

A brief update for the period of November-December 2021, from the APRALO perspective



APRALO Newsletter, Nov-Dec 2021



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

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APRALO Chair Update



APRALO Chair, Satish Babu

Dear APRALO Community -

Greetings!

We are at the end of the calendar year. We converted our last monthly meeting of 2021 to an onboarding call for ensuring all of us had a common base of information on APRALO, its activities and expectations from our members.

During the call, we had León Sanchez, Vice Chair of the Board and At-Large Board Director selected by At-Large,, as well as Edmon Chung, Board Member, talk to our community. They explained the ICANN remit and functions and regional priorities for Asia-Pacific. We also covered ALAC and its activities, APRALO's structure and function, the [APRALO Mentoring Program](#), the [APRALO Policy Forum](#), and the use of [ICANN Learn](#). The call also saw an informal feedback session on the APRALO Newsletter including an assessment of its relevance to the community.

In the course of the next year, we hope to complete two work tracks, one on the Review of the APRALO Rules of Procedure and the other on enhancing APRALO monthly meetings.

We are in the festive season right now, although tempered by apprehensions regarding the global pandemic. I would like to wish everyone and their families the very best of the festive season as well as a very productive 2022. Happy Holidays!!

With kind regards.

ALAC Chair Update



Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Chair

Dear APRALO Members -

We have now reached the end of another busy schedule of ICANN meetings for 2021. We have endured two years of "virtual" and who knows how long this pandemic is going to last or what other developments are in store for us.

Instead of an ALAC meeting for December, we had a leadership development session including ALAC, RALO and working group leaders and Liaisons, to introduce them to the [new workplan for 2022](#) and to encourage their participation and leadership in our At-Large policy, outreach and operational working groups.

Following this workshop, I was very pleased to be able to participate in a highly informative APRALO Onboarding Session with Board members, Vice Chair Leon Sanchez and Edmon Chung. APRALO has had a long association with Edmon and DotAsia as a supporting partner of our General Assemblies in the

past. The onboarding session was a great way to prepare us all for our new year's work.

One thing we can look forward to, is that we will soon have to start planning our next General Assembly. Our last GA was in Abu Dhabi in 2017. Hopefully we will be able to meet in person for it.

Therefore, before we prepare for another busy year of ICANN activities, I send you best wishes for an enjoyable and well-earned holiday break with family and friends and that you will return refreshed and ready for re-engaging with At-Large activities in the New Year.

Until then, take care and keep safe.

ICANN Update

In November, ICANN:

- Partnered with African [Top Level Domain Organisations](#) (AFTLD) to promote Universal Acceptance (UA) training program for members of the African community and with the [North American Regional At-Large Organization \(NARALO\)](#) and the [Universal Acceptance Steering Group](#) (UASG) to host a UA training series for the North America (region in early 2022)
- Issued request for proposals to identify a [contractor qualified to conduct the study](#) called for in Section 7.2 of [RSSAC028](#), "Technical Analysis of the Naming Scheme Used For Individual Root Servers." By 10 December and [an independent public accounting firm](#) for providing financial statement auditing services by 5 January
- Issued a request for proposal (RFP) to identify a contractor qualified to conduct the study called for in Section 7.2 of [RSSAC028](#), "Technical Analysis of the Naming Scheme Used For Individual Root Servers."
- Published a report, [Registrations Related to COVID-19: 18 Months of Data](#) that find that between 1.8% to 6.1% of domains examined could be involved with phishing or malware.
- ICANN's GSE Africa team published a [survey](#) to gauge ICANN's engagement in Africa. The survey closed on 10 Dec.
- Confirmed that the [implementation design of Work Stream 2 \(WS2\)](#) of the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG-ACCT) has been concluded.
- Published the FY22 Q1 Unaudited Financial Results of [ICANN](#) and [PTI](#)
- ICANN Board Chair shared the [Highlights from October Board Workshop and ICANN72](#)
- issued a joint [statement](#) with IETF Trust on how to use IANA Protocol parameter data.
- Organised webinars on [governmental accreditation authorities under the System for Standardized Access/Disclosure](#) (SSAD) Operational Design Phase (ODP) and on the [System for Standardized Access/Disclosure](#) (SSAD) [Operational Design Phase \(ODP\) recording](#)
- Invited comments on:
 - The final policy recommendations of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Expedited Policy Development Process [EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data – Phase 2A](#). Comments are being sought on two topics: 1) the differentiation of legal vs. natural persons' registration data, and 2) the feasibility of unique contacts to have a uniform anonymized email address. Last date to submit comments is 13 January 2021
 - The final policy recommendations of the ccNSO Policy Development Process on the Retirement of Country Code Top-Level Domains (ccTLDs) [by 12 January](#).

