
ICANN76 | CF – ICANN Public Forum
Thursday, March 16, 2023 – 10:30 to 12:00 CUN

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome Tripti Sinha, ICANN Board Chair.

TRIPTI SINHA: Hello, everyone. Thank you for joining us today for the ICANN76 Public Forum. As I said during the opening ceremony on Monday, ICANN is at an inflection point. We have accomplished quite a lot together over the last 25 years. And as we embark on the launch of several major community-driven projects and initiatives, we know we will face new challenges—challenges that we will overcome together through ICANN’s consensus-based model.

The ICANN Board is committed to facilitating the bottom-up multistakeholder process to progress the work ahead of us. And of course, we are committed to making continuous improvement and getting the job done together. This is why the public forum is such a valuable opportunity for the ICANN Board and the community to come together. It is the Board’s responsibility to act in the collective interest of all stakeholders and to hear directly from you about your hopes, your concerns, and the challenges you face.

On behalf of the Board, I encourage you to take advantage of this question to ask questions, to make comments, and share your thoughts

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in a language of your choice. And hopefully we will have enough translators to get them translated.

Please also remember that this session is not a replacement for public comments ICANN is seeking on various issues and policies. If you want to provide input on a specific issue that is open for public comment, please use the online system available at ICANN.org. It is the only way that comments will receive proper consideration from the appropriate committee, supporting organization, or staff member.

Before we begin, I would like to thank you, the community, for the robust discussions through the week. Thank you for being here. And I look forward to your questions and comments.

Now, ICANN's ombudsman, Herb Waye, will say a few words about ICANN's expected standards of behavior. Herb, the floor is yours.

HERB WAYE:

Thank you, Madam Chair. My name is Herb Waye, and I'm the ICANN ombuds. With me is Linda Mainville, who has recently joined the ombuds team as adjunct ombuds. To ICANN newcomers, I hope your first experience at an ICANN meeting has been positive and pleasant.

Chatting with Linda a few days ago, she mentioned that ombuds work needs to be less palliative and more curative, proactively addressing potential problems before they happen. With her expertise in systemic ombuds investigations, we hope to be that curative team for you. As a community, our collective goal is to ensure ICANN participation cultivates a professional and respectful environment, something we need to focus on together for it to succeed.

In closing, we would like to remind everyone that ICANN's expected standards of behavior govern all aspects of interaction between participants in ICANN activities, including verbal, visual, and written communications. Harassment will not be tolerated. We wish you all a professional and respectful public forum. Thank you. Stay safe. And be kind.

Alex?

ALEX DANS:

Thank you, Herb. Welcome, everyone. My name is Alex Dans, and I'm the Communication Director for the Americas at ICANN Org. I'm going to briefly explain the format for this session and how you can participate. Today's public forum will last 90 minutes. The session will be divided into three blocks. All three blocks are open to any subject of community interest. Each block will be facilitated by a Board member, starting with Leon Sanchez, followed by Becky Burr, and then Patricio Poblete. We strongly encourage you to use the headset to take advantage of the skilled interpreters we have here supporting us, as we often receive questions in other languages than English.

I will now switch to Spanish for a short message. For us at ICANN, it is very important that everyone participates on an equal footing and can ask questions to the Board in their own language. We are holding this forum in the Latin American and Caribbean region, so please feel free to submit your questions in Spanish, French, or Portuguese. I will read them, and our team of interpreters will share them in English and the other official languages of the United Nations. Finally, we strongly

encourage you to use headsets so that you can follow the session in your language.

And I will now explain how to participate in English. [inaudible] processes. Once the first block begins, there are three ways to ask a question or make a comment. If you're attending the event in person, simply go to the microphone and wait for your turn to make your comments. Please remember to keep your comments brief and respectful to those attending online and in person.

If you are participating remotely, you can virtually queue up in one of two ways. If you want to ask a question or make a comment verbally, please click on the righthand icon at the bottom of your screen, and you will automatically go into the speakers queue. When it's your turn to speak, you'll see a message on your screen requesting that you unmute your mic. This will let you know that it will soon be your turn to speak. And once you've been introduced, please be sure that you unmute your microphone.

