with the international office strategy, gradually making more of the Brussels office and focusing increasingly on long term capacity development work, to support more active contributions from volunteers in ICANN's work. This has seen more training session pilots, such as one focusing on civil society stakeholders in the margins of the Freedom Online Conference in Berlin and one for registrars in the margins of Sweden's annual Internet Day / Nordic Domain Days: this successful policy training format driven by GSE in collaboration with other ICANN Org teams such as GDD Engagement, Policy and Compliance, is now inspiring other regions such as North America and Middle-East, who we hope to see run similar activities from 2019.

Elsewhere, the last period was also marked by a successful Eastern European DNS Forum on 4-5 December. It gathered hundreds of stakeholders, with the presence of a number of senior ICANN officials such as the CTO and CSSRO – crucial further step in enhancing relations with the Russian Federation and surrounding region.

GDPR continues to occupy many team members' agenda, both in discussions with policymakers and stakeholders - including with hosting the RDS WHOIS Working Group meeting in the Brussels Office in December, as well as a technical briefing by ICANN's CTO on WHOIS of European Governments' expert representatives to the EU. GDPR also features heavily in interactions with stakeholders, with both the Compliance and Global Support teams reporting high interest and increased questions from European stakeholders, for example on the detail of the Temporary Specifications and how they are being enforced.

On the IDN front, the Hebrew Generation Panel almost finished in its work and the Brussels office hosted once more a meeting of the Latin GP.

GENEVA

Tarek Kamel

Engagement Highlights

The Geneva Government and IGO engagement team members conducted a range of government outreach meetings from August through December 17, 2018. These included supporting participation in the Studenkries, the ITU World Telecom, ITU Plenipotentiary 2018, the High-Level Government Meeting in alignment with ICANN 63 in Barcelona, the Global IGF in Paris and the High-Level panel as part of the Peace Summit held in conjunction with IGF 2018. In addition, the Geneva based GE team had meetings with government and intergovernmental representatives in Bonn, Germany; Brussels, Belgium; Paris, France; Austria and Geneva Switzerland; as well as supporting the CEO and ICANN Board members in bilateral meetings during trips to Brussels, Belgium; Paris, France; Geneva, Switzerland; Dubai, UAE; and with the officials from UAE, Egypt and with MEPs and representatives from France, Brazil, Canada as well as UNESCO, UNDESA as well as the EC DGs for Connect, Home and Justice, the executive for the Commission on Cybersecurity and the ITU SG.

In coordination with GSE regional teams, Geneva-based GE staff followed the final regional preparatory meetings which culminated in the ITU-PP18 held in Dubai in October. From August until the opening session in Dubai there were regional preparatory meetings in Nairobi, Kenya (4th ATU meeting), Riyadh (4th Arab states meeting); Com-ITU in Bonn, Germany (CEPT prep meeting), CITEL in Washington DC and the 4th APT prep meeting in Kuala Lumpur. During the ITU PP-18 itself ICANN had a small team in Dubai coordinating with sister organizations to track the resolutions introduced and the drafting sessions and negotiations. After long negotiation and the efforts of the technical community and government supporters potentially problematic resolutions were not endorsed as an outcome for ITU PP18.

Geneva based GE team members were very engaged following the activity in the WTO public Forum, the ITU Council meetings; the OECD CDEP and ITAC meetings and the preparations for the IGF 2018 in Paris.

GE continued its work on GDPR in collaboration other departments at ICANN. This included briefings and outreach sessions in Geneva, and Brussels.

Another area of key activity is working with the Government Advisory Committee (GAC). The Geneva based team was heavily involved with the GAC leadership in support of the HLGM held in Barcelona at the start of ICANN 63. The support ranged from agenda design and identifying speakers through the drafting process for the Chairman's report and the detailed supporting document on the

contributions and outcomes from the four sessions during the HLGM, GE staff also supported the GAC Underserved regions working group on several issues including GAC capacity building workshops. Since August that work has included drafting the GAC capacity building project evaluation paper and discussions regarding next steps in the capacity building program.

Other Events & Key Activities of Geneva based team:

September 10-13: ITU Telecom World; Durban SA September 18-20th: COM-ITU, Bonn, Germany

October 2-4: WTO Public Forum; Geneva, Switzerland

October 4: Outreach event for missions and IGO staff in Geneva organized by the Geneva office for briefing about ICANN63, HLGM, data protection and privacy efforts at ICANN Org and ICANN Community

October 9: High Level Group on Internet Governance, Brussels

October 10: EU Mission Briefing on GDPR; Geneva, Switzerland

October 27-November 17: ITU Plenipotentiary conference 2018; Dubai, United Arab Emirates; https://www.itu.int/web/pp-18/en/

November 11 – 12: Peace Summit and High-Level panel Paris France;

November 12 - 14: IGF 2018; Paris, France November 15-16: OECD CDEP; Paris, France November 27th – 29th: COE CDSMI, Strasbourg

LAC (Montevideo)

Rodrigo de la Parra

The most relevant news for our office in this quarter is the renovation of our LAC Regional Office Space hosted at *La Casa de Internet*. ICANN has now a larger and modern space. In general, the whole building has now a whole new concept of work space that includes the following features: natural light for all employees, shared spaces that promote team interaction and synergies, new social areas, meeting rooms and individual conference call rooms.



