EDITORIAL

Welcome to the February 2016 issue of our newsletter. In this issue, we highlight the 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Caribbean Association of National Telecommunications Operators. The CANTO meeting took place in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, from 31 January to 4 February 2016.

The Caribbean region has a population of over 42 million spread over about 27 territories. The regular CANTO meetings facilitate engagement among regional government ministers, telecommunications operators, technology and service vendors, regulators, and regional and international agencies. Meetings focus on current topics in information and communications technology. ICANN continues to update CANTO on the latest developments with issues such as the IANA Stewardship Transition and Enhancing ICANN Accountability. Typically, the meetings offer plenary presentations, but other opportunities for engagement include roundtable discussions, bilateral meetings, social events and impromptu discussions.

I invite you to read more about CANTO in "LAC activities and highlights" in this newsletter or at http://www.canto.org/.

Thank you for your continued interest!

Albert Daniels, Senior Manager, ICANN Stakeholder Engagement for the Caribbean

SPOTLIGHT

Göran Marby named ICANN President and CEO

AFP PHOTO/JONATHAN NACKSTRAND

ICANN has named Göran Marby as its next President and Chief Executive Officer. Marby is Director-General of the Swedish Post and Telecom Authority and will assume his new position with ICANN in May 2016. He is a Swedish citizen based in Stockholm and will relocate with his family to Los Angeles. Marby will succeed President and CEO Fadi Chehadé, whose term ends on 15 March 2016. Akram Atallah, President of ICANN's Global Domains Division, will be acting CEO from 15 March until Marby arrives. Marby will have a chance to meet with ICANN55 attendees in Marrakech.

Read Marby's full bio and download photos here.

IANA STEWARDSHIP NEWS

IANA Stewardship Transition and Enhancing ICANN Accountability Update

In January, the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN's Accountability (CCWG-Accountability) finalized three of its twelve recommendations. The group is currently completing a supplemental report that includes revised recommendations for the accountability mechanisms that must be in place or committed to prior to the IANA Stewardship Transition.

The CCWG-Accountability's goal is to reach consensus and distribute its supplemental report to its Chartering Organizations later this month. The Chartering Organizations will consider and, if all goes well, approve the recommendations before or during ICANN55.

Once approved, the CCWG-Accountability will submit the proposal to the ICANN Board for transmission to NTIA along with the ICG Final Proposal.

Read the full update here.

LAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

Continued ICANN collaboration with CANTO and the Caribbean region

Discussions at CANTO meetings often influence regional policies. ICANN attends these meetings to provide reliable information about developments in the ICANN community, with a special focus on the impacts to the Caribbean region. This collaboration fits in with the CANTO goal of becoming the leading authority in shaping information and communications technology in the region.

Read more CANTO's mission: http://canto.org/about-us/canto-mission-and-vision/

ICANN participated in the 32nd Annual General Meeting of CANTO. ICANN's Albert Daniels, Senior Manager of Stakeholder Engagement for the Caribbean, participated in the session "The Paradigm Shift-Positioning the Caribbean Telecom Landscape."

Read more about CANTO's 32nd Annual General Meeting "Inspiring ICT Innovations":http://www.canto.org/events-conferences/annual-general-meeting-agm/

Final press release: http://canto.org/2016/02/03/canto-focuses-on-positioning-the-caribbean-telecom-landscape-at-32nd-agm/

Changes on the LACNIC Board of Directors

The LACNIC Board has chosen Wardner Maia of Brazil as its new President, a position he assumed on 1 January 2016. Maia was previously serving as the organization's Vice-President. Oscar Messano of Argentina, who has chaired the LACNIC Board since its creation in 2002, will now serve as Vice-President.

Other Board members include: Hartmut Glaser (Brazil), Treasurer; Alejandro Guzmán (Colombia), Deputy Treasurer; Javier Salazar (Mexico), Secretary; Gabriel Adonaylo (Argentina), Deputy Secretary; and Rafael Ibarra (El Salvador), Voting Member.

