
HYDERABAD – ICANN 57 Opening Ceremony
Saturday, November 5, 2016 - 09:00 to 10:30 IST
ICANN57 | Hyderabad, India

BRAD WHITE: Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the ICANN 57 welcome session. Our program will begin in just a few minutes. If you would, please find your way to your seats.

Ladies and gentlemen, if you would please find your way to your seats, we will begin momentarily. Please find your way to your seats.

Ladies and gentlemen, we're about to begin. Please join me in welcoming Mr. Samiran Gupta, ICANN head of India stakeholder engagement.

[Applause]

SAMIRAN GUPTA: Swagatam! Namaskaram! And welcome! Welcome to ICANN 57 being held in Hyderabad or, shall I say, Cyberabad.

Today, gracing us with their presence at this opening ceremony is the Honorable Union Minister of Law and Justice and Electronics and Information Technology, Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad, and Honorable Minister for Information Technology of

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Telangana, Mr. KT Rama Rao. Thank you, sirs, for joining us today.

Also joining us in the hall today, we have our distinguished chairman of the ICANN board, Dr. Steve Crocker; President and CEO of ICANN, Göran Marby; and member of the Number Resource Organization's Executive Council, Mr. Paul Wilson.

The ICANN community is made up of many different stakeholders and I see that amongst us here today. We have members and representatives from various ISTAR organizations, industry, civil society, technical community, and academia and government. Thank you for your contributions in making ICANN into what it is today and I welcome you all to ICANN 57.

The ICANN public meeting returns to India after eight years. Much has changed in this time. Today, over 3 billion people are connected to the Internet. India has over 400 million Internet users. It is in this context I share with you some numbers related to ICANN 57.

As of last evening, we have over 3,000 registered participants from 130 nations, and from India, we have over 1300 participants registered.

Now, I take this opportunity to welcome several Indian business associations to ICANN 57. I welcome NASSCOM and DSCI. I welcome CII, ISPAI, COAI, IMAI and many newcomers to ICANN 57. We are really happy that you chose to be here today.

And finally, welcome to all participants who are joining remotely.

Before we move ahead, I shall take this opportunity to thank our hosts: The Government of India, including the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Ministry of External Affairs, National Security Council Secretariat, Ministry of Home Affairs; the Government of Telangana; National Internet Exchange of India; BSNL; Tata Tele Services.

We also acknowledge the kind support of GMR airports and Cyberabad police.

Ladies and gentlemen, my next task is indeed a special one. I give to you a person who really needs no introduction. He is one of the pioneers of the Internet, the author of the first RFC, seeding the process of multistakeholder consultations even before it was a buzzword.

Ladies and gentlemen, please put your hands together to welcome Dr. Steve Crocker, Chairman of the ICANN board, to open this meeting.

[Applause]

DR. STEPHEN CROCKER: Namaste.

[Applause]

Thank you, Samiran.

Distinguished ministers, ICANN community members, colleagues from other Internet organizations, ladies and gentlemen, I'd like to welcome you all to ICANN's 57th public meeting.

I'd also like to give a shout-out to an old friend, Rajasekhar Ramaraj, a former ICANN board member, well-known figure in India's Internet governance circles.

I don't think he's here, but I think many, many of you know him and have felt the influence that he's brought to the development of the Internet and Internet industry in India.

It's a pleasure to be here, home of the world's largest and perhaps most diverse and inclusive democracy. And by "diverse," we're talking about more than 50 political parties in India. I used to think that ICANN had more than enough diverse factions, but I'm sort of pleased that I don't have to survive in this environment.

Home to 22 official languages, which means that India benefits greatly from our internationalized domain names program, and in fact, so far, India leads the world in terms of having the most successfully evaluated country code IDNs. That number currently stands at 15 and I believe there's more to come.

So Indians embrace their diversity and do not take democracy for granted. In the Indian election of 2014, we're told that about 551 million voters cast a ballot. And I'm tempted to make a joke about the American elections but I won't.

[Laughter]

Donald Trump is worried there will be that many votes and it's rigged, but never -- no. I digress.

It is indeed great to be in a country whose inclusive democratic ideals parallel ICANN's own. It's also worth noting this nation's democracy is thriving, no less than its I.T. sector. This city,

Hyderabad, is at the forefront of India's technological future. Indians view that future through a lens of history that dates back many centuries.

So it's fitting that we're meeting at this place and at this time, since ICANN too is looking to the future in the context of its very recent past.

