
MONTREAL – Fellowship Daily Session
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SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Today we invited our Global Stakeholder Engagement team members from North America. Unfortunately, Chris Mondini was not able to come due to some last minute planning. But we have Joe Catapano who is managing the region here in North America, and will tell us, from the Global Stakeholder Engagement team, how important is to learn about the ways of engagement, and to be engaged, actually. So, what is on the plate, how they develop the strategy, how they develop the action plans and how you, as fellows, or as future community members, can be engaged in those activities. Joe, the floor is yours.

JOE CATAPANO: Thank you, Siranush. I should have brought my coat. It is really cold in here. As Siranush mentioned, my name is Joe Catapano. I'm the manager for Stakeholder Engagement for the North America region at ICANN, which I'm sure they've told you by now, is the U.S., Canada and some of the island territories. For those of you that were at Newcomer's Day, this might be a little slightly repetitive, but I'll try and provide a little more nuance to what's on here.

So, I have been with ICANN for just over six years. And for my engagement, I am regional. So I focus on all the sectors: business, government, civil society, academia, technical, community and end

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users. We have members of the Stakeholder Engagement team that are focused on particular sectors as well. She mentioned Chris Mondini. In addition to his role as Vice President of North America Engagement, he's also the Head of Global Business Engagement.

And we have Adam Peake, who's my colleague, who focuses on civil society and academic engagement. So on the team, we kind of hit it from two angles, the regional angle and then the sector angle, and we kind of meet each other in the middle. And seems to be most effective for us.

The cornerstone of our engagement is -- when I talk about engagement, I like to say that my job is kind of cut into two sort of buckets. There's the bucket of supporting the community in the region and making sure that they have what they need to do their outreach and engagement within their groups, make sure they have the tools that they need to do their work in conjunction with some of the other teams at ICANN. And then the other bucket is kind of bringing ICANN to the world and going out to the region telling people who we are, what we do, that we serve an important function, and how they can be involved.

So, the cornerstone of the North America engagement is the North America Stakeholder Engagement plan. And that is a community-developed plan. It is a two-year plan. So right now we're in the FY2019, FY20 plan zone. So this plan was developed in the spring of 2018, plan went into effect July 01 of 2019, and it will run through June 30th of next year. And then in, probably the spring of 2020, so in a few

months, we'll start -- the community, they'll start helping us develop a plan for FY21 and 22.

So the way we do the goals and the objectives for the plan is, they kind of cascade from ICANN's global strategic plan and operating plan. And so, you'll see in the white boxes, these are the goals at the global level. And we expect these will change once the new five-year strategic plan -- operating plan -- is adopted and in effect.

But for now, these are the goals from the global level. So, build awareness, grow and diversify the multistakeholder base at ICANN and the volunteer pipeline, grow the knowledge base of current potential ICANN stakeholders and grow stakeholder support and active participation in ICANN. Flowing down from that are the goals for North America in the strategy. And those are outlined in the blue boxes at the bottom. So, strengthening partnerships to expand outreach, focus on issue-based engagement with content and messaging, and supporting enhance mentorship and onboarding.

So, here's a look at the objectives and kind of how we break it down. We are pretty focused on metrics and trying to get quantitative data on what we do, which can be a little challenging with engagement. It's not the easiest thing to measure.

So we're constantly looking at ways to evolve the way we measure and what we do and how we can be better at it. So in terms of partnerships, we're just looking at raw numbers right now, the

number of partnerships and the number of events. In the partnership area we interact with numerous groups of different sectors.

So, for the business sector, for example, we often partner with chambers of commerce or economic clubs on events that we can do to engage their community and their members. Also, trade associations are a good example of how we engage with the business community, frequently. When high-level executives from ICANN come to different locations in the U.S. and Canada, we will organize some kind of roundtable or panel or some kind of educational tool to reach out to people, such as one example in the civil society space.

