**SUMMARY**

Thursday is dominated by the Public Forum. It should be a lively affair. A number of big policy issues have cropped up at the Los Angeles meeting, including Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs), new generic top-level domains (gTLDs), IPv6, ICANN’s Strategic Plan – outlining the organisation’s path forward – as well as the review of a set of new Accountability and Transparency principles. Plus of course it will be the last time that Vint Cerf chairs an open forum. Expect noise and laughter.

**WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY**

**ccNSO meeting**

A very productive meeting. The ccNSO Council will recommend to the Board that an IDN working group be set up to propose how to add a limited number of country code internationalized domain names (IDN) in a short timeframe – the so-called IDN fast-track.

At the same time it also recommended that no "names or meaningful abbreviations" that refer to a territory (as defined by the ISO 3166-1 list) be used as a gTLD in all scripts, including ASCII, and recognised languages. The Council also adopted a self-selection mechanism for itself regarding where territories fit into a given region. The current assignment is based on citizenship and approval of the relevant government. The ccNSO also picked up two new members: Serbia and China.

**GNSO Council**

A complex gathering of ICANN’s main policy body. It approved opening a policy development process (PDP) on the issue of domain name tasting. The seemingly never-ending issue of Whois was tackled and the result was that the Council decided to take on an independent third-party to review what the consequences would be to changing the Whois.

The Council decided not to follow a suggestion that it formally review the issue of international intergovernmental organisations (IGOs) and whether their domain names should be protected. But it noted there was nothing to stop people self-organising and study the issue on their own.

**Translation meeting**

After a slow start, the meeting to discuss ICANN’s multilingual approach drew some passionate comments from non-English speaking members. A Chinese and Spanish speaker (ALAC and Board respectively) expressed how much they enjoyed being able to express themselves in their own language. There were some fears about the cost of a new translation policy, being devised by an independent expert ICANN has hired, and who was present. Practical issues did not make it to the discussion but there was a general feeling that the meeting was a good first step.

**Strategic Plan, and Accountability and Transparency Frameworks**

A free-flowing and open discussion about where ICANN is headed. Packed with ICANN heavyweights, the meeting was thoughtful and thought-provoking – although really for those interested in the organisation itself, rather than the work it produces.

**ALAC workshop on the RAA**

An impressive effort to explain the impact of changes in registrar contracts on average Internet users. In general, the meeting was very supportive of existing systems, and the policy of third-party rating of registrars was endorsed. There were a few suggestions for improvements: different enforcement measures, better monitoring of compliance; tighter accreditation.

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