
ICANN76 | CF – Joint Session: ICANN Board and ASO
Wednesday, March 15, 2023 – 09:00 to 10:00 CUN

ANDREA GLANDON: Hello, and welcome to the joint session of the ICANN Board and the ASO. This session is a discussion between the ASO members and the ICANN Board, and we will not be taking questions from the room. Attendees are welcome to chat among themselves in the Zoom room. To view the real time interpretation, click on closed caption button in the Zoom toolbar. Please note that the chat sessions are being archived and are governed by the ICANN Expected Standard of Behavior.

Finally, reminder to the speakers today, please state your name for the record every time you speak and please speak slowly and clearly for the scribes and interpreters. And with that, I'll hand it over to Alan Barrett, who will be sharing the session on behalf of the ICANN Board. Alan?

ALAN BARRETT: Good morning, everybody. Welcome. My name is Alan Barrett. I'm a member of the ICANN Board. And we're very happy to be here today speaking to the ASO. Christian, would you like to say something? And then we'll turn it over to the ASO and the SO/AC chairs.

CHRISTIAN KAUFMANN: I'm Christian Kaufman. I'm the second ICANN Board member, which is appointed by the ASO. Alan, the first, me the second, hence, we are here

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on stage. And, yeah, I hand over, to who? Did you want to hand it over? John.

JOHN CURRAN:

I guess I'll say on behalf of the ASO, what you know in ICANN is the ASO is the number of resource organization. We serve that role. The number of resource organization is actually structured with two bodies. One body is the NRO Executive Council composed of the CEOs, the appointees from our RIRs with generally the executive officers. So we have them on the stage. Paul Wilson from APNIC, Oscar from LACNIC. I see Hans Petter from RIPE and myself, John Curran from ARIN.

So we composed the executive body. And then we have an advisory council. And the advisory council is member elected, and they work on global policy coordination, and they work on the appointment of seats to the ICANN Board, seats 9 and 10. Hervé is the chair, and we have him here as well. And this is a session where we have an opportunity for the ASO and ICANN Board to chat with one another and answer any questions we might have. I believe the ICANN Board had a couple of questions for us to speak to. I don't have them in front of me, but if someone does, Alan. There you go. Wonderful. So I guess unless, Alan, you think we should do it differently, we should just head right into these questions.

ALAN BARRETT:

I'm happy to head right into these questions, but if you have another idea, we can do that.

JOHN CURRAN:

I do know that the ASO was provided the opportunity to send questions to the ICANN Board that we wanted addressed. We actually had no questions. We're very happy. So I guess this actually forms the venue agenda we'll be working for. So with that, we'll respond to each of the questions. The first question is, is the ASO satisfied with the amount of exposure that numbers issues the ASO or the RIRs receive at ICANN meetings and in other activities? Would you like to suggest any changes to the amount or form of interaction?

We had a chance to discuss this a little bit offhand with our colleagues from ICANN. And we pointed out that in general, we have a very robust community that meets frequently, but they meet in the Regional Internet Registry meetings. And collectively, those take place throughout the globe. Each RIR has several meetings a year, and that's where our community is. So it's not really necessary that we have the same exposure here at ICANN.

The ICANN community seems to have already plenty of meetings it needs to go to, to keep the DNS side coordinated. We don't need to add more to their busy schedule. ICANN has responsibilities across the identifier space. And DNS is one, and the numbers as another. And then it also has functions that it does with the IETF. And the IETF has almost no presence here. We don't all need to be. The three identifier pillars don't all need to be the same at ICANN meetings.

So we see that they have plenty of interaction. And we encourage people who want to get involved in numbers policy to work with at the RIRs in the respective regional meeting because that's where our policy development is going on. I guess that's the brief response. Any of NRO EC members want to add or elaborate?

PAUL WILSON:

Paul Wilson here. My colleague, Oscar, just commented that this is probably the biggest crowd that we've had at an ASO session at an ICANN meeting. So I thank you all for being here. I'd echo what John said, but I think the amount of exposure that numbers issue is needed, ICANN also depend on people in this room and the extent to which numbers issues really are of interest to the audience. And I think I can speak to everyone in saying that we would respond as quickly and as well as we could to any clear requests for more presence here, more information and so on. Thanks.