We'll gather folks from advocacy organizations and work with them on similar activities, webinars and conference call, in addition to in-person events. We do count the number of events that we host, support or attend. And so, for this calendar year, we are at more than 100 events in the region. So we're happy about that. So that's kind of the partnership angle of things.

Issue-based engagement. So, we try and meet people where they are and where their interests lie, as opposed to pushing them toward an ICANN structure. Because in the past, several years ago, I think there was this -- people were just thinking in terms of ICANN structures. And what does that mean? Is that helpful? And I think we found that pushing people towards areas where their interests lie has been a little more successful because they're more engaged and they're more invested in that outcome.

So in terms of measurement for some of that, we measure how many stakeholders join our working groups and our review teams. At last count, North Americans make up about 42 percent of folks in working groups across ICANN and about 17 percent compose the review teams.

So, that's a pretty high number, especially for the working groups. It is not surprising. You know, North Americans have been engaged at ICANN since the beginning ICANN started in North America. Most of the registries and registrars are based in North America. So it's not surprising that there's a high number of participation from the region.

In terms of communication vehicles, the most prominent of those are newsletters and blogs. We do a monthly newsletter, so that's 12 right there. And then we do several blogs throughout the year that usually support discussing our strategic plan and how people can be involved, and also support some of our events that we do around -- just let people know what's going on in the region.

In enhance mentorship, that's kind of twofold. So we work with Siranush and her team, the Public Responsibility team, to push people toward the mentorship vehicles like the fellowship, NextGen, ICANN Learn and things like that.

Then there's also, try and support the supporting organizations and advisory committees at ICANN, with their development of new people. So, getting new people into the -- the first step is to get them involved in the working group or review team or whatever. And then the next

step is for the community to really develop them into the next generation of leaders within there.

And then, also in terms of mentorship, we do some trainings. So for instance, this past year, at the beginning of the calendar year, we did a training for registrars. They were looking to get accredited at ICANN, and we were just interested in getting involved. So we brought some people from the ICANN organization to talk to them.

We brought some folks from the registrar stakeholder group to talk to them about how they can get accredited, how they can be involved, and things of that nature. So we try and do some trainings in the region, and we're looking, hopefully, to do more and expand beyond kind of the registry, registrar area that we've been in previously.

Another engagement activity that I just wanted to highlight was the work with the At-Large community, which we do a good deal with them because they're regional-focused. So the North America regional At-Large organization, or NARALO, is the organization that's solely dedicated to the North America region. They represent the end user interests and they've been great partners to us throughout the year.

What we have most recently done with them are what we have been calling ICANN meeting read out sessions. We're looking at possibly changing the name and altering how they're done, but in the past we've partnered with At-Large structures or ALSes in the region, to put on both in-person events and webinars to kind of try and build many

communities throughout the U.S. and Canada to talk about what happened at the ICANN meeting, what's the most important headline developments. Because, as you know, not everybody can come to a meeting.

And we do have fairly robust remote participation options, but sometimes the timezone can be very challenging. So for instance, next year when the ICANN meeting is in Kuala Lumpur, that's going to be very challenging for folks in North America to follow. So, we'll be doing some educational sessions there to get people up to speed on what's going on.

Here's just a look at a few of the structures that we worked with. The Internet Society chapters are very active in the North America region. Most specifically, in New York, Puerto Rico, San Francisco -- I should have put Washington, D.C. on there as well -- but they really have been successful in building little mini communities within the region, and they host these read out sessions with us.

I encourage you to look into whether you have an Internet Society chapter in your portion of the world, and look them up and see how you can get involved. Because they're a very good organizing entity, as far as connecting you with Internet governance work and some of ICANN's work as well.

So I talked a little bit about issue-based engagement, here is just a kind of a look at some of the issues that are most popular among the different stakeholder groups. I'm sure you all are from a broad swath

of -- have a broad array of experiences and a broad array of interests, so you can see from the business side we have a lot of folks interested in intellectual property, data protection.

