

ICANN APAC NEWSLETTER

Jump To: [Event Highlights](#) | [In the Spotlight](#) | [In Other Words](#) | [Policy Update/Public Comments](#) | [One More Thing](#) | [Regional Engagement Calendar](#) | [Glossary](#)

Editor's Foreword

Welcome to Issue 3 of the APAC Hub newsletter, covering May and June activities. We apologise for the late publication as we wanted to include the recently concluded Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum 2015. Also in this issue, we highlight a few key regional outcomes from ICANN 53 that you should be aware of.

In an effort to encourage more regional inputs from the community into the policy development process, we're pleased to partner our Policy Team to include **Policy Updates** in our newsletter. Please review them and participate in the public comment issues. Your input is important to us.

As always, we hope you enjoy reading this newsletter. Do feel free to drop me or APAC Hub a line if you have any feedback/comments or enquiries. Happy reading!

[Liana & APAC team](#)

Event Highlights

FEATURE: Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APrIGF) 2015

Some 300 attendees from 27 countries converged in Macau for the APrIGF from 30 June – 3 July. As per last year, besides being sponsors, APAC Hub was well-plugged into the community, participating in the Multi-Stakeholder Steering Group (MSG). We congratulate our Macau hosts and the MSG for a successful forum!

A noteworthy highlight is the experiment to develop an Outcomes Document - a concise documentation of common interest issues relevant to the APAC region on Internet Governance. This is a first for the APrIGF! More details can be found [here](#).

Here are some highlights from the event:





FROM THE COMMUNITY

Profiling ICANN Fellow – Chaitanya Ramachandran



Chaitanya is an Indian lawyer specialising in Internet law and policy. Based in New Delhi, India, Chaitanya is an attorney with the law firm Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas. He helps Internet-oriented businesses from around the world navigate the complex world of Internet regulation in India.

Chaitanya was in Buenos Aires recently as a returning ICANN Fellow, attending his third ICANN public meeting; his previous Fellowship was at ICANN 51 in Los Angeles. He is also a member of the New Delhi chapter of ISOC.

He said, “I support every effort to make the Internet widely and easily available in scripts other than Latin. Domain names are a great place to start, but content should follow closely as well. There are millions of potential users out there to whom the Internet is largely off-limits because of a lack of support for local scripts. Let’s take the Internet to them!”

FROM THE ICANN APAC HUB

ICANN 53 Highlights

The 53rd ICANN Public Meeting was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 21 - 25 June 2015. Here are some highlights we'd like to share with you, in case you missed them.

Indian Government Declared Support for Multistakeholder Model of Internet Governance

Indian Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Ravi Shankar Prasad created history when he announced India's support for the multistakeholder model of Internet governance over a video message shared at the opening ceremony. View the video [here](#).

“The Internet must remain plural. It must be managed by a multistakeholder system,” he said. “Not only do we support multistakeholderism, but also we encourage multistakeholderism itself to embrace all geographies and all societies. We will partner with you all to make this a reality. We must work toward this new form of digital democracy.”



Collaborating on Japanese Translation

ICANN signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) with Japan Network Information Center (JPNIC) and Japan Registry Services Co., Ltd. (JPRS) at ICANN 53 to forge an alliance fostering greater cooperation on translation of ICANN materials into Japanese.



From left (seated): Hirofumi Hotta (JPRS), Fadi Chehadé (ICANN President & CEO) and Akinori Maemura (JPNIC) at the signing ceremony in Buenos Aires.

APAC Space

One of the topics discussed at APAC Space in Buenos Aires was the GNSO Review Draft Report by Westlake Governance Limited. Pam Little from Zodiac shares with us her thoughts on the report and the need for community participation.