I'm referring, of course, to the fact that last month the United States government formally ended its stewardship of ICANN's management of the IANA functions. This is a long-planned move. The visible part in the last two years involved many people, but there was quite a bit that preceded that, and it was the final step in allowing the international Internet community to oversee ICANN -- to oversee ICANN's handling of these functions, as opposed to just having the U.S. government do it.

The global community will also help guide our organization in its important mission to help maintain the security, stability and resilience of the greatest communication and information network man has ever created. And there were a few women in there too.

It's also you who made this happen.

When we talk about ICANN, there's a board, there's a staff, and there's a very large vibrant community and that's what makes things go.

Community representatives toiled for hundreds of hours to develop the transition proposal that the U.S. government ultimately accepted.

It can be argued that the transition was, to some degree, just symbolic but it cannot be denied that it also marked an historic moment in history of a fully independent and global Internet, and again, it happened because of you.

So on behalf of the entire board, I want you to know that you have our respect and our gratitude. Thank you, thank you, and congratulations.

[Applause]

We're having a small reception tomorrow afternoon, tomorrow evening at 6:30 on the lawn of the adjoining Novatel hotel. Please be there. Please come.

I also want to express gratitude to the members of the ICANN organization who worked tirelessly in support of the community and to Göran, our current CEO, who came in and helped make sure that we implemented everything that you, the community,

had asked for. So thank you to the organization, to the men and women that put in unbelievable hours around the clock on the call all the time.

[Applause]

And I think it's appropriate and fair that we also add our thanks to a man who made the transition a top priority during his leadership of ICANN. I'm talking, of course, about our previous CEO, Fadi Chehade, who brought his unique energies to this issue.

Do we have a picture of him, perhaps?

The transition was very much like scaling a mountain and as a team, we reached the summit and can clearly envision the peaceful valley that lies before.

No picture.

So we've reached the mountain and that's the good news, and also good news is that there is the prospect of a nice valley before us, but unfortunately more mountains to scale not too far ahead.

So this is not a time to rest, except briefly. It's a time to gather our energies, refocus, and plow on in the future.

In the wake of the transition, our core work continues, and in fact, there's been a substantial community work on a number of important issues.

Here in Hyderabad there will be further community discussions on a number of issues, such as the review of all rights protection mechanisms in all gTLDs, next-generation registry directory services to replace WHOIS, retirement of ccTLDs and review mechanisms for the decisions on delegation, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs, and a framework for the use of country and territory names as TLDs.

So our gratitude to all of you who support and contribute to these efforts and many others that are on the way.

I'm also aware that substantial community time and effort is going into meeting the requirements of the new bylaws. The new bylaws run hundreds of pages. It occurred to me this morning that we should have a complexity index, sort of like difficulty of reading, and see what we can do to reduce the complexity over the future.

The board is aware that a lot of community work needs to be done and there will be many opportunities in the coming months for further collaboration in that area.

Also, with the transition behind us, we will now have time to focus and continue to solidify our technical operations while at the same time increasing the understanding of ICANN's limited, though important, role within the Internet ecosystem.

ICANN was created around the IANA functions, yet few understand those functions or our new and slightly changing role in their management. The transition gave rise to the formation of a new nonprofit public benefit organization called Public Technical Identifiers, or PTI. It is a controlled affiliate of ICANN and now performs the IANA functions under contract with ICANN.

I can tell you that the transition was very smooth and that all of the transactions on a daily basis for updating the root zone and the related activities are now taking place under the new regime, with NTIA out of the loop completely, the relationship with VeriSign working just as smoothly as it was before.

It's really quite excellent.

[Applause]

The security of the domain name system is another important priority of ICANN, of course. We're currently involved in a carefully planned effort to change or roll over, as we say, the

cryptographic keys that help secure the domain name system. This is an unprecedented effort and it will conclude about a year from now. We're involved in a global effort to make sure that network operators, Internet service providers, and other technical players are well aware of the pending rollover and are prepared for it.

Our goal is to make certain that none of them will be locked out once the cryptographic keys are changed.

This is a pretty big deal. We hope it goes completely smoothly, and it's the kind of thing that from a conceptual point of view ought to be done relatively quickly but an extraordinary amount of caution, care, testing, communication, et cetera, is being put into this.

It's also important that we understand and openly engage in a dialogue around the business aspects of the domain name system. Nothing stays the same. We understand pretty well the position we're in, but the Internet is an agent of change and likely we will see changes in the environment and we feel obliged to embrace that, rather than either ignore it or resist it.

Among other things, one hears a lot about the Internet of Things that will bring a very, very large number of new devices not tied to individuals, and so the number of devices will be not

measured by the population of the world but measured by some other big numbers.

