

ICANN Overview & Global and Strategic Partnerships



Theresa Swinehart

Vice President

Global and Strategic Partnerships

ICANN

Baher Esmat

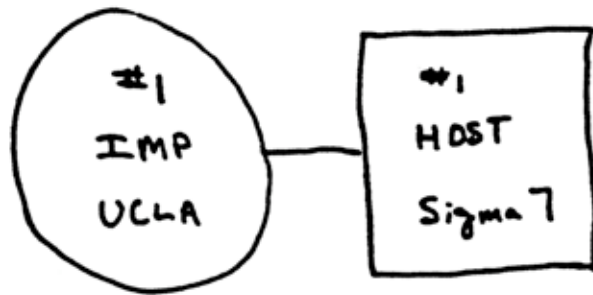
Manager, Regional Relations – Middle East

ICANN

Dubai, UAE

1 April, 2008

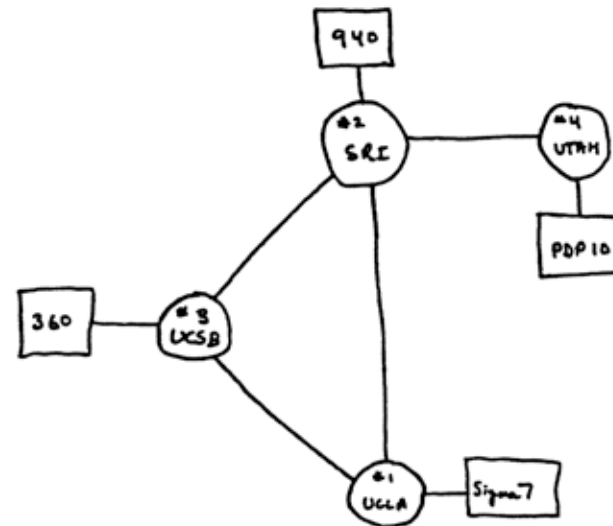
In the beginning . . .



