Report on the Activities of the Cross Community Working Group on Internet Governance (CCWG-IG)

(March 2019 – June 2019)

18th June 2019

Table of Contents

1. Introduction

This report of the Cross Community Working Group on Internet Governance (CCWG-IG) covers a number of its activities and issues that have an impact on the Internet Ecosystem. These include participation in events and contributions made to on-going Internet governance activities, as well as regular Calls discussing Internet Governance issues.

The report also briefly touches upon the overall Internet Governance landscape. Being an important actor in the overall IG Ecosystem, the topics discussed and the evolution of the landscape are important for ICANN Org and to the overall ICANN Community.

The CCWG-IG is also currently in the process of developing a new cross-community vehicle, for its future activities and dialogue. The report provides updates on the latest developments and activities around this endeavour.

2. Events and activities since March 2019

2.1 CCWG-IG input into ICANN's engagement with, and in, external processes

The ICANN Global Engagement Team sought, inter-alia, the CCWG-IG's input on the following processes:

2.1.1 WSIS Forum 2019

https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2019/

The CCWG-IG successfully organized a Workshop on "ICANN, the GDPR and WHOIS" during the WSIS Forum in April in Geneva. The session took place on Thursday, 11th April, and it explained the work of the current Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) team that ensures that registries and registrars are compliant with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

The session was moderated by Dr. Oilivier Crépin-Leblond (Chair of the CCWG-IG). Mr Keith Drazek (Chair of the Council of the GNSO) and Mr. Kurt Pritz (Former Chair of the EPDP), participating remotely, talked about the current developments within ICANN since the coming into force of the European Union's GDPR in May 2018 and provided an update on the current EPDP. Dr. Crépin-Leblond spoke about Phase Two of the EPDP (looking at access to non-public data of registrants by third parties) and the appointment of H.E. Janis Karklins as Chair. He invited all interested parties to follow or contribute to the work of the EPDP.

The full agenda of the WSIS Forum and the Outcome Document can be found respectively at the addresses below:
https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2019/Agenda

https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/.../DRAFT-WSISForum2019OutcomeDocument.pdf

A full summary of the session written by the Geneva Internet Platform can be found here.

Link to Session
https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2019/Agenda/ViewSession/246#

2.2 CCWG-IG engagement with wider ICANN Community

In the period covered by the report, the CCWG-IG has engaged with the wider ICANN Community during the ICANN64 Kobe Meeting. The CCWG-IG organised a well-attended Public Session, with 60-70 participants, including Board members from the Board Working Group on IG, in which multiple themes were discussed.

Furthermore, on behalf of the CCWG-IG, Mr. Nigel Hickson had previously shared a paper, which sets the background to the creation of the proposed CC Engagement Group on IG with the GAC. The paper made the case for membership of the GAC as a Chartered Member. Dr. Olivier Crépin-Leblond (Chair) and Mr. Nigel Hickson (ICANN) attended a session of the GAC to answer questions on the proposed CCEG-IG.

ICANN 64 Kobe

2.2.1 Internet Governance Public Session
11 March 2019 2018, 15:15 – 16:45

Speakers:
- Olivier Crepin-Leblond (Chair)
- Rinalia Abdul Rahim
- Chengetai Masango
- Theresa Swinehart
- Mandy Carver
- Wolfgang Kleinwächter

Agenda:
1. Introduction and welcome
2. Approval of Agenda

3. Discussion on Extraterritoriality - ISOC presentation by Rinalia Abdul Rahim, SVP, followed by discussion (50 minutes);
4. ICANN proposed "Charter" and IG Engagement Strategy; Theresa Swinehart; TBC (15 minutes);
5. IG Updates including on UN High Level Panel, IGF 2019 and the GCSC by Wolfgang Kleiwaechter (20 minutes)
6. Any other Business and Closing remarks

Summary

This was a well-attended, interactive and constructive session. The presentation by Rinalia Abdul Rahim from ISOC engendered a useful discussion on the effect of national and regional legislation on ICANN and the Internet in general. The latter linked to the discussion on the draft "Charter" published by ICANN on the legislative tracking initiative, in which many expressed interest in and asked for opportunity to comment. The group also heard useful updates on the Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace (GCSC), the IGF 2019 and the UN High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation.

For more information and links to video and the transcript, see the Public ICANN64 Schedule page.

Further Details

The ICANN Wiki page for the this session can be found at:
https://community.icann.org/display/CPMMB/CCWG+on+IG+Public+Meeting+in+K obe

2.2.2 Presentation to the GAC
14 March 2019, 8:30 – 10:15

Speakers:
- Olivier Crepin-Leblond (Chair)
- Nigel Hickson

Topics discussed:

1. Opening and Introduction
2. Update on introduction of Charter for CC Engagement Group on Internet Governance
3. Q&A

Summary

This informative session at the GAC was considered productive, garnering a lot of interest in the CCWG-IG from GAC members. Providing a brief history on the creation of the Working Group following NETmundial, Dr. Crépin-Leblond described the group's activities and interests. and the required adjustements to transition into an Engagement Group. Following the presentation, several GAC members have requested to be added to the mailing list of the CCWG-IG.

Further Details

For more information and links to the video and transcript, see the [Public ICANN 64 Schedule page.](#)

2.3 CCWG-IG internal work since March 2019

The CCWG-IG organized a face-to-face meeting during the ICANN64 Kobe meeting. The Chair, and other representatives, of the Board Working Group on Internet Governance ([BWG-IG](#)) were present and a productive discussion ensued.

