



APRALO Newsletter, December 2020



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

NEWSLETTER INDEX

APRALO Chair

ALAC Chair

APRALO Leadership

ICANN

ALAC

Policy

APRALO Policy Forum

APRALO

GSE

NomCom

Capacity Building

ALSes

APRALO Chair Update



APRALO Chair, Satish Babu

We are at the end of a very eventful year, for the ICANN At-Large Community, as well as for the whole world. The global pandemic has significantly altered our way of work and way of life, raising numerous challenges and, at the same time, leading to innovations by individuals and communities in order to survive. Amidst this turbulence, there was one important lifeline that lived upto and beyond expectations from it: The Internet.

As one of the most significant lifelines in meeting the COVID-19 challenges, the Internet has stood ready, reliable, resilient and robust in face of significant scaling up of its use. In a sense, this reasserts the role of Internet Governance and the responsibilities of the organizations and communities in the Internet Governance ecosystem, including our own community.

A major part of 2020 was adapting to the new normal and learning to work within its constraints. In terms of the work of the five RALOs and ALAC, 2021 will be an important year vis-à-vis SubPro as we move closer towards another round of new gTLDs. In addition, there are several other threads of work including addressing DNS Abuse, enhancing ICANN's multistakeholder model, examining the ICANN public meeting strategy and continuing work on Universal Acceptance. At APRALO, we also have a number of internal processes including Rules of Procedure review, building on the APRALO Policy Forum, Outreach & Engagement in the face of the pandemic, and leadership development including the mentoring program. I'd like to call upon each of us to join these initiatives and continue APRALO's tradition of excellence.

I'd like to wish every one of you and your families the best for the New Year!

With Festive Season Greetings.

ALAC Chair Update



Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Chair

The end of the year is upon us, and let us hope that the New Year will bring us brighter news than we have endured during the past nine-months. Current pandemic news is not completely rosy, but the prospect of successful vaccinations world-wide is expected to prevent further explosions of new cases, if people just adhere to the basics of using masks, maintaining social distancing and washing hands. Our

greatest wish is that we will all be able to meet up together again, so we've all got to do our bit.

During the first month of the year, our most urgent task for RALOs is to get any Additional Budget Requests in by Jan 8 - so that we can take them to the next ALAC Subcommittee on Finance and Budget (FBSC) and Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group meetings. We have a few appointments to make - the ICANN Fellowship mentor and selection committee member; as well as a couple of volunteers for the 2021 Community Excellence Award (nominations for the Excellence Award are open already). Our GAC, GNSO and ccNSO Liaisons will start mentoring Shadow Liaisons to familiarise them with their expected duties after the next Annual General Meeting. We have already made a start on preparing for another virtual meeting - ICANN70; and for our first ALT+ meeting I'll be asking what RALOS will be prioritising as their main activity from our [2021 workplan](#) - Don't forget the APRALO Policy Forum which really needs active participants.

Already, it looks like a busy year so make the most of the holiday break, and everyone take care and keep safe until we meet again in the new year.

Best wishes to you all.

Messages from APRALO Leadership

Message from Cheryl Langdon Orr, APRALO Member and At-Large Liaison to the GNSO

To the APRALO Community, some morning musings from my front veranda at Glenorie January 4, as the New Lunar New Year looms and 2021 begins... So much of 2020 has cost us all dearly in various ways, and of course no one knows what the coming decade will bring, but what we can predict is that our mutual area of interest in the sector of ICT and specifically the Internet, will be critical in whatever is ahead... I have been watching with joy the wild native birds we feed here a great diversity large and small, colourful and classic, common and (after last year;s devastating fires) some now quite rare; many bringing in their new young... It strikes me that even as they, to some extent, all compete for food and resources, they are all essential and contributory to our local environment and also show remarkable resilience, and essential tolerance, as well as degrees of collaboration if not mutualism...

So I find myself thinking, "...what could we each be undertaking in the years to come and, more importantly, commit to doing in 2021, to enhance our APRALO resilience, collaboration and mutualism, the good old 'for the greater good' approach..."

My mind skipped then to the small declaration or pledges that many presenters made at the close of each session in the recent Virtual IGF 2020...

So I call upon us all to make to ourselves, if not each other and the wider community, some small but meaningful pledge, that is designed to make a positive difference... It might be to lower a carbon footprint, to volunteer in some local cause, to share, knowledge or skills needed by others or to just 'to benefit mankind' in some way...Ok, I have quite a few years of experience in some rather diverse fields, as well as some leadership skills and training, I am also keen on 'leading by example' so my public pledge to our community is to share a few nuggets of my knowledge that others may find useful in their own leadership journey. In 2021 I will take time for up to 21 people from across our community with a diversity of leadership experience and demands, to explore the 'Must know; Should know; and Could know' aspects of being a Top Class Leader.

How to get involved? Simply send to Amrita as editor of this newsletter for publication your own pledge or commitment for 2021 along with no more than 330 words, explaining to me why you wish to be involved and what you hope or expect to gain from working with me...

