



Representing the ecosystem of Internet -Bharat Model

CCAIOI Newsletter

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Government of India supports Multistakeholder model of Internet Governance @ICANN 53

In his video address during the Welcome Ceremony of ICANN 53, the Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad shared India's support to multistakeholder model of Internet governance.

During this historic speech, the Minister further shared that the Indian vision of Internet is that Internet must remain plural, be managed by a multilayered and multistakeholder system. The strength of the model will lie in "partnership made between like-minded nations and stakeholders, built on a platform which supports and will sustain a future of equity and innovation and collaboration and inclusion. Only then will we truly be able to manage the ecosystem of this new digital age".

The Minister also touched upon India's Digital India plan to create an 'IT enabled society', further reiterating that India has a stake and must participate in global decision making. He added that India has high expectations from this "new global management system for the internet" and that this new form of digital democracy should be fair and equitable

The Ministers speech can be viewed from the following link: <https://www.icann.org/news/multimedia/1435>

Questions to CCWG Accountability Working Group from NTIA

Prior to ICANN 53, Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information and NTIA Administrator Lawrence E. Strickling raised a few questions to the CCWG Accountability working group to deliberate upon, based on their draft proposal.

The questions raised are related to, **security and stability of DNS post the transition** (The new organisation or processes should not interfere with the security and stability of DNS. Will the new structures create a different set of accountability?); **proposed membership model** (Whether other options have been examined by the group? Have stress tests been conducted to ensure multistakeholder model is preserved incase any individual SO/AC opt out, against risk of capture , barriers to new participants, and to address potential unintended consequences of "operationalizing" groups that to date have been advisory in nature?); **Independent Review Panel (IRP)** (How existing concerns with IRP will be addressed?); **Accountability and role of ICANN Board** (Within the multistakeholder model. Should the standard for Board action be to confirm that the community has reached consensus and are the required accountability mechanisms in place?) and **Accountability and improvement in processes of ICANN Management and staff and the ICANN Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees.**

Strickling also suggested that the accountability working groups needs to document and build public records on how the NTIA criteria have been met and will be maintained in the future.

He further added that the committee should focus on implementation of its recommendations now, further questioning whether issues of implementation have been identified and addressed in the proposal so that the community and ICANN can implement the plan once reviewed and accepted. At the end he reiterated that NTIA will only accept a comprehensive plan which includes all elements and is multistakeholder in nature.

For further details view the following link: <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/blog/2015/stakeholder-proposals-come-together-icann-meeting-argentina>

Update on ICANN 53 Buenos Aires

The 53rd ICANN meeting took place in Buenos Aires from the 21st–25th of June 2015 and was attended by over 1,400 global Internet community members.

A brief update on the highlights of the meeting have been elucidated below:

CCWG Accountability Statement after Face-to-Face Meeting in Buenos Aires

The statement released by the CCWG Accountability Working Group post the Face-to-Face meeting in Buenos Aires, mentions that the group had discussed the comments received on the initial draft where they have received broad support from the community for the overall accountability architecture proposed, based on 4 building blocks, i.e. an empowered community, the Board, the Bylaws and the Independent Review Process.

While many community members expressed support for the recommendations, there were others who recommended CCWG Accountability to take a more detailed look at the accountability of the community (the SOs and ACs) and also to ensure that ICANN is accountable to all stakeholders, including those outside ICANN. Concerns were also raised by some community members on implementation, legal implications, complexity, and underlying costs and risks associated with the proposals.

On the subject of the community empowerment mechanism, as concerns has been raised by many community members with the reference model, where SOs and ACs would require to set up separate legal entities and the community found the model too complex, the CCWG-Accountability will now focus on a refined model called Empowered SO/AC model, which gives the community comparable authority while not adding legal entities separate from the SOs and ACs.

The dependency of to the CWG-Stewardship's final proposal was also discussed and acknowledged.

The statement further mentioned that the CCWG Accountability group would be working on the comments received and plans to publish their draft for second round of public comments by end of July.

