

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



APRALO Newsletter, June 2020



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

Highlights of ICANN68



50+
Public sessions



1
Community Excellence
Award Winner



4,466
Views on Flickr



34 Interpreters
from
6 different
countries 

1st

Virtual
Policy Forum



2,916
Views on YouTube

1,900+
Mobile App Users



ICANN68 Virtual Policy Forum, 22-25 June

ICANN68 was the first Virtual Policy Forum held, with over 50 public sessions. The At-Large community also held several prep sessions in advance of ICANN68.

During the Virtual Policy Forum, the At-Large community, including the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) members, Regional At-Large Organization (RALO) leaders, and ALAC liaisons, held **11 sessions to discuss policy issues of interest to At-Large** and to individual Internet users. The At-Large community also held sessions on DNS abuse, Public Interest Commitments (PICs) and PIC Dispute Resolution Procedure (PICDRP) improvements, new generic top-level domain (gTLD) applicants, and Universal Acceptance.

During the At-Large Leadership Wrap-Up Session on Thursday, 25 June 2020, ALAC Chair Maureen Hilyard asked for ALAC endorsement of the **[At-Large Review 2 Implementation Final Report to the ICANN Board Organizational Effectiveness Committee \(OEC\)](#)**. The ALAC strongly endorsed the Final Report and submitted it to the OEC on Tuesday, 30 June 2020. The session also featured a question and answer period with the ICANN President and CEO as well as members of the ICANN Board.

During ICANN68, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, former ALAC Chair, was awarded the **[2020 ICANN Community Excellence Award](#)**. The GAC Communiqué of ICANN68 can be viewed **[here](#)**.

The social media working group led by Shreedeeep Rayamajhi organised several exciting events during ICANN68. These include Twitter competition, Quiz and also an "Ask ALAC" initiative. See the winning tweets from the At-Large Social Media Working Group (SMWG) Twitter Competition [here](#).

See and share [At-Large Sessions during ICANN68](#), [At-Large Policy Sessions @ ICANN Meetings](#), [At-Large and DNS Abuse](#)

Read the [Post-ICANN68 Policy Report](#)

Message from the ALAC Chair: At-Large Activities @ ICANN68



by **Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Chair**

Once again, At-Large's contribution to the virtual ICANN68 meeting was both relevant to what is important for ICANN at this time, and well-received with good attendances and interactions in the chat as an indication. APRALO was well-represented during our sessions by our regional leaders and ALAC members adding topics additional to the DNS Abuse discussion presented by the ALAC Vice Chairs, Jonathan Zuck and Joanna Kulesza.

For those who may not have been able to attend: Satish and Lianna were involved in both an introductory session on Universal Acceptance as one of the Pre-ICANN meeting sessions and a formal session that focused on the end-user perspective. APRALO participant, Edmon Chung, raised some thought-provoking issues with regards to the implementation of UA in the region. Holly's session on Public Interest Commitments (PICs) included an interesting perspective by GAC member Laureen Kapin on the Dispute Resolution Process as "A stairway to nowhere". This initiated some active discussion with other session participants as well as in the chat.

The challenges of the new gTLD Applicant Process attracted some scrutiny by presenters Edmon Chung and Constantine Roussos which in turn encouraged some great discussions in the chat. Justine rounded this great session off with her explanation of how previously unsuccessful applicants might be able to take better advantage of the Community Priority Evaluation process to secure community TLDs in any future rounds.

During the week, the ALAC presented two reports - (1) The At-Large Review Implementation Report which has been forwarded to the Organisational Effectiveness Committee for a review before it goes to the Board in September and

(2) The ATLAS III Survey Analysis and Recommendations which reviewed feedback from ATLAS III participants after the Montreal meeting. Both of these reports were presented initially at the Regional Leaders Meeting which was chaired by Satish.

