

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



APRALO Newsletter, March 2020



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

ICANN67 Virtual Community Forum Update

Post-ICANN67 Policy Report



**The Post-ICANN67 Policy Report is now available!
Click here to access the report >>**

<https://go.icann.org/post67>

This March, ICANN held the ICANN67 Community Forum via [remote participation](#) due to the coronavirus outbreak. The [first ICANN Virtual Community Forum](#) had 65 sessions and was attended by 1,752 unique participants from 130 countries. There were 9 At-Large sessions, including several engaging At-Large policy sessions. See all At-Large sessions and recordings on the [At-Large ICANN67 workspace](#).

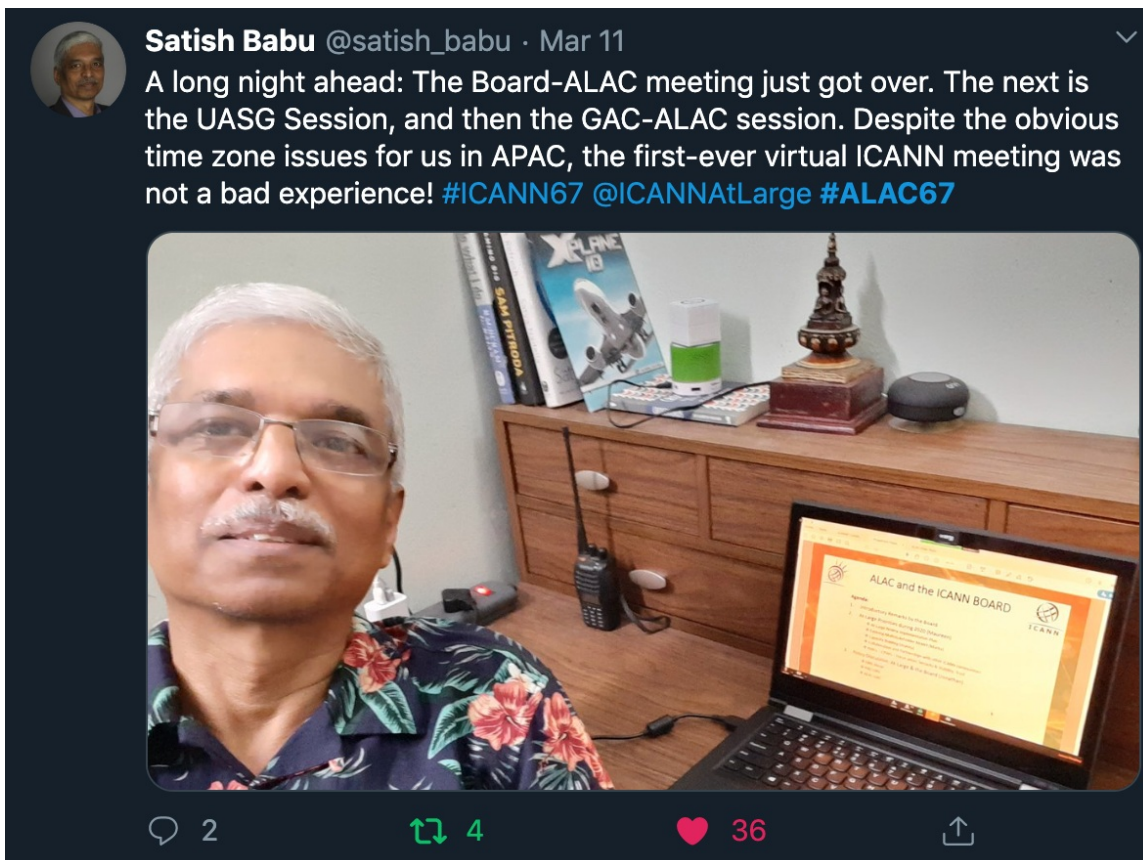
The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) Communique for this meeting is available [here](#). A [post meeting survey](#) was also conducted to collect the feedback of the meeting.