I put it under 'Business' because of the things that contracted parties are dealing with right now, but data protection kind of runs the gamut through most of these stakeholder groups. And new generic top level domains, taking a look at the last round, how it worked, what can be improved. And then also, looking forward to a new round at some point.

So for civil society, we see a lot of interesting human rights and a lot of interest in privacy and internationalized domain names. I put 'Universal Acceptance' under 'Technical Community' but I think civil society has a pretty strong interest in that as well. Just the technical community has a number of topics that they're interested in, but DNSSEC and universal acceptance have been the most prominent in our region at least. And then the government folks, I've been most interested lately in DNS abuse, UA and then depending on what country you're in, they focus on human rights.

I just wanted to tell you a little bit about the academic engagement, because in the region it's a pretty big priority for us. We do a lot of engagement with the academic community, both professors and faculty, as well as students. So the most bare bones basic engagement we do is, we'll go to a lecture and talk to some students about what ICANN does and how they can be involved. And we

engage a number of different programs, from computer science to engineering to international relations and even law.

Again, try and meet people where they are and engage them in their level of interest. We've started to work with professors and faculty to try and get ICANN into their curriculum. There are some universities that actually have tech policy programs or sort of hybrids of technology and public policy programs that are kind of the sweet spot for us, where we're able to engage and they're able to cover ICANN there.

And then here, it's just a look at some of the some of the universities. Those all happen to be in the United States. But we're working on building a few those out in Canada, as well as Puerto Rico, for the next two years. So, we want you to be involved in our engagement. You know, I think this fellowship is just the first step in your involvement in ICANN.

And particularly, I think there's a couple of you from the North America region that are here. So particularly, if you're from North America, we really want you to be involved in the development of the next strategic plan, because it's important to get your input and see what your priorities are and align them with what we do.

Here's just some of the ways you can be involved. I'm sure you've been told about I can Learn, ad nauseum, through your time here at the meeting, but that's kind of the main basic entry point to supplement your experience here. Subscribe to our newsletter. That's

where you get the most updates about what's going on in the region, including how you can be involved in the development of the strategic plan.

The link to it is here. I think if you go on the ICANN website, under 'News and Media' there's a link to global newsletters there and that takes you to where you can sign up. There is an engagement calendar. Again, if you go to the home page on the ICANN website, it's down to the right. And that shows everything that's happening in the region. So you can find something that fits your interests and come out and meet us and meet other people in the community.

And then hopefully, if you haven't already, if you're interested in joining an ICANN community group, through ICANN dot org slash community, you can find a place that fits what you're interested in. Or, if you're having trouble finding out where you fit, you can certainly come -- you can get in touch with me or Chris and we can help you, steer you in the right direction.

Or, if you're not from the North America region, we can connect you with the appropriate stakeholder engagement person in your region and they can help get you going. Yeah. So that was all I had as far as presentation. I'm happy to take any questions you have.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you very much. This was really very interesting. And we have a couple of questions. Yes, let's start with Rocio and then we'll go to Fidya. Okay, Benjamin.

ROLLA HAMZA: Rolla Hamza, Egypt, ICANN fellow. What is the role of government in the strategic plan? And the second one, how do you prepare a strategic plan that is covered, a regional scope, but in the same time, be prepared for the wide scope? Because like GDPR when it happened to Europe, it reflected on the other countries around. So how do you prepare a strategic plan that can be specific in the region, and in the same time, be broader in scope? Thank you.

JOE CATAPANO: Sure. In terms of the first part of your question, the governments of the U.S. and Canada have a equal role, as all the other stakeholders in the region. So, they came in right at the beginning and participated in our conference calls and webinars and our mailing lists that helped develop the plan.

And they put their input in there, and then we kind of developed the draft, if you will, and then put it out for public comment in the region. And then they commented on that, so we take those comments into account. That's how they help us develop it. Could you repeat the second question? You mentioned GDPR and some other things?

