CCAOI Newsletter	December 2018

Happy New Year.
Key Trends of 2018 at a Glance

The year ended with a persisting digital divide, with a little less than half the global population yet to be connected online. Access, availability, affordability, relevance of content and language continued to be the top factors contributing to this anomaly In India the National Digital Communications Policy (NDCP) came into effect, where one of the objectives has been to connect the balance 70% Indians.

Key trends of 2018 include discussions on privacy and data protection; cyber security, liabilities and obligations of internet companies; net neutrality; content regulation; misinformation; digital trade; emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI).

With the European Union's (EU) General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) coming, into effect along with reports of data breach (Cambridge Analytica, Marriot, Orbitz, Equifax, Amazon, Facebook. Google+, SingHealth, Reddit, Conrail, etc.), discussions on privacy and data protection came to the forefront. Across the globe various nations initiated drafting their national data protection or privacy laws. In India the Justice BN Srikrishna Committee on Data protection submitted the draft Personal Data Protection Bill 2018 to the government for further deliberation. Further the Supreme Court of India upheld the constitutional validity of Aadhaar, the 12-digit unique identification number issued to Indian citizens, and ruled that it does not infringe on an individual's right to privacy

Liabilities and obligations of internet companies were much discussed. Governments in many countries, including India are now arguing for data localization. There is a growing trend of governments negotiating to have their presence in the office of the online companies, such as the agreement between French government and Facebook

Fake news was much discussed. This has also resulted in a growing trend of governments attempting to regulate the online companies and freedom of speech online. Papua and New Guinea announced a ban on Facebook for a month to curb fake news; Uganda proposed to tax the social media and messaging apps to curb online gossip; Egypt passed a law to regulate taxi sharing apps and a cybercrime law to regulate web content and ISP surveillance; Cambodia passed a regulation to monitor news and social media; Australia introduced the Assistance and Access Bill, to name a few.

Cybersecurity remained another much discussed topic, with an emphasis on the role of governments and collaboration. In this regard, the French President Macron launched the Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace"; the Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace (GCSC) released the 'Singapore package, thirty global companies signed the Cybersecurity Tech Accord; Heads of Commonwealth Governments adopted the Commonwealth Cyber Declaration, are some such examples. With growing cyber threats, this year, several countries updated their cyber defense policies such as the European Commission (EU Cyber defense policy framework); US (Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Act of 2018 and Cyber Strategy 2018) and China.

In terms of digital commerce, the discussions revolved round the growing digital economy and taxation on digital commerce. During the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC11), seventy one member states signed the Joint Statement on Electronic Commerce. This year marked the rise in trade tensions between US and China; , the Euopean Commission proposing new rules for digital taxation, UK considering taxing revenue of Internet corporations and the Australian government proposing to collect a fee for internet shopping.

Governance and ethics of emerging technologies such as AI was another topic discussed. Data protection authorities of over 15 countries signed the "Declaration on Ethics and Data Protecton in Artificial Intelligence"; twenty five European countries adopted a Declaration of Cooperation on Artificial Intelligence (AI); European Commission outlined a European approach to boost investment and set ethical guidelines on AI; Singapore launched AI governance and ethics initiatives; the G7 Summit leaders endorsed a 'Common vision for the future of artificial intelligence (AI) and in India Niti Ayog released a discussion paper on the National Strategy For Artificial Intelligence. Further, Microsoft launched AI for Accessibility while Google outlined their AI principles.

December Highlights

Privacy and data protection continued to be a much discussed topic in December. Australia passed the controversial Assistance and Access Bill that grants, law enforcement agencies access to encrypted messages of technology companies. The released confidential internal Facebook e-mails by UK Parliamentray Committee on how special access of user data were shared with other companies, once again raised the question of privacy and security of user data. In India the Union Cabinet cleared the legal changes necessary to amend the Telegraph Act, Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and the Aadhaar Act in keeping with the Supreme Court decision to strike down a section in the Aadhaar law that allowed private companies to demand that their customers provide their 12-digit unique identification number. As a next step the Aadhar and Other Laws Amendment and bill 2018 was tabled in the lok sabha on 2 January.

Artificial Intelligence and its regulation were much discussed. The USA-based AI Now Institute, in their report "AI Now 2018 Report recommended governments to regulate AI 'by expanding the powers of the sector-specific agencies to oversee, audit, and monitor AI technologies by domain'. The European Commission presented a Coordinated Plan to foster the development and use of artificial intelligence (AI) in Europe.