The meeting ended for At-Large with my Wrap up session with special guests, ICANN Board Chair Maarten Botterman and Leon Sanchez, the Vice Chair, along with the President and CEO, Goran Marby giving a brief overview on ICANN68. We had already been notified that ICANN69 planned for Hamburg, Germany, was also going to be virtual. An announcement of the winners of the Social Media competition was made by the current SMWG Chair, Shreedeeep Rayamahji from Nepal, who organised and coordinated a very lively social media campaign in the runup to ICANN68. I hope too that some of you took part in our Trivia Quiz.

All in all it was a very exciting and busy week for APRALO which was fitting as the face-to-face meeting was supposed to be held in our region. I thank the APRALO members who participated in the sessions as well as those who attended to support their colleagues and to join in the conversations. Now we can look forward to how we can contribute to ICANN69. Until then take care and continue to keep safe and well.

Pre-ICANN68 At-Large Sessions

A week prior to ICANN68, At-Large held three preparatory webinars:

1. An introductory session taken by the ICANN68 session leaders.
2. DNS Abuse with Jonathan Zuck and Drew Bagley.
3. Universal Acceptance - an introduction to the ICANN68 session with Satish Babu

ICANN68 At-Large Sessions

During ICANN68 At-Large had 5 policy sessions, which were very well attended. These include:.

- [DNS Abuse: COVID-19 and End-user Issues](#) - moderated by Joanna Kulesza, Vice Chair Outreach
- [Public Interest Commitments \(PICS\): How to Get Them Right](#) - moderated by Holly Raiche, APRALO ALAC member
- [New gTLD Applicants: Expanding the Circle](#) - moderated by Olivier Crepin Leblond, but featuring Justine Chew, the ALAC liaison to the Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) Working Group
- [DNS Abuse: Setting and Acceptable Threshold](#) - moderated by Jonathan Zuck, Vice Chair Policy
- [Activating Universal Acceptance](#) - moderated by Satish Babu, APRALO Chair

APAC Hub @ICANN68 Update

The ICANN APAC Hub organised a session on "[The Impact of COVID-19 in APAC](#)".

Message from the APRALO Chair



by Satish Babu, APRALO Chair

Greetings from APRALO! I hope you and your families are safe and well.

We have just concluded the ICANN68 Virtual Policy Forum, the second ICANN meeting to be held virtually. This ICANN meeting was notionally in our region, and therefore APRALO was the host RALO.

The main discussions at this meeting were around DNS Abuse, New gTLD Subsequent Procedures, Public Interest Commitments (PICs), Universal Acceptance and the effect of COVID-19 on specific areas such as DNS Abuse as well as generally for volunteers. The meeting was also an occasion for ALAC to review our progress in post-ATLAS III activities as well as the implementation of the At-Large Review. We also organized two prep sessions, one on DNS Abuse and the other on Universal Acceptance, prior to the ICANN meeting.

The Regional Leadership meeting held as part of the ICANN68 meeting discussed several important matters. including the RALO Outreach and Engagement plans-- particularly in view of restrictions on travel and face-to-face meetings. The meeting was also an occasion for ALAC to review our progress in post-ATLAS III activities as well as the implementation of the At-Large Review, and present the status to the larger ICANN community. The RALOs also discussed a joint program to clean up our mailing lists.

Overall, APRALO was active and very visible in the ICANN68 series of events. I would like to thank the APRALO community for its participation and engagement. The pandemic situation is worsening in some parts of our region, and I'd like to urge everyone in our community to remain safe, adopting all precautions as advised.

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](#).

The ALAC is currently developing (4) responses to public comment proceedings:

[Vote Latin America and Caribbean \(LAC\) Regional Strategic Plan for FY2021-2025](#) 14 July 2020 [LACRALO Statement](#)

[Drafting Third Accountability and Transparency Review Team \(ATRT3\) Final Report](#) 31 July 2020

[Drafting Enhancing the Effectiveness of ICANN's Multistakeholder Model - Next Steps](#) 02 August 2020

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.

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) submitted (2) policy comments since the last APRALO Newsletter:

[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 suggests 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.