More information: http://www.lacnic.net/en/web/lacnic/directorio

LAC STRATEGIC PLAN NEWS

What Have We Done and What Will We Do: LAC Strategy Update

During this 60-minute webinar held on 28 January, Rodrigo Saucedo, ICANN Project Manager for Latin America and the Caribbean, presented a summary of the 2015 projects and the updated strategy for 2016 to 2020. Saucedo presented in Spanish with English and Portuguese interpretation.
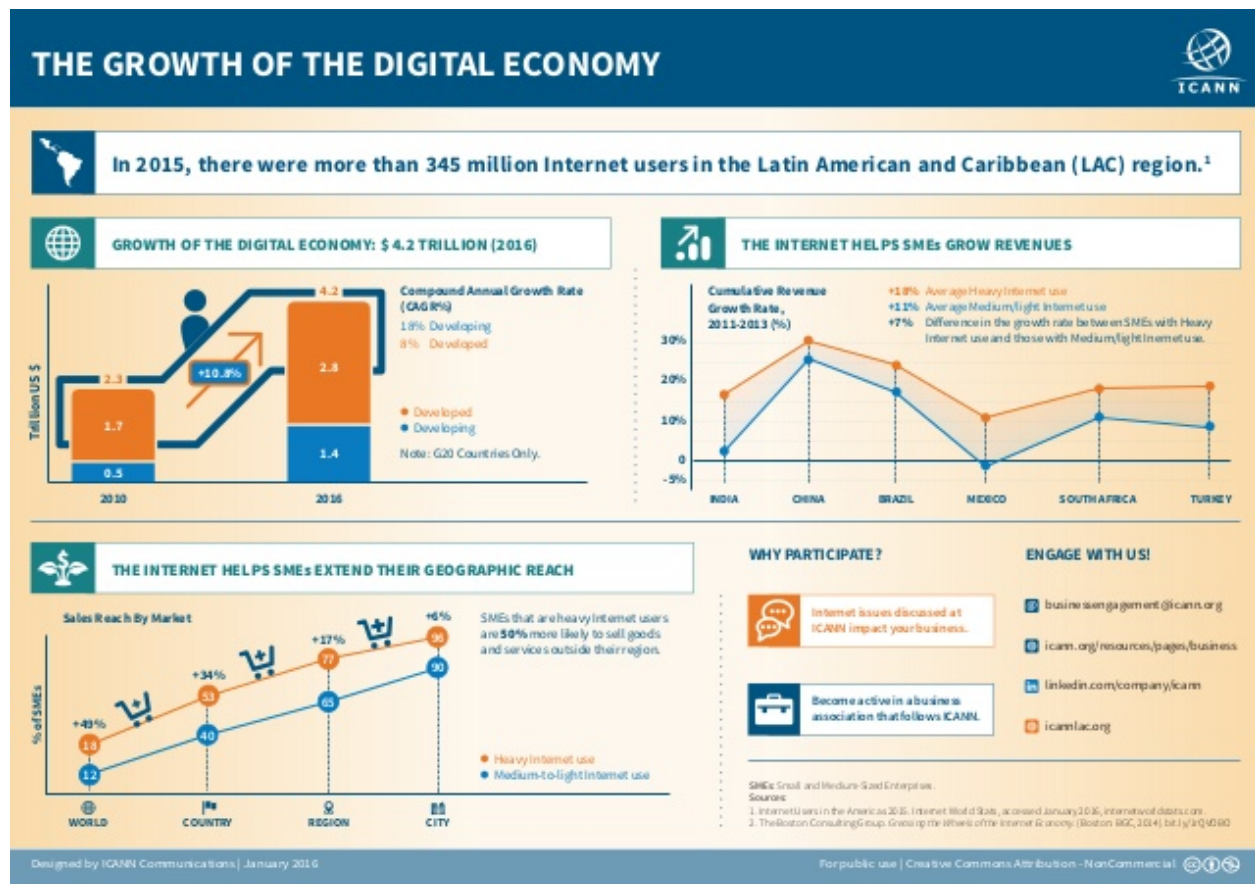
If you couldn't participate, you can access the recordings here:

Spanish: https://icann.adobeconnect.com/p45n5vmmda5/

English: http://ftp.adigo.com/clients/icann/20160128_LAC_Strategy_Update_EN.zip

Portuguese: http://ftp.adigo.com/clients/icann/20160128_LAC_Strategy_Update_PT.zip

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New Infographic: The Growth of the Digital Economy

Take a look at our new infographic showing the economic benefits of engaging with ICANN! It is available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

Access all versions here.

