

**ICANN Costa Rica Meeting  
Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency (NPOC) -  
TRANSCRIPTION**

**Tuesday 13th March 2012 at 11:00 local time**

Note: The following is the output of transcribing from an audio. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases it is incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages or transcription errors. It is posted as an aid to understanding the proceedings at the meeting, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.

Coordinator: Excuse me. This is the operator. Just wanted to make inform all parties that today's conference is being recorded. If you have any objections you may disconnect at this time. And you may begin.

Man: (Unintelligible).

Woman: Buenos días. Muy Buenos días. Bienvenidos a la presentación (unintelligible), una comunidad dentro del grupo de intereses no comerciales de ICANN. La idea de esta sesión es explorar cómo las ONGs (unintelligible) dentro de la NPOC - Non for Profit Operational Concerns Constituency.

Primero vamos a tener una breve introducción sobre la historia de NPOC a cargo de (unintelligible). Y esta representación (unintelligible) Cruz Roja Internacional (unintelligible) senior council from (unintelligible), a non-profit organization and one of the world's largest humanitarian organization providing for people without discrimination.

He is of so currently at the board of directors at international (unintelligible) counsel at CNCO counsel at ICANN and IP counsel at American Red Cross.

(Unintelligible) languages from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Thank you.

Woman: Gracias.

Woman: Welcome you all. This is very exciting. Rather than have a written speech to proceed to this group of very intelligent people I thought it might be more interesting if I just shared a story.

In 2009 I became very interested in the concept of nonprofit organizations and (unintelligible) involved in (unintelligible). As you all know nonprofit organizations (unintelligible) in very important ways to deliver services and community to get our volunteers involved and engaged and involved in ICANN. And the ICANN Board of Directors in 2009 (unintelligible).

(Unintelligible) to join and participate (unintelligible). Reaching out to nonprofit organizations asking them to join (unintelligible) or to communicate (unintelligible). And for that reason to (unintelligible) participate in ICANN and as the (unintelligible) to have been selected to represent this very important community and spent the past two years growing this constituency.

This constituency first is the non-stakeholders group. It is a new constituency that we just recently re-created in June of 2011. And I'm pleased (unintelligible) this is exciting.

When I think back to 2009 I was at home by myself. And in 2011 I was pleased to have my friends from (unintelligible) join and they were just trying to figure out what this whole thing is about. And it's quite exciting to see in 2012 a room full of NGOs.

And we hope that next year it will be overflowing and that it will be a much bigger room and (unintelligible) issues and often NGOs are the last to know (unintelligible) we should react (unintelligible) that profit organizations know how quickly (unintelligible).

(Unintelligible) the commercial (unintelligible) government universities. We work with all different parts of the community to effectuate our mission. And it is that spirit of collaboration that I think is important for the ICANN community to hear and I (unintelligible) to (unintelligible) all of you as one of the (balancers) of this great constituency and thank you so much.

The mission of NPOC is there in front of you. I (unintelligible) I'm having little problems with my vision. I have - I - (something is over) my eye so I can't really read it. But I thought it would be more important for me to speak to you rather than to read the mission.

And I have remain...

Woman: ...a un grupo distinguido de (unintelligible) que tenemos hoy, que queremos agradecer su presencia. Primero, Gabriel Macaya Trejos, Vicepresidente del Comité Ejecutivo de la estrategia Siglo XXI, también es investigador en el Centro de Investigaciones en Biología Celular y Molecular, es doctor en Ciencias de la Universidad de París 7, Bachiller en Química de la Universidad de Costa Rica, Premio Nacional de Ciencias Clodomiro Picado Twight, Catedrático de la Universidad de Costa Rica. También ha sido Rector de la Universidad de Costa Rica, Vicerrector de Investigación de la Universidad de Costa Rica, Director del Centro de Investigación en Biología Celular y Molecular, Miembro de la Sociedad Costarricense de Bioquímica y Biología Molecular, Miembro de la Junta Directiva de la Fundación Omar Dengo, Miembro de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias, investigador en el Centro de Investigación de Biología Celular y Molecular, Consultor del Proyecto de Estrategia y Ciencia y Tecnología en la Fundación CR-USA - agradecemos también la presencia de Luis Diego Escalante aquí de la Fundación CR-USA - y actualmente presidente de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias. Gracias.

Man: Muchas gracias. Es un gusto estar esta mañana con ustedes. Agradezco a los organizadores, a la Fundación Omar Dengo, a (NPOC). Algunos me vieron ayer - los que fueron a la ceremonia inaugural - con un sombrero, el sombrero de la Academia de Ciencias de Costa Rica, que es el anfitrión de esta reunión de ICANN.

Pero hoy estoy más dentro de una óptica diferente representando a una pequeña iniciativa no gubernamental - Non for Profit - la Estrategia Siglo XXI, que es una iniciativa de planteamiento de una estrategia de desarrollo basada en Educación, Ciencia y Tecnología e Innovación para el país desde una perspectiva de muy largo plazo - y cuando digo largo plazo, 50 años.