In December, ICANN:

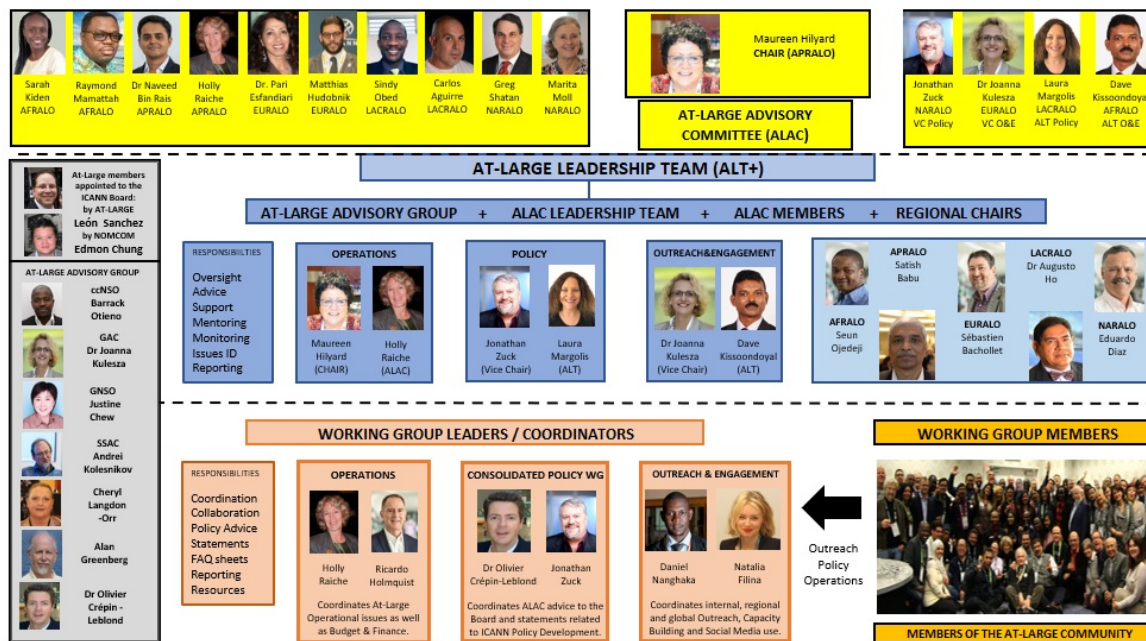
- Announced revised dates of ICANN73 from [7 to 10 March 2022 and prep week between 22-24 February](#)
- Announced a new forum [ICANN Resolver Operator Forum](#) created for Domain Name System (DNS) resolver operators and experts from across the world
- Shared an update in the [progress of the ICANN Workstream 2 implementation](#)
- [Nomination](#) period is open [till 21 March 2022](#) for the ICANN Community Excellence Award.
- Opened a Public Comment proceeding to [receive input](#) on [ICANN's Draft Fiscal Year 2023–2027 \(FY23-27\) Operating and Financial Plan and Draft FY23 Operating Plan and Budget](#) till 7 February 2022
- Launched [New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Operational Design Phase](#)
- The [NomCom is inviting applications](#) for the ICANN and PTI Board and leadership positions in SO/AC till 11 March 2022. These include: Three members of the ICANN Board of Directors; One member of the PTI Board of Directors; Two regional representatives to the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) – one each from Europe and North America; one member of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council – non-voting and one member of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council.

