



Representing the ecosystem of Internet -Bharat Model

CCAOI Newsletter

April, 2016

Updates on IANA Transition and ICANN Accountability

The IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group (ICG) and Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG-Accountability) have submitted their proposals to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) on 10th March, 2016.

Before they can complete their anticipated 90 day review, NTIA has said they need to see some adoption of changes to ICANN's Bylaws, to reflect the recommendations in those Proposals.

Therefore, to ensure this timeline, a drafting team was constituted comprising of the ICANN legal team and two external law firms who were involved with CWG-Stewardship and CCWG-Accountability working groups and the two communities, to develop the Draft New ICANN Bylaws

Both the independent counsel to the community groups and ICANN's General Counsel have confirmed that the Draft New ICANN Bylaws are consistent with the community proposals relating to the IANA Stewardship Transition.

The draft New ICANN Bylaws are open for public comments till 21st May and can be viewed from the following link <https://www.icann.org/public-comments/draft-new-bylaws-2016-04-21-en>

As a next step the comments would be analyzed and incorporated for a tentative 27th May adoption of the Bylaws by the ICANN Board.

For more details on the submission of the IANA Stewardship and ICANN Accountability Proposal to NTIA, refer our [earlier article](#).

Discussion on APAC Participation in GNSO

The APAC Hub of ICANN organized an hour long Web Conference to discuss on the APAC Participation in GNSO. Apart from ICANN staff, there were 49 participants, including 3 from India.

The discussion was lead by Jia-Rong Low, VP and MD APAC Hub, ICANN, Edmon Chung, CEO DotAsia and Joyce Chen, GSE Strategy & Development Senior Manager, ICANN.

The participants were given a brief introduction to the structure, mandate and membership process of the GNSO, along with an overview of the key issues being discussed such as ongoing Policy Development Processes (PDP) and Public Comment opportunities in GNSO.

During the discussion poor participation from APAC region @ GNSO was observed to be of prime concern. The participants were encouraged to share their views on what the reasons behind this low participation and also what could be the recommendations to improve this anomaly.

There were various suggestions shared, such as having policies being translated into regional languages, holding GNSO calls at a convenient time, mentoring, checking past data of participation and travel support. Participants also suggested that ICANN needs to also check the reason behind non participation of many existing members.

On behalf of CCAOI, Director, Amrita Choudhury shared the Indian perspective stating that most business houses including ISP's in India do not see the value in participating in these discussions or forums, as they cannot visualize any gains by participating in them. Moreover, existing GTLDs are more involved in enhancing their business and are not keen to delve into policy related matters, further they do not have the manpower with requisite skill sets to involve in policy making.

To correct the existing circumstances, she stated that there is a serious need for ICANN to increase their outreach activity amongst the community, not only to educate them but also to create awareness of what the community is missing by not participating in policy formulation discussions.

She also suggested that ICANN should think of simplifying the existing policy documents and then sharing them in a concise form with the business community, explaining the issue, various suggestions and their implications, so that they can respond easily.

Further, ICANN should think of having regional champions who can create awareness amongst the community, sharing and taking their views and then passing the same to ICANN. If required with the support of ICANN these local champions can conduct events or workshops for better participation. ICANN on their part could also conduct regular webinars at times convenient to local stakeholder to discuss on relevant issues.

The webinar recording is available from the following link. <https://icann.adobeconnect.com/p5shii7x2al/>

Further, the ICANN APAC Hub plans to hold another web conference in June.

Composition of Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation Announced

The composition of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation has been announced by the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development through the Economic and Social Council in pursuant to UN GA resolution 70/125.

The working group comprises of member states (4 from each region) 5 representatives each from business, civil society, the technical community and academia and intergovernmental organizations.

Along with India being a member state in the working group, Parminder Singh, Executive Director, IT for Change is representing civil society in the working group from the APAC region.

For more details, please visit: http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1245&Sitemap_x0020_Taxonomy=Commission%20on%20Science%20and%20Technology%20for%20Development

ISOC Announces Newly Elected Board of Trustees

The ISOC Elections Committee has announced the final results of the 2016 selections to the Internet Society Board of Trustees. Desiree Milosevic has been (re-)elected to the board by Organizational Members, Harish Pillay has been elected to the board by Organizational Members, Olga Cavalli has been elected to the board by the Chapter delegates, and the Internet Architecture Board (IAB) has selected, and the IETF confirmed, Richard Barnes to serve as Internet Society trustee, following the process documented in RFC 3677.

The term of office for all of the new trustees will be three years, commencing with the Annual General Meeting of the Internet Society in June 2016.

MAG Open Consultation & Face to Face MAG Meeting

The IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) had their open consultations and face to face meeting in Geneva between 4th -6th April, 2016.

During the meeting it was decided that the annual IGF 2016 would be held from 6-9 December in Guadalajara, Mexico and the main theme and title of the event would be: 'Internet Governance Forum 2016 - Enabling Inclusive and Sustainable Growth'.

