
ICANN76 | Prep Week – Community Update on Universal Acceptance
Tuesday, February 28, 2023 - 12:00 to 13:00 CUN

SEDA AKBULUT:

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AJAY DATA:

Good morning, good evening, good afternoon. This is a very exciting time for UASG. We are in a very exciting time because UA Day is approaching and ICANN is also approaching for promoting universal acceptance and talking about universal acceptance at large. Next slide please.

We are going to talk and give you some very exciting updates. Next slide. This is very important update for lots of people who may not be aware what we have achieved, and what we are up to during the year. And this is an important session because this is where all of us comes and tell you what we are up to, what we have been doing, what kept us busy, and what looks forward to be done in a very short period of time. Next slide. And this is what I'm going to cover, we are going to cover very soon.

Universal acceptance, as you all know, is a very simple concept as a vision that all domain names and all email addresses work in all software applications. And that is very important to understand. This

looks simple, but we have a long path to cover. If we do that, we have a large impact on billions of Internet users, because it promotes consumer choice, improves competition and provides broader access to the end users.

This was formed in 2015. And as a community initiative, it continues to be there. It continues to grow. And lots of volunteers join to make an impact in the world. And obviously the goal is to make all the systems and applications UA ready. Next slide.

To understand universal acceptance, this is one slide which explains you the entire coverage of the domain names and email addresses and the five pillars. So on the top you can see the three examples of domain names which have new ASCII short top-level domain name, new long top-level ASCII domain name, and IDNs. This is a scope which we expect that all new ones get accepted in all software applications apart from .com, .net, the famous seven originals.

Email addresses have many variants. You can see the examples in front of you. ASCII@ASCII, ASCII@IDN, Unicode@ASCII, Unicode@IDN, Unicode@IDN which is Arabic, right to left script. And the second last, Unicode@IDN, is actually my own email address. If you understand Hindi, you should be able to understand and write an email to me if you are able to read and copy from the presentation. This will also give you a simple test whether your email system is EAI ready or not, UA ready or not.

Universal acceptance has created the five pillars test: accept, validate process, store and display. And that is how you can test your systems

and become UA ready if you are not already UA ready. Accept means I should be able to punch in and type in my own email address or a domain name in a respective software or website. That respective software and website must validate well, process it for the purpose, store it and display it back as and when required. And this is not very complicated from the perspective. But these are the five pillars any application has to pass to become UA ready. Next slide please.

We work with working groups. And these are the working groups we work with. These working groups all have their own respective chairs and vice chairs and volunteers. These chairs get appointed by the community and supported by the leadership of the Universal Acceptance Steering Group. We have chairs and vice chairs for each working group and they work independently, meet independently and take care of their work independently.

There's some very [inaudible] structure by the community led by the community and work very specifically for the purpose to support UA in their own way. So technology working group work for remediation on programming languages, tools. EAI works for email addresses. Measurement is finding the gap. Communication builds the communication strategy. Local initiatives is very important one because it spreads world over multiple leaders in their region. So India has a chair, China has a chair, so on and so forth. UA ambassadors are also important individuals who talk about universal acceptance in their own region. Hence, this is now becoming much bigger. We have now many leaders world over to talk about universal acceptance through

various working groups and leadership in different areas. Next slide, please.

And that's a very exciting one. And we are going to talk a little bit about today. This is a new concept happening first time in the world. 28th of March 2023 is going to be witnessed as the first ever universal acceptance day. This is going to be an annual event. This is an idea which we floated almost a year back and we started talking in universal acceptance, in the group and then we moved to ICANN and try to build the consensus with all SOs and ACs and beyond that with various organizations and came out with that consensus with that date, 28th of March to be celebrated annually every year on 28th of March. And we are going to witness the awareness programs, training programs, workshops on that day simultaneously or selectively in their own time zone and their own region.

UA Day objective is very simple. Raise an awareness, create a [inaudible] around adopting UA and what it takes to do something in UA, whether it is regional, local, or global, weather whatever organization you are, you need to be based around universal acceptance. We are going to share the challenges, current gaps, drive adoption, motivate technical people, government, raise large number of awareness among technical community, friendly language communities and enable policies to promote UA, celebrate the achievement of UA and recognize success stories.

