

A brief update for December 2019 - January 2020, from the APRALO perspective



APRALO Newsletter, December 2019 - January 2020



Members of the At-Large leadership (including ALAC and RALO leaders) at ICANN66 / ATLAS III

Key Highlights of 2019



ALAC / At-Large

At-Large Community activities work toward ensuring the voice of individual Internet users is heard within ICANN.

Policy highlights in 2019

The ALAC ratified 21 statements to ICANN Public Comment and 2 ALAC Advice statements to the ICANN Board in 2019, in addition to cross-community requests for feedback on policy related activity (i.e. Public Interest, EPDP, SubPro). See all Executive Summaries [here](#).

The At-Large Consolidated Policy Group (CPWG) weekly meeting attendance surpassed and is maintaining an average of 50 participants per week.

See the [At-Large Policy Advice Development Page](#) and [At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group \(CPWG\)](#) for the latest updates on ALAC/At-Large policy activity.

Membership growth in 2019

From 232 At-Large Structures (ALSes) in 103 countries and territories **to 241 ALSes** in 104 countries and territories.

From 101 Individual Members and 8 Observers **to 128 Individuals** and 20 Observers.

At-Large Review Implementation Plan

The initial At-Large Review Implementation Plan consisted of eight of the original sixteen issues (#1, #2, #3, #4, #7, #9, #13 and #16) identified by the independent reviewer. It was presented to the Board Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC) in December 2018 and was approved by the Board during their Meeting on 26 January 2019. In June 2019 the [At-Large Review 2 Implementation \(ARI\) Status Report 1](#) was submitted to the Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC), and in December 2019 the [At-Large Review Implementation Interim Report 2](#) was submitted to the OEC. In January 2020 the [OEC responded to the Interim Report 2](#), noting the continued success of the At-Large Review Implementation.

The Third At-Large Summit (ATLAS III)

The Third At-Large Summit (ATLAS III) was an assembly of future At-Large Ambassadors, focused on developing and nurturing thought leaders and change agents who will implement what has resulted from the At-Large Review Process, namely, more effective participation of At-Large members in the policy advice process. ATLAS III was held Monday, 4 November through Thursday, 7 November 2019 during ICANN66 in Montreal, Canada, and provided participants with the skills required to effectively represent the best interests of the end users within ICANN. See the ICANN org blog on ATLAS III [here](#).

See ongoing Post-ATLAS III Activities [here](#).



The ATLAS III Welcome Reception in Montreal

APRALO

The following APRALO Leadership assumed or continued their roles at the end of the ICANN66 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Montreal, Quebec:

- Satish Babu, Chair
- Lianna Galstyan, Vice-Chair
- Ali AIMeshal, Vice-Chair
- Pavan Budhrani, Secretariat
- Holly Raiche, ALAC Member
- Justine Chew, ALAC Member
- Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Member and ALAC Chair
- Amrita Choudhury, NomCom Delegate

APRALO Achievements in 2019

[APRALO 2019 Yearbook](#)

[APRALO Monthly Newsletters](#)

[APRALO FY20 Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan](#)

See [APRALO workspace for more achievements](#).

Plans and Expectations for 2020



by Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Chair

Welcome, APRALO, to a new year for At-Large: 2020. Another year of policy and outreach activities, but this year will build upon the great work done by our ATLAS III participants in Montreal.

Thank you to everyone who completed our survey and did the additional report - it was a lot of work, and the feedback is being analyzed. I want your feedback to be incorporated into the way we work in At-Large, so that we add value to the work we do within ICANN. Your overall contributions to APRALO meetings and our At-Large activities are very much valued.

One of the important features of our work is the communication we share with each other. I have to thank Amrita and Evin for the great work they do each month in producing the APRALO newsletter. I hope you enjoyed the APRALO Yearbook for 2019. It certainly demonstrated just how active our ALSes are within our region. Our ALS Mobilisation Working Group is trying to look at ways in which we can get ALL our ALSes working as well. We don't want to lose anyone. At the same time, we also have very active individual unaffiliated members who are doing great work within At-Large on behalf of APRALO.

I am always proud of the work that our APRALO members do in ICANN and in the region. Don't forget when there is a call for participants to work on some of our Working Groups, do step up and chip in whenever you can to add your voice to the APRALO Policy Platform that Justine is initiating. This is our chance to contribute to global policy discussions.