On the week of December 3rd, we held a series of events in our office including our annual "All Hands Meeting" under the topic *Breaking Silos and Creating Synergies*. A very complete agenda that included capacity development training with focus on *Best Practices and Innovation*, messages from executives highlighting ICANN priorities in order to align our regional activities, up-dates from support departments such as operations, human resources, finance, security, legal and the complaint officer. Moreover, we held a regional exercise on *Strategic Trend, Excel@ICANN and Risk Assessment* and of course the main focus on how different departments involved in regional activities could share more information to create synergies and serve better the needs of our stakeholders. That followed a year-end celebration together with our sister organizations in the region LACNIC, LACTLD, ISOC, ASIET, ALAI, eCOM LAC and Red CLARA.

In August, we participated at the Permanent Consultative Committee I of the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL) Organization of American States PCC-I where governments from the LAC region meet twice a year to discuss ICT and Internet relevant topics. For ICANN, this has been an ideal venue to update governments with ICANN's policy activities and other substantive happenings. CITEL is also relevant since it is within this organization where regional proposals are submitted for Global Conferences. In this case, CITEL prepared proposals for ITU's Plenipotentiary meeting.

In September, we were invited to participate in two relevant National IGFs in Central America, namely in El Salvador and Costa Rica. Both processes in early stages but already in very good shape with multistakeholder participation and engaged audiences. A good opportunity for ICANN to engage with local communities and raise awareness of the importance of engaging in ICANN's processes.

Also, in September, we participated in the LACNIC meeting and LACTLD workshop in Rosario, Argentina. ICANN's participation in this meeting included:

- 1.- Tutorial on DNSSEC Our colleague Mauricio Vergara from DNS Engineering delivered the tutorial with a full room and well engaged participants.
- 2.- Best Practices in Running a TLD Our colleague Eduardo Alvarez from GDD technical team organized a small workshop within LACTLD's event. This content was based on the technical annexes contained on the contracts with gTLDs. This was very useful for ccTLDs.
- 3.- Lighting talk on KSK Rollover. In coordination with Carlos Martinez (LACNIC SSAC) and our own Mauricio presented an update on the KSK.
- 4.- BoF on IMRS. Mauricio also helped us with this session. Good interest from operators to host an IMRS instance.
- 5.- DNS Stats Platform ICANN shared with the LACNIC community this open source tool to manage DNS traffic information.

During the ICANN meeting in Barcelona we organized 3 sessions for the LAC region. Our traditional LAC Space, a new session to develop capacity for LAC participation at PDPs and ICANN processes.

This year LAC DNS FORUM was organized in Sao Paulo, Brazil on November 29, 2018. Following the concept initiated in 2017 with the edition in Monterrey, Mexico, we partnered with a local organization to promote the Forum in conjunction with another event in order to reach a larger audience and strength partnership with local institutions. After discussions with stakeholders in Brazil, we identified ABRAHOSTING as a potential local partner. ABRAHOSTING is the national association of hosting and internet services companies, aggregating the 50 largest hosting services providers in Brazil. They promote the event ABRAHOSTINGDAY annually and accepted our proposal to include the Forum in the agenda, creating the ABRAHOSTINGDAY + LAC DNS FORUM 2018.

We activated our traditional Forum's partners LACNIC, LACTLD, ISOC and PIR for participation and sponsorship, receiving the good support in terms financials and speakers to compose the agenda. NIC.br also supported the event with speakers and institutional support.

MIDDLE EAST, AFRICA (Istanbul)

Nick Tomasso

Managing Director Activities

On 10 December, the Middle East & Africa Managing Director (MD) and the GSE Middle East Regional Vice President (RVP) met in Ankara with the new Chair of the Information and Communication Technologies Authority of Turkey (BTK), Mr. Ömer Abdullah Karagözoğlu. Discussions included opportunities for ICANN's continued support and engagement with the BTK, the importance of Turkey's active participation in the GAC, and the imminent redelegation of .TR from the Middles East Technical University (METU) to the BTK.

The same day, both met with Prof. Dr. Gülser Köksal and Prof. Dr. *Attila Özgit* of the METU. Discussions included the redelegation of .TR from the METU to the BTK.

On 28 November 2018, the MD, the RVP and MEA region staff delivered presentations at Istanbul Bilgi University during an ICANN63 Readout Session in collaboration with long-time local partner, Dr. *Leyla Keser*, Director of the IT Law Institute at İstanbul Bilgi University. The event attracted 50 undergraduate and graduate students and young professionals. Many side discussions occurred after the 3-hour session between ICANN staff and attendees. It is worth noting that this was the first physical readout session in the Middle East. Unlike other ICANN readout sessions where community members normally take the lead on reporting on the various ICANN topics, this time it was ICANN Org, and essentially the team in Istanbul that presented the updates from ICANN63.

On 24 October, the MD met with Mr. Ihsan Durdu, Advisor to Mr. Binali Yıldırım, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, to discuss ICANN's continued engagement with the national government.

On 19 September, the MD arranged for a staff briefing in the Istanbul office conducted by local counsel, Güner Law Office, on legislative changes in Turkey following the national election.

Middle East Region

As the ICANN's 2016-2019 Middle East Regional Strategy entered its 3rd and final year, the GSE Middle East team embarked on a community-wide consultation to solicit feedback from the regional community on what's next for ICANN's engagement strategy in the region. The consultation process started with the Middle East Strategy Working Group over its mailing list,

and discussions continued with the wider regional community at ICANN63 in Barcelona. Since ICANN's 2016-2020 Strategic Plan concludes on 30 June 2020, and the 2021-2025 version of ICANN's Strategic Plan is expected to be finalized before the end of Fiscal Year 2019, the regional community were of the view of extending the current strategy by 1 more year to conclude on 30 June 2020. This will allow the regional community to work on the next edition of the Middle East Regional Strategy while considering the bigger picture outlined in the ICANN's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan.