[Name Collision Analysis Project \(NCAP\) Study 1: Proposed Final Report](#)

The ALAC strongly supports the SSAC in proceeding with Studies 2 and 3, and it also strongly urges the ICANN Board and ICANN Org/OCTO to take the necessary action to facilitate the conduct and funding of the NCAP Studies 2 and 3 in a manner agreeable by the SSAC.

See: [At-Large Website Policy Comments & Advice](#)

See: [Executive Summaries: ALAC Policy Comments & Advice](#)

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

ICANN Update

During the month of June, ICANN:

- [Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Global Cyber Alliance.](#)
- Released the [Domain Name Marketplace Indicators](#) that reflect industry metrics related to gTLDs and ccTLDs through the ICANN Open Data Platform.
- Adopted the [FY21-25 Operating and Financial Plan and Adopted FY21 Budget taking effect 1 July 2020.](#)
- Extended the [call for expressions of interest for 2021 Nominating Committee Chair and Chair-Elect to 7 July.](#)
- Announced the [ICANN69 Annual General Meeting would be a Virtual Public Meeting held between 17-22 October.](#)
- Announced the [NextGen@ICANN69 Participants.](#)

Upcoming Webinar

The third Accountability and Transparency Review Team ([ATRT3](#)) is organising a webinar on its [Final Report](#) on 15 July (15:30-16:30 UTC) and 16 July (7:00-8:00 UTC). For more details visit this [link](#).

ALAC Update

During ICANN68, the At-Large community, including the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) members, Regional At-Large Organization (RALO) leaders, and ALAC liaisons, held 11 sessions to discuss policy issues of interest to At-Large and to individual Internet users. The At-Large community also held sessions on DNS abuse, Public Interest Commitments (PICs) and PIC Dispute Resolution Procedure (PICDRP) improvements, new generic top-level domain (gTLD) applicants, and Universal Acceptance. These sessions were very engaging, with high participation during ICANN68.

During the ICANN68 At-Large Leadership Wrap Up Session on 25 June, Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Chair, asked for ALAC endorsement of the [At-Large Review 2 Implementation \(ARI\) Final Report to the Organisational Effectiveness Committee \(OEC\)](#). The ALAC strongly endorsed the Final Report. The ARI Final Report was submitted to the OEC on 30 June 2020.

NomCom Update

Amrita Choudhury, APRALO Delegate to the NomCom

An update on the NomCom process was [posted](#) by the NomCom2020 Chair.

Currently the nominating committee members are involved in the deep dive process. This includes doing a detailed assessment of the application and interviewing the shortlisted candidates. Normally the final interviews for board positions happen face to face. However, looking at the current COVID-19 crisis, once the deep dive phase is over, the members and leadership team of NomCom will have to decide how or what alternative mode of interviewing the shortlisted candidate will be adopted.

ALS Highlights

CERT Tonga become member of APCERT

PICISOC member [Tonga's Computer Emergency Response Team \(CERT Tonga\)](#) became the first Pacific Islands to become an Operational Member of the Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (APCERT).

CERT Tonga is under the Ministry of MEIDECC. CEO for the Ministry of MEIDECC, Mr. Paula Pouvalu Ma'u said, this is a milestone for the Government and Tonga to partner with APCERT to further enhance CERT Tonga's capacity and capability in delivering our intended outputs to organisations and the people of Tonga.

PICISOC member participates in panel to discuss overcoming challenges of broadband access organised by PITA

PICISOC member and Acting Director for ICT at Ministry of Telecommunication Nauru - Elkana Capelle had [participated in a panel discussion](#) organised by The Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association (PITA) on "Overcoming Challenges to Broadband Internet Access in the Pacific & New Opportunities with enabling

regulatory and policy frameworks".

During the discussion Capelle highlighted issues faced by Naaru that delayed the Fibre optic cable installation and initiatives taken by government to connect people over fibre in collaboration with the private sector.

The panel agreed while most Pacific Islands face the key challenges of geography, however individual islands have their own challenges such Economics etc.