How will that transform the naming marketplace is obviously of key importance.

So a robust discussion will take place and will help us prioritize our future endeavors and our approach.

We know full well the world is watching closely, very closely, how a post-transition ICANN community handles its new-found role, and much of its focus will be on those of you who are involved in ICANN and in our collective responsibilities of accountability and transparency. And I have to say the board is 100% supportive. There have been times when it was not thought that that was the case. I can assure you from the beginning that the board was always very supportive. I don't want to get into an argument about it, but there was less resistance -- in fact, zero resistance -- despite what anybody might have thought.

Much of the focus, as I said, will be on the people who are involved directly. This meeting is the first post-transition ICANN meeting and it will be scrutinized and probably overanalyzed, but I have every confidence in the community, the board, and the ICANN organization.

I wish you all a good productive meeting.

It's now my pleasure to introduce minister KT Rama Rao, Minister of Information Technology, Panchayat Raj and Municipal Administration and Urban Development of Telangana. Minister.

[Applause]

KT RAMA RAO:

Thank you, Steve, it's an honor to be introduced by you. I have my own Donald Trump jokes. But upon two days ago, so since the last poll came out, I was sharing them publicly. But for all we know next week, he could be the President of the United States. So I would refrain myself from sharing any more jokes, and I'll share them with you in private.

Honorable Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union I.T. secretary, Chairman, CEO, and GAC members of ICANN and all the delegates, on behalf of the state government of Telangana, we welcome work you to the magnificent city of Hyderabad.

I know you guys have been here for a couple of days and this is the third day. But, nevertheless, I thought I'll take this opportunity because this is the largest congregation of ICANN, I'm told, in the five days that it happens here. As we all know

and as we have heard from Steve as well, technology has revolutionized the world we live in. In fact, technology has helped many nations, many states leapfrog from where they are and catapulted them into the top league. Today technology provides solutions practically to all challenges confronting mankind. Be it the problems of hungry, disease, or clean water or sanitation or transportation or anything else, technology has a solution for everything. What was considered unachievable in our lifetime is already in our grasp and used right now.

The creation of Internet has tremendously aided in the dissemination of technology and its democratization. No other single tool in human history can said to be have had as much impact and as much -- as aided as much progress to the humanity as that of Internet.

The entire Internet administration is in the hands of ICANN. This power, in my opinion, also brings lots of responsibility with it. It is now our collective responsibility to make Internet even more a powerful tool. By "powerful," I mean Internet should become accessible to every person on earth. It should become more affordable and using Internet should be easy and simple, regardless of how much educated the user is, how rich or how poor he is, and so on.

India today presents a fascinating case in the potential user of Internet. For many decades, India had to remain content by being a developing economy. But we also have the aspirations to become a strong and developed country, developed economy. Information technologies can be the magic wand that can help India make this great leap.

But the Indian reality today is out of the population of 1.3 billion, the Internet population is less than 30%, which leaves a huge opportunity, a 70% huge opportunity, for penetration for making it more affordable and more accessible.

The same issues of access, high cost, and language barriers that Steve referred to earlier, 22 official languages, are responsible for the low coverage. But both government of India and the state governments across the country together are making bold attempts towards Internet for all. The government of India under the leadership of our honorable prime minister and our Union I.T. minister Prasad have launched the flagship Digital India program.

We, too, in Telangana in our state have our own version called the Digital Telangana under larger rubric of Digital India. In fact, my state Telangana is poised to become the first in the country where every single household -- we have about 9 million

households. We are poised to become the first state in the country where every single household shall have a broadband Internet connection in the next 18 months.

[Applause]

And one of our initiatives which we are extremely upbeat and proud about is the combination of synergies. In fact, we have embarked on a very large-scale project called the Telangana state drinking water grid, as part of which we are laying nearly 150,000 kilometers of new water pipeline. So while we are -- while we have decided to dig up the entire landscape of Telangana, we also thought of combining synergies and laying fiber optic cable network along the side of it. As part of the drinking water project, like as I've mentioned, more than 150,000 kilometers of trenches are being dug up. And we are combining energies and synergies and using the same trenches to lay both water pipeline and also fiber optic cable.

We are, however, conscious of the reality that even if connectivity is brought down to the doorstep of people, unless they use it, things will not improve. We need to work very extensively to make people digitally literate. The two challenges in the digital campaign today, one is infrastructure, two is obviously literacy. So we have taken it upon ourselves also in

Telangana to work on digital solutions for providing better education, healthcare, real-time scientific advisories to farming community, for disaster mitigation just to name a few opportunities that we are pursuing.