Preparations for the 6th edition of the Middle East DNS Forum is in full force with APTLD75 members meeting taking place adjacent to the forum. Early planning goes in line with the recommendations made to us by the regional community as part of the survey we sent out earlier in July to seek ways to improve the forum. We have a fully populated website with a draft agenda published at http://mednsf.org/. The forum takes place in Dubai, UAE on 20-21 February 2019 with a generous host from our ICANN60 host; the *Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA)* of the UAE.

Technical capacity development was intense during this time with a DNSSEC Workshop taking place in each of Rabat, Morocco; Algiers City, Algeria, and Kuwait City, Kuwait. What made the workshops in Rabat and in Algiers City special is that they were delivered by one of our regional trained-trainers; Mr. *Chamseddine Riaihi* from ATI in Tunisia. The workshop in Kuwait City was led by ICANN with a community co-trainer alongside. We also had a DNS Abuse and Misuse workshop in both Kuwait City, Kuwait and in Ankara, Turkey.

Remote engagement efforts continued during this period in countries where our physical presence is not possible. We had two different sessions with the *Yemeni Organization for Development in Emerging Technologies (YODET)*; one on **Domain Names** and another on **How to Engage at ICANN**. We were also invited by the organizers of the *Somali Network Operators Group (SONOG)* to talk about **Internet Governance and the Role of the I* Organizations**. This was our first engagement with the Somali community.

During the month of September, we visited Karachi, Pakistan twice. The first was to participate in the Pakistan School on IG as faculty, and the other was to attend and speak at the ITCN Asia Conference 2018. Both events were good grounds for engagement, and we met with a good number of stakeholders we had never met before. Also, in September, we attended the MENA ICT Forum in Amman, Jordan. During the same month, we attended the International Law Enforcement IP Conference 2018 in Dubai, UAE.

Prior to ICANN63 in Barcelona, and specifically on 25 September, we held a webinar dedicated to GAC members and observers from the Middle East. The objective was to update them on what to expect during the ICANN meeting, and encourage them to attend and actively engage.

During ICANN63 in Barcelona, the Steering Committee of the MEAC School on Internet Governance met to lay down the foundation of MEAC-SIG 2019. Since then, Morocco has been identified as a potential venue for this event, and will happen sometime in late July, early August 2019. Our partners have started their homework of raising funds and developing a curriculum.

In October/November, we attended the ITU Plenipotentiary in Dubai. The event was a good venue to touch-base with our government contacts in the region.

In November, we attended the Bread and Net Civil Society gathering in Beirut. In the same month, we attended the Lebanon IGF; again, in Beirut. Both events were rich venues for engagement.

On 10 December, we held the second Middle East readout session online. It was attended by more than 10 participants and covered key topics discussed by the SO/ACs during ICANN63 in Barcelona. A small group from the MEAC-SWG led the preparations for this session.

In December, we were invited to speak at the 5th Cybercrime Workshop in Ankara organized by the Turkish Police Department of Cybercrime. This goes in line with our continuous efforts to raise our visibility and engagement in Turkey, and to engage with Law Enforcement Agencies overall.

Africa Region

This reporting period has been quite a busy time for the GSE-Africa team. The Africa team organized and participated in a number of meetings, workshops and regional events. These can be broadly categorized into IGFs meetings, DNS events, LEA Workshops, Schools of IG as well as Regional and IGO meetings. The following is a brief note of each of the major events and categories.

Internet Governance Fora (IGFs)

Our IGFs continue to provide us good platforms to further deepen our visibility and direct engagement as well as organize side meetings with the various stakeholders in Africa. We have continued to sponsor, participate on panels as well as organize workshops at these regional level IGFs. In this period, the team participated in the following IGF events;

- Africa IGF; 4-6 November, Khartoum Sudan.
- Southern Africa IGF: 28-30 November, Durban South Africa
- Togo National IGF: 6 December, Lomé, Togo.
- Central Africa IGF: 13-14 December, Brazzaville-Congo

Some of the key topics covered in these IGFs include, Internationalized Domain names, Universal Acceptance, Root Server-System as well as Internet and the Digital Economy in Africa.

Africa School of IG (AFRISIG 2018) and Training of Trainers on Internet Governance (FFGI) For the 6th year in a row, ICANN was part of African School on Internet Governance – AfriSIG. The 2018 edition was held in Zanzibar, Tanzania, from 11 - 16 October. Though organized and run by the Association for Progressive Communication (APC), the program enjoys the endorsement of the Africa Union and partnerships from private sector players notably Google, Facebook, Research ICT Africa, ICANN, ISOC amongst others. ICANN remains a key supporter both financially as well as faculty members of the School. The most notable outcome we would attribute to the school is the continued emergence and focus on regional and National SIGs in Africa.

For the fourth year, ICANN has been supporting the Training of Trainers on Internet Governance for French speaking countries. Burkina Faso has been hosting and contributing to the event since the beginning. This continues to be a real opportunity to train participants on key Governance issues and the ICANN ecosystem in French.

DNS Abuse and Mitigation Workshops for Law Enforcement Agencies

The GSE Africa tram has continued to organize these workshops as a way of deepening our engagement with security agencies and promote the security of the DNS. The workshop series exposes agents and participants to strategies, techniques and tools that operational security professionals or investigators use to identify abuses of the Domain Name System (DNS), malicious addresses or registrations of domain names. In this period, we organized two workshops as follows;

- 18-19 September, LEA workshop in Lilongwe Malawi
- 19-20 November, LEA workshop in the Kingdom of Eswatini

This brings to four the total number of such workshops delivered by the GSE Africa team in 2018 having done Madagascar and Botswana earlier in the year. This culminated in our participation in the Africa Regional Workshop for Heads of Cyber-Crime Units organized by Interpol and hosted by the Ghana Police in Accra from 2-6 December.

