APRALO Newsletter October 2022

A brief update for the period of Sept – Oct 2022, from the APRALO perspective

Curated by: Amrita Choudhury, CCAOI with support of APRALO Members

Messages

From APRALO Chair Amrita Choudhury

Dear APRALO community

Greetings!

The last two months have been hectic. While September was a busy month with conferences, October for many of us in the region was filled with festivities!

ICANN75 Annual General Meeting was held in hybrid format at Kuala Lumpur from 17-22 September. It was great to meet many of our APRALO members in person after a long time.

Just prior to ICANN75, we had a weeklong Internet Governance conference in Singapore: APSIG-AprIGF- APNIC from 8-14 September. Immediately after ICANN75, the seventh edition of India School on Internet Governance was organized in Hyderabad, India. There were three Day0 events organized: the GFCE Triple-I Workshop, the India Youth IGF 2022, and the Focus Session on Universal Acceptance jointly organized by APRALO, UA Ambassadors in India, and the UA India Local Chapter.

At the AGM the new leadership team in APRALO took seat. For enhancing meaningful engagement and participation in the region and to contribute back to ICANN, Gunela, Aris and I look forward to your suggestions, feedback, and active participation.

Looking forward to your active engagement.

Warm Regards,

Amrita

Messages

From APRALO Vice Chair Aris Ignacio

Hello and good day to all!

ICANN75 was a great event for engagement within the APRALO region. Fellows, NextGen, new and current personalities were visible onsite and online in sessions during the week of the meetings in Kuala Lumpur.

One of the activities that I may say was very successful was the ICANNdiscover@ICANN75 which was participated by students and their mentors and held last September 20 during the meetings. We had great feedback and hope to see most of them engaged in any of our discussions.

The Subcommittee on O&E through the collaboration of all RALOs are currently laying out the plans for FY23 and 24 with the concentration of aligning activities with At-Large policy priorities. Some of these are capacity, skill and knowledge building, partnerships and development of new policies focused on O&E to name a few.

Finally, I am honoured and humbled to be appointed as Vice Chair of the most diverse RALO in ICANN. Together with the help of everyone, I know that all our endeavours will be a reality.

Happy to serve!

Yours truly,

Aris

From APRALO Vice Chair Gunela Astbrink

Hi All,

Thank you for your support in nominating me as Vice-Chair for one year. I encourage all of you to actively participate and volunteer for the various working groups of APRALO.

I am keen to increase diversity of participation especially by persons with disability and will share ideas with the Outreach and Engagement Sub-committee and the Community Coordination Group (WS2) as well as representing APRALO on the ICANN Planning Committee. By making online tools and ICANN meetings more accessible, we all contribute to a more inclusive community.

Shreedeep wishes to engage new members and will be bringing in his ideas for the Policy Forum at the November meeting. He has also sent out a call for volunteers. Do watch out for more information on his Policy Forum action plan!
We look forward to your participation in our next APRALO monthly call on 17 November.

 Yours truly,

Gunela

ICANN 75 Update

ICANN75 was the first hybrid Annual General Meeting held at Kuala Lumpur from 17-22 September. It was attended by ,165 in person and 792 remotely from 112 countries.

Apart from welcome ceremony, there were plenaries on : Q&A with ICANN Org Executive Team, Internet Fragmentation, the DNS, and ICANN; Public Forum, 24th AGM and Community Recognition and Updates on Geopolitical, Legislative, and Regulatory Developments; there were cross community sessions; capacity building and technical sessions and internal work and policy sessions of the SOs/ACs

Read the ICANN75 Policy Outlook Report here

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) has issued its **ICANN75 Communiqué**

Recognising the contribution of 49 community members.

Celebrating accomplishments of the work done by Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR) and Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) Panels.

At Large Engagement @ICANN 75

ICANN75 was ICANN's Annual General Meeting and, as noted above, was already filled with activities of interest ICANN wide. Outreach featured in our At-Large programme with APRALO starting the week by introducing a group of Malaysian university students to ICANN and At-Large via a number of APRALO-coordinated sessions. Many thanks to Suhaidi Hassan and the APRALO Leadership Team for this brilliant programme.