Please continue doing what you are doing in your communities to spread the word about the work of ICANN and the important role we play in incorporating effective cooperation among ICANN stakeholders, to support the interests of Internet end-users worldwide.

APRALO Way Ahead 2020



by Satish Babu, APRALO Chair

At the outset, on behalf of the APRALO Leadership Team, I'd like to wish all of our community a productive, prosperous and rewarding 2020!

The recently-concluded ATLAS III was an opportunity for us to look back at the last few years and also look forward to the immediate future. The main focus of APRALO continues to be providing meaningful advice on policy matters to ICANN's Policy Processes. We also have several other secondary objectives including providing capacity building for policy matters, developing leaders and ambassadors, and fine-tuning our internal operations and Rules of Procedure.

The main innovation that we would be trying out under the leadership of Justine Chew is the [APRALO Policy Platform](#), which we have covered during the December 2019 and January 2020 Monthly calls. This is a great opportunity for our community and I call upon everyone to actively participate in this initiative. The link to the call for participation is available at <http://bit.ly/apralo-policy-platform> for your reference.

We had started work on revising our Rules of Procedure late last year. We will continue to work on this during the current year, harmonize our ROPs with other processes in ALAC which may have a bearing on our ROPs, and produce the final version in the second half of the year.

From an organizational perspective, APRALO still does not have a "footprint" in all countries of our region. We will continue to work to enlarge our membership - both individual members and ALSes - in the region. We will also continue to work with our partners in the region in a coordinated fashion in order to respond to our policy challenges as well as organizational priorities.

We look forward to the continued and active participation from our community, and hope that 2020 will be a productive year for APRALO and for the ICANN At-Large Community as a whole.

Best wishes to all.

ALAC/At-Large 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 drafting the following comments:

[Vote Draft FY21-25 Operating & Financial Plan and Draft FY21 Operating Plan & Budget 25 February 2020](#)

[Drafting Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency \(SSR2\) Review Team Draft Report 04 March 2020](#)

[Drafting Initial Report of the Expedited Policy Development Process \(EPDP\) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Team - PHASE 2 23 March 2020](#)

[Drafting Proposal for NextGen@ICANN Program Improvements 31 March 2020](#)

[Drafting Name Collision Analysis Project \(NCAP\) Study 1 31 March 2020](#)

[Drafting Revised Community Travel Support Guidelines 13 April 2020](#)

The ALAC ratified the following advice/statement(s):

[Proposed Final Report of the New gTLD Auction Proceeds Cross Community Working Group](#)
Executive Summary TBD

[Proposed Dates for ICANN Public Meetings 2024-2028 and Revised Dates in 2022](#)
The ALAC noted that ICANN has been striving to be more inclusive in an effort to engage more volunteers with diverse backgrounds. ICANN acknowledges the difficulty in getting new people to join and engage within ICANN and to increase the diversity of participants. The Multistakeholder Model Work Plan takes note of the importance to ICANN to develop pathways to enable effective participation. One of the more practical ways for ICANN to facilitate participation is for ICANN Org, to be more aware of and to avoid clashing with important holidays and religious days observed by volunteers who work countless hours to improve ICANN's multistakeholder advisory work. By avoiding these dates as much as possible it is showing all volunteers that ICANN Org understands their concerns and does its best to avoid conflicts.

The ALAC made several other suggestions regarding ICANN meeting dates in 2022 and from 2024-2028.

[Third Accountability and Transparency Review Team \(ATRT3\) Draft Report](#)
The ALAC noted the ATRT review has produced a considerable amount of work in little time and this is laudable. Nevertheless, from an end-user perspective, ATRT should consider deliberating the following questions: (1) How can ICANN better address conflicts of interest? The ICANN community is relatively small, with relatively few actors involved in the process. Conflicts of interest, perceived or real, can impact negatively on ICANN's standing; (2) How can transparency be increased? (3) How can ICANN ensure that in cases where issues persist, processes are initiated to correct trajectory? (For example, if multiple reviews identify the same issue or if they find implementation to be lacking, how can this be fast-tracked transparently and effectively?) (4) Might it be necessary to "silo off" or ring-fence certain functions, including reviews, compliance, and other types of community oversight? (5) How can ICANN improve their responsiveness to community and review team questions and affairs, and what policies should be created to ensure these are dealt with? The ALAC also suggested taking several

noted options into consideration, emphasizing from an end user perspective, more, not less, accountability and transparency is required from the ICANN community and org.