DNS-related Events

The Africa team supported the Benin DNS Forum 2018 held from 9-13 October in Cotonou Benin. This is one of the National DNS Forums that have evolved from the Africa DNS Forum and localized to address the key issues affecting the Names business in Benin. On 12 October, our team facilitated a Women DNS Entrepreneurship workshop in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, one of the few programs targeting and promoting Women in the sector. 24-26 September, we participated in several panels and presentations at the Southern African NOG - SAFNOG-4, East Africa NOG and Tanzania NOG in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The GSE Africa team were also at the AFRINIC 29 meeting held in Hammamet Tunisia 28-30 November as part of our long-standing partnership and collaboration with AFRINIC as the African RIR.

Capacity-building for Telecommunication regulators

ICANN, in collaboration with ITU, organized a workshop on cybersecurity and the ICANN ecosystem for telecommunication regulators on 15-19 October.

Regional, IGO Events

The Africa team also participated in a number of key regional events and IGO events in this period. For example;

- 14-17 August, ATU Africa PP-18 RPM-4: Nairobi Kenya
- 9 September, SMART Africa Steering committee meeting: Durban, South Africa. This
 meeting was held in the sidelines of ITU telecom world 2018 held at the same venue
 from 10-13 September. ICANN is a founding Member of the Smart Africa Alliance and
 continues to be an active participant in its activities.
- 4-6 December: 5th Africa Working Group meeting on Cybercrime for Heads of Units
- 10-14 December: Africa Ecommerce Week, Nairobi Kenya. This is a global meeting convened by UNCTAD and this is the first time the event was held outside Geneva. ICANN participated on a session focused on Online Trust.

Registry & Registrar Services

The Registry Services team in Istanbul serves 28% of worldwide registry operators (24 in MEA, 200 in Europe) and provides support for 321 TLDs (39 in MEA, 282 in Europe). Besides escalated support to avoid contract breaches, the team directly engages the registry operators on various topics (e.g., billing issues and invoice due dates. The team flagged registry operators to be on the watchlist to avoid potential conflicts.

Training about billing issues with the local registries were provided to the MEA GSE team. Six registries, which have been having continued issues with payment were engaged directly to continue payments regularly (three of these are still ongoing).

Apart from various direct engagement with registry operators for registry agreement renewal, change of control and other topics, the team lead consultation calls with three registry operators who asked ICANN to terminate their registry agreements. (one of these TLDs is based in Europe)

The team supported the MEA and European GSE teams during their engagement efforts as panelists or speakers at various regional events such as The Hosting Talk and Workshop on Cybercrime.

A major upgrade for the Centralized Zone Data System was communicated with the registries and around 40,000 users. The upgrade is being managed from Istanbul RySE team locally with the help of the Product Management and E&IT teams in Los Angeles.

The team joined the GeoTLD Group's (part of the Registry Stakeholder Group) meeting in Strasbourg and continued working on several ICANN org materials about the registry operators such as the Registry Handbook and Universal Acceptance projects that the group will support. Additionally, the Istanbul RySE team is assigned as ICANN's liaison with the Brand Registry Group (BRG) and attended the Brands & Domains 2018 event that took place right after ICANN63.

Ongoing support for the IDN Guidelines 4.0 Implementation began with the Istanbul RySE team representing worldwide Registry Operators' perspective.

Istanbul RySE team also supports and contributes to IDN Variant TLD Implementation project led by Sarmad Hussain.

The Registrar Services team in Istanbul serves 40% of worldwide distinct (i.e., counting families of registrars only once) ICANN-Accredited registrars (26 in MEA, 160 in Europe). Activities include:

- Direct engagement with registrars for support on various operational topics ranging from their ICANN accreditation agreement renewal, mergers, acquisitions, and change of control, contractual compliance and Finance inquiry support.
- Facilitated internal queries from registrars on sensitive topics related to GDPR and the temp spec. Supported and served as GDD point person in the negotiation of payment terms with registrar that was delinquent in paying their invoices, as well as in the execution of the De-Accredited Registrar Transition Procedure arising from an involuntary termination of a registrar.
- Engagement with regional registrars through participation and speaking slots at events such as the CENTR Registrar Day in Brussels, ICANN63 in Barcelona, Nordic Domain Days in Stockholm, and the East European DNS Forum in Moscow.
- GDD point person in the execution of ICANN's second registrar training day in Europe.
 The training took place in Stockholm at .se registry IIS during the Nordic Domain Days,
 as part of the Internetdagarna (Internet Days of Sweden). This workshop followed the
 positive feedback received from ICANN's pilot registrar training held in Munich, Germany
 earlier this year. ICANN's Registrar Training workshops are aimed at newly accredited
 registrars, new staff at established ICANN accredited registrars, and resellers interested

- in ICANN accreditation. The workshops give participants an overview of ICANN's mandate and work; and equip them with the skills to start participating in ICANN's policy making processes. This training had eight on-site and two remote participants.
- GDD financial forecasting for year-end actuals and preliminary projections for FY19 was completed in cooperation with the Istanbul Registrar Services team.
- Domain Name Marketplace Indicators initiative is being facilitated and executed in cooperation with the Istanbul Registrar Services team.