During a GAC Training session, Australian counterparts, Cheryl Langdon Orr and Ian Sheldon explained how At-Large and the GAC can work together in their communities in the interest of common goals. We later met with the GAC formally to discuss policy issues and this session like others truly demonstrated the success of the hybrid model with GAC Liaison Joanna Kulesza moderating it from her home in Poland.

We also engaged in policy discussions with the SSAC and the GNSO. Both these sessions offered lively and productive inputs from remote as well as in-person participants which we hope will continue in future meetings This was our first session with the GNSO for a long time, and many thanks to Justine Chew for her leadership as the ALAC's GNSO Liaison. APRALO also featured as leads in other sessions with Justine, Lianna Galstyan and Satish Babu involved in a session on IDNs and Holly Raiche co-leading the Operations, Finance and Budget WG update.

The ICANN plenary focused on the fragmentation of the internet and other policy issues within the CPWG were updated by co-Chairs Jonathan Zuck and Olivier Crépin-Leblond. They followed up with a discussion with the ICANN Board about how the Board considers and actions policy ADVICE from the ALAC. At the end of an exhausting meeting and having completed four demanding years as the Chair of the ALAC, I gratefully passed the baton on to my colleague, Jonathan Zuck.

I thank you all for your support during my term as Chair and am already enjoying my new role as Vice Chair with responsibility for At-Large Outreach and Engagement.

By Maureen Hilyard

APRALO Activities @ICANN 75

As the host RALO of the ICANN75, APRALO organized several important activities. ICANN75 therefore marks a post-pandemic return of ICANN meetings to the region, although it was organized under appropriate COVID-19 protocols.

APRALO hosted two RALO Coordination sessions, one focussing on policy aspects such as GDPR and Diversity (Saturday, 17 Sep 2022), and the other focusing on leadership transition and continuity, as well as outreach and engagement (Tuesday, 20 Sep 2022).

APRALO organized an outreach program targeting students from universities in Malaysia, in order to get them to be interested in ICANN and its activities. About 38 students and some of their faculty spent Tuesday, 20 Sep 2022, in different ICANN meetings, starting off with a briefing at 09:00. The program was supported by Suhaidi Hassan, Ameena and Asyraf.

Also on the same day, APRALO organized a 75-min session titled "Celebrating diversity for an Inclusive Future", which combined APRALO's regular monthly meeting with an interactive session that included Akinori Maemura, an ICANN Board member, Jia-Rong and his team from GSE Singapore, ICANN75 Fellows, ICANN75 NextGen members, and the local students who joined the meeting for the day.

By Satish Babu

This meeting was held in two parts, with the first part looking at the history of APRALO, as well as APRALO Regional Policy Priorities arrived at through a survey conducted within the community. The second part was meant for interactions, and this section started off with Akinori Maemura delivering an opening address, followed by the APAC GSE Team led by Jia-Rong and Save Vocea, followed by an introduction to DotAsia and NetMission by Pavel. The session also had a quick presentation from the different ALSes and Individual members from the APRALO community.

On the final day of the conference, the community leaders who were leaving their leadership positions--which included Maureen, Holly, Cheryl, Satish, Lianna and Amrita from APRALO--were felicitated by ICANN.

Overall, ICANN75 was a very productive meeting for APRALO as the host RALO.

APRALO Led Social Media Contest @ICANN 75

At ICANN75, a Social Media contest was organized by At-Large with APRALO as lead.

The contest was announced in Twitter. Top three persons with the maximum number of ICANN75 meeting Tweet –Re Tweet – Selfies – Photos posted of the sessions, would be declared winners of the contest.

The result of the contest was announced and the winners given their prize during the At-Large wrap up session.