2.3.1 Face-to-face meeting

ICANN 64, Kobe
[Internet Governance Face-to-Face Meeting](#)
14 March 2019, 12:15 - 13:15

Speakers:
- Olivier Crepin-Leblond (Chair)
- Leon Sanchez
- Matthew Shears
- Nigel Hickson

Board Members:
- Leon Sanchez
- Avri Dori
- Matthew Shears
- Tripti Sinha
- Ron da Silva
- Dankio Jevtovic
- Lito Ibarra

Topics discussed:

1. Introductions and welcome (Olivier and León)
2. Feedback from CCWG IG Public Session (earlier in week); Board WG priorities and Objectives for 2019

3. Discussion on "working together"
4. Upcoming ICANN IG priorities
5. Progress on chartering / commencement of CCEG on IG
6. Any Other Business

Summary

This was a productive and constructive session. Following positive feedback from the dialogue at the IG Public Session, the discussion focused on the strategic objectives of the Board WG on IG and how to address the fast-paced challenges, discussions and developments on Internet Governance issues. Several topics were discussed, including the proposed Charter (in terms of legislative impacts on ICANN) a discussion around a proposed IG mapping tool, ICANN's ITU-D Sector Membership application, and the difficulties in chartering the proposed CCEG IG.
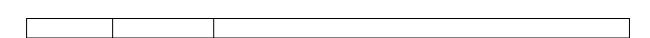
Further Details

For more information and links to the video and transcript, see the Public ICANN64 Scheulde page.

The ICANN Wiki page for the this session can be found at: https://community.icann.org/display/CPMMB/CCWG+on+IG+F2F+Meeting+in+Kobe

2.3.2 CCWG-IG teleconferences

There were two Calls during this Report period.

Date	In Attendance	Topics Discussed
28 March 2019	10 (16, inc. staff)	1. Roll Call, welcome, adoption of the agenda and Introduction 2. Organisation of the WSIS Forum workshop 3. Organisation of an IGF Workshop 4. Charter update 5. AoB
16 May 2019	15 (22, inc. staff)	1. Introduction, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda 2. IG Activities Update (including WSIS, IGF, and UN processes) a. WSIS Forum at ITU 2019 3. Discussion on Charter a. CCWG/CCEG on IG Charter 4. Discussion on ITU-D Sector Membership 5. AoB

The Notes for these two Calls can be found at
https://community.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=43984275

2.4 CCWG-IG Upcoming evenets and activities

2.4.1 ICANN65 Marrakesh

https://65.schedule.icann.org/

The CCWG-IG has planned a Face-to-Face meeting on June 24th 2019, during ICANN65 in Marrakesh. It will provide the opportunity for a discussion between the Community and members of the Board WG on Internet Governance. Discussions will center around ICANN's priorities in the IG space, including external developments affecting ICANN. The Board WG Chair will also present the WG's priorities and proposed program of work.

The link to the session can be found below:
https://65.schedule.icann.org/meetings/1058290

3   The Internet Governance Landscape

The second quarter of 2019 saw the continuation of the trend for increasing focus, both in governments and in media, on Internet issues in general, including governance. As previously observed, in several areas of multilateral approaches are preferred to a bottom-up dialogue with multiple stakeholders.

On a global level, the UN, WIPO, and WTO have all adopted a multilateral legislative approach to address Internet Governance issues.

The UN CSTD Plenary in May discussed, among other issues, national restrictions on data flow while only marginally updating the (annual) WSIS Resolution (on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the WSIS) due to differences between governments on governance issues.

Within the WIPO, the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications has asked ICANN to provide clarifications during their next meeting, where they will further discuss the proposal on Domain Names and Geographical Names. This has been an ongoing process and it could affect ICANN's own deliberations on how geographical names should be treated in any subsequent gTLD application process.

The newly launched e-Commerce negotiations at the WTO, which have potential to affect the DNS, are also within the framework of plurilateral discussions, with a lack of visibility for other stakeholders.

The role of stakeholders is, however, recognised in the work conducted by the UN High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation, which published their Report "The Age of Digital Interdependence" on June 10th. Discussion on the Recommendations in the Report will take place in many different fora, including, no doubt within ICANN

Another semi-multistakeholder initiative, the Christchurch Call was also developed and signed up to by many different stakeholders.

In the light of these developments, continued dialogue between ICANN Org and the Community remains extremely important. The ICANN Community is geographically dispersed and has a presence in every layer of the Internet Ecosystem, allowing for a vast and varied knowledge of regional and national proposals. In this context, the Community plays a key role in facilitating the required dialogue with ICANN Org.

4   Work on developing a way forward for ICANN cross-community work on Internet governance

Since ICANN59, the CCWG-IG has been working on a new "vehicle" for its structure. The Working Group created for this purpose drew up a Charter for a Cross-Community Engagement Group (CCEG) and prior to ICANN64, has shared it with SOs and ACs. With the intent of finding chartering members.

Following consultations and discussions, and despite significant interest from the Community, only ALAC indicated their willingness to become a chartered member; though, the GAC, gNSO and the ccNSO have all noted the importance of dialogue on Internet Governance issues, affecting ICANN, in the ICANN Community

In order to continue the essential work of the CCWG-IG, it has been decided continue work on the creation of a new un-charted vehicle, and to draft its Terms of Reference. Discussions are expected to continue during the ICANN65 Marrakesh meeting.

ICANN; GE; June 2019