

# Internet Governance Maintaining an Effective Model for Technical Coordination of the Global Internet

**Theresa Swinehart**  
*General Manager, Global Participation*  
ICANN

Global Forum 2004  
Malmö, Sweden  
4 – 5 November 2004

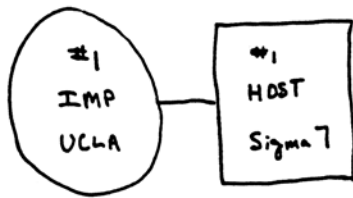


## Early Days

- Established the values of an interoperable Internet



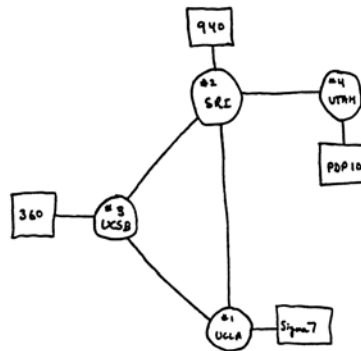
## THE ARPA NETWORK – SEPTEMBER 1969



THE ARPA NETWORK

SEPT 1969

1 NODE



THE ARPA NETWORK

DEC 1969

4 NODES



## *The early days of the Internet*

- Network set up in the US scientific community
- Under R&D contracts to the US government
- Administered by the UCLA from Los Angeles
- Originally connected 4 universities
- Growing slowly into a larger scientific research network
- With increasing decentralisation and
- Involving scientists in the whole world
- Email was added in 1972, file transfer in 1973



## Community values

- Ensuring a single, end-to-end interoperable Internet
- Bottom-up technical policy making and decision making
- Participation open to all who wish to do so
- Legitimacy determined by open participation and the value of the contribution to the joint effort, rather than power
- Consensus based decision making, but not full 'consensus based' consensus
- Cooperation, Coordination and Consultation among participants and groups pushing forward initiatives
- Yet, VERY spirited and blunt public debate
- Swift decision making, if possible
- Private agreement or contract approach to creating and managing linkages among and to the network



## Community values

- Global efficiency in the allocation of resources, such as Internet Protocol addresses
- Encouraging innovation, particularly at the fringe of the network
- Building on layers of protocols to ensure stability
- Respecting the layers
- Running code – this is a value as strong as consensus: “Walk the walk, not just talk the talk”
- The RFCs embody another important principle: standards are to be respected until obsolete
- Meritocracy



# The Internet Today



## The Internet Today:

- 200,000 interconnected networks
- 10,000's of players from private sector providing equipment, applications, networks, pipes, services, research
- Academics assisting in research on standards and protocols
- The backbone of the digital economy
- A multi-stakeholder platform



# From the past ...to the future

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Small (4 university networks, 100's users) | ➤ Huge (today over 200,000 networks, 1 billion users ) |
| Scientific purpose                         | ➤ Multi-stakeholder purpose                            |
| US based                                   | ➤ Global   |
| Scientific backbone                        | ➤ Global economy backbone                              |
| Single jurisdiction                        | ➤ Multiple jurisdictions                               |
| Regulated relations                        | ➤ Contractual relations                                |
| A few scientific issues                    | ➤ Multi-layered stack of issues                        |
| Industrialised countries interest          | ➤ Industrialised and developing countries interest     |



