



80 | POLICY
FORUM



Universal Acceptance Community Update

ICANN80 Prep Week | 29 May 2024

UASG, UAC by ccNSO, ICANN org



Universal Acceptance

Session Overview

Updates from Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG)

- * UASG Governance Discussions
- * UASG Five-Year Strategy
- * UA Day

Updates from Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC by ccNSO)

Updates from ICANN org

- * UA Remediation and Training Updates and Plans
- * UA-readiness of ICANN org Systems

Community Feedback - Question and Answer (Q&A)

Universal Acceptance and Categories Impacted

Universal Acceptance (UA): All valid domain names and email addresses work in all software applications.

Domain Names (including Internationalized Domain Names):

- * New short top-level ASCII domain names: example.sky
- * New long top-level ASCII domain names: example.engineering
- * Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs): คน.ไทย

Email Addresses (including internationalized email):

- * ASCII@ASCII (new and long TLD): ekrem@misal.istanbul
- * ASCII@IDN: marc@société.org
- * Unicode@ASCII: 测试@example.com
- * Unicode@IDN: όνομα@παράδειγμα.ευ
- * Unicode@IDN; right-to-left scripts: ای-میل@مثال.موقع



Accept



Validate



Process



Store



Display

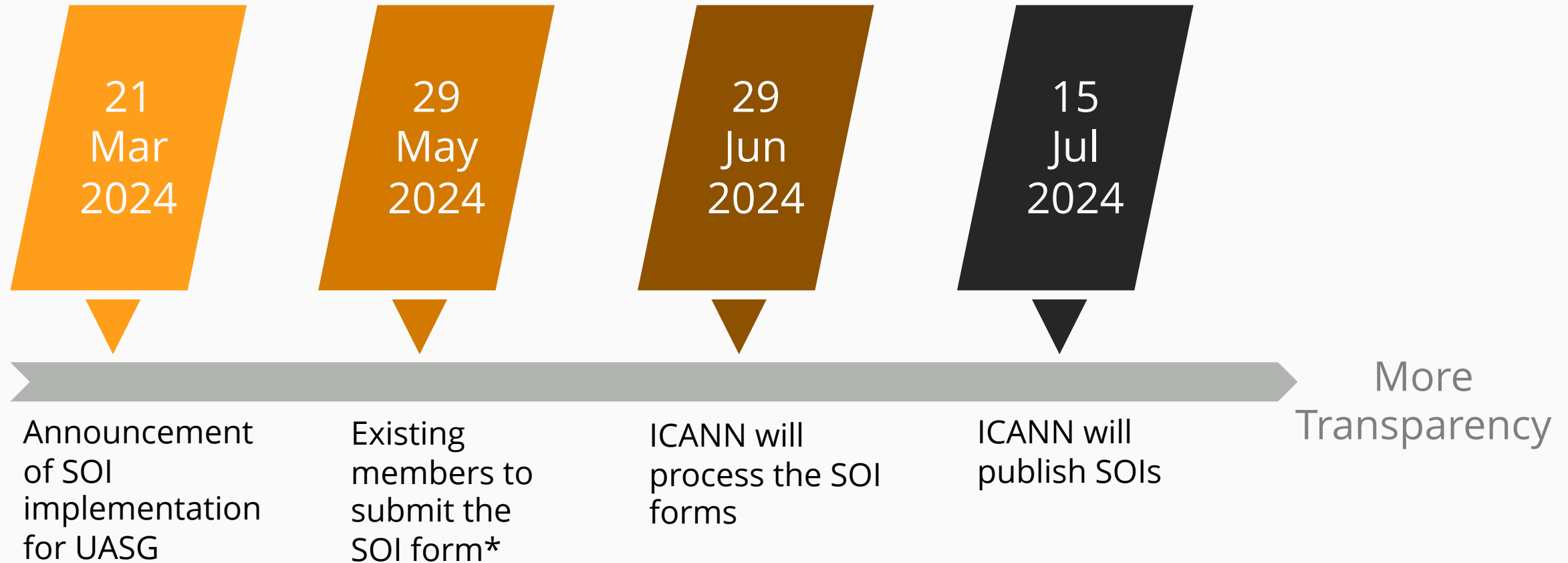
UASG Governance Topics Being Discussed

Multiple processes and topics need to be discussed and planned for the maturation of UASG governance. Topics include:

- * UASG leadership – working group(s)' role and charter
- * UASG WG leadership – position duration
- * UASG coordination WG member – ability to hold multiple leadership positions
- * Increased transparency of information accessible to the community
- * Planning and budgeting process
- * Resource utilization – mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating effectiveness
- * UASG WG structure and operational processes – regular review of the governance plan's effectiveness

- * Above discussions are intended to drive the UASG's existing charter updates

Timeline: SOI Implementation



* Individuals who do not submit an SOI prior to the 29 May 2024 deadline will be removed from all UASG mailing lists. Subscriptions can be reinstated after the deadline and following receipt of an SOI.

Five-Year Action Planning for UA

UASG Working Groups



Universal Acceptance

These action items are a combination of inputs received from the WG members and UA experts on the Tech WG UA Strategy Survey.

Big thanks to all!



UA Measurement WG Key Action Items

Nabil Benamar

Measurement WG Chair

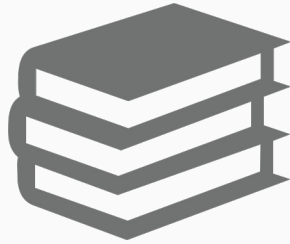


Gap Analysis



- * Measure the top global websites' UA-readiness levels (every 2 years)
- * Measure the UA-readiness of e-commerce platforms and more content management systems (Phase 2; 2025)
- * Rate email software using EAI Self-Certification Guide (Phase 1; 2025)
- * Evaluate the free email systems and report how easy it is to experiment with the EAI email services by deploying or using free email services (every 2 years)

Implementation of UA Curriculum



UA Curriculum for Academia

The curricula in relevant technical programs (e.g., computer engineering) currently does not cover background in internationalization (i18n) and technical topics, specifically IDNs and EAI.



Actions:

- Update IT-related curricula to include IDNs and UA
- More courses over the years, on different learning platforms
- Academia outreach

UA Technology WG Key Action Items

Satish Babu

Technology WG Chair



Technology WG Key Action Items

Focus on remediation, training materials and hackathons

Remediation:

- * Commission minimal but functioning code fragments. Remediate through code fragments to support UA and develop training materials incorporating these codes. (every year)
- * Assess the levels of UA support, including email processing and HTML generation, for the Javascript libraries React, Angular and Node, and provide minimum viable code samples (2025)
- * Test for identifying linkification problems, and consider remediation of any issues found (2025)

Training Materials:

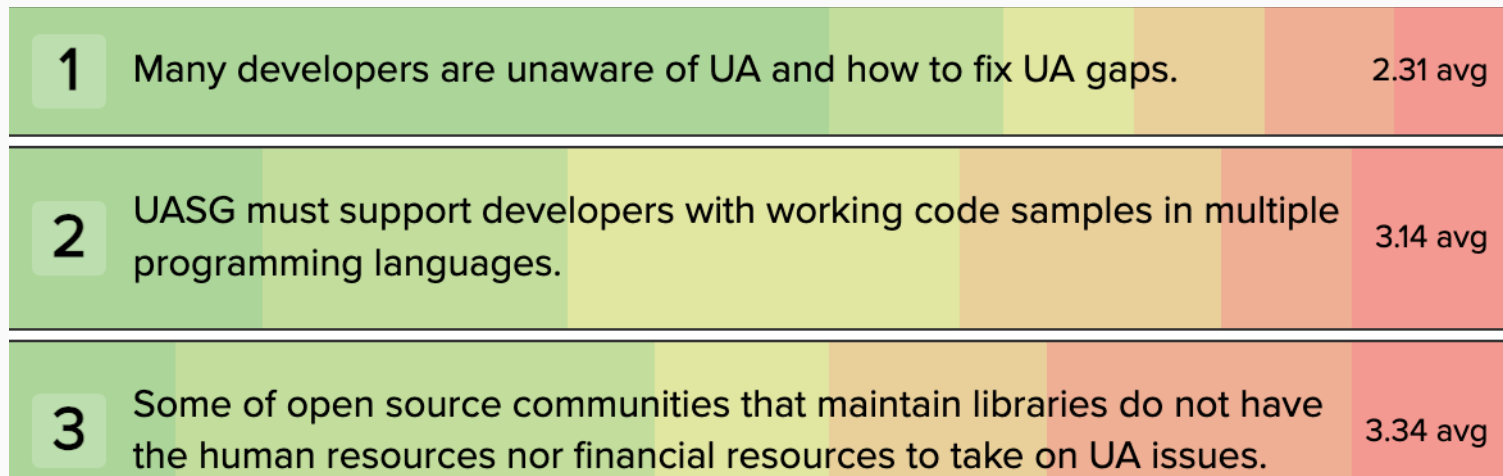
- * Develop a UA self-certification guide for websites (2025)
- * Develop step-by-step instructions to configure CMS to enable UA-readiness (2025)
- * Collaborate with strategic stakeholders on technical issues. Study IDN Variant TLDs' impact. (2026)

