DUBLIN – IANA Stewardship Transition Implementation
Wednesday, October 21, 2015 – 00:00 to 00:00 IST
ICANN54 | Dublin, Ireland

TRANG NGUYEN: All right. Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to the IANA Stewardship Transition Planning for Implementation session. My name is Trang Nguyen, senior director of strategic programs. I'm going to be leading the implementation efforts for the IANA stewardship transition. And I'm just going to introduce the panel here, and then we'll get started.

To my left is Akram Atallah who you know is president of the Global Domains Division. He's recently, in addition to his role as president of the Global Domains Division, has taken on the responsibility for the successful implementation of the transition.

And we have at the end there David Conrad, who is our CTO. To my right is a member of the transition implementation team, Yuko Green, manager of the strategic programs.

And at the far end is Cristina Flores, manager of operations for the new gTLD program who is assisting us with remote participation today. Thank you, Cristina.

So our goal for this session today is to share with you some of the planning work that we've done in preparation for implementation. Before we start -- can you go up one slide, before we start Akram, did you want to say anything?

AKRAM ATALLAH: Thank you, Trang and thank you all for coming.

I think that the plan is to present a few slides and then open it up for Q&A. So, hopefully, we will give you enough time to take questions and give you an opportunity to tell us what you think and how we could do the job better.

I wanted to just touch on a few principles that we're working with. Our goal is to figure out how the best way to implement the proposals that are approved by the NTIA. We are doing some prep work, and we will do as much in the prep work as we can so that we can maximize our chances for success so we don't wait for the last minute to start doing everything.

Right now we're in what we call a very early phase of looking at the requirements from the different communities on what they want us to report on and how they want to make sure that we're working in lockstep with each other. So that, when we finish the implementation, it's not something that we drop on them and then they say, okay, now review time and after the review time

go back and fix these things. We want to make sure that there is a progress where we're in lockstep together and the work that we're doing is actually what they wanted us to do so that, when we're done, we're actually done.

So I'll leave Trang to talk about some of this and the schedule. But our main concern is to meet the requirements of the community once the proposals are approved and make sure that we get it done in a timely way so that we can meet the September 30th deadline. And also make it -- do it all in a very transparent way where we're reporting not only to the communities that develop the proposals but the community at-large. And we have some ideas on what to present, how to present it. And we're willing -- we're very happy to take comments on this is as well. Thank you.

TRANG NGUYEN: Thank you, Akram. So, real briefly, could you go back to the timeline slide, please. Thank you. Real briefly, in terms of a lay of the land, if you would, for the transition, there's three phases to the transition, as you know.

Phase one is the current phase that we're in, which is the proposal development phase. Phase two is the NTIA and USG review phase, which we think is going to be approximately five months.

Phase three of the transition is the implementation phase. And, currently, we're estimating that we would need a minimum four months, you know, for implementation. The September 30th date that you see there is the date that the IANA contract will expire. So how that maps to our implementation, which is on the bottom half of this slide, is that, during the phase one, the proposal development phase, as Akram said, we're in the administrative prep phase. And we'll talk a little bit more in a few minutes about what that means.

Once we have a little bit more clarity in terms of the requirements that are in the proposal, which is phase two, we can do a little more substantive work. We can create more detailed project plans, more detailed timelines, and start to do some of the prework that we can do during that phase without crossing over to implementation.

And then, obviously, after the proposals are certified and approved by NTIA, then we would then be able to implement all of the required elements of the proposals during the implementation phase.

So let's take a closer look at the administrative prep phase. Next slide, please.

Primarily during this phase, we're doing three things. We're identifying projects based on the current proposals. We're

creating a high-level timeline of what we need to do. And then we're engaging with the community to better understand their reporting and oversight needs, as Akram mentioned. Next slide, please.

So, in terms of the projects that we have identified, you know, we've -- what is that? 14 projects? We've identified 14 projects. And we have mapped these across three implementation tracts. The colors are to separate the tracts.

So track 1 is what we're calling root zone management system or RZMS. And those include the projects relating to the changes to the RZMS to remove the root zone administrator role and the parallel testing of their system as well as the contract with the -- or agreement with the root zone maintainer. It also includes work relating to the RZMS changes to accommodate the SLEs that are part of the naming community's requirements.

