

# Intro to ICANN

CyberBe@t1

Paris

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# Context: Recent Statistics

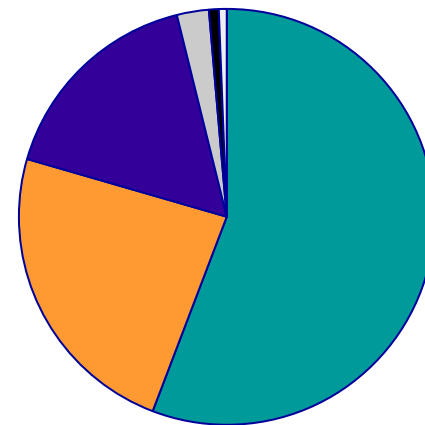
- 8.5m Level 2 Domains in .com, .net, .org (*NSI Jan 00*)
- 75 Million Hosts (*Est. Jan 2000*)
- 212/246 countries + territories with IP (*NW June 1999*)
- 201 Million Users (*NUA Nov 1999*)
  - Compare: 950 Million Telephone Terminations

# Users on the Internet – Nov. 1999

CAN/US - 112.4M  
Europe - 47.15M  
Asia/Pac - 33.61M  
Latin Am - 5.29M  
Africa - 1.72M  
Mid-east - 0.88 M

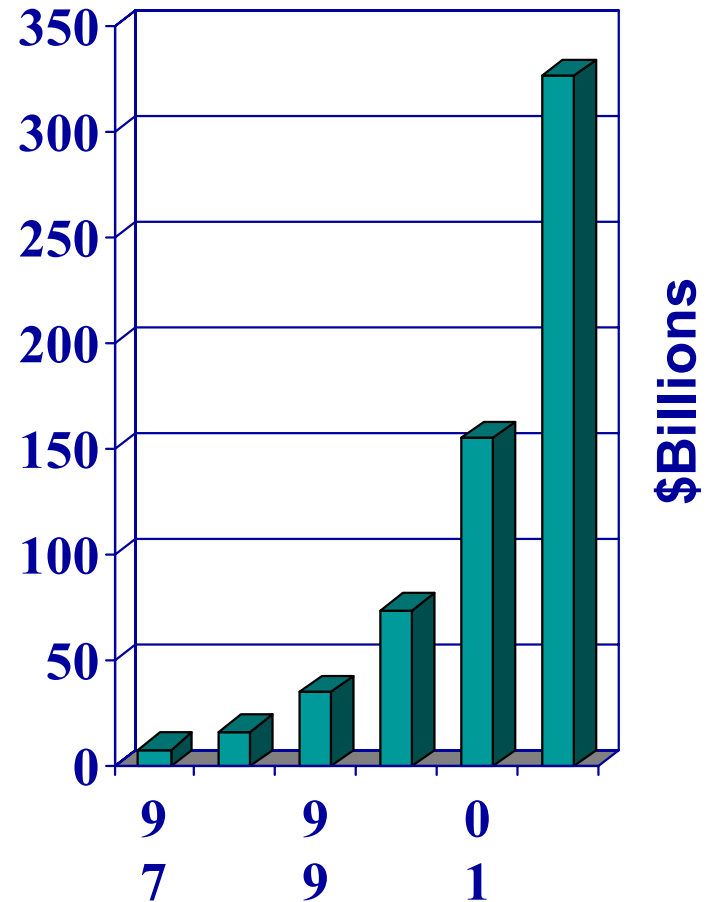
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**Total - 201.05M**



# Internet Transactions (\$Billions)

- Goods and services traded between companies:
  - \$8 billion in 1999
  - \$327 billion in 2002



Source: Forrester Research

# ICANN: The Basic Idea

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

(An experiment that must succeed!)

# 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

# What are domain names?

- Domain names are the familiar, easy to remember names for computers on the Internet
  - e.g., amazon.com, inta.org, ge.co.uk
- 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 information over the Internet



# Categories of Internet Domains

- **Generic Top Level Domains (gTLDs)**
  - com, .net, .org, .gov, .mil, .edu, .int
  - Carry no territorial identifier
  - .com, .net, .org open for registration by all persons and entities on a global basis
  - Proposals for many more gTLDs (.biz, .arts, etc.)
- **Country Code Top Level Domains (ccTLDs)**
  - .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)
  - Information Sciences Institute (ISI) of University of Southern California
  - Stanford Research Institute (SRI)
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
  - IBM, MCI, and Merit
  - AT&T, General Atomics, Network Solutions, Inc.
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- US Department of Energy

# 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
- ◆ WIPO to recommend solutions for trademark/domain-name dilemma