Es una estrategia, y nosotros siempre hemos estado muy orgullosos de presentarla así. Es una estrategia que surge de abajo hacia arriba - bottom-up. Vale en el momento para reconocer el apoyo que la fundación CR-USA le ha dado a esta estrategia durante muchos años.

No es solo una iniciativa bottom-up, es también una iniciativa de muchos socios interesados - multi-stakeholder. Y tercero, es una estrategia de una base de consenso. Y resulta para nosotros no muy sorprendente de encontrarnos en los documentos de descripción de ICANN, que ICANN es una iniciativa bottom-up multi-stakeholder and consensus driven.

¿Qué significa esto? Siempre he creído que olvidamos muy fácilmente cuál ha sido o a qué se debe el éxito de Internet. ¿Cómo es posible que pasamos de lo que fueron los primeros años de Internet a lo que es Internet ahora?

Yo recuerdo cómo en Costa Rica el establecimiento del primer nodo de Internet surge - como surgió Internet, diría yo - por la necesidad de un

investigador - un físico teórico - que necesitaba comunicarse con sus colegas, y ve en esta tecnología un medio para lograrlo. Y él comienza a desarrollar la plataforma que lleva al establecimiento de Internet en Costa Rica, y luego en Centroamérica y en varios países del Caribe.

Y en ese proceso fue muy importante el apoyo de Saúl Hahn - que nos acompaña por aquí - en su puesto de la OEA, que nos dio los medios para desarrollar esa Internet inicialmente académica que nos permitieron - y aquí voy a ser un poco violento en mi comentario - hacer un bypass a la compañía telefónica y único proveedor de Internet en el país, el Instituto Costarricense de Electricidad, puesto que las políticas en este momento de este Instituto no llevaban siquiera a considerar Internet como una alternativa tecnológica de una empresa estatal de telecomunicaciones.

Las cosas han cambiado radicalmente. No sé si ustedes están conscientes que esa misma compañía que hace más de 20 años no tuvo una respuesta positiva a las iniciativas académicas de establecer la red, es ahora la que nos apoya masivamente para la conectividad de esta reunión.

Es importante recordar entonces ciertos elementos fundamentales de diseño de esta red que me parece que permiten cierto tipo de analogías o de símiles que nos llevan a hacer planteamientos a la forma de gobernanza de esta misma Internet.

Yo creo como muchos de los aparatos de construcción social, que el diseño debe permear su gobernanza. Especifico un poco más las cosas - el diseño de Internet tiene un diseño central, y esos protocolos, y es un elemento técnico - no es un elemento político. Y a partir de ese elemento técnico se construye la política de gobernanza. Es una red redundante, resiliente, de igual jerarquía en

sus nodos, con neutralidad, con diversidad, y este todo amarrado por un protocolo técnico.

Y tal vez lo más importante - la inteligencia de la red, no está en su núcleo central, está en su periferia. Y esa inteligencia está sobre todo muy cerca de los usuarios finales. Yo creo que esto es central, y si aceptamos estas características - y yo creo que es muy fácil estar de acuerdo conmigo, respecto al diseño de Internet - tendríamos que aceptar otro tipo de características respecto - o características consecuentes con su sistema de gobernanza.

Si estamos de acuerdo entonces en este sistema de gobernanza, la periferia debe ser una consideración fundamental. Y allí es donde los stakeholders de la periferia se vuelven centrales - valga el comentario y el juego de palabras.

Yo creo que frente a esta exigencia de los elementos de gobernanza de la red, tenemos que plantear algo muy delicado, y es cómo se ejerce el liderazgo. Finalmente necesitamos en ese proceso difuso un liderazgo.

Pero ese liderazgo tiene que tener una característica fundamental desde mi punto de vista - y que tal vez no todos van a compartir - es un liderazgo transductor. Un transductor un mecanismo, instrumento, proceso o protocolo que convierte señales en acciones. Yo creo que el liderazgo de la red tiene que ser un liderazgo de transducción, un liderazgo que reciba esas señales desde la periferia y monte un proceso bottom-up consensus driven y multistakeholders que permita responder a las señales de esa periferia y haga la red desarrollarse.

Esos eran mis comentarios introductorios. Espero no haber tomado más de 7 minutos.

Woman: Perfecto el tiempo, y muy visionaria exposición.

Seguimos con Clotilde Fonseca. Clotilde Fonseca es Directora Ejecutiva del Consejo de la Promoción de la Competitividad, Ex Ministra de Ciencia y Tecnología, Ex Directora de Fundación Omar Dengo por más de 20 años, y adicionalmente entre otras cosas, fue Miembro asesor del Instituto de Conectividad de las Américas. Gracias.

Woman: Welcome everyone. I will be speaking in Spanish to carry on what has been established.

Hola a todos. Voy a hablar en español, pero saludo a los colegas de otros países, de otras culturas. En primer lugar quisiera felicitar a ICANN por la apertura de este espacio para que tengan un lugar preponderante las organizaciones sin fines de lucro, que en mi opinión tienen hoy un rol esencial en el desarrollo contemporáneo. No es casual que los estudiosos del desarrollo actual hablen del sector de las organizaciones sin fines de lucro como el tercer sector, en contraposición al sector privado y al sector público. Se le considera hoy un agente fundamental de desarrollo.