THE ARPA NETWORK

SEPT 1969

1 NODE



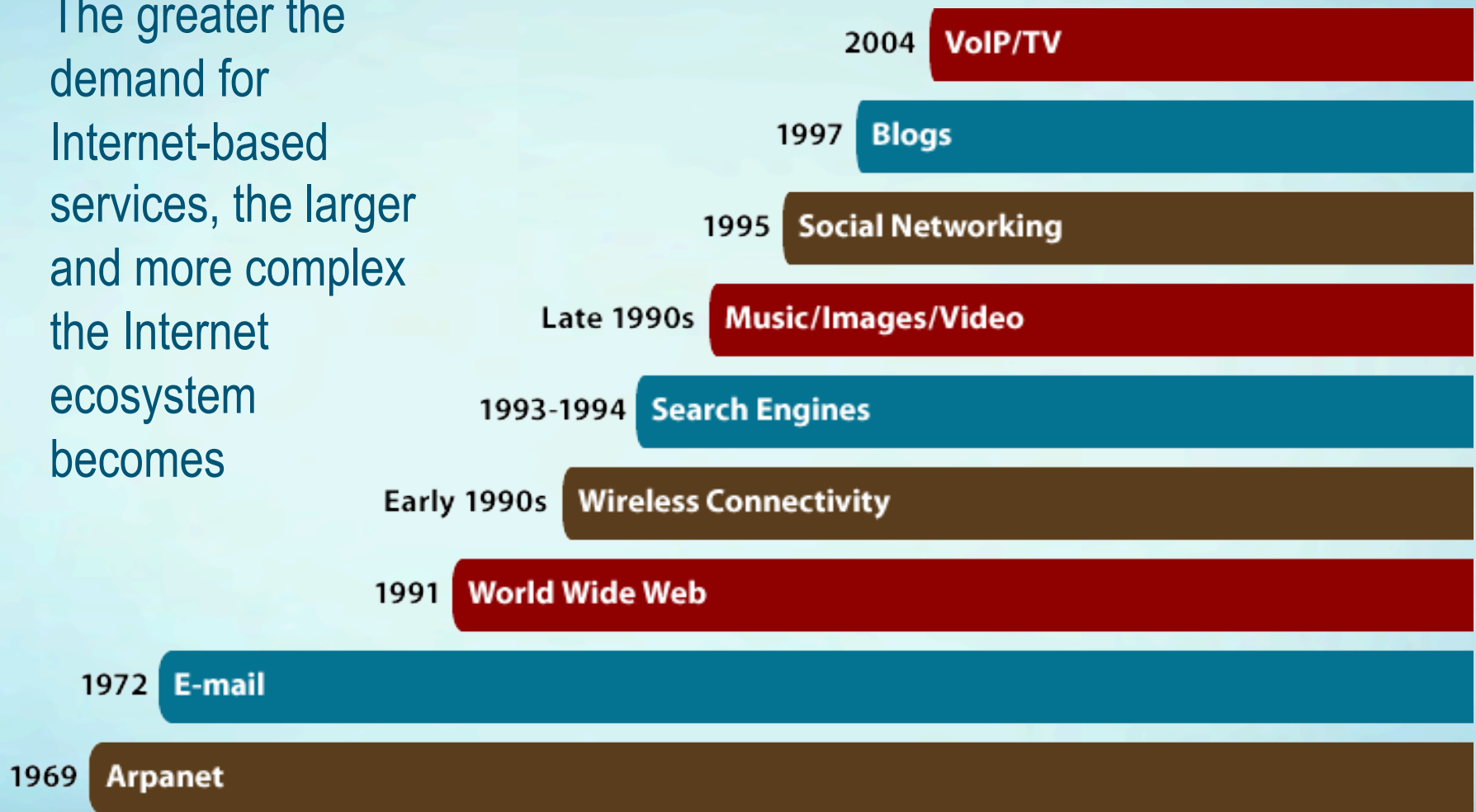
THE ARPA NETWORK

DEC 1969

4 NODES

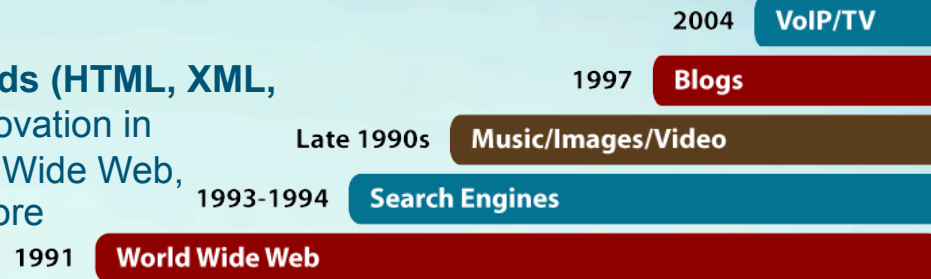
From thin pipe to fat pipe

The greater the demand for Internet-based services, the larger and more complex the Internet ecosystem becomes



The Internet's 3 Operating Layers

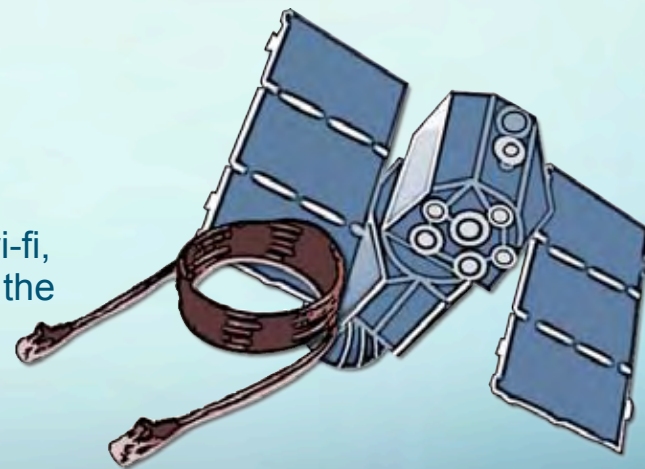
Content and applications standards (HTML, XML, Java) – Promotes creativity and innovation in applications leading to email, World Wide Web, ebanking, wiki, Skype, and much more



ICANN'S Responsibility

Internet protocols and standards (TCP/IP, DNS, SSL) – TCP/IP, controls traffic flow by dividing email and web data into packages before they are transmitted on the Internet

