



Tuesday 30 October

SUMMARY Tuesday is "Constituency Day" where the different 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. With the exception of the Governmental Advisory Committee, they are open to observers. The evening will see the Gala event at the Sony Studios with a special tribute to Vint Cerf. Tickets are limited to 800 so pick them up early at the registration booth..



John Kneuer

TODAY'S MAIN MEETINGS

ALAC/ Board meeting

Time: 9:00

Room: Century A/B

The agenda was not settled at time of going to print, but with a wealth of topics to hand this meeting should prove interesting.

ccNSO members meeting

Time: 9:00

Room: Los Angeles Ballroom

The country code organisation has to decide what it plans to do with the issue of Internationalized Domain Names.

Intellectual Property Interests

Time: 14:00

Room: Newport B

Almost certain to be about the lengthy new gTLD meeting yesterday.

GAC meeting with the Board

Time: 16:45

Room: La Jolla Ballroom

Always a meeting worth popping your head into. Expect IDNs and new gTLDs to head the agenda.

WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY

Welcome Ceremony

The special guest of honor this year was Assistant Secretary of the Department of Commerce for the United States government, John Kneuer. Aside from discussing Vint Cerf's role in ICANN and thanking him, Kneuer took the opportunity to announce that the US government would soon be opening a "Notice of Inquiry", or public review, of ICANN in which he encouraged all those interested to participate and send in their views. That inquiry will form part of the mid-term review of the ICANN Joint Project Agreement in March 2008.

President's report

Given by president and CEO of ICANN, Paul Twomey, the report covered the latest progress at ICANN. Twomey spoke about ICANN's Strategic Plan and noted a recent trend in interest from the non-technical community - mainly governments, corporations, and private users, and their key concerns about the security and stability of the Internet. Other topics included the current beta testing of internationalized domain names; the accountability and transparency frameworks; and stressed the importance of that day's meeting of the GNSO covering new gTLDs.

GNSO workshop on new gTLDs

A monster six-hour meeting, split into three sessions covered the past two-and-a-half years' worth of work carried out by the GNSO on the introduction of new gTLDs.

The meeting received widespread plaudits as the highly complex and, on occasion, controversial subject was dealt with methodically, openly and with a significant amount of public participation both within the meeting and online.

Special briefing papers covered the recommendations that had been made in an earlier report by the GNSO. The papers made the material accessible and, as a result, a well-informed and lively debate raged. What became clear over the course of the meeting was the amount of work and subsequent careful compromises that had been arrived at during the lengthy process.

Inevitably however there remain issues of dispute, in particular two of the recommendations, 6 and 20, about how the actual system for new gTLDs should actually work. Meanwhile the largest hurdle in the process still remains - devising and dealing with real-world implementation plans for the final recommendations.

MEDIA COVERAGE

ICANN moving to independence: The Australian

Internet Pioneer Leaves Oversight Group: Associated Press

Internet founding father steps down from ICANN: CBC.

Cerf Has 5 Books to Write: Associated Press

ICANN focuses on international domains, security: The Line

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