Internet Service Providers & Connectivity Providers Constituency [ISPCP]
Generic Names Supporting Organization
ISPCP Bulletin No. 1
June 2013
ICANN
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

ISP CEOs Roundtable

CEOs and senior executives of prominent ISPs will be hosted for a roundtable discussion led by ICANN CEO Fadi Chehadé, initially in **London**, with other events likely to follow during 2013. Following on from similar sessions held with CEOs from both the Registry and Registrar communities, this event will provide a platform for ICANN to present their hopes and vision for the future. It will also look at trends in growth of the domain name market and in access growth, differentiated by means of access: mobile, broadband, type of device, etc. Infrastructure investment trends by region will also be covered.

These senior members of the ISP community will also be presented with a description of work underway to develop info graphic depictions of the "DNS Value Chain" and the "DNS Sector," which will assist in explaining a very complex ecosystem. A topic of particular interest for these senior representatives of the ISP industry will be the expansion of the Internet's name space. Without doubt the introduction of new gTLDs and Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) will impact ISPs and Connectivity Providers over the next few years. ISPs 'are' the Internet and thus a number of back-office functions may be impacted by the arrival of new gTLDs, but much of the focus will be on the potential growth that will be fueled by the emergence of new applications and services as a result of the expansion of the Internet's namespace. ■

ISPCP Conducts Outreach at RIR Meetings

Starting with the APNIC34 Conference in Cambodia, the ISPCP Constituency ran an initial outreach program to the Regional Internet Registry (RIR) meetings listed below:

- APNIC34 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 21-31 August 2012
- RIPE65 in Amsterdam, Netherlands, 24-28 September 2012
- ARIN30 in Dallas, Texas, USA, 24-26 October 2012
- LACNIC18 in Montevideo, Uruguay, 28 October - 1 November 2012
- AfriNIC17 in Khartoum, North Sudan, 26-30 November 2012

RIRs administer and distribute IP addresses to ISPs, Connectivity Providers, and then all those who need IP addresses, in order to have access to the Internet through them, in its respective region. The main purpose of RIR meetings is to discuss IP address policy and technical developments, and the RIRs are represented in the ICANN structure through the Address Supporting Organization (ASO). Besides the main purpose, ISPs and Connectivity Providers who get together in RIR meetings are eligible to join the ISPCP Constituency.

The ISPCP has initiated this outreach initiative with the RIRs, in order to encourage members of the five RIRs to participate more directly in the activities encompassed by ICANN, particularly in light of the imminent launching of more than 1400 new generic top-level domains. This involvement can be easily achieved by joining the ISPCP Constituency. Involvement in the ISPCP will ensure ISPs who are members are kept aware of all developments at ICANN that impact their business, as well as providing them with an effective voice to reflect their requirements at an early stage of deliberation. ■

Internet Governance Forum 2012, Baku

The seventh Internet Governance Forum took place in Baku, Azerbaijan from 6-9 November 2012. Among the 1600 delegates from 128 countries, ISPs and Telecom Operators, members of the ISPCP participated.

The Theme of the Forum was 'Internet Governance for Sustainable Human, Economic and Social Development."

ICANN CEO Fadi Chehadé intervened during the opening Session explaining his vision of ICANN priorities, and an ICANN open Forum session allowed the participants to discuss with members of the Board and the staff present at the meeting and better understand the organization and its vision.

Read more, go to….
www.ispcp.info/news

Domain Name Space Expansion

Why is this important to Internet Service Providers?

- If you resell domain names (at the second level) to your customers, this is a potential new source of revenue for your company or organization. Certainly if a customer specifically asks you to register a name under one of these new domains, you need to be aware of their existence and where you, as a reseller, can obtain them for your customers.
- Your Customer Service Center may receive queries and non-resolvable address complaints from your customers, related to these new domains. It behooves you as a Service Provider to be aware of the new domains, in order to respond knowledgeably and address the problem.

Coming soon – the next wave of gTLDs

In June of 2011, after a delay of four years, ICANN finally announced a date for the opening of the application window of the New gTLD Program. On 12 January 2012, the application window was opened until 30 May 2012.

