

A brief update for the month of February 2019, from the APRALO perspective



APRALO Newsletter, February 2019



The APRALO family during ICANN60 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Abu Dhabi, October 2017.

At-Large and APRALO at APRICOT 2019



by Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Chair and Satish Babu, APRALO Chair

ALAC and APRALO Presentations at the Asia Pacific (AP) Retreat

Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Chair, and Satish Babu, APRALO Chair, participated in the Asia Pacific Regional Internet Conference on Operational Technologies (APRICOT 2019), the premier technical event of Internet engineers, operators, researchers, service providers, users and policy communities from over 50 countries in the Asia Pacific region. APRICOT 2019 consisted of several workshops, hackathons, tutorials and a 4-day conference, convened over the period 18-28 Feb 2019 at Daejeon, South Korea.

Both of them spoke at the AP Retreat on 24 Feb that brought together several technical and community organizations in the region, including APRICOT, APTLD, APNIC, APNIC Foundation, ISOC, ICANN, ALAC, APRALO, and Asia Pacific School of Internet Governance (APSIG). Maureen provided an update on the recent changes in ALAC and revisions of its structure. Satish provided an update on APRALO, its regional role within ICANN At-Large, and its priorities for 2019.



APNIC Cooperation Special Interest Group (Cooperation SIG) Session on "Content Blocking and Filtering"

The panel on "Content Blocking and Filtering" convened on 25 Feb, the first day of the APRICOT conference. The panel discussed technical, social and political aspects of content blocking. The session was chaired by Dr Govind (Chair, Cooperation SIG) and Bikram Shrestha (Vice Chair, Co-operation SIG). The panelists included Akinori Maemura (JPNIC/ICANN Board), Sumon Ahmed Sabir (Fibre@Home), Rajnesh Singh (ISOC) and Satish Babu (APRALO), who presented on the topic from an Internet end user perspective. The session was interactive, with lively participation from the audience.

APRALO Leaders Attend the ME DNSF and APTLD Meeting



by Lianna Galstyan, APRALO Vice Chair

Lianna Galstyan, APRALO Vice Chair, and Nadira Al-Araj, APRALO NomCom Delegate, participated in the [6th Middle East DNS Forum](#) and [75th APTLD meeting](#) held on 20-21 Feb 2019 in Dubai, UAE. At the meeting, Cherine Chalaby, Chair of the Board of Directors of ICANN and Baher Esmat, ICANN VP, Global Stakeholder Engagement of Middle East delivered keynote speeches at the opening of the joint meeting. Among many topics, participants actively debated over GDPR, IDN and Universal Acceptance, DAAR (Domain Abuse Activity Report) and Security in IPv6-Enabled TLDs.

At-Large/ALAC Policy Comments & Advice

All of APRALO and the At-Large community are invited to contribute to ICANN public comment proceedings. For more information, please visit the [At-Large Policy Advice Development Page](#) or contact [At-Large Staff](#).

The ALAC is currently developing a response to the proposed ICANN Charter on Government Engagement Approach, and plans to comment on the next

Have your say! To contribute to ALAC public comment, please comment on the wiki space or volunteer as penholder, and join the weekly [At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group \(CPWG\)](#) meetings.

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) submitted (5) policy comments in February:

[Updated Operating Standards for Specific Reviews](#)

It is the view of the ALAC that the level of specificity for specific reviews is necessary to prevent misunderstandings and missteps by any of the parties involved in the review. The ALAC believes scope should be well defined within the confines of bylaws and review teams should be free to pursue their mandate within that scope. Accordingly, the ALAC voiced their strong support for the updates to the Operating Standards for Specific Reviews.