Back in 2009 when I first joined ICANN, participation in the GNSO policy discussions from the APAC region was almost non-existent. Fast forward to 2015, nothing much has changed, despite the arrival of many new gTLDs and the number of registrars in China more than quadrupled over the years (from 16 then to 77 now). That was why, as representative of Zodiac (which operates a number of new gTLDs in China), I suggested a presentation on the GNSO Review Draft Report at the APAC Space session in Buenos Aires. The Draft Report confirms what many already know....read more [here](#)

Developing IDN Awareness and Local Script Panels in South East Asia

Contributed by Sarmad Hussain, IDN Program Senior Manager



The use of complex local scripts is prevalent in South East Asia. However, there has not been active interaction in the context of IDNs at ICANN from some of these communities, notably from Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar. Therefore, to reach out to these communities, ICANN's IDN Program in collaboration with the APAC Hub office recently organised two-day workshops in these countries. The workshops included.....read more [here](#)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Promoting Usage of Thai IDNs and EAI



In early May, Kuek Yu-Chuang (APAC Hub VP and MD) and Low Jia Rong (Strategies and Initiatives Director) supported Thai Network Information Centre (THNIC) and the Thai government's Email Address Internationalisation (EAI) Deployment workshop in Bangkok. The workshop consisted of sharing by international community regarding their EAI/IDN experience; THNIC's work on EAI; and the Thailand Electronic and Transactions Development Agency's (ETDA) plans to deploy EAI, promote and implement use of Thai language online. EAI is a subset of the overall Universal Acceptance issue and is a focus area by the Universal Acceptance Steering Group. We are very supportive of this initiative by the Thai government and community and look forward to more updates from them soon.

Asia Domain Name Dispute Resolution Center (ADNDRC) 2015 Conference



On 5 June, Song Zheng (Head of China) attended the ADNDRC conference in Beijing. The annual ADNDRC conference is well recognised as a major forum in Asia for domain name industry, IP lawyers, brand owners, in-house counsel, and legal scholars to exchange views on salient topics pertaining to domain name dispute resolution and online brand protection.

Freedom Online Coalition 2015 Conference, Ulaanbaatar



In early May, Kelvin Wong (Head of Outreach and Public Responsibility) participated in the Freedom Online Coalition (FOC) 2015 Conference with the theme of “Internet Policy Making – Best Practices for Promoting Online Freedom”. FOC is an intergovernmental coalition made up of 27 governments including Estonia, Germany, Mongolia and the United States. The members work together to advance online freedom and gain better alignment within members when voting on related issues in multilateral platforms. Kelvin presented and shared ICANN’s multistakeholder model, globalisation program and updates to the IANA Stewardship Transition.

Korean Stakeholder Meeting on CWG-Stewardship Proposal

ICANN Seoul team attended a Korean community multistakeholder meeting to discuss the CWG-Stewardship proposal on 7 May. This face-to-face meeting was organised by the Korea Internet & Security Agency (KISA) Internet governance team, who has been working hard to facilitate such discussions between the various stakeholders. Representatives from Korea Internet Governance Alliance (KIGA) and ISOC Korea Chapter attended the discussion, which included perspectives on the post transition outlook. To facilitate the dialogue, the Seoul team shared updates on the CWG-Stewardship proposal in the local language and encouraged greater participation in the relevant webinars. This was an important meeting that led to further discussions over email, involving an even wider spectrum of Korean stakeholders. The Korean community eventually submitted their comments on the CWG-Stewardship proposal on 20 May.

Removing e-Friction in the Internet Economy



*Left: Low Jia Rong (Strategies & Initiatives Director) with ITU, GSMA & ISOC speakers
Right: Kuek Yu-Chuang (APAC Hub Vice President & Managing Director) presenting BCG report*



The Internet economy was the focus in two events – ASEAN Regional Roundtable on Rethinking the Digital Economy in Jakarta on 21 May; and GSMA-ITU Digital Societies Policy Forum in Bangkok on 25 June.

In both events, we introduced the Boston Consulting Group eFriction report “Greasing the wheels of Internet economy” and provided recommended actions to what local policy makers and businesses should look out for in order to reduce friction in their digital economy. We were encouraged by the positive responses to the findings, the subsequent discussions generated and the overall eagerness amongst the audience to help local businesses and small and medium enterprises to punch above their weight through adoption of ICT and greater online presence.

