This report is partially based on the CENTR report of the ICANN 53 Meeting, which addresses more aspects of the GAC and GNSO meetings. CENTR report in English https://centr.org/CENTR-Report-ICANN53
LAC DNS Forum

The second edition of the LAC DNS Forum was held on 10 June in Buenos Aires, Argentina, organized by ISOC, ICANN, LACNIC, LACTLD, NIC AR, PIR and CABASE as local partner. The event convened more than 80 participants of the private sector, the technical community and civil society.

The discussions mainly focused on the development of the DNS ecosystem in the Latin America and Caribbean region, and how to strengthen the region and build the necessary capacities to offer DNS services in the framework of the offer decentralization of the DNS industry, which is mainly focused in the US, Europe and Asia Pacific. Additionally, in the different panels the need was emphasized of encouraging the participation of new stakeholders and take advantage of the synergies in the cooperation and training through the organizations of the technical community as LACNIC, ISOC, ICANN and LACTLD, among others, which offer training activities and strategies of capacity building. Besides, successful experiences were shared in other regions, such as the Middle East, and ideas to overcome the barriers of new undertakings in developing regions.


ICANN Regional Strategy and LAC Space

On June 21 there was a meeting between the steering group of the ICANN regional strategy. The guidelines of the strategy were defined in 2013, and the implementation phase started in 2014. During the meeting there were presented the advances in the strategy, along with the need of redefining the projects for 205-16 based on the last years experience. The redefinition and analysis
phase will be done in the upcoming months, so in August/September the new projects can be launched.

The Latin-American and Caribbean region met on 22 June, continuing the discussion topics of LAC DNS Forum and having updates on the regional strategy projects.

Carolina Aguerre from LACTLD, commented that the LAC DNS Forum sessions included aspects such as DNS security and stability; new gTLDs Registries cases; intensive use of the analysis tools to know better the market and the opportunity areas; threats to the ccTLDs business and ideas to face the new Internet use through new applications and identifiers; and how to improve the participation in the IETF, among others.

Daniel Fink from ICANN presented a mapping of the global DNS industry, making a development comparison between regions, stressing the challenges and the ICANN strategy focused on reducing barriers to the participation of new actors, and promoting the accreditation of Registries and Registrars in the region.

Baher Esmat from ICANN shared successful practices of training on DNS in the Middle East, with special focus on the DNS Entrepreneurship Center Centre (DNS-E), which was opened in El Cairo and includes Africa and Middle East, where ICANN through the collaboration with international and regional experts, provides training and orientation during the initial phase of the projects and the programs include technical aspects (Registry operations, DNSSEC, etc.) business and policy aspects (Registry/Registrar model, communications and brand, new gTLDs business plan).

Wim Degezelle commented in detail the project on enhancing the commercial vision for ccTLDs (Project 4.6.3), as part of the ICANN strategic plan for the region. He showed statistics in relation to the potential growth and the reality of the ccTLDs in relation to the business models, in particular the implementation of the Registry/Registrar model. Wim remarked that the use of Internet continues growing, and that the ccTLDs of the region represent the 2.7% of the total number of domains, therefore there is space to grow. In comparison to 2008, the ccTLDs of the region have grown faster than the ccTLDs and gTLDs at the global level, thus it is important reinforce the management and potential leadership of the ccTLDs in the region and be well prepared for the potential threats of the new gTLDs. Wim finished his presentation with a short brief of the LACTLD Marketing Workshop, which included aspects such as the development of a strategic vision in the domain sales, through the zone analysis, market evaluations and the development of a Registrar channel as partners in the sale of the domain names and development of the Registry, and he concluded that the event facilitated the enriching interchange between Registries and Registrars.

**Meeting with the Caribbean actors**

On Wednesday, June 24 there was a lunch where the organizations with presence in the region were invited to develop the objectives of work and projects. Albert Daniels from ICANN organized the meeting, and the purpose was to share the current projects and look for possible synergies.

In the case of the ccTLDs in the Caribbean, it was commented that there has been developed a mailing list where Jacqueline Morris from .tt participates. This mailing list is a good start for the ccTLDs of that region could share their interests and interchange information. The idea is that in the future the group could integrate in the LACTLD structure and its activities.
ccNSO

The ccNSO meeting was celebrated on 23-24 June, and the discussions surrounded the proposal presented in June by the domain names community, organized under the Cross Community Working Group (CWG). The proposal was submitted to the gTLDs and ccTLDs for final discussion and approval, which includes the creation of a legal entity associated to ICANN, the Post Transition IANA (PTI). (The details of the proposal and the LACTLD position on the document, were developed in the May Meeting in Lima).

During several ccNSO sessions, it was analyzed in detail the CWG proposal and the points of contact with the CCWG proposal. On 24 June, the members that were present in the ccNSO meeting supported unanimously the proposal. In this sense, the ccNSO Council was legitimated to support the proposal without reservations, considering that is one of the most significant and historical measures that the ccNSO Council had to vote, with specific consequences for all the ccTLDs. The resolution approved by the ccNSO Council was then sent to the IANA coordination group (ICG).