# 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

# Remaining Transition Items

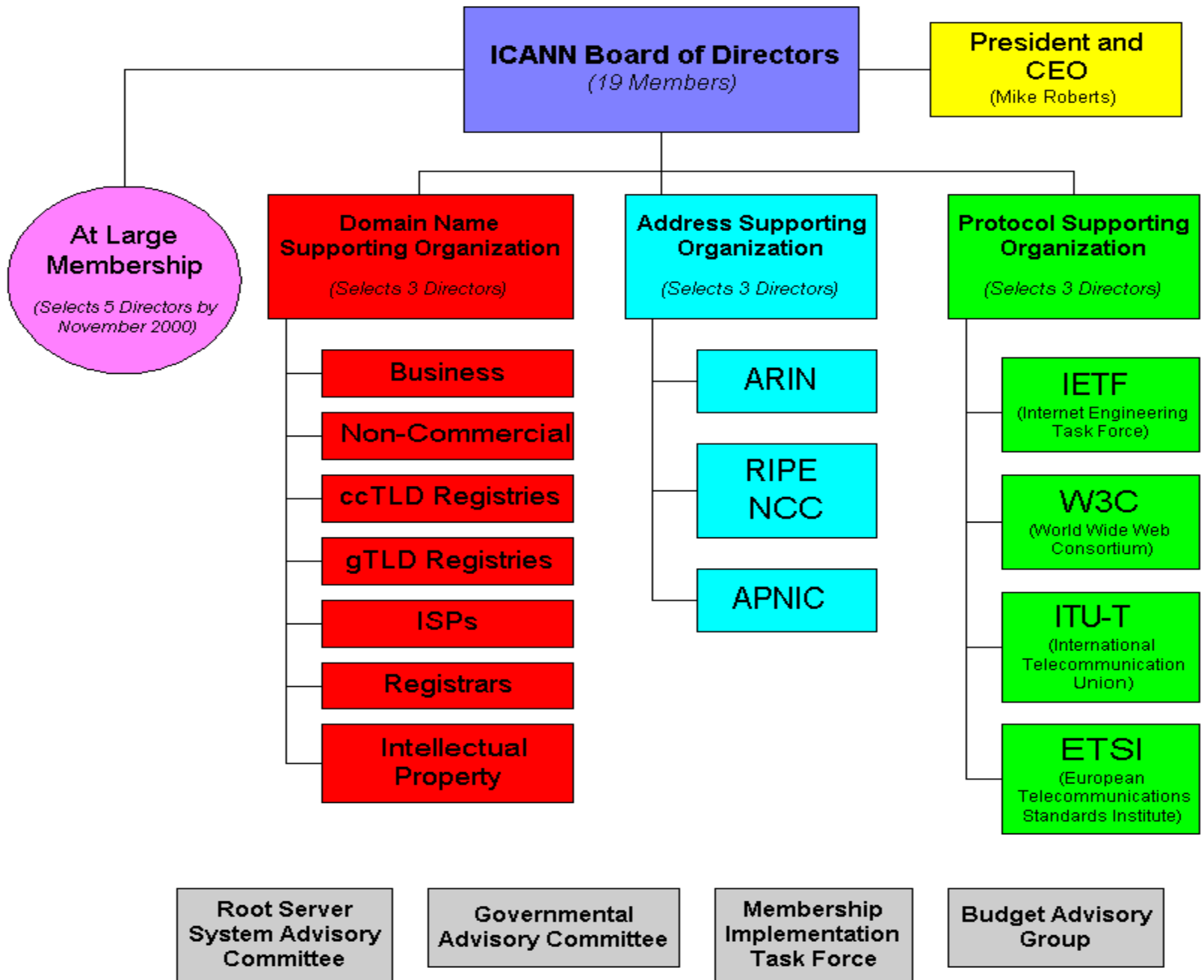
- Year 2000:
  - ccTLD registry agreements
  - IP Address registry agreements
  - Root server operator agreements
- September 30, 2000 - Target date for ICANN to settle all registry + registrar + root server relationships





# 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:

- Blokzijl (Netherlands)
- Fockler (Canada)
- Wong (Hong Kong, China)

## DNSO Directors:

- Abril i Abril (Spain)
- Cohen (Canada)
- Pisanty (Mexico)