Before stating your comment or question, either in person or remotely, please say your name, where you're from, and who you're representing or affiliated with, if applicable. And remember to speak slowly and clearly so that the scribes and interpreters correctly capture your words.

If you're unable to voice your question or comment, please write it in the Zoom Q&A pod. I will read the question aloud. Please do not ask your question in the chat. We are not tracking questions in the chat, and your questions will not be read if you write it there. When submitting a

question or comment to the Q&A pod, please also include your name, where you're from, and affiliation if applicable.

Each person will have two minutes to make a question or comment. You will see a two-minute timer on the screen. We use this time limit to facilitate as many questions and comments as possible. The Board facilitator will then either answer your question or turn to the Board member who is best equipped to answer your question. Please note that the Board may need a few seconds to determine who is best prepared to answer your question.

If you have a follow-up question, we ask you to reenter the queue. This ensures everybody has the opportunity to pose a question or comment to the Board during the allotted time. The two-minute rule also applies for follow-up questions and comments.

Real-time interpretation is available for all United Nation languages—English, French, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, Russian, and also for Portuguese.

You can find more information on the session page. The link is available in the chat box.

I want to thank our incredibly skilled interpreters for making this feature possible and also remind everyone to speak as slowly and clearly as possible when asking a question or making a comment.

The language spoken in Zoom may vary during the session depending on who is speaking. For the best experience, we recommend that you select the language you speak or listen to by clicking on the interpretation icon located in the Zoom toolbar. For example, if you

select English, whenever someone speaks in another language than English, it will automatically be translated into English on the channel you've selected.

Let's now open the first block. Our first Board facilitator is Leon Sanchez. Leon, the floor is yours.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you very much, Alex. I'm going to speak in Spanish. Okay, so Alex has explained how we will be participating in our first public forum block. So now we open the microphones so that you can start sharing your questions. I think it's a little bit early still. Otherwise, we [would] be seeing a queue behind the microphone.

But now I see Alfredo approaching, and he's going to get us all started. Okay. Please go ahead.

AMADEU ABRIL

I would add one language to the list that Alex read, which is [inaudible], which is quite close to broken English.

I have three main things I want to discuss, so I will be three times in the queue probably, unless there are other people with other topics. I will start with one that's recurrent. And it's how to make a little bit more useful ICANN meetings. I'm so sorry, but we have a very nice schedule that tells you exactly nothing about what you're supposed to attend or understand in the ICANN meeting. So you have very nice topics, and then when you go inside, you all the kinds of links, which are very useful, and then, very often, you even have the CVs of the ICANN staff that's

facilitating that, which is fascinating to learn but doesn't help to know what's going on in that room at that time.

I don't understand—I have not understand for the last 25 years—why it's so difficult to put the agenda for a meeting where everybody has submitted their slides weeks in advance, where everybody knows if you are from that group, who's talking, who's not, and what exactly it's about because then you have fascinating things, like, for instance, “CPH and ICANN: Roles and Responsibilities.” Wow, that sounds fascinating. I represent a registrar and a registry. That should be interesting to me, but I don't know what it is. And at the end, it is about the DPS, the data protection agreement that has been negotiated for the last, what, five years? You don't know that until you go there.

And the second thing—I don't know where we are regarding the clock—is then suddenly you discover that the session is closed. And this is my second recurrent request to the Board this time. 25 years ago, only GAC sometimes had closed sessions. Everything else was open. Now is exactly the reverse. More and more things tend to be—may I finish? Or do I go back in ten minutes?

[LEON SANCHEZ]:

[Continue].

ALFREDO [CALDERON]:

Okay. More and more things tend to be closed for no good reason. I've been in a number of closed sessions all these years, and for the life of me, I don't understand why. The only reason is we seem to feel more self-important if we have closed sessions. And it happens everywhere:

ALAC, Contracted Party House, the Non-Contracted Party House. It doesn't matter.

I really think that we need to debate on that, especially when we pretend to go to WSIS and preach the superior nature of the multistakeholder model, which may be true. But not like this. And I will encourage the Board to have a session next time in the public forum because this isn't something for a [concrete] group. It's for everybody. And ask people to come people and explain why they need these closed sessions and other people to counterbalance those arguments. And I think we need a mechanism for which people to really apply and demonstrate why we need that session to be closed.

