

ICANN for Beginners

Orientation Workshop

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ICANN: The Basic Idea

ICANN =

An Experiment in
Technical Self-Management
by the global Internet
community

ICANN: The Basic Bargain

ICANN =

Internationalization
of Policy Functions for DNS and IP
Addressing systems

+

Private Sector
(non-governmental) Management

What does ICANN do?

Coordinates policies relating to the unique assignment of:

- Internet domain names
- Numerical IP Address
- Protocol Port and Parameter Numbers

Coordinates the DNS Root Server System

- through Root Server System Advisory Committee

Says *The Economist*:

- “ICANN is in many ways a completely new institutional animal.”
- “It is a hybrid between an online community and a real-world governance structure, an untested combination.”
- “It is also a new type of international organisation: an industry trying to regulate part of itself, across the globe, with little or no input from national governments.”

(10 June 2000)

Domain names & IP addresses

- **Domain names** are the familiar, easy-to-remember names for computers on the Internet
 - e.g., amazon.com, icann.org, nic.or.kr
- Domain names correlate to **Internet Protocol numbers** (IP numbers) (e.g., 98.37.241.130) that serve as routing addresses on the Internet
- The **domain name system** (DNS) translates domain names into IP numbers needed for routing packets of information over the Internet

Categories of Internet Domains

- **Generic Top Level Domains (gTLDs)**
 - .com, .net, .org, .gov, .mil, .edu, .int, .arpa
 - .com, .net, .org open for registration by all persons and entities on a global basis
 - Proposals to add many more gTLDs (.shop, .arts, .union, etc.)
- **Country Code Top Level Domains (ccTLDs)**
 - .kr., .uk, .fr, .us, .mx, .ca, .de, etc.
 - Registration requirements vary by domain (many require domicile within the territory or other connection with the territory)
 - Derived from ISO 3166-1 list

Status Quo Ante ICANN

Most Internet DNS and IP Address coordination functions performed by, or on behalf of, the US government:

- **Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)**
 - Stanford Research Institute (SRI)
 - Information Sciences Institute (ISI) of University of Southern California
- **National Science Foundation (NSF)**
 - IBM, MCI, and Merit
 - AT&T, General Atomics, Network Solutions, Inc. (NSI)
- **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**
- **US Department of Energy**

IANA

- **“Internet Assigned Numbers Authority”**
- **A set of technical management functions (root management; IP address bloc allocations) previously performed by the Information Sciences Institute (ISI) at the University of Southern California, under a contract with the U.S. Government**
- **Includes protocol parameter and port number assignment functions defined by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)**
- **Now a part of ICANN**

IANA



Jon Postel
1943-1998

Need for Change

- ◆ Globalization of Internet
- ◆ Commercialization of Internet
- ◆ Need for accountability
- ◆ Need for more formalized management structure
- ◆ Dissatisfaction with lack of competition
- ◆ Trademark/domain name conflicts

White Paper Principles

White Paper: new policy/management structure must promote 4 goals:

- ◆ Stability
- ◆ Competition
- ◆ Private, bottom-up coordination
- ◆ Representation

White Paper Implementation

- ◆ Internet community to form non-profit corporation meeting White Paper's 4 criteria
- ◆ US Government (through Commerce Department) to transition centralized coordination functions
- ◆ Amendment of Network Solutions agreement to require competitive registrars in gTLD registries
- ◆ Request to WIPO to study & recommend solutions for trademark/domain-name conflicts

Status of Transition from USG

- ✓ 25 November, 1998 - ICANN recognized in MoU
- ✓ June, 1999 - Cooperative agreement among ICANN, US Government, root server operators
- ✓ 10 November, 1999
 - ICANN and Network Solutions sign gTLD registry and registrar agreements
 - DoC transfers root authority over gTLDs to ICANN
- ✓ 9 February, 2000
 - Contract with US Government to complete transfer of IANA functions