# ICANN's evolution

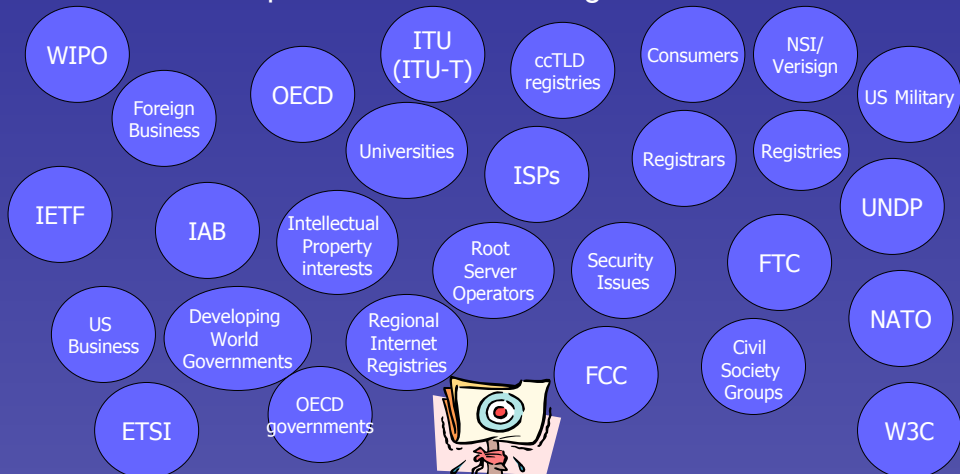


# The Need for Change Circa 1996/97

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



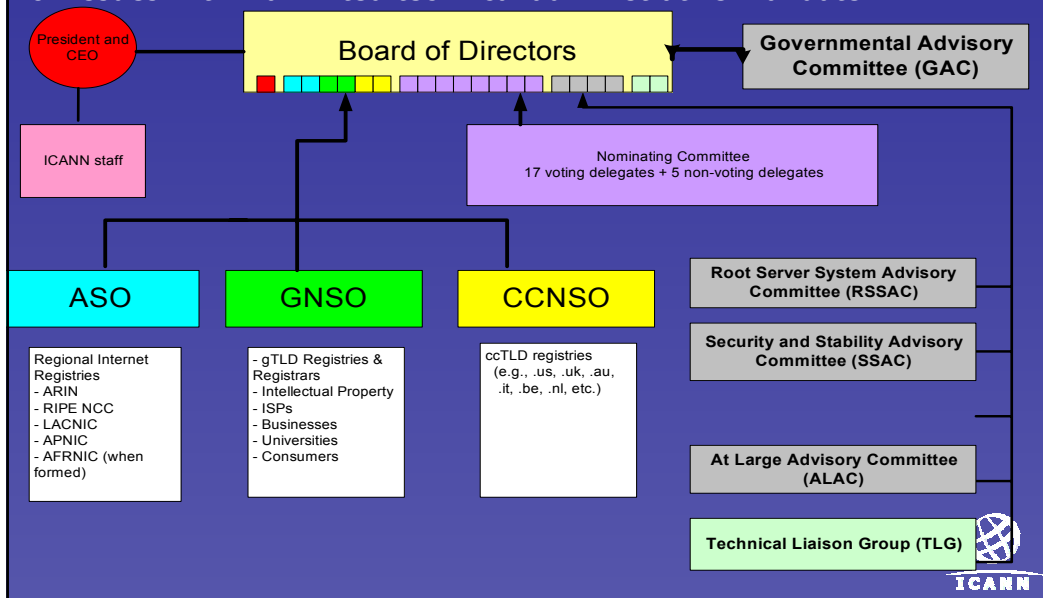
The various interest groups competing for influence over the Domain Name and Addressing systems put the previous administrative process under breaking strain



Jon Postel / IANA



The public-private policy forum establishes a bottom-up and balanced mechanism for interest groups to arrive at consensus on issues within a limited technical administrative mandate



## Founding Principles for ICANN

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

# PRINCIPLES OF OPERATIONS

1. **Contribute to stability and security of the unique identifiers system and root management**
2. **Promote competition and choice for registrants and other users**
3. **Forum for multi-stakeholder bottom-up development of related policy**
4. **Ensuring on a global basis an opportunity for participation by all interested parties**



## ICANN is international in structure and operations

- ICANN has or is in the process of moving to presences in US, Europe and African, Latin America, Pacific Rim and other regions.
- Staff hail from seven different countries. Board represents twelve nationalities.
- Government Advisory Committee: nearly 100 governments and 5 International Treaty Organisations
- Establishment of the ccNSO
- Supporting Organizations and Committees that lead the bottoms-up policy development process are internationally based and populated
- Public meetings throughout the year. Recent meetings have been held in Kuala Lumpur, Rome, Tunisia, Bucharest, Montreal, Shanghai, Rio de Janeiro, and Accra. Future meetings will be held in Cape Town.





## The ICANN policy process is open

- Participation in ICANN is open to all who have an interest in global Internet policy as it relates to ICANN's mission of technical coordination.
- Many online forums which are accessible through ICANN's website, and the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees have active mailing lists for participants.
- Public meetings throughout the year.