[First Consultation on a 2-Year Planning Process](#)

The ALAC/At-Large community agrees that more time should be given for additional community involvement, and requests that ICANN Org provide a listing of priorities and statements on the impact of each project within ICANN Org and on each of the unique ACs and SOs. The ALAC also encourages ICANN Org to provide the appropriate level of resources to ICANN IT for continued support of services which are vital for community policy work. The ALAC believes that the additional time from 15 months to 2 years would provide more transparency as the community becomes more aware of priority ranking of projects or has collaborated with ICANN Org on priority ranking. The At-Large Advisory Committee believes that beyond the priorities of keeping the Internet secure and stable, and maintaining the multistakeholder model, the community should be directly involved in setting other priorities. In addition to policy activity, the ALAC emphasizes that outreach and engagement are integral to the planning cycle, and the benefit of CCWGs and CCEGs in planning activities. The ALAC supports a formalized, dedicated planning phase to plan for SO/AC activities. The ALAC noted it strongly believes that for ICANN to be as inclusive as possible, documents should be translated into multiple languages; important community meetings should be held in different time zones and in different languages, with real time translation (language channels) and captioning / real time transcription (RTT) provided on all calls. Finally, the ALAC strongly believes that for ICANN to be seen to be truly multistakeholder-focused and inclusive, then appropriate resources must be made available to remove barriers that might prevent the full participation of the ICANN community in policy activities.

[ICANN Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2021 - 2025](#)

The ALAC stressed the importance of ICANN's role in the multistakeholder model of Internet Governance (including 6 recommendations to improve its effectiveness), suggested a rebalancing of representation on the ICANN Board to enhance the Internet end user perspective, and noted that more fulsome cost/benefit analyses of programs like the gTLD expansion should be available in order predict the future impact on total resources. The ALAC also commented on strengthening the security of the Domain Name System (DNS) and the DNS Root Server System, evolving the unique identifier systems to continue to serve the needs of the global Internet user base, addressing geopolitical issues impacting ICANN's mission to ensure a single and globally interoperable Internet, and ensuring ICANN's long-term financial sustainability.

[2nd Comment: ICANN Draft FY20 Operating Plan and Budget and Five-Year Operating Plan Update](#)

The ALAC Chair determined to submit an additional ALAC statement on this public comment, in accordance with new rules regarding FY20 Additional Budget Requests (ABRs). As ABRs are no longer intended to request travel support to ICANN meetings, the ALAC decided to submit an additional comment to the FY20 Budget public comment, requesting two travel slots to support the attendance of active At-Large

policy/outreach leaders in At-Large work session activities at ICANN meetings.

1st Comment: [ICANN Draft FY20 Operating Plan and Budget and Five-Year Operating Plan Update](#)

Of principle concern to the ALAC/At-Large is their ability to achieve the objectives of the At-Large Review Implementation Plan. The comments in the statement relate to particular portfolio or project areas and incorporate specific At-Large concerns, namely: language services, raising stakeholder awareness of ICANN worldwide, engage stakeholders regionally, support policy development, policy related and advisory activities, reinforce stakeholder effectiveness, collaboration and communication capabilities, coordination of ICANN participation in Internet Governance, supporting organizational reviews, and supporting stakeholder participation.

[In addition, the ALAC submitted a statement regarding the EPDP Final Report, which was not a formal ICANN public comment.](#)

See: [At-Large Website Policy Comments & Advice](#)

See: [Executive Summaries: ALAC Policy Comments & Advice](#)

See: [Consolidated Policy Working Group \(CPWG\)](#)

ICANN Update

During the month of February, ICANN:

- ICANN appointed [Cyrus Namazi as Senior Vice President of ICANN's Global Domains Division](#) and [David Conrad to oversee the IANA Services and Public Technical Identifiers](#)
- [Called for full DNSSEC deployment across all unsecured domain names](#) and reaffirmed to promote community collaboration to protect the Internet
- Participated in the [2019 Middle East DNS Forum \(MEDNSF\)](#) held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 20-21 February
- Released the third report on [global legislative and regulatory developments](#) that highlights recent and pending legislative and regulatory initiatives on privacy/data protection and cybersecurity across the world;
- Shared the first monthly report sharing [statistics and insight into security threats to generic top-level domains](#) (gTLDs)
- Released the [recommendations for managing Internationalized Domain Name \(IDN\) Variant Top-Level Domains \(TLDs\)](#) as a collection of six documents
- Shared the fourth version of the [Maximal Starting Repertoire \(MSR-4\)](#)
- Announced that the [72nd ICANN public meeting will be held in Seattle, Washington, US, from 23-28 October 2021](#) and the [NextGen@ICANN65](#) candidates and ambassadors, and successful candidates for the [ICANN65 Fellowship](#)
- The Security Stability and Resiliency (SSR) Team published a [summary of the public input on Domain Abuse Activity Reporting \(DAAR\) Reviews](#)
- Made a call for expressions of interest for [Independent Financial Expert to ICANN Board Audit Committee](#) by 5 April