This is the kind of objective we have. And you're going to be welcome whether in your region or in global event or an international event. Please join and be part of the celebration and try to raise awareness

about UA as you all are passionate about universal acceptance. And it's an important thing to do in the world. Next slide, please.

Once we announced this UA Day sometime in December, you can see that we received 89 proposals by 31st January 2023. That was the last day we could receive the proposals. And you can see region-wise how many proposals were received. And remember that we are requesting people to celebrate 28th of March so that date is fixed, time is in their own local time. And it is going to be either physical or remote event. And the contents are also going to be provided by us.

So this is to my understanding going to be one of the largest multi-stakeholder event in the world. I'm yet to know about this—one subject going to be talked world over with almost 42 countries to talk about universal acceptance on the same day and celebrate in their own way. We are going to support them, we are going to take care in technical ways, in financial ways, whatever the way we could. And this day is going to be creating a history for universal acceptance and the world.

This global day is going to be planned in India. This is going to be supported by NIXI and our communications chair, Anil Jain, is also CEO. So it's a great connect for India to not only have a UA leader to host it, but also represents the important [inaudible] of the country which hosts 22 IDNs in different languages. And ICANN executive and board members are going to be also attending this event.

So my dear friends and colleagues, please join in on this mega event and make it a grand success in your own region and globally. Next slide, please. These are the 40 plus countries as I was saying. We have

approved 50 proposals. This is what we could support in a day. And these countries are going to be executing UA day event in their own country. This slide shows a very important geographical coverage of universal acceptance, is going to be talked in the world on the single day. It's going to be a mega awareness program. Next slide please.

Another important thing is we are going to also get into elections and these elections are going to happen for chair and vice chair. So if you are interested to participate in the leadership, and you have a passion about giving time and have understanding and technical understanding about the universal acceptance, IDNs and EAI, this is an opportunity to part of leadership for universal acceptance chair and vice chair.

We have announced dates, but it looks like that these dates will be changed because of lots of requests we are seeing. So we will probably have new dates. However, be ready to fight for election and do something for universal acceptance. Next slide please.

These sessions are coming in and ICANN, you can see the 11th of March, the first day of ICANN, 12th of March, 13th of March, 14th of March and 15th of March. These events are going to discuss about forgiveness universal acceptance in their own region, in their own SOs and ACs and ICANN 76 is going to witness—you can see six interventions about universal acceptance in their own way. So, if you are there, please meet the leaders, please meet the ambassadors in that area. And also, we are going to talk in a big way about universal acceptance day in all the sessions as much as possible to raise awareness for celebration of 28th of March 2023 as a global day. Next slide please.

So this is the time for calling on leaders of various working groups. So first, chair from measurement working group is going to share about their updates. Over to you for update. Thank you.

SEDA AKBULUT:

Thank you, Dr. Data. Nabil Benamar, UA measurements working group chair. The floor is yours.

NABIL BENAMAR:

Thank you, Dr. Data. Thank you, Seda, for giving me the floor. So I'm Nabil Benamar, chair of the measurements working group. Next slide, please. So our working group is doing the working group plans, oversees and directs the gap analysis report of the UASG for various frameworks and technologies and reports on UA readiness progress. So far, we have published the UASG42 report. This is the UA readiness of web hosting tools like cPanel, Plesk, and ISPConfig.

We are still working on the UA readiness of popular identity platforms, mainly Okta, Auth0 and OpenIAM. UA readiness of ecommerce platforms, we are still working on this. Ongoing task on the UA curriculum for academia. This is the joint ICANN 76 session on promoting universal acceptance through local engagements. We are working also on whitepaper to pursue the developers that's changing from IDNA 2003 to IDNA 2008 is not a big deal. Thank you. Next slide please.

Our work on the UA readiness of popular webhosting tools, the objective of this work is to determine to what extent web hosting tools like cPanel, Plesk and ISPConfig offer the capacity for customers to build a website and host emails in accordance with universal acceptance, meaning that they can offer the fact that any user can host and create an email address in these platforms with any scripts.

Our initial results is that none of the web hosting tools unfortunately are in compliance. Plesk has the highest chance of providing the full native script experience so far. ISPConfig has the advantage of being an open source web hosting tool and allows making an ad hoc change, so that would be the added value of using open source platforms. Next slide please.