## Market Impact of ICANN's work



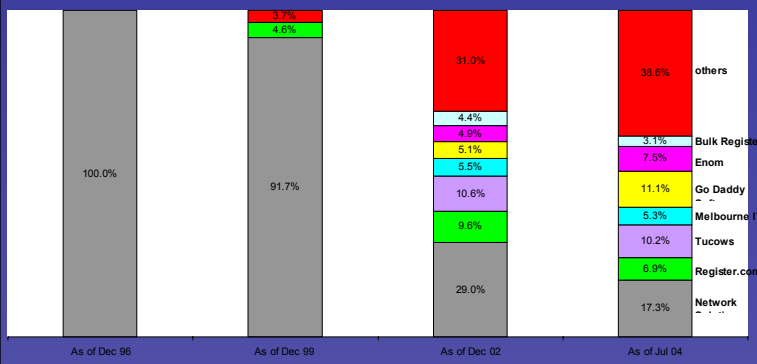
# OECD Report: July 2004

- ‘The paper concludes that ICANN’s reform of the market structure for the registration of generic top level domain names has been very successful. The division between registry and registrar functions has created a competitive market that has lowered prices and encouraged innovation. The initial experience with competition at the registry level, in association with a successful process to introduce new gTLDs, has also shown positive results’

*Generic Top Level Domain Names: Market Development and Allocation Issues – Working Party on Telecommunication and Information Services Policies*



The deepening Registrar market for gTLDs  
Market Share of Registrars for .com/.net/.org: 1996-2004  
Percent of registrations



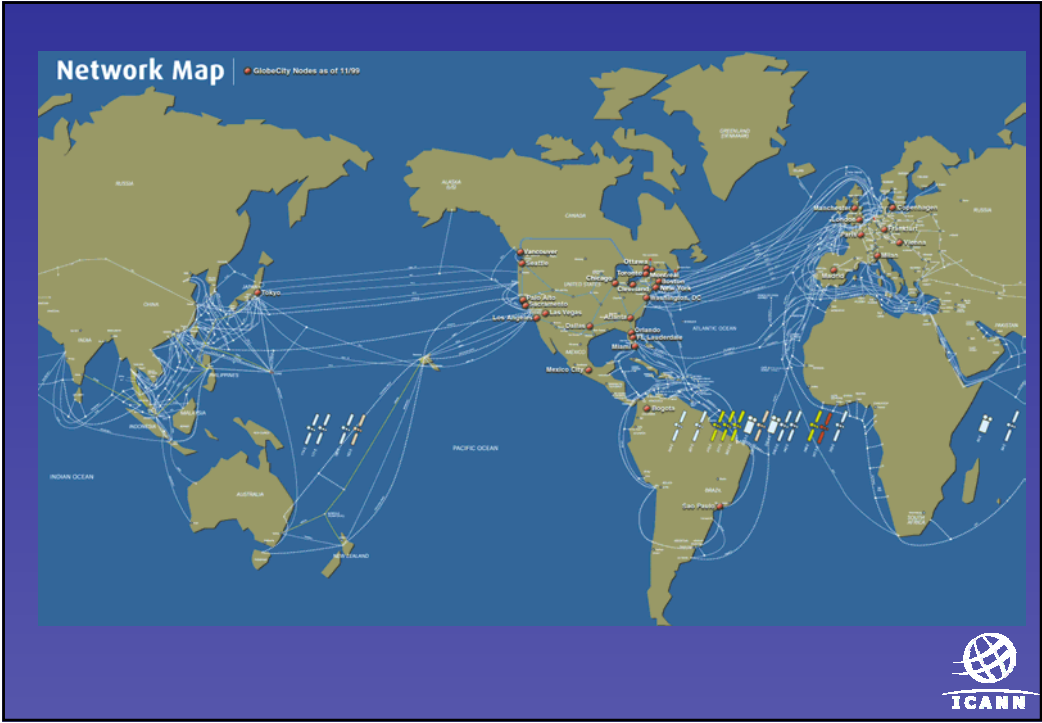
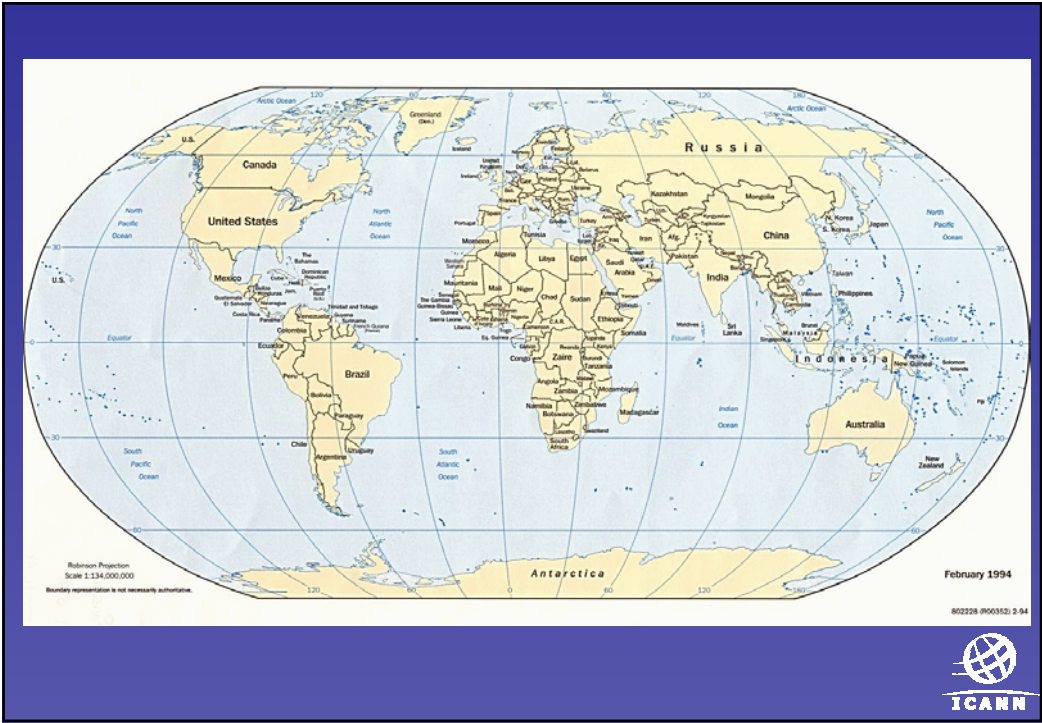
# The Internet Today – and Internet Governance in the WSIS