The winners of the contest were:
- First: Syanseke Levy (ICANN 75 Fellow, Africa region)
- Second: @AfricanAtLarge (Africa)
- Third: Abdullah Qamar (ICANN75 Fellow, Asia Pacific region)

By Shah Zahidur Rahman

APRALO is at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre - KLCC.
September 22 · Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia · 🌐

This APAC Space conference was held at ICANN75 on 20th Sep 2022. During the session members bid farewell to outgoing Board member, Akinori Maemura, while welcoming new APAC Board members, Sajid Rahman, Christopher Chapman and Edmon Chung .

Updates were shared by Jia-Rong Low, ICANN on the APAC Regional Plan FY22 Achievements and FY23 Highlights; Ian Sheldon, GAC Representative from Australia shared on the GAC initiative to have more regional collaborations; updates from the Registries Stakeholder group (RySG) by Samantha Demetriou, Chair of RySG, Youth4IG (Y4IG) Outreach by Puteri Ameena and community discussion facilitated by Pam Little.

ICANN Updates

Published

- [ICANN FY22 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements](#)

- [PTI FY22 Audited Financial Statements](#)

- [Quarterly Update on Work Stream 2 Implementation](#)

- [Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Additional Budget Request (ABR) Process](#)
- [FY22 Financial Results](#)

- The [design paper for the WHOIS Disclosure System](#)

- [Draft IANA and PTI FY24 Operating Plans and Budgets.](#)

Reference Reports

- OECD has published two papers: "[Security of the Domain Name System (DNS): An Introduction for Policy Makers](#)," and "[Routing Security: BGP Incidents, Mitigation Techniques and Policy Actions](#)."

Award

[Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building was given to Wolfgang Kleinwächter](#)

New Initiatives

- Launched a [fellow award in honor of Paul Muchene](#)

- [Introduced the ICANN for beginners virtual program](#)

- Launched the Knowledge-sharing and Instantiation Norms for DNS and Naming Security" ([KINDNS](#)) initiative. To promote Domain Name System (DNS) operational security best practices and encourage DNS operators to voluntarily commit to their implementation.

Call for Volunteers

[Rights Protection Mechanisms Implementation Review Team](#)

ICANN Updates

Public Comments

Open

- [NPOC Charter Amendments](#) by 14 November

- [Initial Report on the Second CSC Effectiveness Review](#) by 8 Nov

- [Proposed amendments to the Service Level Agreement (SLA) for the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Numbering Services](#). By 4 Nov

Closed

- [Proposed Updates to the GNSO Operating Procedures](#) by 27 Oct

- [Proposed Amendments to the Base gTLD RA and RAA to Add RDAP Contract Obligations](#) by 24 October

Webinar

Hosted webinar on Proposed WHOIS Disclosure System

Upcoming

Webinar on [Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Additional Budget Request (ABR) Process](#) on 8 December

Read

- [Chair's Blog: Highlights From the September Board Workshop](#)

- [ICANN CEO Report Highlighting Org Activities](#)

Contribute to the ICANN & ALAC Policy Proceedings

➤ Visit the [At-Large Policy Advice Development Page](#) or contact At-Large Staff for more information.

➤ To **contribute to ALAC policy activity**, on the At-Large workspace or volunteer as penholder and join the weekly At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) meetings.

➤ APRALO Community can 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.

Important Links to Visit

[At-Large Website on Public Comments and Policy Advice](#)
[Executive Summaries: ALAC Public Comments and Advice](#)
[Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG)](#)
[At-Large Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group (OFB-WG)](#)

APRALO Monthly Call Updates

During the October APRALO monthly meeting, the fellows and NextGen who attended ICANN75 from the region presented an overview of the meetings and their perspective of the meeting, which was moderated by Aris. Maureen shared her perspective of the key highlights from ALAC and APRALO perspective on ICANN75.

Justine provided an update on the Hot Topic survey results. This was followed by a moderated discussion by Gunela inviting comments from the community on the survey results. It was also announced that Shreedeep would be one of the co-Chairs of the APRALO Policy Forum. Cheryl provided an update on the Policies currently under discussion and Satish provided an overview of the UA Day and discussed how APRALO and ALSes can participate.

