NARALO Swebinar

ICANN's Evolving MSM model

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Issues to be covered:

1. a bird's eye view of how the multistakeholder system came to be attached to Internet governance -- (10min)

2. a quick tour of the MS system as it is practised at ICANN and a deeper dive into the role of end users/At Large in this system (10 min)

3. an even deeper dive into why ICANN's MS system needs some adjustment. Discussions in this regard over the last two years and ALAC's response (10 min)

Multistakeholderism - wikipedia

Multistakeholderism is a governance practice that brings multiple stakeholders together in dialogue, decisionmaking and implementation of responses to jointly perceived problems

Working group on Internet Governance 2003 definition; accepted in Tunis 2005 (WSIS 2)

… Internet governance is the development and application by governments, the private sector and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet.

Multistakeholder statement Netmundial (excerpt)

Enabling **meaningful participation:** Anyone affected by an Internet governance process should be able to participate in that process. Particularly, Internet governance institutions and processes should support **capacity building for newcomers, especially stakeholders from developing countries and under represented groups.** (Brazil 2014)

Consensus-based decision making

The Internet has flourished because of the approach taken from its infancy to resolve technical and policy questions. Known as the multi-stakeholder process, it involves the full involvement of all stakeholders, **consensus-based decision-making and operating in an open, transparent and accountable manner.**

(Lawrence Strickling, Administrator of the National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA) in the U.S. Department of Commerce, April 2013.)
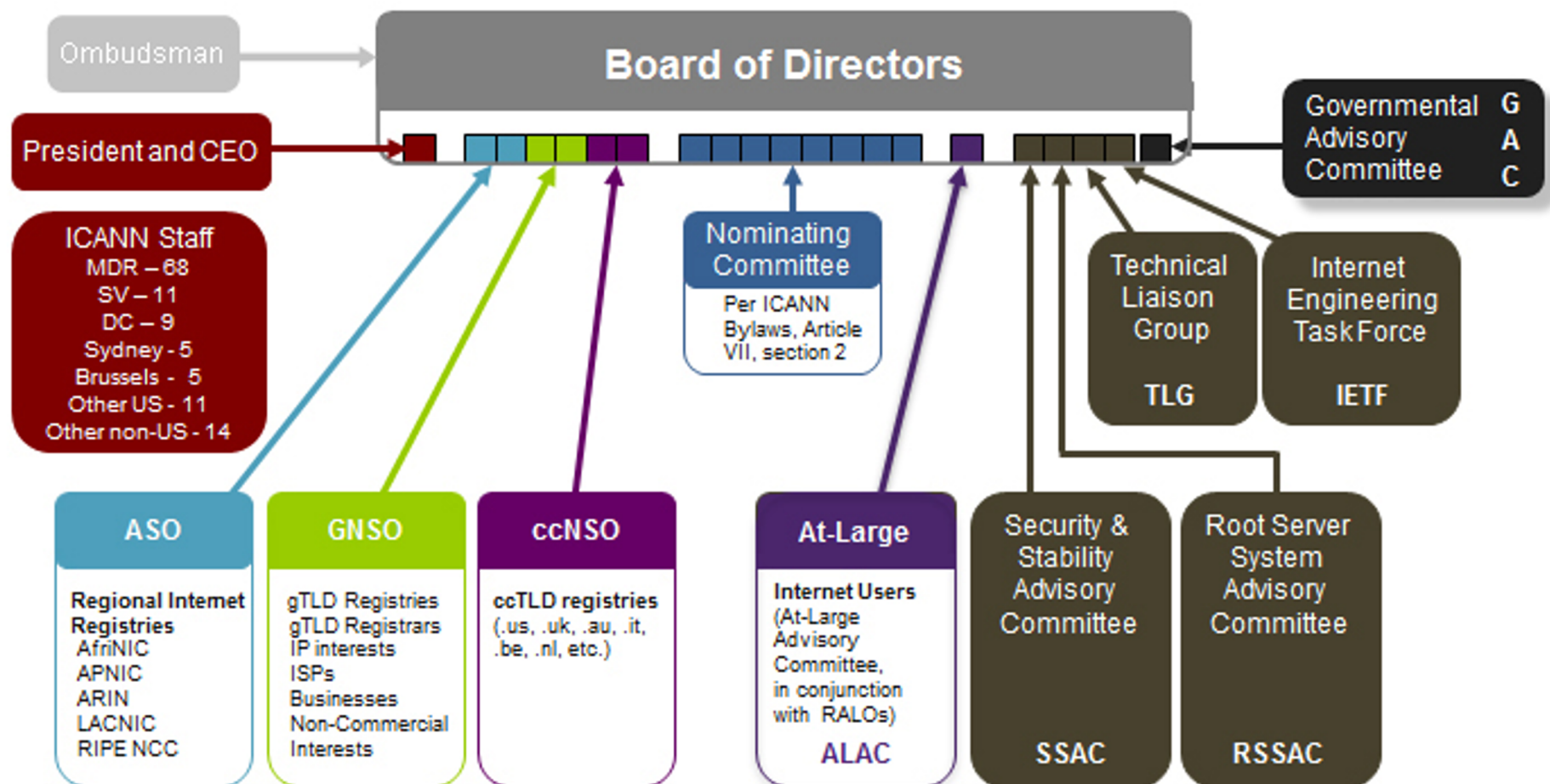
ICANN's mission