We strongly believe that no technology is worth its name unless it has a social impact, unless it creates social impact, and unless it alleviates a common man's problems in a common man's day-to-day life.

While there is a lot to feel optimistic about the world of Internet, let me also add a note of caution here. We are increasingly facing the adverse consequences of Internet in the form of cyber-attacks, malware, phishing scams, pornography, online piracy to name a few. As a state, we have done whatever best we can in the form of becoming the only state in the country to launch its own cybersecurity policy, being the only state in the country to have a dedicated antipiracy unit and so on. But we realize that the challenge is much bigger and requires the collective might of all of us to tackle it with any success. I honestly hope that ICANN will take this issue as a priority and work on developing global protocols on data sharing, data privacy, et cetera.

Finally, I would like to welcome you all once again to the tech city of Hyderabad, where today the go-to destination for all the marquis names in I.T. in the world. It is not a mere coincidence that out of the top five most valued technology companies in the world, four of them have chosen Hyderabad as their largest base outside of their headquarters. This list includes Microsoft, Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon, and Uber, all of whose largest bases outside of their headquarters are right here in the City of Hyderabad. Hyderabad is also today the home to our country's largest technology incubator called the T-Hub which was unveiled exactly a year ago on the 5th of November, 2015. I have also learned that some of you have visited T-Hub on the 3rd of November and have come back with some very favorable impressions. For those of you who have missed it, there is another occasion, there is another opportunity on the 9th to visit our T-Hub.

Hyderabad is known for its hospitality. We are a historic city and with great monuments. We also have some wonderful new-age shopping experiences and some wonderful new-age amenities as well. This is the best season to visit Hyderabad. So those of you who are -- while you are here to do serious business, I also urge you to take a look around, to travel, to visit some of these historical monuments and to have a very pleasant and enjoyable

experience in Hyderabad. Once again, I welcome you all and thank you very much for this opportunity.

[Applause]

SAMIRAN GUPTA:

Thank you, sir. I now request honorable Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad to address the audience.

[Applause]

RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

To the most known and outstanding face of the ICANN movement, Steve Crocker, Göran Marby, my good friend I.T. Minister of Telangana Mr. Rao, distinguished officers of my I.T. electronics department, delegates, ladies and gentlemen, a warm welcome on behalf of government of India to all of you in the first post-ICANN transition conference in India. When I went to Marrakech, I was eagerly looking forward to that you would come to India. And when you are here, a very warm welcome. And an extraordinary number of delegates who have come here is only an indication of the profound commitment which you attach to this movement.

How I see this whole ICANN movement and the Internet penetration, beginning with the scientific research project, Internet today has become global, a great equalizer. And that has obviously led to a metamorphosis in the whole ICANN movement, too, because Internet took the world by storm, whether by accident or by design. But human ingenuity pushed it as a profound global medium of connectivity, of intercourse between individual, between nations, and also corporate entities. And the moment Internet became equalizer for the world, those who govern also needed to recognize the rising aspirations.

I had the occasion to address the Buenos Aires conference by technology by video from India. I did not have the time to go there. But I was present in Marrakech and got the honor to address our very categorical support to the multistakeholder model (indiscernible) of our own commitment.

India is a proud democracy. Our diversity, our pluralism, our cultural heritage, which clearly propels us to respect even the country idea of your friend or anyone else.

And, yes, Steve, we have 50 political parties. At times we are noisy. But your two parties in USA more than compensate our own (indiscernible) in India.

[Applause]

But that is a lighter weight. Well, what is important is see the diversity of India's landscape today, our academia, our universities, our innovators, our government. You just heard the Telangana minister talking about how they are taking the initiative. We believe in partnership. And our prime minister says "Team India." Obviously, the prime minister, the captain and the entire country has to work together. (indiscernible) had been the spirit with regard to political divide because democracy, pluralism, inclusion is a part of our DNA.

Ladies and gentlemen, what we bring on the table, we from India bring on the table the voice of reason, the voice of logic, the voice of moderation and above all the voice of hope. And I have not the slightest doubt the next billion Internet would be propelled from India in taking a leading role. That's how I see the whole movement emerging.

And, therefore, when the multistakeholder model has come to exist -- and we quite appreciate and need to compliment the seamless transition that just happened from the U.S. control now to a multistakeholder model being complimented well over. It is equally important that new voices, new countries must find a decent, respectable space in the decision-making to

make it more inclusive and to make multistakeholder model more meaningful.