ROLLA HAMZA: Regarding the many topics that are going around the world, like GDPR, that are affecting all countries and all regions, how you prepared the strategic plan that can be specific in your region, and at the same

time, be prepared for any topics that may reflect in your region?
Thank you.

JOE CATAPANO:

Yeah. So I think we start with a global perspective and work our way from there. Like for instance, with GDPR, you know ICANN is working with the data protection authorities and everything to get that sorted out. And ICANN has to comply with national laws everywhere. So whatever is kind of worked out at the global level will kind of feed into our strategic plan. And the governments and the registries and registrars that are housed in the North America region, they all are participating in these discussions with the EPDP and others.

So their input is going into there, as is. So we get a lot of it from the global plan. And when you start talking about laws in the region, we track what goes on in the Canadian Parliament and the U.S. Congress. And to the extent those issues affect ICANN, we work with the governments accordingly. And those issues usually will get raised in the development of the plan. Someone will bring it up and then we'll kind of work it out within ICANN, as a team, and then in conjunction with them, interfacing with them. Hope that's helpful.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Fidya, can you take the mic?

FIDYA SHABRINA: Okay. Good afternoon, Joe. My name is Fidya. I'm from Indonesia, ICANN66 fellow. My question is, in terms of the organizational hierarchy, is there any structural changes developed by ICANN to overcome barriers in terms of gender inclusiveness? Thank you.

JOE CATAPANO: I mean, I think that's something that's been a challenge right from the get go, that the organization is constantly working on and trying to improve. I can only really speak to the regional level. What we do there and what we've been doing, is connecting with -- like there are certain women's-based organizations in the region that are also working on technical issues.

So engaging them and raising awareness and doing education there, and trying to bring better diversity and representation into what we do on the work. There's still more we can do in that area. And I welcome your thoughts and suggestions on that to see how we can be improved. I'm sure that, on the global level they'd love that too, but particularly regionally, where I am, I'd love to hear more.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Benjamin.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Hello, good afternoon. This is Benjamin Akinmoyeje. I'm from Nigeria, ICANN66 fellow. I'm speaking in my personal capacity. Here's my question to you. One of your slides said the engagements teams

engage the public or people they come across on issue-based interest, as against getting them to go to constituencies or stakeholders sections.

But I want to ask you, do you think engagement teams are fair to all stakeholders in the way they support -- I wouldn't call it outreaches, but the way they try to reach out, such that they could get maybe fairly diverse stakeholders to come in. Or, they are tilted towards a particular set of stakeholders that they want to engage in the conversations?

Then, a follow up question will be, what are your investments or what you've observed in terms of commitment to different stakeholders to see them empowered or strengthened enough to be able to engage in policy development or conversations around ICANN's activities and remits, to help ICANN do better in whatever they do?

JOE CATAPANO:

So in terms of meeting the needs, I think different stakeholder groups and different structures need different levels of support. I won't speak for other regions, but certainly in the North America region, this is the case. So we have a very group-developed community of stakeholders across the board. So for instance, the registries and registrars have been in existence before ICANN even a thing, so they have slightly less of a -- need slightly less support from us.

They still get it at a high level, but they have a lot of relationships that are already solidified and have different avenues they can work with.

But we treat all the groups equally, but we kind of stagger to meet demand. And like I said, in our region, it's a very developed community, so we try and give it a high level of support where we need it and then fill in the gaps for those that -- we don't push engagement on anybody. So I hope that answers your question. Yeah, go ahead.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Albert, would you like to add something from your regional point of view, from Latin America and Caribbean?

ALBERT DANIELS: Sorry due to encroach on North America, but it varies from region to region. Because first of all, ICANN has its strategic plan and strategic focus, so you find that from an organizational standpoint, there would always be an interest in ensuring that activities take place in line with that strategic plan. But as Joe said, in the different regions, you have stakeholders at various levels of maturity.

So in one region a certain type of stakeholder may need more assistance, whereas in another one, like North America, for example, the registrars and registries may be fairly mature and may not be as needing as much attention as some of the others.