A call for volunteers for APRALO Social Media Working Group, Newsletter, Policy forum and engagement and outreach group was also announced. Interested community members are encouraged to express interest at the earliest.

For those who could not attend the call, you can view the recording using this link.
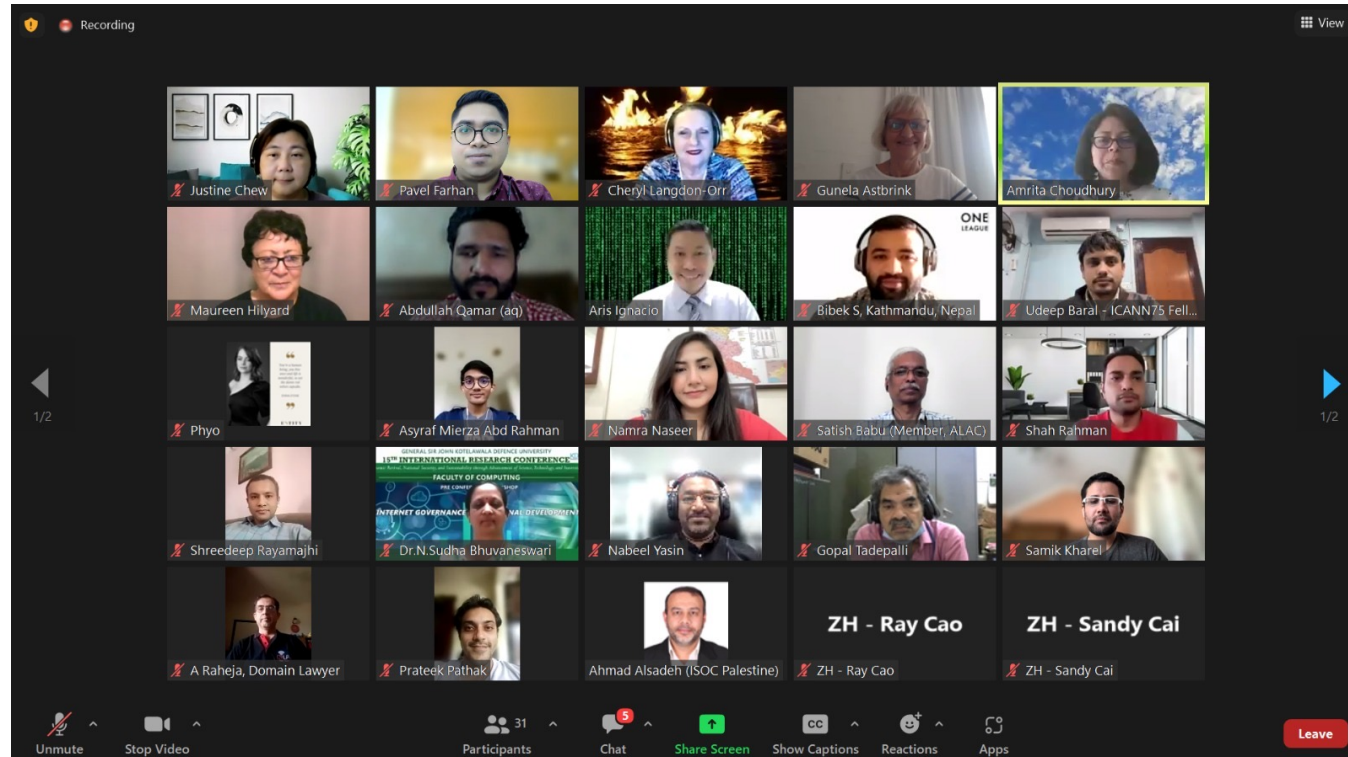
Meet the APRALO Team

