

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



APRALO Newsletter, September 2020



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

**Message from the ALAC Chair:
ALAC Activities @ ICANN69**



by Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Chair

October is a very busy month as we hold ICANN's third virtual conference, ICANN69, which was scheduled to be held in Hamburg, Germany. For many in APRALO the timing of the conference will not be very convenient. For me, the conference day will start 12 hours behind the time in Germany. So an 8.30 PM to 5.30 AM conference day is not something I am looking forward to. But as usual, the At-Large community is putting together an interesting set of sessions and, the full schedule of At-Large sessions and other ICANN sessions that are of interest to At-Large can be found [on the At-Large ICANN69 wikispace](#). Here is the summary of the At-Large sessions and of those who will be in charge. They will be presenting an introduction to their sessions at a webinar to be held during ICANN69 Prep Week, on Weds, 7 October @ 8.30 UTC.

At-Large @ ICANN69



Maureen Hilyard: Welcome and Wrap Up, ALAC & Board meeting, ALAC & GAC meeting, ALAC 2020 achievements update



Ricardo Holmquist: Recommendation Thresher: At-Large prioritization



Hadia Elminiawi: ICANN and human rights, coordinating the unique identifiers



Jonathan Zuck: DNS Abuse and the At-Large education campaign, ALAC/At-Large ICANN69 Talking Points



Seun Ojedeji: AFRALO-AfrICANN meeting



Sébastien Bachollet: EURALO multistakeholder meeting, ICANN and Internet governance, Regional Leaders meeting



Amrita Choudhury: Ensuring community engagement in pandemic times



Daniel Nanghaka: Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee meeting



Joanna Kulesza: Beyond Budapest: The UN Cybercrime Treaty and DNS



Olivier Crépin-Leblond: Internet governance session on platforms and regulation

One of the plenaries during ICANN69 that is being prepared by ICANN Org (the ICANN CEO and his staff) is a session on the Future of ICANN meetings.

You will all be receiving a survey at the beginning of October from ICANN Org who would be very interested in getting people's views on the Virtual Meetings that have been held and some suggestions on how Org can coordinate its future face-to-face ICANN Meetings. The Chairs of the Supporting Organisations ('GNSO, ccNSO, ASO) and the Advisory Committees (ALAC, GAC, SSAC, RSSAC) will be asked to coordinate the responses from each of their sections and then will discuss the

contributions made together, to make a recommendation to the Board. Please complete the survey when it arrives in your mailbox and let us know how you think ICANN could best meet its communication needs both for the ICANN Meetings themselves as well as the intersessional meetings we hold as working teams. Your contribution will make a difference to helping ICANN with their planning for the future of ICANN Meetings. Also, come along to the session which will be held on Monday 19 October @ 12.30 UTC - "Community/Board Focus on ICANN Meetings".

Despite the inconvenient time that this meeting may be for APRALO, I hope that we will all make a good showing at the At-Large as well as the ICANN sessions. See you there!

One of the changes for ICANN69 is that the meeting will be held over three weeks. Week One (5-8 Oct) consisted of ICANN's Prep Week as they did for the last meeting. Remember to check out how to use the interpretation tool which will require you to use another piece of equipment separate from that for your Zoom programme.

Week Two (13-15 Oct) is a series of Community Days; 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. At-Large is working on a new set of At-Large Plenary sessions.

Week Three (19-22 October) will be the formal Annual General 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.

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 At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) which deals with policies related to Internet end-users. Two important reports have now been concluded - the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on GDPR (Privacy) and the Subsequent Procedures Report will be discussed during ICANN69. I am sure that Justine will be pleased when that multi-year project is over, for now.

The other hard working group is the At-Large 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 (ATR3).

There are some other busy working groups in action in At-Large. The At-Large 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 has now been taken over by Natalia Filina of EURALO, as ICANN69 was originally planned for Germany. She will be able to build on some great ideas that Shreedeeep introduced for ICANN68. Another initiative led by a EURALO member, Roberto Gaetano, is the Unaffiliated Individual Members working Party which will be reviewing the

Message from the APRALO Chair



by Satish Babu, APRALO Chair

Greetings!