- A total of 1930 applications were received.
- 1846 of those were "standard" applications
- 84 were designated as "community based"
- 66 were designated as "geographic names"
- 116 were Internationalized Domain Names or IDNs, using non-Latin scripts

Applications were received from 60 countries

- 911 applications came from North America
- 675 from Europe
- 303 from the Asia/Pacific region
- 24 from Latin America and the Caribbean
- 17 from Africa

Conflicting applications

More than one applicant has applied for a domain in 230 instances, wherein at least two applications were submitted for the same domain. This involved 751 applications, which means that at best of these only 230 applications can be approved, and 521 applications will fail as a result.

If we subtract these 521 applications from the total of 1930 which were submitted, then the maximum number of new domains that can be approved and delegated is 1409 (should all these pass the evaluation and objections phase).

Types of domains applied for

The main types of domains are:

- Community based (.art, .catholic, .gay, etc.)
- Geographic (.berlin, .paris, .africa, etc.)
- Brand/Corporate names (Google, Microsoft, IBM, etc.)
- Activity or Industry based (.sports, .music, .movie, .blog, etc.)

Estimated operational dates

There are three phases to be completed before any of these domains can become operational:

Evaluation and objections phase. Due to the large number of applications, this phase may take until the third quarter of 2013 to be completed.

Approval and contract with ICANN. The first batch of applications will probably complete this phase before the end of 2013.

Delegation, inclusion in the root. These new generic top-level domains will probably begin to become operational in the first quarter of 2014.

See the full list of applications at.

http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/program-status/application-results/strings-1200utc-13jun12-en

Read more, go to….
www.ispcp.info/news

World Conference on International Telecommunications

A STEP TOO FAR, BUT ONE TO WATCH!

The landmark and highly controversial World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT-12), which was convened by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), took place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 3-14 December 2012. The aim of the conference was to review and update the International Telecommunications Regulations (ITRs). These take the form of a binding global treaty designed to facilitate international interconnection and interoperability of information and communication services, as well as ensuring their efficiency and widespread public usefulness and availability.

The ITRs were last negotiated in Melbourne, Australia in 1988 at a time when traditional government monopolies still dominated the international telecommunications landscape. Since then so many things have changed, with many of the benefits we now take for granted stemming from a healthy competitive market. None of those changes can match the phenomenal growth of the Internet that now underpins global commerce, education, health and social and economic advancement on a scale that could never have been imagined 20 years ago, with over two billion Internet users and a huge capacity for further growth.

Over recent years a lot of tension has been generated between the ITU and those organizations that have leading roles in the governance and operation of the Internet. Traditional telecommunications networks grew within a nationally controlled and heavily regulated environment that emerged over many decades, whilst the Internet originated from the pioneering work undertaken by the Advance Research Projects Agency (ARPA) in the United States in a relatively short period of time.

The very nature of the Internet as a global decentralized network of network's and its multi-stakeholder governance model, where all parties come to the table on an equal footing are major contributors to its success. This is a totally different model to the traditional government led telecommunications environment. It's that flexible approach to networking, coupled with the Internet's unique system of bottom-up policy development that facilitates innovation and creative opportunities that has had such a major impact on today's world. Those fundamental principles are fiercely guarded, not only by those who consider themselves part of the established Internet community, but also by progressive governments who recognize that the Internet and telecommunications environments are different and need to remain so. Within the ITU, where the governments of all UN Member States meet, that opinion is not universally accepted.

Some governments actually see the Internet as a direct threat and choose to restrict access to the content their citizens are able to access on-line and as well as inhibiting free speech. It was clear before the conference began that if accepted, some proposals would help legitimize current censorship practices. Others argued that the provision of services such as Voice over IP (VoIP) is damaging their national economy as they are unable to charge previously agreed interconnect rates for similar services and therefore in some cases access to services such as Skype are prohibited. Against that background it is therefore not surprising that some governments would have wished to see the ITRs extended to cover the Internet.

The fact that the existing ITRs were really top–level statements contributed greatly to their proven ability to stand the test of time, it being no mean feat that over 20 years elapsed before any discussion took place over the need to update them. It was therefore considered essential by many governments entering the discussions in Dubai that this high level approach should endure.