Telecommunications infrastructure – Physical network made up of underwater cables, telephone lines, fiber optics, satellites, microwaves, wi-fi, and so on – facilitates transfer of electronic data over the Internet



Need for change circa 1996–97

- **Globalization** of the Internet
- **Commercialization** of the Internet
- Lack of **competition** in the domain name space
- Trademark-domain name **conflicts**
- Need for a new model of **governance**

ICANN's Mission

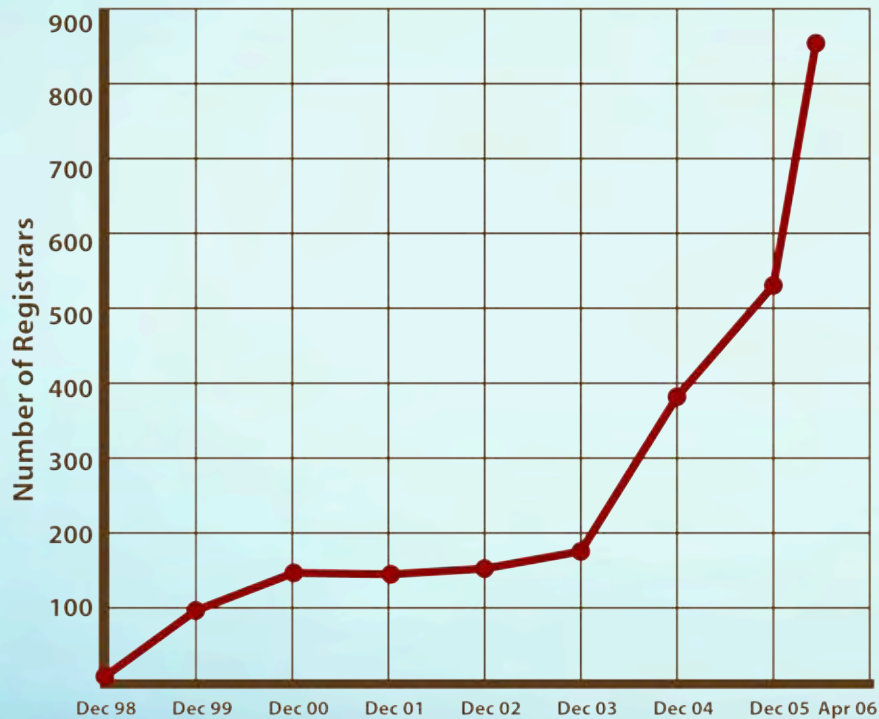
- ICANN's mission is to coordinate, at the overall level, the global Internet system of unique identifiers, and in particular to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet unique identifier systems. In particular, ICANN:
 1. Coordinates the allocation and assignment of the three sets of unique identifiers for the Internet, which are:
 - Domain names (forming a system referred to as "DNS");
 - Internet protocol ("IP") addresses and autonomous system ("AS") numbers; and
 - Protocol port and parameter numbers.
 2. Coordinates the operation and evolution of the DNS root name server system.
 3. Coordinates policy development reasonably and appropriately related to these technical functions.

Generic Top Level Domains - gTLDs

- In the 1980s
 - *com, net, org, gov, edu, mil, arpa*
- 2001-02
 - *info, biz, name, pro, coop, aero, museum*
- 2005-06
 - *cat, jobs, mobi, travel, tel, asia*

Competition in the Domain Name Space

- ICANN introduced competition to the domain name space
- Registrars now have a market **and** a business
- Consumers have greater choice in price and services
- Domain name marketplace is even driving how we search – contextually as well as topically – and the scale of sites that can be searched
- There are currently about 900 Registrars accredited



Regional organizations

Five Regional Internet Registries (AS and IP addresses)

Four ccTLD regional organizations (ccTLDs)

ARIN

- North America – Canada, United States, several islands in the Caribbean Sea and North Atlantic Ocean

LACNIC

LACTLD

- Latin America
- Caribbean Islands

AfriNIC

AFTLD

- African Region

RIPE NCC

CENTR

- Europe
- Middle East
- North Africa
- Parts of Asia

APNIC

APTLD

- Most of Asia
- Australia/New Zealand
- Pacific Islands

Multi-stakeholder Participation

Advisory Committees

- Governmental Advisory Committee
- Security and Stability Advisory Committee
- Root Server Security and Stability Advisory Committee
- At-Large Advisory Committee