This is an important time for our region, with several meetings taking place. The Asia-Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APrIGF) has just successfully concluded, the first time this event is being organized as a virtual edition. The meeting discussed several important topics including Access, Inclusion and Disability; Gender; Digital & Human Rights; Fake News; Norms; 5G & Internet fragmentation; and the Environmental Impact of the Internet. The event was well attended and is indicative of the vibrancy of the IG community in the region that rallied together despite the pandemic.

This has been a busy time for APRALO as well, as our Policy Forum has just been launched, and we are preparing for the ICANN69 meeting. I request each of you to consider joining the Policy Forum if you are interested in current policy activities being discussed with the ICANN community, and particularly if you intend to contribute your voice to the policy processes.

ICANN69 Annual General Meeting, which is the third ICANN meeting to be conducted virtually, is scheduled over three weeks in October 2020. This meeting will discuss several topics of importance to our community, including DNS Abuse; Coordinating the Internet unique identifiers and the interests of the Internet users; and Digital Platforms & Regulation, with additional sessions including ALAC 2020: Taking stock; Ensuring Community Engagement in Pandemic Times; and EURALO-sponsored Round table on European Perspectives on ICANN and Internet Governance.

Other events scheduled during the period include the India School on Internet Governance (inSIG2020) scheduled for the first week of October 2020, and the global IGF which is scheduled for early November 2020.

Hoping that everyone in our community remains safe and healthy.

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 penholder, 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 APRALO Community can also participate in selected policy-related discussions being taken up from a regional perspective through the APRALO Policy Forum. For more information, please visit the [APRALO Policy Forum workspace](#) or contact At-Large staff.

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) submitted (1) statement since the last APRALO Newsletter:

[GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Draft Final Report](#)

The [At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group \(CPWG\)](#) held several single-issue teleconferences about the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) PDP earlier in 2020 in preparation for the Public Comment proceeding. A small team, led by ALAC Member Justine Chew, organized these sessions and gave weekly presentations to the CPWG on the topic. In September 2020, the ALAC submitted a statement on the [GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Draft Final Report](#), the culmination of months of volunteer work in developing At-Large scorecards on SubPro topics, creating a survey on geographic names, and analyzing feedback from the community of Internet end users.

Current Statements (ALAC Advice, Comment or Correspondence)

Vote [Reference Label Generation Rulesets \(LGRs\) for the Second Level](#)
15 Oct 2020

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



The [ICANN69 Virtual Annual General Meeting \(AGM\)](#) will be held from 17-22 October, and features one Prep Week of webinars to brief the community (5-8 October), one week of SOAC Internal work (13-15 October), and one Plenary Week (19-22 October). To see the full schedule of ALAC/At-Large activities,

please visit [this page](#).

In September, ICANN:

- Released the [ICANN69 Prep week schedule](#).
- Launched the [Pandemic Internet Access Program Pilot for ICANN69](#). Last date to apply was 2 October.
- The Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Naming Function Review Team (IFRT) organised a webinar to announce the final stages of completing its Initial Report. The webinar recording can be viewed through [this link](#).
- Issued a call for Community Groups to [Nominate NextGen@ICANN Mentors and Selection Committee](#) Members by 15 October.

ALAC Update

The most recent ALAC monthly meeting was held on [September 22](#) and was chaired by ALAC Chair, Maureen Hilyard and featured guest speaker and ICANN CEO/President Göran Marby. An ALAC [statement](#) on the Final Report on the Phase 2 of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data and [addendum](#) led to a robust discussion between ICANN President and CEO Göran Marby and ALAC members during the [September ALAC meeting](#). In addition, the meeting focused on:

- Monthly [ALAC Policy Development Activities](#).
- Review of ALS Membership Applications from Organizations and Individuals
- Reports and Discussions with the At-Large Plus Group leaders
- Discussion with Leon Sanchez - ICANN Board Vice-Chair.
- [Post-ATLAS III / 2020 At-Large Priority Activities](#) : Review and Development of Recommendations for ALAC.
- Initial discussion of [At-Large at ICANN69](#) and At-Large Planning Committee for ICANN69
- ALS mobilization update

Prior to ICANN69, there was a call for nominations for the ALAC chair. Maureen Hilyard was the only ALAC member who was nominated, and accepted the nomination on 18 September 2020. In accordance with [ALAC Rules of Procedure 16.3](#), Hilyard has been [re-appointed as the ALAC Chair by acclamation](#). Hilyard's one-year term will begin at the end of ICANN69 and conclude during ICANN72. The At-Large Leadership Team (ALT) was also nominated.