- to coordinate, at the overall level, the global Internet's systems of unique identifiers, and in particular **to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems.**

- It does this by convening a broad spectrum of the global internet community and developing appropriate policies through bottom-up, consensus based processes

The unique nature of ICANN's multistakeholder model
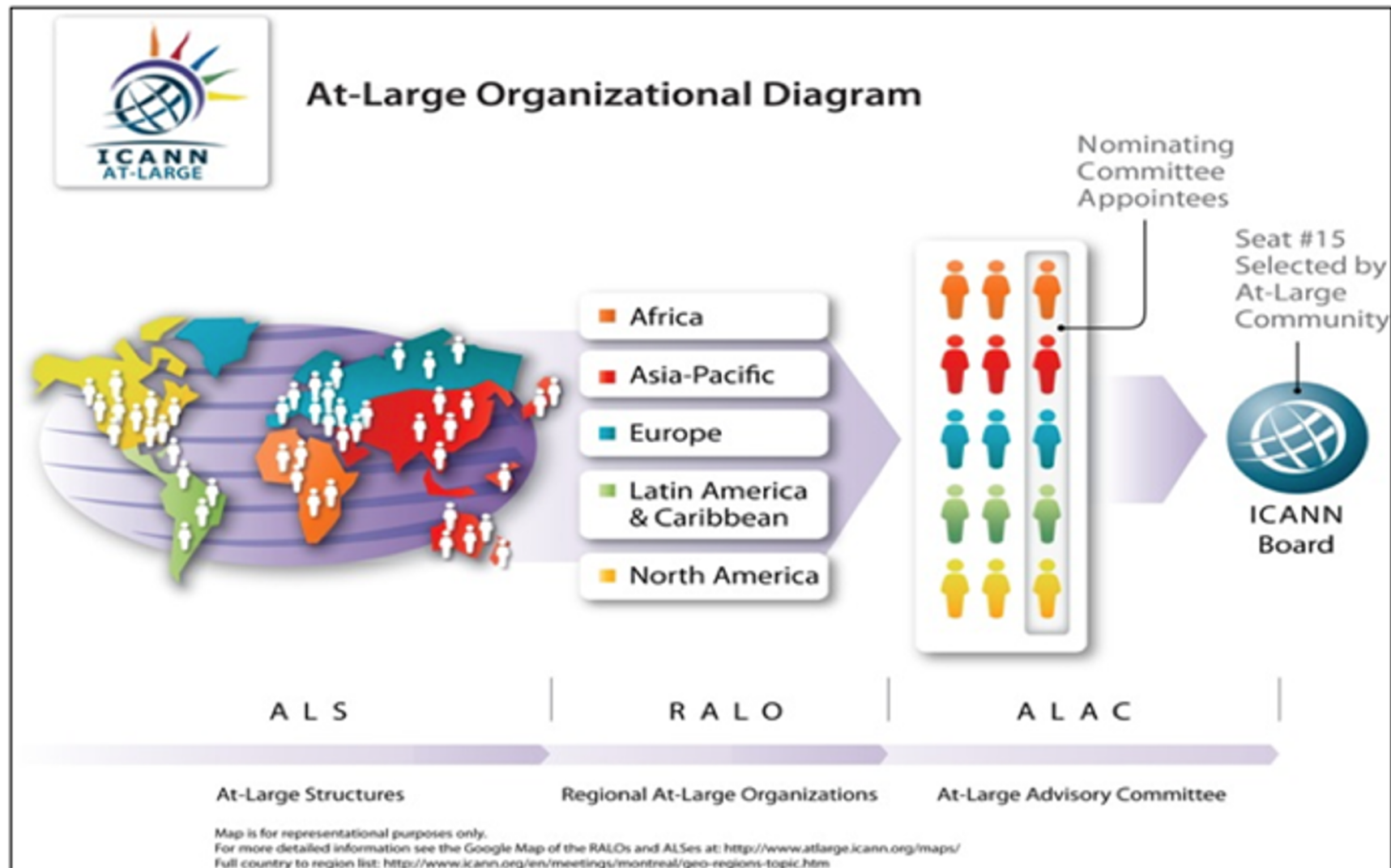

