Regional Plan for Asia Pacific Published

The Asia Pacific (APAC) Regional Plan for Fiscal Years (FY) 2021-2025 is finalized and published, following months of consultations with the APAC community. The plan maps focus areas and activities against objectives and goals laid out in ICANN’s FY21-25 Strategic Plan.

Read more in this blog.

Read the ICANN68 By the Numbers & Survey Report

The ICANN68 By the Numbers Report is now available, which contains information about participation in ICANN68 by session, location, and more. It also includes results of the ICANN68 Survey, which asked participants what worked best about ICANN’s second virtual meeting and what areas could be improved. Click here to explore the report.

ICANN President & CEO Announces Goals for the 2021 Fiscal Year

ICANN President & CEO Göran Marby has shared his FY21 goals. Each year, Marby works with the ICANN Board to develop goals for the next fiscal year, and then works with the ICANN organization Executive team to build a plan to achieve them. These annual goals help the org prioritize its work, address new challenges, and execute on existing projects with a strategic focus.

Read Göran’s recent blog to examine the goals.

Note: The 2021 fiscal year runs from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.
ICANN’s Independent Review Process Seeks Panelists

ICANN is seeking Expressions of Interest for panelists to serve on the omnibus Standing Panel for ICANN’s Independent Review Process (IRP). The deadline to submit Expressions of Interest is extended to 31 August 2020 at 23:59 UTC. The IRP is an essential accountability mechanism to hold the ICANN Board and organization accountable.

Candidates for the IRP omnibus Standing Panel should review the Expressions of Interest document before submission.

Expressions of Interest should be submitted to: IRP-Standingpanel-EOI2020@icann.org

Nominations Now Open for the Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building

Do you know an ICANN community member who has significantly contributed to developing capacity in areas related to ICANN’s mission? Nominate them for the Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building.

The ideal recipient will have at least five years of experience contributing and developing:

- National, regional, or global capacity-building programs related to ICANN’s Mission.
- Capacity-building programs that positively influenced the multistakeholder model and diversified participation at ICANN.

ICANN community participants and stakeholders may submit nominations using the nomination form. Entries must be received by 21 August 2020 23:59 UTC.

The ICANN Board will review a shortlist of candidates. This year’s recipient will be announced at ICANN69 in October 2020.

Learn more about the award and access the nomination form here.
There was also a specific readout organized by the youth community. Discussions during the readouts were substantive, highlighting the deepening participation from the regional community. For example, India attendees discussed participating in current open Public Comment proceedings such as Enhancing the Effectiveness of ICANN’s Multistakeholder Model. As a result, the community is exploring organizing webinars for further discussions on current open Public Comments. Attendees also discussed ways to stay engaged in the months leading to ICANN69.

The Youth4IG organized a readout for youth which saw keen interest and discussion on topics such as Domain Name System (DNS) abuse, new generic top-level domain subsequent procedures, and potential threats to and from Internet of Things (IoT) devices. Watch this space for this enthusiastic group for emerging future youth community leaders.

Virtual Gathering of the Pacific Network Operators Group (PacNOG26)

PacNOG26 held its first virtual conference from 30 June to 8 July, welcoming around 60 participants from 13 countries.

The technically-focused conference covered topics such as Domain Name System (DNS) Security, where ICANN in partnership with Network Startup Resource Center (NSRC), conducted tutorials on DNS Security between 7-8 July.

ICANN also contributed to a conversation focusing on the topics of Universal Acceptance (UA) and Email Address Internationalization (EAI), particularly the technical considerations required to support EAI.

Missed the ITI Webinars? Watch the Recordings

The Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) team has published links to two webinar recordings. The webinars provided a demo of some of the new content types and features that will be implemented on the improved ICANN.org. The webinars were held on 20 and 22 July.

The improved website will be powered by a new content management system and document management system. It will also feature an improved multilingual user experience in the six U.N. languages and aim to adhere to W3C AA accessibility standards.

Links to the webinar recordings are posted to the ITI feedback site (https://feedback.icann.org/) under the Latest News section. If you have feedback, please email the ITI team at: informationtransparency@icann.org.

New Government Engagement Publications Available
Two new publications are available from the Government Engagement team:

**United Nations Update: Cyber-Related Discussions**

This publication summarizes the proceedings of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) working groups where discussions about the Internet and cybersecurity-related issues take place. Click [here](#) to learn more.

**Digital Services Act Update Paper**

This paper provides an update on the European Union's Digital Service Act (DSA) initiative. In this paper, readers will find background and analysis of the initiative with the potential relevance to the ICANN community and to ICANN's technical role in the Internet ecosystem.

