Indian Business and Engagement with ICANN

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Participation of Indian Stakeholders at Global Internet Governance Fora

o At present, Indian stakeholders are present in the room at some global internet governance fora, including ICANN, and the IGF.

o However, the majority of the Indian participants are from Government and civil society, with Indian business being underrepresented. Different from global trend.

o At the most recent ICANN 55 conference in Marrakech, Morocco, attendees from the Government and from civil society easily outnumbered the participants from the Indian private sector.

Participation of Indian Stakeholders at Global Internet Governance Fora

o ICANN is primarily a private sector led organisation. Governments have only an advisory role (through the GAC), and do not make policy.

o Out of the 7 SO/ACs, the single most influential one is the Generic Names Supporting Organisation (GNSO). There are no major Indian businesses which are strongly represented there.

o Throughout ICANN and the broader IG ecosystem, policy is made by **'those who show up'**, since the open, bottom-up multistakeholder approach requires continuous participation.

What are the issues that could be impacted or influenced?

Issue	Fora where issue discussed/ decided
IP numbers and IPv6	ICANN IETF IGF Regional Internet Registries/ NRO
DNS	ICANN IETF IGF
Net neutrality	IETF IGF Council of Europe ITU
Web standards	W3C IGF

What are the issues that could be impacted or influenced?

o There are also emerging issues on which norms and policies are being discussed and finalised:
  o Names and numbers
  o Cloud computing
  o Internet of things
  o Convergence
  o Privacy and data protection

Who shows up to ICANN meetings from the private sector?

Sector	Type of employee
Registrars/ registries/ DNS tech & services	Business development; marketing; technical/ research
Telecom/ ISPs	Regulatory affairs/ policy; legal; technical/ research; domain names
Internet/ IT/ E-Commerce	Regulatory affairs/ policy; legal; technical/ research; domain names
Cybersecurity	Marketing; technical/ research
Industry association	Senior representative

Avenues for engagement with ICANN

o Generic Names Supporting Organisation (GNSO)

o Commercial and Business Users Constituency

o gTLD Registries Constituency

o Registrars Constituency

o Intellectual Property Constituency

o Internet Service and Connection Providers Constituency

o Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

Why should Indian businesses be in the room?

o The trends which are relevant:
  o The steady shift of emphasis towards data in telecom, away from voice.
  o The pivot of Indian IT companies towards greater innovation and development of cutting edge technologies.
  o The percolation of internet norms and standards from the international level to the domestic.
  o The subsequent codification of these norms in the form of industry standards, or binding national or international regulation.

Why should Indian businesses be in the room?

o Are the interests of Indian businesses identical to those of global business?

o The Indian market and landscape is different in many relevant ways, including the primacy of mobile in internet connectivity.

o The issues being discussed in global IG fora can have a direct impact on bottom lines, future viability.

Thank you