Contractual Compliance

Outreach for Nordic Registrars – 21 November 2018.

Contractual Compliance Istanbul office team conducted Registrar Training for Nordic Registrars and Resellers in Stockholm Sweden on 21 November 2018 in partnership with Global Domains Division and Global Stakeholder Engagement team. A total of 10 participants attended the event including 6 Registrars who participated on-site and 2 more remotely. Additionally, 4 Resellers from the Nordic Region interested in becoming ICANN Accredited Registrar participated in the training. Topics presented included Enforcing Temporary Specification, Abuse, Uniform Domain Dispute Resolution (UDRP), Transfer Policy and ICANN's Contractual Compliance Approach and Processes. During the session, the team responded to questions and provided further clarification on contractual obligations to Registrars and Resellers. Overall, the event was rated as very satisfactory by a majority of participants.

Contractual Compliance Processing Activities Middle East and Africa (MEA):
Addressed total of 41 complaints with Registrars and Registries in the Middle East and Africa region, i.e., these 41 complaints made up 17.1% of all complaints received in the EMEA region.

- Africa complaints were addressed in areas such as Whois Inaccuracy 33.3% (2), Zone File Access 33.3% (2), UDRP 16.7% (1) and Registrar Fees 33.3% (2).
- Middle East complaints addressed areas such as Zone File Access 46% (16), Data Escrow 11% (4), Registrar Fees 8.5% (3), UDRP 8.5% (3), Registry Fees 6% (2), Whois Inaccuracy 3% (1), Customer Service 3% (1), Domain Renewal 3% (1), Monthly Report 3% (1), Registry Other 3% (1), and Transfer 3% (1).

Contractual Compliance Escalated Notice:

3rd escalated notice was sent to Suhub Electronic Establishment (xn--4gbrim) located in Saudi Arabia- Contractual Compliance Audit Program

Contractual Compliance Breach Notices:

A total of two ICANN Contractual Compliance breach notices were issued to the following contracted parties in Middle East:

- Registry Operator: Emirates Telecommunications Corporation (xn--mgbaakc7dvf) –
 Registry Fees; Cure due date: 3 January 2019;
- Registrar: ATI (IANA#1896) Registrar Fees. Cure due date: 25 December 2018.

Policy Department

ALAC

During this reporting period, MEA Policy Staff supported the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) members to develop and ratify 13 statements for ICANN public comment proceedings and are supporting the development 4 more before the end of the calendar year. In addition, the ALAC submitted advice to the Board under the leadership of the new ALAC Chair, Maureen

Hilyard, the Follow-Up to the Joint Statement by ALAC and GAC: Enabling Inclusive, Informed and Meaningful Participation at ICANN, which was adopted during ICANN63.

Policy Staff support at the MEA Regional Office also contributed to At-Large development and ALAC ratification of the first At-Large Review Implementation Milestone Report, and ongoing community policy advice development on the following topics:

- Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP);
- Report on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process (Overarching Issues & Work Tracks 1-4), including the 86-page ALAC statement developed over the course of summer during weekly meetings with the Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG);
- CPWG Co-Chairs initiating a new policy comment workflow process within At-Large, increased collaboration with ICANN Fellows and NextGen participants, related Outreach & Engagement during ICANN63 with the NCSG;
- ALAC ratification of the CCWG-Accountability Work Stream 2, additional policy discussions related to GDPR, including WHOIS and recently submitted comment on ICANN Unified Access Model;
- KSK Rollover comments and At-Large promotion of the successful KSK Rollover.

In addition, MEA Policy Staff are supporting the community in planning the Third At-Large Summit (ATLAS III), taking place during ICANN66 in Montreal, Quebec. The Summit will focus on the At-Large Review improvements, policy, outreach and engagement activities.

GAC

Participants representing 90 Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) Members and 9 Observers attended the GAC's ICANN63 Meeting in Barcelona, Spain.

The Policy Team facilitated 30 GAC sessions and meetings in Barcelona, and the High Level Governmental Meeting, which nearly 200 ministers and senior officials from governments and various inter-governmental organizations representing 124 delegations from around the world attended.

SCOPE

The Strategic Community Operations, Planning and Engagement (SCOPE) team member based in Istanbul organized the Community Recognition program held at ICANN63. On 8 November, he participated in the 4th Youth IGF Turkey event, delivering an ICANN101 presentation to the audience of about 30 participants who were mainly students at and new graduates from local universities.

NA (Washington, D.C.)

Jamie Hedlund

In September, ICANN co-hosted a business roundtable with the United States Chamber of Commerce on the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and strategic initiatives happening at ICANN. Theresa Swinehart provided remarks, and was joined by Cyrus Namazi, Chris Mondini, Joe Catapano, and myself.

In October, Chris Mondini and Joe Catapano hosted 30 members of the Chinese Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) for a briefing on ICANN and related issues. Topics included an overview of ICANN's role, the community and its structures, Domain Name System (DNS) basics, and more.

In November, ICANN co-hosted an ICANN63 readout session with the New York Chapter of the Internet Society (ISOC) in New York City. The readout, which was well-attended, covered the various topics discussed and debated by the community during their time in Barcelona, Spain.

