

Hello,

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) will hold its 53rd public meeting at the Sheraton Buenos Aires Hotel & Convention Center, San Martin 1225, on Monday – Thursday 22-25 June 2015. There also will be pre-meeting working sessions held on Thursday – Sunday 18-21 June <http://buenosaires53.icann.org/en/schedule-full>. We are writing to invite you to participate in an outreach session for regional civil society actors to be held in the Sheraton's Aguila Room on Saturday 20 June from 16:00-18:00. <http://buenosaires53.icann.org/en/schedule/sat-civil-society-ncuc>. A networking reception will be held directly afterwards from 18:00-19:30.

Civil Society Outreach Event - NCUC will provide an opportunity for open and vigorous dialogue between public interest advocates who are active both within and outside the ICANN community. From within ICANN will be members of the Noncommercial Users Constituency www.ncuc.org, which since 1999 has been the voice of civil society activists and researchers in ICANN's policy processes on generic top level domain names and related matters. NCUC currently comprises 420 members from 98 countries, including 106 noncommercial organizations and 314 individuals, including many from the global South (see attached flyer). From outside the ICANN community we hope to have participants from advocacy and research organizations based in Latin America and the Caribbean who are involved in human rights, privacy protection, freedom of expression, access to knowledge, development, and related Internet governance issues.

The agenda would be to discuss items such as:

- Civil society positions and work within ICANN's structures, and how interested people can get involved;
- The views and interests of Latin America and the Caribbean activists and researchers with respect to ICANN-related Internet issues;
- A brief overview of the ICANN meeting week and highlights of key debates.

If you would like to join us, please confirm your attendance via email to Ms. Valeria Betancourt or Cristiana Gonzalez of the Association for Progressive Communications (a NCUC member organization) at valeriab@apc.org and cristiana@apc.org. If you have any questions, feel free to ask Valeria, Cristiana or William at william.drake@uzh.ch.

Finally, please note that participation in the ICANN meeting itself is free of charge and open to the public, and that newcomers are very much welcomed to attend. Registration can be done in advance at <https://registration.icann.org> or on site. This will be an historic meeting as the ICANN community pushes to conclude months of intensive work on transitioning control of key Internet functions from the US government to the global multistakeholder community, and on establishing enhanced accountability mechanisms for a newly independent and more globalized ICANN. In addition, there will be three meetings on human rights issues, two meetings on Internet governance issues, and a range of other high interest events. NCUC's Constituency Day meeting on Tuesday 23 June also could be of interest; we will discuss, among other things, the global controversies surrounding the new .sucks top level domain.

Thank you for considering this invitation, we look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

Dr. William Drake
University of Zurich, and Chair of the
Noncommercial Users Constituency

Valeria Betancourt
Policy Programme Manager
Association for Progressive Communications