## PSO Directors:

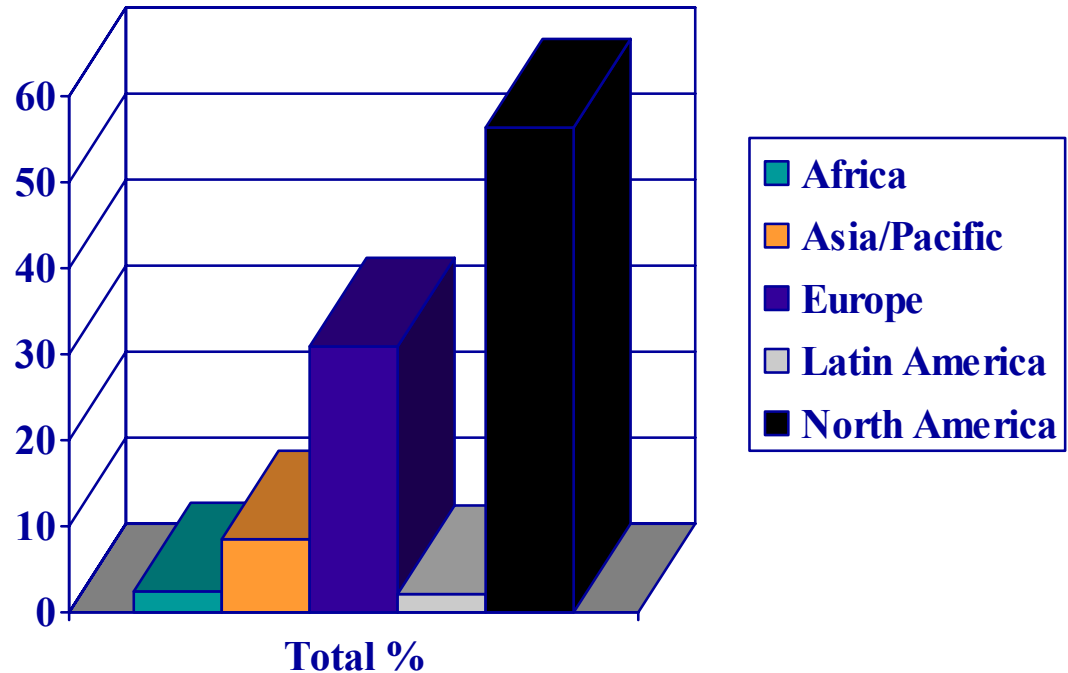
- Abramatic (France)
- Cerf (USA)
- Davidson (U. K.)

# At Large Membership

- Open to any individual with verifiable name, email address, physical address
- Free to join and to vote
- Members will directly elect 5 ICANN Directors by November 2000
- Election by Region
- Nominations committee + petition process
- 6-month study period to follow
- Membership Implementation Task Force
- JOIN! <<http://members.icann.org>>

# Applications for Membership

- Africa
  - 257 (2.33%)
- Asia/Pacific
  - 937 (8.50%)
- Europe
  - 3395 (30.79%)
- LA/C
  - 227 (2.06%)
- North Am
  - 6209 (56.32%)



# ICANN Staff

New Model: Lightweight, minimal staffing  
(= minimal bureaucracy)

Current Staff:

- ◆ Interim President and CEO (Mike Roberts)
- ◆ Vice President/General Counsel (Louis Touton)
- ◆ CFO/Policy Director (Andrew McLaughlin)
- ◆ IANA staff (2.3 full-time)

# So does ICANN make law?

- Or: Is ICANN a cyber-government for the Internet?

**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/govern?

- **No: ICANN coordinates.**
- **But:** technical coordination of unique values sometimes requires touching non-technical policy areas:
  - Data privacy protection
    - (WHOIS database)
  - Intellectual property/trademark law
    - (UDRP)
  - Competition law
    - (Registrars)



# Lessons from the Experiment?

- Private-sector self-regulation is possible
- Global consensus is difficult to define; even harder to achieve
  - Consensus can be achieved in the technical community from which ICANN was created, because you can test options
  - Consensus on policy questions is elusive, because you can't rely on objective data

# For Further Information:

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# UDRP Statistics

- Total cases (other than recommencements):  
405 (Involving a total of 600 names)
- Cases terminated and later recommenced:  
8 Recommenced

*(As of April 1, 2000)*

# Pending cases

274	Pending decision
1	Case suspended at complainant's request
3	Suspended pending settlement
1	Suspension to allow agreed transfer
<b>279</b>	<b>Total cases</b>

# Dispositions by Decision

19 - Decision for respondent

1 - Decision for respondent: Taken off hold

4 - Name cancellation

94 - Name transfer

1 - Name transfer (heelquik.com); complaint dismissed (heelquik.org)

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Total: 119

# Disposition by settlement, etc.

- 1 Case settled; name transferred
- 1 Complaint dismissed
- 1 Dismissed on joint motion
- 1 Settlement; complaint withdrawn
- 1 Terminated at complainant's request
- 1 Termination of complaint without prejudice
- 1 Withdrawn without prejudice

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Total: 7

# Provider counts

<b>Provider</b>	<b>Total Commencements</b>
Disputes.org/ e-Resolutions	38/413 ( 9.2%)
National Arbitration Forum	189/413 ( 45.8%)
WIPO	186/413 ( 45.0%)