Bangladesh Network Operators Group (bdNOG) Conference – May 2015



John Crain (Chief Security, Stability & Resiliency Officer) joined Champika Wijayatunga (Regional Security, Stability & Resiliency Engagement Manager, APAC) In Dhaka in May to support a series of engagements and capacity building activities with the Bangladeshi community. John delivered the keynote address to over 150 participants at the bdNOG Conference, focusing on the Security, Stability and Resiliency of the Internet.

Where else has ICANN APAC been?

Besides the above events, here is a list of other events that the APAC team attended:

Dates	Events	Market
5-7 May	CeBIT 2015	<i>Sydney, Australia</i>
13-15 May	Australia Registrar Outreach	<i>Melbourne, Australia</i>
14 May	India Internet Governance Summit 2015	<i>New Delhi, India</i>
15 May	SangMyung University	<i>Seoul, South Korea</i>
17-24 May	Bangladesh Network Operators Group Conference	<i>Dhaka, Bangladesh</i>
21 May	WIPO Singapore Summer School	<i>Singapore</i>
25 May - 5 June	IDN Southeast Asia Roadshow	<i>Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos</i>
29 May	Korea Registrar Outreach	<i>Seoul, South Korea</i>
4 June	IPv6 Forum Singapore	<i>Singapore</i>
4-11 June	ISOC INET Conference	<i>Colombo, Sri Lanka</i>
15-17 June	APT Policy & Regulatory Forum for the Pacific 8	<i>Nuku'alofa, Tonga</i>

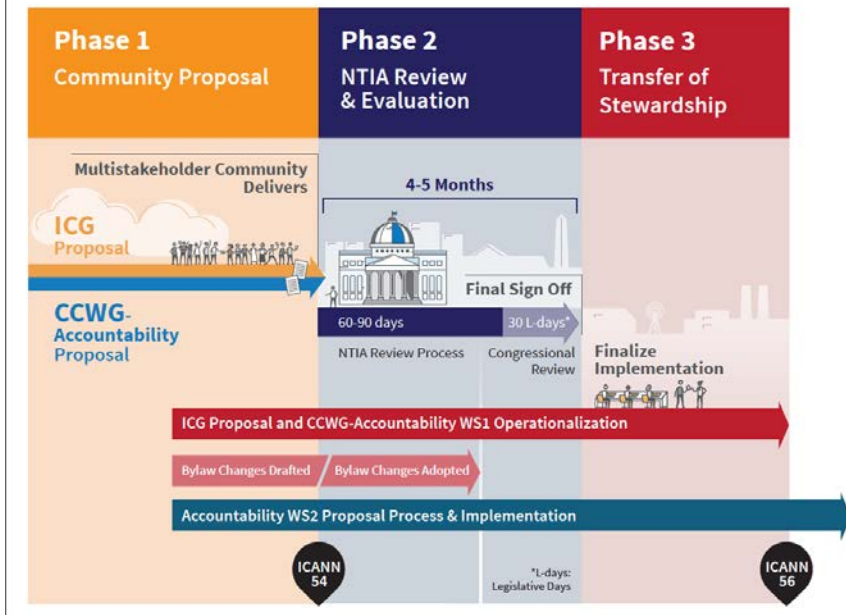
In the Spotlight

IANA Stewardship Transition

As expected, there were numerous discussions on the IANA Stewardship Transition at the recently concluded ICANN 53 meeting in Buenos Aires. For an update on these discussions and outcomes, please refer to this [blog](#) by Samantha Dickinson dated 9 July 2015.

Timeline for IANA Stewardship Transition

During the Opening Ceremony, Fadi Chehadé, President and CEO of ICANN identified 3 phases in terms of the transition timeline.