Prior to the WCIT intense preparatory work was conducted at both national and regional levels across the globe, with most liberalized countries involving representatives, from civil society and industry such as ISPs who could be impacted by the results of the discussions. This was extremely important as the very nature of the ITU as a UN body means that whilst Sector Members, traditionally representatives from those sectors of industry involved, can participate in discussions only governments (Member States) could vote on the final proposals.

Despite continued reassurance from the ITU that the Internet would remain outside of the debate that wasn't the case with a number of proposals crossing that line, either implicitly or explicitly. Countries such as Russia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and a number of other Arab States had made no secret of the fact that they would like to see the ITU take a leading role in the coordination and management of IP addresses and Internet Domain Names, tasks currently undertaken by ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers).

The difference between the approaches, working methods and culture of those two organizations couldn't be more different. However it was more than just a question of approach that caused concerns, with some proposals raising issues over security and stability of the Internet itself. Areas of concern included proposals to amend the existing term 'Recognized Operating Agency' (ROA) to 'Operating Agency' (OA) clearly broadening the scope of the treaty to include many companies not currently covered by the regulations.

The potential scope of the new ITRs was also sharply brought into focus by proposals to include the addition of 'ICTs' (Information and Communications Technology) within the Treaty. This term is still under discussion within the ITU and has yet to be defined in an agreed manner and can therefore be interpreted in many different ways. In the lead up to WCIT it was clear that some parties clearly included both IP networks and services and even SPAM within that context, areas which for others were totally 'no-go' areas for inclusion with the ITRs. The ITU's remit with regard to numbering is currently limited to telephone numbers and associated identifiers however a degree of concern existed over the fact that the inclusion of the term 'ICT' within the treaty could extend that scope to include IP addresses or Internet Domain Names. Proposals to add text to the treaty related to SPAM also proved highly controversial, with strong opposition to the inclusion of anything that could be deemed 'content' within the ITRs. Although not forming an integral part of the ITRs there was also a draft new Resolution; 'To foster an enabling environment for the greater growth of the Internet' that invited Member States 'to elaborate their respective position on Internet related technical development and public policy issues within the mandate of the ITU,' so clearly Internet issues were being addressed.

After many long hours of intense debate 89 countries signed the new ITRs with 55 countries indicating they would not, mostly made up of countries from the developed world whose economies are open and competitive and whose governments support the existing principles established for Internet governance; the multistakeholder, bottom-up, policy development process as opposed to the top-down regulated environment that has endured within the telecommunications world.

The failure to gain agreement on a new set of ITRs that can be implemented across the globe will raise many questions.

With other opportunities already planned such as the ITU's World Telecommunication Information and Communication Technology Policy Forum (WTPF) in 2013 and the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2014 (PP-14), where the role and scope of the ITU will be debated yet again, this clearly wasn't seen as the end of the road by either side. Whilst neither of those events are treaty-making conferences like the WCIT, their significance and relationship to many of the contentious issues under discussion was not lost. Certainly both of these events will provide a firm indication of whether we will see further battle lines drawn as we head towards the ten-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS+10). What is already clear is that this isn't the end of the debate as the Internet and telecom worlds will continue to collide. It's therefore essential that all involved parties including ISPs and Connectivity Providers continue to actively engage in these discussions that have the ability to shape the future environment in which we all have a stake.

ICANN's ISP & Connectivity Providers Constituency will be ensuring all their members remain up to date as events unfold. ■

GNSO Policy Development Process

We have several policy-making bodies within the global Internet Community and each of them has its own policy development process (PDP) which characterizes itself.

The ISPCP Constituency participates primarily in the ICANN Generic Names Supporting Organization or GNSO.

ISPs and Connectivity Providers can engage actively in the GNSO Policy Development Process, by joining the ISPCP Constituency. ■

Read more, go to….
www.ispcp.info/news

Involving ISPs and Connectivity Providers in Working Groups

ICANN's bottom-up, consensus-based, multistakeholder governance structure is rapidly emerging as an effective way to manage worldwide resources such as the domain name and numbering system. And policy development working groups form the "bottom of the bottom-up process." If you're interested in actively learning about, and participating in, the ICANN process, working groups are the place for you.

