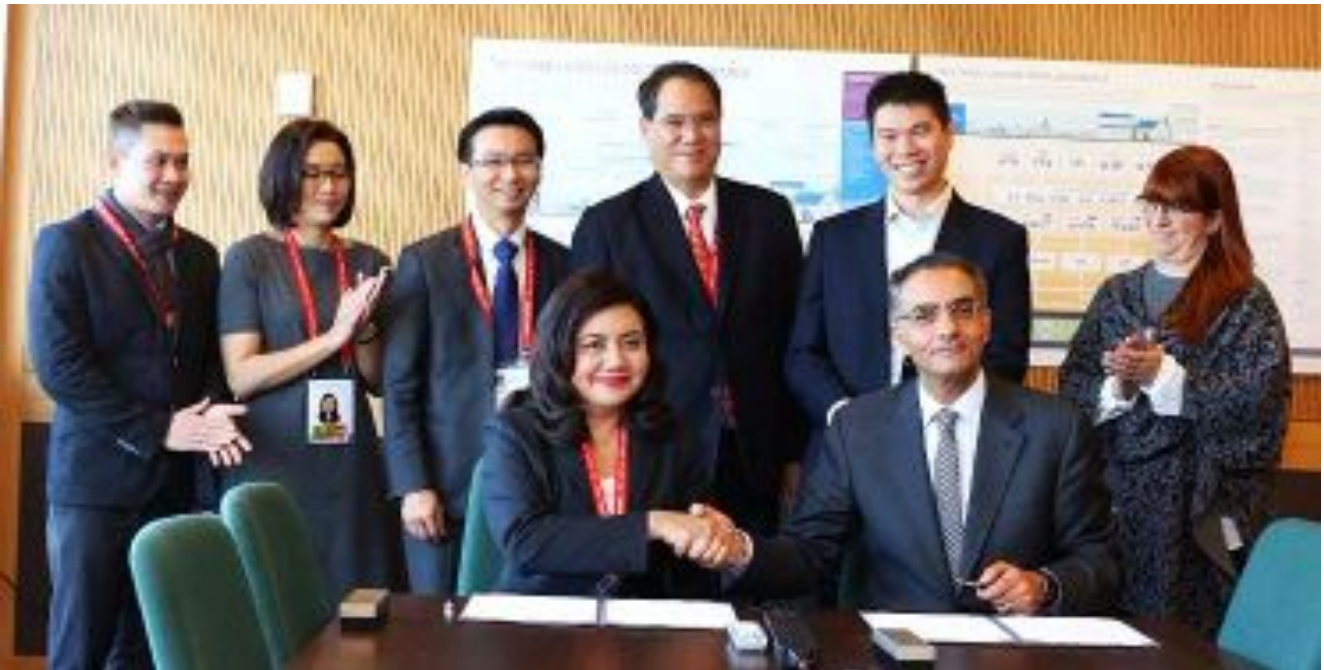




TOP STORY

Paving the Way for Broader Thai Community Engagement



Fadi Chehadé and Surangkana Wayuparb signing the MoU in ICANN54 in Dublin

ICANN has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Thailand's Electronic Transactions Development Agency (ETDA). Under this agreement, ICANN and ETDA will coordinate and collaborate to identify and translate ICANN materials into Thai for the local community.

"This MoU is another step forward in ICANN's globalization efforts, as we work with local communities to help address the language needs of markets where English is not the main language. Together, we can help to overcome any language barriers and ensure that this is not an impediment to participation in ICANN and our policy development processes," said Fadi Chehadé, ICANN President and Chief Executive Officer.

"This collaboration aligns with our national strategy to be a digital economy society by 2017. It reduces the digital divide of our Thai community due to the language barrier. It also enhances our community's capacity, enabling us to participate in global discussions more effectively once the language barrier is broken down. We believe this will be one of the game changers for the future of local Thai community engagement," said ETDA Chief Executive Officer Surangkana Wayuparb.

[+ READ MORE](#)



APAC HUB ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

Northern Pacific SSR and Stakeholder Engagement



Savé and Champika with the law enforcement team in FSM

September was a busy month for Oceania team as they attempted to cover the Northern Pacific sub-region including Nauru. With limited flight scheduling options, Savé Vocea, GSE Vice President for Australasia/Pacific Islands and Champika Wijayatunga, Regional SSR Engagement Manager, eventually had to land and depart from 12 airports in 12 days to conduct training and meetings in four locations: Nauru, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and Palau.

Big thanks to GAC representatives in Nauru, Marshall Islands and FSM and a past ICANN fellow (Jennifer Anson) in Palau for assisting with local logistics arrangements, to ensure that Savé and Champika were able to meet and train the local law enforcement agencies (LEA) and judiciary staff - non-traditional stakeholders that we believe are important to engage with to support a secure and stable Internet. They also held meetings with local telco/ISP representatives and the GAC representatives.