HANS PETTER:

So, Hans Petter from the RIPE NCC. I think there is one tradition that we should resurrect after COVID, which is the breakfast or dinners that we've had at the regional meetings, where we are happy to invite all of the ICANN Board members, especially those in the region, which will be more a shorter travel to attend the RIR meetings, to meet the community directly, and also meet with the Boards after the RIRs there in an informal setting. I think that was a very useful informal way of dialogue. And I will try to set that up again for the upcoming meeting at the end of May in Rotterdam and suggest that we figure out a way to work on that moving forward.

ALAN BARRETT:

Excellent point. Hervé.

HERVÉ CLÉMENT:

Thank you very much and thank you, John. So you have provided an excellent description of what the ASO is. So as you say, I am Hervé Clément. I am the chair of the ASO Address Council. And so on the table, so we have Ricardo Patara and Nicole Chan, who are the vice chair as well. And all our members sitting there on the table. So we are normally comprised of 15 numbers, so 13 at the moment. One from the AFRINIC.

So as you say, our main goal, so the committee within ICANN appoint two directors at the ICANN Board to work on global policy and to give advice on numbering points to the Board as well. Even you saw our two elected events, so Christian and Alan Barrett, who are very expert on that, on the numbering, of course. And what I wanted to underline as well is to thank the ICANN, the ICANN org staff and management for their support in time, so time that could be a go. And so it's a great time as well, etc. And we have very good feel about that. So thank you very much.

ALAN BARRETT:

Okay. Thanks very much. There have been some past ICANN meetings where the NRO has organized a public session or some kind of education. And I have heard comments. I think someone came up to the microphone in the past previous ICANN meeting in Kuala Lumpur four months ago saying they would like to see more of the ASO, the NRO. So how would you like to respond to that?

JOHN CURRAN:

Just to note, we are the ASO has offered an opportunity to give some remarks in the opening ceremonies at ICANN public sessions. And we were offered that opportunity this time. And if we don't have something substantial that we need to talk about, we figure you have plenty of other

things to have on stage. And we appreciate the offer and do ask it continues. But if we don't have anything important, we don't take up time just to take up time.

ALAN BARRETT:

Okay, thank you. Then another important point that was raised was about joint meetings for ICANN Board members to attend RIR meetings and even to have informal joint meetings between those ICANN Board who happen to be around and the RIR in the region, which is having the meeting. Tripti, would you like to say something about that?

TRIPTI SINHA:

Thank you, Alan. Tripti Sinha for the record. First, I'd like to say, this is really nice to have you here. The last time the ASO and the Board came together was in 2019. So this is highly appreciated. The strength of our community depends on our collaboration. So, Hans Petter, thank you very much for the invitation to meet again, and we will take you up on that offer for breakfast or dinner, whatever makes sense on our schedules. So I say we continue having this kind of collaboration and interaction. It's overall good for the ecosystem. So thank you.

ALAN BARRETT:

I remember fondly the last meeting of RIPE in Rotterdam. I was there and I look forward to joining you again for that.

EDMON CHUNG:

Yes, Edmon Chung here. And again, I think I repeat what Tripti said, I think Hans' suggestion for ICANN to be at the RIR meetings, that's

probably a very good idea. And doesn't just have to be the Board. I think some of the leadership from ICANN and the community, we can try to see how to bring them in so to have better interactions that way as well. So I'm very happy to hear the response for the from our question leading to the other perspective, not necessarily ASO people coming to the ICANN, but ICANN community should actually go out to the RIRs and understand and participate and interact there as well.

ALAN BARRETT:

Okay. Thanks very much. I think we've heard the message that ICANN should have a greater presence at our meetings. And I would definitely support that. Thanks. Now I think we've talked enough about question 1. You want to say more?

JOHN CURRAN:

No.

ALAN BARRETT:

No. Okay, so maybe we can move on to the next question. Christian, can I ask you to take a lead there?