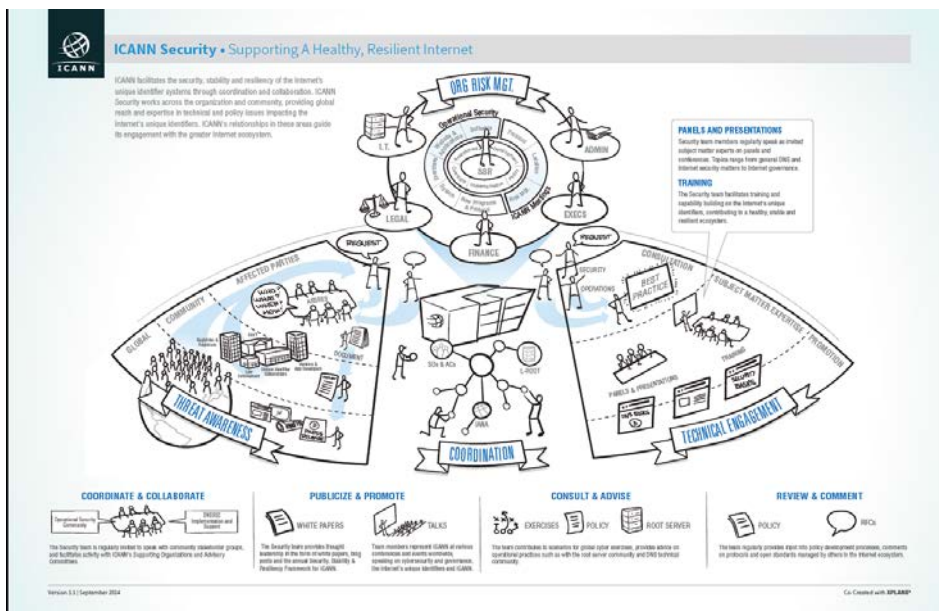
In ICG's reply to NTIA, ICG has noted that they hope to deliver the final proposal by October (phase 1). NTIA has indicated that the review process (phase 2) will likely take 4-5 months. As such ICG has suggested that the earliest date at which the transition of stewardship is likely to be completed is July 2016.

However Co-chairs of CCWG-Accountability have noted that the implementation of Work Stream 1 accountability mechanisms is likely only to be completed by September 2016. Read their reply to NTIA [here](#).

In Other Words...

ICANN Security Infographic

ICANN facilitates the security, stability and resiliency of the Internet's unique identifier systems through coordination and collaboration. ICANN Security works across the organisation and community, providing global reach and expertise in technical and policy issues impacting the Internet's unique identifiers. Click [here](#) to download this infographic.



Policy Updates / Public Comments

Policy Updates

Leadership Training Program Applications Now Open

The application for this year's Leadership Training Program (LTP) is now open. The LTP is designed for current and incoming community leaders, helping them to better understand the complexity of ICANN and grow their leadership and facilitation skills. The third annual course will take place 14 to 16 October 2016 ahead of ICANN 54. For more information, click [here](#).

ASO Address Council Selects Ron da Silva to Serve on Board Seat 9

The ASO Address Council has selected Ron da Silva to replace Ray Plzak on seat 9 of the Board of Directors. Mr. da Silva will serve a three-year term beginning after the Annual General Meeting at ICANN 54. Learn more [here](#).

SSAC Publishes SAC070

The SSAC published *SAC070: SSAC Advisory on the Use of Static TLD/Suffix Lists*. This advisory investigates the security and stability needs surrounding the growing use of Public Suffix Lists (PSLs) on the Internet. Read the advisory [here](#).

GNSO Council Adopts Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information Final Report

On 24 June 2015, the GNSO Council [adopted](#) the Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information Policy Development Process Working Group's Final Report, containing seven recommendations. Among others, the report recommends that it is not desirable to make transformation of contact information mandatory due to the costs outweighing the benefits. The full list of recommendations can be found in the [Final Report](#).

GNSO Council Adopts All Consensus Recommendations from the Policy & Implementation Working Group

At ICANN 53, the GNSO Council [adopted](#) the Policy & Implementation Working Group's Final Report, which contains a set of recommendations on principles, requirements, and processes to guide GNSO policy development and related implementation discussions. The recommendations include three new policy-related processes that will complement the GNSO's existing Policy Development Process. The complete list of recommendations may be accessed in the [Final Report](#).

Issues Currently Open for Public Comment

Several public comment proceedings are currently open on issues of interest to the ICANN community.