So that's track 1 of our implementation work.

Track 2 of our implementation work includes projects relating to the post-transition IANA entity and the requirements from the three operational communities.

So those include projects, as you see, number one, under the orange box there is the CWG stewardship SLAs and implementation around that.

The second item is the numbers SLAs. That's currently being discussed right now.

And number 3 is everything relating to the establishment of the PTI structure including the PTI budget, the Board, the PTI board, you know, all of the infrastructure that's required, the contract between ICANN and PTI, you know, everything relating to the establishment of that PTI structure.

Number 4 is operationalizing the Customer Standing Committee that was a requirement under the CWG's proposal. It's a committee that would be monitoring the ongoing operations of PTI, ongoing performance of PTI.

The 5th project under the PTI track is to operationalize the RZMS standing committee. That's a committee that would provide advice to the ICANN board relating to any RZMS structural or operational changes.

Number 6 would be operationalizing the escalation mechanisms for the PTI structure. Those are mentioned in the CWG proposal as well.

And number 7 is relating to the review in our document to relationships with, you know, the IETF and the RIRs.

And then number 8 is the work relating to the IANA IPR.

So that's the second track.

Our third track is the accountability track. And that includes all of the work relating to the CCWG proposal, which for right now is captured under project number 1 there. It's just a big placeholder as that proposal is not yet finalized.

And then number 2 under the accountability track is the work relating to the updates of the ICANN bylaws and core values and missions.

In addition, we've identified some projects that will take place, you know, after the transition. These are what we view as not necessary for the transition to occur. And those work includes operationalizing the IANA function review or IFR. The IFR in and of itself will be reflected in the ICANN bylaws, but operationalizing the IFR is something that we'll work on post-transition.

The other project that we will work on post-transition is operationalizing the separation Cross-Community Working Group. You know, that group would only be formed in the event of a special IFR that would occur. So we believe that that's something that we can do post-transition.

The CWG proposal also includes a mention of a study that they would like to look into doing post-transition relating to whether

or not there is a need to increase the robustness of the operational arrangements for making changes to the root zone contents.

And then number 4 is a placeholder for any work relating to continuous improvement that we'll need to do after the transition.

Then in terms of timelines, high-level timeline, this is a high-level timeline that we developed for the 14 projects that I just talked about. Let me explain the color coding a little bit. The color coding that you see here maps to the three tracks that was on the -- a couple of slides ago. So the blues is everything relating to the RZMS track. The orange is everything relating to the PTI track.   And the teal color at the bottom relates to the accountability track.

So, in terms of the RZMS track, we've done -- we've, I guess, made the most progress there to date. We've started to make changes to a duplicate system of the RZMS in order to remove the root zone administrator role. So that work is underway. We anticipate that that will be completed by the end of January of 2016. Upon its completion, we can start the parallel testing process.

Additionally, we are also working on making changes to the code changes to the RZMS system to accommodate the SLEs

requirements that are in the CWG proposals. So those changes are anticipated to be completed by the end of the first quarter of next year.

After that we'll be able to start collecting metrics.

And that's what you see is reflected in the first orange line there. That work picks up where the blue line ends. We've had some additional conversations with the CWG SLE design team. And we are going to try to provide them with some data, hopefully, sooner than April of 2016 so then that work can start earlier. This timeline, obviously, does not reflect that because that's very recent conversations that we've just had with the CWG.

And I skipped over one line on the blue section there. It's the agreement with the root zone maintainer. We're currently also under discussions with VeriSign regarding this disagreement. And that work is anticipated to be done by around March. Once we have an agreement, it will be published for public review.

With regards to the work for the second track, the PTI track, as you can see from this timeline, the majority of the work is slated to occur once the proposals are more finalized.

The couple things that we have started doing are the escalation mechanisms and the documenting relationships. So let me cover each one of those.

With regards to the escalation mechanisms, what we've done is we've started to take a closer look at the existing IANA complaint and escalation mechanisms and reviewing those against what's in the CWG proposal currently to see what differences there are so we can have a better idea what we would need to implement down the road. So that work has started. It's very early on, but we've started to look at it.