There were several reports of data breach this month. A report by Symantec revealed details of the Seedworm cyber espionage attack in 2017-2018 that affected several telecom and IT services servicing oil and gas sectors in Pakistan,Turkey,Russia, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Jordan, and organisations in Europe and North America that have ties to the Middle East. The reported Marriot Data breach of 2014 exposed nearly 500 million records and made the database vulnerable since then. It was reported that a Facebook bug may have affected 6.8 million users and 1500 apps developed by 876 developers during a 12-day period in September. Further, The Seqrite Quaterly Threat Report Q3 2018 reveals that Indian enterprises face around .28 million cyber threats each day.

Cybersecurity remained a top priority for most nations. The United Kingdom announced the launch of a new cyber skills strategy. In EU, the European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA) will become the EU Agency for Cybersecurity with a permanent mandate. The Indian government think tank Niti Aayog in the document Strategy for New India @ 75 emphasises on the relevance of digital infrastructure for economic growth, and need to eliminate the digital divide by 2022-23. The document advocates for a comprehensive cybersecurity framework and need to address the constraints in broadband access.

Misinformation and fake news continued to be discussed in December.In a bid to fight fake news the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), Government of India is inviting comments on the draft of "The Information Technology [Intermediary Guidelines (Amendment) Rules] 2018 by 15 January.

ICANN Updates

This month, ICANN published "Five Years of the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Strategy," highlighting the milestones achieved by the LAC community; the annual **Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Customer Survey Findings and the** Draft Operating Plan and Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 which is open for community feedback. For FY20, the operating budget forecates a minimal growth in the funding to at $140.1 million, up 2% from FY19, while the expenses are budgeted below funding at $137.1 million.

Besides, this month the ten member Technical Study Group on Access to Non-Public Registration Data (TSG-RD) coordinated by Ram Mohan, initiated their work to explore technical solutions for providing third parties access to non-public data via RDAP.

Comments are invited on the Work Track 5 on Geographic Names at the Top Level - Supplemental Initial Report of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process by 22 January and

Applications are now invited for the ICANN65 to be held in Marrakech for Nextgen Program by 11 January, 2019. Refer here for more information.

ISOC Updates

This month ISOC organised the global InterCommunity 2018 event on 4 December where all the ISOC members participated online. **Benin Chapter's project in IoT Low Hightech** 'A connected object creation workshop', won the first prize this year's Chapterthon award. Also, ISOC announced the appointment of Rinalia Abdul Rahim as Senior Vice President of Strategy and Implementation.

Nominations are invited for the three positions of the Public Interest Registry (PIR) Board by 4 February 2019 and Internet Hall of Fame.

APAC News:

This month, three webinars were organized by Chapters from the region. These include discussions on open Internet - routing security, diversity and inclusion and cybersecurity.

Chapter members based in Hyderabad in collaboration with free software advocate organisation, Swecha, organised a webinar on routing security. Dr. Kotikalapudi Sriram from the National Institute of Standards and Technology, USA, delivered a talk titled, "Internet Routing Security: Vulnerabilities and Mitigation Techniques.

India Delhi Chapter organised a webinar on Diversity and Inclusion. The session was moderated by Subhashish Panigrahi and Amrita Choudhury. Japleen Pascricha from Feminism in India present her views on diversity and gender inclusion while highlighting issues leading to gender digital divide and online violence against women. This was followed by a discussion among chapter representatives from the region on the current practices in their countries and chapters for improving diversity and gender inclusion. The chapter representatives who shared their views include, Shveta Kokash**,** ISOC Mumbai; Cherie Lagakali, PICISOC; Musyrifah Mahmod**,** ISOC Malaysia; Sagarika Wickramaseker**a** and Poornima Meegammana, ISOC

Sri Lanka; Bikram Shrestha, ISOC Nepal; and Shabana Mansoory, ISOC Afghanistan. It was also felt that the discussion on the subject needs to be continued further.

The third webinar was organised by the **APAC Bureau** titled, "Citizen Co-production of Cybersecurity: Self-help, Vigilantes and Cybercrime"and Dr. Lennon Chang, Senior Lecturer in Criminology in the School of Social Sciences at Monash University, Australia delivered a talk on the safeguards and guidelines for constructive citizen/netizen co-production of cybersecurity.

The **India Kolkata Chapter** announced the newly elected Executive Council Members : Anupam Agrawal as Chair; Anand Raje as Vice Chair; Prof. Indrajit De as Secretary; T K Bhakta as Treasurer; Abhijan Bhattachayya as VP – Programs; Priyatosh Jana as VP – Membership; Sushanta Sinha as VP - Marketing and Shampa Sengupta as Convenor Women SIG.