So, our test results are summarized in this table. As we can see that we have tested the different web hosting tools like cPanel, Plesk Obsidian Web Host Edition and the ISPConfig. We have tested these in different platforms, different operating systems, mainly Linux and Windows. As you can see also for Linux, we have different distributions. So this is a comprehensive survey on the testing and using all these platforms to make the test. We have also used different web server versions like mainly Apache and nginx and the Microsoft products, IIS.

The email server also we have used different ones, database software, different ones as you can see from the table and the results are here. So we have some failed tests that are in shown in red. There are some ongoing works on this. We hope that the next test will pass for the remaining task in these web hosting tools. Next slide please.

On the popular identity platforms, which is one of the big tasks that we are working on extensively nowadays, the objective is to develop a test method and evaluate the OAuth standard and design the structure that the identity products will integrate and then to assess the UA readiness of three identity platforms that use OAuth standards, two from commercial source and one from the open source which is OpenIAM.

The initial results that we have is that the test pass percentage for target platforms are summarized below. So the OpenIAM, only 28% of test pass, unfortunately, only 19% For Okta, but we have 100% for Auth0, which is good results for the moment. Next slide, please.

That's our updates on what we are doing in the measurement working group and I will be happy to answer all your questions. Thank you.

SEDA AKBULUT:

Thank you, Nabil. So we will have the questions at the end of this session. So for the UA technology working group, we will leave the floor to Dr. Data.

AJAY DATA:

Thank you, Seda. I'm just filling in the gap for Satish who is the chair for UA technology working group. It obviously focuses, as I shared already, about remediation and [inaudible] UA gaps and programming languages, tools and standards. And this group engages for all technology matters, with enablers and developers as a primary stakeholder.

Recently, UASG043, UA ready code samples in Java, Python and JavaScript is available. And you may look at it for these code samples if you are building applications in Java, or Python, or using JavaScript and those applications.

Ongoing task is remediation of UA gaps for websites and identifying the big picture and challenges in adopting UA, which is a very significant ongoing task this group has in their hand. Next slide please. Thank you, Seda, for sharing the link in chat. If you're interested in that document.

Email acceptance, actually, is not a very good picture we would like to see, but this is where we stand. And that also shows the importance of universal acceptance in the world. You can see that there are five examples, which are one of them is almost 50% and most of them are less than 40% accepted. And Arabic@Arabic, Chinese@Chinese, Unicode@ASCII, ASCII@ASCII.idn and ASCII@IDN.ASCII. Nothing is 100%.

So we need to really work, all of us together, to have better acceptance of email addresses and top websites globally. Imagine if the top websites [inaudible] who really don't bother too much about the standards and what should be supported or not supported. Hence, we have to work all together. We cannot be accepting the status quo on broken Internet, if I may say, where my valid domain names and valid email addresses are getting rejected. Next slide please.

Remediation workshops are taking place. Five email campaigns were conducted for almost 1700 non-UA-compliant websites, 54 local websites were selected from government, academia, industry and pilot

UA remediation strategy. A strategy was formed. 23 training workshops were done, 54 websites from August to January. So you can imagine there's a lot of work that has happened by this [group.]

Out of 54 websites, 20 websites became UA already after the remediation. This calls for the applause for this working group and the members who have been working technically to make a difference in the world. Next slide please. And this is the real work, friends. This is not just the document. This is a real change that some site was not UA ready and now it is UA ready.

Recommended actions for next website test—and we are going to check the email trail, the maximum characters, whether it is accepting A-label or U-label, technology stack used for frontend and backend, have fair idea about what IDN libraries are required for achieving EAI compliance, HTML input element type attribute used whether it is using those character attributes or not, validation mechanism, whether it is a standard regex, or JavaScript or whatever has been used to validate those email addresses, if a given website accepts EAI, then undertake tests for sending and receiving email.

This is all real, this all makes common sense. But this is what is also happening and behind the scenes by this role. And this is fantastic work which is happening for all of us to make a real difference in having better graphs, which we just saw, having less acceptance to better acceptance next year. Next slide please.

So programming language solutions, do not forget to see UASG043. And this is where you will see the solutions and programming languages and

what libraries are updated and what they are supposed to follow in their work. Best practices, basically, for libraries to do different minimal viable products for developers, to see them each making use of a different main library, one for domain names using IDN library and other for EAI.

