

ICANN: achievements and challenges of a multi-stakeholder, bottom up, transparent model



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Regional Liaisons

Aurelio Peccei Lecture
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Presentation overview

- The domain name market
- About ICANN
- How to participate
- The Global Partnership approach

Domain Name basics

- Registries operate TLD (.com, .org, .uk, .fr, .be, .eu,...)
- Distinction between gTLDs and ccTLDs
- Registrars obtain domain names from Registries, make them available
- Registrants
- Users

ICANN's role in the market

- ICANN has agreements with registries, registrars
- Introduction of competition
- Addition of new TLDs
- Accreditation of registrars
- Contractual Compliance
- Transfers, Domain Name Disputes, coordination

The Internet in 1996

- 240,000 domain names
- .com, .net, .org, plus ccTLDs such as .pt
- Domain names cost \$75 per year
- Only 1 registrar – Network Solutions
- No Google (not until 1998)

The Internet in 1996

- Slow Internet connections
- Increasing amount of information online, but tools for accessing information limited
- Early stages of adoption among business and users

Yahoo! in 1996



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Growth of Domain Names

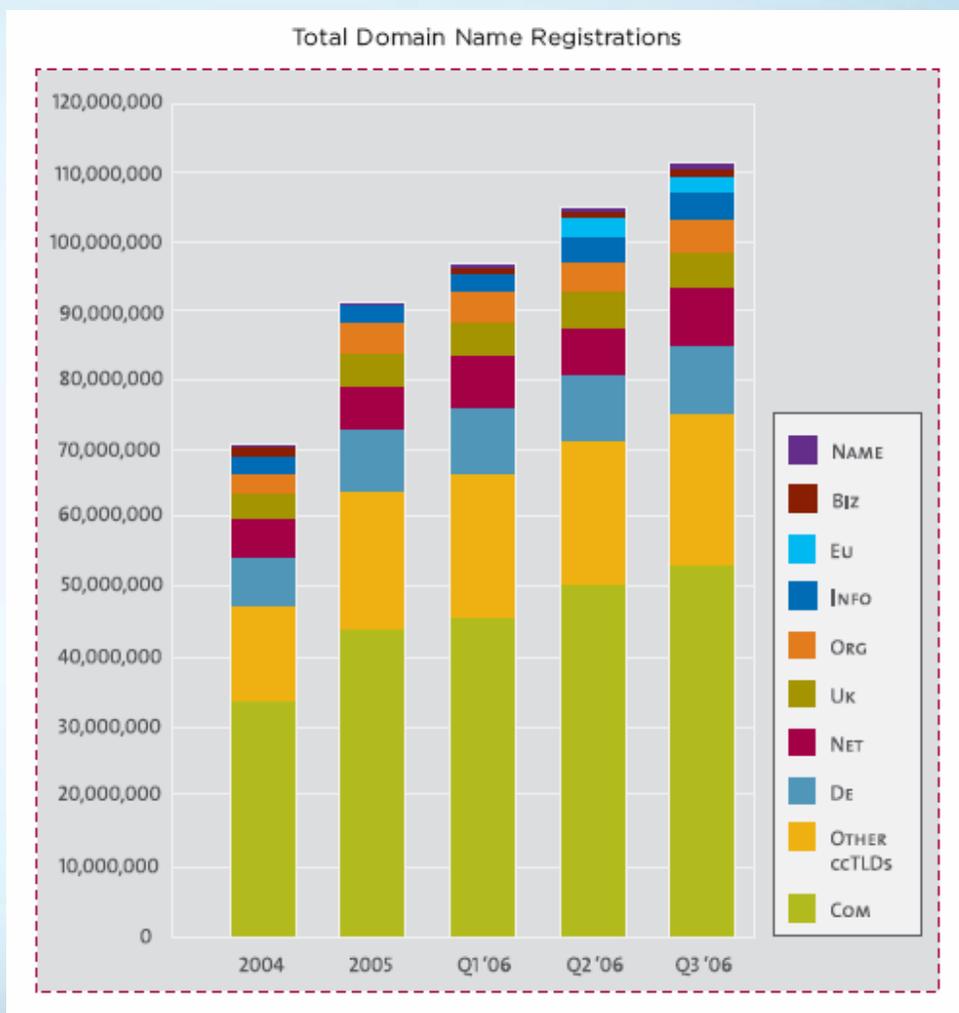
- January 1993 – 21,000
- January 1996 – 240,000
- January 1999 – 4.0 million
- January 2001 – 27.9 million
- January 2004 – 35.3 million
- Nov 2006 – 112 million + (most recent data available)