Winners of the ICANN67 Virtual Community Forum At-Large Social Media Working Group (SMWG) Twitter Competition

First place: Sarah Kiden, AFRALO Secretariat



Second place: Satish Babu, APRALO Chair



Third place: Shreedeeep Rayamajhi, Social Media Working Group (SMWG) Regional Vice Chair



Shreedeeep Rayamajhi @ShreedeeepRay · Mar 7

Attending #ICANN67 #ALAC67 #AFRALO session from #Nepal to the world with the message #Oneworldoneinternet

#icanncircle



↻ 4

❤ 16



Two of the top three winners are from APRALO. Congratulations!

ALAC @ ICANN67



by Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Chair

Following on from the ALAC's most recent policy advice to the Board on DNS Abuse, a decision was made during the CPWG that DNS Abuse was going to be the focus of our interventions in ICANN67, in line with what had been proposed in the At-Large Policy Platform. Despite the change in late February that the ICANN meeting was going to be virtual rather than F2F, due to the increase of coronavirus incidences globally, this did not change our original decision.

Jonathan Zuck, Vice Chair Policy, introduced the DNS Abuse topic by making a Call to Action for At-Large to speak out on DNS Abuse, especially in light of our request to the Board not to proceed with the next round of new gTLDs until due to what was being seen to be insufficient protections in place with regards to DNS Abuse and its

impact on end-users. This session seemed to capture the attention of other sections of the ICANN community. Firstly, because it began with a home-grown video production on the issue and then it concluded with a quiz on the topic which was won not surprisingly by the Vice Chair of SSAC, Julie Hammer. This introductory session really did demonstrate how far we have become with regards to engaging participation in policy development within At-Large, with many thanks to the innovations that are being introduced to this work by Jonathan and his CPWG team. His second DNS session was a more formal look at the technical implications of Contractual Compliance in the fight against a considered rise in the incidence of DNS Abuse. Active discussion involved Jamie Hedlund, SVP, Contractual Compliance & Consumer Safeguard, ICANN, and James Bladel, Vice President of Policy, GoDaddy, giving a registry/registrar's perspective on the issue.

Our next session was taken by APRALO's ALAC member, Holly Raiche on the use of the DNS over two transport systems - the transport layer and HTTPs and the policy implications of encrypted DNS. While the transport systems have some overlap, end-users would not notice because the difference only affects network operators. The purpose of encryption would be to provide greater protection of user privacy. The discussion however did look at the disadvantages as well as the advantages of the systems and involved SSAC's Barry Leiba who is their expert on DNS over DOH/DOT and Paul Hoffmann, ICANN's Principal Technologist. Holly recently gave a presentation on this and other At-Large sessions @ICANN to the APAC Hub community.

Our final policy session was taken by Vice Chair Joanna Kulesza whose "One World, One Internet" resulted in our best audience numbers and participation with the keynote speakers, Board Vice Chair Leon Sanchez, giving the ICANN Board's perspective on geopolitics; Veni Markovski explaining UN perspectives on cybersecurity and cybercrime; NCUC's Milton Mueller's presentation focused on fragmentation which is a mismatch between territorial boundaries of government and the global connectivity of the internet. He saw governments as trying to fit cybersecurity into their national security systems and making names and numbers fit within boundaries. However, his conclusion was that this will not work because names and numbers are global. They work globally and to attempt to control them will not work. Before the audience became actively engaged, ex-Chair of the SSAC, Patrick Faltstrom, spoke about the various layers that make up the internet network and that each layer has its own responsibility for security for which there are major technical challenges. Gone are the days where one telecommunication system was owned by one player. At each layer of the network there are various players which increases the risk of fragmentation even within the network system itself.

During the rest of the week's programme, we maintained our interaction with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) where Justine Chew updated them on the status of At-Large's scorecards on Subsequent Procedures and Hadia Elminiawi, updated the EPDP on registration data. We also met with the Board and exchanged views on DNS Abuse and the PIR sale, as well as their attendance at the final wrap up session where they gave their views on the first virtual meeting. Any formal decisions about when F2F meetings will resume will be made during the next April Board meeting.

