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Feedback



TOP STORY

ICANN Submits Implementation Planning Report to NTIA

On Friday, 12 August 2016, ICANN submitted an implementation status report to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), in response to NTIA's 9 June 2016 request.

ICANN and the various stakeholder groups have worked tirelessly to ensure that all the necessary implementation tasks are complete in order to allow the contract for the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions to expire on 30 September 2016.

ICANN and the multistakeholder community have completed all specific steps that NTIA called out in its letter. In addition, all other tasks in support of the IANA Stewardship Transition are either in the final review stage or are awaiting approval, which will be completed before 30 September 2016.

For more information, review the [Implementation Planning Report](#).



EDITORIAL



Göran Marby, CEO and President of ICANN

Some weeks ago, at ICANN56 in Helsinki, I said that I see myself as the facilitator in a support organization. What do I facilitate? The possibility for the community, through the multistakeholder model, to do its work. The way I see it, three groups operate as one - the ICANN community, organization and Board. But it's the community, in its policymaking work, that takes the lead.

Earlier this year, these three groups collaborated when we were faced with relocating the meetings that were to be held in Panama and Puerto Rico. We understand that the decision was difficult for Latin American and the Caribbean stakeholders. To demonstrate our commitment to your region, ICANN's Global Stakeholder Engagement team crafted a mitigation plan. I invite you to read more about it in this [blog post](#).

One important aspect of the mitigation plan is the participation of the ICANN organization's leadership in regional events. In June, I had the opportunity to interact with some of you during the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Ministerial meeting in Cancún, Mexico.

I'll also be participating in two additional events in your region later this year:

- In August, I'll be in the Dominican Republic for the third Latin American and Caribbean Domain Name System Forum (LAC DNS Forum). There, we're taking part in two important events: signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Latin American and Caribbean Country Code Top-Level Domain Association ([LACTLD](#)) and signing the Accountability Framework with [nic.do](#), the

Dominican Republic country code top-level domain registry.

- In December, I'll be in Guadalajara, Mexico, for the [Internet Governance Forum](#).

I look forward to these opportunities to get to know you better.

Göran Marby



SPOTLIGHT

Save the Date! ICANN Quarterly Stakeholder Call

ICANN will hold its next Quarterly Stakeholder Call on 18 August at 15:00 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). Learn more about ICANN's activities, progress and financials for the quarter ending 30 June 2016. The call is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. [Register now!](#)



ICANN NEWS

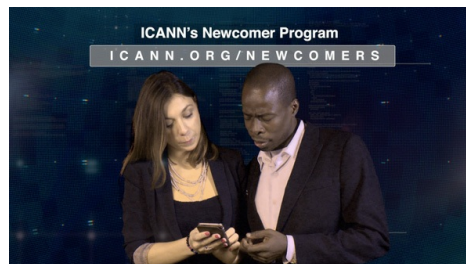
Read Post-ICANN56 Reports

The first Policy Forum concluded in Helsinki, Finland, on 30 June 2016. As part of ICANN's commitment to transparency, we've published three post-conference reports that examine the Policy Forum from different angles.

- [Post-ICANN56 Policy Forum Report](#) - Includes updates from the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees and highlights of the cross-community sessions. This report answers the question "What happened at ICANN56?"
- [ICANN56 Survey Results](#) - Presents the results of two surveys that asked participants to rate various aspects of the Policy Forum.
- [ICANN56 Technical Report](#) - Contains attendee profiles, session statistics and other technical information. Much of this data is gathered through the registration process or meeting management software.



ICANN gathers metrics and examines data and survey results so we can continue to improve your meeting experience.



ICANN Reaches Out to Newcomers

ICANN is always looking for new faces to represent the diversity of the ICANN community - people who want their voices heard and are eager to make a difference. The Newcomers Program helps people who are new to ICANN learn about what ICANN does and how they can participate in the ICANN community.

We've just posted a video for Newcomers to ICANN - with versions in English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish. [Watch the video](#) and forward it to anyone you think may want to get involved with ICANN!

It's Time to Register for ICANN57 Hyderabad!