APRALO Chair
Amrita Choudhury

APRALO Vice Chairs
Aris Ignacio   Gunela Astbrink

NomCom Delegate
Dr. Ali Almeshal

ALAC Members
Maureen Hilyard   Satish Babu   Naveed Bin Rais

APRALO
Social Media Working Group
Shah Zahidur Rahman

APRALO
Policy Forum
Shreedeep Raymajhi

APRALO
Representative AASC
Priyatosh Jana

Capacity Building Working
Group
Cheryl Langdon-Orr

Co Chair OFBG
Working Group
Holly Raiche

GNSO Liaison
Justine Chew

ccNSO Liaison
Lianna Galstyan

Working Groups

EPDP on International Domain Members
Satish Babu
Lianna Galstyan
Justine Chew

Outreach & Engagement Subcommittee
ALAC Maureen Hilyard
 APRALO Aris Ignacio

ICANN Meetings Planning Team
ALAC Naveed Bin Rais
 APRALO Gunela Astbrink

ALAC Appointment Subcommittee (AASC)
ALAC Satish Babu
 APRALO Priyatosh Jana

Finance & Budget Subcommittee (FBSC)
ALAC Maureen Hilyard
 APRALO Aris Ignacio

The APRALO Policy Forum has had a very productive year 2022, having delivered 4 key events and the APRALO Regional Hot Topics Survey 2022 project in the last 6 months.

Since its key planning meeting of 13 May 2022, the team had implemented its Fireside Chat Program by running its Inaugural **Fireside Chat on GNSO PDP 3.0** on 26 May with Cheryl Langdon-Orr and myself, followed by the (2nd) **Fireside Chat on Closed Generics** with Holly Raiche and Olivier Crépin-Leblond on 8 June; and the (3rd) **Fireside Chat on Transfer Policy** with Steinar Grøtterød and Jonathan Zuck on 29 June; all of which were very well-received by participants. Click here to see the aggregated exit poll results.

During ICANN75 in Kuala Lumpur, the team also delivered on 19 September, the **At-Large Policy Session: ICANN's Goal for a Multilingual Internet through Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)** featuring ICANN Board Member Edmon Chung, ICANN org's Sarmad Hussain and (then) ALAC Vice Chair for Policy Jonathan Zuck. In this session, Jonathan shared some preliminary end-user demand perceptions on the availability and usability of IDNs in the Devanagari script from the recent limited end user survey which the At-Large conducted with selected Hindi-speaking communities in India. Click here to view the Zoom recording of this policy session.

And, results of the **APRALO Regional Hot Topics Survey 2022** (which the team conducted in Aug-Sep of 2022) were reported during the APRALO F2F meeting at ICANN75. This **report**, which is intended as input towards the setting of our regional priorities for the next 18-24 months, was also shared at the APRALO Monthly Call of Oct 2022 where the summary which appears below was discussed briefly:

Finally, in light of my increasing commitments in respect of GNSO matters, I am stepping down from leading the APRALO Policy Forum, a role which I have had the privilege of holding since 2020. I wish to thank everyone who has supported the goals and projects of this Policy Forum and hope that its activities to-date have not only assisted our RALO members in some way but also showcased contributions APRALO are capable of within the At-Large and ICANN communities.

Kind regards,

Justine Chew

APRALO, inSIG, FICCI ILIA, and India Local UA Chapter on #UniversalAcceptance organized a workshop on Foundational Pillar for India's Multilingual Internet on 25th September 2022 at IIIT Hyderabad. Maarten Botterman, ICANN Board, Ajay Data, Chair UA, ICANN, Anil Jain, CEO NIXI, UA Ambassadors Harish Chowdhary Sushanta Sinha Aman Masjide and Anupam Agrawal spoke in a panel moderated by Sandeep Nulkar.

The Seventh Edition of India School of Internet Governance (inSIG2022) was organised at IIIT Hyderabad between 26-28 September. 65 fellows (including fellows from the Government of Telegana, across India and International fellows from 4 countries) attended the school. This year a new fellowship category for people with accessibility was launched.