APRALO @ ICANN67 Update



by Satish Babu, APRALO Chair

The first-ever virtual meeting was an interesting experience for the APAC region. To begin with, the time zone of the meeting (Cancún time) was the toughest for our region compared to all other regions. Yet, many of the ICANN community members participated in the ICANN67 virtual meeting defying the inconvenience, in solidarity with our colleagues in the LAC region.

Of the top twenty countries/territories in terms of participation in ICANN67, seven were from the APAC region (China, India, Japan, Chinese Taipei, Australia, Turkey, and Bangladesh), as per the ICANN67 Technical Report. This is certainly a welcome development.

Although ICANN has not announced details of the next meeting (ICANN68), which is scheduled in our region, it appears quite likely that this too would be a virtual meeting. The APRALO leadership team is currently discussing with the ALAC Leadership as to how we could make this meeting as participatory and interactive as possible.

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 (3) responses to public comment proceedings:

Vote [Middle East and Adjoining Countries \(MEAC\) Strategy 2021-2025](#) 03 April 2020

Comment [Revised Community Travel Support Guidelines](#) 20 April 2020

Drafting [Phase 1 Initial Report of the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs Policy Development Process](#) 27 April 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 (6) policy comments since the last APRALO Newsletter:

Draft Proposal for NextGen@ICANN Program Improvements

The ALAC suggested several significant recommendations to the NextGen@ICANN Program, to the benefit of the community by opening the program and ensuring a welcoming environment to all NextGenners, including first time participants. The ALAC's recommendations would ensure that participants are selected with a stronger focus on their work and can then attend more than one meeting to engage with the community and find their "policy home". As a part of its recommendations, the ALAC stated that At-Large would welcome a more active participation of NextGenners in its community.

Name Collisions Analysis Project (NCAP) Study 1

The ALAC acknowledged the report as a useful primer on the subject of Name Collisions. The ALAC noted that they look forward to further deliberation by the relevant groups and their onward action with respect to the third goal of Study 1, which is to determine if the NCAP Project will proceed onto a Study 2.

Initial Report of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Team - PHASE 2

For all recommendations not listed in the ALAC statement, the ALAC noted that they they "Support as written". The ALAC "supported wording with change" for several other recommendations - 1, 6, 7, 9, 15, 19 - and made a general comment that differentiation between natural and legal persons would offload the system from unnecessary queries that are permissible under GDPR.

Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency (SSR2) Review Team Draft Report

The ALAC noted that ensuring the security, stability and resiliency of the DNS is arguably ICANN's single most important role. The ALAC has a particular interest in the recommendations related to DNS Abuse, and notes that several of the recommendations overlap with and complement those issued by the RDS WHOIS2-RT and the CCT RT. DNS Security, stability and resiliency is not something that we can afford to ignore.

The ALAC has a particular focus on and interest in DNS Abuse. To address this may require contractual changes to facilitate Contractual Compliance action. Such changes require either negotiations with the contracted parties or a PDP, and the ALAC recommends against a PDP and instead encourages ICANN to come to an agreement with contracted parties. Known vulnerabilities need to be corrected with the utmost haste.

ALAC Feedback to PIR Public Comment Proceeding

Note: Not an ICANN Public Comment. The Public Interest Registry (PIR) held a Public Comment proceeding on the issue of the ISOC/PIR. (8) responses were submitted on behalf the ALAC to the PIR Public Comment proceeding.

The ALAC made several suggestions to PIR regarding the issue of ISOC/PIR. The ALAC noted that PICs are the best mechanism with which to enshrine the essential characteristics of a .ORG registry, yet there are significant issues with PIC enforcement that need to be addressed for PICs to be considered a trustworthy assurance. They noted that from the standpoint of an "individual end user," a 10 annual price cap would add a lot of predictability. The ALAC also noted that the stewardship council for .ORG is a good start, but its mandate should be wider than just free speech and privacy, and suggested a few board seats reserved for 501c(3) organizations, chosen by the community, would be more powerful. Reserving certain seats to be selected by NPOC and perhaps the ALAC (to represent the individual registrants) would help a great deal.