Savé and Champika with the Vice President of the Government of Palau (centre) and law enforcement team in Palau

It was clear that the community were keen to learn new ideas and innovations from partners like ICANN. They have all expressed that capacity building in this region needs to continue and LEA officials also requested for closed training sessions to delve more into supporting their online investigation work. Several telcos and ccTLDs also expressed their interest to host a local copy of L-Root. It was a tiring but fruitful trip.

Engaging the Youth in APAC

Many people believe the youth holds the key to the future. It is therefore important that we engage the youth and encourage their participation in ICANN activities.

In early September, Head of Outreach and Public Responsibility Kelvin Wong attended the Youth Congress in Information Technology (Y4iT) 2015 in Manila. This annual event is the largest IT congress for youth and academia in Philippines, attended by several thousand youths from the country. Kelvin spoke about the new gTLD program and encouraged participation in ICANN meetings. He also introduced the NextGen/Fellowship programs and invited the audience to apply.



Youth attending the Y4iT in Philippines

Later that month, Samiran Gupta, our Head of India, delivered the keynote "The Future of the Internet in India" at a Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) TechFest pre-event in Bombay. He presented to approximately 150 college-going students and had a lively interaction as many learned of ICANN for the first time. IIT TechFest is Asia's largest technology event for youth and will take place from 26 - 28 December 2015.

In early October, Kelvin addressed a group of 20 undergraduates from National University of Singapore in APAC Hub's new office, introducing ICANN and multistakeholder model to them.

To learn more about how ICANN supports the next generation, click [here](#).

Asian Regional Consultation on WSIS+10 Review



Regional participants at the first regional WSIS+10 Review discussion

The first regional discussion on WSIS+10 Review was held in early September in Pattaya, Thailand. It was well attended by 38 participants from 14 countries in the region.

The group reviewed and commented on submissions focusing on Development, Human Rights and Internet Governance. The **Pattaya Key Messages** outcome document was then put together and submitted as a formal comment on the WSIS+10 Review non-paper on 18 September.

[+](#) READ MORE

Building a More Responsive and Resilient Internet

We have successfully installed four L-Root instances over the past two months. These installations in Yogyakarta Indonesia, Sydney Australia, Kolkata and Mumbai India, help to further decentralize the top level of the DNS, mitigate certain network outages and reduce DNS-related delays. We thank our partners - Indonesia's PT Jembatan Citra Nusantara, Australia's Vocus Communications, as well as India's Basis Technologies and Web Werks for the collaboration. Read the announcements [here](#).

ICANN also partnered ISOC Kolkata and held demonstrations of the L-Root instance on the sidelines of the CyFy 2015 conference in New Delhi last month. The demonstration was in two parts - understanding root servers from a technology perspective and L-Root instances in the Indian context. The functioning of the newly running L-Root instance in Kolkata was also showcased.

For more information about L-Root, please visit: <http://www.dns.icann.org/>



POLICY UPDATE

"Introduction to the GNSO" Course Launches on ICANN Learn

The GNSO is a complex structure consisting of a number of constituencies and stakeholder groups. To understand what the GNSO does is not always easy, especially to newcomers. Following community suggestions that more material for newcomers should be made available, support staff developed "Introduction to the GNSO." This online course explains what the GNSO is, who its members represent, what groups it contains, and how the GNSO Policy Development Process is conducted. The [course](#) is free and available to everyone.

GNSO Council Adopts Data and Metrics for Policymaking Working Group Recommendations

The GNSO Council unanimously approved the Data and Metrics for Policymaking Working Group's consensus recommendations. The Working Group developed final recommendations and submitted them to the GNSO Council for its consideration, which are documented in its [Final Report](#) after a review of [public comments](#). Support staff has begun implementation of the adopted recommendations, and implementation status can be viewed on the [Projects List](#).

Issues Currently Open for Public Comment

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

[Phase 1 Assessment of the Competitive Effects Associated with the New gTLD Program](#)

The Phase 1 Assessment is published to help establish a baseline of competitive forces in the domain name marketplace both prior to and in the initial months of the New gTLD Program, beginning with the first new gTLD to be delegated as part of the New gTLD Program in October 2013. This report considers pricing and registration volume data from a sample of legacy gTLDs (those that existed prior to expansion), new gTLDs and ccTLDs. Public comments received on this report will be summarized and analyzed, and will help inform the design for the Phase 2 Assessment.