Message from Holly Raiche, APRALO ALAC Member

The disaster of COVID has taught us all how critical the Internet has been in keeping us all connected. So the APRALO mission for 2021 should be to work within ICANN toward making the Internet more accessible, more open, yet safer for everyone.

Lianna Galstyan, APRALO Vice-Chair

Dear APRALO Community,

The year of 2020 was a very challenging year in every aspect of our lives but it was also a year of lessons learnt, of re-assessing values, of opportunities to obtain new knowledge and skills and of supporting each other. Our community is strong in its collective efforts to learn, to outreach, to care and make difference for end-users. We have that potential based on endeavors of each and every one of you as individuals and ALS groups.

I wish you all and your families the very best in 2021!

Thank you APRALO community for your trust on getting me to the role of second vice chair. I was seated in this role at the end of the ICANN69 general meeting. With the new role comes a learning curve for me particularly the connection between ALAC and the RALOs. Being a member on both of the working parties of ALS and Unaffiliated individual Members Mobilization, I call upon APRALO At-Large Structures (ALS) community to encourage their members to take part of ICANN policy working groups and to start as observers in the Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG).

ICANN Update

In December 2020, ICANN:

- [Responded to the European Commission's \(EC\) public consultation](#) on the [EC's draft Standard Contractual Clauses](#) (SCCs) for transferring personal data to non-European Union (EU) countries.
- Signed a [Memorandum of Understanding with the Georgian National Communications Commission](#).
- Announced a call for nominations for the [ICANN Community Excellence Award](#) by 29 March 2021.
- Invited applications from the European region for the [NextGen@ICANN for ICANN71](#) by 22 January 2021.

ALAC Update

There was no ALAC monthly meeting during December 2020. A new series of guest speakers are to be invited to speak to the ALAC during ALAC Monthly. The next guest speaker will be John Crain, Chief Security, Stability & Resiliency Officer for ICANN. He has been asked to discuss the upcoming ICANN Public Comment on [Domain Abuse Activity Reporting \(DAAR\) 2.0](#).

The ALAC held an Appointee Selection Committee (AASC) call to confirm At-Large applicants for the IGO Work Track. The successful candidates, [Yrjö Lansipuro](#) and [Carlos Raul Gutierrez](#), were announced after the AASC meeting. They will present updates to the CPWG on the IGO Work Track.

The ALAC & GAC Topic Leads for EPDP held a meeting on [15 December](#) to discuss natural vs legal status and anonymized email, among other items.

In addition, the ALAC are working on:

- [At-Large 2021 work plan activities](#)
- The [FY22 Additional Budget Request \(ABR\)](#) schedule and next steps
- Statements on policy via the CPWG
- Statements on operations, finance and budget via the OFB-WG

In addition, the [ALS Mobilization WP Final Report](#) was ratified by the ALAC. The [At-Large Operations, Finance, and Budget Working Group \(OFB-WG\)](#) is leading the process of prioritizing ICANN recommendations (including WS2, ATRT3, MSM, et al) from the Internet end user perspective.

Policy Update

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.

Have your say! To contribute to ALAC policy activity, please comment on the At-Large workspace or volunteer as penholder, and join the weekly At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) meetings.

The APRALO Community can also participate in selected policy-related discussions being taken up from a regional perspective through the APRALO Policy Forum. For more information, please visit the [APRALO Policy Forum workspace](#) or contact At-Large Staff.

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) submitted (1) correspondence to ICANN org since the last APRALO Newsletter:

- [Mozilla DNS over HTTPS \(DoH\) and Trusted Recursive Resolver \(TRR\) Comment Period](#) CPWG

- See: [letter from David Conrad to Maureen Hilyard](#) 04 January 2021
- See: [ICANN OCTO comment to Mozilla](#) 04 January 2021

The ALAC is currently developing responses to the following (2) ICANN Public Comment proceedings:

Drafting [Priority 2 Policy Recommendations for ICANN Board Consideration from EPDP Phase 2](#) 22 January 2021 **CPWG**

Drafting [Draft FY22-26 Operating & Financial Plan and Draft FY22 Operating Plan & Budget](#) 15 February 2021 **OFB-WG**

In addition, the ALAC is drafting [ALAC Advice to the ICANN Board on Subsequent Procedures and ALAC Minority Statement for SubPro PDP Final Report \(Comment-only GoogleDoc\)](#) by 14 January 2021.

See: [At-Large Website on Public Comments and Policy Advice](#)

See: [Executive Summaries: ALAC Public Comments and Advice](#)

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

See: [At-Large Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group \(OFB-WG\)](#)

APRALO Policy Forum Update



APRALO ALAC Member, Justine Chew

The APRALO Policy Forum closed out 6 items in its maiden quarter ending December 2020 and will continue as the RALO's space for facilitating better informed, inclusive regional input on issues within ICANN's remit.

In order to boost the level of output of the Policy Forum, the APRALO Leadership Team seeks feedback on how to ease and improve participation in the Policy Forum via the [APRALO Policy Forum Survey #1.2020](#). In an effort to establish factors that can contribute to increased participation in the Policy Forum in 2021 as well as interest in 2 related RALO projects (namely a Regional Inventory of Skills and Interests and a Regional Hot Topics Survey 2020-2021), we would like to invite all RALO members to complete this very short survey by 31 January 2021. Part of this effort involves trialing the use of online tools such as Google-form surveys and Google Jamboards.