[Draft Report: Review of the Generic Names Supporting Organisation](#)

The purpose of this public comment proceeding is to request community feedback on the Draft Report issued by Westlake Governance Limited (Westlake) on the Review of Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO).

Public Comment Period Closes: 24 July 2015, 23:59 UTC

[Release of Country and Territory Names within the .GLOBAL, .BNPPARIBAS, .BRIDGESTONE, and .FIRESTONE TLDs](#)

This public comment period aims to gather community input on proposed amendments to the .GLOBAL, .BNPPARIBAS, .BRIDGESTONE and .FIRESTONE Registry Agreements to allow the registration of country and territory names currently reserved under Section 4 of Specification 5 of the Registry Agreement. These amendments are intended to implement the requests from the registry operators to offer a new registry service, which were submitted through the Registry Services Evaluation Policy (RSEP) process.

Public Comment Period Closes: 3 August 2015, 23:59 UTC

[GNSO Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information Policy Development Process \(PDP\) Recommendations](#)

This public comment proceeding seeks to obtain community input on the seven recommendations of the Generic Names Supporting Organization's Policy Development Process on Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information.

Public Comment Period Closes: 10 August 2015, 23:59 UTC

[Next-Generation gTLD Registration Directory Services to Replace WHOIS Preliminary Issue Report](#)

This public comment proceeding seeks to obtain community input on the new Preliminary Issue Report concerning Next-Generation gTLD Registration Directory Services (RDS) to Replace WHOIS.

Public Comment Period Closes: 6 September 2015, 23:59 UTC

At any time, the full list of issues open for public comment, plus recently closed and archived public comment proceedings can be found on the [Public Comment web page](#).

The staff also populates a web page to help preview potential "upcoming" public comment opportunities. The [Upcoming Public Comment](#) page provides information about potential future public comment opportunities. The page is updated after every ICANN Public Meeting to help individuals and the community set priorities and plan future workloads.

One More Thing...

Addition to the APAC Team



Clarence Toh joined the ICANN Registry Team as Registry Services and Engagement Manager on 29 June 2015. Based in Singapore, Clarence will be responsible for developing and managing the complete life cycle of department products and services, partnering closely with internal teams to help determine the best implementation methods and execution schedules, and working closely to support gTLD Registry Contracted Parties. Prior to joining ICANN, Clarence held regional marketing and operations roles with Cambridge University Press and The Walt Disney Company.

APAC Hub Webinar

Mark your calendars. The next APAC Hub Webinar has been scheduled for **20 August, 0300-0400 UTC**. Look out for more details in your emails soon.

Regional Engagement Calendar

Dates	Events	Market
4-21 July	China Registrar Outreach	<i>Beijing / Nanking / Zhengzhou / Guangzhou / Xiamen / Shenzhen / Chengdu, China</i>
7-8 July	Ad:Tech ASEAN	<i>Singapore</i>
7-8 July	International Conference on Information Security	<i>Seoul, South Korea</i>
8-17 July	PacINET 2015, NetHui 2015	<i>Auckland, New Zealand</i>
13-17 July	Pacific Network Operators Group Conference	<i>Apia, Samoa</i>
16 July	Neo-Brahmi Generation Panel	<i>New Delhi, India</i>
16 July	Mobile World Congress Shanghai 2015	<i>Shanghai, China</i>
17 July	ICANN Readout	<i>Beijing, China</i>
3-5 August	APT Policy and Regulatory Forum	<i>Singapore</i>
6 August	World Domain Summit & New gTLD Roadshow	<i>Beijing, China</i>
20-21 August	Korea Contracted Party Outreach	<i>Seoul, South Korea</i>

For details on events, please refer to [this calendar](#) our website.

Glossary

Acronym	Meaning
APAC	Asia Pacific
gTLD	Generic Top-Level Domain
IDN	Internationalised Domain Name
GNSO	Generic Names Supporting Organisation
ICG	IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group
ASO	Address Supporting Organisation
SSAC	Security & Stability Advisory Committee

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