But we try, from a staff standpoint, to always have the stakeholder focus and do engagement in a demand-driven way. So whenever the community comes forward and said, we need some help in this area,

generally across stakeholder groups you find that GSE staff will attempt to assist as possible.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you very much. Decima.

DECIMA COREA: Hi, good afternoon, Joe. My name is Decima Corea. I'm from St Vincent and the Grenadines, ICANN66 fellow. My question in relation to your engagement, and I suppose to some extent, Albert may be able to answer, has to do with the 2030 development agenda.

What is the connection? How do you ensure that there is a connection between the 2030 development agenda, which speaks to your sustainable development goals, Paris Agreement and all those other big agreements which came out in 2015? How do you ensure, during your engagement, that there's consistency?

JOE CATAPANO: Albert might have some thoughts, but I don't feel like I'm best positioned to answer that question because -- yeah, go ahead.

ALBERT DANIELS: Yes, fine. When it comes to the global development agenda, especially from the United Nations and otherwise, we always find in ICANN, that stakeholders come with their own interest. But within the ICANN organization we have to be very careful to ensure that what we do is in

line with ICANN's mission and remit, so we don't find ourselves creeping the activities that we get involved in outside of the names and numbers which ICANN is supposed to be focusing on.

So, from time to time, there may be some overlap, especially -- you know, Joe mentioned that we deal a lot with Internet Society chapters, and Internet Society chapters may, from time to time, discuss issues that are on the developmental agenda but sometimes outside of the direct remit of the ICANN organization and the ICANN ecosystem. So ICANN will always focus on its mission and vision and strategic objectives. However, there may, from time to time, be issues. For example, like content that ICANN typically would not get involved in.

DECIMA COREA:

Okay, I get you, but we are all striving to a 2030 development agenda and ICAN is but a player in the whole global landscape, and it is a crucial player in terms of global development. So while I understand what you're saying, my point was that whatever we do -- I consider myself a 'we' now -- whatever we do here at ICANN, that it should be consistent with the global agenda. That's all.

MARY ROSE RONTAL:

Hello, good afternoon, Joe. My name is Mary Rose. I'm from the Philippines, Southeast Asia, for the record. I'm an ICANN66 fellow and a newcomer. So I'm just curious about -- because you presented the strategic goal and strategic objectives, and your measurements, like

the KPIs and how you achieve this engagement, I'm just wondering is there any means for you to find out which channels are the most effective for you to do your outreach, and the most effective way to engage with our target partners and stakeholders?

On the side, I'm also willing to hear from the Asia Pacific region, how do you do that. Because from my country, I'm working with the university at the same time. I'm also working with the business sector, especially the tech startup community. And I haven't seen any active engagement on that sector, at least for my country. So I'm thinking, how do you find the most effective way to engage with this particular sector?

JOE CATAPANO:

You know, I should have said at the top, and I didn't, that the FY19, FY20 strategic plan is the first one for North America. We didn't have one before that. The other regions have in the past, and obviously, I let the Asia Pacific folks speak to what happens in that region. But for us in North America, we're still kind of learning what works. And the community picked a few that they thought would be good measurements at kind of a jumping off point, a starting point. They're not perfect, and we can probably get better ones.

And I think we're still looking at ways we can automate some of this stuff, because the more we can do that the better our measurements will be and the better our quantitative analysis will be. I think some of the kind of crude metrics that we have right now have been working.

We're able to count the number of people that come to our events and the number of people that follow up with us.

And certainly, like for instance, I do most of the university outreach, able to quantify those number of students and professors that get involved in ICANN, either in a working group or come in through the NextGen program, he fellowship program.

And then we work very closely with our communications team on all of those broad swaths of metrics they have, in terms of social media and newsletters and things like that. I think they're good numbers to start off with, but they're not probably the best. So, we need to work with the community to improve those. Yeah, Albert.