[ICANN57 Hyderabad](#) will be the first ICANN Public Meeting hosted in India since 2008, when New Delhi was the host city for ICANN31. The seven-day meeting will run from 3-9 November. [Register now!](#)

All foreign nationals traveling to India are required to have a visa. ICANN is currently working with the Indian government on the visa application process. For up-to-date information on obtaining a visa, check the [ICANN57 home page](#).



ICANN57 is defined as a Meeting C in the future meetings strategy developed by the cross-community Meetings Strategy Working Group. A Meeting C showcases ICANN to a broad global audience and includes the ICANN Annual General Meeting.

Learn more about [historic Hyderabad](#) and how [ICANN57 fits into the new meetings strategy](#).

ICANN Board Approves Operating Plan and Budget Documents for FY17

The ICANN Board adopted two planning and budget documents for fiscal year 2017 (FY17). The approval of the the [Five-Year Operating Plan](#) (updated) and the [FY17 Operating Plan and Budget](#) came in June 2016 at ICANN56 in Helsinki, Finland.

The documents resulted from several months of collaboration on the part of members of the community, staff and the Board Finance Committee.

To learn more about what's in these documents, [read the full announcement](#).



LAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS



Alex Pissanty receives the 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award from LACNIC CEO Oscar Robles at LACIGF9 in San José, Costa Rica.

Nearly 300 Participants Discuss Internet Governance at YOUTH LACIGF and LACIGF9

The ninth edition of the LAC Internet Governance Forum (LACIGF9) and the first edition of the YOUTH LACIGF were both held in San Jose, Costa Rica from 26 to 29 July.

The YOUTH LACIGF is an initiative emerging from the growing community of Latin American and Caribbean youth interested in Internet issues. Participants debated new ideas and perspectives at the event, and were encouraged to continue these discussions at other forums. The Internet Society and ICANN supported this successful first edition of the YOUTH LACIGF.

On 28 July, ICANN also participated in the LACIGF - on the Program Committee and also on a panel. ICANN's Rodrigo Saucedo, Senior Manager for Strategic Initiatives for the LAC Region, discussed the Trademark Clearinghouse in the session "The balance between intellectual property and access to knowledge: Scope and impact of interregional trade agreements in the regulatory ecosystem."

Read more about the [YOUTH LACIGF](#) and the [LACIGF9](#).

Call for 2016 Digital Cities Awards Open Until 20 August

The Latin American Association of Telecommunications Companies (ASIET) launched a call for the Latin American Digital Cities Award for the 12th consecutive year. The award recognizes best practices of local governance that improve the quality of life of the whole community through the use of information and communications technology (ICT).

[Download background information and the application for each category:](#)

- Digital literacy
- Development of the digital economy
- Environmental management
- Open government and citizen participation

ICANN56 Readout Session in the Caribbean

by *Albert Daniels, Senior Stakeholder Engagement Manager for the Caribbean*

As part of the LAC Mitigation Strategy, which is a response to the relocations of ICANN56 and ICANN57, we held an ICANN56 readout session for the Caribbean in Barbados on 19 July. The local partners were the ICANN Barbados remote hub (coordinated by Jason Hynds, ICANN Fellow) and the Barbados Data Processing Department (coordinated by Rodney Taylor, past Caribbean Telecommunications Union representative to the ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee).

A cross-section of stakeholders attended the ICANN56 readout, including: business, end users, government, academia and the technical community. Participants were fully engaged in both the formal and networking sessions. Some had previously attended local and regional even - we hope their engagement with ICANN continues to grow.

ICANN56 Readout Session at the Brazilian Pre-IGF

The Brazilian Pre-IGF was held from 11 to 13 July in Porto Alegre, Brazil. During this event, Daniel Fink, Senior Stakeholder Engagement Manager in Brazil for ICANN, and [Vanda Scartezini](#) led a readout session about ICANN56. During this national IGF, discussions included issues such as:

- Second round of new generic top-level domains
- Creation of a new customer standing committee
- Second phase of the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Stewardship Transition
- New format of ICANN meeting

Participants were encouraged to attend webinars organized by ICANN and the community. The participation of 51 young people, who received a fellowship from [CGI.br](#), brought a new and exciting dynamic to the meeting. [Learn more.](#)



Vanda Scartezini with participants of the Brazilian Pre-IGF in Porto Alegre, Brazil.