With regards to documenting the relationship, we've worked with the IETF on updating the Memorandum of Understanding, the MoU, and the SLA document. So that work has started, and we made good progress there. We're also currently discussing with the numbers community with regards to the SLAs. So there's some work that's been done there as well.

Moving on to the third track, which is the accountability track, the work that has started there is the bylaws drafting. One thing to note about the bylaws drafting is that the bylaws are not required to be transmitted to NTIA with the proposal. As part of NTIA's certification process, they also need to certify that the bylaws have been adopted. So, in fact, we do have a little bit of a wiggle room in that, after the proposal is transmitted to NTIA, we do have time to go through our process of finalizing bylaws and putting them out for public comment and then having the ICANN board formally adopt those bylaws before we send them to NTIA for their certification.

And I know I'm going through this a bit fast, but we'll have some time at the end for any questions.

Relating to engagement with the community, which is the last bit of item of what we want to accomplish during the administrative prep phase, what we've done is we've been having conversations with the operational communities, the ICG and the CCWG, to better understand the oversight and reporting needs. And we've had some really good conversations this week to gain some additional clarity on what their intended roles are going to be during the implementation phase and what the reporting requirements may be. So it's been very good conversations, and we hope to continue those.

What we like to do is, shortly after the ICANN 54 Dublin meeting, what we plan to do is launch a dedicated web page to start providing you with updates relating to any implementation activities so that we're committed to doing that fairly shortly after this Dublin meeting.

And then, on an ongoing basis, we are committed to providing the community with visibility into status and progress of implementation. And how we plan to do that is we're intending to hold a monthly webinar whereby we'll be providing regular status updates as to how the implementation is going and as well as giving insight as to what the upcoming activities may be.

ICANN | 54
Dublin
18-22 OCTOBER 2015

There is a monthly SO/AC leader call that the ICANN policy group runs. And we see that as an additional opportunity for us to also provide status relating to implementation to that group.

You know, some of the other things that we'll be doing is things like biweekly blog posts to give you some additional insight into how the implementation is progressing. And we are planning on building out a dedicated space on our ICANN Web site to continually provide you with weekly as well as biweekly and monthly reporting and statusing on the implementation.

In terms of internal coordination -- Alissa, I see your hand is up. Is this relating to what I just covered, or do you want to wait until the end, or do you want to ask your question now?

ALISSA COOPER: Up to you. It's about the timeline.

TRANG NGUYEN: Okay. I only have three more slides. Could we wait until the end, and then we'll take questions? Thank you.

In terms of internal coordination and managing the various activities -- next slide, please.

At a high level, how I envision us working is that we'll have an implementation coordination team that will, basically, be

coordinating the various activities from various departments within ICANN. So for each project it's going to require a cross-functional team within ICANN to execute. So we see our role as sort of coordinating the activities of those cross-functional teams as well as, you know, coordinating with the community. And, based on that coordination, we hope that we'll be able to build out detailed project and implementation plans.

And then the step that will follow that is, obviously, execution against those plans and then ongoing monitoring and reporting against the progress.

In terms of project plans, for those of you that are familiar with project planning, this is just a basic project plan. But I just thought I'd share with you exactly what we're going to be doing in terms of building out project plans. You know, we'll be, obviously, tracking the various tasks required to execute that project. We'll have a start date for each of the tasks and a completion date. We'll have predecessors or dependencies for each of the tasks as well as who's assigned to do the task. And this is what we'll be statusing against on a weekly basis internally.

My hope is that we're going to be able to share these project plans with you once they're built, you know, just to give you

transparency into what we're going to be doing and the timing of when things are going to be done.

And then this is just a more detailed look at the various reporting mechanisms that we envision we would be doing during the implementation phase. On the top, my top -- I guess on the top right-hand corner, the SO/AC SG RALO leaders conference call, that's the one that I had mentioned in terms of the call that the ICANN policy group manages on a monthly basis. We intend to provide a monthly update on that call.

Next to that the transition program facilitation meeting, that is an existing meeting that we have on a monthly basis that has been managed by Fadi and Theresa. We intend to start to provide implementation updates on those calls as well.

