

A brief update for the month of July 2020, from the APRALO perspective



APRALO Newsletter, July 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). Jonathan Zuck says this is not so and is keen to demonstrate how you can incorporate the tool into zoom. So more on this as we all learn more from Jonathan in the upcoming weeks.

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.

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 - Shreedeeep 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 Shreedeeep introduced for ICANN68.

To conclude: the recent elections created a new APRALO Vice Chair - we welcome Nadira Al-Araj from Palestine. We have retained Satish as our Chair, Holly as one of our ALAC Policy gurus, and Amrita as our NomCom delegate recently endorsed

by the ALAC. Many thanks to both Ali and Aris who I am sure, will continue in their active roles in both APRALO and the APRIGF which is another key organisation for many of our Central and South Asian participants. Amrita recently became the Vice Chair of the APRIGF Multistakeholder Steering Group (MSG) and the first APRALO Chair, Raj Singh, is the current Chair of the MSG. So APRALO is really in the thick of things in our region.

Message from the APRALO Chair



by **Satish Babu, APRALO Chair**

When we look back on ICANN68 and transition towards ICANN69--yet another virtual meeting--it is important to note that the community has made significant progress in key topics such as DNS Abuse. For the At-Large community, key achievements at ICANN68 included ALAC's endorsement of the final report of the At-Large Review, after which the final report was handed to the OEC 30 June 2020. Another item that was completed and handed over was the post-ATLAS III Survey analysis and Recommendation. Report.

For the immediate future, the focus of discussion is expected to shift towards discussions around a possible next round of new gTLDs. In this context, the work of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP becomes extremely important. The [At-Large Capacity Building Working Group organized an important webinar](#) on the Topic of "New gTLD Rounds and Subsequent Procedures" on Monday 3 August at 13:00 UTC. The webinar discussed several topics of high relevance to At-Large including how a new gTLD program will impact end-users; what are subsequent procedures; why subsequent procedures matter to end-users; and the next steps arising out of the current SubPro work.

The COVID-19 pandemic is still raging in different parts of our region, and I hope our community and their families remain safe. We, together with the whole world, look forward to the resumption of normalcy in our lives and work.

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 a member, 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 (6) statements since the last APRALO Newsletter:

Enhancing the Effectiveness of ICANN's Multistakeholder Model - Next Steps

The At-Large community is pleased to follow up on its prior ALAC statements regarding ICANN's Multistakeholder Model (see: 13 June 2019, 14 October 2019, February 2020) with this ALAC statement on Enhancing the Effectiveness of ICANN's Multistakeholder Model - Next Steps. The ALAC made recommendations on priority issues, moving out of silos, restoring recruitment and demographics, reviewing previous responses, identifying gaps, pandemic related issues and evaluation of success with respect to the latest Public Comment on the topic.

Final Report of the Cross Community Working Group (CCWG) on new gTLD Auction Proceeds

The ALAC appointed five Members to the CCWG and these Members, alongside several participants from At-Large, were very active contributors to the work of the CCWG. The ALAC believes that all of its concerns have been addressed and therefore was pleased to accept and ratify the Final Report of the new gTLD Auction Proceeds Cross Community Working Group.

Third Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT3) Final Report

The ALAC strongly supports the limited and focused number of recommendations proposed by the ATRT3 report, reflecting the pending implementation of proposals from previous review teams. In moving forward, the ALAC advises the ICANN Board to: (1) Swiftly implement ATRT3 recommendation to evolve both specific and organizational reviews as per Section 8 of the final report; (2) Fully endorse the recommendation to enhance current methods of Prioritization and Rationalization of Activities, Policies, and Recommendations (as per Section 10 of the report); (3) Share the ATRT3 Review Team's approach to the review process and methodology behind it, aiming to ensure that all elements contributing to achieving strategic objectives and their subcomponents are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-based (SMART) and that all reporting on these refers to well specified metrics, to be reviewed on a regular or timely basis (as per Section 9 of the report).

ALAC Statement on EPDP (July 2020)

A vast amount of work has been done, but the ALAC believes that if and when the SSAD is deployed, the probability of its meeting the goals needed by the communities whose efforts we support will be low. Therefore, in order for the ALAC to support the EPDP Final Report, the ALAC noted the following GNSO Council outcomes would be required:

1. GNSO Council would agree that any Evolution Standing Committee recommendation on additional SSAD decision use-cases (that are in full accordance with the EPDP Policy Recommendation 9.3) will be treated as Implementation and not require further policy deliberations.
2. Legal vs Natural, Accuracy, WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System and Anonymized contact email will be fully addressed with full participation in all aspects of discussions by the ICANN Advisory Committees that wish to participate. If these issues are deemed to be policy, they must be addressed by a group empowered to make policy recommendations, led by a qualified, non-conflicted chair. The GAC, ALAC and SSAC must be involved in setting the mandate or charter of such groups. The target for completion of all work should be no later than April 2021.