Maarten Botterman, ICANN Board and Jayesh Ranjan Principal Secretary IT Telegana inaugurated the school. The speakers other speakers this year were, Champika Wijayatunga, Srinivas Chendi, APNIC; Osama Manzar, DEF; Rakesh Paladugula ,Adobe; Dr Salman Abdul Moiz,Univ of Hyd; Dr. N. RukmaRekha, Uohyd; Aishwarya Giridhar,CCG-NLUD; Dr KVK Santhy,NALSAR; Manoj Gupta,Capgemini; Rajesh Dhuddu Tech Mahindra; Aadya Misra Spice Legal Route; U Ram Mohan SP, Cyber Crimes, Telegana; Dr Sriram Birudavolu DSCI; Shanta Thoutam, Ph.D. Telangana State Innovation Cell; Sanket Waghmare Recykal.com; Aman Taneja, Ikigai Law, Dr P J Narayanan, IIIT-Hyd, Subham Saran, NIXI.

The sponsors this year were: NIXI, Meta, IIIT Hyderabad, Govt. of Telegana, ICANN APNIC, CCAOI and IIFON.

inSIG is jointly organised by six ISOC India Chapters: Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai, Trivandrum and Hyderabad. This year the event was hosted by Hyderabad Chapter. The 2023 edition would be held in Guwahati.

Update from Our ALSes: 5th Edition of Youth India IGF2022

On September 25th, the 5th edition of the annual Youth IGF India was organised at IIIT-Hyderabad under the theme Empowering youth for a sustainable digital future". The forum had 110+ youth including 12 fellows. The event provided an opportunity for the youth to interact with like-minded people on various critical issues, such as digital inclusion, cybersecurity, emerging technologies and regulations, censorship, data governance, and opportunities for the youth.

Maarten Botterman(ICANN Board) and Anja Gengo (UNIGF), Dr. Bhagwan Chowdhry, Osama Manzar (DEF), Narendra Nath (National Security Council Secretariat), Dr. Sriram Birudavolu (DSCI), Rama Devi Lanka (Emerging Technologies, Government of Telangana), Amrita Choudhury (CCAOI), Satish Babu (ALAC ICANN), Anupam Agrawal (IIFON), and Srinivas Chendi (APNIC) spoke at the event. There were workshops, keynotes, panel discussions, and interactive classroom sessions.

Youth India IGF till now has facilitated in empowering 2000+ youth from across the country in the last 5 years.