Phase 1 of Survey on UA Strategy

Objective: Consult community experts to Identify the big picture and develop recommendations for the next phases of consulting stakeholders such as businesses, governments and open-source communities

Completed:

- * Consulted with 69 UA experts; 35 responded
- * 14 questions
- * [Draft survey report](#) has been crafted



Email Address Internationalization (EAI) WG Key Action Items

Mark Svancarek
EAI WG Chair



EAI WG Key Action Items

Focus on EAI Self-Certification Program (2025-2029)

- * Implementation and promotion of an EAI Self-Certification Program to create a market category for internationalized email systems and addresses
 - * Promote [EAI Self Certification Guide](#)
 - * Encourage certification among producers and customers
 - * Engage with market leaders and technical community
 - * Self-certification training videos



EAI WG Key Action Items

- * Self-hosting an EAI system to facilitate experimentation by system admins by providing them with technical working EAI setup, configuration and testbed for self-hosting and training materials (2025)
- * Identify and publicize reference customers and providers (2027-2029)
- * Engagement with the technical community on Stackoverflow to improve answers to questions regarding EAI by writing and publishing questions and answers (2025-2026)
- /// * Improve support of globally inclusive email addresses by engaging market share leaders, not limited to email service providers (2025-2027)

Resources: Link to the EAI Program page < <https://community.icann.org/display/TUA/UA+EAI+WG> >