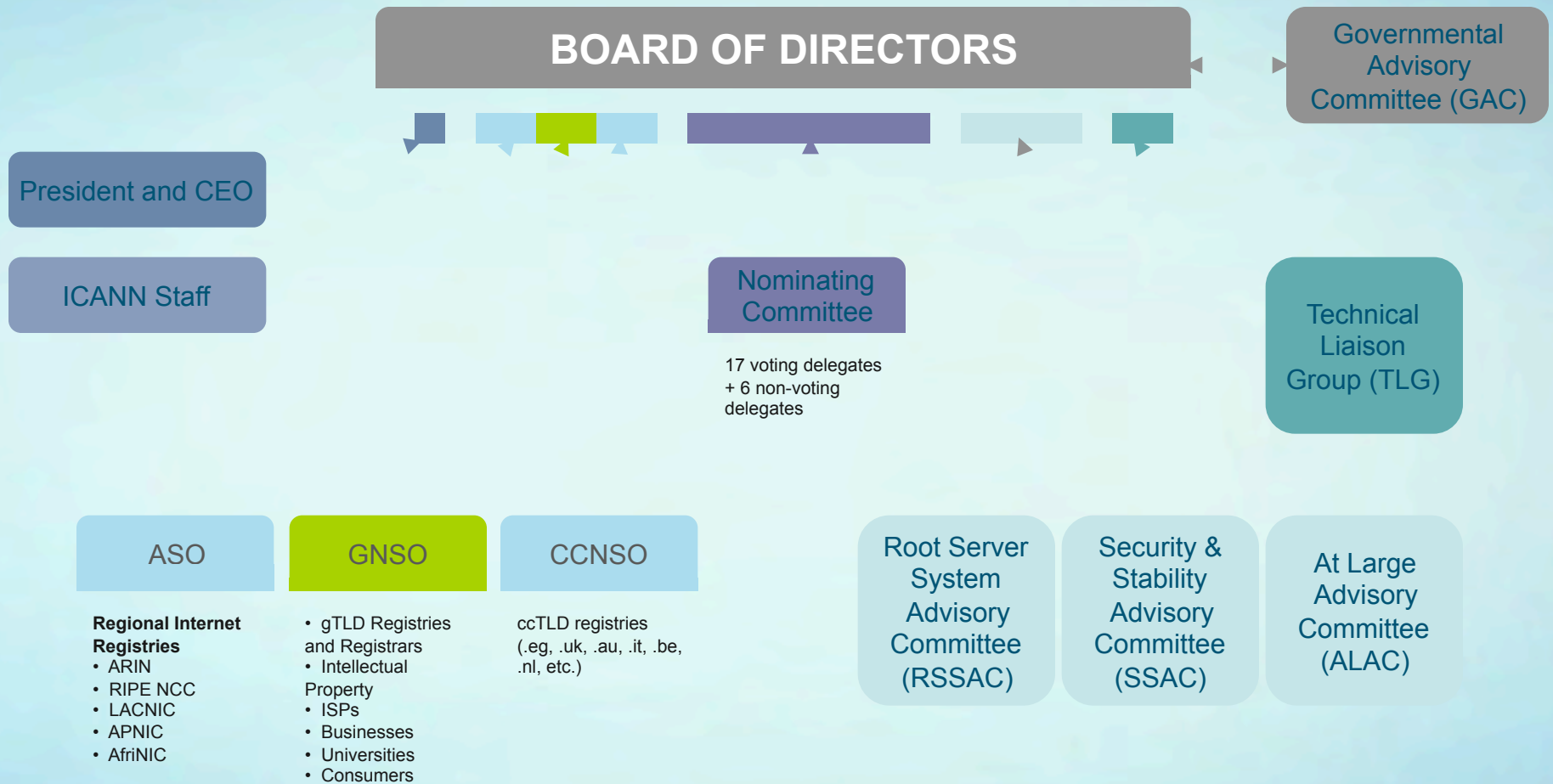
Supporting Organizations

- Address Supporting Organization
- Generic Names Supporting Organization (including business, Intellectual Property, ISPs constituencies)
- Country Code Names Supporting Organization