For more details visit the following link: <https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-2015-06-20-en>

ICANN53 Buenos Aires Government Advisory Council (GAC) Communiqué

The GAC Communiqué refers its meeting with the ICANN board, GNSO, ccNSO, SSAC and ALAC. It also mentions the addition of two new members Kiribati and Mauritius taking the total of GAC to 152 Members and 32 observers.

The Communiqué mentions that GAC made modifications in their operating principles to enable election of upto 5 vice chairs and decided to continue the specific working groups in the areas of Protection of Geographic Names , Public Safety ; Underserved Regions; GAC Participation in the ICANN Nominating Committee (NomCom); Human Rights and International Law; Review of GAC Operating Principles; Government and Inter-Governmental Organization (IGO) Engagement

The documents states that GAC is working to create a database of country requirements for notification of requests for release of country/ territory names at the second level in new gTLD with options for governments to state that they do not object to release and abstain from notifications for such requests.

The next High Level Government Meeting (HLGM) of GAC was decided to be held at Morocco on the 7th of March 2016.

In their note to the CWG Co-Chairs, GAC supports the submission of the final proposal to IGC and acknowledges that the CWG-Stewardship proposal is significantly dependent on mechanisms being formulated by CCWG Accountability Working Group for implementation of ICANN accountability

GAC plans to share their comments and concerns on the proposal of the CCWG Accountability during the CCWG Face-to-Face meeting on 17-18th July, 2015.

The GAC advice to the ICANN board was related to:

- gTLD safeguards, recommending NGPC to create a list of commended public interest commitment(PIC) examples related to verification and validation of credentials for domains in highly regulated sectors to serve as a model. Also asking NGPC to clarify acceptance or rejection of Safeguard advice. Creating a harmonized methodology by ICANN Community, to assess the number of abusive domain names within the current exercise of assessment of the new gTLD program.
- Protection for Inter-Governmental Organizations (IGOs) names and acronyms at the top and second levels.
- Confirming the status of implementation of GAC related Accountability and Transparency Review Team 2 (ATRT2).
- Community Priority Evaluation especially related to community application process for new gTLDs.

For more information view the following link: <https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-2-2015-06-24-en>

2015 Multistakeholder Ethos Award

Nii Quaynor and Cheryl Langdon Orr were awarded the 2015 Multistakeholder Ethos Award in recognition of their outstanding work and commitment to the global Internet community. While Nii Quaynor has been instrumental in establishing AFRINIC and AFNOG in Africa and is often referred as the father of Internet in Africa; Australia based Cheryl Langdon Orr has served in numerous GNSO, CCNSO and ALAC Cross community working groups over the years.

It may be mentioned that the Multistakeholder Ethos Award created in 2014, honors and recognizes members from the global Internet community who have demonstrated an incredible dedication to the multistakeholder model of Internet Governance. For further details view the following link: <https://www.icann.org/resources/press-material/release-2015-06-25-en>

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- The Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi would be launching the Digital India program on 1st July 2015 at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi.
- Mr. Nankumar Saravade to join as CEO, DSCI, from 1st July 2015. For more details visit <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/internet/dsci-appoints-cyber-security-expert-nandkumar-saravade-its-ceo/articleshow/47864465.cms>
- The informal interactive consultations with stakeholders on the review of implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS+10) will be held in New York, on 1 and 2 July, 2015. For further details visit: <http://unpan3.un.org/wsis10/>
- ISOC Bangalore Chapter would be holding a global conference InterCommunity 2015 on 8th July 2015 at Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Bangalore. For further details visit <http://www.isocbangalore.org/icomm15/>
- The Best Practice Forum (BPF) on Developing meaningful multi stakeholder participation mechanisms, (BPF-Multi stakeholder) is inviting community members to submit a brief description (in max 500 words) of multi stakeholder and other participatory democratic practices they have used that have either worked very well or badly. The contributions should be submitted to bp_multistakeholder@intgovforum.org and also to Brian Gutterman (gutterman@un.org) by 13 July 2015. For further details visit: <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/170-igf-2014/best-practice-forums-2014/1891-developing-meaningful-multistakeholder-participation-mechnisms>
- The South Asian Network Operators Group (SANOG) workshop is being organized by NIXI and ISPAI at Hotel Trident, Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai from 3rd – 11th August 2015

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