

APTLD Chairman's Report 2010

Our year got off to a somewhat slow beginning, with no General Manager in place, and the transitioning of the Secretariat from New Zealand to Hong Kong.

Henry Chan from the new secretariat stepped up to the mark and did a great job of organizing the March 2010 Kuala Lumpur members meeting and programme. The Board also used the Kuala Lumpur location to interview prospective General Managers, and were most happy to appoint Jian Zhang to the position, who commenced in the GM role in May.

During the rest of the year APTLD held 2 further members meetings, in Colombo, Sri Lanka in June and in Amman, Jordan in October / November 2010, with additional member training sessions also organised in conjunction with these meetings. APTLD was also a sponsor of the AP and HK Internet Governance Forums convened in June.

Submissions to ICANN from APTLD included one on the ICANN / NTIA Affirmation of Commitments, one supporting the Proposed Implementation Plan for Synchronized IDN ccTLDs and most recently on the subject of single character IDN Domain Names.

During the year APTLD re-introduced publishing a e-newsletter, which we hope members are finding useful. We have continued investigating the possibility of printing a quarterly newsletter also, but are still facing challenges with the financial viability of providing this service.

Our membership continues to strengthen, with more than half the 72 ccTLDs in the AP region as members, and 22 associate members. During the year member organisations have increased their membership fees by adhering more strictly to the fee bands. This additional revenue, along with reduced costs during the year (especially through not having a General Manager for several months) placed APTLD in a very healthy financial position at year end, and as agreed with members last year, your board agreed to transfer US\$25,000 to a special balance sheet accrual reserved for assistance to members in a "disaster relief fund" if and when such events might happen in the future. In years that APTLD does enjoy an excess of income over expenditure the Board will look to allocate a portion to this disaster relief fund.

Looking forward to 2011 we have many challenges ahead. As well as our regular schedule, I believe we must also pay some special attention to our longer term strategy, with a particular focus on membership types and membership fees. With IDNs for ccTLDs and soon for gTLD's along with the likelihood of a number of new gTLDs that may be regional (like .asia) we need to decide if APTLD is focused on ASCII ccTLDs, any ccTLDs an / or any AP based TLD.

My thanks go to our staff for their great efforts during the year. Jian, supported by Henry and Daphne as the Secretariat have strived to support the Board in achieving its goals of delivering quality services to members. The Board also has had a busy year, and I thank the directors for their commitments to furthering APTLDs objectives. In particular, I would like to note our thanks to the only outgoing director, Anthony Lee from TWNIC, for his service to the Board over recent years. We also record our congratulations to Fahd Batayneh from .jo, who joins the Board this year, which enriches the geographic diversity of board representation.



Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association

On behalf of the Board I would also like to record our sincere thanks to .my, .lk and .jo as our meetings hosts in 2010, and also to the many very kind sponsors at these events. Your contributions are critical to the usefulness of the programmes APTLD can offer to its membership.

Keith Davidson
APTLD Chair
18 February 2011