January 2019
Chair's Corner
I would like all of us to welcome Susannah Gray to the newsletter team as our new NARALO Newsletter Editor. She’s currently the Board Advisor/ICANN Liaison of the San Francisco Bay Area Internet Society Chapter.

I am pretty sure that, with her experience as a strategic communications expert and content creator, she will help raise the bar of sophistication in reporting our regional news to a new level. However, she cannot do this alone.

I encourage all our members to keep her abreast of what’s happening in the region by sending our stories, information about events and anything else that you may find of particular interest and want to share with all of us.

Please join me in congratulating Susannah in this important venture!

ATLAS III Update

ATLAS III is moving along. Two working groups - Leadership Development and Programme - have started their work to make sure that applicants comply with a set of criteria required to participate and to create the event program. The application phase is expected to open on Feb 15, 2019. This events is open to all members of all ALSes as well as Individual members and everyone is encouraged to apply.

At-Large/ALAC Public Comments & Advice

All of NARALO and the At-Large community are invited to contribute to ICANN public comment proceedings. For more information, please visit the At-Large Policy Advice Development Page or contact At-Large staff.

The ALAC is currently developing (4) responses to public comment proceedings:
Have your say! To contribute to ALAC public comment, please comment on the wiki space or volunteer as penholder, and join the weekly At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) meetings.

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) submitted (2) policy comments in January:

**Work Track 5 on Geographic Names at the Top Level - Supplemental Initial Report of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process**

The ALAC notes that there has yet to be a discussion about whether any new gTLD’s are needed. In case of an expansion, first and foremost, (1) strings with geographic connotations should not present harm (eg. risk for confusion) to end-users and (2) end-users, as residents of a given geographic entity, should have a say, through their governments or public authorities, in how its name is used. The ALAC prefers preventative protection mechanisms for country, territory, sub-national place and capital names. In the case of non-capital city names, there is a balanced support within the ALAC for either (1) requiring support or a non-objection letter from the relevant authority only if the applicant intends to use the TLD primarily for purposes associated with the city or (2) requiring support or a non-objection letter in any case. As to the 2012 AGB, ALAC thinks that its final version generally worked well and supports, in general, its treatment of geographic names.

**Application for New Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) Dispute-Resolution Service Provider**

The ALAC strongly supports the proposal for a new UDRP Dispute Resolution Provider, viewing it beneficial to the interests of all Internet end users, particularly to domain name registrants.

See: At-Large Website Policy Comments & Advice
See: Executive Summaries: ALAC Policy Comments & Advice
See: At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG)
EPDP Update

The weekly Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) meeting on 30 January featured a presentation from At-Large EPDP Members, Hadia Elminiawi and Alan Greenberg, on the EPDP Report.

The CPWG decided it would be in the interest of ALAC to comment on the report, and a workspace was created to that end.

ALAC Update

Marita Moll (Telecommunities Canada) is the NARALO appointee to the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC). She gives us an update on this month’s ALAC activities.

As part of a team that worked on the public comment for Work Track 5 on Geographic Names, I am happy to report that this comment has just been completed and accepted. The response notes that while there is existing community consensus for the clear recognition of some strings as country and
 territory names (as set out in the 2012 Applicant Guide Book), there is still much work to do around strings which match other categories of names which could be considered geographic in nature. There was much discussion around the treatment of cities and the ALAC comment offers some suggestions to resolve this issue.

Planning for ICANN64
The planning team setting up the agenda for At Large sessions for the ICANN64 meeting in Kobe is in full swing. This year will see a very policy focused agenda. The plan is to seek input from experts on some of the outstanding policy issues/topics and how they impact end users. There are a limited number of time slots available and the decision on which topics to focus on has yet to be made. See the At-Large ICANN64 Workspace here.

Policy Agenda
As the ICANN policy agenda continuously offers us new challenges, the two-hour weekly meetings of the At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) has really helped keep everyone working on policy up to date on what the issues are and where responses are required. For my part, I will be concentrating on a response to the recently released draft Strategic Plan.

Due to limited space here, I can only highlight a small portion of the work that has flowed through At Large channels over the last few weeks. It represents only a small fraction of the untold hours many hardworking volunteers dedicate to bringing end user voices into the mix of ICANN policies and processes.