ALAC Update

The ALAC held their monthly meeting in [November](#). The November ALAC Monthly meeting featured guest speaker [Göran Marby](#), ICANN President and CEO, who discussed activities towards ICANN73 and ICANN74, as well as Q&A with the ALAC.

The agenda also featured updates regarding At-Large policy activity including ALAC advice, membership updates, and reports from At-Large Liaisons and WG leaders, as well as planning for ICANN73.

AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ALAC) ORGANISATIONAL CHART - 2022



Policy Update

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 policy activity, please comment on the At-Large workspace or volunteer as penholder, and join the weekly At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) 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) policy statement since the last APRALO Newsletter:

- [Proposed Revisions to the ICANN Documentary Information Disclosure Policy](#)

The ALAC is currently developing the following responses to ICANN Public Comment proceedings, and other cross community and/or external consultations:

- [ccNSO Proposed Policy on the Retirement of ccTLDs](#)
- [ICANN Draft FY23-27 Operating and Financial Plan and Draft FY23 Operating Plan and Budget](#)

In addition, the ALAC plans to submit in January ALAC responses to ICANN Board clarifying questions, regarding ALAC Advice on EPDP Phase 2 (SSAD) and Subsequent Procedures.

See: [At-Large Website on Public Comments and Policy Advice](#)

See: [Executive Summaries: ALAC Public Comments and Advice](#)

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

See: [At-Large Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group \(OFB-WG\)](#)

APRALO Policy Forum Update

APRALO ALAC Member, Justine Chew

We kick-started the year by conducting the APRALO Policy Forum Survey #1.2021 in Mar 2021 to identify key impediments to participating in the APRALO Policy Forum, and to seek ideas for addressing such impediments. The [report and recommendations](#) from that survey guided our endeavors for the rest of 2021.

As we approach the end of 2021, I am pleased to note that the APRALO Policy Forum has nearly doubled its membership as compared to this time last year.

We have also carried out a number of initiatives during the year which formed APRALO's contributions towards policy development, community engagement and capacity building. These are:

1. [APRALO Statement on Subsequent Procedures Final Outputs, 1 Jun 2021](#), wherein APRALO, in endorsing the [ALAC's Advice on Subsequent Procedures of 16 April 2021](#), also emphasized 3 elements of regional importance to us, these being (1) to facilitate increased adoption of Universal Acceptance (UA) & Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs); (2) to facilitate increased & equitable access by "Global South", community / niche TLD applicants through the Applicant Support Program (ASP) & Community Priority Evaluation (CPE) and a ban on private auctions; and (3) to advocate for ALAC to have automatic standing to file Community Objections (where it deems necessary).

2. [APRALO Webinar on Internationalized Domain Names \(IDNs\), 27 Jul 2021](#) where given the particular importance of IDNs for our region, we took the lead in this capacity building effort in association with the At-Large Capacity Building Working Group (CBWG), to support our RALO members and other interested At-Large members in understanding the history and existing landscape of IDNs in order to engage meaningfully in the work of the GNSO Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on IDNs. We managed to draw 65 participants.

In addition, we have initiated 2 projects, which will now continue into 2022, both of which are designed to further support the region's work in various areas under ICANN's remit. These are:

3. [APRALO Register of Skills & Interests Project \(2021\)](#) which is designed to produce a dynamic Register of Skills & Interests for APRALO; and

4. [Regional Hot Topics Survey 2021](#) which will be designed primarily to solicit input from RALO members on what topics RALO members believe is of importance to our region and which APRALO should consider embracing in its agenda. Further, we hope to also use the 2021 survey to gauge RALO members input in light of ICANN's FY21-26 operating priorities.

Finally, to prepare for 2022, we are conducting the [APRALO Policy Forum Survey #2.2021](#) to seek feedback on the Policy Forum's role in facilitating better informed, inclusive regional input on issues within ICANN's remit. [Click here to comment on this update](#)

Please continue to visit [The APRALO Policy Forum](#) for more details on periodic participation opportunities in this dedicated space for facilitating better informed, inclusive regional input on issues within ICANN's remit. Kindly contact At-Large staff if you wish to join the APRALO Policy Forum.