I think that would be a good job for the ombudsman, by the way—to have some action and decision on that—because, I repeat, it's unbearable how many things are closed even to things that [inaudible] registrars. I cannot go even being a registrar, right? I mentioned that group, but I can apply that to any others. Thanks a lot.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Amadeu.

I think Sally can speak to your comments and questions. Sally, you have the floor.

SALLY COSTERTON:

Thank you, Leon. And thank you very much for the two questions. I'm happy for obviously my Board colleagues to comment as well, but just for the benefit of the room, we have a process which we've been using

for many years on the staff side to support the community. The community set the agenda for these meetings. So we ask each of the SO/AC groups to send a representative to the planning group. It's usually a chair or a vice-chair, so it's important that they're at that level. And they are responsible for bringing their community priorities to that group and then for taking the collective decisions of the group back to their communities.

So the question about scheduling and open and closed sessions is in the hands of that group. So I'm absolutely open to ... The piece about open and closed has nothing to do with the staff. These are the choices that the community chooses to make for its own sessions.

And I would just also make the observation that, since I've been at ICANN, as you rightly say, Amadeu, the opening of the GAC sessions has been very widely appreciated, and it has been very important. But also there are other sessions—for example, in the technical community—that the RSSAC is now open to ...

But I take your point. You're not the only person to comment on the amount of closed sessions. And I would just appeal to my community colleagues as we go straight out of this meeting. We will stand up that planning team—I'm looking Katrina because she has often been on it—for the Washington meeting. So I'm sharing that feedback because [we're back into] that planning group.

The other point is about the details on the schedule. I'm with you. That is about getting agreement as early as possible as to what that block schedule looks like, which sessions are going to be when, and then making sure that there is commitment from the community to be

clear—and the staff as well; this is a partnership—so that we have as much information as possible in advance. And again, I’m completely with you. And I would urge us to prioritize that. Thank you.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Sally.

Alfredo, you now have the floor.

ALFREDO CALDERON:

I will speak in Spanish so that we can understand each other. I am Alfredo Calderon. I speak in a personal capacity, although I come from the At-Large community.

First of all, I would like to thank the Board for this opportunity. I am a Fellow alumni. I was a mentor. I was a member of the Selection Committee, so I also want to thank the community for their trust.

I was a newcomer some years ago, and I faced this situation. Access to resources, documents, and information to understand how ICANN works and how the different communities work was a bit of an issue. Back then, the IT staff or team launched a program to organize the information so that all newcomers and old-timers at ICANN would be able to access information in a centralized and organized way. I didn’t see any update on the status of this project on the schedule so that newcomers can access information on all community groups. That is my first point or question. What’s the status of that project?

Secondly, now that we are going back to normal after that pandemic, and now that we are holding hybrid, we used to call remote participants

remote if they were not present before, but now we call these hybrid. So my question is, how are we going to be evolving these meetings so that remote participants can have more participation tools?

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Alfredo. Regarding your first question, some months ago, we launched the new ICANN Board website, where you can see there are more tools available that make it easier to find any information related to the Board.

However, I do understand that this is an ongoing process that touches upon other areas within ICANN. So I will invite Sally to make a comment. Thank you.

SALLY COSTERTON:

Thank you very much. I'm going to ask Sally Newell Cohen, who's in the audience, who's our head of communications. The project you're talking about is ITI/ITP. Sally, could you just complement what Leon said about access for content to newcomers? Because I know you've done a lot of work on this.

SALLY NEWELL COHEN:

We have. We've done quite a bit of work on this. Particularly there is a new section on ITP on the website for beginners, primarily. And this is where they can learn about the community groups and how to get involved. And that's the biggest next step that we've made.

SALLY COSTERTON:

Thank you.

Your second question on remote tools. And also you talked about something else: what do we call people who are remote participants? And you had raised an interesting question: do we call them hybrid participants? I don't know the answer to that, but I think it's an interesting one. I think it's something we might want to pick up in the planning team for the next meeting and just think about how the community would like to do that because it's a collective decision we need to make, I think.