In India, we are really involved in great transformation, transformational program. Digital India, Make In India, Skill India, Startup India, Stand-up India, the smart cities are all path-breaking programs under the distinguished leadership of our Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

We have always said by Digital India, we need to make -- we intend to make India a digitally empowered society, a more awakened society.

And, ladies and gentlemen, what is the digital profile of India? In a population of 1.25 billion plus, we have bought 1.3 billion mobile phones. In the last two years, we have added mobile phones in India equal to the population of Italy and France together. That is the scale on which we work. We are laying extraordinary infrastructure program the minister just talked about. We are linking 250,000 (indiscernible) cluster of villages by optical fiber network. We are creating other digital ecosystems to make ePayment, eHospital, eScholarship, finance to health to a cultured economy, to creating mandates for the farmer's market to enable them to sell their products.

How can digital profile metamorphose India to make it a more empowered society? That's what we are doing.

And talking in Hyderabad, I need to compliment the I.T. professionals of India. Indians, I.T. companies today are present in 200 cities of 80 countries of the world. Our I.T. revenue today stands at \$120 billion, out of which export only is 100 billion plus from innovation to cutting-edge technology. I'm very proud of the initiative taken by our I.T. professionals.

And as a start-up is concerned from the economic survey, I learned to my pleasant surprise, we have 19,000 plus start-ups in India of which 5,000 were added in the last one year. That is the scale on which we work, ladies and gentlemen.

And our idea is to partner with the global community to make Internet more accessible without discrimination. And, therefore, we're involved in a big program of digital literacy, as Rama Rao talked about. We are going to make 600 million digitally literate in the coming three years.

And, ladies and gentlemen, how India is changing, I want to give a very emotional example, talking in Hyderabad.

One day I learned that a young bidi (indiscernible), farm laborer rolling bidis, raw tobacco, has become digitally literate. I

complimented her on my tweet. She became a celebrity. TV cameras came to interview her. She became a further celebrity. Finally, I talked to her through a translator. I asked him how you became digitally literate. He said my son was in Dubai. He's a plumber. I used to miss him and my grandson. I was told by my friends on the farm I should go to Skype and then I can talk to my son and grandson. To operate the Skype, I became digitally literate. (indiscernible) sent to work in India, and we want to replicate it more and more.

[Applause]

Therefore, I see these are days of great excitement, but yes, the language of Internet cannot be English and English alone. If Internet is a powerful global tool, it must have a linkage with the local, and local means local languages too.

We in India we have come (indiscernible). We have done a lot of domain names in about 7 Indian languages. We want to make scalable 22. But on this occasion, I would like to appeal to the ICANN community that please make focused initiative to make local languages available more for Internet users to make it accessible. That, I think, is the meat of the art.

Two quick issues and I conclude.

Obviously, Internet needs to be safe for the use of all, and the tragedy of our times, ladies and gentlemen, is that a few people are abusing this beautiful creation of human mind. Challenge of cybersecurity, data privacy, fictitious unknown faces having unknown addresses are creating havoc by abuse of ICT.

We very strongly feel that the government, as an important stakeholder, needs to have a proper role in ensuring security for the country, including for the Internet, for the use of all, and therefore, the ICANN community needs to work with the security establishment to make cybersecurity wall more secure, and I'm sure this particular interaction of so many days is going to work wonders on that front as well because as our PM said -- says, cyberwar is bloodless war and we need to accept this challenge.

And lastly, we need more accountability, more transparency. Work Stream 2 is in operation, and Steve, we in India have profound experience of handling accountability. We have a lot of layers and layers of accountability, from the right to information act to the parliament accountability to media accountability to code interventions to component (indiscernible), and therefore, our bad experience of accountability can surely be loved to share with the ICANN community to make your own accountability system more fair and proper and more inclusive.

Ladies and gentlemen, my warm greetings once again. India is a lovely country and Indians are good hosts.

[Applause]

And Hyderabad, in particular, will offer you a variety of outstanding dishes. Don't miss them. They will open their heart, India with you. Warm greetings. Namaskaram. Keep it up. Good luck!

[Applause]

SAMIRAN GUPTA:

Thank you, sir. Thank you, indeed.

And without any further ado, may I welcome Mr. Paul Wilson, member of the Executive Council of the Number Resource Organization and director-general of Asia Pacific Network Information Centre to share a few words.

Paul, please.

[Applause]

PAUL WILSON:

Well, good morning, honorable ministers, ICANN colleagues and colleagues from India.

