
BARCELONA – ccNSO: Members Meeting Day 2 (3 of 4)
Wednesday, October 24, 2018 – 14:30 to 15:00 CEST
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DEBBIE MONAHAN: ... For you to put questions to anyone along this table here, apart from Katrina and I.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thank you.

DEBBIE MONAHAN: That's for your clarification. Does anyone have any questions? I'm aware that [inaudible]. Are there any questions? Otherwise, I'll kickstart one. I like stirring the pot. Earlier on today, we had a session about CC financial contributions to ICANN and the disparity between what we said were given and what we're currently given and I just was interested in the views of any of you about that particular topic.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I'm going to start with that one. Thanks, Debbie. I think that we spend a very, very, very long time working out the [bands] contributions that ccTLDs could voluntarily make. We went though ... I forgot the number of interactions it went through, but it went through quite a few iterations. It took a long time to get some of the larger ccTLDs to buy into that because, let's face it, the larger ccTLDs under the [bands] pay significantly more money. And equally, it took a long time to get some

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of the smaller ccTLDs to even acknowledge that they should make any contribution at all.

It's not a policy. It's not a requirement. But, it is a show of good will that shows that this community is an integral part of ICANN, and as I always say and I've said for many, many years, the ccNSO and the ccTLD community provides a significant level of legitimacy to ICANN because we come here voluntarily. But coming here voluntarily doesn't mean that we shouldn't pull our weight.

So, my very strong view is that ccTLD communities should stick with what it agreed, stick with its [bands], and make the payments. Thank you.

MIKE SILBER:

I'd like to [inaudible]. I find it embarrassing when I see CCs in which I'm involved, which are making money. Not saying they're flush, but there's certainly enough revenue that come to meetings, that enjoy benefits and privileges that come with being part of the ccNSO that can't even find a few hundred dollars to contribute. I know that they may be out of [bands] but even just the token of recognizing a contribution and making it I think is important because it sets the tone that we take ICANN seriously and ICANN must take us seriously. If we don't contribute, then why should ICANN take us seriously? We've had these incidents over the years where we've not been taken seriously because we're not big contributors to the organization.

So, my only request is even if it's a token, show ICANN enough respect for the coffee and tea breaks and the travel support and various other things that they provide while making a token contribution.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Nigel, do you have any comments?

NIGEL HICKSON: Yeah, personal comment here, actually. During what they call [hustings] which was almost a year ago now, regarding the election, I was actually asked by one of the community members what our own ccTLD is going to be doing about contributing to ICANN. And as you probably remember at the time, I reminded everybody that for probably extremely historical legal reasons, we haven't been contributing and that ICANN had somehow forgotten to keep bothering us.

I have spoken to Xavier and we will be certainly contributing and I'm going to be encouraging all ccTLDs, whether they are members of the ccNSO or not to at least provide some form of encouragement by way of funding towards ICANN from now on.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thanks, Nigel.

KATRINA SATAKI: Does anybody else want to ...?

NIGEL HICKSON: Sorry. In case that wasn't clear, we're writing checks as well. That's what that meant.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Good old-fashioned ccTLD writing a check. Wonderful.

KATRINA SATAKI: Byron?

BYRON HOLLAND: A couple of questions. Byron Holland, CIRA, dot-CA. A couple of questions really just picking up on some of the conversation from the past session but sticking to the theme of money. Cherine talked about the reserve fund and the hole that's in the reserve fund and also about the auction proceeds and I'm wondering, just digging a little further on that what the board's thoughts, or at least this group, of the board's thoughts are on using the auction proceeds to plug that hole?

MIKE SILBER: Yeah. That's kind of throwing in a hand grenade and expecting it not to blow up, Byron.

BYRON HOLLAND: But it's your last meeting. [inaudible].

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: No encouragement at all.

MIKE SILBER: And I have never been shy. Byron, we're stuck in a very interesting place with competing interests. I think that plugging the reserve fund funding gap could be a good use of some of the reserve funds. Obviously, it ties into this question of security and stability. Personally, I think there are other sources that would potentially be more appropriate, like the new gTLD funding. Again, it is coming down as – the last few are coming through [inaudible] litigation and some of them has wrapped up or is [inaudible] or it's become clear it's not going to be pursued. So, that's one area that could potentially be used as well, and to my thinking, might be a bit more appropriate, because that's, to some extent surplus.

