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Feedback

EDITORIAL

See you in Cancún!
by Daniela Rivera, Directora General Adjunta de Asuntos Internacionales de la Subsecretaría de Comunicaciones, Gobierno de México.

I would like to send greetings from the Government of Mexico!

The ICANN67 meeting will take place in Cancún, Mexico, from 7 to 12 March, 10 years after ICANN35 in Mexico City. Many things have changed here since then, including the Internet ecosystem. In 2013, the Mexican Constitutional Reform on Telecommunications and Broadcasting was approved. Its results have been tangible. For example, for the first time universal Internet access was declared as a constitutional right for all Mexicans. Since then, we have worked to achieve an Internet ecosystem built on the pillars of interoperability, security, universal access, and digital inclusion. We are committed to working with everyone to ensure a secure, stable, and unified Internet.

It will be a pleasure to welcome the ICANN community in Cancún. For this event, we have established a Multisectoral Committee, which includes the government, the technical community through NIC México, the private sector with the Mexican Internet Association, civil society with the ISOC's Mexican chapter, new gTLD registry Punto 2012, and accredited registrar NEUBOX.

We are excited to host the global Internet community for ICANN67. See you soon in Mexico.

– Daniela Rivera, Deputy Director General of Internal Affairs, Mexican Subsecretariat of Communications.

TOP STORY

ICANN 67 COMMUNITY FORUM
CANCÚN
7–12 March 2020

Join Us in Cancún for ICANN67!
Don't forget to register for ICANN67 coming up 7-12 March in Cancún, Mexico. The Community Forum will include plenary sessions on high-interest topics, cross-community discussion, and internal work of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. Register **here** and find the schedule and travel information **here.**

ICANN Wants to Hear from You

ICANN org is seeking Public Comment on the proposed Amendment No. 3 to the .COM Registry Agreement between ICANN and Verisign. Post your Public Comment submission **here** on or before 14 February 2020.

In addition, ICANN and Verisign have announced a new proposed framework for working together on initiatives related to the security, stability, and resiliency of the Domain Name System (DNS) in the form of a binding Letter of Intent (LOI) between the two organizations. **Read the full announcement.**

Help Shape ICANN's Future

ICANN org's new draft Five-Year Operating and Financial Plan and FY21 Operating Plan and Budget include details about the funding and execution of major strategic initiatives.

The FY21-FY25 Operating and Financial Plan also includes the "Evolving ICANN's Multistakeholder Model Work Plan," for which ICANN also seeks your input. Over the years, ICANN's multistakeholder model (MSM) has evolved, addressed important issues, and developed policies for the Internet's domain name and numbering resources.

ICANN wants to hear what you think. View the documents and submit Public Comment **here** on or before 25 February.

Apply Now for ICANN and PTI Leadership Positions

The ICANN Nominating Committee (NomCom) is welcoming applications for key leadership positions within ICANN and Public Technical Identifiers (PTI). Successful candidates will have a unique opportunity to help shape the Internet's technical coordination and policy development. Find more details **here**. The deadline to submit applications is 25 February 2020.

Improved Public Comment Feature

The Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) has released an improved Public Comment feature based on invaluable input from members of ICANN's Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. Please check it out **here** and register your feedback.

Open Data Platform Update

ICANN's Open Data Program's goal is to enhance the transparency and accessibility of data. As part of the program, ICANN org is developing an Open Data Platform to provide the community access to specific datasets. At launch, the Open Data Platform will include the following datasets:

- Registry Monthly Reports
- Identifier Technology Health Indicators (ITHI)
- Domain Name Marketplace Indicators

For more information about the Open Data Platform, register **here** for an informational webinar on 18 February 2020 as part of the ICANN67 Prep Week. You are also invited to attend a session on the Open Data Program during ICANN67 with the date and time to be announced soon.

Apply Now: ICANN Community Childcare Grants Program

ICANN's Community Childcare Grants Program is aimed at making it easier for community members with children to attend ICANN Public Meetings and other eligible ICANN events. The application cycle for those seeking a childcare grant for ICANN68 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, is now open and will close on 4 March 2020. Applications must be submitted by 11:59pm UTC on that day.