APAC Space Update

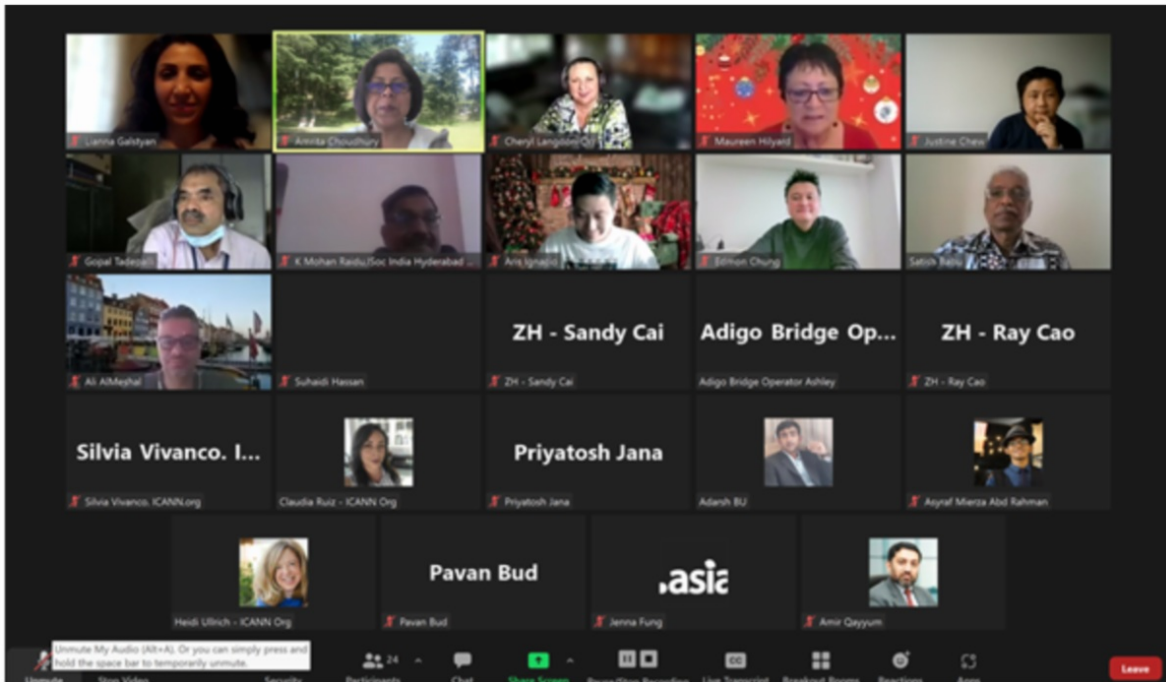
The APAC space has organized:

- Two pre-event webinars of the APAC DNS Forum 2022: [Search Engine Optimization \(SEO\) & Domain Names](#) on 18 November and [Domain Name System \(DNS\) Best Practices](#) on 16 December.
- Regional readout of the ICANN72 Annual General Meeting on 23 November.

APRALO Update

The [APRALO November call](#) was organised on 18 November. There was an update provided by Maureen on the [At-Large Workplan for 2022 - for Policy, Operations and Outreach](#) and she encouraged members to join the ICANN73 Planning WG. Justine spoke on the [APRALO Policy Forum](#); Lianna spoke on the [APRALO Mentoring Program](#), discussed on the APRALO On-boarding call for newcomers and updated on the work being done by Group on Enhancing APRALO Meetings. There was also a discussion on APRALO and At Large's engagement in IGF2021, APSIG and national SIGs.

The [APRALO Monthly call](#) on 22 December was an "Onboarding Call" where attendees were provided an overview of ICANN, At Large, APRALO and the activities the community is involved in. Two ICANN Board members Leon Sanchez and Edmon Chung participated and spoke in the call.