But the auction proceeds is incredibly contentious and my personal preference would be to not use it for ICANN internally but to find an external project or series of projects that can be funded from that, because to some extent, it is windfall. It wasn't expected. It wasn't anticipated. It's not surplus that has happened because fewer things went wrong in the new gTLD program than we expected. Again, it's just a very personal view and different board members have different views but personally I think I would rather see something slightly external to ICANN coming out of it but related to the security and stability of the DNS.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE:

We ran a public consultation a year ago I think and we talked about using the auction proceeds, amongst other things. It wasn't just the auction proceeds. Cherine talked earlier on about ICANN Org making contributions to the reserve fund which is obviously only one part of a plan.

We have been talking about taking a lump of money from the auction proceeds into the reserve fund now for several – more than several months. It was clear from the feedback that we got that once there is not consensus, there was a reasonably high level of acceptance from the community that we could and should use some of the auction proceeds and, in fact, there were some members of the community who said we should use all of the auction proceeds which kind of defeats the purpose of having auction proceeds, but leaving that aside.

So, the answer to your question is that there seems to be a general acceptance that a number from the current pot should be transferred to the reserve fund. And it specifically is an amount corresponding to the costs of the transition, that we borrowed from the reserve fund in the first place. So, it's not as if we are using it to make more reserves. We're rather replacing that which came out. And in respect to lifting the balance, that is a function of budgeting and a function of over-time payments by Org. Well, all of us in fact. Not Org, obviously.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:

Byron, did you have another question?

BYRON HOLLAND: Yeah. Hopefully, a quick one. And it's in relation to the IFRT. The communities have put forward their members in talking to ICANN Org folks, that seems to be the announcement of and the confirmation of those members sort of gone into a swirl within ICANN Org. Do you have a sense of, given how important this issue is to all of us and close to our hearts that is to the ccNSO community when you will be able to announce or confirm the membership of the IFRT?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: So, the board will tomorrow name the board member to the ATRT-3. Are talking about ATRT-3?

BYRON HOLLAND: No, I'm talking about IFRT.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Oh. I frankly didn't know that---

MIKE SILBER: I suspect that that's best addressed to Org in our presence, but for the remaining day that I have any pull over here, let's see if we can get you an answer.

BYRON HOLLAND: Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Chris, do you care to inform the community about the proposed resolution for tomorrow's meeting regarding how you're going to manage the replenishment of the reserve fund that's out in the community? Erika Mann sent an e-mail around to the CCWG auction proceeds working group.

MIKE SILBER: She did, because we asked her to. Yeah. It's not a guarantee, but the current intention is that we will pass a resolution that says that we will take \$36 million from the auction proceeds into the reserve fund and that we will task ICANN Org to pay \$32 million into the reserve fund over the next eight years, which seemed to us to be a fairly simple mathematical calculation for people to make, i.e. 32 divided by 8. Although it doesn't necessarily have to be equal amounts each year.

The purpose of that is because, although we are very keen to get the reserve fund up as quickly as possible, it obviously has to be done in a manner that isn't catastrophic to the way that we operate. So, assuming that you're likely to see that resolution on the board meeting tomorrow morning. Thank you.

DEBBIE MONAHAN: Any further questions from anyone? I'd just like to ask Nigel to tell us about his experience of actually joining the board and the process for morphing from being a ccNSO councilor to being an ICANN board member.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you, Debbie. For those of you who don't know – you probably all know this – the technical date at which I joined the ICANN board is at the end of the annual general meeting which will be sometime about 11:00, 12:00 tomorrow? Yes. Thanks, mate.

MIKE SILBER: Correct.

NIGEL HICKSON: Standing here on the eve of that, an almost board member. It's a bit like making a maiden speech in the House of Commons. There's two things that happens when make a maiden speech in the House of Commons. You pay tribute to your constituency and you pay tribute to your predecessor. Well, the constituency is all here and I can see that having not been in the constituency room very much they seem to be doing much better without me in the room.

But that notwithstanding, I've been fortunate enough to be involved with the ICANN board for now two to three months, and from day one of that process, have been treated as if I was a board member and I can say that I have been incredibly impressed by what's going on. Mike speaks infrequently, but when he does, his voice is very, very well-heard. He's going to leave quite a hole. And it seems to me [laughter].

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Actually, I would call it a small dent, rather than—

NIGEL HICKSON: And it seems to me that the voice is going to be needed from time to time. So, Mike, I promise that from time to time infrequently and when necessary I will do my best to challenge my inner Mike.

As far as the actual onboarding process is concerned, there's been an amazing amount of support, particularly from ICANN Org – and I want to pay tribute to Board Ops who have been anything that needed to be done for me and my other colleagues. We have – is it five or six new board members coming on, Chris? Five. I've been incredibly impressed by the collegial nature of the ICANN board and incredibly impressed by how well it normally works together, although I'm told if I wait long enough I'll see example of when it doesn't. But, if anybody has got any questions or needs any further background, please ask.