Overall, the ALAC supports the suggested changes to the ICANN Public Comment, public input as well as the accountability indicators. We believe those changes would make the Public Comments more effective and show better transparency. We strongly believe that a wide, open and inclusive process should be maintained in policy development process especially with input representing the multistakeholder environment. Policy development must be transparent, efficient and should not be biased or skewed towards a group.

[ALAC Advice to the ICANN Board on ISOC/PIR Issue](#) (submitted to the ICANN Board on 31 January 2020)

The ALAC noted the proposed sale of PIR to Ethos Capital has, understandably, created quite a stir, prompting commentary from many perspectives within the ICANN community, and applauds the efforts by the ICANN Board to clarify and make transparent, as much as possible, the process regarding the deal and to take the time to encourage the best possible result.

The ALAC Advice to the ICANN Board suggested (8) recommendations: (1) The Registry for .ORG must be organized as either a charitable non-profit [501c(3) in the US] or a "Benefit Corporation" (B Corporation); (2) One-third of the Registry Corporate Board must be representatives of charitable nonprofits; (3) One Board member selected by the ALAC; (4) The Registry for .ORG must enshrine in its bylaws that the principal focus of the domain is nonprofits and individuals and not commercial interests; (5) The Registry must enshrine in its bylaws a commitment to free speech and a resistance to takedown demands with a political basis; (6) The Registry must provide 6 months prior written notice to its registrants of any increase in wholesale price of their domain names registration renewal fees and the option of a 20-year renewal thereof at the pre-increase price; (7) The Registry Agreement must enshrine PIR prohibited practices such a bulk sales to commercial registrars; and (8) The Registry Agreement must establish a "DNS Abuse Ceiling".

[ALAC Advice to ICANN Board on DNS Abuse](#) (submitted to the ICANN Board on 24 December 2019)

Background

Prior to ICANN66, At-Large and other community groups within ICANN identified the issue, released several reports on the topic of DNS Abuse. In advance of ICANN66, At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) led by Co-Chairs Jonathan Zuck and Olivier Crépin-Leblond discussed recent DNS Abuse research and how DNS Abuse impacts the Internet end user community, including the erosion of trust and security. During ICANN66, At-Large organized a policy session on "DNS Abuse - End User Concerns", with a panel presentation. Jonathan Zuck and Joanna Kulesza, ALAC Member, moderated the session and summarized how At-Large can enhance Internet end user protection against DNS Abuse. The ALAC drafted ALAC Advice on the topic during ICANN66, and finalized the draft in subsequent CPWG meetings. The ALAC Advice on DNS Abuse was submitted to the ICANN Board on 24 December 2019.

ALAC Advice

The ALAC made a series of (8) recommendations to the ICANN Board. The ALAC emphasized that community dialogue cannot delay or defer ICANN's commitments or operations related to DNS Abuse. Their recommendations speak to the insufficiency of the status quo, and stressed their recommendations that no new round will be approved without substantial changes in the area of DNS Abuse. Please read the full advice [here](#).

Registration Directory Service (RDS-WHOIS2) Review Team Final Report

The ALAC finds the report to include very useful information that should be used to guide the development of relevant policies, and appreciates the team's effort and supports the provided recommendations.

The ALAC highlights the importance of the recommendations related to the accuracy of data, and it strongly advises its acceptance by the ICANN Board. In light of the GDPR, the ALAC noted the importance of several other recommendations in the WHOIS Report encouraging a more proactive position of contractual compliance, especially in regards to DNS Abuse, as well as the team's findings with regard to law enforcement needs.

Implementation Plan for the GNSO Consensus Policy Relating to the Protection of Certain Red Cross Names

As a worldwide internationally recognized humanitarian aid organization, and one that has been regularly the target of those seeking to fraudulently extract donations, the ALAC believes that the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (incorporating National Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies, and the International Committee of the Red Cross) should be given the benefit of protection to its various identifiers, designations and/or acronyms as intended by the policy changes proposed for implementation in the said updated consensus policy. This includes the proposed action to recognize changes to the official names of the Red Cross Society entities, including component names, in Eswatini and Macedonia, respectively, an action we view as necessary.

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.