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

- Hadia Elminiawi - ALAC Delegate to the NomCom from the African Region
- Amrita Choudhury - ALAC Delegate to the NomCom from the Asia, Australasia and the Pacific Islands Region
- Bastiaan Goslings - ALAC Delegate to the NomCom from the European Region
- Vanda Scartezini - ALAC Delegate to the NomCom from the Latin America and Caribbean Region

- Glenn McKnight - ALAC Delegate to the NomCom from the North American Region

At-Large Review Implementation

The At-Large Review Implementation Working Group [submitted a Final Implementation Report](#) to the OEC on 30 June 2020, detailing the completion of implementation of the recommendations arising out of the second At-Large Review and documenting that two recommendations are not yet fully implemented. On 10 September 2020, the Board approved a [resolution](#) which accepted the Final Implementation Report, including:

Resolved (2020.09.10.08), the Board accepts the At-Large2 Review [final implementation report](#) of the second At-Large Review issued by the At-Large Review Implementation Working Group, which marks the completion of this organizational review in accordance with Bylaws [Article 4 Section 4.4](#). The Board encourages the At-Large Advisory Committee to continue monitoring the impact of the implementation of the recommendations from the second Review of the ALAC as part of its continuous improvement process.

Additionally, the Board made the following request:

Resolved (2020.09.10.10), the Board requests the At-Large Advisory Committee to provide the OEC with a written or oral progress update on the two remaining issues "Member Engagement and Criteria" and "Absence of consistent performance metrics" by 31 December 2020. In the event that implementation is not completed by 31 December 2020, the ALAC shall continue to provide such updates to the OEC on a six-monthly basis until such time that the implementation efforts conclude.

At-Large Capacity Building Working Group (CBWG) Update

The [At-Large Capacity Building Working Group \(CBWG\)](#) organized several webinars after ICANN68 on the following topics: [New gTLD Rounds and Subsequent Procedures, DNS over HTTPS \(DoH\) and DNS over TLS \(DoT\)](#) led by ALAC Member Holly Raiche, and [Giving Better Presentations Online: Forming Old Habits in the New Reality](#), led by ALAC Vice Chair Jonathan Zuck. Resources for the webinars are available on the [CBWG workspace](#).

In preparation for ICANN69, At-Large held two prep webinars as a part of [ICANN69 Prep Week](#). On [Monday, 5 October](#), an At-Large ICANN69 Introduction webinar was held, followed by an At-Large Social Media webinar on [Wednesday, 7 October](#).

Call to Join the Newly Created APRALO Policy Forum

Justine Chew, APRALO ALAC Member

The APRALO Policy Forum, launched recently on 16 September, offers APRALO members an opportunity to participate in selected ICANN policy-related activities and discussions.

Noting the often overwhelming barrage of issues, Zoom meeting invitations, calls for

public comment, and especially while we continue to adapt to the new norms brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, the APRALO Policy Forum is a light-weight initiative aimed at facilitating informed, inclusive regional position development on issues within ICANN's remit in order to support APRALO Leadership's participation as a regional partner to the ALAC/At-Large Policy Platform.

Discussions conducted through this Policy Forum are carefully selected to not only keep its members apprised of key issues which merit a regional insight but also to ease participation in the same, the inputs of which would constitute APRALO's contributions within the wider At-Large community.

For more information about the Policy Forum and its active discussions, please visit the [APRALO Policy Forum workspace](#) or contact At-Large staff to join this Policy Forum's mailing list.

NomCom Update

Amrita Choudhury, APRALO Delegate to the NomCom

The nominating committee this month conducted the final interviews and reviews of the list of candidates and finalised the final list of selected candidates this month. The final list of seven selected candidates for the leadership position can be viewed using [this link](#).

The two ALAC selectees are Pari Esfandiari (Europe) and Gregory Shatan (North America).

