APTLD members and supporters met in Paradise Hotel Busan on 25 and 26 August 2011. Around 50 representatives from 17 ccTLDs and 11 other organisations met to exchange ideas on issues related to IDN, IPv6, security and law enforcement, impact of new gTLD and organisational updates.

Chair Keith Davidson opened the meeting on Day 1 at 9:10am. He thanked the local host Korea Internet & Security Agency (KISA).

The Executive Vice President of KISA Won Kim welcomed the attendees on behalf of the local host. Do-hwan Kim, Administrative Officer of Korea Communications Commission (KCC) updated the meeting with the ICT developments in Korea. YungJin Suh gave a presentation on the overview of the technical, marketing, and registrants’ services of KISA.

Our inaugural chairman Prof Kilnam Chon gave an insightful and inspiring speech on the history of DNS and a futuristic account on the development ahead of the industry in the morning of Day 2 meeting. Also he introduced the past of APTLD and our future direction.

Save Vocea updated APTLD members on different developments in ICANN, while Elise Gerich of IANA talked about the automated DNS root zone management system to be launched late this year. Keith Davidson updated the meeting of current issues discussed in and recent development of ccNSO. Miwa Fuji gave an update on the latest IP address distribution and IPv6 deployment status.

IDN: status update, delegation policy, and variant

Kang Soo Song (.kr), Yaling Tan (.cn), Lai heng Choong (.my), Jonathan Shea (.hk), Joseph Yee (Afilias), Nguyen Manh Thuan (.vn), and Miao-Ling Lu (.tw) shared the IDN status and launching experience from their respective organisations. Jian Zhang presented the work undertaken by the ccNSO/GNSO Joint IDN Working Group (JIG). Jonathan Shea, joined by his fellow WG member Joseph Yee, updated the meeting on the work of the Chinese Case Study Team of the ICANN Variant TLDs Issues Project (VIP). Jonathan Shea then moderated a panel discussion that covered topics like marketing of new IDN ccTLD, adoption of IDN, and user applications development related to IDN. The audience actively participated in the discussion and the session was well received.

Update on IPv6, DNSSEC, Fol WG, IANA contract renewal and from members

Ching-Heng Ku (.tw) talked about the IPv6 deployment and adoption status in Taiwan, while Young-Sun La (.kr) updated the meeting of the DNSSEC status and planning for .kr. Keith Davidson updated members on the work of ccNSO Framework of Interpretation WG (FoIWG), which aims at providing a clear guide on interpretations of policies related to delegation and re-delegation of ccTLD. Paul Kane (CommunityDNS) summarised and informed members of the findings of the recent NTIA Notices of Inqueries (NOI and FNOI) on the IANA functions.

Irina Danelia (.ru), Yannis Li (.mo and .asia), Berry Amol (.pg), and Baasansuren Burmaa (.mn) talked about the recent development in their respective registries.
Impacts of new gTLD to ccTLD and governments

Hiro Hotta (.jp) moderated this panel and spoke about how ccTLDs see new gTLD. Jack Simpson and George Pongas (AusRegistry) presented remotely on the threats and opportunities of new gTLD to ccTLD and tips on minimising the impact. Yannis Li (.asia) talked about how new gTLD might positively influence the domain name market as a whole and their related work at DotAsia.

DNS abuse, law enforcement of domain names and policy of WHOIS

Lim Choon Sai (.sg) talked about the domain name abuses they had encountered in Singapore and their measures in dealing with the situation. He shared some useful tips and experience on the matter with members. Jonathan Shea (.hk) updated the meeting on how HKIRC had countered phishing and spamvertising for .hk names.

The last part of the two-day meeting was devoted to the internal issues discussion of APTLD.

General Manager's Reports

Jian Zhang presented a General Manager’s report covering the recent activities of APTLD.

Internal issues discussion

Keith Davidson started the session by talking about the current situation of APTLD and commented that it might be timely for the membership as whole to deliberate on the strategic positioning of the organisation. He encouraged members to bring the issues back to their registries and give them some thought within their offices. The Board would follow up with other discussion sessions around the meetings with the members. He opened the floor to members’ input.

It was brought up that APTLD might need to weigh the current common interest among members against the totality of conflicting interests if the membership is to be expanded and see if that gives us sufficient reason for expanding the membership.

It was acknowledged that competitions among different registries are always there, no matter for ccTLD from gTLD or from their fellow ccTLD. gTLD might have stronger conflict of interest with ccTLD than that for fellow ccTLD. APTLD might need to consider strategically if it wants to exclude gTLDs all together.

It was pointed out that there is virtually no competition among the ordinary membership. If APTLD would be expanded to include gTLD as ordinary members, the landscape would be totally different and the decision making process of the organisation would be altered entirely. Having a more diverse membership base could be difficult when the organisation needs to come up with a consensual position on policy issues, yet it might account a stronger and wider representation.

CENTR, when compared to APTLD, has a smaller geographical region, shorter distance to travel for meetings, and their legal and policy ideas and systems are common among members. They are quite strict on membership admission criteria. They have some meeting sessions and information on website closed for ordinary members only.

Members asked if APTLD is financially healthy. The board and General Manager reported that the account had been in surplus and the organisation has a large reserve that allows operation without income for a considerable long period of time. Jian added that members had been paying
according to the fee band. It was assured that the deliberation on the organisational strategy and direction had nothing to do with the financial situation of APTLD but what staff and the board can do for members.

Apart from the membership issues, some members suggested that APTLD should review its services to members and the community. APTLD could proactively obtain funding to help build technical and policy competence of smaller and younger ccTLD and IDN ccTLD registries. Another service to consider could be APTLD acting as the centralised certificate centre for DNSSEC. Also, stronger public presence and contribution to the Internet community could also be our strategic targets.

City Tour and Dinner

After Day 1 meeting, attendees joined a city tour going through Gwangan Bridge and a traditional Korean dinner, both sponsored by the local host KISA. Attendees enjoyed the mouth-watering Korean cuisine and had some fruitful and productive exchanges.

Recording of Thanks

APTLD thanks the local host Korea Internet & Security Agency for the generous sponsorship and warm hospitality during the meeting.

All available presentations are on the APTLD web site: www.aptld.org.

The next APTLD Members’ Meeting will be held in Brisbane, Australia in December 2011.

Jian Zhang
General Manager