

MICHEL YAKUSHEV: “THERE IS STILL NO CONSOLIDATED OPINION ABOUT NEW CONTROL MECHANISM OF GLOBAL INTERNET GOVERNANCE”



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The 52nd ICANN meeting in Singapore was marked primarily by a businesslike and constructive atmosphere. Representatives from several Russian organizations, national Ukrainian domain .UA, delegates from the South Caucasian republics, - almost two thousand people from the majority of the countries participated in the Meeting. As always, current and future issues of the functioning of the global system of identifiers of the Internet - a program of new gTLD (public domains), urgent problems of interaction between registries and registrars with ICANN, regional cooperation projects were discussed at the Meeting.

The key strategic issue was, of course, the discussion of the so-called “IANA stewardship transition”, which was initiated by the US government last year (in fact, it claimed its desire to transfer these functions to a new “multistakeholder mechanism”). This problem has an acutely controversial nature - in fact, everyone agrees that globalization of the Internet requires the globalization of its governance, but there are various, including polar, opinions about this new mechanism of control. The initial term of “transition” - September 2015 – seemed to many as not realistic. Nevertheless, during the discussions in Singapore it became clear that a compromise could be reached before the next 53rd Meeting of ICANN (it is scheduled for June this year in Buenos Aires), and by September the proposals can be finalized.

Part of the events at the 52nd meeting was somehow connected with our region - Accountability Framework agreement was signed with the Ukrainian national registry for TLD .UA; the opening of the new Cyrillic domain zone for Belarus (.бел), and the announcement of the appointment of our compatriot - Leonid Todorov from the

Coordination Center .RU – as a Director of Asia-Pacific Association of registries of national domains APTLD.

At one of the meeting of the Governmental Advisory Committee of ICANN the representative of the Russian Government (Julia Yelanskaya) made a statement regarding the termination of services of the American registrars of public domains that have been registered by residents of the Crimean peninsula. Unfortunately, ICANN has little to do or even say - these actions were undertaken by US companies under the American legislation on export controls and sanctions. At the same time, the continuity of service of such domains was provided - they all were transferred by the wish of their owners under the service by accredited registrars in other countries.

By the way, there are only a few ICANN accredited registrars of public domains (in Russia and Ukraine) in our region. So, as it was highlighted once again in Singapore, to ensure the sustainability of the Internet as a global network it would be appropriate to expand the amount of the registrars of the first level, as well as distribution of reserve DNS-servers worldwide. Let's work on this together.