



The Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC) appreciates this opportunity to comment on the Latin America & Caribbean Engagement Plan published on October 9, 2025 (the “Plan”).

The IPC is one of the stakeholder groups and constituencies of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) charged with the responsibility of advising the ICANN Board, Organization, and other stakeholders on policy issues relating to the management of the domain name system (DNS), particularly on matters pertaining to intellectual property and consumer protection. The IPC represents the views and interests of owners of intellectual property worldwide, with a particular emphasis on trademark, copyright, and related intellectual property rights and their impact on and interaction with the DNS. We also represent the interests and concerns of consumers who depend on strong intellectual property protections as an essential element of building and ensuring consumer confidence, consumer trust, and consumer protection. Our members include individuals, companies, law firms, and intellectual property organizations from around the world.

Our comments on the Plan are described below.

Strategic Objective 1: Inclusivity

Outreach to Indigenous Communities - The IPC notes that there are numerous indigenous communities located in Latin America and recommends that such communities be targeted specifically for outreach and inclusion. The IPC notes that GAC members and Observers may be helpful in making the appropriate connections. More specifically, the Strategic Goals should expressly include references to outreach and inclusion of indigenous peoples.

Leadership Development - The IPC recommends that a sub-goal could be added to encourage leadership development and support for multistakeholder representatives. The IPC believes that inclusive representation and collaboration are easier with stronger leadership development paths. In Section 1.1.3, the IPC recommends that collaboration with universities should include targeted outreach to the law schools, to advance UDRP skills and awareness of how the DNS impacts intellectual property rights.

Communications - ICANN's communications should also highlight the benefits of the multi-stakeholder model and how the individual stakeholders are essential to that approach.

Effectiveness of Events - If ICANN desires to improve the effectiveness of its events in the region, it should increase the awareness of these events and invite ICANN colleagues to present outside of ICANN. If ICANN is supporting the multistakeholder model, then inviting members from other stakeholder groups to non-ICANN panels or engagements could help grow participation.

Engagement Tools ICANN could focus its attention toward technology companies, as owners and users of domains and as developers of new technologies using the DNS. In short, engage the tool creators.

Strategic Goal 1.2

Proactive engagement with Public Policy Stakeholders An important aspect of LAC engagement is proactive engagement with public policy stakeholders. Since it is not clear where these robust communications are happening, the IPC encourages more transparency into these engagements. This includes transparency into the talking points that ICANN uses when engaging with governments. The IPC is concerned that the engagement often presents a one-sided perspective of the CPH, without presenting a more balanced position that highlights the IP and business impacts of domain name policies.

Strategic Goal 2. Collaborate with Relevant Stakeholders to Evolve the Internet's Unique Identifier Systems

The IPC would appreciate more information as to the meaning of the term "relevant organizations" in the reference to collaboration. We believe that identifying new collaborative organizations that overlap or complement ICANN is important.

The IPC recommends that stakeholder sectors in the region who are not currently actively involved in ICANN policy-making activities be specifically identified for collaboration. This could include small to medium size commercial entities and indigenous tribes.

Regarding the goal of encouraging participation in the new gTLD Program, the IPC notes the difficulty in accomplishing this goal over a five year period when the next round will open in the spring of 2026. In other words, what activities and expenditures are most relevant during periods where no applications can be taken? Further thought is needed on how to achieve this goal during times when the opportunity to apply is not there.

Additional Educational Outreach - We believe that the Plan should also include events focused on educating people about ICANN's role and function and critical services, such as WHOIS or DNS abuse tools. ICANN could target law schools, business schools, computer science programs. ICANN could encourage membership for future professionals similar to the approach taken by INTA, where a pipeline is created for future trademark practitioners. ICANN could consider expanding the NextGen Program to develop a pipeline of future community members outside of a specific regional ICANN meeting.

When speaking about the region, IPC believes that internet users' input have not been well-represented by the current ICANN structure and that it may be useful for ICANN and stakeholders to engage with Internet users to better understand their point of view.

Strategic Objective 3 - Strengthen the stability and security of the Internet's unique identifier systems in the LAC Region

The IPC recommends broadening the scope of stakeholders involved in reinforcing the stability and security of the Internet's unique identifier systems. The IPC believes that opening partnerships with academia, civil society groups, and technical education institutions not merely by letting them know that they may participate but also to set up incentives to do so make them "feel" to be an integrated part of it.

New Strategic Goal 3.3 - Awareness and Outreach Addressing AI-Generated Scams

With the increase in AI-generated scam sites and lookalike domain names, the IPC believes that the Plan could also include a new strategic goal to focus on awareness raising and outreach to SMEs (and smaller, non IP-specialist law and security firms) so they are aware of the practical ins-and-outs of ICANN's policies (or lack, as the case may be) that impact their ability to enforce their rights online and to protect consumers.