During the call feedback was taken from the participants related to improvements needed in the APRALO Newsletter.

How can we make the newsletter more impactful?

by sharing it via sm
 local stories from member
 make it on a fixed date
 email thread
 youth look
 human interest pieces
 contributed local content
 human interest articles
 cover local stories
 member of the month
 volunteers involvement
 member contributions
 shorter
 whatsapp telegram group
 shared by members of aise
 ok as of the moment

What changes would you want in the newsletter in terms of content?

A word cloud of suggestions for newsletter content. The words are arranged in a circular pattern. The suggestions include: shorter articles, more coming up of coming, community stories, certified trainings, youth section, opportunities, social media, locally relevant content, policy updates are useful, brief tutorial, challenges, concise, members section, have a feedback mechanism, and high level policy guidnes.

What changes would you want in the newsletter in terms of display?

A word cloud of suggestions for newsletter display. The words are arranged in a circular pattern. The suggestions include: shorter, more photos, more professional look, current display is ok, it looks good, better grouping, and no problem.

APRALO ALS Update

Sixth Edition of inSIG concluded successfully

The sixth edition of [India School of Internet Governance](#) (inSIG2021) was held online from 19-21 November, with a meet and greet session on 14 November. This year the event would be hosted by Internet Society Chennai.

inSIG is a joint initiative by six India ISOC Chapters, Delhi, Trivandrum, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai and Hyderabad who are ALSes and has been supported by MeitY, NIXI, ICANN, APNIC, Internet Society, Facebook, etc. One of the key objectives of inSIG is to build capacity on Internet Governance among community members in India and handhold them for engagement in global Internet Governance processes.

16 Indian fellows, 9 international fellows, 8 fellows from the host chapter and 1 ISOC Chapter fellow [participated](#) in the school. This year the [program](#) consisted of discussion on the perspectives on the Current and Future of IG, IG in APAC and India, introduction to core internet technologies; emerging technologies: trends and security; privacy and data protection, competition issues in digital economy; digital legislations in India; Indian participation in IETF; gender and diversity on the internet and the role of technology during the pandemic and recovery IG journey in India, The speakers for the sessions were both from India and overseas. The report of the sessions will be shared in the next newsletter. The next edition, inSIG2022 will be held in Hyderabad.

4th edition of YIGF India organised online

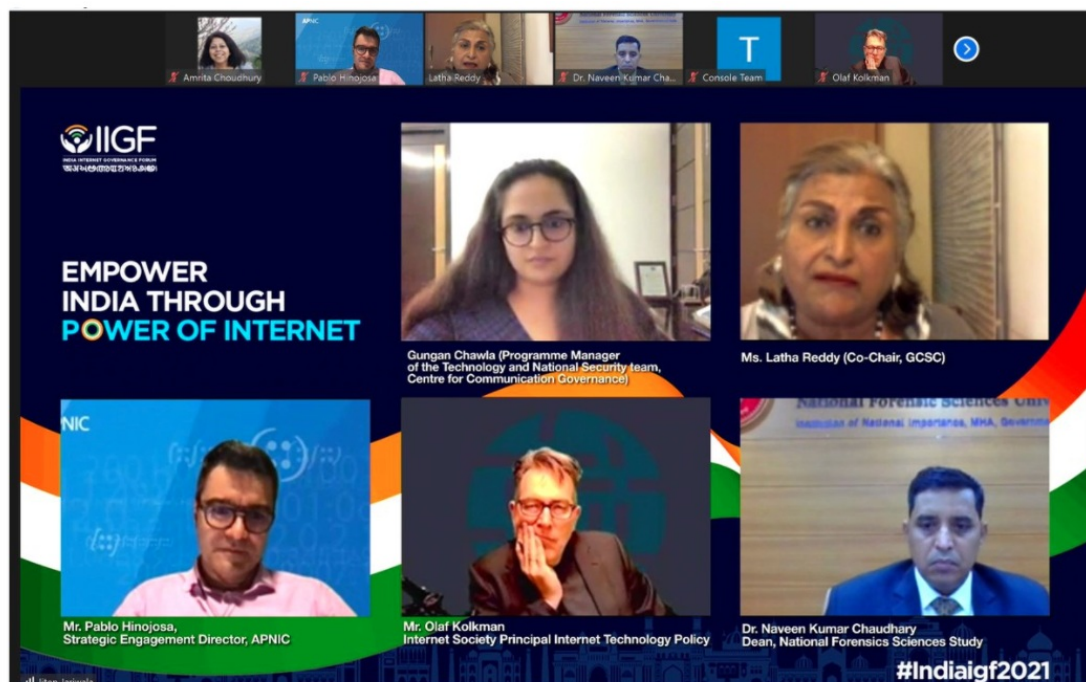
The fourth edition of Youth Internet Governance Forum India (YIGF 2021) was convened online on 4 and 5 December under the theme: Internet For All. Apart from 16 fellows, nearly 200 youth participated in the event.

