



Tuesday 26 June

SUMMARY Tuesday is "Constituency Day" where the different and disparate elements of ICANN's supporting organisations hold their own meetings to discuss the latest developments and their positions on matters likely to be raised later in the week. Nearly all the meetings, with the exception of the Governmental Advisory Committee, are open to all observers. The first of a series of social events will be held in Old San Juan this evening.



Board member Susan Crawford moderates registrant workshop

TODAY'S MAIN MEETINGS

gTLDs Registries meeting

Time: 9:00

Room: Flamingo A/B

And all-day meeting of the registries should prove interesting given the upcoming issue of new gTLDs, including internationalised domain names, as well as Whois.

Registrars meeting

Time: 9:00

Room: San Geronimo C

Like the registries meeting, there is a lot happening in the registrar world, particular with regard to changes in the Registrar Accreditation Agreement.

New gTLDs Workshop

Time: 12:30

Room: Tropical A/B

The cheekily titled "New Geo-TLDs: More Consumer Choice or More Consumer Confusion?" should be worth popping into.

GAC/Board meeting

Time: 16:45

Room: San Cristobal A

It's always interesting to see what happens at the Board/GAC meet.

WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY

Welcome Ceremony

Vint Cerf and Paul Twomey officially opened the meeting, with speeches from NTIA Deputy Assistant Secretary Meredith Atwell Baker; Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences at the University of Puerto Rico, Brad Weiner; Executive Director of the Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company, Boris Jaskille; and Bernadette Lewis, Secretary General of Secretariat of the Caribbean Telecommunications Union.

Public Forums

There were no less than three public forums: the usual public forum with the Board present; a GNSO forum on new gTLDs; and one covering changes to the GNSO. The first GNSO forum drew so many people it had to change rooms. Topics included input on selection criteria; how much application fees would be; and how long before applications are taken. Suggestions will be followed up later in the week.

The second GNSO forum faced a deluge of comments from the floor. Most agree with the idea of non-voting IETF-like "working groups" to break the log-jam on controversial issues like Whois. But there's uncertainty about how far the model should go. Public input will be put into a draft by August, when more public comment will ensue.

Protection of Registrants' workshop

A well-attended and wide-ranging discussion over reform of the registrar market. ICANN staff outlined: suggested changes to the Registrar Accreditation Agreement; plans for storing domain registrant data; the possibility of registry failure; and ICANN's increased efforts to chase up registrars that are not complying with the rules. Specific changes were not discussed but plenty of food for thought was provided by panellists and attendees.

Latin America At-Large

The Assembly's second session made considerable progress on priorities for the coming year. Engagement by the regional community, and the importance of working with other regions were highlighted.

Fellowships meeting

A new ICANN Fellowships programme has provided 34 individuals with funds for travel to the meeting. Each day at 4pm the Fellows meet at the Las Olas room to discuss the previous day. Yesterday, they agreed too many presentations were given in meetings. A video is on YouTube (youtube.com/profile?user=ICANNnews).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A new series of graphic, easy-to-use maps covering everything from Registrars to Board & staff representation; ccTLD agreements and financial contributions; Root Servers and so on were unveiled. They be found at <http://icann.org/maps>

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