- the Nominating Committee (NomCom) extended the [application deadline for ICANN and PTI leadership positions](#) till 22 March
- For preparation for the upcoming meeting in Kobe, ICANN organized [ICANN64 Prep Week](#) on 27 and 28 February with four departmental webinars, including Policy Development Support.

ALAC Update

During the month of January, the ALAC:

- Held their [ALAC Monthly Call on 26 February](#), where the topics discussed included At-Large policy activities, including policies that were ratified by ALAC; a review of current ALS and Individual Member applications, and reports and discussions by At-Large Leaders. There was also discussion on the EPDP, final review of the At-Large ICANN64 meeting schedule; next steps on on ARIWG implementation plan and preparations for ATLAS III.

APRALO Update

What to Expect @ICANN64



by Ali Almeshal, APRALO Vice Chair and Co-Chair of the ALAC Outreach & Engagement Subcommittee

During the ICANN64 meeting at Kobe, the [APRALO Monthly Meeting](#) will take place on Wednesday, 13 March from 13:30-15:00 local time. The APAC Hub and APRALO have also organized a [meeting and networking event](#) for the community from the APAC region on Tuesday, 12 March from 18:30-19:45. The objective is also to provide a platform to get feedback, exchange ideas and provide the community with the latest update about hot topics on ICANN agenda from expert members.

For new engagement, a local student visit to the ICANN meeting is being coordinated with APAC Hub and Dot Asia. There will be a [full day program on Saturday](#) and going forward, students will be organized into groups, guided by mentors throughout the meeting. In addition, various activities are planned at the booth to share about APRALO's activities and encourage engagement, especially with newcomers.

At ICANN64, the At-Large community will focus on the following areas:

- Policy Discussions -- Balancing privacy and security/stability | Universal

- Policy Discussions -- Balancing privacy and security/stability, Universal Acceptance, and new generic top-level domain (gTLD) subsequent procedures.
- Projects -- At-Large Review implementation and the third At-Large Summit (ATLAS III).
- RALO Activities -- Cross-RALO activities, including African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO)/AfrICANN and Asian, Australasian, and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO) sessions, as well as At-Large Regional Leadership outreach and engagement planning with regional partners.
- Stakeholder Meetings -- Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG); joint meetings with the ICANN Board, Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), and the Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency (NPOC); meetings with the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), and Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) leadership; capacity building sessions, including leadership skills development; outreach and engagement sessions, including a joint At-Large and Non-Commercial Users Constituency (NCUC) outreach session.

For more details, please read the [Pre-ICANN64 Policy Report](#).

Recognitions

- The Internet Society Palestine Chapter project on "Online Sexual Harassment-and-Blackmail Awareness for Palestinian Schoolgirls (iSHA)" has been selected as Champion Project of the 2019 [WSIS Prize](#). The project was among the top 5 projects that received the most votes in the category "Building confidence and security in use of ICTs" and this out of 1,064 nominated ICT success stories from around the world. The Palestine Chapter will be awarded with a Champion's Certificate from the ITU Secretary-General during the 2019 WSIS Prizes Ceremony, on Tuesday, 9 April in Geneva.



- Lianna Galstyan, APRALO Vice Chair, was elected for the [DotAsia Board of Directors at the 2019 AGM](#) convened on 24 Feb in Daejeon, South Korea.