In the meantime, please continue to visit [The APRALO Policy Forum](#) for more details on how you can participate in the work that this Policy Forum undertakes.

APRALO Update

The [APRALO monthly call](#) was held on 17 December 2020, and was chaired by Satish Babu, APRALO Chair.

During the call, APRALO ALAC Members Holly Raiche and Justine Chew, together with Cheryl Langdon-Orr, provided an update on the Phase 2A of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data, and the ALAC/At-Large policy activities with respect to the policy development process for the New gTLD Program Subsequent Procedures. The ALAC Chair, Maureen Hilyard, spoke about the opportunity for the RALOs to apply for the [FY22 Additional Budget Request](#) and urged the community to think about providing suggestions to the APRALO leadership on the same by 1 Jan 2021.

During the meeting, guest speaker Anriette Esterhuysen, Chair, MAG, UN-IGF provided an update on the IGF2020 participation and discussions. Leon Sanchez addressed the community and Amrita Choudhury shared a NomCom update.

Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE) Update



Jia-Rong Low, Global Stakeholder Engagement, Asia

Dear APRALO community,

Happy New Year! May 2021 be better for all of us in every way!

While the global pandemic in 2020 remains ongoing, I am proud of the various efforts by our APRALO leaders and community members for your ongoing passion in ICANN, and for sharing about ICANN at various local and regional events virtually. This showcases the power of the Internet and how it has helped us tide through what can be seen as a once-in-a-lifetime challenge.

Looking ahead, I envision the momentum to continue, and from the ICANN Asia Pacific office, we look forward to continuing partnering with you. We share key goals in outreach and engagement with APRALO, as can be seen from the [APRALO FY21 Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan](#). While we will still have to do most of our work virtually for the time being, I think we can all be optimistic about the pandemic situation. In mid-2021, we will continue to work with you and the APRALO leadership team to plan for the APRALO FY22 Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan (from July 2021-June 2022), and I look forward to working closely with you to add more of the Asia Pacific's voices to ICANN.

Thank you.

NomCom Update

The ICANN 2021 Nominating Committee would be soon inviting applications for the 9 leadership positions. These include:

- Three members of the ICANN Board of Directors
- Three regional representatives to the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)(one each from Africa, Asia/Australia/Pacific Islands, and Latin America/Caribbean regions)
- Two members of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council
- One member of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council

Kindly watch out [this section](#) for the announcement of the application period and **do spread the word across your communities so that eligible candidates can apply.**

The 2021 Nominating Committee Will Fill Nine Open Leadership Positions



Capacity Building Working Group (CBWG) Update

The At-Large Capacity Building Working Group (CBWG) held a [webinar on the Internet of Things \(IoT\) on 07 December 2020](#). The webinar shed light on the interplay between the Domain Name System (DNS) and the Internet of Things (IoT), highlighting the impact of IoT on communities and its effect on end users.

The Internet of Things is a fast-growing technology that not only brings us new automation, but also rapidly changes entire industries and the way we do business. The IoT technology today is discussed at a small scale like wearables and the home, or at a large scale in a city. The dependence on this technology is growing every year. This webinar was focused on IoT basics, connection between IoT and DNS and some future look at the developments of IoT and its use.

The webinar was informative in nature, triggering dialogue and discussions. Presenters included At-Large leaders Hadia Elminiawi, Sarah Kiden and Andrei Kolesnikov. For more information, including webinar recordings and transcripts, please visit the [webinar agenda page](#).

APRALO ALS Updates

UUM InterNetWorks Research Laboratory and ISOC-Malaysia organised the 6th International Conference on Internet Applications, Protocols and Services (NETAPPS2020) virtually on 2-3 December 2020 and the event was broadcasted live on [Facebook Live](#).

Internet Society Yemen Chapter were among the three Internet Society Chapters who were awarded winners of the Chapterthon 2020. Through their project they reinforced digital awareness in schools and trained high-school students in continuing their education during emergencies. In that context, ISOC Yemen would like to thank Amal Al-Saqqaf for her service as the ALS representative and welcoming Abdul Rahman A. Aboutalib as their new replacement.

IGF Updates

All stakeholders are [invited to submit inputs on IGF 2020 and suggest improvements for IGF 2021](#) by 20 January 2021, 23:59 UTC. Inputs can be submitted through the form on the IGF website or by emailing the IGF Secretariat at takingstock@intgovforum.org.

There is a Call for Thematic Inputs for IGF 2021 till 31 January, 23:59 UTC. All stakeholders are invited to share Internet governance issues of priority that could shape the IGF 2021 thematic focus. More information is available at the [IGF website](#).

Upcoming Events

The ICANN70 Community Forum will take place from 20-25 March 2021. Stay tuned to the [At-Large ICANN70 Workspace](#) for the latest updates, including format of the meeting.