Public Comment Period Closes: 7 November 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: 8 November 2015, 23:59 UTC

[IAG Initial Report and Proposed Revisions to the ICANN Procedure for Whois Conflicts with Privacy Laws](#)

The Implementation Advisory Group seeks public comment on its proposed revisions to the existing Whois Conflicts Procedure. The Implementation Advisory Group will incorporate public comments into its preliminary report and submit a final report to GNSO Council for its consideration.

Public Comment Period Closes: 17 November 2015, 23:59 UTC

[Preliminary Issue Report on a GNSO Policy Development Process to Review All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs](#)

The Preliminary Issue Report is published for public comment to obtain community input on the issue of launching a GNSO Policy Development Process to Review all Rights Protection Mechanisms in all gTLDs.

Public Comment Period Closes: 30 November 2015, 23:59 UTC

[Removal of Searchable Whois Service from the .MEET Registry Agreement](#)

This public comment period aims at gathering community input on the proposed amendment to the .MEET Registry Agreement to remove Searchable Whois service from the Exhibit A (Approved Services) of the .MEET Registry Agreement. This amendment is intended to implement the request from the registry operator to remove this service from their registry agreement, which is submitted through the Registry Services Evaluation Policy (RSEP) process. Also, this public comment period aims at gathering community input on this type of requests submitted for "open gTLDs" in general, so that the public comments can be used to consider similar future requests.

Public Comment Period Closes: 4 December 2015, 23:59 UTC

[New gTLD Program Implementation Review Draft Report](#)

This public comment period is being opened to obtain community input on the draft Program Implementation Review report.

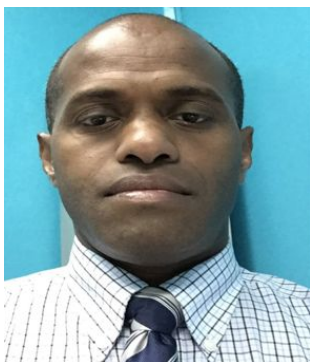
Public Comment Period Closes: 7 December 2015, 23:59 UTC

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



Serupepeli Neiko

ICANN54 Fellow

I have been with the Fiji Police Force since 1993 and am now a manager of the Transnational Crime Unit. One of my major responsibilities is dealing with cross jurisdictional policing issues.

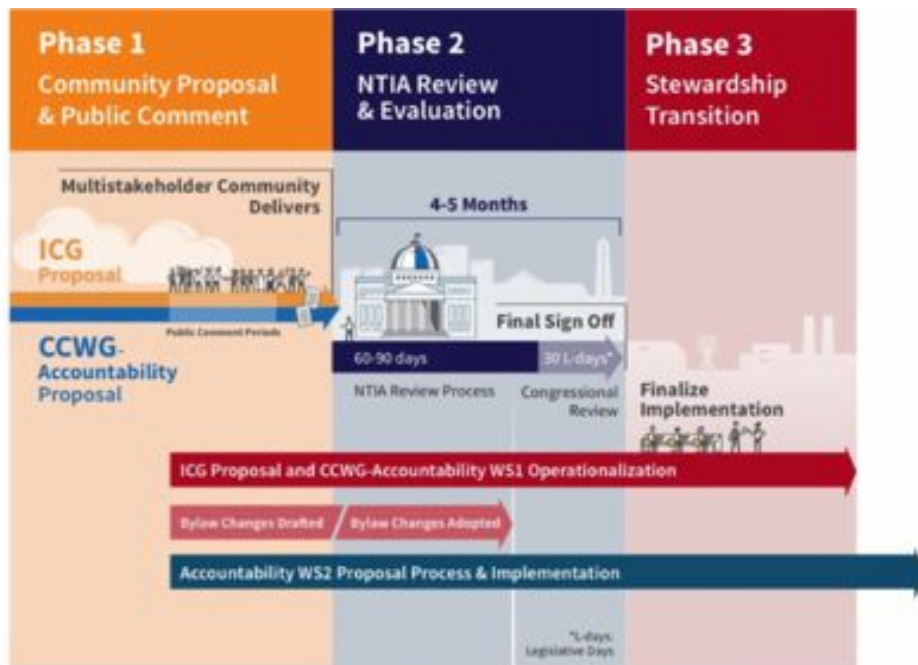
The ICANN54 meeting in Dublin, Ireland was my first official engagement under the Fellowship Program. I was introduced to various communities within the big ICANN family. One of the sessions that captured my attention was the Registrar and Law Enforcement session, where critical issues such as user data access by law enforcement and protocols to be observed when seeking assistance from major ISP's and Social Networking Providers were discussed.

Fiji is part of many islands in Pacific where capacity building is urgently needed. All sections of the community need to be educated on ICANN's role in managing the Internet. Therefore, I am more than willing to be part of ICANN's outreach team in the Pacific.



