APRALO Newsletter, August 2020

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

Message from the ALAC Chair

by Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Chair

No sooner have we completed one ICANN meeting, we are now already looking towards preparing for another - ICANN69 which is the AGM originally planned for Hamburg, Germany. Again it will be virtual, but already with some changes in the way other virtual meetings have been covered. One thing that remains the same, is that the meeting will again be held over three weeks.

Week One (5-9 Oct) will consist of ICANN's Prep Week as they did for the last meeting. One thing I am sure they will run again is how to use the interpretation tool which they are using again. ICANN suggested using two pieces of equipment.(a separate mobile for the tool itself). Week Two (13-15 Oct) is a three day window for SOs and ACs to present their policy sessions and to hold other important At-Large meetings during the final meeting of the year. At-Large is working on a new set of At-Large Plenary sessions.

Week Three (20-22 October) will be the formal meeting which will include ICANN Plenaries, two Public Forum sessions, the Executive Q&A, and probably the last ALAC meeting of the year where we will farewell departing ALAC members and RALO leaders, and welcome new members who will "assume their seats" following the Public ICANN Board session which formally ends ICANN's AGM meeting - three weeks of it. APRALO members can generally prepare themselves for session schedules that will be completely APRALO-user-unfriendly. My meeting day starts at 9pm. Jonathan Zuck starts his day at midnight, but many of us have done this before.

Our past month has been a busy time for the ALAC with voting required for new ALSes entering At-Large, as well as the endorsement, by voting, of statements that evolved out of the discussions in the Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) which deals with policies related to Internet end-users.Their statement was the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on GDPR (Privacy) but the Subsequent Procedures Report will be out soon, and comments are already building up for that ALAC statement. I am sure that Justine will be pleased when that multi-year project is over.

The other hard working group is the Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group (OFB-WG) which deals with operational policies related to At-Large internally. Statements the ALAC endorsed from this WG were related to two big reports (1) Enhancing the Effectiveness of the Multistakeholder Model (MSM) and (2) the Third Accountability and Transparency Review (ATRT3).

There are some other busy working groups in action in At-Large. The Capacity Building Working Group is developing webinars and other resources for At-Large Ambassadors including some ICANN Learn Courses. The Social Media WG has sprung back into action. This was formerly led by APRALO member - Shreedeep Rayamajhi - up until the ICANN68 (Kuala Lumpur) meeting concluded, As part of the rotating leadership of the WG, the Social Media WG will now be taken over by Natalia Filina of EURALO, as ICANN69 was planned for Germany. She will be able to build on some great ideas that Shreedeep introduced for ICANN68. Another initiative led by a EURALO member, Roberto Gaetano is the Unaffiliated Individual Members working Party which will be reviewing the accreditation criteria for individual members, based on the ALS Mobilisation work.

Message from the APRALO Chair

by Satish Babu, APRALO Chair

An important milestone for the ICANN community in August was the release of the GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Draft Final Report--more concisely known as the SubPro report--for public comments. This 361-page report is the culmination of years of hard work by the ICANN community on a topic of great interest to all of us. Our congratulations to the entire team--including several members from our region--who significantly contributed to the report.

APRALO is revitalizing its policy platform initiative that we had started a few months back. This initiative will be led by Justine and supported by the APRALO Leadership Team. Given that we have until September 30th for comments on the SubPro report, one of the first tasks would be to mobilize our comments on matters of relevance to the region in the report. Other organizational matters that the initiative would be looking at include our inventory of skills and interests, and eliciting one more round of regional hot topics, possibly through a survey. I would like to invite all community members to contribute to these efforts.

We have just launched an initiative specifically targeted at our ATLAS III Ambassadors, which will be led by Ali. This program is built around Outreach & Engagement, and, given the global pandemic, will decide on how best to creatively respond to travel restrictions but yet be able to reach out to our communities. Finally, one of the new ALAC initiatives deserves attention: this is the Unaffiliated Individuals Mobilization Working Party (UIM-WP), which begins its work under the Chairmanship of Roberto Gaetano. Unaffiliated Individual Members (UIMs) are generally an under-utilized resource at this time (although there are some stellar performers as well), and it is thought that the WP will streamline the contributions and participations from this group of our members.

I hope our community members and their families remain safe in the face of the global pandemic.

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.

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) and/or At-Large Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group (OFB-WG) meetings.

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) submitted (1) statement since the last APRALO Newsletter:

Addendum to the ALAC Statement on EPDP (August 2020)
Although the ALAC and the BC, IPC, GAC and the SSAC each took a somewhat different approach to addressing their positions in respect to the report, the ALAC is in general agreement with the positions taken in the GAC, SSAC and BC/IPC statements. In particular, the ALAC appreciates the in-depth and insightful analysis provided by the GAC, SSAC and BC/IPC.