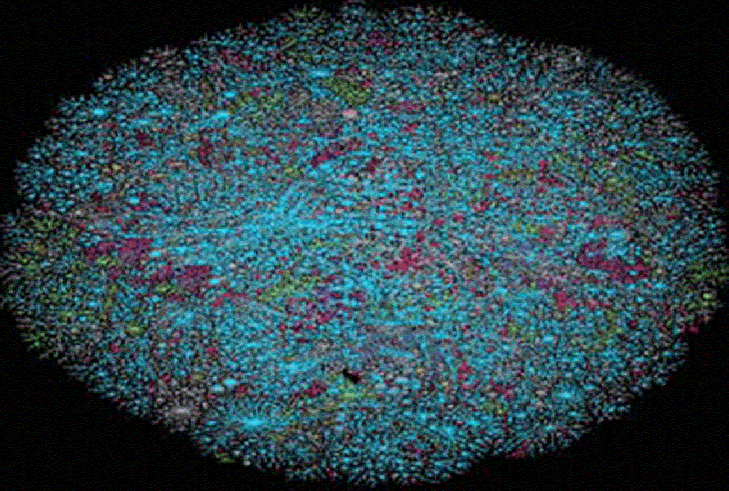
## WSIS and Internet Governance

- WSIS discussion focuses more on how the Internet is used, not how it works
- Reflects a conflict of regimes
- Reflects importance of understanding the Internet, and ensuring that politics do not drive poor decisions
- At risk is 35 years of values and a regime that has created the Internet into what it is today
- True aspirations of WSIS as envisioned by the Secretary General have not been explored.