Por esa razón pienso que cuando hablamos de Internet, y hablamos de ICANN, y hablamos de las organizaciones sin fines de lucro dentro de ICANN, tenemos que preguntarnos algo que para todos sin duda es obvio, y es Internet para qué, por qué es importante que todas estas normativas, formas de trabajo, búsqueda de consensos existan.

Sin duda estamos ante una plataforma tecnológica que tiene que ser gestionada y administrada. Sin embargo, para los que estamos en el ámbito del desarrollo, también Internet y esta plataforma, es un elemento fundamental del potencial del desarrollo humano. Ha habido incluso pensadores, filósofos a mediados del siglo XX que hablaron premonitoriamente de algo que llamaron

la noosfera, es decir la esfera de conocimiento alrededor del planeta que aglutina todos los conocimientos que existen en el planeta.

Este es sin duda un tema tecnológico pero es sin duda un tema fundamentalmente de redes tecnológicas asociadas a redes humanas, que tienen un objetivo - y tienen que tenerlo, no podemos simplemente actuar en el vacío como si el tema tecnológico fuera el único. Y tienen que estar asociadas a la generación de prosperidad por vía de la equidad y del desarrollo económico, y también a la generación de comunidades que comparten, generan innovación, generan posibilidades, pero también que ayudan a la gente y a los seres humanos a adquirir sentido.

Creo que la estructuración de ICANN - que ha sido extraordinaria - es una forma alternativa de ejercer el poder, un poder que es distribuido, que tiene una normativa - pero que es una normativa flexible - juega un papel fundamental la libertad, la comunicación, y muy particularmente, la posibilidad de un autogobierno que es alternativo a los gobiernos políticamente elegidos.

Creo que es digno de estudio el fenómeno de Internet, y las posibilidades que nos ofrece. Yo dirijo en este momento una institución que ha sido creada por un grupo de empresarios costarricenses muy visionarios, que han querido poner en marcha desde el sector privado, un proyecto que busca articular las posiciones tanto de la Academia como del sector privado, como de las ONGs y del gobierno, buscando, mirando al futuro para garantizar mayores niveles de prosperidad, de gobernanza y de calidad de vida para los costarricenses.

Me parece que tiene muchas semejanzas con ICANN, cuando vemos que ICANN es una alianza sin fines de lucro de gentes de todo el mundo que busca mantener segura, estable e interoperable la red. Nosotros también

buscamos mantener el país seguro, estable e interoperable a través de la existencia de vínculos entre los sectores que en nuestro país - y en muchos países del mundo - trabajan de manera bastante desarticulada, y con relacionamientos no tan productivos como podrían existir.

El segundo objetivo de ICANN es promover la competencia y desarrollar políticas sobre Internet y sus identificadores. En nuestro caso también pensamos que la competencia es un elemento fundamental, pero que tiene que estar asociado - como sin duda lo ve ICANN - a un incremento muy importante en la productividad y a un incremento muy importante en el aprovechamiento de la ciencia, la tecnología y la innovación.

Y esto son temas fundamentales en el desarrollo contemporáneo. Para los países en vías de desarrollo esto no es discurso, esto es el futuro que será o que no será. Entonces, el abrir un espacio como el que se ha abierto en el concepto del NPOC me parece a mí histórico y fundamental. ¿Por qué? Porque las organizaciones sin fines de lucro son una nueva forma, una nueva fuerza económica y social, no son simplemente ya activistas que defienden ciertas ideas en ciertos nichos.

Las ONGs han crecido enormemente, son organizaciones que generan conocimiento, y muy particularmente - que es un tema fundamental de Internet - que aprovechan lo que hoy se conoce como el surplus cognitivo, es decir ese excedente de conocimiento que solemos tener los seres humanos y que ponemos al servicio del desarrollo, ya sea en los núcleos específicos de nuestros países, o en los núcleos de la Internet.

El potencial de la tecnología y la fascinación que tiene la Internet y la tecnología en general, para todos nosotros que estamos interesados en el desarrollo humano y en la prosperidad, es precisamente la posibilidad de

levantar sectores completos de la población de nuestros países y llevarlos a un punto de participación en el desarrollo económico, en el emprendimiento y en la calidad de vida.

Por eso las ONGs podemos decir que son organizaciones que articulan visiones, perspectivas, voluntades, buscan soluciones y hacen propuestas, sistematizan, producen y comparten conocimiento que luego sin duda es distribuido a través de la red.

Es importante ver también que las ONGs tienen características fundamentales en su desarrollo que nos llevan a explorar también ámbitos de gobernabilidad, de prosperidad y de desarrollo de capacidades como decíamos anteriormente. Son organizaciones que ahora proveen en muchos países ciertos servicios públicos que enriquecen y mejoran la toma de decisiones, y que son promotoras de proyectos transformadores, no son simplemente - como dijimos antes - activadores políticos.

Tienen una extraordinaria capacidad perceptiva, es decir, identifican necesidades sociales y económicas emergentes, pero también identifican oportunidades de emprendimiento, de desarrollo y de negocio. Ya las ONGs no están suscritas únicamente al sector social, trabajan también - como es el caso de la organización que yo represento - en el sector económico, en relación con el sector público y en relación con el sector académico.