LAC STRATEGIC PLAN NEWS

Let's Talk About Opportunities

On 15 July, ICANN and the Youth Observatory held the outreach webinar "Let's talk about opportunities." NextGen and Fellowship alumni also participated.

Highlights included:

- Carlos Guerrero, a member of the Youth Observatory, explained the initiative's goals and how to get involved. He also spoke about the [YOUTH LACIGF](#) held in Costa Rica (read details in a previous article).
- ICANN's Rodrigo Saucedo discussed what ICANN is and does, and presented the Fellowship and NextGen programs as great opportunities for getting involved in ICANN.
- Community member Mark Datsygels talked about how he got involved in ICANN through the NextGen and Fellowship programs, and how these experiences changed his life.

The webinar attracted 36 participants from Latin America and the Caribbean, most of them newcomers to ICANN.

[Adobe Connect video/audio \(Spanish\)](#) | [Audio \(English\)](#) | [Audio \(Portuguese\)](#) | [Audio \(Spanish\)](#)

Third ICANN LACRALO Capacity-Building Webinar

As one of the projects of 2016 strategic plan for the LAC region and the Latin American and Caribbean

Islands Regional At-Large Organization (LACRALO), a third capacity-building webinar was held on 28 July. The title of the webinar was "Next-Generation gTLD Registration Directory Services (RDS) to replace WHOIS (WHOIS PDP)."

[Download the agenda.](#)

[Adobe Connect video/audio \(Spanish\)](#) | [Audio \(English\)](#) | [Audio \(Portuguese\)](#) | [Audio \(Spanish\)](#)



POLICY UPDATE

ccNSO EPSRP Working Group Seeks Input

The Extended Process Similarity Review Panel (EPSRP) Working Group of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) seeks public comments on its proposed guidelines for and refinement of the methodology on the review process for second string similarity, including the interpretation of its [split recommendations](#). After the end of the public comment period, the EPSRP Working Group will review the public comments received and revise its proposed guidelines, if deemed appropriate. The working group will then submit the proposed guidelines to the ccNSO Council for approval and submission to the ICANN Board. The close date for public comments is 31 August 2016 at 23:59 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). Learn more about the [EPSRP Working Group](#) and [give us your feedback!](#)

Drafting Team to Develop Recommendations for Post-Transition GNSO

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council has established a drafting team to work with ICANN staff to identify all new or additional rights and responsibilities for the GNSO after the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Stewardship Transition. After the ICANN Board adopted new Bylaws on 26 May 2016, the GNSO Council was aware that changes to its Operating Procedures may be needed to effect new roles and obligations. These changes included the mechanisms listed on [page 5 of the GNSO document](#) and provisions for participating in the Empowered Community.

Call for Volunteers for GNSO Review Working Group

The GNSO Council recently adopted the charter for the GNSO Review Working Group. The working group will oversee the implementation - including a plan with a realistic timeline - of ICANN Board-accepted recommendations and will define desired outcomes. On behalf of the GNSO Council, ICANN has issued a [call for volunteers](#) to join the working group. The GNSO Council solicits members appointed by stakeholder groups and constituencies, as well as participants from the GNSO and broader community.

GAC Work Continues Post-ICANN56

Despite a shorter timeframe to conduct Communiqué drafting, the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) concluded ICANN56 with agreement on the text, which included advice to the ICANN Board. The GAC and ICANN Board discussed this advice on a teleconference on Wednesday, 20 July 2016. Listen to the [recording of this call](#).

The GAC participated in cross-community sessions during ICANN56. GAC Chair Thomas Schneider led the "Workload Scheduling and Management" session. Overall, GAC representatives appreciated the Policy Forum format, especially the cross-community sessions which fostered mutual understanding and learning on specific topics.

GAC Working Group meetings took place in the mornings, followed by plenary sessions and bilateral meetings with other groups. The GAC also welcomed 6 new members, bringing its total membership to 168 members and 35 observers.



DNSSEC: Rolling the Root Zone Key Signing Key

On 22 July 2016, ICANN posted plans to change or "roll" the Root Zone Key Signing Key (KSK), marking another significant step in our ongoing efforts aimed at improving the security of the Domain Name System. The KSK is a cryptographic public-private key pair, the public portion of which serves as the trusted starting point for Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) validation. For more information about the plans and operational processes involved in the KSK rollover, [read the blog](#).