UA Day 2024

Anil Kumar Jain

Communications WG Chair

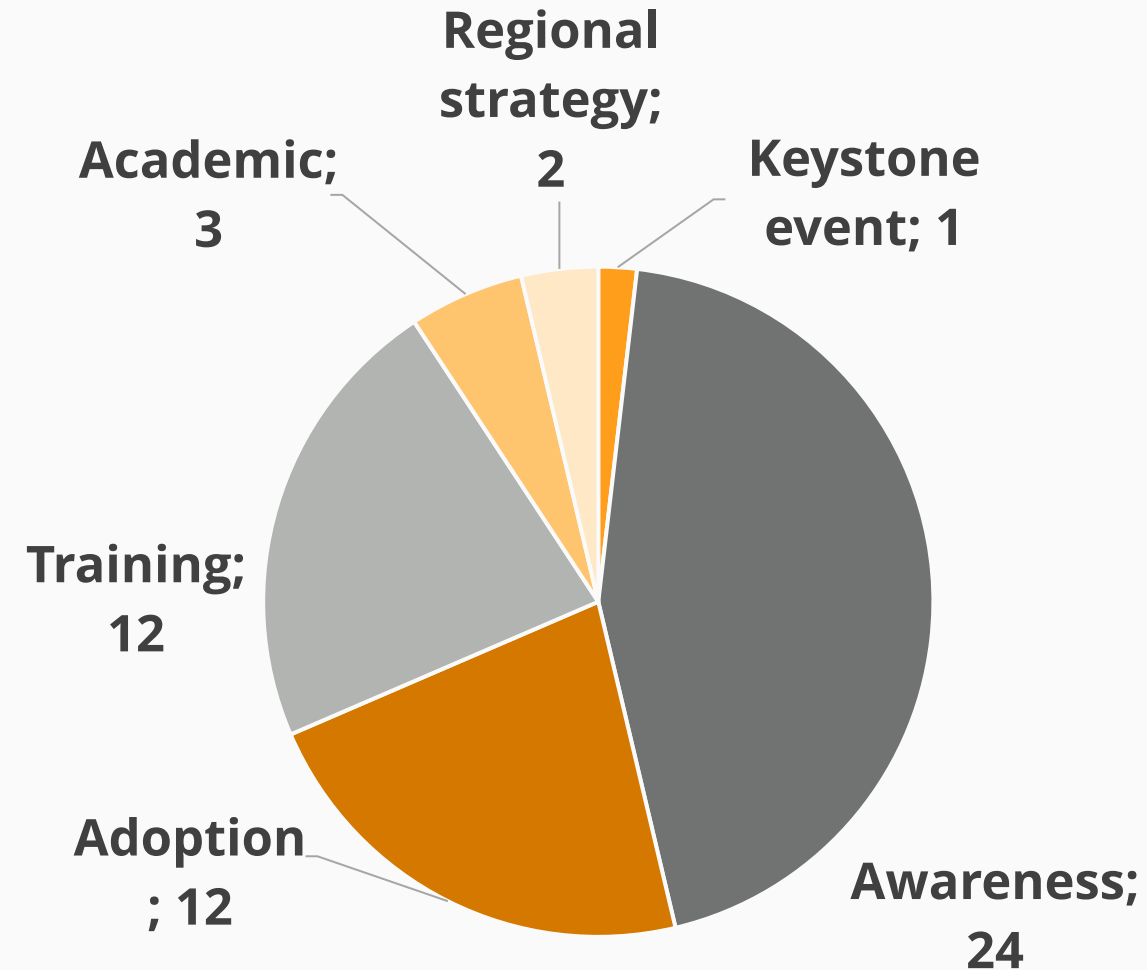


UA Day 2024 Event Types

Five types of events:

- * Existing
 - * UA Awareness
 - * UA Technical Training
 - * UA Regional Strategy
- * New this year:
 - * UA Academic Curriculum
 - * UA Adoption
- * Good experience from UA Adoption events:
 - * Quite challenging; many needed support
 - * All events succeeded (capability was built)
 - * Successful deployments of UA adoption by Brazil, India, Laos, Nigeria, Panama, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Uruguay, Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, and China