And code samples are made available. So you can look at those code samples on GitHub with universal acceptance as an account. So you can look at that, click on that link, or look at directly [inaudible] GitHub, you may reach there and find all those code samples. Thank you, Seda, for sharing those links which could be directly readily available.

Non-UA-ready libraries are being reported to the public bug tracker. And that's an important task because we do not know if this is going to be on priority or not. So if you can support and help and be part of those public bug trackers for those libraries, that will be very helpful. And we need to ensure that no component in the programming libraries stops us to make a UA ready website. That's basically we need to achieve. New training materials have been developed using the code samples. Next slide please.

Over to you, Seda, please.

SEDA AKBULUT:

Thank you, Dr. Data, for presenting the technology working group tasks. And we will now continue with email address internationalization working group. With that, I will leave the floor to our chair for this working group, Mark Svancarek. Thank you.

MARK SVANCAREK:

Hello everybody. Let me tell you about email. Next slide. So EAI, which is internationalized email, EAI stands for email address internationalization, is the superset of all the problems in universal acceptance. So you have to support all of the things that Dr. Data just talked about, storing and rendering and processing and interpreting etc. But you have to do with more than just the domain part of a string, you have to do it with the entire email address, which has a local part and a domain part and which is processed by lots and lots of different kinds of software, not just browsers and things.

So EAI support enables the email addresses in the different languages and scripts. And there are four basic RFCs that define how this works on top of all the legacy email RFCs. And our working group is focusing on the technology gaps, remediating them through bug fixes, feature additions and training materials.

The minimum case, which we're now calling—we used to call it phase one, now we call it silver, is where all email agents must be configured to send and receive. But we're trying to ensure that all aspects of the modern email experience deliver full UA readiness. And you can see a few papers down below which are probably of interest. If you have interest in this space, check out those documents. Next slide.

We have been working in our community working group on a self-certification guide. This has turned out to be a major investment of time for us. Our objective is to increase the adoption, to basically create a product category of EAI email services, products and components. To

do this, people who buy and use email products and services need to know what are the capabilities that they're getting. So if you say it is valuable for me to have internationalized email, you need to know what you are actually getting without having to do an extensive evaluation of it yourself.

So we've generated the self-certification guide. Suppliers can test according to a list of many features. And based on those features, they can assign themselves a score. A silver score, a gold score, or a platinum score. I'm happy to announce that this document is now in a beta release. We have three vendors testing it right now. And the results so far are pretty good. We've got a little bit of feedback about some ambiguous wording, but it's looking like the work has paid off. Next slide.

So here's an explanation. When I say silver, gold, platinum, silver is simply enabling users to process email addresses, but it doesn't mean you host them. And functionality which processes the addresses rather than the messages need not store or create the email addresses. Read the guide, if that's not clear.

Gold is where we'd really like everybody to be. So of course, you have to support all the silver requirements. This is where hosting comes in. So right now there are a lot of software solution, email solutions, which allow you to send and receive messages. But they don't allow you to create your own accounts or mailboxes for things like that. So that's the next level, is when you can actually host these mailboxes. And we're saying if that feature is available, it doesn't have to be out front, it

doesn't have to be enabled by default. But if you can support it, and an IT manager can turn it on, that can be given a gold.

And there's some other aspects of this that are not technical, such as you should really be promoting these features. If you have them, a buyer should be able to find them in your documentation and marketing materials. So that's an aspect of universal acceptance that maybe isn't obvious to a technical audience. But there's the chicken and egg problem. People don't know you have it, they don't know that they want it. If they don't know it's possible, they'll never ask for it.

Finally, we have platinum, which is the superset of gold, which supports all of our best practices. For instance, we have a best practice guideline document that tells you how to name mailbox names in your system, so that they don't create collisions, things like that, or maximize the chance of compatibility. Having features turned on by default so that people don't have to hunt through your documentation to look for it. Aspirational, extra features, and integrated tools. You know, there's lots of the modern email experience which is more than just sending and receiving emails. There's mass mailers, address books, spam filters, things like that. If you are offering things at a component level, that wouldn't apply to you. But if you're offering some sort of a system, then all of this stuff should be UA ready in order to get a platinum. Next slide.