DEBBIE MONAHAN: [inaudible]?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: My question is primarily to Nigel, as an almost started new board member, but also to the rest. Nigel, I assume that on board you're going to represent our community and share our views and position. And referring back to what has been discussed previously during the meeting with ICANN board, how would you ensure communication between you, Board, and community? Are you going to use existing tools and means? Do you see the need maybe for additional format of communication and exchange to ensure that you know what the

community [inaudible] to express and we know what's happening and can deliver our position in time and manner?

NIGEL HICKSON:

Yeah. Thank you, [inaudible]. That's actually an easy question to answer because it's either a question that you or possibly somebody else asked almost a year ago. The plan is that I'll be participating in this particular event at every ICANN meeting but also will be able to be available for office hours, if you want to call it that – it's an American expression, or surgery if you use the English expression – during the ICANN meeting at any time when anybody can up and speak to me privately and we can discuss any questions that you would otherwise have asked in public. So, thank you for the question.

MIKE SILBER:

Can I pick up on that one if I might? The other thing is that the ccNSO-appointed board members are on the ccNSO Council mailing list which I think is useful. It allows us to see some of what's going on. I'm not sure if you would regard [Becky] and [inaudible] in a similar light and them onto the council mailing list but it's something that's worth considering.

We had at one stage a regular scheduled call after the ICANN meeting with council. So, the next council meeting after the ICANN meeting we will join the call and discuss and usually the council call before an ICANN meeting we would join and discuss coming issues. That has, to some extent, fallen into list use [inaudible] and I think it might be

worthwhile looking at some practices that could be useful because, to me, it's incredibly useful to be forewarned of issues that are facing this community so that they can be raised now on the Wednesday, but if there are none the previous week Wednesday, when we get into workshops, issues can be raised, questions can be asked. This question of the IFRT. If I had known about it last week, it would have been easier to push rather than finding out about it today.

So, that's the sort of thing that I would encourage you to think as to good communication mechanisms because it is very easy. And on part, I've tried my best, but over nine years, I can tell you it is easy to get stuck into the whirlpool that is the gTLD stuff and the broader ICANN community and this community needs to help keep their representatives focused on issues that are pressing to it.

DEBBIE MONAHAN:

Thanks, all. Very much appreciate your input and your responses and being available to us. I'd now like to pass over to Katrina.

KATRINA SATAKI:

Thank you very much, Debbie. Well, we've heard a lot today from everyone, so thank you very much. But as Benjamin Franklin said, well, done is better than well said. But, in case of Mike, he did both. He did well and he was saying very wise and encouraging things.

So, today we'd like to thank you because while this is his last meeting, and as you heard, tomorrow at 11:59 or something, his term on the ICANN board will expire.

Believe me, we appreciate everything that you've done, everything that you've said, everything that ... Okay, probably I'll stop here. And there are some things that we'd like to ... This is a big card from the council, from Annebeth who also wanted to say thanks, and everyone here in the room I'm sure would like to thank you and let you dance on the table. [applause]

Mike, anything you'd like to say, farewell words?

MIKE SILBER:

Yeah. I've never been backwards about coming forwards. Folks, thank you. It's been a really eventful nine years. Thank you for putting your trust in me and then a second time and then a third time. I feel honored to serve this community. To me, this is still one of the most genuine and parts of the ICANN community that keeps to its original purpose. We have commercial interests, social interests, there's outreach all happening within the microcosm of this community and we don't fight and argue with each other because we bake it into our internal mechanisms and come here and work as a community. So, it's been a real honor.

I have not been professionally involved in the operations of a CC for a while now, and yet you continue to trust me and I take that as the greatest compliment. Nigel, thank you for the kind words. Katrina as well. Chris, it's been an absolute pleasure. I've learned a lot, including how to drink more than I thought I could. Becky, again, a real mentor. Then, friends and colleagues throughout, Roelof, Byron, you've been incredibly generous in your guidance. Giovanni, Annebeth, so many

friends that I've gotten to know over time and I will miss you all.
[applause]

And lastly, I'd like to pay a tribute to the scribe who had a sense of humor, if you didn't read it typed in when Chris called Katrina correctly Katrina for second time and typed in Kristina and they changed it. That, to me, is one of the beauties of this organization is the scribe sitting somewhere remotely who knows this community well enough to be able to tease us as well.

DEBBIE MONAHAN: So, coffee time and back at 3:15. Thank you.

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