CCAOI- BIF-BE organises Introductory session on Internet Governance

CCAOI along with BIF & BE and ICRIER as Knowledge Partner organised the inaugural session of The Digital Dialogues series on Internet Governance on 29 June.

This series of The Digital Dialogues is focused towards building awareness among the Indian stakeholders on key aspects of Internet Governance, the different organisations involved, key issues and concerns being globally discussed and opportunities for the community to participate.

The first session of the series deliberated on the genesis of Internet Governance, the classification of the critical issues currently being discussed, the key actors involved globally, India's engagement in Internet Governance so far along and plans for the future, along with a dialogue on the various ways for achieving the same.

The speakers at the session were Mr. Chengetai Masango, Head of the United Nations Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Secretariat; Mr. Jovan Kurbalija, Director of Diplo Foundation and Head of the Geneva Internet Platform, Ms. Ankhi Das, Director - Public Policy, Facebook and the Chief Guest of the session was Shri Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary, MeitY. Moderated by Dr. Rajat Kathuria, Director and Chief Executive, ICRIER, 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 key takeaways from the stimulating discussion from India's perspective were:

- Need for enhancing digital cooperation among all stakeholders, both at the national and global level for ensuring the objectives of India are met.
- Initiate a dialogue to start a National Internet Governance Forum (India IGF) as this would encourage all stakeholders to start discussing on issues pertinent to India and then develop a national point of view in a very inclusive manner. This would then help stakeholders to articulate these views in all regional and global forums, including the IGF.
- India has an opportunity to bid for hosting the World Internet Governance Forum in 2024, since the venue is yet to be finalised and proposals for hosting the same is being invited.-.
- Need to organise more such capacity building sessions, to build understanding among community members on digital policies and issues, which in turn would improve greater participation from the community at national and global level.

Maureen Hilyard Elected Chair of DotAsia Board



On June 30, 2020, at a special meeting of the Board of the DotAsia Organisation, Maureen Hilyard of the Cook Islands was elected as the Chair of the Board of DotAsia. Following the introduction of organisational governance enhancements within DotAsia over the past eighteen months, this was the first election of a Chair for the DotAsia Organisation.

Based in Hong Kong, the DotAsia Organisation is the Sponsoring Organisation and Registry Operator for the .Asia Top-Level-Domain. .Asia is the official web address for the region and is open to all businesses, individuals and organizations around the globe looking to connect with Asia. .Asia domains have been registered in more than 150 countries to date.

Read more about Maureen's new role [here](#).


Upcoming Events and Other Announcements



Under the patronage of H.E. Engr. Kamal bin Ahmed Mohamed
Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications



INTERNET DAY BAHRAIN 2020

 11:00 am – 2:00 pm  7th JULY 2020

 via Virtual Platform

“Growing the Internet”

EVENT KEY TOPICS:



Building Community Networks



Fostering Infrastructure & Technical Communities



Measuring the Internet

ISOC Bahrain Chapter celebrates ICT Day

With a commitment to organise events that would help stakeholders and the community move towards achieving sustainable development, the Internet Society Bahrain Chapter is organizing its first "Internet Day Virtual Event" on the 7th of July 2020, Tuesday at 11am. The theme for the event is "Growing the Internet".

Internet Day Virtual Event is a virtual platform that gathers both private and public sector to strengthen synergies and encourage discussions on the developing issues affecting the Internet evolution. The event will have experts discussing issues on selected topics. For more details visit the [ISOC Bahrain website](#).



