# APAC Newsletter
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ICANN

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## TOP STORY

## 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 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 MORE**

*Swinehart and Low at the media briefing in Singapore*

### ICANN Urges Asia Pacific to Help Shape the Future of the Internet

Up to now, the Asia Pacific (APAC) region has not taken a leadership role in Internet governance. Can this mindset continue when the next billion Internet users are expected to come from this region?

This question was discussed at a media briefing in Singapore in January (with local and regional media participating remotely). ICANN hosts Theresa Swinehart, Senior VP, Multistakeholder Strategy and Strategic Initiatives and Jia-Rong Low, VP and Managing Director of Asia Pacific, were joined remotely by community leaders Izumi Okutani (Japan Network Information Center) and Lee Xiaodong (China Internet Network Information Center).

Speakers also talked about the IANA Stewardship Transition and the benefits to the APAC community of active participation in the multistakeholder model of Internet governance. Participants asked questions about the multistakeholder model and the role of the U.S. Government and ICANN in the transition. The briefing concluded with ICANN calling for APAC users to increase their participation in Internet

## ICANN Shares Multistakeholder Model with Chinese Research Community

AliResearch, the research wing of China's e-commerce giant Alibaba Group, hosted the "2016 Think Tank Summit on New Economy" in January. Scholars and opinion leaders from top consulting firms, universities and research institutes from China and overseas came together to discuss the digital economy and how the Internet will affect China's development.


*Low at the 2016 Think Tank Summit on New Economy*

Jia-Rong Low, VP and Managing Director of ICANN Asia Pacific, was invited to give a keynote speech entitled "Platform Governance" to Chinese stakeholders. He presented the **Boston Consulting Group report** on the impact of constraints on digital activity (called "e-Friction"). Other topics discussed at the summit included the multistakeholder model of Internet governance and the IANA Stewardship Transition. The audience was particularly receptive to the multistakeholder model.


*Telecom regulators from the Pacific Islands at the PIRRC meeting*

## ICANN at the Pacific Telecommunications Council 2016

The annual Pacific Telecommunications Council (PTC) 2016 conference and trade show was held in January in Honolulu, Hawaii. The event attracted senior regional industry leaders from the information and communications technology (ICT) sector. Participants came together to share insights on industry trends and business strategies.

Key areas of focus for the Pacific region are developing and improving Internet access and increasing international connectivity. Challenges ahead include dealing with online fraud.

Prior to PTC's start date, the Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association (PITA) convened its meeting for members to exchange ideas and engage with vendors and partners. The Pacific ICT Regulatory Resource Center (PiRRC) also convened its first 2016 meeting and discussed proposals for future activities and collaboration with partners.

Savé Vocea, VP of Global Stakeholder Engagement for Australasia, attended both the PITA and PiRRC meetings at PTC 2016. ICANN will also continue to support DNS technical capacity building through the

Pacific Network Operators Group (PacNOG). A few countries in the Pacific region have expressed interest in hosting root server instances. Throughout 2016, ICANN will collaborate with both PITA and PiRRC on Internet issues. The next major industry event in the Pacific region will be the PITA Annual General Meeting in April.



## Akram Atallah: A Fruitful Visit to China

Akram Atallah, President of ICANN's Global Domains Division, was in Beijing last month as part of ICANN's outreach strategy to support the Domain Name System industry in China.

He attended multiple events with the Chinese community and visited several government agencies and institutions, including the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) and the China Organizational Name Administration Center (CONAC).

Atallah updated stakeholders on the latest developments in the new generic top-level domain (gTLD) program and the IANA Stewardship Transition. He answered questions about the next gTLD application round and ICANN's CEO succession.

Atallah also spoke with a group of Chinese registries and registrars and encouraged them to participate in ICANN's Policy Development Process working groups and share their views during public comments opportunities.



## New Leadership in Korea Works to Broaden Stakeholder Outreach

2016 began with **leadership changes** at the ICANN Seoul Office. In-Pyo Hwang and Kang Soo Song now lead the stakeholder engagement team in Korea.

Outreach remains a priority for the team as it continues to work closely with the Korea Internet & Security Agency (KISA) to facilitate the participation of key stakeholders in ICANN. An additional priority is to increase awareness of Internet governance and ICANN with new stakeholders from industry/business such as Korea Association of Information & Telecommunication (KAIT). Seminars conducted in the Korean language will help the local community understand important ICANN topics such as Next Generation WHOIS, Privacy Protection, Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6) adoption and Internationalized Domain Names (IDN).

Also in the works is ICANN's collaboration with KISA to launch the Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy, a five-day capacity building program on Internet governance, tentatively scheduled for August in Seoul. Watch this space for more information!

## POLICY UPDATE

## 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.

## 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.

## 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**.

## 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.

## 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**.

## 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.

## Upcoming Policy Special Interest Group Sessions

Next week, the Policy Special Interest Group will host three sessions during APNIC41 and APRICOT 2016 in Auckland, New Zealand. The program will be dedicated to discussing policy changes, ways to improve APNIC Whois data accuracy and how to troubleshoot geolocation issues arising from the reuse of scarce IPv4 address blocks. To join the meeting remotely, please visit this **page**.

**GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY**

**Sonam Keba**

### Bhutan Telecom Limited

Sonam Keba is a System Administrator for Bhutan Telecom Limited, the largest telecommunications and Internet service provider in Bhutan. In her role, she oversees the operations of the Contact Centre, ensuring that technical issues are resolved and assisting in information technology projects.

Keba has been selected to participate in the ICANN Fellowship Program at the 55th Public Meeting in Marrakech. Keba explains, "I feel that attending ICANN meetings will be important as it will help me to understand Internet policies and related work, exchange opinions with other members, gain knowledge on issues of [the] Internet in current society and apply this knowledge to my current job role."

*Sonam Keba*

Keba also takes a keen interest in the development of the Internet and the transition of networks from IPv4 to IPv6.

## 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.ma** 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!

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### 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

⊕ **READ MORE**

**FY16 Q2 Stakeholder Call**
28 January 2016| For quarter ending 31 December 2015

☀ **SPOTLIGHT**

# ICANN APAC Hub Welcomes the Board of Directors and Global Leaders to the Singapore Office


*ICANN Board of Directors with APAC hub staff*


*Tour of the Singapore office*


*Explaining the inspiration behind our room names*

*ICANN Global Leaders with APAC hub staff*

## GDD UPDATE

### 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.

**READ MORE**

## 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.

**⊕ READ MORE**

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**DELEGATED NEW GTLDS**

## Twenty-eight new gTLDs were delegated in January 2016

Here are some of them:

| | |
|---|---|
| **baidu** | **skin** |
| **, "shopping", /gouwu/** | **softbank** |
| **alipay** | **alibaba** |
| **taobao** | **tmall** |
| **health** | **nikon** |

**⊕ READ MORE**

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

## Asia Pacific Regional Internet Conference on Operational Technologies (APRICOT)
### 15-26 February 2016

Learn about the latest developments in Internet infrastructure by participating in the many forums and workshops at APRICOT 2016 in Auckland, New Zealand.

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## ICANN APAC HUB

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