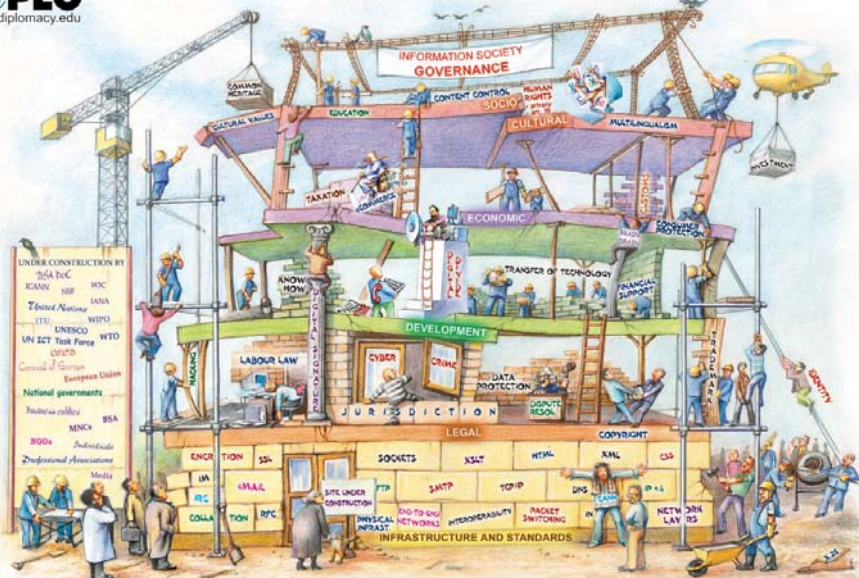


# THE INTERNET: 2001



ICANN

**dIPLO**  
www.diplomacy.edu



CONCEPT: SADEH • GELBSTEIN • KIBRALIJA ILLUSTRATION: SORAN HARČIĆ • MARČA  
More information is available in the Information Society Library at <http://www.diplomacy.edu/>

www.diplomacy.edu © 2001 DIPLO  
This is an illustration of Diplo's research and training methodology for internet governance.



ICANN

# The Internet involves a lot of players

- Levels
  - National (ISPs, telecom networks, service providers, NIC, etc.)
  - Regional (Regional Registries)
  - Global (Different technical bodies, commercial entities, public policy nowadays)
  - Numerous bodies involved, all with respective expertise, respective responsibilities, respective interests.
- Issues associated with the Internet
  - E-commerce, Taxation, Content, Cultural diversity, Spam, Security, Financial transactions, Data protection, E-education.....
- Everybody owns, and is responsible for, the Internet. It takes all to make it function simply, to benefit. Numerous organizations have an interest and role in vast range of areas of the Internet
  - UNDP, ISOC, NEPAD, ITU, WIPO, UNESCO, ICANN, W3C, civil society, business community, investors, entrepreneurs, individuals.
- Welcome WSIS and outcome of the Summit, and welcome the debate around all these issues and all the new interest and voices.



## Working Group on Internet Governance

- Generalists
- Technical advisors
- Report to UN Secretary General
- Secretariat: Markus Kummer
- Broad tasking



## ‘ITU and Internet Governance’:

H. Zhao Director of TSB/ITU

- “In my opinion, the fundamental policy issues related to Internet are very similar to those related to other telecommunication technologies and services...”
- “I propose that consideration be given to ITU’s maintaining and publishing the authoritative list of country code domain name delegations, at the request of those countries who wish ITU to undertake this task,



## ITU-T’s proposal continued

- “in allocating a block of IPv6 addresses to countries; in promoting the implementation of Internationalized Domain Names (IDN); in security initiatives, including countering SPAM; in work on Internet exchange points and Internet interconnection charging regimes; and in methods to provide authenticated directories that meet national privacy regimes.”





# Internet is different

- Over 200,000 separate networks which agree through private agreement or contract approach to allow packets to cross networks
- From engineering perspective, do not recognise boundaries
- DNS and Unique Identifiers is the 'glue' which allows seamless outcome across these various networks (a 'resolution')
- About 1 billion users
- About 20 billion resolutions per day (nearly 7 times the number of telephone calls in North America, surely much more in Europe)



# OECD Report continued

- 'When OECD countries allocate resources they have certain common objectives irrespective of the method chosen. These can include efficient allocation of a resource and efficient use of that resource, transparency in the award of resource, non-discrimination, and the creation of appropriate conditions for market competition. There may also be other wider economic and social objectives. Through statements and actions it is clear that ICANN shares the ideals inherent in these objectives.'





## The ICANN Model for its responsibilities

- Community involved in the Internet has expanded since the Internet's evolution
- The ICANN model encapsulates the environment of the Internet for a specific area of responsibility – it is a living organization – it is not static, and is designed to be interactive and address differences of opinion.
  - Relationship and structure based on SO's, AC's, contracts, MoU's, and all methods of input and consensus. Legal and structural.



## The International Multi-stakeholder Organisation of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:

- Transnational
- All stakeholders represented
  - Including governments with choice of relevant agency or agencies
- Flexible in organisational management
- No capture by individuals, groups, or organisations
- Reflective of its own regime.
- Focus on effectiveness and relevancy



# Thank you

For further information please see:

[www.icann.org](http://www.icann.org)

Or contact me at: [swinehart@icann.org](mailto:swinehart@icann.org)