There's a mistake on this slide, I apologize. So email systems are composed of multiple components. And the guide permits the rating of individual components as opposed to a full system because some people only make a single component, you might be just a spam filter. Or you might be just the server part, or you might be just the client part.

So depending on what you are, you can test your components in isolation. Or you can take all these separate sets of scores and roll them up into a system score.

So the components are the user agent which is semi equivalent to a webmail client that supports IMAP and POP, an email submission agent, the MSA, the MTA, the MDA—and this should say MDAs which can support IMAP and POP. So we can test these things with or without the IMAP and POP functionality. We have tests that—requirements that say if you support POP, this is what you have to do in order to get a silver on POP.

This is an example of where a component rating versus a system rating would come into play. Like you could be gold on your MUA, but only silver on some other aspect of it. And then at a component level, you'd have one score, at a system level, you would have a more complicated score. Next slide.

So here's what we're working on as a working group. Finishing the self-certification guide has been front and center. We've been working on it a lot, it's a huge investment for us. And now we're in beta, and people are actually using it. And we've started to get some feedback already.

We've also been working on a knowledge base in the technical community. If you use online technical resources like Stack Overflow or Server Fault, you may know that there is old, outdated or even wrong information for some of the questions related to universal acceptance. And overcoming this old, outdated, incorrect information has been a challenge for us. So if someone says, “How do I interpret an IDN or how

do I do this,” and then you go there and the most common answer that's been upvoted the most is just simply wrong, like not even RFC compliant, what do you do?

So we've examined these questions, we've submitted some updates. It turns out, this is trickier than we thought, because of the reputation system within these sites, but we have some ideas and we're continuing to push on this.

Self-certification tool to generate the scores. Tool is kind of an optimistic name for it. Right now we have a spreadsheet, and you put your scores into it, and it generates your component and system scores. But we have a prototype of that now.

Helping people to perform self-certification, we'll have some resources available in the UASG and the EAI working group so when people have questions, like people in the beta right now have questions, people in the working group will answer them and say, “This is what we really meant,” or, “Yeah, we can change that wording” or whatever. There is already a question about system-level testing related to IMAP, for instance. And then finally, once all of this is done, we're hoping that we can start referencing the service providers and some key customers to show the success stories. Next slide.

Think I've already talked about this, the scope of the work for the awareness to the developers network, interacting with software developers on these popular sites. Yeah, I've already talked about this, we've already found existing advice that's bad. So we need to overcome that.

And here's some further examples. This is what we're kind of talking about. So if someone says non-Latin email address validation—well, maybe the term validation isn't consistently defined. But also in there you might see an example which says, “Use this regex.” Well, that's not right at all. So we have to overcome all this old stuff.

So what we're asking the community to do is look at these blog posts that we have that's related to this problem, and the mitigation of it, and please share the links with people as appropriate or give us feedback if you have any concerns or comments on it. I can't actually ask you to go and upvote things, that's sort of against the spirit of these sites. Mobbing the site is not really good form. But take a look at these blogs and come to your own conclusion. Next slide, please.

I guess that's it for me. So thanks, everybody, for your interest in EAI. And I hope that you're evaluating systems that have universal acceptance for EAI and testing them out and using them and telling your friends about it. Thanks.

SEDA AKBULUT:

Thank you very much for the EAI Working Group updates, Mike, and we will continue with Anil Kumar Jain for the UA communications working group.

ANIL KUMAR JAIN:

Thank you, Seda. Next slide please. So, communication working group is basically, you can say, marketing working group for the measurement, technical and EAI working group and take the work of

universal acceptance to the masses, to the people who are concerned. So we developed a communication strategy for the UASG and we oversee its execution in collaboration with other working groups. This year, we have already completed engagements in regional and global, like group attended the India IGF and also the global IGF in Ethiopia recently.

We have completed a paid social media campaign. This was a great success. And this is basically to promote the universal acceptance sample code. And third, of course, this is a regular exercise of universal acceptance outreach.

Ongoing works are we are developing explainer videos, three videos are being developed and this is basically to help the community to understand various aspects of universal acceptance and also we are going to release a newsletter which will give the information about what is happening in UASG, what is happening around UASG in various forums and what is happening in the community. Next slide please.

Let us talk about India IGF 22. This was conducted in collaboration with NIX and Ministry of Electronic and IT Government of India and the community at large in the month of December from 9 to 11 December.