For more information and details about the program and how to apply, please visit **here**.

LAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

ICANN67 Outreach Roadshow

Rodrigo de la Parra, ICANN's VP of Stakeholder Engagement for Latin America and the Caribbean, and ICANN67's host committee visited Monterrey, Guadalajara, and Mexico City to raise awareness about ICANN and the upcoming meeting in Cancún. During the roadshow 22-24 January, partners from **NIC México**, **Punto 2012**, **Mexico's Telecommunications and Transportation Secretariat**, **the Mexican Internet Association**, **NEUBOX**, and de la Parra met with stakeholders in the private and public sector as well as with universities and members of the media to talk about critical developments in the Internet ecosystem and ICANN.

ICANN at Trinidad and Tobago's Internet Governance Forum

Trinidad and Tobago celebrated some of the Internet's greatest achievements and recognized the Internet's greatest challenges at the Trinidad & Tobago Internet Governance Forum (#TTIGF2020) on 31 January. The event, hosted by Trinidad and Tobago Multistakeholder Advisory Group (TTMAG), gathered the country's Internet community and regional leaders for discussions and to set an action platform for 2020 and beyond.

Learn more, **here**.

Caribbean Internet Stakeholders meet at CANTO 36th Annual General Meeting

Caribbean stakeholders met in Varadero, Cuba, for CANTO's 36th Annual General Meeting to discuss important developments in the region's Internet infrastructure under the theme "Adapt, Enable, Innovate". CANTO advocates for policies, legislation, and rules which advance the creation of an environment which facilitates the deployment of services and technologies around the region, while leveraging relationships with all stakeholders.

Missed CANTO's discussions? Learn more, **here.**

Nomination Period for ICANN Community Excellence Award 2020 Now Open

The nomination period for the ICANN Community Excellence Award 2020 is now open. Formerly known as the Multistakeholder Ethos Award, the ICANN Community Excellence Award recognizes ICANN participants who substantively contribute to policymaking within the ICANN ecosystem and who are deeply invested in developing consensus-based solutions within ICANN's multistakeholder model. Learn more about the **nomination process** and submit your nominations **here**.

Register for ICANN67 Prep Week Webinars

Mark your calendars! Ahead of ICANN67, there will be a series of webinars during the week of 18-24 February 2020 to help the ICANN community prepare for the Community Forum in Cancún, Mexico.

Please register **here** by 14 February to receive your calendar invitation.

Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Playbook Now Available

ICANN | ccNSO

The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) **Top-Level Domain Operations (TLD-OPS) Standing Committee** published its Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Playbook, which serves as a basic business continuity strategy and implementation guide for small country code top-level domain (ccTLD) operators. The playbook is primarily for upper or middle management at ccTLDs and aims to develop resilience following disruptive events. TLD-OPS has developed exercises that expose participants to potential scenarios based on real events. Download the playbook **here**.

ICANN | GNSO

GNSO Council Meets to Develop Strategy for 2020

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) held its third Strategic Planning Session (SPS) from 22 through 24 January 2020 in Los Angeles. For the last few years, the annual SPS has allowed time for the GNSO Council to onboard new Councilors and develop a strategic work plan for the upcoming year. This year, the GNSO Council also learned more about how to carry out its responsibilities as a Decisional Participant in the Community, as well as how to more effectively execute its role as a policy development process (PDP) manager by using the toolkits developed from the PDP 3.0 implementation effort. In addition, some of the ICANN Board Directors observed the sessions.

SO/AC Leaders Plan for 2020

The chairs of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees (SO/ACs) met in Los Angeles on 27 and 28 January 2020. This meeting provided a space for leaders to hold strategic discussions outside of an ICANN Public Meeting. The collaborative agenda included discussions on governance, the respective priorities for each of the SO/ACs in the upcoming year, and a summary and status update on the FY20 goals for the ICANN Board of Directors and CEO.