JOHN CURRAN:

Oh, yes. That's a second question, isn't there? The second question is--

CHRISTIAN KAUFMANN:

I take it, John. Thank you. I wrote it, so ICANN phrase it as well. Thank you. The question is, the RIRS are rather on the independent side when it comes to ICANN. Right? And this goes a little bit to what John said, you

know, on policies, on meetings. But I think as recent events has shown the independents and the self-governance concept has also some risks as well. So from an ICANN perspective, we are wondering if the RIRs and SO/AC sees it the same way. And what kind of support you would like to see from ICANN? Thank you.

JOHN CURRAN:

It's an excellent question. And yes, we've had some recent events that make us look at the structure of the registry system, the RIR, how they operate, and try to figure out, obviously is that the ideal structure. The fact is that the RIRs have a remarkably different structure than ICANN in that we have actual formal communities. We have members who elect governing Boards. And so the first and primary responsibility is to make sure that the RIRs operate as they're supposed to as their elected governing Boards direct. And so we've looked at a number of possible scenarios on how an RIR might have a problem fulfilling its responsibilities. The RIRs collectively actually set up RIR joint stability fund that would provide for funding or technical assistance if an RIR had operational issue or for some reason needed funding because of an adverse event. So we've done some things to help bolster and strengthen the existing RIR governance model.

The scenario we did envision is an RIR governance situation where the organization couldn't govern itself at all, where it didn't have an operating or functioning governing Board. And that's a new case and it's one that is being discussed in the community. And we're also discussing it. So we have to deal with that. And we have to deal with it on a short term basis, meaning we have to make sure we restore stability on a tactical basis to the registry system. And there's been a lot of meetings

this week to work on exactly that point. And when we come to convergence on next steps, we will certainly be working with ICANN on that. We've done some early briefings. But when we come to concurrence on what needs to be done, it'll be something that, hopefully, will involve ICANN, because ICANN has an important role in the stability of the identifier spaces.

But then there's a second question for the community. And it's a much longer strategic question, which is, the RIRs periodically take the effort to assess their governance. We did one of those right around the time of the IANA stewardship effort. We did an accountability and capture a self-assessment. Each RIR did their own. And that's certainly sufficient under normal circumstances to make sure RIRs catch issues in their governance update their bylaws, things like that. But it's an issue that each RIR assessed on its own. There was no objective criteria, third party criteria, third party assessment. And certainly, you could imagine a model where there was.

But that's not something that necessarily either the RIRs as the NRO are governing function what ICANN necessarily drives. It's something that the RIR community is going to have to look at. It's going to have to look at the independent nature of the RIRs. And in light of recent events, look and see whether it wants to change that. And that's a long process. So if you ask, each of us will probably have our own opinion on what that is. But ultimately, it comes up to our community to figure out the current structure we have as fairly lightweight where each RIR is recognized. And then it's assumed that self-governance will suffice for the years to come. We can have other structures, but you don't really want the RIR governing Board any more than you want ICANN's Board driving that.

You want the community to say what structures it wants. And I'm sure in light of recent events, we'll see a lot of discussion in that area.

I tried to do a summary, but I have fellow RIR CEOs here. Any comments? I got anything wrong? Additions? Oscar, Hans, Paul. Okay, wonderful. I got it mostly right.

PAUL WILSON:

Could I make a comment on a separate topic, John? Just on the question of RIR independents and governance, etc., as John mentioned before, each of the RIRs conducts two major conferences per year. And one of those conferences, in every case, is an annual meeting involving democratic elections of Board representatives and so on. Last week, APNIC had our annual meeting for 2023 and involved an election that was very hard fought with a quite aggressive campaign as part of that election process that involved a lot of information being provided, some of which can only be described as quite misleading about APNIC's governance and structure.

And I just suggested anyone who's aware of that or taking notice should please take those claims with a very big pinch of salt and understand that although the particular parties who were making those claims were not successful in the election, they're continuing the campaign even after the election, I think, ongoing. And we'll be continuing to respond as well as we can to the claims that are being made. But again, please take a note of all sides of those discussions before drawing any conclusions based on what you might see on YouTube videos or elsewhere. Thank you.

