

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



## APRALO Newsletter, May 2020



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

## ICANN68 Preview



**ICANN68 Virtual Policy Forum, 22-25 June**

Join [At-Large Sessions during ICANN68](#)

[Sign up to promote At-Large](#) on social media

See and share all [At-Large Policy Sessions @ ICANN Meetings](#)

See and share [At-Large and DNS Abuse](#)

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

Join the At-Large Social Media Working Group (SMWG) Twitter Competition, using hashtag #ALAC68. Details to follow

## Message from the ALAC Chair



**by Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Chair**

The upcoming news from the ALAC is very much focusing on the virtual ICANN68 meeting which was originally planned for Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. While absolutely justified in light of the global pandemic, this cancellation is sad news for APRALO when the next projected meeting in the APAC region will not happen again until 2022-2023. Sounds like an announcement for a solar eclipse over the region which is just as rare.

However, ICANN68 is looking as busy as usual for At-Large whether it is online or

face-to-face, and again we have some very exciting sessions planned, for the meeting week as well as pre-meeting.

Our meeting week will begin with our traditional Welcome session as well as introducing the talking points on policy issues that will be covered during the At-Large and ICANN plenaries. The week will end with an evaluation and a brief meeting with the Board Chair and Vice Chair (our own Leon Sanchez) and the CEO. During ICANN68 At-Large will present 5 policy sessions.

1. DNS Abuse: COVID-19 and End-user Issues - moderated by Joanna Kulesza, Vice Chair Outreach
2. Public Interest Commitments (PICS): How to Get Them Right - moderated by Holly Raiche, APRALO ALAC member
3. 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
4. DNS Abuse: Setting and Acceptable Threshold - moderated by Jonathan Zuck, Vice Chair Policy
5. Activating Universal Acceptance: moderated by Satish Babu, APRALO Chair

Check out the At-Large ICANN68 timetable for more information about these [sessions here](#).

In the preceding weeks, there will be preparatory webinars covering sessions that ICANN would normally hold at a face-to-face meeting. If you are interested in attending these sessions, you will only get login details when you register beforehand. See full announcement [here](#).

In addition, At-Large is holding three preparatory webinars.

1. An introductory session taken by the ICANN68 session leaders currently planned for June 4 @ 1600 UTC.
2. DNS Abuse with Jonathan Zuck and Drew Bagley - a live repeat of a popular earlier session.
3. Universal Acceptance - an introduction to the ICANN68 session with Satish Babu (APRALO Chair).

The timing of the DNS Abuse and Universal Acceptance webinars for June is still to be confirmed at this time.

Social media activity will be led by the current Chair of the Social Media Working Group leading up to and during ICANN68, Shreedeeep Rayamajhi (APRALO). Come along and enjoy ICANN68 with us.

## Message from the APRALO Chair



by **Satish Babu, APRALO Chair**

Greetings!

Our region, like most other parts of the world, is still grappling with the global pandemic. It's good to note that despite this setback, the activities of ICANN At-Large--as well as other ICANN communities--are progressing reasonably well. The most important development ahead of us is the ICANN68 Virtual Policy Forum, originally scheduled as a face-to-face meeting at Kuala Lumpur. ICANN68 will now be conducted as a virtual meeting during 22-25 June 2020.

Our region had high participation during the first virtual meeting (ICANN67) despite the sessions being conducted at Mexico time. Since ICANN68 sessions are being scheduled at Kuala Lumpur time, it would be easier for us in Asia-Pacific to participate. I request you to kindly consider participating in sessions that interest you. Please see <https://meetings.icann.org/en/remote68> for Registration (which is required) and the draft Program Schedule.

The APRALO elections have just concluded. I would like to thank all the electorate--comprising ALS and individual members--for participating actively in the elections. I would also like to thank everyone who contested. I'm sure the new Leadership Team--which will assume office after the ICANN69 AGM in Oct 2020--will continue the productive and collegial style of working of the current team.

From an organizational perspective, we will be continuing the review of our Rules of Procedure, once the ALS mobilization group completes its work. In addition, we will be looking at ways of refining our expected standards of participation and ways of re-validating our email lists.

I hope all in our community and their families remain safe during the 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](#).**

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

**[Vote](#) [Name Collision Analysis Project \(NCAP\) Study 1: Proposed Final Report](#) 17 June 2020**

**Drafting** [ccNSO PDP3: Initial Proposals for Process to Retire ccTLDs](#) 10 July 2020

**Drafting** [Latin America and Caribbean \(LAC\) Regional Strategic Plan for FY2021-2025](#) 14 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 (4) policy comments since the last APRALO Newsletter:**

**[Draft PTI FY21-24 Strategic Plan](#)**

The ALAC supports the five strategic objectives of the Draft PTI Strategic Plan, and strategies to achieve those objectives. The ALAC particularly supported the following elements: Awareness of PTI's mandate and remit, alignment of ICANN and PTI's Strategic and Financial Plans, and input into the development of ICANN policies.