ICANN: North America Stakeholder Engagement Team Update


Happy New Year! I hope everyone is having a great start to 2019, and I look forward to all the great activities that NARALO has in store for the year. I also am pleased to have this opportunity to update you on the activities the ICANN Global Stakeholder Engagement North America team. I hope it will provide
North America Engagement Strategy

GSE is finishing up a community update on our North America Engagement Strategy, which was issued with your help in July 2018. As you may recall, forming partnerships, hosting events, and creating tailored communications were some of our many focus areas. I provided an update at on last NARALO monthly call, and my slides can be found here.

As you can see, we have 6 partnerships underway and we hosted and/or participated in 46 events since the launch of the strategy, so a lot has happened. That said, some of the metrics we chose are still hard to easily gather. Be on the lookout for the full update on our progress in the coming days.

It is important that I do everything I can to keep NARALO abreast of events coming up in the region, so you know where we are and what we’re doing. I’m excited to be hosting a "mix and mingle" and panel discussion with one of our new partners, Civic Hall in New York City. There will be a live stream so we’ll send that link out to you when we have it so you can follow along.] Here is a list of upcoming events for the next month.

- 26 January, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA - "Get Engaged at ICANN: A Workshop for Registrars and Prospective Registrars"
- 31 January, New York, New York, USA - "The Internet Runs on People: How ICANN's Stakeholder Model Keeps Us All Connected" - Watch the live stream here.
- 27 February, Toronto, Ontario, Canada - "Canadian Internet Governance Forum"

Finally, have a look at my Medium piece to promote the event. The conclusion is slightly tongue-in-cheek, but I hope it will generate interest in the January 31 event.

Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG)

Jonathan Zuck, CPWG Co-Chair and NARALO Individual Member, gives us a round-up on how the CPWG functions and its current focus areas.
A big development in 2018 was the creation of the At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG), designed to be a central hub for policy development inside the At-Large. Previously, the discussion whether to respond to a public call for comment was driven by interested individuals but now the process is initiated inside the CPWG. The initial discussion operates as a kind of funnel to decide whether it makes sense for At-Large to comment by asking a series of questions about the call for comment:

1. Is this issue within ICANN’s remit?
2. Are there distinct end-user implications to the topic being discussed?
3. Is there a unique end-user perspective to bring to the discussion?

Defining the Message
Ideally, the At-Large, as an advisory committee, acts as a kind of amicus when responding to public comment, highlighting the unique interest of end users that might not otherwise be a part of the discussion. The At-Large should focus on in-depth commentary when there’s a specific end user perspective to bring to a debate. When the CPWG agrees that the particular topic is appropriate for At-Large comment, an initial penholder (or set of penholders) is identified to come up with messaging on that topic for presentation on the next CPWG call. On that call messaging is discussed and agreed on and only then does drafting begin. That way, the At-Large are better able to have consensus around the key messages contained in the intervention before commenting on an actual draft.

Contributions
So far, this has led to extensive commentary on the EPDP, with specific points of divergence from other parties in the ICANN community and the identification of constituencies that might agree with those positions. The At-Large attempt to walk a fine line on privacy and consumer protection given the fact that a huge majority of end users are not registrants but instead people trying to get things done efficiently online, free from malware, phishing and spam.

Also, the At-Large (via the ALAC) commented extensively on the draft findings and recommendations of the Subsequent Procedures Working Group (SubProc). There’s still a LOT of work to be done with that group but it is clear that the At-Large are interested in seeing a better focus on certain types of applications for strings including communities, IDNs and applications from underserved regions.

Ongoing Discussions
A major topic of discussion inside the At-Large is about so-called geographic names. These could be top-level domains that correspond to the name of a city, like .PARIS or the use of 2 letter country codes as top level domains. There appears to be consensus that 2-letter TLDs should be reserved for ccTLDs but the same sentiment did not extend to 3-letter country codes that are sometimes used elsewhere. When it comes to cities, there’s a strong feeling of support for cities around the world but a lot of practical concerns surrounding permission, especially when a city name is used by multiple cities. Those discussions are ongoing.