ALBERT DANIELS:

This is a very important question, and I want to draw your mind back to something you said at the first fellowship session. You come as fellows into ICANN as experts in your specific fields, and also with a good knowledge of your own region. So this is where you all, as fellows, somewhat become extension of ICANN's global stakeholder engagement team.

We cover regions, but we also will rely on you, as fellows, who now understand ICANN better and understand what needs to happen in your own region to connect with your GSE representatives in your various regions and say to them, "Well you know, having come to an ICANN meeting and understood what you're trying to do, I think this is a kind of outreach that will be more effective in this region."

So that is an excellent question, and it now enhances the point that each of you become extensions and ambassadors for ICANN to point out areas in which ICANN's work can be done better in your regions.

JOE CATAPANO:

That kind of goes back to what I was talking about. We do have the next development and the next strategic plan in the region coming up in the spring. So to the extent fellows can be involved and put their thoughts and help us build that out, that's very helpful.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you. Yes, Gabriel. Okay, Austin first and then you, Gabriel.

AUSTIN RUCKSTUHL:

Austin, I'm an ICANN66 fellow, Austin Ruckstuhl. Thank you for your presentation. I kind of just want to echo what they said, but I really feel like it was interesting to hear what your KPIs are but really, I would love to know how I could help you more. And this could be a cool session for us to like maybe like brainstorm in a future ICANN meeting, like use the fellows to brainstorm or give us case studies of how a fellow has left an ICANN meeting and then hosted an event together with somebody from the GSE team.

Last year I hosted an event with ISOC right before the IGF. We called it like a pre IGF meeting. ISOC funded it, I brought people from all four major different sectors involved ICANN -- I'm sorry, involved in Internet governance. It wasn't really like an ICANN-focused event, but I could

easily do an event like that in San Diego or L.A. I'm from San Diego. But I feel like maybe instead of just showing me your KPI's, show me a kit or a guide. Make me a quick pamphlet of how I could help you.

And so I guess one of my questions is, what would be an ideal event for me -- I'm a member of the NCSG, but I could easily do a cross sectorial event in Southern California. So, what would that maybe look like if I were to reach out to you? Because I was previously in Europe and I've worked with the GSE team and Adam Peake, really well. But what would that look like in an ideal world, as a fellow engaging with somebody?

JOE CATAPANO:

That's a good question. And I think that's a really good suggestion. I do think that at a future ICANN meeting, that we should get together with the fellows, and maybe even some of the NextGeners and do, even something on a small scale, if it's just a meeting for two hours or whatever, where we can exchange ideas and talk about what's going on in the region and how we can get things cooking in different areas.

So in terms of an ideal event, it really depends on the community. So I think we'd have to analyze kind of the community first and see, first off, what kind of community we have there. So like in the U.S. and Canada -- well, in the U.S. we have strong communities like New York, D.C., San Francisco. And there are smaller communities in other areas, but they're not quite as robust. We're trying to build those out. And

then in Canada, so for instance, like Ottawa and Quebec and Toronto, have fairly active communities.

So we really need to analyze where the best communities are and then allocate our resources there. And in terms of what an ideal event would be, it's different. It could be different for different people.

I mean, some people will be happy with a day of learning, like akin to the North American School of Internet Governance, that happened a couple of days before the meeting. But some people might want a little bit more of interactive kind of strategic development, issue development brainstorming type thing that you mentioned there. So, I have to look at the community first and then see what their needs are, and then see where we can help.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you. Albert, is there anything you want to add? No? Then --

GABRIEL JIMENEZ-BARRON: Hi. My name is Gabriel Jimenez. I'm part of the fellowship program. I'm from Puerto Rico, also part of the Internet Society over there. You were mentioning about the ongoing partnerships. I would like to ask you, I am a law school student in Universidad de Puerto Rico, when I come back, I would like to, for example, to have a meeting with the dean and tell her about this meeting.