Tienen una particularidad muy importante, que además la potencia extraordinariamente la Internet, que es una enorme capacidad de reacción rápida para responder a problemas y a oportunidades con gran flexibilidad y con gran agilidad. Son multidimensionales y multisectoriales, y además logran una cantidad muy importante de colaboración, que hoy llamamos pro-bono o trabajo voluntario no remunerado - es decir sin corte.

Pienso que el aporte que puede hacer la creación del NPOC al desarrollo de estas organizaciones es muy importante. Emerge un nuevo liderazgo a través de estas organizaciones dentro de ICANN y dentro de la Internet. Pero también considero que ICANN se beneficiará enormemente del aporte de estas organizaciones que traen a la mesa una visión distinta, una visión que es complementaria, y que permite trabajar con lo público, lo empresarial, lo comercial, y lo no comercial además de lo académico.

Yo quisiera felicitar a ICANN por esta iniciativa, y creo que al igual que los que estamos aquí nos ponemos a las órdenes para poder apoyar, impulsar este nuevo trabajo que es esencial no solamente para el mundo en desarrollo, sino para el mundo como un todo. Muchas gracias.

Woman: Muchas gracias a Clotilde Fonseca por su excelente exposición. Tenemos ahora a Eduardo Monje. Eduardo Monje it's currently the - from the (unintelligible) project development and international relations officer. He's been a member of the International Advisory Board or the International Institutes for Communication and Development.

And he has also served as Chair of the Membership Committee of the Global Knowledge Partnership.

He's an economist from Costa Rica. And he has a PhD from the Department of Economics of Southern (unintelligible) University. Thank you.

Man: Thank you. I'm going to deviate a little from the previous presentation. So I am going to speak in English. I had prepared some remarks in English and I only have about three minutes to go over them.

And as a benefit for the English-speaking participants of the session but also I will refer some words in Spanish for the local NGOs that were invited to this.

Man: Thank you for your interest in Goodwill Industries International. Goodwill generates opportunities for people...

Man: The (unintelligible) Foundation of Costa Rica is a private not-for-profit nongovernmental organization that develops and executes national (unintelligible) projects in the fields of human development, educational innovation and digital technologies. This is the organization that I represent here and it's the member of NPOC in Costa Rica.

The foundation strives to improve the quality and equity of learning opportunities for people in an effort to harness their development, to acknowledge educational proposals and models, focus on people and their use of digital technologies.

The foundation is responsible for the introduction of digital technologies and the use of Internet for educational purposes in Costa Rican public schools.

It's national program (unintelligible) jointly executed with the Costa Rica Ministry of Public Education currently serves more than 470,000 elementary and high school students nationwide in 1165 public schools in the nation.

The program this year will increase its coverage to close to a total of 530,000 students in more than 1700 schools through educational programs that use portable computers and intensive use of the Internet.

The (Armdingo) Foundations program rely on the Internet and on domain name services. All of this that provides valuable services to its individual beneficiaries and users community.

Our beneficiaries our children, youth from Costa Rican public schools, their teachers, their families, disabled and disadvantaged children and youth, micro and small micro entrepreneurs, senior citizens, educators and the public at large. And all expect that the foundation's educational services using the Internet be secure, stable and reliable.

Without the work of ICANN and its community this task will be difficult to accomplish.

The foundation is the first member of the Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency NPOC here in coaster Rica. We expect many more local NGOs to join us. We expect many more local NGOs from other countries in Latin America to join this constituency.

Speaking on behalf of the (Armdingo) Foundation I can say that we believe that NPOC can represent the operational interests of not-for-profit and nongovernmental organizations similar to the (Armdingo) Foundation.

We think that NPOC shall be able to channel their real world perspective on how DMS policies affect the operational readiness of NGOs and by doing it, this growing constituency will bring a new commercial voice and memberships and members into the noncommercial stakeholder groups, what we called the NCSG.

The role to growing participation and most important representation of not-for-profit and nongovernmental organizations in ICANN is through NPOC.

The (Armdingo) Foundation welcomes the NPOC members in the room and the prospective MPO NPOC members that are attending these sessions. And we encourage you to learn more about NPOC and become a member of these constituencies. Thank you.

(Christina): Gracias Eduardo. Ahora seguimos con (Alain Berranger), es un representante para Norteamérica de la Fundación ChasquiNet de Ecuador. También es (unintelligible) en el Global Knowledge Partnership Foundation, Vice-chair en el (unintelligible). Como ingeniero, administrador, su carrera profesional ha sido amplia, se ha centrado en el desarrollo internacional como ejecutivo de los sectores privados y públicos, como consultor para agencias internacionales para el desarrollo.

Ha sido Cónsul Honorario en Santo Tomei, (unintelligible) Canadá, ha trabajado en 31 países africanos diferentes, ha conducido misiones en 10 países asiáticos y 8 países en América Latina y el Caribe. También ha sido Director de Asociaciones y Desarrollo de Negocios para el Centro Internacional de Investigaciones para el Desarrollo - IDRC - y actualmente dedica su tiempo trabajando pro-bono para organizaciones sin fines de lucro y consultorías para organizaciones internacionales y el sector privado.