NomCom Update

by Nadira Al-Araj, APRALO Delegate to the NomCom and Co-Chair of the Application Subcommittee

[What is new on the NomCom 2019 webpage?](#)

A) A video with title "[Why You Should Join the ICANN Board](#)" - ICANN Board Members speak about serving on the ICANN Board (21:50 minutes).

B) Board and Community Recommendations to NomCom

- [ICANN Board Guidance to the NomCom on Important Skills for Board Members](#)
- [Specific requirements for the NomCom appointee to the ccNSO Council](#)
- [Specific requirements for the NomCom appointee to ALAC](#)

A related update from the Contracted Party House of the GNSO is the re-appointment of Becky Burr to the ICANN Board. This implies the 2019 NomCom is unlikely to appoint a board candidate from North America, in compliance with Article 7, Section 7.5 regarding "International Representation". One intent of these diversity provisions is to ensure that each geographic region shall at all times have at least one director, and at all times no geographic region shall have more than five directors on the ICANN Board (not including the president).



ALS Highlights

CCAOI & ISOC Delhi organized a webinar to discuss comments submitted on the [Indian Intermediary Guidelines \(Amendment\) Rules 2018](#)

[CCAOI](#) and ISOC India Delhi organized a webinar on 11 February to discuss the [comments](#) submitted on the draft of The Information Technology Intermediary Guidelines (Amendment) [Rules 2018](#). The objective of the webinar was to provide more clarity on the subject and issues critical to be commented upon during the [counter comment](#) period which ended on 14 February.

This interactive session was well attended by ISOC members and different stakeholders from the Indian community. The session was moderated by Subhashish Panigrahi, Chapter Development Manager APAC, Internet Society and Amrita Choudhury, President Delhi Chapter and Director CCAOI.

The speakers in the session were:

Amba Kak, Mozilla
Divij Joshi, Vidhi
Gurshabad Grover, CIS

Dr. Mahesh Uppal
Priyanka Chaudhari, SFLC
Nakul Aggarwal, Access Now
Shashank Mishra
Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas
Rajesh Chharia, ISPAI

For more details, visit this [link](#).

Successful conclusion of Regional Forum on Digital Accessibility by ISOC ISB

Internet Society Pakistan Islamabad Chapter (ISOC ISB) organized a day long "Regional Forum on Digital Accessibility" in Islamabad. The forum provided the opportunity to discuss the local policies as well as best practices for removing barriers to digital accessibility for Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) in South Asia. The forum also featured case study sessions on plausible and replicable solutions from the region, as well as panel discussions on the various paradigms of digital accessibility. The forum was attended by 120 representatives of various stakeholders including ISOC chapter leaders from Nepal, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka, and the Chief Guest at the event was Mr. Mudassar Hussain, Member (Telecom), Ministry of IT & Telecom.



ISOC Kolkata and IIFON organize workshop on Network Security

IIFON, ISOC Kolkata, and ICANN organized a two-day, hands-on workshop on Network Security from 26-27 February, at the STPI office in Sec V Salt Lake, Kolkata. The objective of the workshop was to examine the key concepts, protocols and the policies involved in establishing and maintaining security for a network, and building an understanding and familiarity with the DNS and DNSSEC. The workshop also looked at the nature and structure of network attacks and the motivation driving such malicious online activity.



Upcoming Events and Other Announcements

ICANN 64 K O B E

The ICANN64 Community Forum in Kobe, Japan will be held from 9 -14 March 2019. Please refer to the [At-Large ICANN64 workspace](#) for At-Large activities.

Workshop Proposals are now open for [APrIGF Vladivostok 2019](#), to be held from 16-19 July at Far Eastern University in Vladivostok. The overarching theme this year is, "Ensuring a Safe, Secure, and Universal Internet for All in Asia Pacific". The last date to [submit](#) workshop proposals is 18 March 2019 at 24:00 UTC.

Please remember to [Tweet @ At-Large!](#)

Curated by Amrita Choudhury, CCAOI with support of At-Large staff

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