It's a great honor to be up here speaking at this particular point in the program. I'm speaking for the regional Internet registries who collectively manage IP addresses, IPv4 and IPv6 addresses in five regions of the world. I'm the head of one of those, APNIC, which serves the Asia Pacific region, including India of course.

Last time I spoke at an ICANN meeting was 18 months ago or so, during ICANN 52 in Singapore, and I said then that we numbers folk were the lesser-known community of ICANN, that we account for maybe 1% of the time and energy that's spent here in these meetings.

And there are good reasons for that but I did hope that my speech and this one might raise our profile at least a little bit.

In any case, on behalf of the NRO, the Number Resource Organization, representing the RIRs, I do want to thank ICANN for the opportunity to be here and to wave the numbers flag again.

So in the last 18 months, a lot has happened. For a start, there have been at least 15 or so RIR meetings around the world, including several thousand people, at least 50 different address policy proposals have been considered, and quite a few policy decisions taken. Among those, for instance, are the opening of inter-RIR IPv4 transfers among three of our regions, adjustments

to transfer policies, to other IP addressing IPv6 and ASN-related policies. And the point here is that the reason that the numbers community accounts for about 1% of what happens here is that about 99% of what happens -- of what we do, that is, happens in other places. In our own forums and communities.

So what you see of us here is just the tip of the numbers iceberg, and as I said last time, you're all welcome -- more than welcome -- to dive in and join us to see the rest of the story and to participate in the numbers communities in all of those different fora.

So as we know, there was a big event that happened also in the last two years since I was last speaking in this forum and that's the IANA transition. And we numbers folk are all very happy that that thing is behind us now because like you all, we worked very hard on the task. The RIRs, over quite a few years, had called publicly for the transition to happen on several occasions when the ICANN arrangements were being reviewed or under renewal by the U.S. government, so when the time came, we assembled the CRISP team, the combined RIR/IANA stewardship transition proposal team which produced the numbers plan which became a part of the ICG's plan, which was accepted by ICANN and then the U.S. government.

And then at the same time, or after that, we worked together with ICANN very successfully to implement that transition plan in the form of a new agreement, and that's the agreement between the RIRs and ICANN for the provision of IANA services.

We signed that agreement at the last ICANN meeting in Helsinki and it became active on the 1st of October, and I think we should -- in the numbers community, we really want to thank the ICANN staff and board for the support that they gave to that part of the process.

We think we're quite lucky, actually, in the numbers world to have what is really a clean and clear relationship with ICANN, such that it can be defined in a document of just actually a few pages, and that document also, by the way, defines ICANN's accountabilities in those same few pages. But the thing is that ICANN's accountability is not the full extent of overall accountability in the numbers space and the RIRs themselves have got our own set of accountabilities which we take very seriously. We were prompted, in fact, early in the transition process to launch our own accountability improvement efforts. And, so for instance, we've published a guide in the form of a matrix to the respective governance mechanisms of all of the RIRs. We've undertaken an independent accountability review

of the individual RIRs as independent membership-based community organizations.

And our next effort as of this week will be to launch the latest open public and independent review of the Address Supporting Organization.

But I'm sure that as Steve said, actually, this work will go on individually among the RIRs and together between us to ensure that our accountabilities are up to scratch as time goes on into the future.

So aside from all of that, it's business as usual for the RIRs in some sense. We're working as we always have on the operational, technical, and policy challenges of the numbers community in terms of addressing, IP -- managing IP addresses for the best outcomes for the Internet itself across the world.

One of those challenges actually -- and not a new one -- is another transition, which is from IPv4 to IPv6 as the protocol which ultimately carries all of the other Internet services.

I'm glad to say that IPv6 is continuing to increase steadily to today around 7% of all Internet users in the world, and that's doubled since ICANN 52. It accounts for 14% of Google's user traffic, which has also doubled. And these days, the USA leads

the IPv6 tables with around 80 million users who are using IPv6 today. And that's, again, doubled in the last 18 months.

So that all sounds good and it is good, but we need to realize that the majority of Internet operators are yet to move, and most countries in the world still have an average usage across their industry of close to zero, I'm afraid. So that actually is a digital divide today, and it's something that will stay with us until things change.

But while I'm here in the region and in India, I can't miss the opportunity to talk about IPv6 in this country because that has increased just in 2016 from around 1% utilization to around 10% and that equates --

[Applause]

-- that does equate to something like 50 million Internet users in India who are using IPv6 these days and that will make India, in the very near future, the largest IPv6 population on the planet, so that deserves recognition here and thanks for the applause.

