ICANN Community Leadership Digest

The ICANN org Policy Development Support function publishes this twice-weekly digest to help ICANN community leaders track requests and follow updates.

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Information Sharing

**NEW:** Information Transparency Initiative Update: Project to Reach Milestone on 16 March 2021

From: Göran Marby, President and Chief Executive Officer

I am pleased to announce that on Tuesday, 16 March 2021, the Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) will reach a significant milestone. ICANN org will replace some content types on the current https://icann.org with the new ITI search experience and launch a new content subscription feature. This means that you can begin to access the work of ITI, even as we continue to replace content over the coming months.

[Read more.]

**NEW:** Information Transparency Initiative Update: Launching New Content Subscription Feature

From: Sally Newell Cohen, Senior Vice President, Global Communications and Language Services

Currently, the only https://icann.org content available via an email subscription feature is Announcements. We are replacing this existing feature with a new, robust news subscription service. ICANN News Subscriptions will allow you to receive newly published https://icann.org content...
NEW: An Update on Work Stream 2 Implementation

From: Xavier Calvez, Senior Vice President, Planning and Chief Financial Officer

Since the last update, ICANN org has taken several important steps toward implementing the recommendations outlined in the Final Report of the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability, Work Stream 2 (WS2). I would like to take this opportunity to outline the progress we have made thus far, as well as the steps we will be taking over the coming months.

Read more.

REMINDER: FY23 Strategic Outlook Program: Trend Identification Sessions

From: Xavier Calvez, Senior Vice President, Planning and Chief Financial Officer

ICANN is kicking off the FY23 Strategic Outlook trend identification process. ICANN community members will have the opportunity to participate in trend identification sessions via their Supporting Organization (SO) or Advisory Committee (AC).

ICANN org will collaborate with SO and AC chairs and support teams to schedule their sessions over the next few weeks. We are targeting to complete the trend sessions by the end of March. All strategic outlook sessions will be conducted virtually. ICANN community members are encouraged to join this important discussion. Once complete, ICANN org will conduct a trend analysis and impact assessment.

The Strategic Outlook Program is a joint effort of ICANN org, community, and Board to identify and track trends that are related to ICANN. This ensures that these opportunities and challenges are incorporated into current and future planning. Every year, new trends or shifts in existing trends impacting the operating plans (five-year or annual) and/or budget are factored into the annual iteration of those plans as appropriate. Significant shifts could also result in adjustments to the strategic plan.

We look forward to your participation in this dialogue about ICANN planning and strategy.

REMINDER: ICANN Nominating Committee Application Period Now Open

The ICANN Nominating Committee invites interested individuals to submit applications for key leadership positions. Selected individuals will have a unique opportunity to work with accomplished colleagues from around the globe to help shape the Internet's technical coordination and policy development.

The deadline to submit applications is Thursday, 18 March 2021 at 23:59 UTC. Applications should be submitted via the online candidate portal. All applications are confidential.

Learn more.

REMINDER: ICANN Community Excellence Award Nomination Period Now Open

From: David Olive, Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support

The nomination period for the ICANN Community Excellence Award 2020 is now open. The winner(s) will be announced during ICANN71. The ICANN Community Excellence Award recognizes ICANN community members who substantively contribute to policymaking within the ICANN ecosystem and who are deeply invested in developing consensus-based solutions within ICANN’s multistakeholder model. Learn more about the nomination process and submit your nominations here by Monday, 29 March 2021.

ICANN70 Planning

NEW: ICANN70 Virtual Meeting Improvements

From: Ashwin Rangan, Senior Vice President, Engineering and Chief Information Officer

Over the past year, ICANN org has received consistent feedback from the community regarding the desire to network and socialize. We fully recognize the importance of physical meetings and can assure you that it is a sentiment shared by the ICANN Board, community, and org. As part of ongoing efforts by ICANN org to improve virtual ICANN Public Meetings and meet the needs of the global community, we are pleased to announce a number of enhancements that will be available during ICANN70.

Read more.
**NEW: Language Service Enhancements for ICANN70**

From: Sally Newell Cohen, Senior Vice President, Global Communications and Language Services

In an effort to improve your meeting experience, the ICANN org Meetings Technical Services and Language Services teams, working with Congress Rental Network, have found a way to integrate the remote simultaneous interpretation (RSI) platform into Zoom to simplify the experience for participants. Now, participants will need only one digital device operating Zoom to access this new feature. Previously, participants had to operate two devices to access simultaneous interpretation services. This new integration will provide an easier, more seamless experience.

[Read more.](#)

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**REMINDER: ICANN org Finance and Planning Updates**

From: Xavier Calvez, Senior Vice President, Planning and Chief Financial Officer

The ICANN org Finance and Planning teams seek opportunities to engage with the ICANN communities during ICANN70 or via webinars to present a short updates on finance- and planning-related topics:

**Finance**
- Financial Results: FY20 and FY21 Year-to-Date
- Accountability and transparency reporting

**Planning**
- Draft FY22-FY26 Five-Year Operating Plan and Financial Plan
- Draft FY22 Operating Plan and Budget
- Review of Public Comment submissions and next steps in the planning process
- FY23 Planning Process and Strategic Outlook Trends

Please contact [becky.nash@icann.org](mailto:becky.nash@icann.org) to request a briefing and please let us know if you have any other finance and planning topics. Thank you in advance for your support, and we appreciate your assistance.

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**REMINDER: ITI Demonstrations**

The Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) Team invites ICANN communities to request a demonstration of upcoming improvements to [https://icann.org](https://icann.org) during ICANN70.

ITI is an operational activity to improve content governance and infrastructure at ICANN. Since its inception, the ITI team has sought community input through the [feedback website](http://icann.org), sessions during ICANN Public Meetings, webinars, and smaller, informal sessions targeted to specific user groups. This feedback is vital to ensuring ITI delivers the improvements needed to more easily find content on [https://icann.org](https://icann.org). The ITI team has implemented changes based on community feedback.

Please contact [carlos.reyes@icann.org](mailto:carlos.reyes@icann.org) to request a demonstration. Thank you.

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CLOSING THIS WEEK: Additional Reference Label Generation Rulesets (LGRs) for the Second Level
Close Date: Thursday, 11 March 2021

IANA Naming Function Review: Recommendation for an IANA Naming Function Contract Amendment
Close Date: Monday, 22 March 2021

EPDP Phase 2 Policy Recommendations for Board Consideration
Close Date: Tuesday, 30 March 2021

Close Date: Thursday, 8 April 2021

Initial Report of the Third ccNSO Policy Development Process (ccPDP3): Retirement of ccTLDs
Close Date: Wednesday, 14 April 2021

Proposal for Korean Root Zone Label Generation Rules
Close Date: Thursday, 15 April 2021