Muchas gracias.

Man: Thank very much (Christina). I must be very old. I really appreciated the presentations up to now. And I'm going to try to be a transducer. Between engineers we really like to use that method but it's - I have never heard it in relation to the stakeholders process as well as a political process.

My presentation today is not about substance but about housekeepings. See once a year and this is the first time NPOC actually comes together at an ICANN meeting.

So we really are the baby constituency of ICANN. And I have felt compelled to get involved. (Debbie) was instrumental in convincing me to get involved. And it was very, very important for the American NGOs to lead the creation of NPOC.

And then I quickly realized that it was very, very important for the same institutions to bring in the millions or some of the millions of NGOs around the world.

So of course in most countries we have a legal environment where NGOs can thrive. But there's tens and tens and tens of countries where NGOs have are seen as (enemies) of the politicians. I'm wondering sometimes if that's not starting to happen in my country. But that's another subject.

So we embarked on a process to say there is - seeing that there's not enough representation from the developing economy those NGOs that are spied on by government, that are sometimes there's - their monies are stolen, they're often the subject of violence, there are some people in this room that have been subjected to that.

And it is important that their voice be heard in ICANN and that's what we're doing. So this is now my housekeeping report.

And I'll - I'm very, very pleased to say that we recruited over the last half a year 13 new members. And they come from Bangladesh, India, Colombia,

Ecuador, Costa Rica, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Gambia, Peru and Pakistan. And many more are awaiting approval and currently applying.

I suspect just through the holding of the of event in Costa Rica that we will probably receive ten to 12 membership applications in Costa Rica. And I say (unintelligible) Costa Rica likes to lead. And that's how we like it.

The strength of the Internet we didn't realize it when we very modestly attempted to do a first Webinar in December.

It was masterminded by Klaus Stahl who is to my right here. And we've realized that although the Internet is available the rules of promotion and communication prevail. (Kathy), you would know about that.

And we were very, very surprised when we had over 250 participants at the first Webinar that we organized.

So there was a thirst to find out what ICANN was. It was really a ICANN 101. We had help from the NCUC, Avri Doria. And we had help from (Debbie) and also from one of our sponsors peer.org.

The only reason we are able to be here is because we are being supported by peer.org and by the Global Knowledge Partnership and by (unintelligible). And I thank them warmly for taking a bet on us.

So as someone that has fund raised in my life before I don't think I've ever been more proud then to raise the first \$5000 for NPOC as we come here.

So there is - this showed that a brand-new constituency can draw in new audiences and in significant numbers.

We tried to participate in the San Francisco meeting. Travel was provided by that Global Knowledge Partnership Foundation.

We have membership application forms available in Spanish, English and French on that Web site [www.puntalnpoc.com](http://www.puntalnpoc.com).

And I wanted to let you know that we are going to transit that Web site to a (Ning) based technology which will be much more friendly to social media thinking as well as automatic feeding of news and also Web 2.0 participation by the members.

So in fact this technology is increasing democracy from the base. And we want to be there.

We were able to have eight to nine. The number went up from the time I wrote this, eight to nine members of NPOC that came to Costa Rica without funding from ICANN not that we expect ICANN to fund us but many of the people that come to ICANN are funded for legitimate reasons.

As a baby constituency we have to be entrepreneurial and elbow our way into an organization that's established so quickly as ICANN.

But we participated in the ICANN joint supporting organizations and advisory committee on new gTLDs applicants.

So this working group was - it came up with financial and nonfinancial support recommendations (unintelligible) the applications in developing economies with insufficient financing or in need of expert technical assistance.

We are currently participating in the inter-register transfer policy. But it's really process I as a newcomer to ICANN participating in this working group is really a quick way of going up the learning curve and even though that's a longer process.

We try to be a good early administrator and respond to ICANN request for documents. I want to acknowledge Glenn Desaintgery who is really bearing with us as a, you know, the dummies. And we're - she's making us learn fast. And but we don't have - the - we don't have an easy way in. We have to do it the way everybody else does it.

I told you about the fundraising. We have the luck of having a strategic partnership with the Global Knowledge Partnership Foundation which is in itself a multi-stakeholder process, a partnership but where NGOs are a majority -- about 85% of the members of the Global Knowledge Partnership are NGO. We have about 10% to governmental or intergovernmental. And we have about 5% private sector.

So that's commonality of audiences will allow us to build some win-win and leverages.

And I'm also pleased to report that we were - we had 12 Costa Rican NGOs at least that we know of that have registered to the ICANN meetings through the good work of (Glenn Fox), a top member in Costa Rica, the (unintelligible) so maybe if you allow me to tell you about our plans.

This is what management evaluators call the results. I want to tell you what we plan to do for the next year.

We actually I'm speaking to you as a non-elected member. I'm - where just interim in caring the work of managing or administering NPOC.

But we have elections going on. And hopefully by the 19th of March we will have a (unintelligible) of properly elected officers for this new constituency.

Our plan is to grow our membership to all - or continue to grow our membership to all developing and emerging regions of the world. We have friends from Barbados here in Nigeria. And we barely started talking.