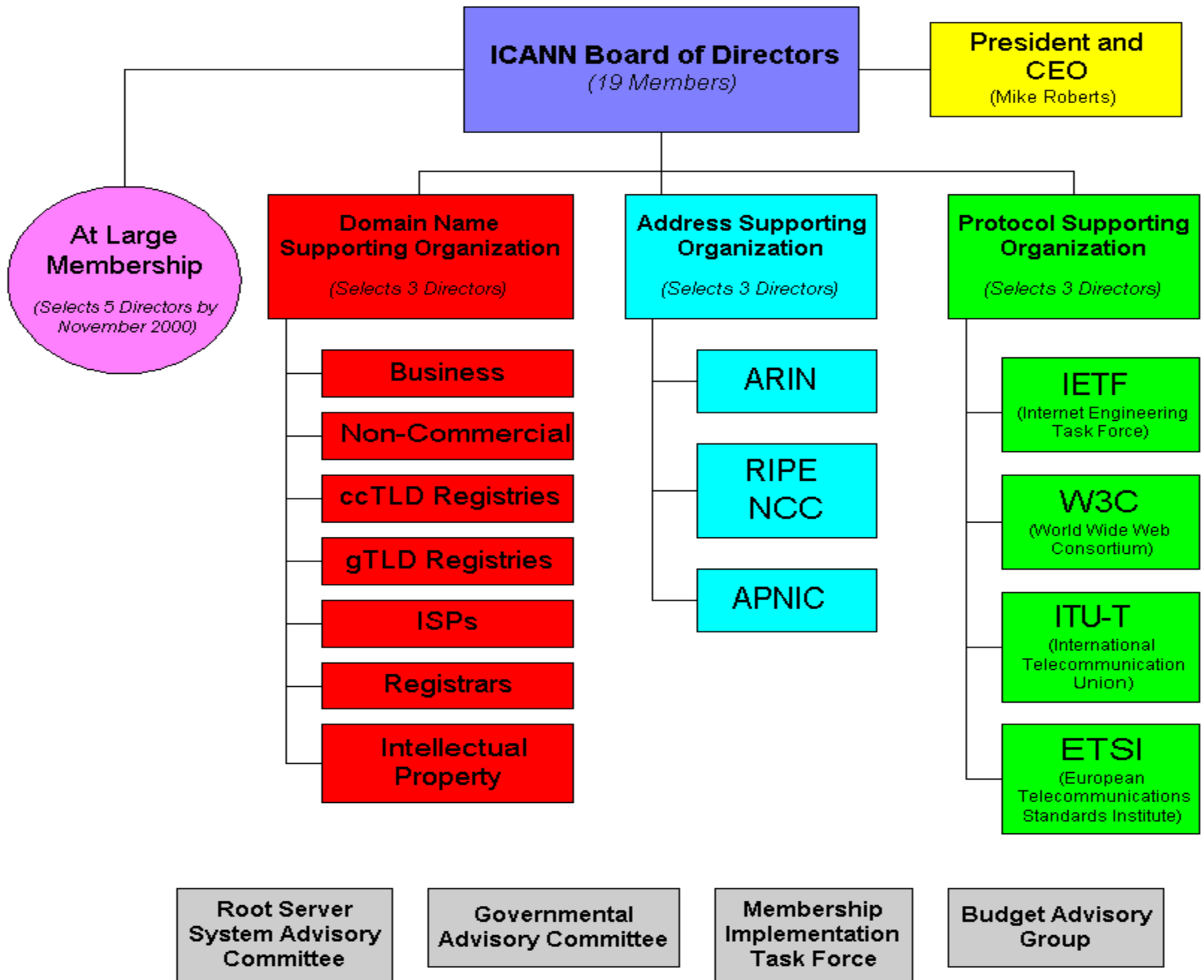
Policy Objectives for Year 2000

- New Top-Level Domains
- ccTLD registry agreements
- IP Address registry agreements
- Root server operator agreements