There are still remaining concerns, such as the Service Level Expectations, which will be provided in the upcoming weeks, and the guarantees of independence of PTI. Additionally, the CCWG continues working in the improvements of accountability and transparency, and its second draft will be published at the end of July, and there will be a 40 days comment period. ccNSO Council Resolution: https://community.icann.org/display/gnsocwgdttstwrdsbhp/ccNSO+Approval

Giovanni Seppia from .eu presented the advances of the Strategic and Operational Planning Working Group (SOP WG) and remarked that a new dashboard with Key Performance Indicator will be launched, which will facilitate tracking of the projects progress.

Some ccTLDs of the region shared the advances: .py informed their work in the second level launch; .ar highlighted the improvements in the communications area. Moreover, LACTLD announced the launch of the Anycast Cloud Project. This is an innovative project in relation to the role that the ccTLDs play, the new participation channel and the services for the associates in a collaboration framework.

Kim Davies from the IANA, presented the progress on the alternative to the Whois, RDAP, new generation of the Whois protocol; the work plan for the support to the IANA functions transition, with estimations of change and the definition of the SLEs; improvements in the monitoring of the changes to the root zone.

ccNSO Presentations http://ccnso.icann.org/meetings/buenos-aires53/presentations.htm

GAC

Among the topics addressed during the GAC sessions, the GAC support to the submission of the CWG proposal to the ICG, with the condition that the CCWG meet the requirements of the CWG proposal, and it was pointed out how positive was to exclude the ccTLD delegation and redelegation from the proposal.
One of the controversial issues that brought the ccNSO attention was the survey that the GAC issued on the ccTLDs and its relationship with the governments. During ccNSO/GAC joint session, it was clarified the purpose of the information requirement. In this sense, the GAC pointed out that they are interested to know the different ccTLDs models, the governance structure an, the consultations mechanism and the relationship with the actors of the national Internet community. After the data collection, the GAC plan to revise the inputs with the ccNSO for a better analysis that will help to the High Level Meeting that will be held in Marrakech. The ccNSO stressed that the ccTLDs community is diverse and offered a CENTR study as reference information for the GAC in this survey.

An additional and cross-cutting topic for the GAC, ccNSO and gNSO, is the country extensions according to ISO 3166 and the geographic names and other 2-characters extensions. During ICANN 52 (see report LACTLD ICANN 52 http://www.lactld.org/wp-content/files_mf/lactld_icann52_esp90.pdf) the GAC encouraged the development of a database as a mechanism to help countries identify those cases where the governments want to oppose the use of the country code strings at the second level. All governments (regardless of their membership to the GAC) are invited to indicate the following items: name of the territory/country in English; if they do not require notification for the use of the country code at the second level; if they do not require notification for the use of trademark; any specific comments to special cases (for ex, if the name it is used in more than one language) and a contact in the GAC. The list is estimated to be finished at the end of July and will be published in the GAC website.

The issue of first level domain names with two characters for future new gTLD rounds it is still a topic for debate, which is being addressed in the ccNSO, ALAC, gNSO and the GAC, with some duplication and fragmentation of the work. It is necessary to reach a collaborative and consensus work for a new TLDs applications round on potential new TLD with two characters, among other topics related to identification and nomenclature. Within the ICANN Division on global names and participation in the industry there is a proposal that includes the GAC proposal for future rounds, according to the comments during the Public Forum.

GAC Communiqué
https://gacweb.icann.org/display/gacweb/Governmental+Advisory+Committee

GNSO

In relation to the transition of the IANA functions, the Registries were more concerned by the practical aspects of the IANA function after the transition, such as performance and management metric. The GNSO Council voted unanimously the final proposal, and the vacuum related to the trademarks as pointed out as the lack of an appeal mechanism for ccTLD delegation and re-delegation.

Among other topics, the GNSO Council addressed the next rounds of new gTLDs, improvements in the GNSO internal procedures and its work of consultation and relationship with the GAC and other groups. In the policy implementation development, it was stressed the work on translation and transliteration of the contact details.
Internet Governance

On Monday, June 22 it was held the Internet Governance sessions, which addressed the main topics of the most relevant fora, in particular the WSIS process review and the preparation guidelines for the UN General Assembly (UNGA) that will be held in December.

As inputs of the meeting, it was commented the different developments in certain June events, such as the 18th session of the CSTD, the OECD Ministerial Meeting on Internet, and the preparatory meetings for the UNGA, as well as the advances in the work of the postNETMundial where it was remarked the terms of reference adopted in April, which where focused on covert the initiative in a catalyst platform of cooperation among the stakeholders to advance towards the implementation of the principles and the work plan.

The meetings for the WSIS +10 are scheduled for the beginning of July (preparatory meeting and consultations), and the non-paper and zero draft will be revised in the second preparatory meeting in October, according to the roadmap presented during the session (https://buenosaires53.icann.org/en/schedule/mon-ig/presentation-wsis-un-consultations-22jun15-en).

ICANN Board

During the ICANN Board meeting on Thursday, June 25, it was approved the report if Framework of the ccTLD Interpretation of delegation and re-delegation. Another important approved resolution was the Operational and Budget Plan for 2016, among others.

Besides, it was announced that in March 2016 the meeting will be held in Marrakech, and the October meeting 2016 will took place in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The location for the ICANN 56 in the LAC region in 2016 has not been yet defined.

ICANN Board Resolutions:
https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2015-06-25-en

Reference Material

- Presentations and Transcripts of ICANN 53:
  https://buenosaires53.icann.org/en/schedule-full