

Maureen HILYARD (SOI) – I relocated to the Cook Islands from New Zealand in 2004 initially as an Advisor to the Cook Islands Ministry of Education’s Distance Learning section. During my 4 years with the Ministry, I undertook Diplo Foundation Internet Governance courses and joined the Internet Society’s Pacific Islands Chapter which led to role as the PICISOC Board Chair for 4 years. PICISOC was one of At-Large’s first ALSes. After two ICANN Fellowships at the same time, I was then appointed by the APRALO region onto the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) of ICANN in 2013 where I have served for the past 10 years. While on the ALAC, I was the ALAC Liaison to the ccNSO for 6 years until I became the Vice Chair in 2017 and then the Chair of the ALAC in 2018. At the conclusion of my term as ALAC Chair, I remained as the APRALO representative on the ALAC and have now moved as the APRALO representative on the NomCom.

During 2023, I have been the ALAC Vice Chair in charge of At-Large Outreach and Engagement and am also the ALAC representative on the GNSO Guidance Process for Applicant Support for the new round of gTLDs. At-Large has also maintained a high-level interest in Universal Acceptance of Internationalised Domain Names and mitigating DNS Abuse. I was fortunate to have spent 5 years on the Advisory Council of the Public Interest Registry and was selected in 2021-2023 to transfer to the Advisory Council of the DNS Abuse Institute which coordinates the efforts of registries and registrars to minimise DNS Abuse that can impact negatively on end-user experiences on the Internet.

Through my contacts with APRICOT and the APRIGF, I was elected to the Board of DotAsia in 2016. In 2019, I worked with Atsushi Endo (JPRS) to restructure DotAsia Board in order to focus on three core workstreams of the DotAsia Board – namely Governance, Finance and Community Projects. Atsushi was the Establishment Board Chair during this process, and after his resignation, I was elected as the first formally appointed Board Chair in 2020. Although I missed the election in 2022, I was re-elected to the Board in 2023. I was appointed the Chair of the Board’s Community Projects Committee and I am also a member of the Governance and Finance Committees.