It's just one indication of what's happening here in India on the incredible Internet in India, and I hope that all of you from other nations -- again, as we heard before, aside from the ICANN work that you're doing here this week, I hope you'll take the chance to

learn a lot more about our host nation of India while you're here this week in Hyderabad.

So thank you very much once again for giving this time to the numbers folks, and I hope to see you all again. Thanks.

[Applause]

SAMIRAN GUPTA:

Thank you, Paul.

I now invite President and CEO of ICANN, Mr. Göran Marby, and Ms. Theresa Swinehart, Senior Vice President, Multistakeholder Strategy and Strategic Initiatives, to present the ICANN leadership awards.

MR. GÖRAN MARBY:

Thank you, Samiran. I'm instructed to read from the notes so I get it right.

The ICANN Leadership Award is given to outstanding individuals in our community that demonstrate extraordinary commitment to ICANN.

It's awarded to people who remain true to the community's true values. In years past, the award has been given to just one person chosen by the ICANN org's executive team.

This year, however, it was impossible to select just one winner.

From the beginning to the end of the IANA stewardship transition, we witnessed an incredible amount of leadership and dedication from so many different community members. I'll pass over to Theresa Swinehart, who will introduce the winners.

THERESA SWINEHART:

Thank you. So we have been hearing quite a bit about the past two years. The transition was really a tremendous feat. It would not have been possible, though, without the community's work and with that the leadership within the community itself:

Now that we have crossed the finish line, it is really important to recognize this leadership. As I announce the name of each winner, I would like to ask them to join us up here on the stage. And then we'll be taking a group photo.

Some of the winners were not able to be here today. We hope that you're listening online and that you know that your presence is being missed.

And so with that, I'm honored to announce the winners for this year's leadership award.

For the ICG, Alissa Cooper. I hope you are online.

[Applause]

Mohamed El Bashir.

[Applause]

And Patrik Faltstrom who is here.

[Applause]

For the CCWG accountability group, Mathieu Weill.

[Applause]

Leon Sanchez.

[Applause]

And Thomas Rickert.

[Applause]

For the CWG naming group, Lise Fuhr.

[Applause]

And Jonathan Robinson.

[Applause]

For the CRISP group, Nurani Nimpuno.

[Applause]

And Izumi Okutani.

[Applause]

And for the IANA plan, Marc Blanchet who is here.

[Applause]

And Leslie Daigle. And I hope you're listening online.

[Applause]

Congratulations, everybody. Thank you for all your work.

[Applause]

MR. GÖRAN MARBY:

Are we awake now?

So it's my time. So I'm going to give one of my long speeches again in Swinglish, as always. First of all, thank you again for a gracious host for having us here. Thank you, Minister Prasad, for India's support of the multistakeholder model. It has been very

important to us. And also to your team for all their help to set up this meeting. Thank you.

[Applause]

Thank you, Mr. Rama Rao, Minister -- sorry, Minister of Information Technology, for having us here in Hyderabad. And I look forward to hearing your jokes later.

And thank you to Dr. Arvind Gupta who I met many times for helping us to be here.

Thank you for hosting this historical meeting. Every speaker has talked about this, but it is a historical meeting. It is the first meeting of the transition with all the new checks and balances and the new bylaws in place. This is also my first time in Hyderabad. I'm very happy to be here.

But, again, first of all, thank you to you. Everybody's here. Everybody's in this room, who watches us remotely, everybody in the multistakeholder model or family that created the opportunity to be here.

I don't know if there's anyone any time has been anything as the transition movement. So many people in so many countries for such a long time worked together to create this. I can't think of anything else that even resembles what you did in such an open

and inclusive way. There can't be -- this is a peace project of the world. You wrote a new chapter of ICANN together. You should reflect upon that. You should be proud of it because you've done something that people for a very long time will see as a shift how we work together in the world. You really made history. And on behalf of all the Internet users in the world, I would like to thank you. Thank you.

[Applause]

So it is official now. A lot of people have asked me: So what happened? There were some people who thought that the Internet is going to close down. And in a way, nothing had happened and everything happened at the same time. You will continue to do what you always have done, and we will continue supporting you in that. We heard that after the transition -- or the day after the transition, we have new PTI, we have new bylaws, we have new checks and balances. We have new contracts. We have new arrangement. And all of that happened in an instant. But everything changed as well because we replaced the supervision of the U.S. government to the community supervision. That increases accountability and has more checks and balances.