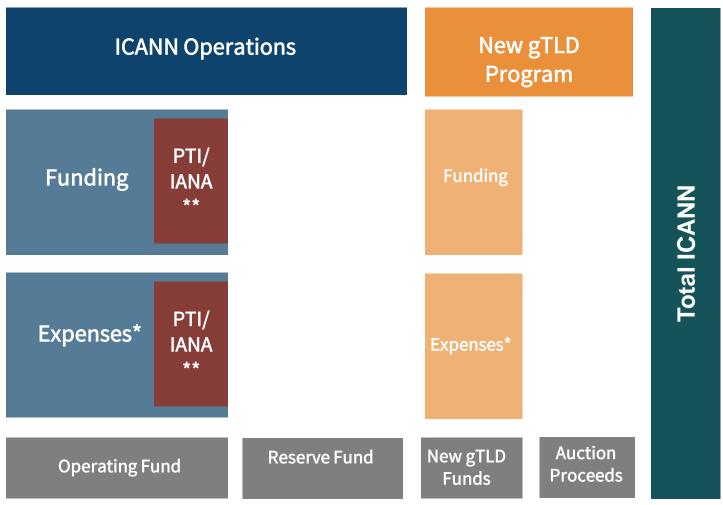
In December, ICANN CEO Göran Marby visited the Washington, D.C. office for four days to meet with key regional stakeholders and community members. He also delivered a keynote address at the International Institute of Communications Annual meeting, met with the United States National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), held a meeting with members of the Internet Governance Coalition, and more.

ICANN Quarterly Financials – Fiscal Year 2019

December 2018



FY19 ICANN Org Financial Reporting Structure



^{*}Excludes depreciation and bad debt expenses



^{**}IANA Services includes ICANN's and PTI's IANA Expenses

FY19 Year-to-date (Jul 18 - Dec 18) Overview

ICANN OPERATIONS

Funding above budget and Expenses below budget.

USD in millions	FY19 YTD Actual	FY19 YTD Budget	Var	% Var	FY18 YTD Actual	Var	% Var
Funding	\$68	\$67	\$0	0%	\$65	\$3	4%
Expenses	(\$59)	(\$65)	\$6	-10%	(\$59)	\$0	-1%
Net	\$9	\$2	\$7	335%	\$6	\$3	52%

Note: Expenses exclude bad debt and depreciation and include capital expenses.

Breakdown of Expenses	FY19 YTD Actual	FY19 YTD Budget	Var	% Var	FY18 YTD Actual	Var	% Var
IANA Services	(\$3)	(\$4)	\$1	-23%	(\$4)	\$0	-9%
All Other	(\$56)	(\$61)	\$5	-9%	(\$56)	\$0	0%

FY19 Year-to-date (Jul 18 – Dec 18) Funding

ICANN OPERATIONS



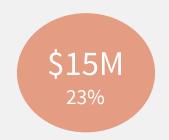
Driven By Domain Name Registrations

Registration-based fees



Driven By # of Contracted Parties

Per-TLD fixed fees



FROM REGISTRARS

Registration-based fees



Application fees
Accreditation fees



Other Income: \$2M, 3%

Total Funding: \$68M



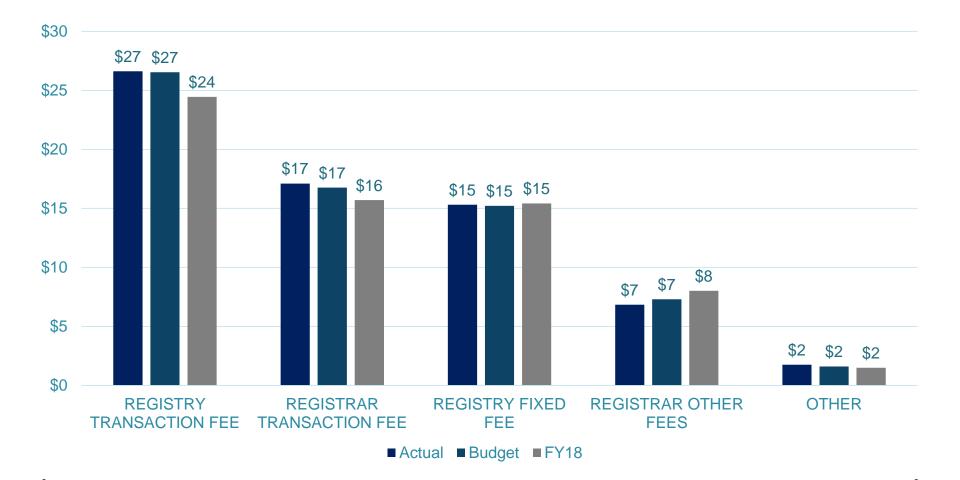
FY19 Year-to-date (Jul 18 – Dec 18) Funding vs Budget & FY18