The organising committee members this year were Ihita Gangavarapu, Pratik Ghumade, Shradhanjali Sarma, Mohammad Atif Aleem, Purnima Tiwari, Tanzeel Khan, Allen P Alex, and Pranay Das.
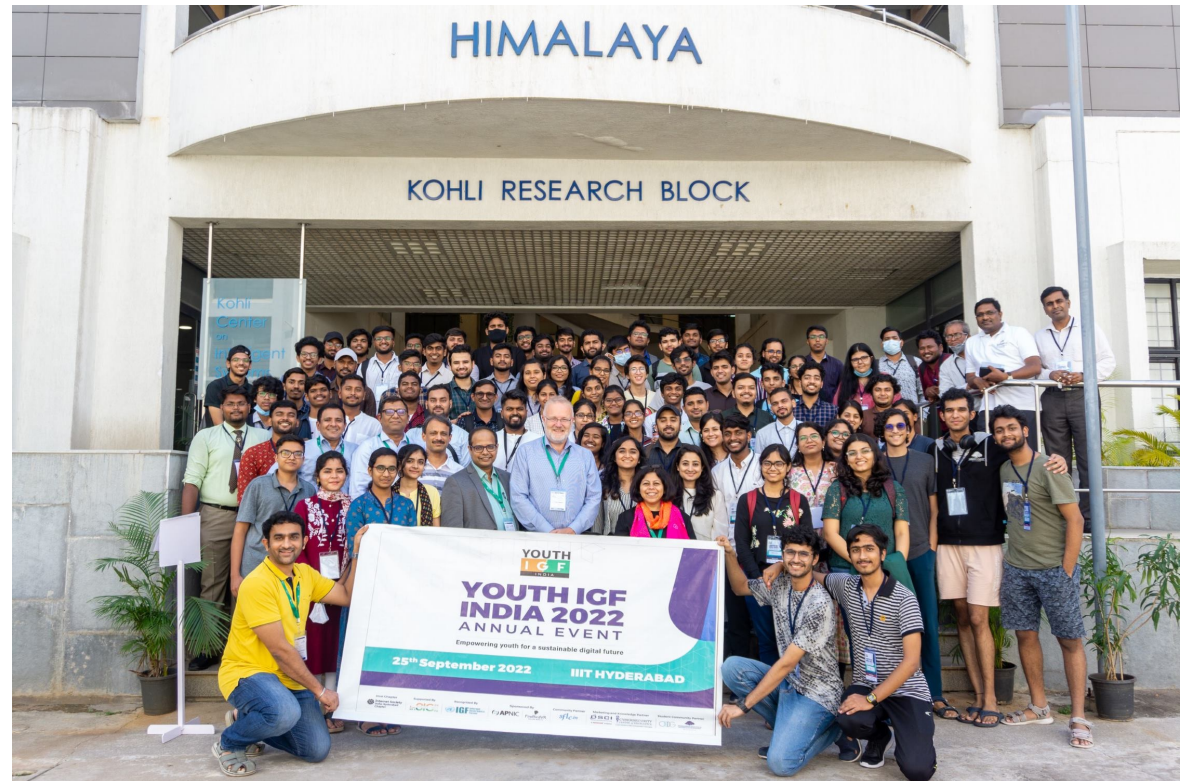
Update from Our ALSes: 8th Pakistan School on Internet Governance (pkSIG)

pkSIG came back with a bang in 2022 to hold a physical event after two consecutive virtual schools between 11-13 October. pkSIG kept up with its tradition of conducting the school in a different city each year, with the beautiful city of Muzaffarabad, AJK as the newest destination. More than 60 participants attended the school out of which 33% were female students where 06 Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) were also selected. 08 fellowships were granted to the residents of AJK including 2 PWDs.

The school was held in the Pear Continental Hotel, Muzaffarabad with kind sponsorship by Larus Foundation, Pacific Connect Ltd, Special Communication Organization, Meta, Google, APASA and ICANN whereas support was provided by Inspire Mill, AJK IT Board. The school is organized by a group of volunteers, headed by Parvez Iftikhar, International ICT Consultant whereas Secretariat is managed by PTA and Internet Society Pakistan Islamabad Chapter. The primarily young audience included people from Government, academia, civil society, legal and private sector background. The Programme featured lectures/discussions covering latest topics on Internet Governance presented by speakers from PTA, ICANN, Meta, Google, SCO, Larus Foundation, FIA and others. Ms. Midhat Shahzad Secretary IT & Information, Government of AJK graced the opening ceremony whereas Mr. Muhammad Iqbal, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister AJK on IT presided over the closing ceremony and distributed shields/certificates among participants. Now that all provincial capitals in Pakistan are served, we take on another challenge next year to conduct the school in Gilgit, located at foot of the second highest mountain of the world i.e. K-2.

Other Updates

Opportunities

- [Additional Budget Request (ABR) Process for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) is now open](#)

Upcoming Events

- ICANN 2022 DNS Symposium (IDS) will be held in person 15–16 November 2022 in Brussels, Belgium.
- [November APRALO Monthly Call](#) will be held on 17 November 6 UTC
- The IGF2022 will be organized in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from [28 November to 2 December](#).
- ICANN76 Community Forum will be held in Cancún, Mexico from 11–16 March 2023

Thank You for reading the Newsletter!

Do send you feedback and comments to: amritachoudhury@ccaoi.in