OSCAR ROBLES:

Thanks. Yes, I think trying to answer the question, what can ICANN do to help into these situations. I think this is an ongoing responsibility for ICANN and for all the institutions in the region for every RIR, but also ICANN and other Internet technical community organizations. Because the work that we can do in our region is not the only one that can be done regionally. And I think that ICANN through their initiatives, the regional initiatives, may help to engage the community.

And even if the registry is not doing proper engagement actions, this is for the rest of the organization. This is not solely responsibility for the Regional Internet Registry. This is a collaborative responsibility and jointly responsibility. So I think that ICANN maintains its role in every region, specifically in AFRINIC. And I think that this is the time when we have to see what we can help to improve that community process, that community building process.

TRIPTI SINHA:

Oscar, if I understand you correctly, you're making a request that ICANN organize regional meetings, is that? Thank you for the suggestion. We will certainly look into this and see or take that into consideration. The strength as I said earlier of the ecosystem depends on our collaboration. So I will take that back to the organization. But thank you very much.

JOHN CURRAN:

If I could add a little bit, actually Oscar brings up a good point. And I want to emphasize the RIRs each in our region, we do outreach. We try to engage the community and say, these are your identifiers. You're the ones setting the policy. We're operating by them, but you need to be engaged. As a practical matter, these identifiers for a lot of organizations

are not strategic. They're tactical. They're something they use to get their business done. And they or their function or whatever their organization is doing, they want to get their address blocks, make use of them. And the idea that they're part of a global community that is a multistakeholder community that sets the rules for all of this domain names and IP addresses, they may not realize. And the RIRS can't put unlimited effort into reminding of that.

ICANN being focused on the overall multistakeholder governance of both the names and the numbers is outreach to remind people coordinated, so we make sure we're on the same message, to remind people and get them engaged that the Internet identifiers are something that they control. That's a message that we probably need to get out in all the regions more to keep people aware of the fact. I routinely run into people who believe that the identifier spaces are obviously controlled by, that's a governmental function or something like that. And we need to tell the global community that's not the case, over and over.

HERVÉ CLÉMENT:

Thank you very much. Hervé Clément for the record. Sorry. At the ASO Address Council, we absolutely support that, I would say, previously, by the NRO NC on the answer from the ICANN. Thank you very much. One more time, just to add that, so we are facing and so this governance issue currently with the lack of representative within the Council. So we try to do our best to fix that and to reach our responsibilities so we're not talking term of election. Designation from the ICANN Board in term for the NomCom as well could be a global policy at one time and never knows etc. So we are currently updating our operational procedures. And that's things what will be presented to NRO NC as well in the middle of the year.

And we try to do that because of problematic of quorum, problematic of possibility to have an election and to have a so somebody designed in a very good way and in a logistical way. So it something we really care about. So sometime for global policy, but it's very general. My problem is very generic. So I have requests off from the ICANN, off from the community to think about that, etc. So it's just something that can happen. And one more time, we are very cautious about that. And collaborating in a very close end with their NRO NC one more time. Thank you.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN:

Yes, thanks. And up and beyond the current problems, which are obvious and rightly discussed. Many years ago before COVID, you may still remember that there was a closer collaboration in particular in the area of geopolitical pressure, where it may be useful to get closer together again in our messaging not only aligned because we are of the same values in general, but also in our messaging. So that may be a good focal point for more intense collaboration. Technically, everything works, but the pressure outside increases. And that is very clear.

By the way, the second thing, having followed in particular the lists of RIPE and APNIC, I'm also impressed by how the community itself not only you guys, but also communities itself, is resilient in its responses in helping and supporting this. I think this is the whole thing, right? We're not alone at the top. So one thing great community go for it. Second is maybe let's look more at how we can address geopolitical challenges together explicitly.

JOHN CURRAN:

I think that we've done a great job even post COVID with our coordination in various forum. There's a lot of bodies that meet and discuss the Internet and how the Internet should operate and issues with the Internet and policies and forums. And we still have an active collaboration among the RIRs, ICANN and ISOC in engaging in those bodies. And I think that's something that did do very well.

The issue, I guess, that I want to emphasize, is that for the average person on the street, I don't think we as a community have achieved the realization that this is their Internet. Not the message that it's their Internet in terms of their user and the issues much like some of the things ISOC deals with. But it's their Internet in terms of how it's run, how the rules for domain names and the rules for IP addresses are set, is something that everybody can participate in.