2015 LAC communications highlights

A new blog post ranks the top five LAC communications efforts of 2015.

The blog post is available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

Be sure to stay tuned! We will launch our 2015 LAC Year in Review report soon. The report will highlight our work in Latin America and the Caribbean.

ICANN NEWS

Only 21 Days Away from ICANN55 in Marrakech

If you plan to attend ICANN55, do register and make visa arrangements as soon as possible. It is important to determine whether you need a visa and to obtain one to secure entry. Visit Morocco's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation website for a complete list of exempt countries. If you need a visa, click here to request formal invitation letters for the meeting. You'll also need to contact your nearest Moroccan diplomatic mission to apply for a visa. If Morocco does not have diplomatic representation in your country, please submit your application directly to the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Consular and Social Affairs via email: m.barrada@maec.gov.ma or zaidi@maec.gov.maÂ with the following attached documents:

- Copy of valid passport (at least six month of validity).
- Copy of the invitation letter.
- Flight details (if available).

And for safety and security information, please read the latest blog by ICANN's Nick Tomasso, Vice-President, Meetings.

Don't forget to register for ICANN55 here and see you in Marrakech!

Interested in Learning about ICANN's Progress During FY16 Q2?

Did you miss ICANN's FY16 Q2 Stakeholder Call on 28 January? Not to worry! You can explore the presentation or listen to Stakeholder Call in Chinese, English, French, Russian or Spanish. Find all these materials and much more on ICANN's Quarterly Stakeholder Calls webpage.

New gTLD Fast Facts Available to Download and Share

What is the New gTLD Program? If you've ever wondered about new gTLDs or tried to explain them to someone else without success, check out our New gTLD Fast Facts document.

The updated fact sheet provides an overview of the New gTLD Program and describes the benefits of new gTLDs in relation to competition, innovation, choice and security. It also provides information about how some entities, like governments and brands, are using their gTLDs.

New gTLD Fast Facts are available in seven different languages. It's intended for use as an educational resource, so feel free to share, print or redistribute it as desired.

Download New gTLD Fast Facts now.

Emergency Registry Operator Transition Simulation Successful

On 29 January 2016, ICANN completed a test of the Emergency Back-End Registry Operator (EBERO) program. The test resulted in the successful transition of operations from an existing registry to Nominet, an EBERO service provider based in the U.K.

The procedures that have been implemented as part of the EBERO Program to protect against a potential registry service interruption worked as planned. This test supports ICANN's efforts to ensure the security, stability and resiliency of the Internet and the Domain Name System.

Learn more about the EBERO Program.

Reviewing New gTLD Program Safeguards Against DNS Abuse

On 28 January 2016, ICANN held open discussions about abuse safeguards implemented as part of the New gTLD Program. The goals were to help formulate a definition of Domain Name System abuse, brainstorm methods for measuring abuse and gather qualitative, experiential input on whether safeguards to mitigate DNS abuse in new gTLDs have been effective.

About 70 people joined the discussions. Their input was captured and will be reflected in a report on the topic that ICANN plans to publish in mid-February for public comment. A revised version of the report, reflecting public comment, will be delivered to the volunteer team seated in December 2015 that will review the New gTLD Program in terms of competition, consumer trust and consumer choice.

DELEGATED NEW GTLDS

Twenty-eight new gTLDs were delegated in January 2016!

Click here to see the list of delegated strings: http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/program-status/delegated-strings

deloitte	nikon	health	tiffany	makeup
skin	compare	select	weather	Volkswagen

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY

Meet Wardner Maia, the new Chairman of LACNIC.

Wardner Maia is an electrical engineer with specializations in Electronics and Electrical Engineering. He is a graduate of the Barretos Educational Foundation, completed postgraduate studies at the Federal University of Santa Catarina, and earned a master's degree at the Polytechnic School of the University of São Paolo. He specializes in the field of telecommunications, and since 1995 has worked in telecommunications applications with a focus on information technology.

Currently, Maia is an engineering manager at MD Brasil TI & Telecom, a company primarily involved in consulting and training projects in Brazil. Besides working in Brazil, he has collaborated in studies with partners in Uruguay and Argentina.