Pic: New EC members of ISOC India Kolkata Chapter with youth members

APNIC Highlights

In the month of December, APNIC participated in the 23rd Pacific Network Operators Group (PacNOG 23) in the Marshall Islands and Nepal Network Operators Group (npNOG) in Kathmandu.

The APNIC Executive Council (EC) published their response to the 2018 APNIC survey.

As a part of the Address Supporting Organization Address Council (ASO AC), APNIC invited comments from the community by 15 January, for the Seat 10 of the ICANN Board of Directors. The nominated candidates are Dmitry Burkov, Akinori Maemura, and Andile Ngcaba.

For the APRICOT 2019 conference to be held at Daejeon South Korea from 18-28 February, presentations and tutorials are invited, by 25 January while suggestions to improve the current policies or new policy proposals are invited by 18 January.

TRAI Updates

In the month of December, Trai released the [Seventh Amendment of the Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability Regulations, 2018](#); list of [maximum Retail Price (MRP) of Pay TV Channels](#); the [implementation of New Regulatory Framework for Broadcasting & Cable Services Sector](#) and the [Amendment of the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2018](#).

Besides the Regulator extended the comment submission period for the consultation papers on [Regulatory Framework for Over-The-Top (OTT) Communication Services](#). to [7 January](#) and [Review of extant provision for sending the printed bills to consumers of landline and postpaid Mobile subscribers](#) to [8 January](#).

Round Table MeitY

This month, the Internet Governance division of the Ministry of Electronics and IT organised two round table discussions which were chaired by the Joint Secretary Mr. Jaideep Kumar Mishra. The aim of the roundtables was to gather comments and responses from different stakeholders on two policy tracks of ICANN which were open to public comments.

The first roundtable held on 11 December, was on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process. The session was moderated by Mr. T. Santosh, Scientist E from the ministry. After sharing an overview on the subject and the draft response prepared by MeitY and NIXI in response to the Supplemental Report, open for public comments till 12 December, the participants were encouraged to share their comments on the draft response..

The second roundtable, held on 12 December was on the ['Initial Report of the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Expedited Policy Development Process'](#) open for public comments till 21 December. The roundtable was moderated by Mr. Rahul Gossain, Director in the ministry. Apart from sharing an overview on the subject, participants were encouraged to share their perspectives on the key questions being asked in the paper.

Pic: From the Round Table discussion

CCAOI organizes an online discussion of TRAI OTT Paper

CCAOI organised an online discussion on the TRAI consultation paper on [Regulatory Framework for OTT communication services](#) on 7 December. The event was supported by the Internet Society, Delhi Chapter.The aim of this discussion was to provide more clarity to the community on the subject and questions asked in the paper and encourage different community members to make their submission to TRAI.

The 90 mins discussion began with a brief overview of the consultation paper by Shashank Mishra from Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas, followed by expert opinion from our guest speakers T. V. Ramachandran from Broadband India Forum; Rajesh Chharia from Internet Service Providers Association of India (ISPAI) and Ramanjit Cheema from India Freedom Foundation (IFF). The discussion was very balanced having different perspectives being shared by the participating speakers. This was followed by an open discussion and question answer session.

In terms of participation, the webinar was attended by nearly 40 participants from different stakeholder communities. The general feedback was it was a very useful and people would like to attend 'such informative' sessions in future. The recording of the session can be viewed from this link: https://isoc.box.com/v/ott20181207

Other Updates

Reports & Articles:

- The Dialogue released a policy paper "[Intersection of AI with Cross-Border Data Flow and Privacy](#)" on 14 December.
- The final output of the ['2018 Best Practice Forum on Cybersecurity - Cybersecurity Culture, Norms and Values](#)' is now available.
- The World economic Forum (WEF) released the annual [Global Risk Report. 2018](#).
- The report [Our Shared Digital Future Building an Inclusive, Trustworthy and Sustainable Digital Society](#) [released](#) by World Economic Forum outlined the priority areas to focus that include universal internet access and adoption, digital transformation, digital identity, governance, cyber resilience, and data, for building a digital economy and society.
- The annual report of Media association [Reporters Without Borders](#) indicates a in the number of journalists killed and imprisoned worldwide in 2018.
- A report by the Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI) "[Improving Mobile Broadband Quality of Service in Low Middle Income Countries](#)" indicates a disparity between the broadband speeds found in the Global North and Global South. The report also [outlines](#) a set of recommendations for improving quality of service.
- The recently [published](#) International Telecommunications Union(ITU) [2018 global and regional ICT estimates](#) reveal 51.2 per cent of the global population are now connected to the internet.

Events:

- The 2018 edition of World Radiocommunication Seminar (**WRS-18**), was held in Geneva from 3 -7 December to discuss the regulatory aspects of the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits, in particular the application of the provisions of the [ITU Radio Regulations](#).

