



Web accessibility

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At-Large Accessibility Taskforce

What is web accessibility?

- + Designing web sites so that more people (including people with disability) can use online resources
- + Well-established W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.0)
- + WCAG 2.0 mandated by governments for public websites

Why is it important?

- + One billion people with disability globally
- + Anyone on low bandwidth also benefits
- + Correlation with higher SEO
- + UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities ratified by over 100 countries includes accessibility to ICT (Article 9)

ausRegistry's approach

- + Supports and creates awareness of web accessibility
- + News article entitled "Why website accessibility makes business sense"
- + <http://www.ausregistry.com.au/news/why-website-accessibility-makes-business-sense>

At-Large Accessibility Taskforce

- + First meeting at ICANN 49, Singapore
- + <https://community.icann.org/display/atlarge/ICANN+Accessibility+Taskforce+2014.03.24+-+Singapore>
- + Chair: Cheryl Langdon-Orr
- + Set of objectives and actions presented and supported

At-Large Accessibility Taskforce

Objectives

1. Building a culture of accessibility
2. Increasing web accessibility
3. Ensuring minimal barriers to participation and engagement with ICANN processes and practices

Objective 2: Increasing web accessibility

Actions

- + ICANN websites meet internationally recognised W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) v2.0 Level AA. This includes captioning of videos
- + Development of ICANN policy on web accessibility
- + Encouragement of ccTLDs to develop a best practice guide on web accessibility
- + Encouragement of registries to use the best practice guide in relation to registrars - in particular to alert registrants to use WCAG v2.0 when developing websites.

Example of best practice

NETmundial website (CGI.br and local W₃C office)

- + Designed right from the start using W₃C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines
- + Accessible, attractive and easy to use but still fully-featured
- + NETmundial Multistakeholder Statement:
 - + Accessibility: persons with disabilities should enjoy full access to online resources Promote the design, development, production and distribution of accessible information, technologies and systems on the internet.

What is the relevance to the ccNSO?

The ccNSO is ideally placed to:

- + Facilitate voluntary best practice on web accessibility with ccTLD managers
- + Consider adapting a web accessibility awareness guide for use by ccTLDs
 - + eg At-Large web accessibility guide
 - + <https://community.icann.org/download/attachments/48345450/Web%20accessibility%20guide%201.1.pdf?version=1&modificationDate=1403518363000&api=v2>
- + Encourage registries to use the best practice guide in relation to registrars - in particular to alert registrants to use WCAG v2.0 when developing websites.

Next steps?

- + Possible future contact with At-Large Accessibility Taskforce?
- + Happy to discuss next steps with ccNSO

Thank you!

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