SPOTLIGHT

IANA Stewardship Transition



The IANA Stewardship Transition is a step closer now. The ICG and CCWG-Accountability met at ICANN54 to continue work on their proposals following the two public comment periods that ended in September.

The ICG has now completed its Consolidated IANA Stewardship Proposal and is awaiting the finalization of the CCWG-Accountability's Work Stream 1 Recommendations. The CCWG-Accountability has made a number of adjustments and refinements to its draft recommendations, and will be sending the revised recommendations for a third public comment period from 15 November to 21 December 2015.

When CCWG-Accountability finalizes its Work Stream 1 recommendations, and the CWG-Stewardship confirms that the recommendations meet its requirements, the ICG can complete its proposal and submit the final report to the ICANN Board. This is expected to be completed by mid-January 2016.

 [READ MORE](#)

APRALO-APAC Hub Webinar - 24 November 2015

If you missed the ICANN54 Dublin Meeting or have not been keeping up-to-date on the IANA Stewardship Transition and related Enhancing ICANN Accountability tracks, the APAC Hub is partnering APRALO to organize a webinar to share the current status and how you can participate. Mark your calendar and if you have questions for the team, you can send them in advance to apachub@icann.org.

Date: **Tuesday, 24 November 2015**

Time: **13:00 - 14:00 SGT (05:00-06:00 UTC)**

Joining details will be sent out shortly. Look out for the invites.



SPOTLIGHT

Global Domains Division



Apply Now: Experts in Consumer Protections, Economics and Security Needed for New gTLD Program Review

Are you interested in new gTLDs and how they're affecting the domain name industry and the Internet's root zone? ICANN is seeking candidates to participate on a community-based team tasked with examining the extent to which new gTLDs have promoted competition, consumer trust and consumer choice. Members of this pioneering group will represent the broader community and their analysis will impact future rounds of the New gTLD Program through potential changes to policy. Experts in consumer protections, economics and security are highly desired, and geographic diversity will also be taken into account when selecting review team members. Any travel required will be funded by ICANN. The deadline for expressing interest is **13 November 2015**. [Apply Now!](#)

Are You Ready for the "New" Internet Name Space?

The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) is working to create an Internet where all domain names are treated equally, including new gTLDs and internationalized domains. One of the group's first endeavors is to empower CIOs to bring their systems in line with the "new" Internet name space. The UASG plans to issue documentation in the next few months comprised of a clear definition of Universal Acceptance, a guidebook for CIOs, script test suites, a simple script in multiple languages that can be used to reach out to webmasters, and more. Be one of the first to get this documentation by following the [Universal Acceptance Steering Group](#) on the ICANN community wiki.



Registrar Insurance Waiver Levels Playing Field



The ICANN Board recently removed a barrier to registrar accreditation by waiving the requirement for Commercial General Liability insurance. The move is expected to benefit registrars in parts of South America and Africa, in particular, where Commercial General Liability insurance is difficult to find - if available at all - and very costly.

[+ READ MORE](#)

ICANN54 Marks Second Anniversary of New gTLDs

On 23 October 2013, the first internationalized generic top-level domains were introduced into the Internet. These four gTLDs were also the first delegated under the 2012 round of the New gTLD Program. The two-year anniversary of this milestone fell on the last day of ICANN54 in Dublin, 23 October 2015. By this date, 1,204 contracts for new gTLDs had been signed and 774 of these contracted gTLDs had been delegated. In addition, [reviews](#) of the program mandated by ICANN's affirmation of commitments are well underway, and supporting organizations and advisory committees are beginning to discuss the next round.



ONE MORE THING

Audit Webinar for APAC Contracted Parties - 30 November 2015

ICANN Contractual Compliance will be conducting two outreach sessions for the APAC contracted parties on **Monday, 30 November 2015**. The goal is to present an overview of the [Audit Program](#), address common audit questions, discuss the audit report and take questions from the participants. More details will be provided in the invitations that will be sent by mid-November.

The audit team will also be available on **Tuesday** and **Wednesday (1-2 December)** for 1-1 meeting with contracted parties. If you would like to schedule a call with the contractual compliance audit team, please send an email to complianceaudit@icann.org. Remember to indicate your preferred date and time, the questions or topics you would like to discuss and the language requirement if needed.



GLOSSARY

Some commonly used acronyms

APAC	Asia Pacific
APRALO	Asian, Australian and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organisation
CCWG-Accountability	Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability
CIO	Chief Information Officer
CWG-Stewardship	Cross Community Working Group to Develop an IANA Stewardship Transition Proposal on Naming Related Functions
GNSO	Generic Naming Supporting Organisation
gTLD	Generic Top-Level Domain
ICG	IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group
IDN	Internationalised Domain Name
SSAC	Security and Stability Advisory Committee

SSR	Security, Stability and Resiliency
UDRP	Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy

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