ALAN BARRETT:

Okay, thank you. So we've heard several good things that NRO and the ASO/AC are working on their procedures to be able to deal with problems of if one of the RIRs is not present to cause issues with quorum. You've thought about that. You're dealing with it. That's great. We've also heard that we'd like to see more collaboration, more discussion. Of course, it's happening already, but there's no harm in improving it. And we've heard that the RIRs would like to see more ICANN participation in RIR meetings. And even to have ICANN organize a regional meeting for the community in a particular region. I guess, if that happens, we would be looking at both names and numbers.

JOHN CURRAN:

I guess I will turn back to my colleagues and what they're envisioning in terms of outreach. But I think that it's not a question of names or numbers. It's a question of this is how the Internet identifiers are governed and you can participate. It's generic outreach. Certainly, as we said earlier, we welcome anyone from the ICANN Board to come see how we do the numbers side. But I think that overall, we don't have a lot of engagement. Our engagement is predominantly with our own communities. And as we've seen, we need to get more and more parties involved. We don't want to have a lot of people who aren't involved who may be galvanized at the last minute to participate in election. We want to try to get them involved earlier and actively. So, I guess, yes, we're talking names and numbers, but more importantly, we're talking about participation.

ALAN BARRETT

Thank you, John. Sally, can we talk a little bit about what we do from an ICANN perspective in the regions?

SALLY COSTERTON:

Thank you, Christian. Thank you, John. Okay? You want to go first? Okay. In the regions, we have engagement teams who are long standing staff members and work very closely with the RIRs. So everyone you can see on this panel has, if you like, an opposite number in their region in ICANN. And we have engaged intensively and over many years in each other's engagement activities. So it is completely normal for the ICANN teams on the ground in the region to plan events together to sometimes organize events together, to bring each other to each other's events.

So for example, Paul has just had an APNIC meeting. I think in the Philippines, it wasn't at Paul? And we had [00:28:41 -inaudible] who's our Asia Pacific lead who knows Paul very well and his team very well were there. And not only did that allow us to do a lot of engagement forward planning, John's point is absolutely right. The goal of these meetings is not to deal with a crisis and emergency.

Although, if you have to, well, there on the ground, but it's to build that capacity. It's to build the understanding of our regional stakeholders and our regional newcomers in the names and numbers community about what we do collectively, about our shared responsibilities so that as time moves on, everybody has a better understanding of what we do together, what we do separately, and why we need each other at a technical layer, but also why we need each other to strengthen the ecosystem. So it's a very substantial program of work and it's been going on for a long time. And if anybody wants ask questions about it, do you come and talk to me separately? Thank you.

OSCAR ROBLES:

Two comments. One regarding the other organizations. The other organization like if not, the African network operators group, FTLD, AFIX, the Internet Exchange Point. Many of them have some connection with the AFRINIC community. So we could leverage with them, try to reach all these communities. So I think that as John said, it is not about names or numbers, but the community tried to reach directly the AFRINIC members, but through other of these organizations and through all these other programs and projects like ICANN and ISOC could maintain in the region. And the second comment is, don't forget about the stuff. The stuff is doing remarkably job, self-motivated work. Regardless of the lack

of governance, they are still doing the operations, and they are still doing the capacity building process, the training. So probably public recognition of that work could be important at this stage.

ALAN BARRETT

Yes. Thanks, Oscar. You're right. It's been very impressive to see how the AFRINIC staff have managed to keep on doing their work. There's not been an interruption in their progress at any time regardless of all the problems. Very encouraging. Thanks. Hervé.

HERVÉ CLÉMENT:

Yes, just to underline, so I once picked on ASO/AC, but just on a very personal capacity. So in my job, so I have contact with the staff of AFRINIC, and I could see how remarkable they tried to face the situation and how things are pretty not so bad. So we in AFRINIC in these very exceptional circumstances. So because the staff is trying to do their best to do well out there. So thank you for underlying that.

ALAN BARRETT:

Okay, I don't see any more hands up. So I guess we've dealt with the questions from the ICANN Board to the ASO. Do you have anything else you wanted to discuss with us? I know you didn't provide questions in advance. Paul, I see you.