Considering the language diversity in the country, because we speak more than 2000 languages at the regional level, there were sessions on UA and multilingual Internet. UASG leaders, UA local initiatives and experts collaborated on multiple UA ready session. The session covers the key issues, that is the importance of multilingual Internet, UA and

its role as a foundation. So all of you can further go through the session itself on the video link, YouTube link which is listed here. Next slide.

About the global Internet Governance Forum at Addis Ababa on 29th of December, the session was the role of community to achieve universal acceptance. The session showed that achieving UA is only possible through the joint efforts—thank you, Seda, for sharing the link—and cooperation of various stakeholders. Collaborations could be through training, adoption by the businesses, updating academic curricula, updating the technology and [inaudible] to the UA adoption as a prerequisite in their [inaudible].

The session aim to help demonstrate how UA can help update [inaudible] to address the current inequality of the Internet because Internet we are not able to take it to those who do not communicate or converse in English. So the theme was connect, respect and protect all people using their own language, their own identity, their own culture and their own interest. Finally, the session also aimed to find mechanism which can allow UA a readiness of the technology to grow substantially.

In addition to this outreach—next slide please—we have also used the various local initiative and UA ambassadors in various activities. You can see that China, India, Sri Lanka and Thailand [inaudible] local UA initiative. For example, China conducted the fifth session of the Chinese IDN innovation application forum in Beijing. In India, multiple capacity building and training sessions to make Indian websites UA ready. Then in Sri Lanka, press conferences, workshops with ICANN and Sri Lanka network operating group on IDN universal acceptance and EAI. In

Thailand, workshop named setting up an email server with EAI support on Ubuntu for staff and university students.

So these four initiatives were taken by the UA local initiative leaders in four countries. Then we have also representing several UA ambassadors also. So from China, Zhijiang Lieu conducted the third China Internet infrastructure resource conference. And in India, Harish Chowdhary conducted the second international conference on recent trend in forensic sciences in the Vivekanand Global University. In addition to that, as a chair of EIA, who had just spoke to you, Mark, he conducted the EAI mail service providers meeting as he has explained also to all of you. Next slide, please.

As far as the ongoing task are concerned, we have, as I said, three explainer videos which we are working. One is introduction to UA and why it is important. So this is a basic fundamental requirement. Then configuring email system to support EAI. The third, how to make UA ready applications. So these will be quite useful for the entire community.

Each of these explainer videos will be five minutes length and will be in English, with subtitles in six UN official languages. Objective, I have made it very, very clear. And finally, the message which we are going to get from the top [leadership] team is inviting all of you to be part of the UA mission, the mission which is happening.

Now, before I hand over to Seda, I just want to invite all of you to the first global UA Day celebration on 28th of March 2023 at New Delhi. This is going to be two days event on 27th and 28th. And this is going to be a

hybrid event. So in case you are not able to make it to Delhi, we will be sharing you shortly the link of all sessions which are going to happen at Delhi. And you're most welcome. Thank you very much. Over to you, Seda.

SEDA AKBULUT:

Thank you very much, Anil, for covering the UA communications working group section. So now we have come to the end of our slides. And we can now open the floor to our participants for any questions they may have, or comments. All right, any questions or comments from our participants? So if not, then I will read some of the questions and comments which we received during the presentation.

Maria asked about the tech day. So it's going to be published on the ICANN 76 meetings page where all the session details are covered. So the exact time for the tech day session will be shared close to the ICANN 76 main week.

And there is another question from Amessinou Kossi. How many African language we have in this process? So I guess we have the clarification on which process you are referring to. So Sarmad has already posted the answer to this. So community has been working on various scripts to support IDNs in the various languages spoken across the world. And currently, label generation rules are available for 26 scripts. And you can find the examples which are given in the chat on the Q&A pod. Amessinou, do you have any follow up questions about this topic?

Hearing none, we have a new question from Glenn McKnight. "I have reached out to numerous US and Canadian native groups to be

involved. But I have struck out. Does ICANN staff any interested US or Canadian groups to participate in UA Day? Would you like to answer to this question, Dr. Data or Sarmad?

SARMAD HUSSAIN:

Thank you for the question, Glenn. As far as involvement in UA Day is concerned, we will be sharing the list of sessions. But one of the sessions which is being organized is from Quebec, in Canada, so there's some interest from there. As far as any other organizations are concerned, we'll work with the GSE team, global stakeholder team of ICANN from North America and get some additional information back to you offline. Thank you.