And then we also plan on providing regular weekly updates to the community working groups. You know, project plans, statusing against the project plans, like I mentioned. How we plan on doing that, you know, is probably going to be via Web site or via conference calls, depending on what the needs of the community would be.

As I mentioned, we're also planning on holding a monthly webinar. And that will be open to all to report on progress. And then we'll also be providing updates on the ICANN stakeholder

calls. And the Web site updates, as I mentioned before, is something we'll be providing on an ongoing basis.

So that ends the presentation portion of the session. So I'll open it up for questions. Alissa?

ALISSA COOPER: Thank you. Thanks, Trang. Could we go back to the detailed timelines slide for a second. Yeah, that's the one. So I guess my question is a little bit about the framing of this because for some of these items there's already been a bunch of work in progress in the communities, which is not really reflected here. And so what I'm wondering -- so for example, on the IPR, there's lots of ongoing work as to the requirements and, you know, who -- who needs to be having agreements with whom and so forth, and that's been ongoing for quite some time. Same thing around some of the documentation, the SLAs and so forth. So do we -- should we read this as this is the point at which ICANN will be ready to deal with these items, even if the community is ready sooner, or like how -- I take this as this is when you think you will have the resources to do the various things and not reflective of what's going on in the communities or, you know, how -- I know Akram is -- is nodding his head. So can you explain that discrepancy given that this is clearly not the timeline for all of the work that's happening, but it's for some subset.

AKRAM ATALLAH: Thank you, Alissa. So just to clarify, we -- if you look to the top, we have the three phases, what we call the administrative prep, the planning, and the implementation. So administrative prep is really working with you on how you would like us to work together, what we need to do, all the prep that we can do in order that we hit the ground running when we can.

The time where you see the administrative prep is finished, this is where we expect the proposals to be finished. That's when we start our planning. Because at that time, we have the proposals and we know exactly what we need to work to, right? So once we know what we need to work to, then we can come up with the planning.

Now, of course, these three phases don't fit every single item that we are working on. There are things that we know already kind of what we are going to have and stuff, so we can do a little bit of work ahead of time. But in general that's the concept. The concept is that the planning starts when the proposals are final and submitted to NTIA and then the real implementation will start when the approval happens. So these are the concepts that we have in the slide. Okay?

ALISSA COOPER: Okay. But just when you say "we," I guess maybe that's where I'm getting tripped up a little bit because if it was -- if it was the

big "we" then things like the CRISP SLA and the IPR would be yellow back some number of months.

AKRAM ATALLAH: Yes, yes. So it's basically the ICANN staff will start implementing their -- doing their piece of the work, whether it's prep or planning or -- or the implementation.

ALISSA COOPER: Okay. Thank you.

TRANG NGUYEN: Any other questions? I see Jari. Jari then.

JARI: Jari, just commenting on the previous discussion a little, but I think it's important to realize that there are many things that we're doing here and some of the activities are actually on the operational communities. And I think almost everything touches ICANN's list, IANA. But it might be the case, for instance, with the IPRs, the operational community should figure out what their requirements are and progress the work and figure out what the contracts will be and there will be, you know, ICANN's part in that as well, like figure out if that's -- particular arrangements are acceptable. And then there's an

implementation thing where, you know, if you do something with the domain names, you know, maybe there's some technical -- or maybe there's no technical thing. That might also be the case, but it's possible there would be. So it's a number of different things, so I don't want to discuss about this topic only on the point of view of the ICANN activities because you also have the rest of us and that -- that I think is going already ahead on many fronts, which is good and obviously like we've done a lot of work with the SLA, with you guys already. So it's not all in the future.

AKRAM ATALLAH: I agree. And it's very hard to explain all the work that's going on today. We're trying to explain really the hand-offs to and we will start our pieces once the proposals are submitted pretty much. And, of course, there's a lot of work going on in the background on refining the SLAs and getting even some of the things have been -- have been in the works already on some of the items here on the slide, especially in the first track, for example, where we've been asked -- us and VeriSign have been asked by NTIA to provide a security and -- a secure and stable RZMS. We've done a lot more progress in that space as well.

