Introduction to ICANN

How you can help ICANN Shape the Future of the Internet

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Goals for the Day

• To introduce ICANN to you
• To introduce ICANN’s New generic Top Level Domain (gTLD) Program including:
  – The latest program developments
  – Recent work on the four “overarching” issues
• To share the latest on Internationalized Domain Names
• To update you on current Policy work and invite you to participate
• Special Event: Executive Panel Discussion on “ICANN and the Internet Community in the Middle East”
Agenda – Introduction to ICANN

- Overview of Internet Users and the Domain Name marketplace
- ICANN’s Structure
- Participation
- ICANN in 2009 and beyond
Internet Users – Global Distribution

1990

Source: SASI at University of Sheffield
Internet Users – Global Distribution 2007

Source: SASI at University of Sheffield
What is ICANN?

• “Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers”

• We coordinate unique identifiers of the Internet:
  – “Names”; delegating Top-Level Domains, working with country registry (ccTLD) managers
  – “Numbers”; allocating IP address blocks
  – “Parameters”; maintaining data bases on behalf of IETF

• ...and develop related policies in bottom-up processes involving all stakeholders
Operating Principles

- Help keep the unique identifiers system and root management stable and secure
- Promote competition among registrars and registries, and thus, promote choice for registrants
- “Multi-stakeholder”: A forum where many different groups can work out Internet policy together
- “Bottom-up”: All those involved can set the agenda
- Ensure opportunity for global participation
Key Actors in Domain Name Market

Place

- Registries provide central data base of all names in their top level domain
  - generic registries: examples: .com, .org
  - country code registries: examples: .cn, .in
- Registrars provide services to register names to end users and business
  - Often offer other services
  - For generic registries, all registrars are accredited by ICANN
Snapshot of the domain name marketplace

More than 183 million domain names registered globally today

Source: VeriSign Domain Name Industry Brief, June 2009
Competition in the domain name space

- ICANN introduced competition to the domain name space
- Registrars now have a market and a business
- Consumers have greater choice in price and services
- Domain name marketplace is even driving how we search - contextually as well as topically - and the scale of sites that can be searched
- Total registrars = 900 and counting
The Internet ecosystem

Some of the stakeholders concerned with the Internet

Internet Governance Forum

W3C® World Wide Web Consortium

World Intellectual Property Organization

ISO

International Organization for Standardization

OECD

International Telecommunication Union

Internet Society

International Chamber of Commerce™
The world business organization

IETF

Internet Architecture Board

ICANN
The ICANN Community

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President and CEO
- Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)
- Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)
- Security & Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)
- At Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)
- ICANN Staff (LA, BXL, DC, Sydney)
- Nominating Committee
- 17 voting delegates + 6 non-voting delegates
- ASO
- GNSO
- CCNSO
- Technical Liaison Group (TLG)
- Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)
- Regional Internet Registries
  - ARIN
  - RIPE NCC
  - LACNIC
  - APNIC
  - AfriNIC
- gTLD Registries
- Registrar Intellectual Property ISPs Businesses Non-Commercial
- ccTLD registries
  - e.g., .us, .uk, .au, .it, .be, .nl, etc.
- ccTLD registries
- Registrars
- Internet
- Intellectual Property
- ISPS
- Businesses
- Non-Commercial
The ICANN Community

- Open participation
- Diverse participants bring expertise and useful perspectives to inform policy making
- Consensus-based decision making
- Cooperation, coordination and consultation among participants on key issues
- Public debate is often spirited and blunt
- Formal agreements are used to create and manage various business relationships
ICANN is a Global Organization

- Mandated by the bylaws:
  - Multinational Board
  - Multinational participation and representation
  - Accountable and transparent to a global Internet community
How to Participate in ICANN

• Public comments are invited on ICANN activities that are underway: New gTLDs, IDNs, DNSSEC, ICANN’s Strategic Plans

• Individuals and representatives of groups and organizations may participate on ICANN’s many councils, working groups and committees
Emerging and Evolving Issues

- Enhancing the Security and Stability of the Internet
- Initial and expanded deployment of Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)
- Migration from IPv4 to IPv6
- Introduction of new generic Top Level Domains (new gTLDs)
- Current and upcoming studies of WHOIS
- Accountability frameworks with ccTLD managers
- Periodic review of ICANN’s structure and procedures
Mission Deliverables for 2009 -2010

• Promote competition and choice in the domain name market – launch new gTLDs
• Expand internationalized domain names that will soon become available in generic and country code top level domains
  – Launch fast-track cc IDN process
• Take tangible steps to enhance the security of the DNS – operational readiness for DNSSEC
• Core mission improvements, including expanding compliance, further investment in staffing, implementing other organizational benchmarks.
Strategic Plan 2009 - 2012

• Implement IDNs and New gTLDs
• Enhance security, stability and resiliency in the allocation and assignment of the Internet’s unique identifiers
• Monitor the depletion of IPv4 address space and provide leadership towards IPv6 adoption
• Improve confidence in the gTLD marketplace
• Strive for excellence in core operations
• Strengthen processes for developing policy
• Strengthen ICANN’s multi-stakeholder model to manage increasing demands and changing needs
• Globalize ICANN’s operations
• Ensure financial accountability, stability and responsibility
Upcoming ICANN Meetings

• Seoul, Korea, 25-30 October 2009
• Nairobi, Kenya, 7-12 March 2010
• Latin America (TBD) 20-25 June 2010
• Europe (TBD) December 2010

• Meetings are held three times/year, each meeting in a different continent
• Please join us!
End of Introductory Comments

Thank You