Current Statements (ALAC Advice, Comment or Correspondence)

Drafting GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Draft Final Report
30 Sep 2020

Drafting Reference Label Generation Rulesets (LGRs) for the Second Level
15 Oct 2020

See: At-Large Website Policy Comments & Advice
See: Executive Summaries: ALAC Policy Comments & Advice
See: Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG)
See: At-Large Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group (OFB-WG)

ICANN Update

In August, ICANN:

- ICANN staff Baher Esmat was appointed Managing Director for the Middle East and Africa (MEA) Regional Office.
- Announced that ICANN75, the Annual General Meeting will be held from 17-22 September 2022 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC).
- Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) organised a webinar on "Universal Acceptance (UA) Financial Year 2021 Action Plan" on 20 August.
- PTI and IANA organised the FY22 Budget Webinar on 27 and 28 August.
- ICANN has launched the Pandemic Internet Access Program Pilot for ICANN69. Last date to apply is 2 October.
- Successfully installed an ICANN Managed Root Server (IMRS) instance in Monterrey, Mexico along with Transtelco.

ALAC Update

The monthly ALAC call was held on 25 August, which was led by ALAC Chair Maureen Hilyard. The meeting focused on

- ALAC Policy Development Activities for the month
- Review of current ALS and Individual Member applications
- Reports and Discussion with At-Large Plus Leaders
- Discussion with Leon Sanchez - ICANN Board Vice Chair

- Post ATLAS III/2020 At-Large Activities - Review and Development of Recommendations for the ALAC
- Initial Discussion of At-Large at ICANN69 and the At-Large ICANN69 Planning Committee
- ALS Mobilization Update

The ALAC also discussed the two recent At-Large Capacity Building Working Group (CBWG) Webinars, one on the topic of New gTLD Rounds and Subsequent Procedures and the other on the topic of DNS over HTTPS (DoH) and DNS over TLS (DoT). The SubPro webinar, led by APRALO ALAC Member Justine Chew, was held in August and was well attended by the community. Participation is encouraged for the upcoming DoH/DoT webinar led by APRALO ALAC Member, Holly Raiche. The webinar takes place on Monday, 07 September at 21 UTC.

SMWG Report of ICANN68

Shreedeep Rayamajhi, who led the Social Media Team for ICANN68 shared the Social Media Working Report for ICANN68.

After a successful ICANN68 Virtual Policy Forum with the first rotational SMWG Chair from the ICANN Meeting region (APRALO - Shreedeep Rayamajhi), the At-Large Social Media Working Group is planning for ICANN69 social media activity worldwide, with leadership from the EURALO region (Natalia Filina, EURALO Secretariat). The SMWG will meet ahead of ICANN69 to review their social media activity and plan their social media strategy.

NomCom Update

Amrita Choudhury, APRALO Delegate to the NomCom

The nominating committee members are now preparing for the final interview of the shortlisted candidates which will be held in the last week of September, 2020.

Please see the blog from the NomCom Chair on 31 August, regarding an update on the selection process.

ALS Highlights

6th pKSIG successfully conducted Online

The 6th Pakistan School on Internet Governance (pkSIG 2020) which is supported by ISOC Islamabad Chapter, was held virtually from 17-20 August 2020. The school was attended by 48 participants from across Pakistan, featuring speakers from various national and international organizations. The program was divided over four days with approx. three hours of virtual classes every day. More information is available at www.pksig.pk.

The school was supported by APASA, Facebook, Google, ICANN, ISOC, APNIC, PTA, Jim Foster (ACCJ), Prof, Kilnam.

New Leadership team in ISOC Chennai Chapter

Internet Society India Chennai Chapter elected a new leadership team. Dr. Sudha Bhuvaneswari has been elected the President, V. Venkatadri and Ravichandran Lakshminarayan as Vice President, Sivasubramanian Muthusamy as the Treasurer and Dr. Gnanajeyaraman Rajaram as the Secretary . The non voting Directors of the Chapter include Arumugam Paventhan, Dr. Ramalingam, Karthik Kumar and Sébastien Bachollet.

Upcoming Events and Other Announcements

ICANN69 Virtual Annual General Meeting (AGM)

ICANN69 will be ICANN's third virtual public meeting. See the announcement here.

The At-Large Capacity Building Working Group is organizing their fifth webinar on the topic of "DoH/DoT: Benefits, Drawbacks and a Way Forward? " on Monday 7 September at 21:00 UTC for 60 minutes. The guest speaker will be APRALO ALAC Member, Holly Raiche.

AprIGF2020 will be organized virtually from 27-30 September. To register use this link. List of accepted sessions can be viewed here.

See the At-Large Workspace for ICANN69 for the latest updates on ALAC / At-Large activity!

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

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