The sessions this year were very interactive and included a closed-door discussion of fellows on tech policy career landscape and enlightening talks with alumni. During the Multistakeholder roleplay on Data Protection in India, youth fellows formulated recommendations on Data Protection in India, challenges, and way forward.

It may be mentioned that Youth IGF India is a platform recognized by United Nations Internet Governance Forum and supported by the India School of Internet Governance (InSIG). YIGF has provided a multi-stakeholder platform for 900+ youth during the past three years.

ALSes CCAOI & inSIG organises session during India IGF2021

CCAOI, inSIG and IIFON organized a session “Cybernorms: For ensuring an open, interoperable & Trusted Internet” at IIGF2021 which was moderated by Pablo Hinojosa (APNIC) and the speakers included Latha Reddy (GSCS), Gunjan Chawla (CCG-NLU), Olaf Kolkman (Internet Society), Prof. Naveen Chaudhary (National Forensics Sciences University).



ISOC Philippines Women in Tech2021 webinars

By Winthrop Yu

The Philippines' Chapter Women in Tech 2021 presented 8 webinars including: 6 in the WINS (Women in Networking) Series organized by ISOC-PH President Engr. Isabel Montes-Austria with IEEE Philippines and PHNOG; the PH Peering Forum's Women in Tech organized by ISOC-PH director Engr. Vincent Atienza with PHNOG and ISOC APAC; and the PH YIGF / In2ition's Digital Inclusion a Social Determinant of Health organized by Dean Aris Ignacio ISOC-PH Vice President with Southville International Schools. The baker's dozen presenters were all women.

These include:

- Nov 12 - WINS #1 - [Claim Your Future Career](#) - Elizabeth Bautista, NERSC
- Nov 17 - WINS #2 - [IXPs and Peering](#) - Shane Hermoso, APNIC
- Nov 24 - WINS #3 - [Just Go With IT](#) - Willa Ortiz, PHNOG
- Nov 26 - WINS #4 - [Policy Reforms for #BetterInternetPH](#) - Grace Mirandilla-Santos, ISOC-PH
- Nov 26 - [PH YIGF / In2ition - Digital Inclusion a Social Determinant of Health](#) - Dr. Iris Thiele Tan - University of the Philippines School of Medicine / Philippine General Hospital
- Dec 01 - WINS #5 - [Opportunities for Women in IT](#) - Sylvia Cadena, APNIC Foundation
- Dec 03 - WINS #6 - [How Netflix Streaming Works](#) - Anne Aaron, Netflix
- Dec 03 - PH Peering Forum - [Women in Tech](#) which was moderated by Shane Hermoso - APNIC and the panelists included: Kate Echavarria - PLDT, Queenie Rosales - RISE, Estela Libiran - Globe Telecom and Liezl Manangan - Sky Internet

Upcoming Events

- ICANN's [Next SSAD ODP Project Update Webinar](#) on 18 January at 15:00 UTC.
- APRALO January call will be held on Thursday 20 January at 06:00 UTC.

Curated by Amrita Choudhury, CCAOI with support of ICANN Staff
