

# ICANN APAC NEWSLETTER

[Jump To: Event Highlights](#) | [In the Spotlight](#) | [In Other Words](#) | [What's New](#) | [Regional Engagement Calendar](#)

## Editor's Foreword

Welcome to the 7<sup>th</sup> issue of our APAC Hub newsletter!

Time flies and unknowingly, the APAC hub has passed the 1-year mark in the blink of an eye. The APAC team is growing stronger day-by-day, both in numbers and our capabilities, and always looking for ways to serve the community better. And what better way to show that, than to have the opportunity to play host again when ICANN 52 comes back to Singapore next Feb! We are super excited and looking forward to welcoming everyone to our sunny shores again. Look out for more on this in the next issue.

Meanwhile, in this issue, we provide a quick recap of ICANN 51 from the eyes of our colleagues who were in LA. We also highlight an interview with the Chair of the Chinese Generation Panel and gain insights to the important work that they are doing.

And we've listed out the top 5 questions that are most commonly asked of ICANN and provide you some clarification. Hope this is useful.

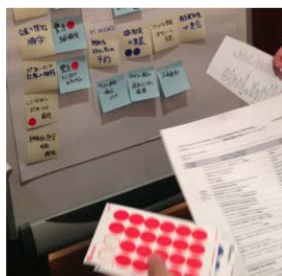
Happy reading!

Liana & Philadel

## Event Highlights

### Registry Roadshow Workshop

*Written by Valerie Heng*



"Ground Breaking! You made everyone feel comfortable by playing team games; I didn't know there was going to be so much details – I learned a lot."  
– participant feedback

The Registry Roadshow Workshop for APAC took place on 24-26 September in Tokyo where we had more than 60 participants.

The in-depth, interactive and hands-on three-day workshops covered a wide range of topics. It helped the participants to understand how the Registry Agreement works, Registry Services Evaluation Policy and Assignments are processed, and so on. The event provided an excellent learning and networking opportunity for participants. Participants were on their feet doing activities in local languages. We received overwhelming positive feedback, and enjoyed the engagement.

Thank you to all who made this Roadshow a success. The next roadshow will be held in Istanbul from 19 – 21 November 2014.

## Australia Internet Governance Forum & Australia Network Operators Group

Written by Savé Vocea

This year's Australian Internet Governance Forum was held in Melbourne, Australia from 26-27 August. The event is now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year and ably supported by auDA. It attracted a good mix of stakeholders from the Australian government, civil society, academics, businesses and end users to discuss relevant topics of interest around governance of and on the Internet.

Lively and useful panel discussions kicked off the sessions and offered Q&As and opportunities for further comments from participants. The multistakeholder format of participation helped to continue discussions around metadata, privacy and access to rural communities.

Some ICANN issues were also raised and I updated the forum on the IANA function stewardship transition and also around ICANN Accountability. The Australian government GAC representatives also shared how they have engaged in various ICT regional and global fora (including ICANN) and emphasised their support for the multistakeholder model of Internet governance and for bodies like ICANN.



Photo: courtesy of auIGF website

I presented an update of the IANA functions stewardship transition at the AusNOG 2014 event held in Sydney on 4 - 5 September. This is in line with raising awareness of this ongoing activity in ICANN throughout various stakeholders in the region. Talks and presentations at AusNOG events are highly technical to provide insights on trends and issues facing the industry and also to foster networking among the network operators in Australia.

We were delighted that the AusNOG program committee agreed for us to share ICANN activities at their event.

---

## Engaging the Youth - Youth Congress on IT (Y4IT)

Written by Kelvin Wong

After the rollout of the NextGen@ICANN program in Singapore earlier this year, the need for greater inclusion of the next generation of community representatives was heightened. Together with the Fellowship program, such programs have enabled us to target a more demographically diverse set of audiences, and ensure that ICANN remains accessible and relevant to their needs. This was the key reason for our participation of the Youth Congress on IT in September, in what is widely touted as the social media capital of the world - the Philippines. Our message, amidst the youth and exuberance of a hall packed with thousands of budding college students, was clear and simple: *The Internet works because it is free and open. Many people make this happen. Let's join*

them (and us) in keeping it this way.