UA Day 2024 Events

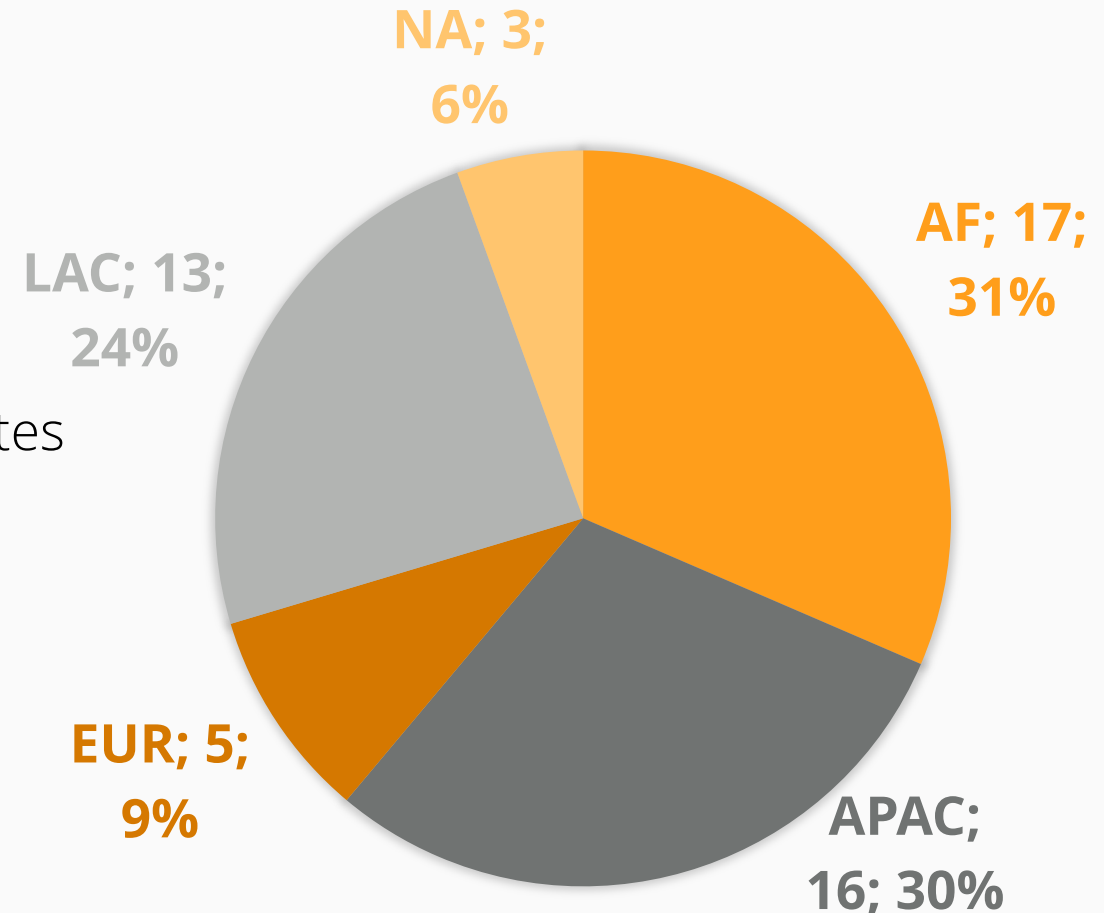


<https://universalacceptance.day/>

UA Day 2024 Facts

- * UA Received 133 proposals from 65+ countries
- * Shortlisted 56 proposals from 50+ countries
- * Aiming to finalize 54 events by 30 May 2024
- * Keystone event in Serbia hosted by (IDN) ccTLD
- * UNESCO organized a UA Day event for member states
- * 32 events reported as of 27 May 2024:
 - * 5,000+ participants
 - * 17 languages

NUMBER OF EVENTS PER REGION



Scenes from UA Day Events



UA Curriculum Event in Colombia



Keystone Event in Serbia



Technical Training in Ghana



Technical Training in St. Vincent and the Grenadines



Regional Strategy Event in India

Get Involved!

Follow, share, like, and engage with the UASG on social media.

Use the UASG hashtag in relevant posts: [#Internet4All](#)

X: [@UASGTech](#)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/uasgtech/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/uasgtech/>

Join the UA Discuss email alias: <https://uasg.tech/subscribe>

Report a problem if you find an application or webpage that is not UA-ready:
<https://uasg.tech/global-support-center/>

For more information, visit <https://uasg.tech> or email info@uasg.tech.

ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC)

Raising Awareness of UAC and Its Work
Abdalmonem Galila, UAC Chair | مصر.

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Universal Acceptance Community Update

Purpose of the ccNSO UA Standing Committee (UASC)



Focus on topics related to
UA and IDNs



Share information
by and for ccTLDs



Liaise with other groups
under the ICANN umbrella

Go-To Resources for ccTLDs

Mailing list

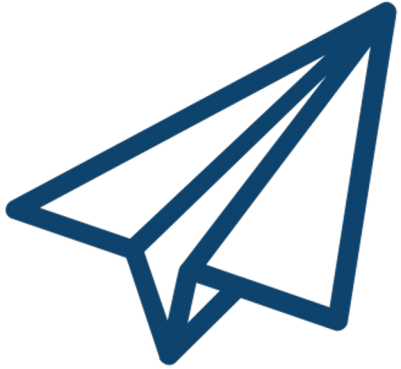
- **WHAT IS THIS?** | stay informed about UA events and updates and share your experiences with other subscribers. Open to all persons associated with a ccTLD - whether ASCII or IDN - with an interest in Universal Acceptance and IDNs.
- **SEE & SUBSCRIBE** | <https://community.icann.org/x/gYFREw>