PAUL WILSON:

Sorry, I might have missed something. I was a bit surprised that we're not taking questions from the floor today. Was that a pre-arranged kind of decision? I mean, I'd see no harm in taking questions from the room if

anyone has some, and if assuming time is available. Just a humble suggestion. Thanks.

ALAN BARRETT:

Okay. In all these meetings between the Board and the constituency groups, it's been our practice throughout to take questions or comments only from the panelists and not from the audience or from the floor.

PAUL WILSON:

Quite the way we do it in the RIR system, but that's all right. Thanks.

JOHN CURRAN:

In terms of questions for the Board, as I said, we were given the opportunity and we didn't supply any. I guess I don't have a question, but I'd like to at least pass along our thanks. The RIR system works well within the ICANN community. We may not be as visible as the domain name community within your meetings, but we are here. We've been a supporter since ICANN's formation, actually. And we're quite dedicated to ICANN. Even though our communities meet regionally and elsewhere, that doesn't mean we're not an ICANN supporter. We help go through all of ICANN evolutions, including the IANA stewardship transition, and we're still here. And so I just want to say thanks to ICANN for allowing us an organizational home and hopefully we'll work even closer together coming in the coming years.

EDMON CHUNG:

Edmon here. I guess usually we try to see if the, I guess, the other organization would have questions. But in the case like this, if we have

time, there's no reason why we cannot see if there are any questions or comments from other parts of the RIRs and ASO.

ALAN BARRETT: Okay, that's a very good suggestion. We'll take comments or questions from people in the RIR communities.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Sébastien Bachollet, Chair of EURALO. It's not too much a question, but a comment. We appreciate a lot of work we are able to do within Europe, with RIPE NCC. They are supporting us. They are participating to a different meeting. We organize readout. We have always somebody from RIPE NCC coming and talking to us. When we organize a monthly roundtable, we have always subject expert coming to talk to us. Therefore, I will say that don't forget that you are already doing things outside of your own arena as an area and we appreciate that. I am sure that my colleague from the other region RALO will appreciate the same your support. Thank you very much.

ALAN BARRETT: Yes, thank you, Sébastien. I think that's true. I think all the RIRs try to support things going on in their region, even outside their core business.

PATRICIO POBLETE: Patricio Poblete, ICANN Board. I agree that's remarkable how the AFRINIC staff are working tirelessly to keep operations going. But I wonder how long could that go on? When could for instance, there'll be a need for major equipment purchases that no one would have authority

to agree to be done? When could there be the need to renew Internet connectivity contracts, for instance? For how long can this go on until it would eventually collapse despite the heroic efforts of the staff?

JOHN CURRAN:

I will speak to one aspect of that, which is that absent ability to convene a governing Board and do certain measures of budgets and similar. There's the possibility that the efforts of the staff gets stymied because of the need to pay an expense. We the RIR, as collectively the NRO, have informed the AFRINIC staff that if that comes up, we will backstop as necessary in expense, whether that's personnel or equipment. They just need to let us know.

And I will say despite the lack of a governing Board, it does appear as though there was some concern in the past, but it was appear as though the staff is getting paid. And they're still operating and billing and everything is going normal. But if there were to be some issue in that regard, the other RIRs will backstop. The NRO has a collective ability to tap stability funds for that. I won't even say stability funds. The ability to fund such expenses. So the staff is aware of that. They know we're 100% behind them. We explain that there's not going to be a circumstance where they have to worry about a situation of not being able to keep AFRINIC running. If AFRINIC can't itself pay an expense, that's something the RIRs will collectively consider at the NRO level. I'm going to look for my fellow CEOs to make sure I got that right. Is that what we agreed? Yes. Yes. Yes. Okay. Very good.

KENNY HUANG:

Thank you, Kenny Huang, APNIC EC Chair. Thank you for all for the opportunity. And as Chris just mentioned, actually, a number communities work independently because we have a bottom-up policy development process. So each of RIR can work on their own, by define their policy by themselves. But once the situation happened, exceptional situation happened, all the RIR are willing to work together. As John just mentioned, we have stability fund and to stabilize that kind of situation. I will also suggest probably ICANN should develop something similar. And to dealing with the exceptional situation, and to strengthen the security major in place, to deal with that kind of situation, to make the [00:39:43 -inaudible] as a united community. Thank you.