I would like to know, how are you going -- if you already having conversations, dinners, in Puerto Rico, to make a partnership, or if not,

how I can connect you with the University of Puerto Rico or specifically, the School of Law, in order that you can make a partnership or make like weekly courses or something? Do you design the programs or do you [CROSSTALK] programs together?

JOE CATAPANO:

It's still kind of in its infancy, so we're kind of just testing things out. And the way it's worked so far is that the faculty just kind of cherry-picked the issues that they think the students would be interested in and they just kind of integrate it into whatever their classes are. We are, at ICANN, on a global level, working on a more robust academic engagement plan.

And it's unfortunate my colleague, Adam Peake, is not here, but he's the main sponsor of that plan. Because we've got to find a way to make it a little more formalized. I don't know which members of the community in Puerto Rico you've been interacting with, but we've got three or four folks down there, who you may already know, that we work with frequently. If we get all three of us together or five of us, whatever it is, we can try to make something happen. So maybe, see me after.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you. Any other questions? Yes, Nahum, please.

JEAN NAHUM CONSTANT: Good morning. My name is Nahum, I come from Haiti, and in my country, we got an ISOC chapter. And as a fellow, I am already involved in my community before ICANN. And after my fellowship, I came in the country and organized some webinar, and I talked to the people about what ICANN is, what we can do to participate.

Even though we can get selected in the fellowship program or whatever, but we still take part in the webinar and go to the website, ICANN Learn. We learn about it and I promote it in each sector. I come from the technical community, I come from the church community and everywhere I go, I organize some specific thing about that.

I would like to talk to the people about the other fellows, how it works. When we get selected, when we take the chance to participate in ICANN, we have to involve in our community. In my country, I don't have a stakeholder group, officially, but I work to get a lot of people involved in this kind of work. That means we go to the social media, social network, we follow everything in this community. That, for me, is the best thing to do for the stakeholder group. Thank you.

ALBERT DANIELS: Well, Jean Nahum is from the Caribbean region, and I really want to endorse and recognize the work that he has been doing. He's a fellow now, but even before coming here, he has been doing a fantastic amount of work in Haiti, in terms of engagement. You would think that he worked for ICANN already on the global stakeholder engagement team.

And I say that because when I speak with the coordinators of the NextGen program, which is being set up for the meeting coming up in Cancun, they've already told me that, "Wow, Albert. What have you been doing in Haiti? We have so many applications for the NextGen program from Haiti." And that's all this guy across there.

So, in terms of talking about an example of the way things can work, you have a big part to play when you go back into your individual regions. Maybe one or two other examples from from the Caribbean. There was one fellow who came to her first fellowship, and as soon as she went back home, she organized a meeting with all of the ISP's in her country.

And a representative from the ISPCP actually went down and spoke to the ISP's, and they were also able to get some new members to the ISPCP. She did the same thing in her university. She organized a meeting with all the students and next thing you know, there was an ISOC chapter, which eventually became an ALS, an At-Large structure with ICANN. So, what Jean Nahum is speaking about is an excellent example of what each of you, as fellows, can do when you go back to your countries.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you. This is exactly the great example of how the post fellowship activities can be in place. Any other questions? Yes, Yazid?

ABDEL GAFFAR OURO-AGORO: Hello. I'm Abdel.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Abdel. The whole meeting, I'm mixing Abdel and Yazid. The smile is similar.

ABDEL GAFFAR OURO-AGORO: So, it's Abdel from Togo. ICANN66 fellow, also. And I speak on my own capacity. Here's my question, when I looked at your slides about representation, you talk about the length of your plan. I see that on many regions the strategic plan is five years. Do you prefer the two years? Because in two years you can do enough for the community. Do you think that the community can get integrated in your plan? Can you do what you have to do? I'm not quite sure about that two-year period of time. I think this is a length that's quite short.