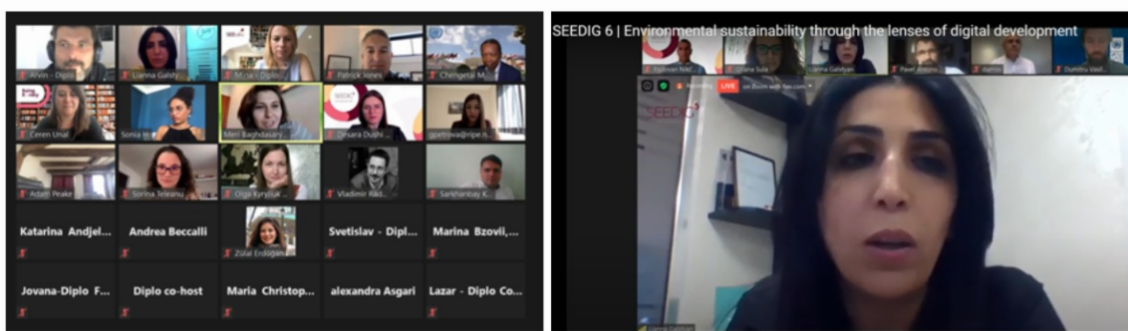
ALS Highlights

SEEDIG6 (South Eastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance) 21-25 September

APRALO Vice Chair Lianna Galstyan in her capacity as a member of the Executive Committee for SEEDIG co-organized a five-day regional virtual meeting on 21-25 September 2020. The annual meeting brought together a wide variety of stakeholders to discuss some of the most pressing Internet and digital policy issues in South Eastern Europe and the neighboring area (SEE+), from digitalisation and the digital economy, to online privacy and cybercrime.

In addition to main discussions, SEEDIG6 week-long program featured engaging session formats (placing interactivity at the core), creative tracks, and social events. The goal was to offer different types of settings for participants to discuss tech and digital policy issues of interest, engage with experts, network, and have fun. Participants were offered to join the virtual meeting through Zoom platform as well as follow the YouTube and Facebook live streams.

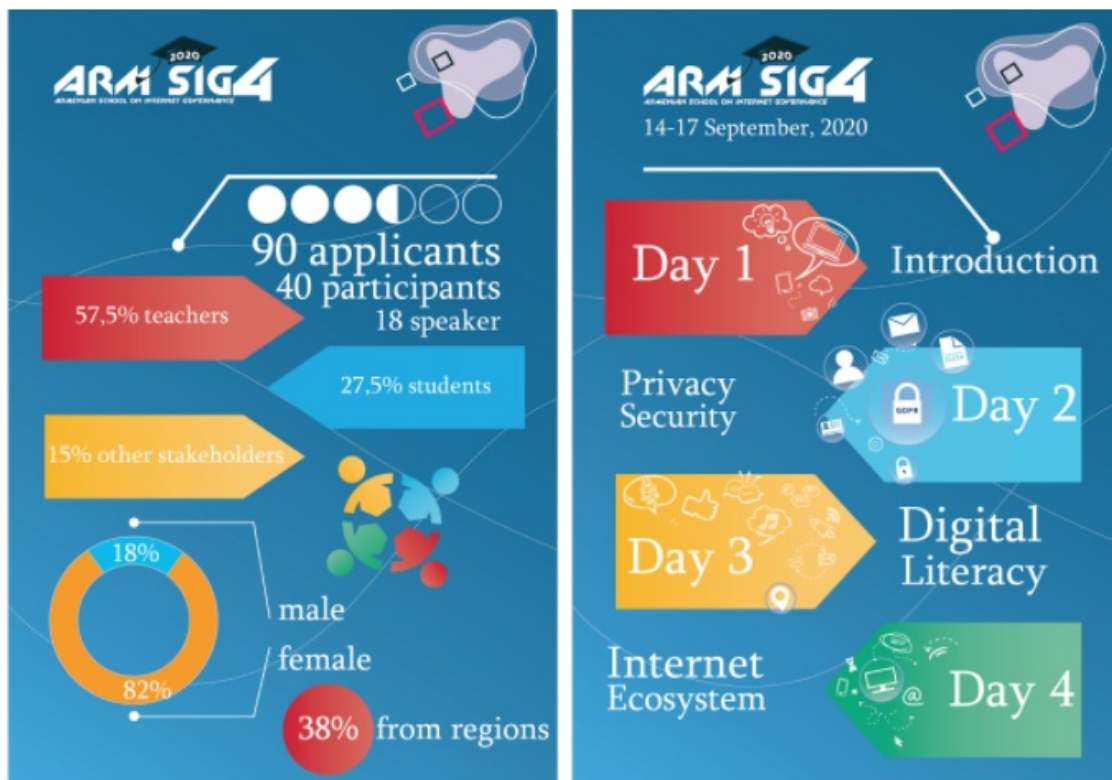
Several Senior Management members of ICANN staff actively contributed to the SEEDIG6 program - Patrick Jones, Senior Director, GSE, Andrea Beccalli, Stakeholder Engagement Director, Adam Peake, Senior Manager, Civil Society Engagement and Siruanush Vardanyan, Fellowship Program Manager.