They may not find NPOC depending on your (chapters) the best place to enter ICANN. But that's not a problem. We appreciate this early friendship.

We'd like to add mostly small NGOs not for profits not that we won't accept larger ones. But our plan is to grow by four new members per quarter. And that would represent almost a double of our current - over our current and pending membership numbers by July 2013. The financial year is midyear to midyear.

We intend to hold four - seven meetings over 12 years (unintelligible) period. So that's a lot of work. They will be mostly Web-based. Four will be - two - three or four will be on the use of ICTs for development. And three of them we'll try to hold in parallel to ICANN events.

They will be - some will be education. Some will be planned recruiting. And others will be policy advocacy. And we would like to touch a new audience of 175 NGOs and by July 2013 that way.

(Unintelligible) DNS domain name system experts be added to the roster of experts that are active in ICANN coming from our NGO community.

And finally it will be important for us to go on to develop some robust strategic partnerships to continue increasing the global reach of NPOC and to ensure its financial sustainability, so financial sustainability not as an objective but as a means.

So thank you for letting me do housekeeping. It was a must do. And I thank you for your patience.

Woman: Gracias. Thank you. Merci beaucoup.

We have now a ten, 15 minute session for questions.

Vamos a tener unos 10 minutos para preguntas ya sea de los participantes aquí presentes o que nos acompañan vía remota. Entonces, si quisieran hacer su pregunta y a quién va dirigida.

Man: Question?

Woman: Yes please?

Man: What - the requirement for membership parts thinking at NPOC what is the requirement just (unintelligible)?

Man: Yes good question. The requirements is to be a true not-for-profit institutions - institution. And we actually require our applicants to submit a copy of their national documentation that establishes beyond any doubt that they are a registered not-for-profit in their country. Each country does it differently.

The second requirement - and these are - the second requirement is to operate a domain name. We are looking at this requirement but right now we are - we have to play in the noncommercial stakeholders group sandbox. And that is a requirement.

So even if we approved - right now we have approved a member - NPOC would like to approve a member - improve a member in Somalia because Somalia is a country where many areas are in distress.

And it's nice to see a leader coming forward trying to get involved. But he's operating out of Yahoo! docs or Google and waiting for his domain name in - somewhere in the middle of the step in Somalia. And we weren't able to approve him. He can't if he's not approved he can't vote.

And but he's desperate to work with us and bring, you know, further multicultural input into it.

So we are contemplating individual memberships but this - we don't really know how to do that. We know others do it. We're not even sure NPOC is the right group (unintelligible) to work with us. So please bear with us on that one. I hope that answers your question.

Man: Yes. And then you mentioned that later on in this month you have a fully constituted executive.

How - what is the process there? How do you - because I imagine that your members come from a lot of different countries. Are you having a meeting to do it that or do it via Webinar or anything like that?

Man: Very good. So well first of all we couldn't do that without the ICANN secretary, the GNSO secretariat which is run by Glenn. And she is our electoral agent. For elections you're not (unintelligible) does try to do it on our own.

The rules were that - there is 40 institutions who are voting around the world at this time for the- for a mostly a slate. We haven't had - we have only one position where there's two candidates. And but they're come from all over the world. And the elections is going on now and it's being completed on the 19th of March.

Did I respond to all the parts of your question?

Okay.

Woman: ¿Alguna otra pregunta? ¿(Debbie)?

Man: (Unintelligible).

Debra Hughes: Hi. This is (Debbie) from American Red Cross. My only question was for our English-speaking friends both on the phone and here I was wondering if the speakers could just give maybe one or two highlights from what they said of their presentation if they're able so that those of us who don't speak Spanish.

((Crosstalk))

Woman: I'm sorry?

Woman: Thank you very much. It's been a...

Woman: Thank you. Thank you (Debbie).

Woman: Klaus please.

Klaus Stahl: Thank you very much. Klaus Stahl NPOC (unintelligible) Global Partnership foundation. I've got an observation and a question to the participants.

The observation I have is that I think the participation of NGOs in the Internet governance is getting more and more important from day to day. Because we rely on everything we do more, more on the Internet.

And if you are not in the Internet governance and you don't have a voice it's getting more and more complicated. So that's why we have NPOC.

But I think in the election we are talking about which are finishing on to 19th I'm under the membership secretariat. I really put myself willingly under that cross of trying to get members.

And but it's the simple reason because I'm even put one step much further in front of the membership which is the outrage and information. We need to educate outreach and inform each - every - the NGOs in the world about what's going on. And that is I think the first challenge.

And then from that batch of people maybe 10,000 NGOs we can reach there will be a number of NGOs who say this is really worthwhile for us to get involved whilst other NGOs are just simply not in that field of interest of either their governance.

And when we've got these 10%, 5% or whatever inside the ICANN or in NPOC we need to train and further up the lever of (unintelligible) because sorry, it's wonderful when we're sitting here.

I think it's my 16th or so ICANN meeting. I still have no clue sometimes about (labor relations) and things like that.

And we have to be honest ourselves and say I mean half of ICANN nobody will ever understand. And I don't think there's a single person who really understands everything which is going on.