---

## ICANN-APNIC MOU on L-Root Collaboration

*Written by Low Jia-Rong*

We recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding on L-Root Collaboration with APNIC. The signing was held at the sidelines of the Istanbul IGF on 3 September, between Paul Wilson, Director General of the APNIC and our President and CEO Fadi Chehadé. Kuek's blog post on the momentous event can be found at here. (<https://www.icann.org/news/blog/icann-signs-mou-with-apnic-on-l-root-collaboration>)

Since the APAC Hub's establishment last year, APNIC has been a key partner for us in the region. With this MOU, our already close partnership - which covers a wide array of areas from IP addressing to Internet Governance to Capacity Building – is further elevated to cover L-Root, which will contribute to maintaining the Stability, Security and Resiliency of the Internet's Domain Name System (DNS). We would like to thank our good friends at APNIC – Paul and Sanjaya – for your partnership and support. This partnership marks a key milestone for the ICANN APAC Hub.

If you, or if you know of any interested parties – organisations, companies, network operators – who would like to host an L-Root server node, please reach out to us.

---

## PITA Next Generation Networks Forum

*Written by Savé Vocea*

Earlier in October, I also participated in the PITA Next Generation Networks Forum that was held in Suva and held bilaterals with participating Pacific Islands telcos/ISPs and ccTLD operators present. Discussions focused on supporting DNS resiliency for networks in the Pacific promoting L-root anycast and also opportunities for DNSSEC deployment. A number of country reps also took the opportunity to discuss and find out more about ccTLD management practices and IANA processes and support in capacity building.

---

## ICANN51: Los Angeles - Homecoming

*Written by Kelvin Wong*



ICANN 51 was special as it felt like homecoming to arguably the birthplace of the Internet, and of course, to the backyard of the ICANN HQ. And when our Board Chair Steve Crocker recounted the days when it all started, it brought back a sense of nostalgia, lending a very personal flavor to the opening of ICANN 51.

The highlight however, has got to be the first ever attendance by a US Secretary of Commerce to an ICANN meeting. And along with that, the unequivocal message she conveyed: *Support for ICANN and the preservation of a free and open Internet.*



This set the tone for the days ahead as community members debated on the dual tracks of enhancing ICANN's accountability, and on the mechanism for the transition of IANA functions' stewardship. Multistakeholder engagement was in full motion, as shown by the active participation from remote hubs in other US regions, Africa and Europe.

The rising number of such next generation participants and the ever growing fellowship program are testaments themselves to the success of our efforts to draw more fresh blood into the system. I was glad to be able to personally engage these newcomers and share my ICANN experience from the APAC perspective. We also exchanged notes on how we (ICANN) can better reach out to the young, the disinterested and the underserved.



**Howard Li (Senior Manager, Registrar Services):**

"As a member of the Registrar Services team, I seized the opportunity to meet, engage and serve our registrars at the meeting. Some noteworthy activities included the first registrar social event in ICANN meeting. The team organised a cocktail party on Wed, 15 October which was very well-attended and provided plenty of interaction and engagement."

**Valerie Heng (Senior Manager, Registry Services) shares her first ICANN meeting experience:**

"My 1st ICANN meeting experience was a very eventful one. ICANN meeting offers a variety of workshops, open forums, and working meetings on the development and implementation of Internet policies. It brought the world to one place and provided me valuable opportunities to engage with the stakeholders, new gTLD applicants, registries and fellow colleagues for face-to-face discussions and catch up. In addition to listening to knowledgeable and dedicated people airing their opinions, I am glad to witness the registry agreements signing ceremony and public forum."