Check Out the New Universal Acceptance Steering Group Website!

Find presentations, videos and technical documentation such as the "Quick Guide" - available in nine languages - on the new Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) website! Universal Acceptance is the concept that all domain names should be treated equally. Internet applications and systems must accept, validate, store, process and display all domains, including new generic top-level domains (gTLDs) and internationalized TLDs. The UASG is a community-based team working to share this vision for the Internet of the future. Visit the new site at [UASG.tech](http://www.UASG.tech).



gTLD Marketplace Health Index: We Want Your Feedback!

The gTLD Marketplace Health Index (Beta) has been posted for community feedback. The index analyzes the overall health and diversity of the global gTLD marketplace against three concepts: robust competition, marketplace stability and trust. ICANN intends to publish data twice a year to track progress against its goal of supporting the evolution of the domain name marketplace. We hope to work with the community to build on this beta version with a more comprehensive set of metrics. To find out more about tracking gTLD marketplace health and how to get involved, [view the Health Index](#) or [read the blog](#).

New Reports Available: DNS Abuse Review and Independent Review of the Trademark Clearinghouse

How do we define Domain Name System (DNS) abuse? Are rights holders using the Trademark Clearinghouse? Reviews of the New gTLD Program are underway, designed to help answer important questions like these.

In July, ICANN posted two new reports resulting from these reviews:

- "Revised Report on New gTLD Program Safeguards to Mitigate DNS Abuse" provides an in-depth examination of possible safeguards to address activities such as cybercrime and hacking. It also presents methods for measuring the effectiveness of those



protections. [Read the report.](#)

- "Draft Report of the Independent Review of the Trademark Clearinghouse" is now available for public comment. The report considers the effectiveness of key services of the Trademark Clearinghouse in meeting its intended objective of supporting rights protection in the New gTLD Program. [Read the draft report](#) or [submit a comment](#).



DELEGATED NEW GTLDS

Seventy-eight new gTLDs delegated in July 2016

See the full list here: <https://newgtlds.icann.org/en/program-status/delegated-strings>

BANAMEX
DOCTOR
COMCAST

VISA
JEEP
GODADDY
PANASONIC

CITI
LANCOME
NIKE



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY



Alejandro Acosta, RSSAC and NomCom

Alejandro Acosta

Approximately two years ago, encouraged by Carlos Martinez from the Latin American and Caribbean Network Information Centre (LACNIC), I joined the [RSSAC Caucus](#). Basically, we are a support organization for the Root Server System Advisory Committee ([RSSAC](#)) - contributing ideas, advice and reports.

A few months after I joined the RSSAC Caucus, a call went out within the group for volunteers to develop documents. I volunteered and ended up co-leading the first version of the second paper (called RSSAC 002). It was a rewarding experience, as I found myself working with some of the top Domain Name System (DNS) professionals in the world. Things were sometimes crazy - I felt pressure, both from the deadlines and from writing for people who knew so much more than I did!

When the RSSAC Caucus was looking for someone to represent the group on the Nominating Committee ([NomCom](#)), I volunteered. Today I am serving on the NomCom, which selects people for leadership roles within ICANN. It's an interesting job and I'm learning so much.



PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

["6 QUESTIONS IN 140 CHARACTERS: Get to know Göran Marby, ICANN's CEO"](#) | LACNIC newsletter, available in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

["Plan de Mitigación para América Latina y el Caribe"](#) | ASIET newsletter, available in Spanish.



UPCOMING EVENTS

10-12 August 2016	<u>12th Caribbean Internet Governance Forum (CIGF)</u>	Belize City, Belize
11-12 August 2016	<u>IV Regional Forum on Interconnectivity and price reduction of telecommunications services and Internet access</u>	Tegucigalpa, Honduras
16-19 August 2016	<u>29 Reunión del CCP.I</u> , (Inter-American Telecommunication Commission's Permanent Consultative Committee I)	Lima, Peru
22-25 August 2016	<u>Dominican Republic Internet Week</u>	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
24-25 August 2016	<u>III LAC DNS FORUM</u>	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic



ENGAGEMENT CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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