Structure of ICANN





ICANN Board of Directors

At Large Directors:

- Esther Dyson (USA) – Chairman
- Geraldine Capdeboscq (France)
- George Conrades (USA)
- Greg Crew (Australia)
- Frank Fitzsimmons (USA)
- Hans Kraaijenbrink (Netherlands)
- Jun Murai (Japan)
- Eugenio Triana (Spain)
- Linda S. Wilson (USA)

ASO Directors:

- Rob Blokzijl (Netherlands)
- Ken Fockler (Canada)
- Sang-Hyon Kyong (South Korea)

DNSO Directors:

- Amadeu Abril i Abril (Spain)
- Jonathan Cohen (Canada)
- Alejandro Pisanty (Mexico)

PSO Directors:

- Helmut Schink (Germany)
- Vint Cerf (USA)
- Phil Davidson (U.K.)

ICANN Board of Directors

New At Large Directors (after 11-16-2000):

- **Nii Quaynor (Ghana)**
- **Masanobu Katoh (Japan)**
- **Ivan Moura Campos (Brazil)**
- **Andy Mueller-Maguhn (Germany)**
- **Karl Auerbach (USA)**

ICANN Staff

New Model: Lightweight

(minimal staff = minimal bureaucracy)

Current Staff:

- ◆ President and CEO (Mike Roberts)
- ◆ Vice President/General Counsel (Louis Touton)
- ◆ Chief Policy Officer/CFO (Andrew McLaughlin)
- ◆ Registrar Liaison (Dan Halloran)
- ◆ IANA staff (Joyce Reynolds, Michelle Schipper, Bill Huang)
- ◆ Office Manager (Diane Schroeder)
- ◆ Network Administrator (Jim Villaruz)
- ◆ Technical Advisor (Suzanne Woolf)

At Large Membership

- Open to any individual with verifiable name, email address, physical address
- Free to join and to vote
- At Large members cast votes for 5 ICANN Directors in October, 2000 (election by geographic region)
- Paths to ballot: Nominations committee + member-nomination
- 6-month study period to follow
- Membership Implementation Task Force
- See <http://members.icann.org>

Why Elect Directors?

- Accountability
- Transparency
- Representation
 - Geographic
 - Sectoral
- Diversity of views
- Distributed architecture of selection

ICANN = Cybergovernment?

A: NO!

- ICANN has no inherent coercive power, only the ability to enter into contractual relationships through a process of consensus & consent
- ICANN is not a substitute for the powers of governments (i.e., courts and laws)

Does ICANN regulate?

- **No: ICANN coordinates.**
- **But:** technical coordination of unique values sometimes requires accounting for non-technical policy interests:
 - Data privacy protection
 - (WHOIS database)
 - Intellectual property/trademark law
 - (UDRP)
 - Competition law
 - (Registrar accreditation for .com, .net, .org)

What ICANN doesn't do

- Network security
- Spam
- Web Sites' Data Privacy Practices
- Censorship & speech restrictions
- Internet Content
 - Pornography
 - Hate speech
 - Copyright violations
 - Deceptive business practices / consumer protection
- Multi-jurisdictional commercial disputes
- Definition of technical standards
 - Network surveillance and traceability
- Internet gambling

What ICANN is NOT

- Technical Standard-Setting Body
- Internet Police Force
- Consumer Protection Agency
- Economic Development Agency
- Legislature or Court

Lessons from the Experiment?

- **Private-sector self-management is possible, if narrowly chartered**
- **Global consensus on policy is difficult to define; even harder to achieve**
 - Consensus is a tradition in the technical community in which ICANN is rooted, because you can test solutions & refer to objective data
 - Consensus on policy questions can be elusive, because it depends upon subjective values



Message to You:

(and to all Internet communities)

GET INVOLVED!!!

Consensus means you have to
show up to be heard.

www.icann.org



For Further Information:

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