## Where else has ICANN APAC been?

The APAC office has been all over the region. Here are a few other events that we attended in addition to those described above:

Dates	Events	Market
31 Aug – 5 Sep	Internet Address Policy and Technology Training Course	Seoul, Korea
10 – 12 Sep	Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2014	Tianjin, China
1 – 10 Oct	Annual Cyber Security Event	Sri Lanka
9 – 19 Sep	APNIC38	Brisbane, Australia
17 – 19 Sep	MCMC-GSMA Asia Policy Forum	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
26 Sep	Registrar Services Workshop	Seoul, Korea
1 – 3 Oct	INTERPOL-Europol Cybercrime Conference 2014	Singapore
3 Oct	IPv6 Share & Learn 2014	Singapore
6 – 8 Oct	PITA NGN Forum	Suva, Fiji
9 Oct	APAC Webinar – Introduction to Registrar Accreditation & Policy Updates	Singapore
15 – 17 Oct	CYFY 2014	New Delhi, India
28 Oct	IP Academy – Training for Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City Administrative Committee	Singapore

## In the Spotlight

### Chinese Generation Panel - An interview with Wang Wei

On 24 September, ICANN [announced](#) that the Chinese Community has stepped forward to form the Generation Panel to develop a proposal for Chinese (Han) script for the root zone Label Generation Ruleset (LGR). We caught up with Wang Wei, Chair of the Chinese Generation Panel at ICANN 51 in Los Angeles.



**Q: Why is there a need to form Generation Panels?**

A: When Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) top-level domains (TLDs) were first launched in different scripts, it was for IDN country code TLDs (eg “.中国” for China).

Under the new generic top-level domain (gTLD) program, IDN gTLDs can now be added to the root zone, further opening up the Internet to allow representation of top level domain names in many languages and scripts, in addition to those using the letters in ASCII in Latin script. This has brought forth two different challenges.

Firstly, the same script can be used by different languages. This can become confusing when IDN gTLDs are introduced, as there may be language level differences that are not accommodated in the root zone, as it is more focused at the script level. For example the Chinese (Han) script is used in the Chinese, Japanese and Korean languages. It is therefore important to coordinate among the Chinese, Japanese and Korean communities to set the generation rules.

In addition, even within Chinese language communities, there exists both traditional Chinese script and simplified Chinese script. Therefore a TLD label may be considered exchangeable with another TLD by the end user (eg “.手机” and “.手機”). These cases or scenarios need to be identified.

The Label Generation Rules for Chinese (Han) script will help to address these challenges for the root zone.

**Q: What made you take up this challenge?**

A: I'm an engineer and I like to solve problems. It gives me a feeling of achievement when I can solve an issue.

**Q: What are the biggest challenges that you and your panel are facing?**

A: The biggest challenge is the different views towards variants by the communities. For the Chinese community, we have reached a consensus about variants in simplified and traditional Chinese scripts and can provide guidance on how to reconcile them.

The Japanese community uses Kanji, which is based on the Chinese (Han) script but the same character may have a different meaning in the Japanese language. So they may use the same Unicode code point differently. And they may not have variants.

The Korean community has a slightly more complicated consideration. Chinese (Han) script is not allowed in second-level domains under .kr and .한국 in Korea. In addition, in 2011, the Korean government stipulated that only Hangeul or Korean alphabet could be accepted in official documents

**Q: How long do you think it is going to take to develop the Chinese script label generation rules?**

A: We hope to complete the report on Chinese characters and variants by the end of this year. However, the synchronisation between the Chinese, Japanese and Korean communities will require more time to reach consensus. Even though our coordination work may be easier compared to Arabic script, we will still require patience, hard work and lots of devotion.

**In Other Words...**

## Did you know?

Written by Philadel Yeo

*"We are not a regulatory agency and we will be careful not to cross that line or overstep our limited authority."*  
- Fadi Chehadé, ICANN President and CEO

Did you know, that one of the most common mis-perception is that ICANN "controls" the Internet? In reality, ICANN's role can be summarized as:

- Operating the Internet's Domain Name System (DNS)
- Co-ordinating the allocation and assignment of the Internet's unique identifiers
- Accrediting generic top-level-domain name registrars
- Facilitating the voice of volunteers worldwide who are dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable.