Further, Ambassador Benedicto Fonseca Filho was appointed as the Special Advisor to the MAG Chair to assist with outreach efforts within the UN and with senior policy makers.

During the meeting the MAG decided on the timelines for call, evaluation and selection of workshops for IGF 2016. It was decided that the final selection of workshops would be concluded in the next face-to-face MAG meeting (11-15 July).

Further, there was also a discussion on the MAG email list and creating MAG working group that would address, and reflect the MAG's work and working modalities in the context of the CSTD's report on recommendations on IGF improvements. It was also decided to move the broader discussion on creating working groups to a future meeting of the MAG (i.e. an upcoming virtual MAG meeting).

For more details visit <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/documents/igf-meeting/igf-2016/magmeetings/732-summary-igf-1st-oc-and-mag-meeting-4-6aprilfinal/file>

European Parliament Approves General Data Protection Regulation

On 14 April, the Members of the European Parliament approved the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which aims to provide citizens control of their personal data and create a uniform level of data protection across the EU.

Some of the significant provisions of the new rules include, right to be forgotten, clear consent for processing of private data by the person concerned, the right to transfer one's data to another service provider, the right to know when one's data has been hacked, ensuring that privacy policies are explained in clear and understandable language, and stronger enforcement and fines up to 4% of firms' total worldwide annual turnover, as a deterrent to breaking the rules.

This regulation, which is the result of four years of negotiations, also sets minimum standards for use of data for policing and judicial purposes within each member state.

With the implementation of this regulation, EU expects to stimulate the Digital Single Market, by fostering trust in online services by consumers and legal certainty for businesses based on clear and uniform rules.

For more details visit http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-16-1403_en.htm

Other Highlights of the Month

- With an aim of developing a suitable policy framework to define the obligations of Standard Essential Patent holders and their licensees, the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce & Industry had sought comments on the Discussion Paper on Standard Essential Patents and their Availability on FRAND terms till 28th April, 2016. For more information on the paper, visit http://dipp.nic.in/english/Discuss_paper/standardEssentialPaper_01March2016.pdf
- The Department of Telecommunications has notified the rules on panic button vide notification dated 22nd April, 2016 issued under section 10 of the Indian Wireless Telegraph Act 1933. As per these rules, w.e.f January 2017 all phones will have a panic button and from January 2018, all mobile phones will be required to have access to have the facility of identifying the location through satellite based GPS. For more details visit <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=142272>
- Association for Progressive Communications (APC) has released a new policy paper on access to the internet, "Ending digital exclusion: Why the access divide persists and how to close it". For more details visit https://www.apc.org/en/system/files/APC_EndingDigitalExclusion.pdf
- 15 individuals from various nationalities, studying at Universities in Europe and 5 Ambassadors have been selected to participate for Next Gen@ICANN56. For more details visit <https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-2016-04-29-en>

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- The 2nd Smart Cities India Expo 2016 between 11-13th May 2016 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. For more details, visit <http://www.smartcitiesindia.com/>
- ISOC's announcement seeking nominations for the Jonathan Postal service Awards for organizations or individuals who have made outstanding contributions to data communications. The deadline for nominations is 18th May, 2016. For more details visit: <http://www.internetsociety.org/what-we-do/grants-and-awards/awards/postel-service-award/procedures>
- The ICANN Fellowship Application is now open ICANN57 to be held between 29 Oct 4 Nov 2016. Interested candidates can apply within 27 July 2016. For more details visit <https://www.icann.org/fellowshipprogram>
- Applications for ISIF Asia's 2016 grants are now open, with the pool of AUD 386,000 available, across four grant programs to support projects using the Internet for social and economic development in the Asia Pacific. Applications are open from today until 31 May 2016. For more details visit <http://isif.asia/grant>
- IGF Secretariat has published the Call for workshop proposals for IGF 2016 to be held in Mexico, between 6th -9th December. This year's theme is "Enabling Inclusive and Sustainable Growth". The last date to submit proposals is June 6th, 2016. For more details please visit <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/igf16-workshops>
- There is a call for proposal for 11th GigaNet Annual Symposium on "Internet Governance research a decade after WSIS: new directions and persisting challenges. Last date to submit extracts is 10 June 2016. For more details, please visit <http://www.giga-net.org/page/2016-annual-symposium>.

- IEEE is calling out for people interested in Technology projects to associate with the IEEE SIGHT projects, which promote humanitarian technology activities by bringing together, encouraging and promoting members and other stakeholder groups to build and use humanitarian technologies. SIGHT also aims to raise awareness of these technologies and increase efforts of stakeholders, NGO's, etc. to create useful and sustainable technologies. For more details please visit, http://www.ieee.org/special_interest_group_on_humanitarian_technology.html
- 56th ICANN Meeting to be held in Helsinki from 27th to 30th June, 2016. For more details please visit <https://meetings.icann.org/en/helsinki56>

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