ArmSIG4 - Armenian School on Internet Governance, 4th edition 14-17 September 2020

ISOC Armenia Chapter and the Armenian ccTLD Registry co-organized ArmSIG4, the 4th edition of the Armenian School on Internet Governance, on 14-17 September 2020 as a hybrid format meeting. Of 95 applicants, 65 were selected and 40 were able to join during the 4-day free course. This year the school featured participants from rural areas of Armenia through an online platform. Another highlight of the current edition is that the majority of participants were teachers and students.

ICANN, Head of GSE for Eastern Europe and Central Asia Mikhail Anisimov and ICANN Fellowship Program Manager Siranush Vardanyan joined online and presented the different aspects of ICANN activities. APRALO Vice Chair Lianna Galstyan talked about the At-Large and the importance of end-users' voice in multistakeholder Internet Ecosystem. In her capacity as a MAG member, she also made a presentation about the IGF, its principles, structure and objectives. APRALO individual member Syuzan Marukhyan talked about Human Rights in the digital era. The topics of cybersecurity, cyber hygiene and the personal data protection were the high interest topics among the participants.



ISOC Delhi organises session on Encryption at APRIGF2020

Internet Society Delhi Chapter organised a discussion on "Breaking Encryption: Is it

the Panacea for addressing security issues online?" Moderated by ISOC Delhi President Amrita Choudhury, the speakers in the session were: Rajnesh Singh, Internet Society, Nikhil Pahwa, Medianama; Raman Jeet Singh Chima, Access Now; Jaewon Son, Youth 4IG. Over 58 people attended this interactive discussion.

Some of the key outcomes from the discussion were:

- Encryption is here and all should have a robust encryption to ensure security, build trust and protect oneself online.
- Breaking encryption or creating exceptional access would not solve the issue of law enforcement authorities, child protection activists, rather it would weaken the security of networks.
- Exceptions should not define rules for everyone.
- To address concerns, there is a need for deeper discussions; understand the specific concerns related to access of information, whether for intelligence or investigative purposes; build adequate checks and balances related to interception; there is a need to address the mistrust through dialogue, capacity building and cooperation between stakeholders.

The session can be viewed using [this link](#).

Session on Digital accessibility for persons with disability

Digital accessibility for persons with disability was in focus at the APrIGF this year. ALS member Gunela Astbrink from Internet Australia, along with Winston Roberts organised a session on Digital accessibility for persons with disability. This session included sign language interpretation along with the live captioning, demonstrating an excellent model of inclusion.

Vashkar Bhattacharjee, a person with a visual impairment from Bangladesh, was one of the opening plenary speakers. He then joined the session entitled 'Accessible digital information, training and libraries: Reducing discrimination for persons with disability' with speakers Manique Gunaratne of the Employers' Federation of Ceylon and Srinidhi Raghavan of Rising Flame in India. All spoke from the lived experience of disability about strategies to overcome digital discrimination. The discussions, moderated by Anju Mangal, the Vice-Chair of the APrIGF Multi-stakeholder Steering Group, explored how all sectors of the Internet community can contribute to improving accessibility by being more aware of the needs of persons with disability. Examples are implementation of equitable policies by governments and inclusive design of online tools by the private sector.

Upcoming Events and Other Announcements

ICANN69 Virtual Annual General Meeting (AGM)



ICANN69 will be ICANN's third virtual public meeting. See the [At-Large Workspace for ICANN69](#) for the latest updates on ALAC / At-Large activity!

The Fifth School of Internet Governance ([inSIG 2020](#)) was held as a virtual event during 7-10 Oct 2020. More details on the program can be viewed [here](#).

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

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STAY CONNECTED