Maia's involvement with the Internet community grew out of his involvement with companies and individuals in the sector. In 2008, along with other companies, he founded the Brazilian Association of Internet and Telecommunications Providers (ABRINT). ABRINT now comprises more than 600 companies.
In recent years, he has participated in various forums in the LAC region, including the LAC preparatory meeting for the Internet Governance Forum (LACIGF), LACNIC meetings, the Internet Governance Forum in Brazil and NetMundial.

Maia is an advocate of a clear separation between the Internet and telecommunications. However, from his experience with last-mile providers he understands that the physical network is important only as it supports Internet services and applications. For Maia, the growth of the Internet will succeed only through principles such as net neutrality, the preservation of freedom and human rights, and participatory governance in the multistakeholder model.

At-Large Teleconferences to Use Captioning Services

The At-Large Community will start using computer-assisted real-time translation technology to provide greater access for members with disabilities or limited bandwidth. Nine teleconferences will offer this service as a pilot project. Judith Hellerstein, North America Regional At-Large Organization Secretariat, will lead the implementation of this project.

GAC Prepares for the High-Level Governmental Meeting

The GAC, ICANN and Morocco are working closely on the preparations and arrangements for the High-Level Governmental Meeting at ICANN55. The HGLM strives to raise awareness of ICANN and the GAC among government officials from around the world. Interpretation services will be provided for the open meeting. See the agenda for more information.

Join GNSO Working Group on Subsequent New gTLD Rounds!

Building on the first round of the New gTLD Program, the GNSO Council seeks volunteers to join the recently launched Policy Development Process to develop recommendations for subsequent rounds of new gTLDs. Interested parties are invited to visit the workspace or email gnso-secs@icann.org for more information.

GNSO Council to Discuss Launch of New Working Group

Following the publication of the Issue Report, the GNSO Council will discuss whether to launch a Policy Development Process to review all Rights Protection Mechanisms in all generic top-level domains. If the GNSO Council approves this PDP, it will issue a call for volunteers. For more information, check the workspace or email gnso-secs@icann.org.

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ccNSO Council Submits Statement on CCWG-Accountability Third Draft Proposal

The ccNSO Council provisionally supports the direction of the third draft proposal. However, the ccNSO Council strongly recommends that the CCWG-Accountability implement the changes requested by the CWG-Stewardship. The ccNSO Council also notes that, based on comments and input from ccTLDs and Regional Organizations, the third draft proposal needs more refinement to increase the likelihood of adoption of the final proposal. Read the full statement here.

SSAC Comments on gTLD Marketplace Health Index Proposal

In its comments, the SSAC "encourage[s] ICANN to take a step back from what existing data is available and consider how best to inform the larger community, especially consumers, with respect to the security and stability of the DNS marketplace." The full statement, SAC077, offers further points for consideration.

PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

Spanish

El jefe de telecomunicaciones sueco llevará a la ICANN a su independencia
AFP.com | @scoopit http://sco.lt/9EtOy1

Latinoamérica quiere nuevos nombres de dominio de nivel superior
Revista ITNow | @scoopit http://sco.lt/8OrUm1

2015 cierra con 11 millones de nuevos dominios registrados
Capital | @scoopit http://sco.lt/8n4z4L

Centro implementará sistema para evitar hackeos a dominios paraguayos
Hoy | @scoopit http://sco.lt/7vVCGf

CNC pretende dar mayor seguridad a sitios .py
Ultima Hora | @scoopit http://sco.lt/6Og3Yv

UNA desarrolla tecnología de protección para sitios web
Agencia de Información Paraguaya | @scoopit http://sco.lt/7O8UGv

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Portuguese

Grandes nomes da TI mundial estarão no WCIT Brasil 2016
Abes Software | @scoopit http://sco.lt/7IxZKb

Göran Marby é o homem escolhido para liderar o ICANN
SAPO Tek | @scoopit http://sco.lt/78pEZt

English

CANTO Focuses on Positioning the Caribbean Telecom Landscape at 32ND AGM
http://canto.org/2016/02/03/canto-focuses-on-positioning-the-caribbean-telecom-landscape-at-32nd-agm/

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