The Internet today

- **112 million + domain names**
- 16 gTLDs plus ccTLDs = more choice for registrants
- .aero, .asia, .biz, .cat, .coop, .info, .jobs, .mobi, .museum, .name, .pro, .tel, .travel
- 860 + registrars
- Domain names available for as low as \$1 (most in the range of \$5-15 per year)

Snapshot of domain name marketplace

112 million+
domain names
registered globally
today



The Internet in 2007

- Immense amount of data available
- Movies, live video, music, news, blogs
- More content available and options for users
- Internet now considered a critical infrastructure and vital commercial, cultural and educational medium

Yahoo! March 2007





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- Music
- Personals
- Photos
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\$50 Sign up bonus** - Ad Feedback

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Domain Names sales

- Diamond.com \$7.5 million
- Vodka.com \$3 million
- Nav.no \$717,900
- Chat.de \$470,848
- Other examples across all price ranges
- Many domains sell in \$100-500 range

What does ICANN do?

- Administration
 - Administer a database in the public trust
- Policy Coordination
 - Facilitate global consensus based decisions on how that database should be administered

20 billion DNS resolutions per day

The history behind

- ARPANET
- National Science Foundation
- Jon Postel
- Open consultation
- ICANN [embryonic – with MoU]
- ICANN with ongoing evolution...