**[ICANN Africa Regional Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2025](#)**

The AFRALO statement was in response to the ICANN Africa Regional Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2025. As all AFRALO countries fall under the Africa Regional Plan, a 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 AFRALO Leadership Team and the ALAC.

**[Phase 1 Initial Report of the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs Policy Development Process](#)**

The ALAC commented on the Phase 1 Initial Report, via a comprehensive Public Comment Google form. The ALAC provided feedback on related issues such as URS recommendations, TMCH preliminary recommendations, sunrise recommendations, et al.

**[Addendum to the Initial Report of the Expedited Policy Development Process \(EPDP\) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Team - Phase 2](#)**

The ALAC commented on the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Team - Phase 2, via a comprehensive Public Comment Google form. The ALAC provided feedback on related issues such as display of information, legal versus natural persons, privacy, et al. For all recommendations not listed in the ALAC statement, the ALAC noted that they they "Support as written".

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

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

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



During the month of May, ICANN:

- [Signed a memorandum of understanding \(MOU\) with Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams Inc \(FIRST\) on DNS Threats Mitigation.](#)
- [Along with PTI, published U.S. Tax Returns for Fiscal Year Ending 30 June 2019.](#)
- Announced the successful completion of string evaluation of the proposed Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) [country code top-level domain \(ccTLD\) string for Israel.](#)
- Announced [ICANN76 would be organised in Cancun, Mexico between 11-16 March 2023.](#)
- The Board of Directors adopted ICANN's [FY21-25 Operating and Financial Plan](#) and [FY21 Budget.](#)
- The Office of the CTO (OCTO) published a paper "[Brief Overview of the Root Server System](#)" that discusses: DNS Resolution Process, Root-Server System, Hosting a root-server instance and the role of ICANN's Root-Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC).
- Organised webinars on [PTI FY21-FY24 Strategic Plan](#) and [special meeting of the ICANN Board and FY20 Board Operational Priorities.](#)
- Announced a [call for Expressions of Interest: ICANN 2021 Nominating Committee Chair and Chair-Elect till 22 June.](#)
- Organizing Prep Sessions before ICANN68 between 8-18 June 2020. To register and for more details visit [ICANN68 Prep Sessions page.](#)

## ALAC Update

ALAC held its monthly call on [26 May](#), and discussed the following:

- Updates on the ALAC policy development activities being undertaken by members of the CPWG.
- A review of the ALS and Individual memberships was shared that indicates APRALO has 59 ALSes and 27 individual members.
- At-Large working group leaders then gave updates on Post-ATLAS III, current At-Large 2020 Work plan activities in the areas of: Reporting (an analysis of the ATLAS III Survey results); Policy involvement (policy resource development); Capacity Building (ICANN Learn course development); Outreach and Engagement (with a focus on the new O&E virtual strategic plan); and Communication (items under the control of the ALAC Chair).
- Leon Sanchez, the At-Large appointed Board member and ICANN Board Vice Chair, then updated the ALAC on current decisions made by the Board.
- There was a review and discussion on ICANN 68 review of the At Large schedule and Pre ICANN68 webinars.
- There was then a discussion on the At-Large review implementation and next steps and a brief discussion on the upcoming ALAC elections.

## Elections Update

### 2020 APRALO Elections Results

On behalf of Satish Babu, Chair of APRALO, we are pleased to announce that the following APRALO candidates have been selected by acclamation and election in 2020:

**Holly Raiche** - ALAC Member representing APRALO (Term: 2020 AGM - 2022 AGM; by acclamation)

**Satish Babu** - APRALO Chair (Term: 2020 AGM - 2022 AGM; selected by election)

**Nadira Al-Araj** - APRALO Vice Chair (Term: 2020 AGM - 2022 AGM; selected by election)

**Amrita Choudhury and Aris Ignacio** - ALAC Delegates to the NomCom representing the APAC Region (Term: 2020 AGM - 2021 AGM; by election) Note: Amrita Choudhury and Aris Ignacio are the Regional Candidate recommended to the ALAC. The ALAC will select the final ALAC Delegates.

The remaining schedule for the election/selection process is as follows:

- 2020 AGM [ ICANN69 ] - Newly elected ALAC Members and RALOs Leaders shall be seated at the end of the 2020 AGM following the close of the Board Meeting on 22 October 2020.

See: [2020 APRALO Regional Selections Workspace](#)

## Special Congratulations

The APRALO family congratulates **Cheri Lagakali** and **Joanna Kulesza** for being nominated to the Global Forum on Cyber Expertise (GFCE advisory) board for 2020-22!

## APRALO Update

APRALO organised their [monthly call](#) on 21 May, which was chaired by Satish.. During the call Cheryl shared an updated on the ALAC policy, Maureen shared the ALAC updates; Heidi gave an updated on the ALAC and APRALo elections, preparations of ICANN68 and FY21 At Large additional budget request; Satish provided an over views of the APRALo outreach and engagement Strategy followed by a presentation by Ali for FY21, Amrita presented the NomCom update and Satish shared on the [Voluntary fundraiser by At-Large members](#).