EPDP Update

The Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data published

its **Phase 2 Initial Report for Public Comment** on 7 February 2020. From 27-29 January, the EPDP Team met in Los Angeles to reach agreement on recommendations and finalize the content for the Initial Report. Discussions related to the EPDP Phase 2 Initial Report will continue during ICANN67.

GAC Begins Work on Universal Acceptance-Internationalized Domain Name Issues

The Governmental Advisory Committee's (GAC) newly formed Universal Acceptance-Internationalized Domain Name (UA-IDN) Working Group has been developing an initial work plan, including its terms of reference. The GAC is expected to endorse the group's first phase of work prior to ICANN67. The UA-IDN Working Group was established during ICANN66 to help the GAC track, consider, and address UA and IDN matters relevant to governments. Learn **more**.

At-Large Review Implementation Nearly Complete

The At-Large Advisory Committee submitted for review the second status report of the At-Large Review Implementation to the ICANN Board's Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC) in December. Nearly all of the eight issue areas identified in the previous status report have been implemented by At-Large or will be implemented in the near future.

For more information about the issues currently under review by the OEC, please visit the At-Large Review Implementation Plan Development workspace.

GDD UPDATE

Registration Data Policy (EPDP) Implementation Work Presented at ICANN67 Prep Week

During ICANN67 Prep Week, learn about the many activities involved in implementing the new Registration Data Policy (EPDP Phase 1). This webinar will cover current policy requirements, the Implementation Review Team's work supporting the policy document drafting, completed reports and studies, and other activities stemming from the consensus policy recommendations. The informational session takes place on Monday, 24 February at 15:00 UTC and registration is required by this Friday, 14 February. The webinar will be followed by a Q&A session and you are welcome to submit questions ahead of time. Register **here.**

Universal Acceptance: Looking to Form Local Initiatives

The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) is looking for advocates to form local initiatives at both regional and national levels to drive awareness and aid the development and deployment of UA-ready software and email services. These groups will work in close collaboration with UASG leadership and working groups, as well as with ICANN org.

Please contact **UAProgram@icann.org** for more **information**. Universal Acceptance is key to enabling a multilingual Internet and bringing the next billion users online – let's work together to make this a reality!
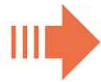
RDAP: Moving Towards a More Robust and Secure Technology

Moving Forward with RDAP

The technology transition from WHOIS-based services to solutions based on the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) is well underway. Contracted parties are already offering services based on this protocol, which allow users to access domain name and other Internet identifier registration data in a secure and structured manner. ICANN also offers a registration data Lookup tool based on RDAP – bookmark the **page!** RDAP was developed by the technical community in the **Internet Engineering Task Force** (IETF) as a replacement for the WHOIS protocol. Are you ready for this technology upgrade? Learn more **here**.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY

José Luis González, Founder of NEUBOX

I founded NEUBOX when I was about to graduate from college. Currently, our company is the largest web hosting provider and among the top three companies for domain registration in Mexico.

I learned about ICANN when I filed for registrar accreditation, granted to us in 2009. A year later, NIC México (the .mx registry) invited me to be on its advisory committee.

At the LAC-DNS Forum that was held in Monterrey, Mexico, in 2017, I met Rodrigo de la Parra and Daniel Fink, two great people from whom I learned more about ICANN's work and its growing engagement with underrepresented areas such as Latin America.

In 2018, I was invited as a Fellow to ICANN62 in Panama to learn more about the ICANN multistakeholder model and the various groups that comprise the Internet policy ecosystem.

NEUBOX, along with other leading Internet companies and organizations in our country, was invited in 2019 as an organizer of the ICANN67 event that will take place in Cancún, Mexico, in 2020. I am extremely excited for the learning and collaboration opportunities that I can have with ICANN in the future.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY

7-13 March 2020	**ICANN67**	Cancún, Mexico
4-8 May 2020	**LACNIC33**	Cali, Colombia

MONTEVIDEO

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