ICANN Multi-Stakeholder Model

RALOS

At Large Organizational Diagram

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At Large talking points – ICANN 68

- ICANN needs to take a more proactive role in DNS Abuse

- Balancing protection of the privacy of registrants with the need for consumer protection

- Enabling community participation in any new round of gTLDs

- Enforcement of registry voluntary commitments (PICs)

- Universal acceptance of non-ascii characters & scripts

Cracks emerging in ICANN's MS system -- The need for change

"However, as ICANN continues to evolve, and as our environment becomes more complex and higher in risk, our governance must also evolve; without compromising our deeply valued bottom-up decision-making process. " (from Chair's Blog Feb. 20, 2019 Cherine Chalaby)

Pressure points identified by community v1.0

- 1. Processes take too long   2. Complexity

- 3. Culture   4. Prioritization of Work

- 5. Demographics   6. Recruitment

- 7. Representativeness   8. Inclusiveness

- 9. Consensus   10. Scoping the Work

- 11. Accountability   12. Transparency

- 13. Costs   14. Trust

- 15. Roles/Responsibilities   16. Resources

Pressure points v1.1

1. Prioritization   2. Scoping the Work 3. Costs

4. Representativeness/Inclusiveness

5. Consensus   6. Terms

7. Recruitment and Demographics

8. Complexity

9. Efficient Use of Resources

10. Culture, Trust and Silos.

At large solutions in over 20 pages of replies to request for comments

- Structural issues – A bottom up review of roles and responsibilities; address power inequities that lead to underrepresentation; reexamine the relationship between SOs/ACs.....

- Process issues – work flow management, priority setting hand in hand with adequate tools and resources, scoping to be supported by principles and guidelines specific to projects;

At large solutions (cont'd)

- Participation -- change processes currently designed around the needs and language of full time participants; more resources towards dealing with language barriers; more mentoring/twinning programs; targeted educational opportunities (SIGs);

- Intergroup relations (trust, silos, consensus) – new processes that foster positive culture; team building initiatives; conditions that facilitiate consensus

Reorganized pressure points - June 2020

To be dealt with first: (low hanging fruit)

1. Prioritization of work and efficient use of resources

2 Precision in scoping the work

3. Consensus, representation and inclusivity

Crucial but deferred

4. Complexity

5.Culture, trust, and silos

6.Roles and responsibilities

Moving Forward

The current request for comments is mostly process oriented and does not represent an "evolution" of the MS process but rather a more efficient version of the old one

- What are the main interests of end users in this debate?
- Where should At Large focus its attention?