Under the patronage of H.E. Engr. Kamal bin Ahmed Mohamed
Minister of Transport and Telecommunications

INTERNET DAY BAHRAIN 2020



11:00 am – 2:00 pm 7th JULY 2020 via Virtual Platform

11:00 am	 Welcome Remarks Mr. Ahmed ALHujairy President, Internet Society –Bahrain Chapter				
	 Patron Speech H.E. Eng. Kamal bin Ahmed Mohamed Minister of Transport & Telecommunications				
	 Keynote Speaker: Growing the Internet Ms. Jane Coffin Senior Vice President, Internet Growth				
SESSION 1: Building Community Networks					
11:30 am	 Speaker Presentation: Internet Connectivity as an Opportunity Mr. Juan Peirano Senior Policy Advisor				
	Panel Discussion				
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td> MODERATOR Mr. Ali AlMeshal VP, Internet Society - BH Chapter</td> <td> Dr. Ali AlSoufi Dean of ICT British University of Bahrain</td> <td> Ms. Ritu Srivastava IIT Mumbai</td> </tr> <tr> <td> Dr. Mohamed Baqer Acting Vice President for Information Technology Services, Administrative and Financial Affairs, University of Bahrain</td> <td> Mr. Vassilis Chryssos Board Member / Administrator Sarantaporo.gr Community Network</td> </tr> </table>	 MODERATOR Mr. Ali AlMeshal VP, Internet Society - BH Chapter	 Dr. Ali AlSoufi Dean of ICT British University of Bahrain	 Ms. Ritu Srivastava IIT Mumbai	 Dr. Mohamed Baqer Acting Vice President for Information Technology Services, Administrative and Financial Affairs, University of Bahrain
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 Dr. Mohamed Baqer Acting Vice President for Information Technology Services, Administrative and Financial Affairs, University of Bahrain	 Mr. Vassilis Chryssos Board Member / Administrator Sarantaporo.gr Community Network				
SESSION 2: Fostering Infrastructure & Technical Communities					
12:15 am	 Speaker Presentation: Building Strong Communities through Technology Mr. Naveed Haq Regional Infrastructure & Connectivity Director				
	Panel Discussion				
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td> MODERATOR Mr. Rashid ALSnan, Secretary, Internet Society - BH Chapter</td> <td> Mr. Hani Askar Director Products, Solutions & CM Global Products & Services, Batelco</td> </tr> <tr> <td> Mr. Rashid Mohamed General Manager, Network Batelco Bahrain</td> <td> Mr. Hisham Ibrahim External Relations Manager, Community Engagement and Development, RIPE NCC</td> </tr> </table>	 MODERATOR Mr. Rashid ALSnan, Secretary, Internet Society - BH Chapter	 Mr. Hani Askar Director Products, Solutions & CM Global Products & Services, Batelco	 Mr. Rashid Mohamed General Manager, Network Batelco Bahrain	 Mr. Hisham Ibrahim External Relations Manager, Community Engagement and Development, RIPE NCC
 MODERATOR Mr. Rashid ALSnan, Secretary, Internet Society - BH Chapter	 Mr. Hani Askar Director Products, Solutions & CM Global Products & Services, Batelco				
 Mr. Rashid Mohamed General Manager, Network Batelco Bahrain	 Mr. Hisham Ibrahim External Relations Manager, Community Engagement and Development, RIPE NCC				
SESSION 3: Measuring the Internet					
1:00 pm	 Speaker Presentation: Shaping the Internet Infrastructure and Looking to its Future Mr. Mat Ford Technology Program Manager				
	Panel Discussion				
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td> Mr. Jorge Sabastiao Chief Technology Officer (confidential)</td> <td> MODERATOR Mr. Mirza Asrar Baig BTECH</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> Mr. Mat Ford Technology Program Manager Internet Society</td> </tr> </table>	 Mr. Jorge Sabastiao Chief Technology Officer (confidential)	 MODERATOR Mr. Mirza Asrar Baig BTECH		 Mr. Mat Ford Technology Program Manager Internet Society
 Mr. Jorge Sabastiao Chief Technology Officer (confidential)	 MODERATOR Mr. Mirza Asrar Baig BTECH				
	 Mr. Mat Ford Technology Program Manager Internet Society				
2:00 pm	Closing Remarks & Appreciation				

VIRTUAL EVENT PARTNERS



www.isoc.bh/InternetDayBH2020

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

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STAY CONNECTED



