



## TOP STORY

### ICANN Asia Pacific Hub celebrates 2nd Anniversary

By Kuek Yu-Chuang, VP & MD, APAC



The APAC Hub celebrated our second anniversary in August.

We knew from the start that the APAC Hub had to play catch-up with the fast-evolving Internet user demographic in the region. To address the needs of the region, we quintupled our staff headcount over two years so that we are now able to provide a wide range of services such as registry and registrar support, stakeholder engagement, contractual compliance, communications, security capacity building and customer service, as well as internal functions like operations, IT, legal, finance and HR.

This would not have been possible without the support of the APAC community. As with ICANN's multi-stakeholder model of governance, it was the regional community's guidance and partnership that helped us take root and grow the way we did. We owe much of our success to you, and look forward to strengthening our collaboration further.

We are also grateful to the ICANN Board, management and colleagues who have supported our growth. The APAC Hub is a testament to ICANN's globalization strategy, and our expansion is the early actualization of ICANN's Five-Year Strategic Plan.

Next month, we will move to a newer, bigger premise. Besides having a larger space to cater for future expansion, we will also have facilities to conduct community meetings and trainings. We look forward to hosting you at this office in the near future.

## APAC HUB ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

### Korea Contracted Parties Engagement

About 20 Korean contracted parties gathered on 20 August to meet with our Seoul representatives and APAC Hub colleagues - Sumi Lee (Contractual Compliance) and Howard Li (Registrar Services).

It was an opportunity for contracted parties to raise concerns and clarify policy processes and learn best practices. Sumi also gave a presentation on UDRP while Howard shared on Privacy/Proxy Service. The group also discussed DNS industry trends in Korea and hot

topics like WHOIS accuracy. There are currently 17 accredited registrars in Korea, with about 2 million domain names registered by Koreans.



## The Future of the Internet - What lies ahead for Asia Pacific?

We organized a media briefing in Bangkok, Thailand on 19 August with Rinalia Abdul Rahim (ICANN Board member), Sarmad Hussain (IDN Senior Manager), Jia-Rong Low (Asia Engagement Senior Director) and Wanawit Ahkupta (Deputy Executive Director of Electronic Transactions Development Agency, Thailand). The event focused on the new gTLD program and IDNs, as well as highlighted the merits of the to-be-formed Thai Label Generation Panel. Besides local Thai media, we also had some regional media remotely joined us. To-date, the briefing generated at least 26 press print and online articles and delivered a return on investment exceeding 15x.



### Cross-Community Work

There's been much work related to IDNs in July and August. Sarmad Hussain wrote a [blog](#) on the coordination work between Chinese, Japanese and Korean Community Panels, and how their work differed from the Neo-Brahmi Community Panel. The challenges are different due to the scripts used locally and we commend the panelists for their hard work.



### Thai LGR Workshop

Sarmad has also been on an Asia tour to give workshops to communities in Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand. A successful Thai Label Generation Rules Workshop was held on 20 - 21 August. At the end of the workshop, a draft proposal to establish a LGR panel for Thai script was developed. We're now waiting for the community to finalize the proposal. Once submitted, evaluated and announced, the Thai LGR panel will be officially formed and begin their work.



### Arabic Generation Panel

ICANN Board member Rinalia Abdul Rahim, who is also a member of the Arabic Generation Panel, wrote a blog recently to explain the case for the Arabic Script and Jawi. The blog is also a call out for the community to comment on the Arabic Script Root Zone LGR proposal.

[+ READ MORE](#)

## ICANN at International Conference on Information Security in Korea



Our Korea team attended the International Conference on Information Security with Champika Wijayatunga (Regional SSR Engagement Manager, APAC) in early July. The largest cyber security conference in Korea, it was hosted by MSIP (Ministry of Science, ICT and Future

Planning) and organized by KISA. Champika's presentation on "Response against DNS Hacks" attracted more than 100 participants from government as well as private sectors. Champika and team also took the opportunity to meet with law enforcement agencies and cyber security experts. He will be back with appropriate capacity building trainings in the near future.

## ICANN 53 Meeting Readouts in China & Japan

Post ICANN 53, our communities in China and Japan organized readout sessions to update community members. Attracting 30 - 40 participants each, the key topics discussed included IANA Stewardship Transition, Enhancing ICANN Accountability, WHOIS, GNSO review, IDN and Universal Acceptance. In China, there was an additional discussion on China's participation in ICANN as well as participation in the NETmundial inaugural meeting in Sao Paulo by Alibaba and Cyberspace Administration of China representatives. In Japan, the team shared details on the MoU between ICANN, JPNIC and JPRS on collaborating on translation work.

## Resolving the Release of Two-Character ASCII Labels with Comments

Since ICANN launched the Authorization Process for the Release of Two-Character ASCII Labels, over 249,000 letter/letter two-character domains have been authorized across approximately 560 new generic top-level domains, and the numbers are growing weekly. However, approximately 3 percent of requested labels have not yet been authorized for release due to concerns expressed by governments. In mid-August, ICANN published a draft process to fully consider comments received and evaluate the labels that have been withheld thus far.

[+ READ MORE](#)



## POLICY UPDATE

### GNSO Chair Election Timeline

During its recent meeting, the GNSO Council adopted the election timetable and procedure to select the next the GNSO Chair during ICANN54. The timetable and procedure have been published [here](#).