3. The GNSO Council would agree that ratifying the Evolution Standing Committee recommendations will only require a GNSO Majority as currently called for in the GNSO Policy Manual.
4. The GNSO Council would acknowledge that deliberations during implementation setting of prices for the SSAD must involve the future potential users of the SSAD and not only look at cost recovery but the actual ability and willingness of SSAD users to pay the prices being set.

Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Regional Strategic Plan for FY2021-2025 LACRALO Statement

The LACRALO statement was in response to the ICANN Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Regional Strategic Plan for FY2021-2025. As all LACRALO countries fall under the LAC Regional Plan, a diverse drafting team from the region provided feedback on strategy topics such as security, ICANN governance, unique identifiers system, geopolitics, and financials. Note: Ratified by the LACRALO Leadership Team and the ALAC.

ccNSO PDP3: Initial Proposals for Process to Retire ccTLDs

As a whole, the ALAC supports the ccNSO PDP3. From an end user perspective, the ALAC suggested two points to be considered: 1) As a user of the Internet, the removal of a TLD will mean less likelihood for confusion as usually a ccTLD would be removed to make way for a new one. This enhances Trust in the domain name identifiers; 2) As a domain name registrant, the retirement of the ccTLD could pose a problem when correspondents are accustomed to use the "old" address using the obsolete ccTLD. Some companies have built a brand around the "old" ccTLD.

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 July, ICANN:

- Published the ICANN68 Virtual Policy Forum Report.
- Announced the successful installation of an ICANN Managed Root Server (IMRS) instance in the Republic of Palau (Palau).
- Announced that the eighth Africa Domain Name System (DNS) Forum would be held virtually.
- Extended the call for expressions of Interest: Standing Panel for ICANN's Independent Review Process until 21 August.
- Held two webinars on the third Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT3) Final Report. ICANN's Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO)'s released the "DNS Purchasing Guide for Government Procurement Officers", which focuses on three phases for obtaining and operationalizing domain names: Choosing a domain name, registering a domain name and DNS operations, and hosting for your domain name. Announced nominations are open for the Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building until 21 August.

ALAC Update

On 28 July, the [ALAC held their monthly meeting](#). The ALAC Chair, Maureen Hilyard, led the meeting which focused on:

- ALAC Policy Development Activities
- Review of current ALS and Individual Member applications
- Reports and Discussion with At-Large Plus Leaders
- Discussion of the Draft ALAC Statement on the EPDP Final Report
- 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
- Discussion with Leon Sanchez - ICANN Board Vice Chair
- ALS Mobilization Update

In addition, the ALAC ratified the 2020 ALAC Delegates to the Nominating Committee. The following individuals will serve as the 2020 ALAC Delegates to the Nominating Committee from their regions for a term of one year, beginning at the end of ICANN69:

- Hadia Elminiawi - ALAC Delegate from the African Region
- Amrita Choudhury - ALAC Delegate from the Asian, Australasian and Pacific Islands Region
- Bastiaan Goslings - ALAC Delegate from the European Region
- Vanda Scartzini - ALAC Delegate from the Latin American and Caribbean Region
- Glenn McKnight - ALAC Delegate from the North American Region

APAC Hub Updates

The ICANN APAC Hub organised a post ICANN68 readout on 28 July. During the session, an overview of ICANN68 was provided by Samiran Gupta, Head of India, ICANN APRALO's Cheryl Langdon-Orr shared provided an update on the Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) PDP, and Holly Raiche on At-Large Policy Sessions.

Heather Forrest from PDP Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs (RPM PDP) shared the latest work of the RPM PDP WG; the GAC Perspectives was shared by T. Santhosh, GAC Member India; GNSO Council and Registrar Stakeholder Group Perspectives by Pam Little, GNSO Council Vice Chair; Registry Stakeholder Group (RySG) Perspectives by Donna Austin, RySg Chair and the Youth Perspectives by Elliott Mann, Youth4IG. This was followed by open discussion facilitated by Edmon Chung.

NomCom Update

Amrita Choudhury, APRALO Delegate to the NomCom

The nominating committee members have completed their deep dive process and shortlisted the candidates who would be interviewed or recommended to the different stakeholder communities. The NomCom leadership team is reviewing all

the options, based on the COVID-19 situation to try and work out the best mode for interviewing the shortlisted candidates.