Here are 5 of the most commonly asked questions that we receive:

Question	Answer
Can I register domain names through ICANN?	No, ICANN is not a domain name registrar and you cannot register domain names through ICANN. You can register domain names through companies known as "registrars". You can find a list of these companies <a href="#">here</a> . Be sure to read these <a href="#">guides</a> first.
Is ICANN responsible for accrediting domain name registrars for generic top level domain names?	Yes ICANN is responsible for accrediting gTLD domain name registrars. If your business entity is interested to become a registrar, you must sign an accreditation agreement with ICANN. Refer <a href="#">here</a> on how to become a registrar and <a href="#">here</a> for a sample of the agreement.
Who manages the country code Top Level Domains (ccTLDs)?	ccTLDs are managed by locally appointed registry operators as they correspond to a country, territory or geographic location. They are not accredited by ICANN and are held accountable by local government and Internet community under local laws. Refer <a href="#">here</a> for a list of ccTLDs and their designated managers.
Does ICANN issue domain name certificates?	No, ICANN does not issue certificates to registrants and does not collect fees from registrants directly either. Read <a href="#">here</a> on what to do if you receive emails from companies trying to sell you ICANN Domain Name Certificates. Read <a href="#">here</a> if you receive emails not from your reseller or registrar and asking for payment to renew your domain name.
How do I update my contact information/ Whois record?	ICANN does not maintain Whois data. To update your contact information in the Whois database, you need to contact your registrar (or reseller). Read <a href="#">here</a> for some FAQs. Find out who is your registrar <a href="#">here</a> .

---

## Save this date: 11 December 2014

The next APAC Webinar will be on Policy Updates. Invites and meeting details will be sent out soon. Watch out for it!

## What's new?

### Meet our team mates who have joined the ICANN APAC family





Clockwise from top left:

*Laena Rahim, Regional Counsel – APAC*

Our latest addition is Laena, a member of the ICANN Legal Team supporting the APAC region. She is responsible for providing legal counsel and advice to the ICANN team throughout the region. Laena is based in the Singapore hub office.

*Valerie Heng, Senior Product Manager, Registry Services*

Some of you may have met Valerie at the Registry Roadshow in Tokyo and ICANN 51. Valerie is responsible for developing and managing the complete life cycle of department products and services. She also works closely with the internal team to support gTLD Registry Contracted Parties.

*Samiran Gupta, Head of India*

Samiran is our latest member of the Global Stakeholder Engagement - Asia team. He manages ICANN's participation in India-based events and works with various parties to shape long-term strategy for ICANN in India.

*Sumi Lee, Contractual Compliance Manager*

After a two-year stint in the LA office, Sumi relocated to the APAC Hub office this year to join the CC team here. An asset to the APAC Compliance team with her knowledge and experience, she also supplements additional cultural and language skills in Korean.

## Regional Engagement Calendar

Dates	Events	Market
4, 6 Nov	New gTLD Worldwide Roadshow	Beijing/Shanghai, China
6, 11, 13 Nov	2014 Domain Name Conference	Taipei/Taichung/Kaohsiung, Taiwan
18 - 21 Nov	Japan Internet Week - JPNIC Open Policy Meeting, 41st Japan ICANN Readout Meeting, 4th Internet Governance Japan (IGCJ)	Tokyo, Japan
19 - 21 Nov	World Internet Conference	Wuzhen, China



20 Nov	The International Conference on Cyberlaw, Cybercrime & Cyber Security	<i>New Delhi, India</i>
26 - 28 Nov	DNS/DNSSEC Workshop	<i>Port Vila, Vanuatu</i>
1 - 5 Dec	PacNOG 16	<i>Honiara, Soloman Islands</i>
11 Dec	APAC Hub Webinar - Policy Update	<i>Singapore</i>
15 - 18 Dec	APJII/IDNIC/PANDI Event	<i>Jakarta, Indonesia</i>

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

### ICANN Asia and the Pacific Offices

**APAC Hub Office**  
Tel: +65 6808 6666



[Forward to a friend](#)

[Unsubscribe from this list](#)

Copyright © 2014  
All rights reserved.