The paper is available [here](#) and the background on the paper is available on the Government Engagement publications page.

A public consultation on the DSA initiative has been currently launched by the European Commission and will remain open until 8 September 2020. ICANN org will submit a contribution to the open consultation and encourages the community to take this opportunity to contribute as well. The org will continue to monitor the DSA initiative and provide updates as relevant developments unfold.

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**New ICANN Learn Course: Constructive Dialogue**

ICANN is built on a foundation of conversation and respect. Fundamental to those qualities is the ability to engage in constructive dialogue. It is not merely about speaking or listening; it’s about engaging in dialogue that enlightens, expands, and advances a goal.

The new Constructive Dialogue course explores interpersonal communication techniques so that learners develop constructive dialogue skills.

In this course, learners explore foundational concepts, work through examples, and have access to quick reference guides to put tools into action. Participants gain insight into ensuring all persons in the ICANN community feel heard, narrowing relevant issues, and facilitating productive conversations.

Regardless of whether you’ve been involved with ICANN for a few months or a decade, we think this course will help everyone. You can access the course at [https://learn.icann.org](https://learn.icann.org).

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**POLICY UPDATE**

**The EPDP Phase 2 Final Report is Now Available**

The Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Team (EPDP Team) finalized and submitted its [Phase 2 Final Report](#) to the Generic Names Supporting
GNSO Council Holds an Extraordinary Meeting about Work Prioritization

On 16 July 2020, the GNSO Council held an extraordinary meeting to discuss its new method of work prioritization based on specific programs and timeframes.

The Program Management tool and Action Decision Radar (ADR) aim to assist the GNSO Council in managing a multitude of projects, as well as prioritizing actions based on their importance and urgency.

Materials from this meeting can be found here.

At-Large Updates

The At-Large Capacity Building Working Group (CBWG) will hold webinars in August and September on the topics of new gTLD subsequent procedures; and DNS-over-HTTPS (DoH) and DNS-over-TLS (DoT).

The At-Large Unaffiliated Individual Mobilization Working Party has launched with the goal of reviewing At-Large unaffiliated individual membership criteria and participation. This group will guide At-Large leadership in how best to engage these members.

ccPDP4 Begins

The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) working group to develop policy recommendations for the de-selection of Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLD strings (ccPDP4) will kick off its work at the start of September. The results of ccPDP4 will replace the IDN country code top-level domain (ccTLD) Fast Track Process, which has guided the selection process of IDN ccTLD strings since 2009.

To stay informed about the work of this group, consult its workspace and the ccNSO website.

UASG Welcomes Six New UA Ambassadors

The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) has welcomed six new individuals into the UASG Ambassador Program for FY21 (July 2020-June 2021). These new ambassadors have a wide range of expertise and experience in the domain name industry, IT, engineering, software development, and
technical research, and will help support UA efforts in Benin, India, Nigeria, South Africa, and Turkey. The UA Ambassador Program now has a total of 13 ambassadors from nine different countries representing the Asia Pacific (APAC), Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), and North America (NA) regions.

To learn more about the new ambassadors and the work they do, click here. Stay up to date on the latest UA developments by following @UASGTech on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

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**Have You Experimented with ICANN’s Lookup Tool?**

Since last year, the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP), developed by the technical community in the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) as a replacement for the WHOIS protocol, has been delivering domain name and Internet identifier registration data in a secure and structured manner.

ICANN offers a registration data lookup tool based on RDAP and you can access it here.

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**GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY**

**Elliott Mann**

*NextGen, ICANN64*

Elliott Mann is a fifth-year undergraduate student studying Law and Computer Science at Swinburne Law School in Melbourne. His first involvement at ICANN was attending the ICANN64 Kobe meeting as a NextGen participant. Since then, he has kept engaged in the Internet governance ecosystem, attending the Internet Governance Forum in Berlin and the virtual ICANN68 meeting.

Mann’s main interests at ICANN include intellectual property protection, privacy issues, and engaging newcomers in the community. He is also involved in encouraging youth participation in Internet governance, especially in the Asia Pacific region.

Mann is a member of Youth4IG, a group that networks and advocates for youth to get involved in the Internet governance process. Mann encourages all students and young people to get involved in Internet governance, as a fascinating way to learn more about the Internet, policymaking, and as a great way to meet people from around the world.
ICANN will be participating in these upcoming events:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3-4 September</td>
<td>APTLD78</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-7 September</td>
<td>National Information Infrastructure Enterprise Promotion Association (NIIEPA) Youth Capacity-Building Workshop</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
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<tr>
<td>27-30 September</td>
<td>Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APrIGF)</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
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