

Thursday 28 June

SUMMARY Thursday is usually dominated by the Public Forum. This time a few events might give it a run for its money. The North American RALO signing will mark the end of a long process to get global organisations feeding into the At-Large Advisory Committee; the Internet Governance workshop will see ICANN's role in the wider world discussed and reflected upon; and there will be a bus heading to the University of Puerto Rico for a "Geeks and Greeks" discussion at 1pm.



Bernard Turcotte, Milton Mueller, Jon Nevitt and John Jeffrey on stage

TODAY'S MAIN MEETINGS

Public Forum Time: 8:30

Room: San Geronimo
The end-of-meeting public forum.
All views welcome.

North American RALO signing Time: 12:00

Room: San Geronimo
The final piece of the RALO global jigsaw will be signed on stage.

Internet Governance workshop Time: 12:15

Room: San Geronimo
A discussion about how ICANN should approach the IGF's discussion of "critical Internet resources" in November.

At-Large Policy Priorities Discussions Time: 14:00 Room: Tropical C

If you want the complex issue of IDNs boiled down in under an hour, this is your meeting.

WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY

GNSO Forum and Council meeting

Registry contractual conditions were the first topic in both the forum and council meeting of the GNSO. A group was set up to gather more information on domain tasting, with the expectation of a policy development process (PDP) starting in September. Then came an issues report on handling protected names and abbreviations. The Council decided ICANN staff should suggest a dispute resolution procedure for new gTLDs, and gave a three-month window.

Accountability and Transparency workshop

A review of ICANN's new principles for improving the organisation's accountability and transparency focused on organisational changes that ICANN needs to make to be fully accountable. A "bylaw bingo" quiz and unconventional discussion approach elicited some interesting discussion between Board members and long-term ICANNers. The new information disclosure policy was also discussed.

Fellowships

The ICANN Fellows discussed DNSSEC and translation, while Board member Susan Crawford shared some ICANN stories, including the organisation's founding myths and controversies in the past and today. ICANN's Ombudsman Frank Fowlie gave an overview of his position.

Freedom of Expression workshop

The issue of constraints to be placed on the creation of new generic top-level domains, especially those considered sensitive or offensive, has caused plenty of debate over which rules to apply and how, or whether any such constraints were a restriction of free speech.

It was clear consensus is some way off, especially since no one really knows what will happen when the Internet registry market is liberalized next year. Expect the discussion to continue at future meetings.

French and Spanish Strategic Plan consultations

The Internet's non-English-speaking communities reviewed ICANN's Strategic Plan before moving on to discuss the broader issues. Involvement in ICANN for those that aren't native English speakers remains an issue, as does effective translation of ICANN documents.

ASO information session

Three presentations that covered the current state of the Internet's number resources, the PDP followed in the addressing community, and current policy proposals were applauded for bringing new participants up-to-date with the addressing world.

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