At-Large Organizations

- Latin America-Caribbean
- European Union
- Africa
- Asia/Australia/Pacific
- North America

ICANN's structure



Diverse Representation & Open Participation

- ICANN maintains diverse representation in its Board of Directors
- ICANN's Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees maintain the same diversity in their Councils
- Participation in ICANN is open to all who have an interest in ICANN's mission of technical coordination for Internet names and numbers
- Bottom-up technical policy-making and decision-making
- Consensus-based decision making
- 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 are held three times each year – each time on a different continent
- Remote participation is also available: <http://public.icann.org/>

Key Elements and Ongoing Work

- Global participation and representation
 - Fellowship program for developing countries
- Current work includes:
 - Implementation of internationalized domain names (IDNs) to facilitate improved multilingualism
 - New TLDs, and policies surrounding these to streamline approach
 - Awareness of IPv4 and IPv6
 - Joint Project Agreement (JPA) review

ICANN as a global organization

- Mandated by the bylaws:
 - Multinational Board
 - Multinational participation and representation
 - Accountability and Transparency to a global Internet community.

Global Partnerships

- The Global Partnerships Strategy was designed to improve ICANN's globalization through the designation of staff to respective regions.
- The role of the Managers - Regional Relations is to engage with, and be available to, stakeholders in their respective regions and respond to the needs of the Internet community and ICANN staff.
- Team works and reports against business plans that map to the operational and strategic plan of the entire organization.

Global Partnerships Team



ICANN 1-3 April 2008
Regional Meeting

Examples of activities

- Meet with respective stakeholders (private sector, government, civil society)
- Support ICANN topic specific events in regions.
- Support registry/registrar regional initiatives.
- Partnerships with respective organizations.
- Engage in discussions regarding Internet governance, including participation in the IGF and other international for
- ICANN Fellowship programme -- providing financial scholarships to individuals from developing countries to facilitate participation in ICANN meetings

Participation in ICANN

- **Global Partnerships Goal: Increasing international participation in ICANN and the use of the Internet system of unique identifiers**
 - Encourage community members to provide input to the various ICANN processes
 - IDNs
 - DNSSEC
 - Strategic and operation plans
 - Translation policy
 - Invite individuals, groups and organizations to join ICANN through participation in its councils, committees, etc.

Participation in ICANN

- GAC
 - Representatives from the Middle East are Egypt, Libya, Sudan, Iran, Jordan, Bahrain, UAE, and Yemen
- ccNSO
 - ccTLD members from the Middle East are .jo, .eg, .ly
 - Members on the ccNSO Council
 - Nashwa Abdel-Baki, .eg
 - Mohamed El-Bashir, .sd
- GNSO
 - TAGOrg, Commercial and Business Users Constituency
 - Members on the GNSO Council
 - Bilal Beiram, TAGOrg
- ALAC
 - AKMS, Jordan
 - Emirates Internet Group, UAE



Meetings and workshops

- ICANN workshop, Cairo, May 2006
- IGF IDN workshop with UNESCO and the Egyptian Government, Athens, Oct 2006
- ccTLD Workshop with ISOC and UAEnic, Dubai, Nov 2006
- IGF Multilingualism workshop with ITU and UNESCO, Rio de Janeiro, Nov 2007
- MENOG 2 meeting sponsorship, Doha, Nov 2007
- ccTLD training with ISOC, NSRC, and TAGOrg, Amman, Nov 2007
- ICANN regional outreach meeting with TRA, Dubai, April 2008

Agreements and partnerships

- MOU with UN ESCWA
 - To share information and ideas on how to move forward with having Arabic available in the globally-interoperable DNS

- Multilingual Internet Initiative with AKMS
 - To raise awareness with regard to the use of Internet in Arabic language

Middle East participation in ICANN meetings

- Participation in ICANN meeting is challenging for many
 - Remote Participation: <http://public.icann.org/>
 - Fellowships Program: <http://www.icann.org/fellowships/>
- Mailing list: <http://mail-list.aratld.org/mailman/listinfo/arabicann>



Thank You