Please also see the [FY21 APRALO Strategic Outreach Plan](#), and approved [FY21 Additional Budget Requests \(ABRs\)](#).

## At-Large Capacity Building Working Group (CBWG) Monthly Webinars

Aimed at encouraging more involvement and participation in the ICANN policy development process, the At-Large Capacity Building Working Group's (CBWG) webinar team organizes monthly webinars for the whole ICANN community.

Held on the first Monday of the month, the subject of discussion in the webinars is based on ICANN hot topics or policies under development.

The first CBWG webinar held in April discussed the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification of the gTLD Registration Data. The speakers at this webinar were: Alan Greenberg and Hadia El Miniawi, both ALAC representatives to the EPDP.

The May edition was an interactive session that discussed DNS abuse from an end user perspective. The speakers in this webinar were: Jonathan Zuck, ALAC Vice Chair, NARALO and Drew Bagley, Secure Domain Foundation.

The recent June edition of the webinar discussed Geopolitics and Cybersecurity. Lead by Joanna Kulesza, Vice Chair EURALO, the speakers in the webinar were: Leon Sanchez, ICANN Board Vice Chair, Veni Markovski ICANN Vice President for UN engagement and Javier RuaJovet ALAC NARALO representative.

#### 2020 At-Large CBWG Webinars:

06 Apr 2020

[At-Large Capacity Building Webinar: "Expedited Policy Development Process \(EPDP\) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Team - Phase 2"](#)

04 May 2020

[At-Large Capacity Building Webinar: DNS Abuse: An End User Perspective](#)

01 Jun 2020

[Geopolitics and Cybersecurity](#)

03 Aug 2020

[New gTLD Rounds and Subsequent Procedures \(TBD\)](#)

07 Sep 2020

[DNS over HTTPS \(DoH\) and DNS over TLS \(DoT\) \(TBD\)](#)

For more details and updates refer this link: [CBWG webinars](#)

## APAC Hub Update

The ICANN APAC Hub organised a webinar on 21 May where the strategic objectives 3 and 4 of the [APAC Regional Plan](#) were discussed. Jia-Rong Low, VP, Stakeholder Engagement & Managing Director, ICANN APAC, provided an overview on both the strategic objectives.

Strategic objective 3 deals with evolving "Unique Identifier Systems in Coordination and Collaboration to Continue Serving the Needs of the Global Internet User Base", and Strategic Objective 4 deals with "Addressing Geopolitical Issues Impacting ICANN's Mission to Ensure a Single and Globally Interoperable Internet".

The community discussion was facilitated by Edmon Chung.

## NomCom Update



This month the NomCom Chair published a blog updating on the NomCom process including challenges arising due to COVID-19. Currently the nominating committee members will initiate the deep dive process with the shortlisted candidates.

## **ALS Highlights**

### **ISOC Hong Kong launched the Hong Kong Open Data Index**

This month ISOC Hong Kong launched the [Hong Kong Open Data Index](#) and the 2019/20 Assessment Report. Built on nineteen sets of established international and regional open data principles and assessment tools, the Index and its assessment results aim to: reveal progress and identify challenges of open data development in Hong Kong; introduce international best practices to the city; and drive changes in open data policy. The Index is composed of 12 indicators (eg. machine-readable, open license, metadata, etc), measuring 16 critical dataset categories (eg. land, housing, business registration, etc) in Hong Kong. The assessment has revealed the progress and shortcomings of open data development in Hong Kong.



### **ISOC Nepal organises webinar on National ICT Day**

On the occasion of ICT day in Nepal on 2 May, ISOC Nepal organised an online interactive discussion on "Work from Home: International Best Practices on the Pandemic Situation at COVID 19". Apart from participants from the chapter who shared their perspectives, the guest speakers at the session were: Naveed Haq, ISOC APAC Bureau; Amrita Choudhury, ISOC Delhi Internet Society and Rudd Jansen, Collective Design.

### **Webinars organised by Rural Development SIG**

The Rural Development SIG hosted two webinars this month. The first webinar was on "[Cyber Security](#)". The panelist consists of Dr. Olaf Kolkman from the ISOC and Dr. KotiKalapudi Sriram from the NIST. The second webinar was targeted towards children, which was an interactive session. The webinar was titled "[Know the Pandemics: The kids perspective](#)" the panelist consists of Dr. N. Sudha Bhuvanewari and Mrs. Pravina Bharathi.

## **Upcoming Events and Other Announcements**



The ICANN68 Policy Forum will be virtual, and held from 22-25 June 2020.

See [At-Large Policy Sessions @ ICANN Meetings](#)

See [At-Large and DNS Abuse](#)

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

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

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