And I think we've got a wonderful, wonderful configuration going on which is for me unique and I think is a huge, huge chance number one we've got NPOC. Number two we've got the support of ICANN.

Number three we've got new registrar and gTLDs coming in. We've got organizations like the GKPF which I happen to be the executive director which represents (unintelligible) networks of foundations and things like that.

We've got all the players now in one room. Now the part is to get them all together.

And then for example the specific part here for Costa Rica is how can reach the foundations and that's a question maybe directly to the panel how - and to (unintelligible) well how can we first inform reach and educate the foundations is Costa Rica? How then can we identify the leaders and how can we train them up further?

Because okay the circus will go out of town next week but we have to leave something back. And I think it's better than sawdust on the soil. Thank you very much. Sorry for about that long one.

Woman: Thank you Klaus. Would anyone care to answer Klaus' concern?

(Elazo): Well Klaus I think it's - this is one of the first steps that NPOC is taking with the Webinar in December and these - this activity here during the ICANN meeting. It's an opportunity for NGOs to get to know the ICANN language, the ICANN concerns, the ICANN topics.

And as you said there will be many NGOs that are really in tune with the Internet (governance) issues and they will see NPOC as the way to channel to get their voice out and to be represented in the Internet governance deliberations.

For other NGOs they would understand that this is important to them but they would need some introduction to ICANN and some education sessions where ICANN is explained to them and they do use the Internet and they need to care about these issues.

So it's a two-step process, you know, getting those that are fully ready to sign up and to be represented by NPOC and to get their voice out right away and the other group of other NGOs here in Costa Rica and in any of the other Latin American countries and some of the other regions that we need information about ICANN that they can get it to different constituencies. And they need to understand that NPOCs that constituency that is more closer to their needs.

Woman: Thank you (Elazo). We have no more time for questions so we'd like to conclude. I don't know if anyone has a closing statement or if not I would wrap up the sessions.

Woman: So the (unintelligible).

Woman: (Unintelligible) I think one stat that I'm sure we all agree on is that the Internet has been such a disruptive tool and I say this in a positive way.

For this to continue it is important to incentive everyone to have a voice. And in this regard it's that NPOC represents a space for nonprofit organizations to be heard and to express their criteria.

Now how to protect the independence and neutrality and diversity the speakers we're expressing about.

So I think in this sense we have to consider these three fundamental aspects that were discussed here which were this governance to be constructed bottom-up consensus driven and multi-stakeholder. Thank you.

Man: If I may just ask a question here.

Woman: Sure. Go ahead.

Man: There's several issues that I would really like to put on the table with respect to nonprofit organizations. What mainly the next opportunity that somebody like - something like we could discuss some of the issue.

Woman: Please we have (go on) so we can continue with this. You can hear.

Klaus Stahl: (Unintelligible). It's amazing (unintelligible).

Woman: Yes.

Klaus Stahl: You know, you really can put - sorry. We can - we still have a few minutes time. Of course we can talk through things about in private.

And secondly there is a mailing list called NPOC Voice where you really can put these things to an open discussion with everybody. But of course face to face is preferable.

And I just want to give a very quick response to (Eduardo) what you said.

Just one observation, the very simple mechanism, if ICANN goes to a foundation or to an NGO and says look we would like to outreach to you, you know what happens? A lot of people don't even know what ICANN is.

I think what we need to do is to go through intermediary organizations like to (Armdingo) to KPF Network been things like that who basic - with which the organizations or the - and the foundations know and basically play the intermediary of the person who's (introducing). That might be just an observation to what you've said.

Woman: I have been told we have - there's no other meeting in these rooms so if you have any specific questions for (Ana) he'd be happy to answer or anyone else.

Man: Or anybody else.

You know I stated in January (our practice) that NGOs are a developmental organization. I think you must place some emphasis on empowering organizations or not seeing them like businesses or (anything) like that.

In countries like Barbados, you know, even (unintelligible) as you suggesting I think there must be some support linked to these organizations or that they bring them on board. Otherwise they would never get on board.

And you have to ask yourself what is the mission, what is the mission here? It the mission is to bring the (mental) organization into a pool so that they can make their representation. It wouldn't be right especially at places like Somalia, parts of Africa, parts of the Caribbean where you just go out - have people who are into the problem themselves, people who are for themselves actually the people who are getting up and trying to do these organizations in order to improve their lot And a lot of the people around them never have a domain name.

In Barbados for example we have a constituency of about 1200 NGOs, another 1200 NGOs. Only about five domain names.

So I like the idea of the (intermediary) for example Bangalore which is my organization, it's a national organization where all the organizations in Barbados come under Bangalore.

So it's easy for me to get membership. But if membership has a criteria that says you must have a domain name it also means that we must be able to position ourselves to allow the organization to get your domain name.

So can we have say a country, a block that we can use to develop domain names that want to (play) the organization and be the Internet because really because we do a lot of business (unintelligible).

(Unintelligible). And these organizations with Yahoo! addresses on gmail addresses and (unintelligible) they can't tell people what's going on. They can't promote themselves again and get (framed) sponsorship and stuff like that.