But I think the -- the key -- the key thing here is that we're very mindful of the timeline. We are -- there are certain things that

need clarity, and the clarity will not happen until the proposals are submitted. And there is a -- approval that needs to happen before we can start implementation on certain things. And so this is some of the big picture stuff. And as the proposals are finalized, this will look a lot more detailed and a lot more refined and will have more items that describe the work in more detail. And it's important to know that we're still working today on identifying the work that we can do in the planning phase versus the work that can do once approval is done. We're identifying work that the board would like to do anyway, that is not -- is not held up by the IANA transition so that they want to do regardless of whether the transition happens or not. And these are things that we will be able to work on immediately as soon as the board gives us information -- the -- the ability to work on these things.

So there is a lot of moving parts here, but we wanted to present you with the principles and how we're looking at the big picture and very high level. So things will get a lot more detailed as we get the proposal finalized. Thanks.

PABLO HINOJOSA: Hello. My name is Pablo. I work for APNIC. APNIC is one of the regional internet registries for Asia-Pacific. We don't deal with a lot with the global domain names division, and it was with

certain surprise that we saw that you will be overseeing the whole implementation process. And it's very good to actually see some preemptive work in planning for the implementation and it's really good to see all of this. My question is with regard to what you call the CRISP SLAs. I think it is SLA with the RIRs, and I would think that that would explain better that relationship. And I think there has been good progress about the SLA with the RIRs. There have been a couple of public comment periods in which we have had some inputs from David Conrad, from members of the board, and our actual sort of interlocutors with ICANN at this stage have been Adiel. Also very importantly Elise who has also been participating a lot in the development and towards an agreement of the SLAs. So my question is around our interlocutors and if the global domain names division will be an additional interlocutor with the RIRs in sort of getting the SLAs done. Just to clarify, the RIRs are very much willing to sign these SLA, are very -- as soon as it is possible and as soon as we can reach an agreement. And I just would like to know if you are being added as new interlocutors and how would that work.

AKRAM ATALLAH: So just to give you some perspective, IANA reports into the GDD. So from that perspective, you're talking to the same people and

the GDD reports into ICANN. So it's all the same. You know, it's all the same thing.

What we're doing is really putting all of the projects in one place. What our goal is to make sure that -- that there are no surprises. That everything is going to get done. As Trang mentioned earlier, this -- this work is not going to be done by only the people sitting on the table. It's going to be done by a lot of different people within ICANN. The goal is to make sure nothing falls through the cracks, we get to the -- by the time we get to the approval we have everything ready to go. Once things are approved we get everything done and before the deadline we're -- you know, there are no things that we missed or that we don't miss out on the transition. I mean, every -- there are a people involved in a lot of different things. This is a big picture tracking of the project. You know, all of that stuff that you need to do to -- to guarantee success when -- when the time comes.

When you're talking with -- when you're talking about the SLAs and stuff, it's going to be the same people doing the same thing that they've been doing. What might be -- somebody might be additionally looking at it and saying okay, is there a project here that needs to be finished, and if -- if there is, how long will it take, what are the resources to get it done. So somebody to back up the team that you're working with today, making sure

that things get done and the right resources get allocated. So I wouldn't be worried about it that much.

TRANG NGUYEN: And we are coordinating very closely with all of the efforts that Theresa has been leading and everyone involving with the transition so far including Elise. You know, so we're very coordinated internally. Craig.

CRAIG NG: Thank you. I understand your point about this being a high-level tracking and I appreciate that very much. Just in the spirit of full transparency so that there are no surprises, I noticed that -- or we noticed that the mustard-colored section that the -- where the SLA project is being handled is described as the PTI. I think there's very clear expectations within our community that our contract will be with ICANN and not with PTI. So I just want to make that statement. Thank you.

AKRAM ATALLAH: Yeah. I think the mustard represents more the ICG. So this is where all the ICG projects are. And the -- the green is where the CCWG items are. Okay? Thank you.

EN

TRANG NGUYEN: Well, if there are no more questions, I'm going to go ahead and close the session. Thank you, everyone, for attending. Last call for questions.

[Laughter]

There's no questions in the chat.

AKRAM ATALLAH: Okay. Let's give people some more time.

TRANG NGUYEN: All right. Well thank you, everyone.

[Applause]

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]

ICANN | 54
Dublin
18-22 OCTOBER 2015