Funding flat to Budget

Actual: \$ 68M

Budget: \$ 67M

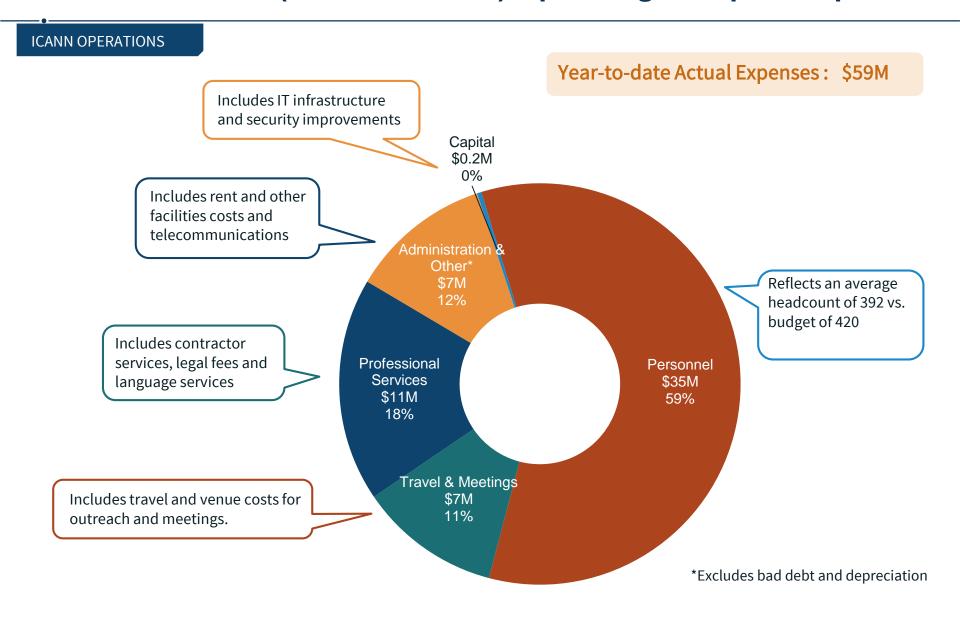
FY18: \$ 65M





ICANN OPERATIONS

FY19 Year-to-date (Jul 18 – Dec 18) Operating & Capital Expenses

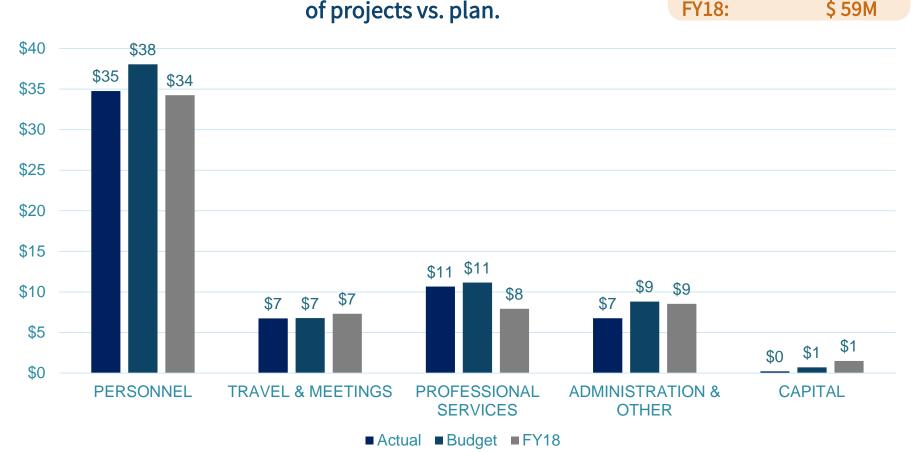




FY19 Year-to-date (Jul 18 – Dec 18) Operating & Capital Expense

Lower personnel costs and timing differences

Actual: \$59M Budget: \$65M FY18: \$59M



Activities covered by the contingency have been reported in the expense categories above based on the nature of the expense. The Contingency budget year to date is \$0M and \$5.2M for the full year.



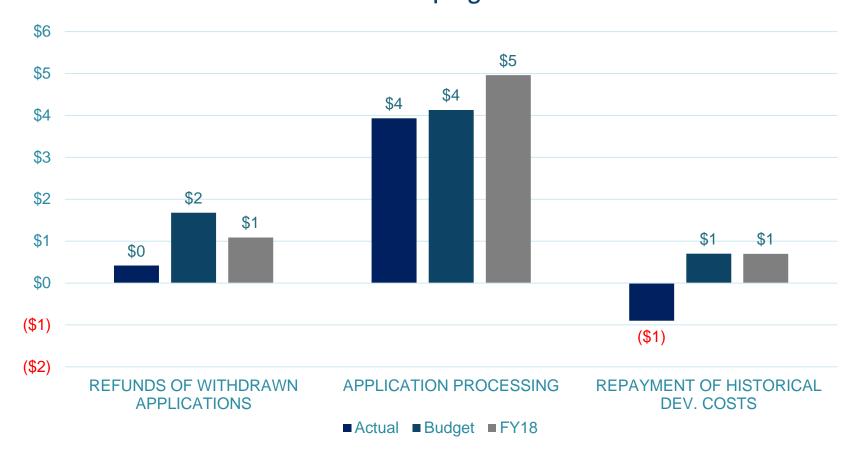
ICANN OPERATIONS

FY19 Year-to-date (Jul 18–Dec 18) New gTLD Program Expenses vs Budget

Lower refunds of withdrawn applications.

Historical Development costs re-aligned due to extension of the program.