I mean, you know I think you've got a situation that if we are talking about nonprofit are you truly want to be nonprofit I think these are situations that we must (unintelligible) and we must put some peers, some representation within ICANN for nonprofit organizations at that level.

Woman: And I was going to answer the first part of the questions and then we'll give to (Betty).

Man: Yes (Roosevelt) what I would say to your - to the first part of your question I think it - you can start at the beginning which means Bangalore would apply to become a member of NPOC?

(Roosevelt): Oh yes definitely.

Man: Right. And right now for the support it - there's a window of opportunity where there's not going to be any membership fees to join NPOC. So that's the first thing.

And also there is something changing in ICANN is that constituencies are going to be receiving - constituencies and stakeholder groups are going to be receiving I believe it's for the first time some financial operational support

starting in the next financial year. And of course that's going to benefit the members of those constituencies.

As to your other question I think I'll defer to my leadership.

Woman: Debra Hughes from International Red Cross.

Debra Hughes: Hi. So your point is well taken and it's one that has been a concern of mine. You understand the rules that we must follow were established before this constituency was created.

So when I joined this initiative in 2009 the requirements for participation were curious to me. I didn't quite understand even though the stakeholder group said that they had nonprofit and NGOs represented a lot of the criteria for example was the noncommercial actor or what are the requirements, did not make sense to me.

And so again a voice of one is very difficult to effectuate change. Now that we are established there's no reason why if this constituency thinks it's important to take a look at those criteria that we do so in a way that makes sense.

This is a great opportunity for all of us to educate the stakeholder group that may not be aware of the issues like those that I've just mentioned.

I mean there's others. You know, I won't take up all the time but there are opportunities for this group to have our voice heard in a very constructive way I believe.

(Topay Merflash): Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. My name is (Topay Merflash). I am attending ICANN as a representative of (Nira). (Nira) Is actually a ccTLD for Nigeria.

Now I'm here just by accident because I met the vice chair alone, I think on the first day you mentioned and thought was something interesting to be part of what - but the Web sites and some of the documents.

I see that it is even in the name it says not-for-profit. But I can understand that from the historical perspective on how this came about.

It came about mainly from the NGO aspect. And in the discussions and some of the speeches that I'm giving I see there's easily difference to mention a NGO, NGO, NGO and so which (unintelligible) making it feel like I'm in the wrong place okay.

While, you know, the organization that I'm represented at this ICANN meeting (sic) is a not-for-profit organization we do have members that are individuals, we have members that are NGOs, and we have members that are not-for-profit as well.

So as we take time to look at the documents today to be sure I think that we do belong here as well.

So I'm just trying to put that out there so that as we - I can understand that this is maybe a situation as you mentioned so that you know, as it develops gradually it will put us in my mind hopefully do not - not eliminate people who may want to comment. Thank you.

Woman: Thank you. It is important (unintelligible).

Man: (Topay) thank you very much for that. Actually this is an excellent topic and this is an issue that's not resolved right now because I look at some of our pending applications. If I look at Global Knowledge Partnership, if I look at (Nira) and I don't know if you have for-profits but - look - I don't - I know the structure of GKP, 85% NGO are across the world. So that's good stuff for ICANN.

Ten percent intergovernmental or quasigovernmental organization that are operating at arm's length from the government like - and then finally four, five private-sector companies like Microsoft is - Microsoft Community Affairs is a member of Global Knowledge Partnership.

So if Global Knowledge Partnership which has a huge global NGO reach applies for membership in NPOC and if there is a, you know, a sharp interpretation or disciplined interpretation of the criteria and based on past experience it will be refused. And it does not make sense.

I've looked at the membership of when I first met you (unintelligible), I looked at your membership. You are itself a not-for-profit organization. You have a domain name system. And I don't know who has the biggest share in your membership but that (will) be an issue.

So I think we're going to ask the stakeholders group and others ICANN that we need to resolve this issue.

There are also issues of defining a not-for-profit organization. And believe it or not we have some of the decision-makers right now in stakeholders group who interpret sponsorship. Would you believe this?

I know around the table here that we wouldn't be able to deliver on a social mission if we didn't have sponsorship.

And, you know, it has no resignation. I have done this for four years of my life. I got - believe it or not I didn't believe Microsoft handed over my intergovernmental organization a \$9 million check.

And but they would they by their sheer existence and presence in GKP would stop us to collaborate for GKP. So it doesn't make sense and we're going to have to look into this.

So yes I believe that (Topay) your organization as not-for-profit absolutely belongs here. Besides you don't have to along the only one constituency.

I think you can belong to two. That's - and therefore we're going to have to address this issue but as we are powerless right now. We - if we put it to vote we get outvoted. If we put it to challenge or challenge us to be voted we get out voted.

So I believe that there is a governance structure design thought. And it may not have been a thought when it was operated for five years ago.

So we all have to reinvent ourselves our organization. I think, I know the (Cruza) organization reinvents itself. GKP reinvents itself. We all have to do that to stay relevant.

And I think ICANN does that very well and I think we have the attention of our stakeholders group and of the council and the board about this issue. So don't give up on becoming a member. We'll work with you and for you.  
Thank you.

END