- The [Africa eCommerce Week](#) themed "Empowering African Economies in the Digital Era" was organised from 10 - 14 December in Nairobi, Kenya. At the end of the event the [Nairobi Manifesto on the Digital Economy and Inclusive Development in Africa](#) was drafted mentioning policy

- recommendations necessary for building a digital economy and usher in inclusive and sustainable development in Africa.

- The ICANN63 Readout was hosted by the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) on 13 December. Apart from sharing the highlights of the ICANN63 meeting by Gangesh Sreekumar, ICRIER, there was a presentation on the WHOIS & Compliance with Privacy Legislations by Mr.Rahul Gosain, Director, MEITY. This was followed by a discussion on participation at ICANN with updates from NomCom by Mr. Brajesh Jain, Member, Address Council, ASO and Effective and meaningful participation in ICANN, including the Fellowship, by Ms. Amrita Choudhury, Director, CCAOI Mr. Manmeet Pal Singh and Ms. Mili Semlani, ICANN Fellows. The next discussion was on building the multilingual internet and new gTLDs, along with updates from the NBGP and UASG. The participants in this discussion were Dr.Ajay Data, Founder & CEO, XGen Technologies Mr.Satish Babu, Chair, APRALO and Mr. Harish Chowdhary, UA Ambassador. The concluding remarks were shared by Mr. Samiran Gupta, Head of India, ICANN

- OECD Global Forum on Digital Security for Prosperity was held on 13-14 December 2018 in Paris, France.

- Bangladesh School of Internet Governance (bdSIG 2018) was organised in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 14-15 December.

Other Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Events in 2019
- The ORF Raisina Dialogue 2019 will be held from 8-10 Januray in Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi.
- SANOG 33 will take place in Thimpu, Bhutan between 9-16 January.
- The 1st Meeting of the Correspondence Group for the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting 2019 (CGMM-1) will be held between 15-17 January in Bangkok, Thailand.
- JANOG 43 will take place between 23-25 January in Yamanashi, Japan.
- 27th Convergence India 2019 expo, will take place from 29 -31 January in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- NZNOG 2019 will take place between 31 January to 1 February in Napier New Zealand.
- APAN 47 will be organised from 18-22 February in Daejeon, South Korea.
- APRICOT 2019 & APNIC 47 will be organised from 18-28 February in Daejeon, South Korea.
- Mobile World Congress (MWC) will take place in Barcelona on 25-28 February.
- HKNOG 7.0 will be organised in Hong Kong on 1 March.
- phNOG 2019 will be organised between 4-8 March in Cebu.
- ICANN 64 will be held between 9-14 March in Kobe, Japan.
- Vietnam Internet Forum 2019 will be held between 20-21 March in Hanoi.
- IETF 104 will be held in Prague from the 23-29 March.
- Telecoms World Asia 2019 will be held from 25-27 March in Bangkok, Thailand.
- IoT Asia 2019 will be held between 27-28 March in Singapore.
- THNOG 2 will be held on 6 May in Bangkok, Thailand.
- BKNIX Peering Forum will be held on 7 May in Bangkok, Thailand.
- World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) 2019 will be held from 8-12 April in Geneva, Switzerland
- intERLab BGP Peering Workshop will be held from 8-10 May in Bangkok, Thailand.
- ICT Days Pacific 2019 will be held from 16-17 May in Port Vila.
- btNOG 6 will be held from 3-7 June in Thimphu, Bhutan.

- Asia Pacific School on Internet Governance (APSIG) 2019 will be held in Bangkok from 8-10 June.
- RightsCon 2019 will be held from 11-14 June in Tunis,Tunisia.
- ConnecTechAsia 2019 will be held between 18-20 June in Singapore.

- SGNOG 7 will be held on 12 July in Singapore.
- 10th Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APrIGF) will be held from 16-19 July in Vladivostok, Russia.
- IETF 105 will be held between 20-26 July in Montreal Canada.
- APNIC 2019 will be held from 5-12 September in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Opportunities
- Comments are invited on the final version of the BPF Gender output paper 2018 by 5 January.
- Inputs have been sought from stakeholder in the IGF's annual stocktaking process by 15 January 2019. The feedback questions this year is focused on how to improve programming, outputs and intersessional work, as well as on how the IGF can respond to the high-level statements made during the annual meeting.
- Applications are invited to the APrIGF Fellowship Program 2019 till 30 January. For more details visit this link.
- Application for participation is now open till 28 February, for Asia Pacific School on Internet Governance (APSIG) 2019 to be held in Bangkok from 8-10 June.

View the summarized key policy updates of Asia using this link

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