Library

- **WHAT IS THIS?** | a vetted list of resources for ccTLDs on UA, Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) and Email Address Internationalisation (EAI) for ccTLDs. Includes: link to tools, articles, reports and more. It is accessible to all.
- **HAVE A LOOK** | <https://community.icann.org/x/UIAvEQ>
- **SUBMIT CONTENT** | ccnso-uac-submissions@icann.org

ccNSO UAC: Ongoing and Future Plans

Universal Acceptance Day 2025



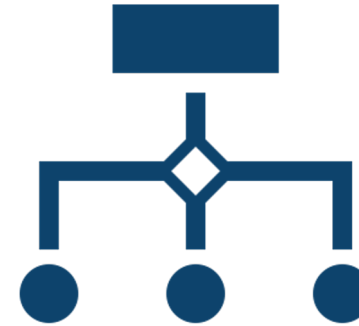
Reaching out to ccTLD managers globally, to increase awareness about UAC and its activities.
(E-mail by UAC leadership team)



Implementing the UAC work plan.



Assisting in organizing sessions on UA readiness and practices during ICANN public meetings.
(e.g., Tech Day, ccNSO Members Meetings)



Liaising with other relevant ICANN groups.
(e.g., UASG, GAC IDN WG, Board IDN/UA WG)



Creating an e-mail list for all ccTLDs interested in UA, IDNs and EAI, as a platform for information exchange.

Interested in UA and/or UAC?

1

Become a UAC member

Join the ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee and be an active part of this effort. The committee is open to ccTLD representatives globally.

2

Use the UAC library

Consult the library and/or suggest content to be included.

<https://community.icann.org/x/UoAvEQ>

3

Stay informed

Subscribe to the dedicated ccNSO UA email list.

<https://community.icann.org/x/gYFREw>

Join UAC at ICANN80!



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KIGALI



Wednesday, 12 June 2024

09:00-10:15 local (07:00-08:15 UTC)



Agenda

- About UAC and its work plan
 - Promoting the use of the UAC Library and e-mail list
- Relevance of UA Day for ccTLDs
 - Looking back: UA Day 2024
 - Getting ready for UA Day 2025
- Survey on UA readiness
 - What surveys are available and what are the outcomes?
 - Exploring the need for a dedicated survey by ccNSO UASC

Thank You



Abdalmonem Galila

ccNSO UAC Chair | مصر.



Regina Fuchsová

ccNSO UAC Vice Chair | .eu, .eu and .eu

ICANN | ccNSO

Country Code Names Supporting Organization

Update from ICANN org

Arnt Gulbrandsen
Neelam Kumar

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Universal Acceptance Community Update

Overview

- ⦿ UA remediation, training updates and plans by ICANN org – Arnt Gulbrandsen
- ⦿ UA-readiness of systems at ICANN org – Neelam Kumar

UA Remediation and Training

Status and Plans

Arnt Gulbrandsen
UA Technology Sr. Mgr.