The ALAC's objective is to enshrine PIR's best practices in its contract with ICANN

such that they survive any further transitions of ownership.

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

The ALAC congratulated the ICANN Finance and Planning team, as the draft plans and budget have shown great improvement over the past few years. Not only in how the information is provided, but in the way the plans and budget are structured. The ALAC made several suggestions with regards to the Operating & Financial Plan and Budget, emphasizing that there is not an exact correlation between the number of domains and the income of ICANN. This is important because ICANN relies upon the number of contracted registries and registrars and the number of domains a gTLD has.

The ALAC drafted a separate response to Appendix C, relating to the Evolution of the Multistakeholder Model, following their statement. The At-Large community registered its surprise and disappointment at seeing this important subject, which has been such a major topic of discussion, now relegated to an appendix in this Public Comment - in which it is unlikely to get the time and attention it deserves from the ICANN community.

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 March, ICANN:

- [Cancelled the GDD Industry Summit and DNS Symposium](#) due to the coronavirus outbreak.
- Announced the venue of [ICANN74 Policy Forum](#) to be the Hague, Netherlands from 13-16 June 2022 at the [World Forum](#).
- Invited the community to [participate in an open session](#) on [ICANN's Strategic Outlook Program](#) on 30 March.
- The IANA Naming Function Review Team (IFRT) [announced](#) that it has completed the [Rules of Engagement](#), [Scope of Work](#), and [Work Plan](#) for the [IANA Naming Function Review \(IFR\)](#).
- Issued a [call for expression of interest](#) for Panelists to serve on the Standing Panel for ICANN's Independent Review Process (IRP).

ALAC Update

The ALAC held their Monthly Call on [31 March](#). During the call, there was an identification of [At-Large Priority Activities](#), which the ALAC Chair, Maureen Hilyard, noted were crucial to identify during the coronavirus outbreak.

In addition there was a review of action items from ICANN67, highlights of At-Large policy activities, an update on the ALS and membership applications, and reports from the At-Large leaders.

In addition, the ALAC discussed the [At-Large Review Implementation](#) and next steps, take aways from the feedback provided on ICANN67, and planning for ICANN68.

The ALAC Monthly meeting concluded with a brief update on the upcoming [ALAC elections](#).

APAC Hub Update

The ICANN APAC Hub organized a regional readout of the ICANN67 Virtual Community Forum on 24 March, where leaders from the various stakeholder communities in ICANN provided an update on the policies discussed within their constituencies.

NomCom Update

Amrita Choudhury, APRALO Delegate to the NomCom

The nominating committee held an [online public meeting](#) during the ICANN67 Virtual Community Forum.

Currently the nominating committee members are now evaluating the 96 applications received for the seven leadership positions with ICANN and Public Technical Identifiers (PTI). In terms of geographical distribution of applicants, 17 were from North America, 22 from Latin America/Caribbean, 22 from Africa, 28 from APAC and 7 from Europe. In terms of gender of applicants, 68% were male, 19% female and 13% candidates opted not to disclose their gender.

Since face to face meeting of the nominating committee members will not be possible for discussing and evaluating the candidates in the current circumstances, alternate viable options for online are being evaluated.

ALS Highlights

ISOC Chennai organises Virtual Roundtable

ISOC Chennai organised a virtual roundtable "Internet during a shutdown". The livestream archive and transcript of the roundtable can be viewed using [this link](#).

Upcoming Events and Other Announcements

Post-ICANN67 Policy Report



IGF 2020 has opened several calls for session proposals and other process activities for the 15th annual IGF meeting in Katowice, Poland (2 - 6 November 2020):

- [Call to submit Workshop Proposals](#)
- [Call to apply for Open Forums](#)
- [Call to apply for Day 0 Pre-Events](#)
- [Call to apply for IGF Village booths](#)
- [Call for Travel Support](#)
- [Express Interest to Participate in the IGF 2020 Music Night](#)

Please note the last date to make submissions is 15 April 2020.

Remember to follow and [Tweet @ At-Large!](#)

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

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