SEDA AKBULUT:

Thank you, Sarmad, thank you, Glenn.

AJAY DATA:

And I think it should be clear that the global event is going to be made available to everyone to participate from their own time zones virtually, and recordings will be also made available to people for seeing that later. And also, we will try that all the events which are happening world over, the links and possibility to participate remotely are made available as much as possible. So please look out that page, UA Day page on UASG.tech site to have access and also be part of the subscription, discuss list of UASG.tech/Subscribe. You can remain updated on the UA Day developments and accessibility to the UA Day

celebration from various sources. And you can join the nearby resource and whatever event you want to attend. Thank you.

SEDA AKBULUT:

Thank you, you Dr. Data. So there's a command from Jim for Glenn's question. Actually, this is a good point. So for everyone, and also for the UA Day question as well, if you have any further questions or any things that comes up about the UA or UA Day, you can post a message to the UA discuss list and you can subscribe to the UA discuss list through the link that we have shared in the chat. So I will post it again. And see if we have any other questions.

SARMAD HUSSAIN:

There is one question in the Q&A pod. Is ICANN working with the GSMA on mobile standards? I do not have a direct answer to that. We'll try to get information on that and get back to you. Thank you.

SEDA AKBULUT:

Thank you, Glenn, for the question. And thank you, Sarmad., for the answer. There is also another question which was already answered, but let's read aloud. So from Dennis Tan, can you share more details as to the decrease in acceptance rates for email addresses, including ASCII addresses? I guess it was for the website test. So Sarmad mentioned that the 2020 study used a slightly different data set which was country-based, so giving slightly different results. And there is also a longer character set in the new study. So that's also caused a decrease in the acceptance rates.

SARMAD HUSSAIN: There is also a question in the chat from Maria. Does UASG is going to contact web hosting tools providers to ask them to implement UA support? That could help any hosting providers to make EAI available for their customers. So would anybody on the panel like to respond to that? Nabil perhaps?

NABIL BENAMAR: Yes. Thank you, Sarmad. Thank you, Maria, for the question. Yeah, we haven't decided to contact them. But we can do this. Yes, definitely. Because this is one of the outcomes of our study. Thank you.

SARMAD HUSSAIN: I'd like to add a little bit more. So internally as well, we actually now have a new role at ICANN which the person who's on Board, [inaudible] is focusing on technical issues around universal acceptance. And we've actually been looking at Plesk and also cPanel and trying to see what the gaps are and how to make these UA ready. And also, based on that, submit, any, I guess, bug reports with these systems. So there's ongoing work on that. And we can, of course, provide more details as needed. But there is actually an active thread on at least Plesk and cPanel based on the work which was or the study which was conducted. Thank you.

SEDA AKBULUT: Thank you, Sarmad, for the additional information. So we have one more question from Daniel Getahun. I have the UA certificate on [Learn.icann.org](https://learn.icann.org). Can I organize a local awareness events in Ethiopia?

Would you like to answer or shall I quickly answer as we are reaching to the end? So Daniel, thanks for taking the course, by the way, for the Learn.icann.org. So at the moment, we are now getting very close to the UA Day, which will be on the 28th of March. So for this year, unfortunately, the deadline has passed. But we will expect proposals for the next year hopefully, once the call for proposal announcement is published. So stay tuned and follow UASG on the social media and UA discuss list.

And there's one more question. For people who are interested in announcements about UA Day, how do we subscribe to hear such announcements? So it will be through UA discuss list mostly, and you can also join the UASG working group lists. I will share the link in the chat. Thank you for the question.

AJAY DATA:

And also, if you're not on the mailing list, look at the UASG.tech website. On the front page itself, there is a UA Day link. And all the links will be available of all the events which you can look at. But I'm sure that UASG discuss list is the right platform to get the really latest information because that's where we will certainly post everything. Thank you.

SEDA AKBULUT:

Thank you, Dr. Data. So we have come to the end of our session. Thank you everyone for all the great questions. So if you have any further questions after the session, please join the UA discuss list and we will be more than happy to answer your questions and we look forward to meeting you at the main week at ICANN 76. Have a great day. Bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]