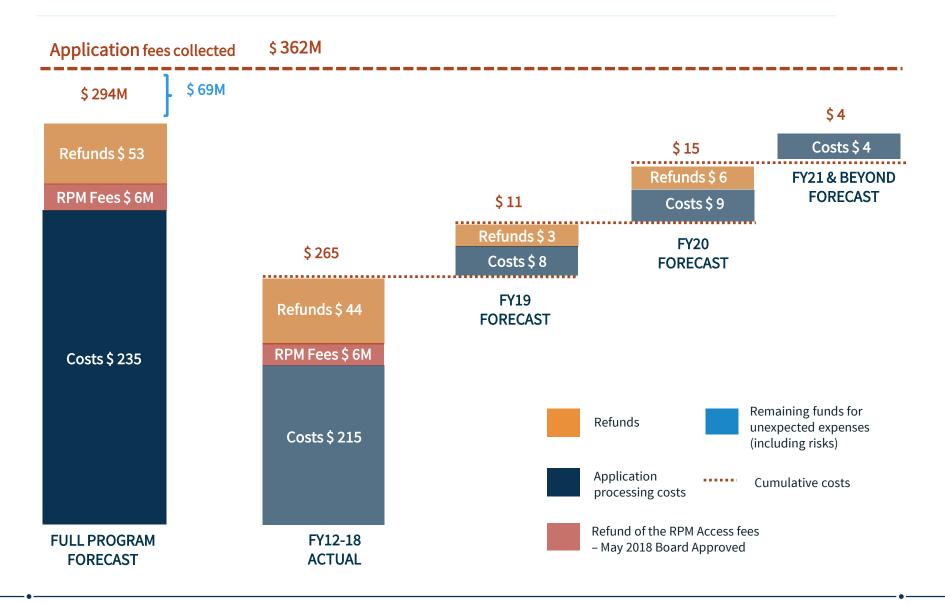
Actual: \$3M Budget: \$7M FY18: \$7M





New gTLD PROGRAM

New gTLD Program – Multi-year Forecast (as of Dec 2018)





FY19 Year-to-date (Jul 18–Dec 18) Total ICANN Organization Actuals

TOTAL ICANN ORG.

Unaudited USD in millions	FY19 YTD Actual			FY19 YTD Budget			Under / (Over) vs. FY19 Budget			
	Total ICANN Operations	New gTLD	Total ICANN	Total ICANN Operations	New gTLD	Total ICANN	Total ICANN Operations	New gTLD	Total ICANN	%
Funding	\$67.7	\$4.6	\$72.2	\$67.5	\$10.1	\$77.5	\$0.2	-\$5.5	-\$5.3	-7%
Cash Expenses (1)	-59.1	-3.9	-63.0	-65.5	-4.1	-69.6	\$6.4	\$0.2	\$6.6	9%
Net Operating Excess/(Deficit)	8.6	0.6	9.2	2.0	6.0	7.9	\$6.6	-\$5.3	\$1.3	16%



^{*}Expenses exclude bad debt, depreciation and refunds for withdrawn New gTLD applications which are included in the Funding line.

FY19 Funds Under Management as of 31 December 2018

FUNDS UNDER MGMT.

Total Funds: \$453M
ICANN Operations: \$131M
New gTLD Program-related: \$322M





ICANN Operations

New gTLD Program

¹ Reflects \$36M transfer from Auction Proceeds to Reserve Fund as part of Board Approved Replenishment Strategy



Appendix

Supplemental Financials



FY19 Statement of Position as of 31 December 2018

TOTAL ICANN ORG.

USD in millions	De	cember 31, 20 ⁻	18	June 30, 2018		Incre	ıse)		
Unaudited	ICANN Ops	New gTLD	Total	ICANN Ops	New gTLD	Total	ICANN Ops	New gTLD	Total
ASSETS									
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents	26.3	17.0	43.3	27.0	5.5	32.5	-0.7	11.5	10.8
Investments	104.6	305.3	409.9	69.7	352.7	422.4	34.9	-47.4	-12.5
Funds Under Management	130.9	322.3	453.2	96.7	358.2	454.9	34.2	-35.9	-1.7
Receivables	34.7	0.3	35.0	34.0	0.2	34.2	0.7	0.0	0.7
Prepaid Expenses	2.6	0.0	2.6	2.4	0.0	2.4	0.3	0.0	0.3
Plant, Property & Equipment - Net	9.8	0.0	9.8	12.2	0.0	12.2	-2.4	0.0	-2.4
Other Assets	-14.1	15.2	1.0	20.3	-18.6	1.7	-34.5	33.8	-0.7
TOTAL ASSETS	164.0	337.7	501.7	165.6	339.8	505.5	-1.7	-2.1	-3.8
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS									
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	10.2	1.2	11.4	15.5	2.3	17.8	-5.3	-1.1	-6.4
Deferred Funding	1.0	29.7	30.7	1.0	35.6	36.6	0.0	-5.9	-5.9
Other Liabilities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL LIABILITIES	11.2	30.9	42.1	16.5	37.9	54.4	-5.3	-7.0	-12.3
UNRESTRICTED/RESTRICTED ASSETS	149.1	301.9	451.0	148.1	326.6	474.7	1.0	-24.7	-23.7
CURRENT YEAR CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	3.6	5.0	8.6	1.0	-24.7	-23.7	2.6	29.7	32.2
TOTAL NET ASSETS	152.7	306.9	459.6	149.1	301.9	451.0	3.6	5.0	8.6
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	164.0	337.7	501.7	165.6	339.8	505.5		-2.1	-3.8



FY19 Cash Flow Synopsis as of 31 December 2018

TOTAL ICANN ORG.

Unaudited		FY19	
Gnaudited	ICANN Ops	NgTLD	Total
Funds Under Management at Beginning of Period	\$96.7	\$358.2	\$454.9
Collected/ (refunded) from contributors/parties	66.1	(1.4)	64.7
Auction Proceeds	0.0	0.0	0.0
Paid to vendors	(29.3)	(3.1)	(32.4)
Paid to employees	(32.5)	(1.1)	(33.6)
Paid to vendors and employees on behalf of New gTLD	32.2	(33.3)	(1.1)
Reimbursement of payments to vendors and employees above, from New gTLD to ICANN Ops:			
Payments to vendors	(1.5)	1.5	0.0
NgTLD team costs (Paid to employees)	1.1	(1.1)	0.0
Historical Development Costs	0.9	(0.9)	0.0
Capital expenditures	(0.9)	0.0	(0.9)
Change in investment market value (excludes transfers to/ from operating account)	(1.7)	3.4	1.7
Funds Under Management at End of Period	\$130.9	\$322.3	\$453.2