### At-Large Onboarding Program Launches

The aim of this new staff-initiated program is to facilitate At-Large Structure (ALS) and individual member participation within the Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs) and to promote policy development activity within At-Large and ICANN. To learn more about the webinar series, helpline, and documents, please visit this [page](#).

### Three Policy Proposals at APNIC40

The APNIC community considered three proposals at APNIC40 during the Open Policy Meeting on 10 September 2015. Two proposals relate to policies that control the distribution of IPv4 addresses and Autonomous System Numbers. Another proposal would require the registration of more specific assignment data in the APNIC Whois Database to support network operators wanting to filter out harmful traffic. Read the proposals [here](#).

### Issues Currently Open for Public Comment

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

#### [Design Team Review of Plan for DNS Root Zone KSK Change](#)

This public comment proceeding seeks to review the Design Team's findings to date related to issues and plans for changing the cryptographic key used to originate the DNSSEC chain of trust.

**Public Comment Period Closes: 15 September 2015, 23:59 UTC**

#### [Proposal for Arabic Script Root Zone Label Generation Rules \(LGR\)](#)

This proposal is being posted for public comments to allow those who have not participated in the Arabic Generation Panel to make their views known to the Arabic Generation Panel so it can finalize the proposal for integration into the Label Generation Rules for the Root Zone.

**Public Comment Period Closes: 30 September 2015, 23:59 UTC**

#### [Proposal for Armenian Script Root Zone Label Generation Rules \(LGR\)](#)

This proposal is being posted for public comments to allow those who have not participated in the Armenian Generation Panel to make their views known to the Armenian Generation Panel so it can finalize the proposal for integration into the Label Generation Rules for the Root Zone.

**Public Comment Period Closes: 30 September 2015, 23:59 UTC**

#### [Preliminary Issue Report on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures](#)

This public comment proceeding is being opened to obtain community input on the Preliminary Issue Report on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures.

**Public Comment Period Closes: 10 October 2015, 23:59 UTC**

[Release of Country and Territory Names within the .BROTHER, .GEA, .ACO, .SECURITY, .PROTECTION, .THEATRE and .RENT TLDs](#)

This public comment proceeding aims at gathering community input on proposed amendments to the .BROTHER, .GEA, .ACO, .SECURITY, .PROTECTION, .THEATRE and .RENT Registry Agreements to allow the registration of country and territory names currently reserved under Section 4 of Specification 5 of the Registry Agreement.

**Public Comment Period Closes: 14 October 2015, 23:59 UTC**

[New gTLD Auction Proceeds Discussion Paper](#)

This is a discussion paper on the proceeds from ICANN-conducted auctions for contested new generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) strings. This paper calls for broad, open and inclusive public comment and encourages participation from all sectors, regions and levels (or no level) of engagement with the ICANN community.

**Public Comment Period Closes: 18 October 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](#).

ICANN staff also populates a web page to help preview potential "upcoming" public comment proceedings. 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.



## COMMUNITY PROFILE



**Dwi Elfrida**

**Ministry of Communication and Information Technology  
Republic of Indonesia**

I am honored to be selected to attend the ICANN meeting in Dublin, Ireland as an ICANN alumni fellow to assist Fellows from our Asia Pacific region.

The ICANN Fellowship Mentoring Program is indeed a great initiative for Fellows prior to attending the ICANN meeting, during and even post meeting. This allows Fellows to gather more information before the ICANN meeting starts.

I had the opportunity to join the ICANN Fellowship Program in 2009 and I'm still actively involved in the ICANN fellowship community now.

In Indonesia we have a proverb "Tak Kenal maka Tak sayang" ( you can't love what you don't know), so I am already starting some informal communications within the APAC fellows and hope to continue this into the ICANN meeting in Dublin.



## SPOTLIGHT

### APAC Community Speaks Up on the IANA Stewardship Transition



OPINION  
**The World Needs Time to Debate  
Plan to End US Control of the  
Internet**



In line with the public comment period for both the ICG and CCWG proposals, the APAC team went to work, helping community to better understand the proposals. In some markets, we facilitated meetings and discussions. In others, we encouraged community leaders to share their thoughts in blogs via social media channels. Read Jia Rong's [blog](#), which highlights some of the activities that took place. The community submitted a total of 159 comments for ICG and 88 comments for CCWG proposals. We would like to thank the community for their robust and active participation.



## SPOTLIGHT

### **IDN: Access Domain Names in Your Language**

Have you seen our new infographic on Internationalised Domain Names? Visit our [IDN page](#) to learn more and access the infographic in multiple languages.



## ONE MORE THING

### APRALO-APAC Hub Webinar

The next APRALO-APAC Hub webinar will be held on 29 September at 0500 - 0600 UTC. The topic is "New gTLDs Program / ccTLDs". Click on the button below for more details and how to participate.

[+ REGISTER](#)

## GLOSSARY

### Some commonly used acronyms

APAC	Asia Pacific
APRALO	Asian, Australian and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organisation
DNS	Domain Name System
GNSO	Generic Naming Supporting Organisation
gTLD	Generic Top-Level Domain
ICG	IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group
IDN	Internationalised Domain Name
LGR	Label Generation Rules
SSR	Security, Stability and Resiliency
UDRP	Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy

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