JOHN CURRAN:

So when you suggest that ICANN should create something similar, it makes me, I guess, I have maybe a follow-up or question. If you're referring to the RIRs, and something similar to support an exceptional event in the RIR, the number space, the RIRs actually have significant resources. Collectively, we have hundreds of staff and tens of millions of financial reserve, maybe hundreds of millions of financial reserve amongst us. So there's an enormous depth of bench there in terms of technical talent and resources to deal with something within the number community that needs to be dealt with.

Now if you're talking about ICANN setting up a fund for exceptional events, in for example, the domain space, I want to say, you all owe ICANN well, you did this, so you all owe ICANN a word of thanks because ICANN is remarkably set up to deal with exceptional situations. There is a robust program for data escrow, registry emergency operations and other things that in a visionary mode were put in place for the DNS side.

That's actually what we don't have place in the number side. The real shortfall here isn't necessarily resources, it isn't necessarily technical skills. The real shortfall here is we did not envision a mow where an RIR governance would fail. That's a pretty remarkable event.

Now, as I said, we'll do whatever it takes tactically to get past this, but long term, we need to think about some of those same measures for the numbers side. But it's really something that can happen within the numbers community and the RIR community.

KENNY HUANG:

Sorry, John, probably, I didn't make you very clear. Just try to clarify. I mean, give something similar. Something similar in terms of financial resource. Something similar could be a security major in terms of how to strengthen the governance structure, something like that. That's it. Thank you.

JOHN CURRAN:

Understood. Thank you.

ALAN BARRETT:

Okay. I see Chharia.

RAJESH CHHARIA:

I'm Rajesh Chharia. The point I wanted to raise was while I have the benefit of working with APNIC, so I understand RIRs as well as past ASO AC member. But to Christian, what I'm trying to raise is when the issue

comes up in one RIR and affecting the other RIR customer or a member, what is the method to resolve this? Thank you.

JOHN CURRAN: Are you discussing policy differences or operational differences?

RAJESH CHHARIA: Operational. For example, if some security issue comes up.

JOHN CURRAN: Right. So as we so as sort of point out, each RIR is governed by its own governing Board. And we rely on robust governance measures to make sure each organization is accountable to its community. Obviously, that's something that we think we've gotten right, but obviously could be improved at least in one case. But if the organization is accountable to its community and you want to raise an issue with how an organization is doing something, security wise or operationally wise, it ultimately is raised in that community and addressed with that governing Board. We are working among the RIRs on a number of common projects when it comes to example, cybersecurity and RPKI to try to get more commonality.

But there's attention because each of us has to follow the direction of our actual membership, the direction of our community. And the communities do want to work together, but there will always be differences in how we do our operations, how we do our security. And what it is the community has to work in each RIR. If you have three RIRs, you want to work the same way in a security. You have to work with the

communities of each HRIR to get them to align. There's no automatic function that does that. It's a bit of work. But it has been happening. And we are more and more common in our practices each and every day.

ALAN BARRETT:

Okay, so if there are no more questions and I see no more hand raised, we can end the session. Thank you very much for your participation. Thank you to the RIR people who've come to meet with us. I think we've had a good discussion. And let me turn it over to Tripti to have a final word.

TRIPTI SINHA:

Thank you, Alan. As I said earlier, this is really good for us to come together and this is the first time since 2019. And I hope many more to come in the future. Hun Peter, thank you for the invitation to do more breakfast and lunches and dinners. We certainly will take you up on that. And there are two takeaways from me here. One is, let's have some more regional meetings. And as Sally explained, ICANN has all kinds of regional meetings. We'll look to see how we can fortify those meetings with the RIRs and make the content more meaningful from a regional perspective. And the second takeaway is let's strengthen the governance of all the different ecosystem players. We're all of this together, if one of us fails, it's not good for all of us. So we will certainly take a hard look at that. And thank you very much for coming.

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