Finally, the CPWG seek to address some of the challenges to volunteers who are not native speakers of English by offering some language cleanup by ICANN staff and some upcoming experiments with simultaneous translation of CPWG calls.
ICANN NomCom Update: Apply Now for NOMCOM 2019
ICANN and PTI Leadership Positions!

Leah Symekher (SF Bay ISOC Chapter) is NARALO's appointee to the 2019
ICANN Nominations Committee (NomCom). She gives us an update on the latest
NomCom activities.

The 2019 NomCom online portal for candidate applications to the ICANN and
PTI Leadership positions went live on January 17, 2019. This kicks off the
application period. We encourage interested candidates to read the job
descriptions and qualification criteria on the NomCom website.

The deadline to submit applications is 18 March 2019 at 23:59 Universal
Coordinated Time (UTC).

More Information:

- ICANN Announcement
- Online Candidate Portal
- Blogpost by Damon Ashcraft, NomCom Chair: 2019 Nominating Committee
  Priorities and Agenda
ARIN Update

Susannah Gray (SF Bay ISOC Chapter) offers an overview of what's going on in the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN) community.

ARIN 43 Meeting Registration Now Open
The ARIN 43 Public Policy and Members Meeting will take place 7-10 April 2019 at the Hilton Barbados Resort in Bridgetown, Barbados. Register here. CaribNOG 17 will immediately follow ARIN 43 from 10-12 April.
Policy Discussions

There are several draft policies currently under discussion in the ARIN region. If you're interested in how Internet number resources are distributed in the ARIN service region, sign up to the policy discussion mailing list to have your say:

- ARIN-2017-12: Require New POC Validation Upon Reassignment
- ARIN-2018-2: Clarification to ISP Initial Allocation
- ARIN-2018-5: Disallow Third-party Organization Record Creation
- ARIN-2018-6: Clarify reassignment requirements in 4.2.3.7.1

ARIN on The Road

- Feb 5 2019: ARIN on the Road: Charlotte, NC
- Feb 7 2019: ARIN on the Road: Jacksonville, FL

Input on New IPv6 Training Course

ARIN is developing a new IPv6 training program and would like your input. Complete this short survey by Jan 31 2019.

Membership Update

Comunautique

Comunautique is co-hosting with The Fab City Foundation the 2020 Fab City Summit in Montréal, an opportunity to position technologies to build resilience in our communities. Read more about this event (English version follows the French version). During the same period and in parallel, we'll also co-host with The Fab Foundation the international meeting of The Fab Labs, FAB16.

- Monique Chartrand, Comunautique Representative
San Francisco Bay Area Internet Society Chapter (SF Bay ISOC)
The SF Bay ISOC kicked off 2019 with three new Board Members and a new President, former Vice President Fatema Kothari. After two years at the helm, Susannah Gray stepped down and has taken on the new role of Board Advisor | ICANN/NARALO Liaison. Alongside Susannah and Leah Symekher (NARALO’s NomCom delegate), new Board Member Amolik Kakade will also participate in NARALO on behalf of the Chapter

- Susannah Gray, NARALO Newsletter Editor

Next NARALO Monthly Meeting:
11 February 2019 @ 20:00 UTC

The agenda and call details can be found here.

If you can’t attend, please alert your ALS alternate or send your regrets to Yesim Nazlar, Staff.

NARALO Secretariat Report
Another way to stay on top of events across the region!

NARALO Regional Calendar
If you have an event you would like to share, please email Glenn McKnight, NARALO Secretariat with your details and we will add it to the ICANN Calendar.

Resources and E-Books
NARALO on the At-Large Website

GNSO Policy Summary for ICANN63

Internet Governance Hub Facebook Group

Free Online Course: Introduction to Internet Governance

Thanks for Reading!

Send any content, updates and suggestions to Susannah Gray.

Deadline for content is the 20th of each month.

NARALO Newsletter Archives

Readership Stats of Past 5 NARALO Newsletters

December 2018: 30% open rate, 6% click rate
November 2018: 30% open rate, 13% click rate
October 2018: 32% open rate, 5% click rate
September 2018: 28% open rate, 6% click rate
August 2018: 28% open rate, 6% click rate
Know someone who might enjoy this email? Share it with them.
Did someone share this email with you? Sign up to receive more of our emails.