JOE CATAPANO: That's a good question. Like I mentioned before, this is the first time we're doing this. This was the first time we're doing this. So there's going to be lessons learned when we get toward the end of it. But we thought at least for the first time out, to do two years would be a good way to establish a baseline. Because circumstances on the ground can change and change very quickly, especially, you're talking -- the lady over here asked a question about legislation and things like that.

So there's a lot of different factors and nuances that can occur in the region over the course of a year or two years. So it may be that with

the next version, the community will ask us to go longer and go with something more akin to five years, and we'll be able to work with them on that. We'll make adjustments and go from there.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Joe. Yes? And we'll take the last question. Jacob.

JACOB ODAME-BAIDEN: Hello, this is Jacob from Ghana. ICANN66 fellow, and I speak in my own capacity. First question, I would like to know whether you engaged with the NASIG events that took place here in Montreal. And then second, I would like to know how -- I asked the first question because yes, we are not in this region, but most of us got opportunity to go to that event and I think it was very beneficial to us.

And then secondly, I see great things in your plan that you are doing. I would like to know whether the various regional engagement teams collaborate in a way, whether you've been sharing experiences. Because eventually, when you share experiences or you share your strategies that are working, then it goes to benefit the wider community, irrespective of where you find yourself. Thank you.

JOE CATAPANO: That's very good. First part of the question, in terms of NASIG, we are very involved in that. We work with their planning committee to help them identify areas of education that people might be interested in. It

is a community-driven process and community-driven schools, completely bottom up.

So ICANN certainly doesn't dictate what they provide. They do that on their own capacity and they do a very good job of it. But we will provide support where they need it, and we have provided funding for it as well. And we've worked with them to get members of the ICANN board to speak. I think there were six board members that spoke at the school. So ICANN was well represented there. From what I've heard in the halls, I think it was a great event and a good opportunity.

On your second point, I'll ask Albert to chime in too, once I finish. But we coordinate very strongly across the different regions, as a global stakeholder engagement team, and we're constantly learning lessons from the different regions. Everybody offers a little something different, because every region is a little different and has different needs. But we share our stories, we share our presentations, we share our contacts.

For instance, for the read out sessions I mentioned, Japan -- I forget the name the organization that puts it on -- was the first community that we heard about in the North America region to actually do that. And we thought it was a great idea. So we heard from Jia-Rong, who is the vice president and the global stakeholder engagement for Asia-Pacific region, about what they were doing and how they were able to build a community there. We took that information and we tried to replicate it with a twist, in North America. Albert, I don't know if you have anything else.

ALBERT DANIELS:

Sure. This is very sharp observation that you've made, that the global stakeholder engagement teams would do well to collaborate with each other. And Joe is absolutely right. Each region is different. Vice President Pierre and others, cover your region, and each of the region has its own strategic plan which may have been developed in different ways.

But you're right. When I looked at Joe's presentation, this slide in particular, there are certain things that struck me in terms of the way that it has been presented which I feel would be useful for our Latin America and Caribbean strategic plans. So while Joe was presenting this, I was thinking, "Okay, I need to tell Siranush to send me a copy of these slides."

So we can perhaps use something that's very useful here in the way we are doing things. The other important point that Joe made is that the environment is continuously evolving. Now, ICANN has a new 2021, 2025 strategic plan. And one of the things that we are doing in the Latin America and the Caribbean region, is we are conducting a realignment exercise with our entire strategic plan for the region to ensure now that everything that we are doing as an ICANN org in our region, ties back directly and clearly to the overall strategic plan.

So I completely endorse what Joe has said, that we constantly work together, but there's always something new that we can do to improve with what's happening.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Albert. Thank you, Joe, for your time and thank you for a very interesting and interactive session. And thank you, Albert, for intervention and support. With that, I would like to let you know that we need to finish the meeting today, and I'm looking forward to seeing you in other sessions. But at 06:30 I'm expecting to see all of you here in this room to celebrate Tarek Kamel's life, together with us, with the community, with ICANN org and everyone who is in Montreal. With that, our meeting is adjourned. Thank you very much.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]