See: At-Large Website Policy Comments & Advice

See: Executive Summaries: ALAC Policy Comments & Advice

See: Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG)

ICANN Update

This month, ICANN:

- Announced the appointment of Chris Mondini as ICANN Vice President, Stakeholder Engagement, Europe and Managing Director, Brussels.
- Announced the launch of the Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building
- Organized webinars on the Third Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT3) on its draft report and ICANN's Draft FY21-25 Operating & Financial Plan and Draft FY21 Operating Plan and Budget.
- Opened applications for the Community Childcare Grants Pilot Program for ICANN68 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (deadline 14 March), as well as the community excellence award.

In addition, on the much discussed sale of .ORG, ICANN and PIR mutually agreed to extend the date for ICANN to review PIR's submission by another 30 days. Read the ALAC Advice on the ISOC/PIR Issue, submitted to the ICANN Board on 31 January 2020, here.

ALAC Update

There was a lot of discussion going on at the ALAC level on what should be the ALAC position in the .ORG sale. Different opinions were being taken in to account to come up with a position of rough consensus, submitted as [ALAC Advice to the ICANN Board on 31 January 2020](#). The ISOC/PIR Issue continues to evolve.

The [ALAC held their monthly call on 21 January](#). The meeting included:

- Highlights of ALAC policy advice development activities
- Update on ALS and Individual membership application status
- At-Large Leadership Team Plus (ALT-PLUS) reports and discussion
- Post-ATLAS III Activities and ALAC Chair Maureen Hilyard's At-Large 2020 Vision
- Update on the At-Large Review Implementation
- Update of the ALS Mobilization Plan Working Party
- Overview of the ICANN67 At-Large schedule and main topics expected to be discussed
- Update on the FY21 additional budget requests
- Aims and objectives of the first F2F SOAC Leaders Meeting in Los Angeles
- Selection of At-Large fellowship Mentor.

APRALO Update

[APRALO held their monthly call on 16 January](#). Holly and Justine provided an overview of the At-Large policy activities, highlighting policies that have been ratified and those that are being discussed by ALAC and CPWG.

Maureen provided an overall update from the ALAC. Justine provided an overview of the APRALO Policy Platform 2020, while Satish provided other regional updates, including the news of ALS member Aiyshah Shakira Suhaidi joining the Internet Society as community engagement manager for APAC. Finally, Amrita shared the NomCom update.

NomCom Update

by Amrita Choudhury, APRALO NomCom Delgate

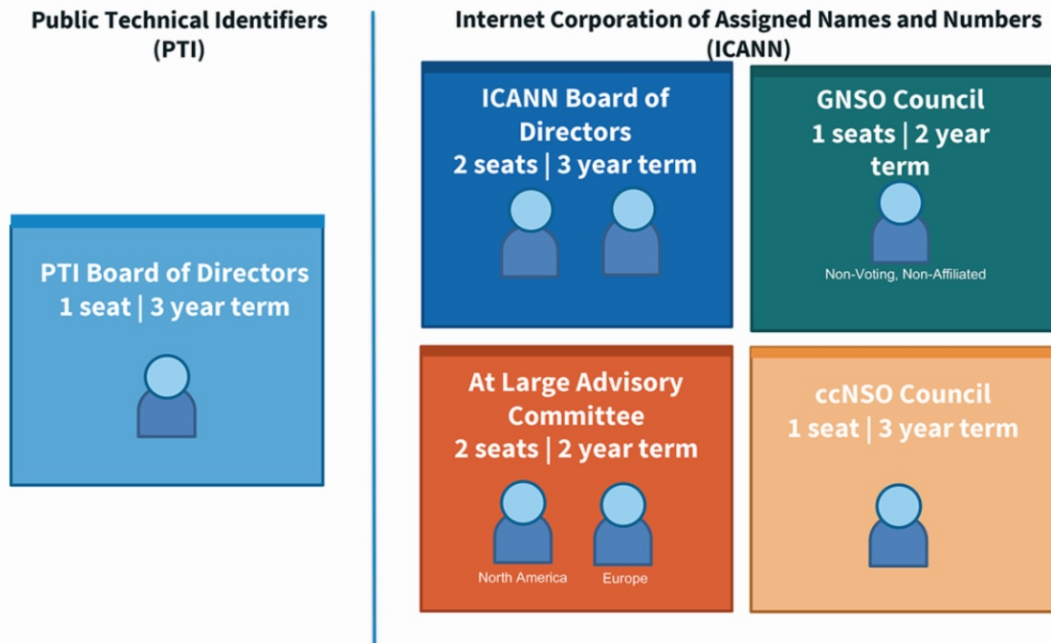
The Nominating Committee (NomCom) is inviting interested individuals to submit applications for key leadership positions within ICANN and Public Technical Identifiers (PTI). The last date to apply is **25 February 2020** at 23:59 Universal Coordinated Time (UTC).