Constituencies like the ISPCP are your home base for collaborating with your colleagues from your interest group. Here is where you will get to know your fellow ISP representatives, get help in understanding the issues and how they impact the organization you represent and can be alerted when participants are needed for an upcoming working group. Here too is where you can get tips and pointers on how working groups work and how you can contribute. ■

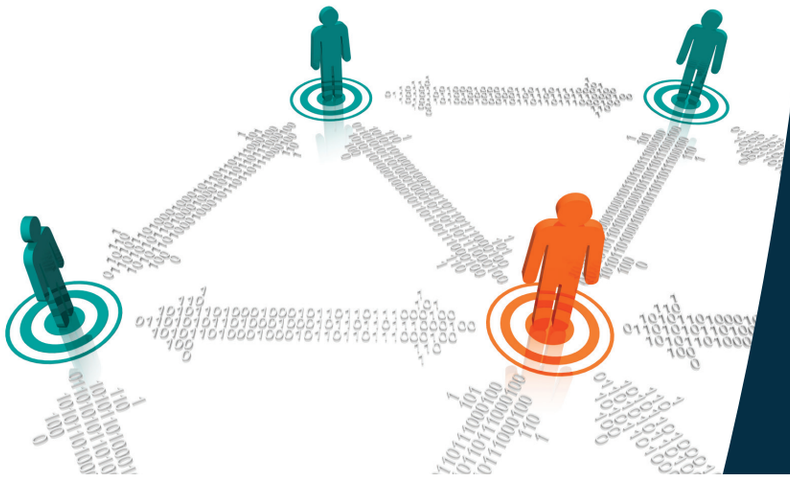
Read more, go to….
www.ispcp.info/news

ISPCP Participates in Trademark Clearinghouse Meetings

Representatives of the ISPCP have been active participants in the development of the "straw man solution" to a variety of proposals with regard to the Trademark Clearinghouse (TMCH) that is being implemented as a part of the New gTLD Program.

The ISPCP is on record with the following comment in response to both the initial proposal put forward by the BC and IPC, and the straw man solution:

To read the ISPCP comment, go to ***http://forum.icann.org/lists/tmch-strawman/msg00011.html*** ■



http://forum.icann.org/lists/tmch-strawman/msg00011.html

ISPCP Constituency Mission

The Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers operate Internet backbone networks and/or provide access to Internet and related services to end users. They are key players of the Internet and have an essential role in its stability and development. As a consequence, they contribute toward fulfilling the aims and goals of ICANN. Since the creation of ICANN, those players formed a constituency to bring their specific and unique expertise to ICANN.

The ISPs and Connectivity Providers Constituency forms an integral part of the Generic Name Supporting Organization (GNSO) assigned, according to ICANN Bylaws, Article XX, Section 5, as a representative member of the Commercial Stakeholders Group (CSG) in the Non-Contracted Parties House. The role of the ISPCP Constituency goes beyond this GNSO participation: it takes an active part in many Supporting Organizations, Advisory Committees, and Working Groups within ICANN's diverse structure.

Among the numerous topics where they expressed the views of their community:

- Whois policies
- New gTLDs and their impact on the network
- IP addressing
- Institutional evolution of ICANN, notably the Affirmation of Commitments

To summarize, the Constituency ensures that the views of Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers contribute toward fulfilling the aims and goals of ICANN. The ISPCP actively participates in the work of ICANN to ensure that policy development guarantees and enhances the operational stability of the Internet and the needs and interests of ISP and connectivity providers. The Constituency also cares about safeguarding the interests and concerns of the ISP and connectivity industry. The Constituency fulfills its roles and responsibilities while adhering to the relevant ICANN Bylaws and Operating Procedures. ■

https://community.icann.org/display/gnsoiscp/ISPCP+Home

Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency [ISPCP]

Generic Names Supporting Organization

ICANN

Los Angeles	12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300	Los Angeles, CA 90094	USA	T +1 310 301 5800	F +1 310 823 8649
Brussels	6 Rond Point Schuman, Bt. 1	B-1040 Brussels	BELGIUM	T + 32 2 234 7870	F+ 32 2 234 7848
Washington, DC	801 17th Street NW, Suite 400	Washington, DC 20006	USA	T +1 202 570 7240	F +1 202 789 0104