Current structure

Board: 15 voting, 6 non-voting liaisons

Government Advisory Committee

Organisations

Country Code

Generic Names

Address

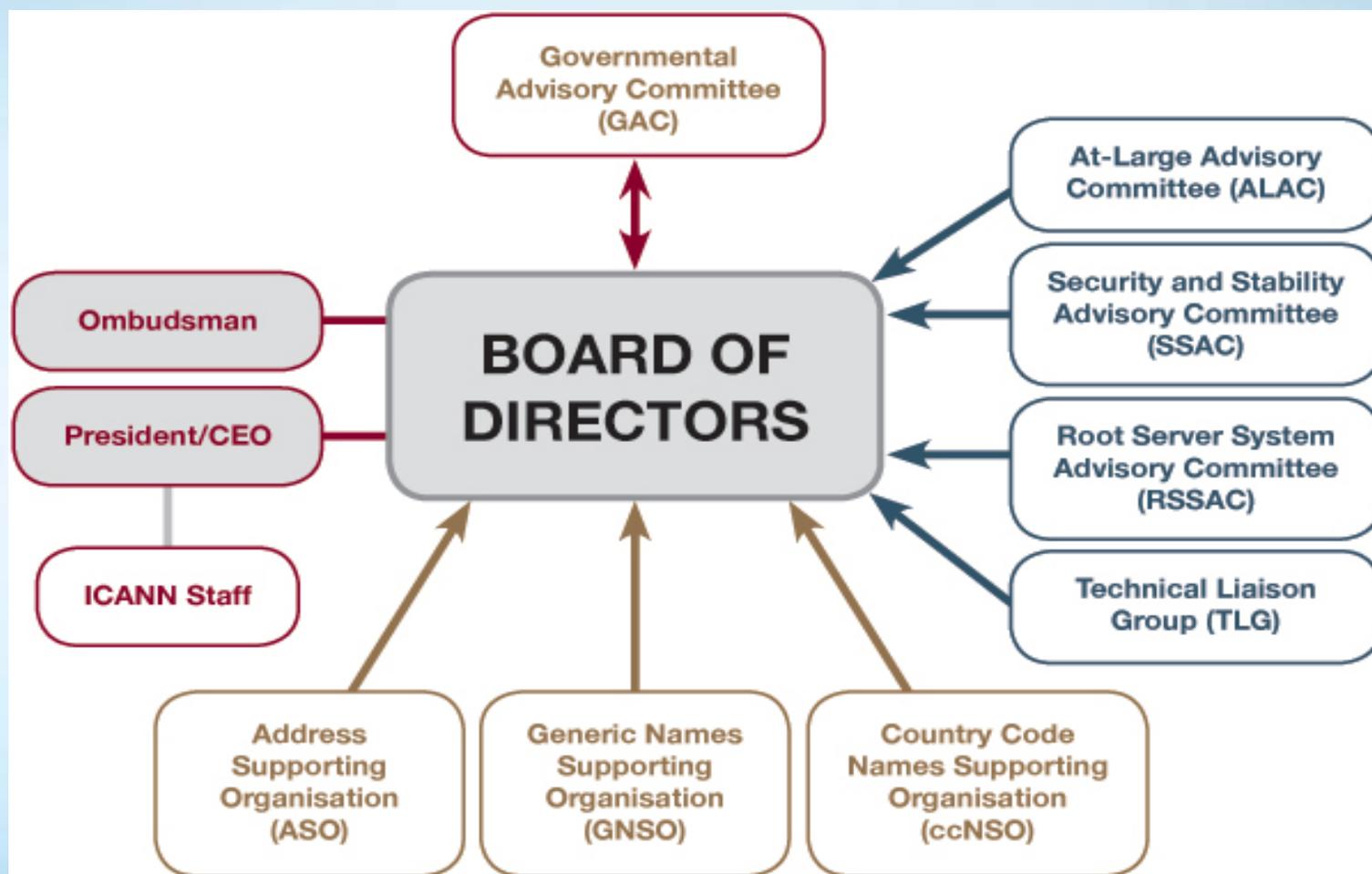
Committees

At-Large

Root Server System

Security and Stability

Current structure



Joint Partnership Agreement

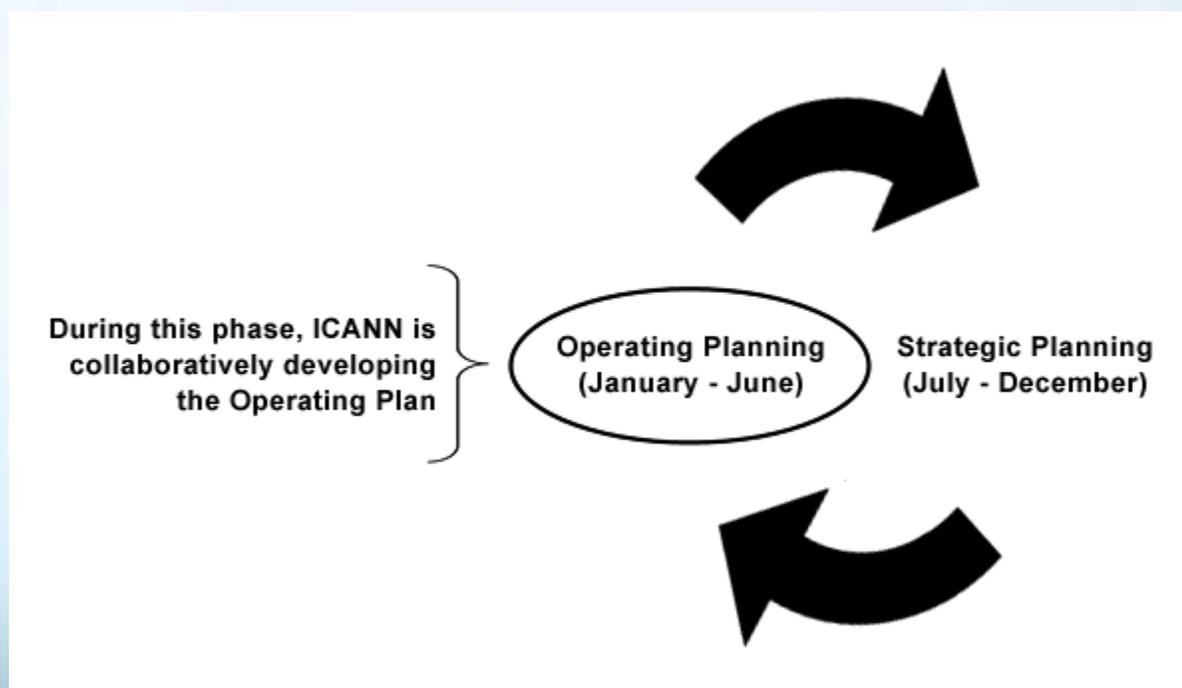
- MoU expired last September. ICANN will no longer have its work prescribed for it
- Now only publish one public annual report
- Joint commitment to strengthening:
 - *Transparency*
 - *Root server security*
 - *Governmental Advisory Committee*
 - *Performance monitoring*

The Annual Report 2005-2006

- The first ICANN Annual Report in accordance to what established in the Joint Project Agreement was released at the end of January 2007 and is available at:
<http://www.icann.org/annualreport/annual-report-2005-2006.pdf>
- The report highlights the achievements and it includes a summary of the JPA with the US DoC
- Comments can be submitted by mail (2006-ar-comments@icann.org) or through the ICANN blog (<http://blog.icann.org/>)