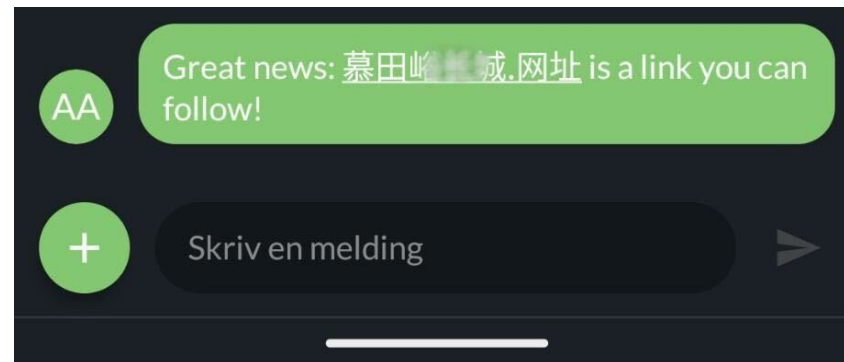
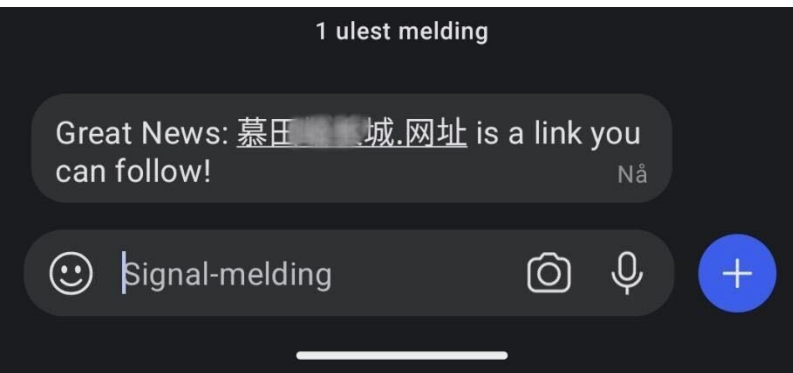
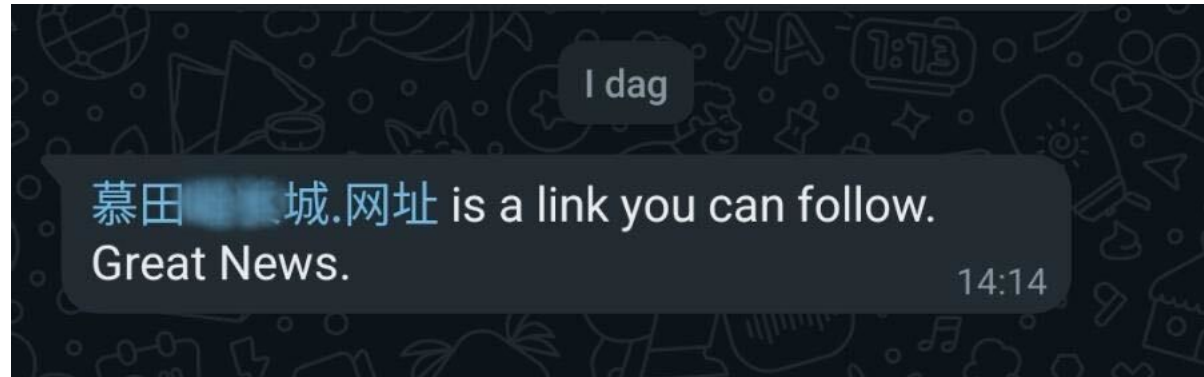
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Overview

- ⊙ Strategy:
 - Outreach towards influential software companies
 - Contributions to key components
 - Training
- ⊙ Current ongoing work:
 - Linkification
 - Email
 - EAI survey
 - Patches
 - Miscellaneous
- ⊙ Plans for the near future

Progress: Linkification in Instant Messengers



Universal Acceptance-Readiness

UPDATES & NEXT STEPS

Neelam Kumar
Project Manager ||
ICANN – Engineering & IT, Los Angeles

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Background

Per ICANN's FY24-28 Operating and Financial Plan, a 3-phased approach was devised to achieve UA-readiness.

- Phase 1 - Support of short and long ASCII domains **(Completed)**
- Phase 2 - Support of IDNs in both Unicode and ASCII form **(Completed)**
- Phase 3 - Support of Email Address Internationalization (EAI) **(In Process)**
 - 3a. Gap analysis of all ICANN products that need to be UA-ready
 - To date, 24 of 255 products are NOT UA-ready
 - System dependencies have been identified
 - Third-party vendor dependencies identified. Engagement to continue; contingency plans needed if vendor is not responsive.
 - 3b. Implementation of UA-readiness for products identified in the gap analysis
 - ICANN staff can now send emails to and receive emails from internationalized email addresses **(Completed)**
 - Work is ongoing to ensure all pertinent ICANN internal systems are fully UA-ready **(In Process)**

Current Status

- Work is ongoing to ensure all pertinent ICANN internal systems are fully UA-ready.
 - **Proof point** – ICANN staff can now send emails to and receive emails from internationalized email addresses [\(Completed\)](#)
 - **PostFix** – Outgoing mail process: related to proof point [\(Completed\)](#)
 - Working closely with UASG team to align E&IT ICANN org UA-readiness
 - **Communication with vendors**: Much of effort includes collaborating with third-party vendors to update their services. In the broader scope of the UA program, ICANN's priority is to support UA in community-facing services.
 - **ICANN account IDN support** – User Identity Access: single sign-on capability [\(In Process\)](#)
 - **Mailman** – Outgoing distribution list email processing: related to proof point - pending vendor approval [\(In Process\)](#)

Engage with ICANN



Thank You and Questions

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