Please note, I have been re-appointed by the ALAC to serve as the 2020 ALAC Delegate to the Nominating Committee from the Asian, Australasian and Pacific Islands Region for the term of one year, beginning at the end of ICANN69. It is a pleasure to continue to serve the community in this role.

ALS Highlights

CCAOI-BIF-BE organises two sessions on Internet Governance

CCAOI along with Indian Think Tank, [The Broadband India Forum \(BIF\)](#) and [Bharat Exhibitions \(BE\)](#) along with the support of [TDSI](#) and with [ICRIER](#) organised remaining two sessions of the The Digital Dialogues (TDD) series on Internet Governance.

The second session of the series "Role of Internet Governance Platforms: ICANN & ISOC/IETF" was organised on 2 July. Moderated by Rajat Mukerji, Director General BIF, the initial remarks were provided by Mr. T.V.Ramachandran, President BIF and Amrita Choudhury, CCAOI, the concluding remarks were shared by Mr. Shashi Dharan from BE. The speakers at the session were: Dr. Gulshan Rai, Distinguished Fellow, ORF, Samiran Gupta, ICANN, Rajnesh Singh, Internet Society, T Santhosh, MeitY, Government of India; Anupam Agrawal, IIFON, Molay Ghosh, Reliance Jio. The key takeaways of the session include:

- Need to reassess the existing Internet Governance views both from domestic and international perspective in the light of the emerging technologies and the geo-political situation.
- India needs to adopt different approaches between domestic and global strategies on Internet Governance.
- Need to enhance industry participation and contribution in Internet Governance issues and platforms such as ICANN
- Role of the Industry and Academia needs to be enhanced significantly in standard setting bodies such as IETF for developing standards that are in India's interest.
- Need to understand and engage in policy issues that are of Indian interest in these platforms.
- India should try to host an IETF meeting in India to enable more focus towards standard setting.

The third session of the series "Introduction to Internet Governance Platform: APNIC", was organised on 6 July. Moderated by Rajat Mukerji, Director General BIF, the initial remarks were provided by Mr. T.V.Ramachandran, President BIF and Amrita Choudhury, CCAOI, the concluding remarks were shared by Mr. Shashi Dharan from BE. The speakers at the session were: Mr. Paul Wilson, Director General, APNIC, Mr. K Ramchand, Member (T), Department of Telecommunications, Mr. Sanjay Goel, Joint Secretary, MeitY and CEO, NIXI and Mr. Ramesh Chandra, Vice President - Network Planning & Engineering, Reliance Jio.

The key takeaways of the session include:

- Need for cooperation and sharing expertise and best practices both within the Indian community as well as in the region, to ensure the Internet functions

efficiently.

- Conduct regular training programs and technical workshops in India with the support of APNIC to build capacity in the country
- Encourage stakeholders to participate in the APNIC process, including the APNIC policy development process so that concerns of stakeholders can be raised at right forums to resolve.

The recording of the session is available [here](#) and the key discussion points of the session can be viewed [here](#).

CCAOI-The Perspective - ISOC Delhi Organises discussion on Draft Non Personal Data Governance Framework

CCAOI, The Perspective and ISOC Delhi, organised an online discussion on the draft Non-Personal Data Governance Framework. The session was well attended by over hundred participants belonging to different stakeholder communities from across the country.

Moderated by Rahul Sharma and Amrita Choudhury, the panel comprised of experts: Abhishek Singh, CEO, MyGov, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Govt of India; Smriti Parsheera, Researcher, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) & Fellow, CyberBrics Project; Ashish Aggarwal, Senior Director & Head- Policy Advocacy, NASSCOM; Parminder Jeet Singh, Executive Director, IT for Change (member of NPD committee) and Subhashish Bhadra, Principal Beneficial Technology, Omidyar Network who shared their perspectives on various issues such as data governance, non personal data and the draft framework.

As Parliamentarian Tejaswi Surya could not attend the discussion, his recorded views on the topic were shared with the audience.

This session was livestreamed and the recording can be viewed using [this link](#). The report on the deliberation would be released in a few days.

ISOC Bahrain Chapter celebrates ICT Day

Internet Society Bahrain Chapter organized its first "[Internet Day Virtual Event](#)" on the 7 July 2020. The theme for the event is "Growing the Internet". The aim of the event was to bring stakeholders from different communities together to strengthen synergies and encourage discussions on the developing issues affecting the Internet evolution. The event was attended by stakeholders from different communities: private, public sector, civil society etc.

Upcoming Events and Other Announcements

ICANN69 Virtual Annual General Meeting (AGM)



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