You are now fully in charge. And I know that many of you worked very hard for the transition. Not everybody got what they wanted. But your ability to work together, to make the compromises, have a discussion was very important. You did a great job. We all have a responsibility now to help to make the Internet work.

And I came in late, and there was something that occurred to me during the last couple of weeks before the transition. We were actually very close of losing it. You might have known. You might have seen. And when I reflect back, we have together to make sure that no one, no organization, no person, no special interest, no government again can hijack what we are doing. And it's not going to happen if we work together in an open and transparent way. And for that, we need a diverse and engaged community.

We are here to support you for that. In Marrakech, which was my first ICANN meeting, we had close to a thousand stakeholders from Africa. And as we heard today, we have 1400 stakeholders only from India. Welcome.

[Applause]

I hope I can meet some of you and get to know you going forward. We have accomplished a lot this year, but there's no

time to rest. It's time to move forward. I have been here now a couple of months and there are more discussions we have to engage in, especially when it comes to accountability. One way is we have to have clearer rules -- roles. Sorry. That was Swinglish. And I want to engage in a discussion with you how to continue to define those roles because something I realized during over the last couple of weeks from this transition is outside this room and outside our communities many people don't understand how Internet actually works. Maybe they don't have to, but it was apparent that many people don't understand the mechanics of this.

You, of course, know this. You know that the Internet is like a machine where organizations, people come together and work independently under a voluntary system. That's unique. It's a system that's never been invented like that before.

You also know that the ICANN role is a part of that ecosystem, together with our friends in the numbering community or the protocol community. Our role is to hold the rulebook for the unique identifiers. When I try to describe ICANN to outsiders, I talk about the most important, the community, but also the board who looks upon your decisions and tells me how to implement them. And besides that, my role is to help facilitate your decision. But it is important to note that the heart of ICANN

is you, the community. I said to my team when I came in this morning, "I'm so proud to be here standing together with you with so many people in one room." Because you work together. You develop the policies. You provide advice, make decisions. You solve the problems. This week I'm going to -- I hope I have the ability to talk to you and work with you to see what me and my team can do better in supporting you.

With that, I want to step out of the way to you can do your work. Once again, welcome to ICANN57.

[Applause]

SAMIRAN GUPTA:

Thank you, Göran.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are in India, a land of cultural diversity. Bringing us a glimpse of this diversity is a dance performance, Swagathanjali, conceived by dance guru Deepika Reddy and performed by her and other eminent artists. Please welcome Swagathanjali.

[Applause]

SHW INTRO:

Namaskaram. We welcome esteemed dignitaries and delegates present here with Swagathanjali, a welcome dance that is a collage of classical Indian dance styles. Swagath means welcome, and Anjali means greeting with folded hands. This is an vibrant invocatory item that brings together on one platform four different styles of Indian classical dance and gives you a glimpse of the rich Indian cultural heritage dance. It is a piece accompanied by melodious and pulsating music which will take the audience through a short, yet exhilarating experience of the sheer diversity of each classical dance form.

The dancers welcome the esteemed delegates to the cosmopolitan city of Hyderabad. They then go on to present an ode to the nation. They then conclude with a chant that invokes world peace.

Swagathanjali is conceptualized by Guru Deepika Reddy, a leading exponent of the Kuchipudi art form who has performed worldwide at prestigious venues. She's presenting the Kuchipudi section with her disciples, Mihira Pathuri and Ruthvika Reddy.

Kathak section is presented by Vidha Lal, a leading exponent of the Kathak style of dance who has performed worldwide. She is accompanied by her disciples, Varsha Dasgupta and Ira Dogra.

Bharatanatyam section is presented by disciples of a leading exponent of the Bharatanatyam style of dance, Guru Ananda Shankar Jayant, Soundaryalahari, Harshitha Kaja and Nandini Bhamidipati.

Mohiniyattam section is presented by disciples of a leading exponent of the Mohiniyattam style of dance, Guru Gopia Varma, Nisha Ranjit, Meenu Shah, and Sindhu Nair.

Music for this piece is composed by Shri DSV Sastry.

Ladies and gentlemen, Swagathanjali, a visual treat of rhythm music and dance.

[Music]

[Applause]

SAMIRAN GUPTA:

Thank you. Thank you so much for this fantastic and wonderful performance.

Thank you all for joining us today. I hope you have a good and productive day and I'd like to remind you that the -- I'd like to invite you to the public forum at 5:00 p.m. today at this hall and also to remind you that the IANA transition reception is on the

8th of November at 6:30 p.m. at the Novatel hall. Thank you so much. Bye-bye.

[Applause]

[END OF TRANSCRIPT]