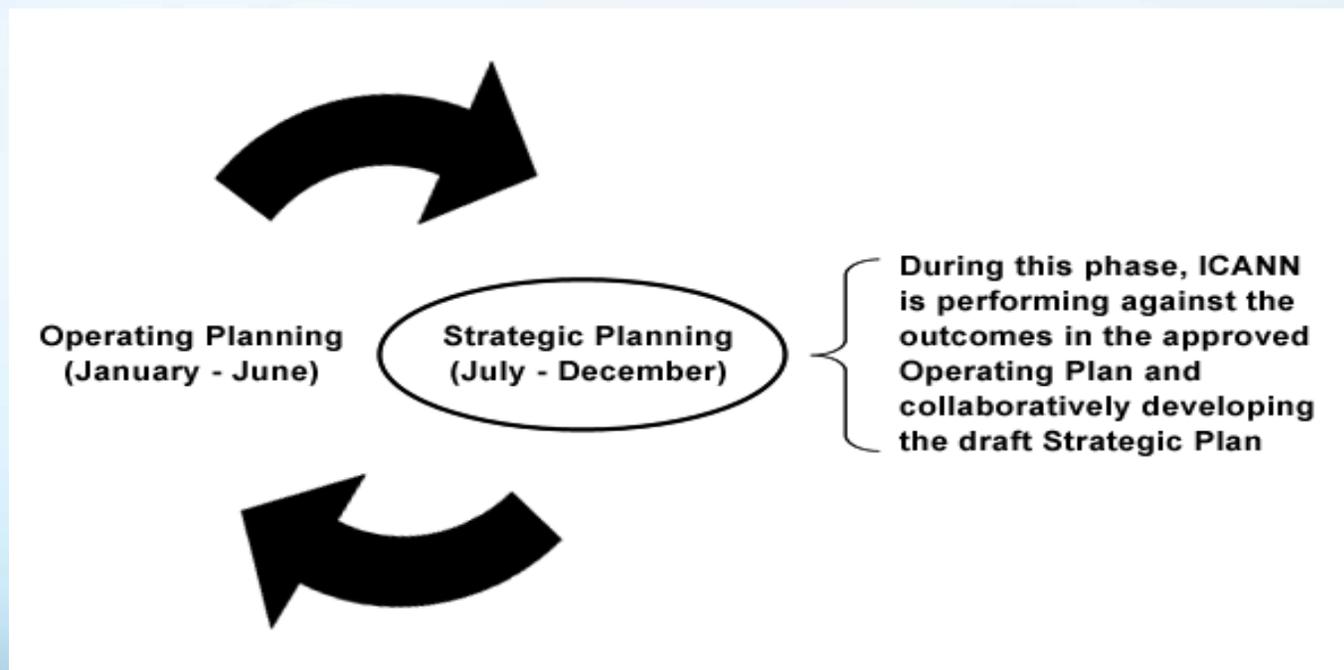
ICANN Operating Plan

- The Operating Plan is developed with the community between January to June



ICANN Strategic Plan

- The Strategic Plan is developed with the community between July and December



ICANN 2007-2010 Strategic Plan

- The plan identifies the following strategic targets:
 - Organisational excellence in Operations
 - Organisational excellence in Policy Development
 - Increase international participation in ICANN
 - Increase participation in and efficiency of the ICANN multi-stakeholder environment
 - Successfully transition ICANN to private sector management

Agreements with ccTLD managers

- Since March 2006, 20 EoL/accountability frameworks signed (see: <http://www.icann.org/cctlds/agreements.html>)
- 9 of them with European registries
- Further negotiations are on going at world wide level

Current and Future Issues

- Introduction of IDNs
- Introduction of new TLDs
- Ongoing Security and Stability issues
- IPv6 Policy
- WHOIS services

Avenues of participation

- ICANN constituencies and working groups
- Becoming an At Large structure which represents the interests of the end users
- ICANN meetings
- Blog
- Public participation website



Next ICANN meetings

- Next round of ICANN meetings will take place in San Juan, Puerto Rico, 25-29 June 2007
- Website:
<http://www.icann.org/meetings/sanjuan/>

ICANN website (www.icann.org)

- Re-styled during the Lisbon ICANN meetings
- More user friendly
- Introduction to ICANN available in several languages

The Global Partnership team



- The GP is a team of people with different expertise that are in charge of liaising with the world regions – there are so far 7 of them

The GP work so far

- Supported the organisation of and/or participated in regional and international events
- Received inputs and feedback from the various stakeholder communities and conveyed them to ICANN
- Acted as first stop help desk
- Supported multilingual consultations on different topics
- Helped to strengthen the liaisons with the different stakeholders, including ccTLDs, gTLDs, government delegates, international organisations, ISP, end users,...

Thanks for your attention

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