Applications are invited for the following positions:

- Two members of the **ICANN Board of Directors**.
- One member of the **PTI Board of Directors**.
- Two regional representatives to the **At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)** - one from the European region and one from the North American region.
- One member of the **Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council**.
- One member of the **Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council**.

For information, visit the [NomCom webpage](#). All ALSes are requested to spread the word across your communities and interested ALSes are encouraged to apply.

Seven Open Positions to be filled by 2020 NomCom



ALS Highlights/Additional Updates

Key Highlights of First MAG Meeting 2020

by Lianna Galstyan

IGF 2020 First Open Consultations and MAG meeting was hosted on 14-16 January 2020 at the United Nations Office at Geneva, Switzerland. **Lianna Galstyan**, APRALO Vice Chair, **Gunela Astbrink**, ALS representative, and **Jennifer Chung**, DotAsia representative, participated in this meeting as MAG members.

After 3 days of consultations and extensive discussions, the MAG came up with the proposal to continue with more coherent program approach of 3 thematic tracks, established in 2019. Based on the feedback received by the community, the 3 thematic tracks for 2020 are proposed to be - **Data, Inclusion and Trust**. To accommodate the initially suggested additional themes (environmental sustainability/climate change and digital economy), the MAG is currently considering two options: to integrate them into the 3 main tracks, or to create an additional track with the title "Sustainability" and then address environmental sustainability/climate change and/or digital economy as part of this additional track.

With these proposals, a [call for validation of thematic tracks and further input](#) is announced and everyone is encouraged to make a submission by 6 February 2020 and help shaping the further approach.

Participation in Arab IGF



Nadira Al Araj participated as an active ICANN volunteer in the [Fifth Arab Internet Governance Forum](#) that was held in Cairo, from 22 to 23 January 2020. The Arab IGF is organized by ESCWA and the League of Arab States in cooperation with the National Telecom Regulatory Authority of Egypt - the Arab IGF Secretariat since 2012, and is hosted by the Arab Administrative Development Organization. She was a speaker in the main plenary session on "Contribution to Internet Global Public Policymaking: From Internet Governance to Digital Cooperation".

During the networking breaks, she took the opportunity to elaborate on ICANN with interested participants. She met the general director of the Tech Innovation Center at the Palestinian Ministry of Telecom and Information and discussed on possible plan to conduct a workshop about ICANN at the center.

ALS Updates

CCAOI and ISOC Delhi organize interactive webinar on the Data Protection Bill 2019

CCAOI with the support of ISOC Delhi organised an interactive webinar on the Data Protection Bill 2019. The webinar was well attended by ninety seven participants from across the country and belonging to different stakeholder groups (civil society, academia, industry, industry associations, technical community, etc.) who shared their viewpoints and perspectives on the PDP Bill. Issues related to definitions, cross-border data flow, data portability, grounds of processing data, social media intermediaries, sharing of non personal data, the role of data protection authority, state exemptions, etc. were discussed.

The report highlighting the key discussion points of the webinar can be viewed using [this link](#) while the recording is available [here](#).

New leadership team at ISOC Kolkata

ISOC Kolkata has elected Anand Raje as the Chair of ISOC Kolkata Chapter and

Prof. Indrajit De, as the new Vice Chair of the Chapter. The remaining Executive Committee members will be filled in the next AGM to be held at the end of February.

Upcoming Events and Other Announcements



- The [ICANN67 Community Forum](#) has been converted to a remote meeting. Read details of the [ICANN announcement here](#).
- Workshop proposals are being invited for APriGF 2020 by 24 February. For more details visit [this link](#).
- [Registration](#) is open for the seventh Middle East DNS Forum to be held from 24-25 March in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
- Registration is now open for [AprIGF 2020](#) to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- [Registration](#) is now open for MENOG 20 and Peering Forum will take place in Manama, Bahrain, from 15-19 March 2020.

And don't forget to [Tweet @ At-Large!](#)

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

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STAY CONNECTED