To the question about continuing investment in the tools and platforms, we have that. It's very high on our radar because we're going to be like this for the long term. So it's very high on the list of priorities in Ashwin's team, in the language services team. So please feel confident that it's high on our list. Thank you for the question.

ALFREDO CALDERON:

Thank you for the answers.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you. I think we have some remote participant questions. So, Alex, please?

ALEX DANS:

I just want also to remind everyone to please speak slowly and clearly for the interpreters.

We have a question, a hand raised, from Claire Craig. Claire?

CLAIRE CRAIG:

Morning. Good afternoon. Good evening. Well, in Cancun, it's still morning. This is Claire Craig. I am the Secretary of LACRALO, but I'm speaking in my own private capacity. I am so pleased that we have recently concluded the LACRALO general assembly in Cancun. And from my understanding, I think it was quite a success. Unfortunately, I could not have been there due to personal issues, but I was able to participate remotely as a moderator and continue to participate in the ICANN meeting.

My comment is that, as the general assembly was held during the ICANN76 meeting, members of the LACRALO region were able to participate in ICANN sessions. It is a pity that the budget was not sufficient to allow some of these participants to stay a little bit longer because the general assembly's agenda was quite packed, even though members were able to participate in ICANN sessions such as this that they are not there to participate in. But particularly for our Caribbean participants, there was a session yesterday evening which happened to be after many of them had left.

So while I do appreciate the fact that the general assembly happened during ICANN76, it would have been good to have the budget allocated for a little bit longer so persons could have stayed longer. Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak. And thank you for the support of staff for the general assembly and everything else.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Claire. Thank you very much. You're right. It would have been really good to make the most of this opportunity of having you all here together so that you would have been able to actively engage in all these sessions. I think this has to do with planning. As Sally was explaining, there is a planning committee for these meeting. And maybe there were some communication glitches in terms of planning the meeting as such and in terms of planning the LACRALO general assembly. This is not a question of money, so to speak. At the end of the day, all of the participants were here. I think we just need to fine-tune our planning so that we can better plan attendance at a general assembly and attendance at an ICANN meeting.

Perhaps Sally would like to chime in at this point. Thank you.

SALLY COSTERTON:

Thank you very much. Yes, Leon, I agree with everything you said. The standard, just for you all to know, is---because we have to be fair around the world—that every region has a general assembly. And the model funding for funding is two days and three nights. And as Leon says, we try, where possible—and I know that the RALOs want to do this; the At-Large wants to do this—to combine, to back-end or front-end, those assemblies to where we are having ICANN meetings with the obvious [cross] of a benefit.

As you say, we can always relook at this, but that's how it works. So we're putting two things back to back, and the funding model has always been two days and three nights. Thank you.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Sally.

Alex, I will now take a question from the floor. Please go ahead.

WERNER STAUB:

Werner Staub. I work for the CORE association. My comment is about the context of the inflection point that has been mentioned and essentially about the attitude of self-importance and self-centeredness that we've collectively taken in those 25 years.

I'm going to use one example. There's many, but I'm just going to use one example of how our attitude of just thinking that every solution must come from within the community is actually hurting the process of anything we try to achieve in ICANN. The example is an effort made by other people outside of ICANN that has actually been quite critical. It's called the legal identity identifier. It is an initiative of the G20 and of the Financial Stability Board. It's an ISO standard. It's called ISO 17442.

Now, this legal entity identifier should be part of the data model everywhere. It should be part of the registrar accreditation process. It should at least be available for those who wish to identify themselves correctly as domain holders. It has never been even discussed here. It's gone that far that even ICANN itself does not have its own legal entity identifier, even though, in most bigger organizations, almost all the brands that are actually represented here have their legal identifier. But ICANN is currently the equivalent of the truck driver who drives a truck without a license plate. It is a matter of being not just the one who sets standards but also one who follows best practices that come from somewhere else. Thank you.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Werner.

Danko, you have the floor—Tripti, of course. Tripti.

TRIPTI SINHA:

Thank you for your comment. Hard to say what happened in the last 25 [inaudible] if we were truly self-centered, but as I made in my comment in my opening remarks, it is time for us to work with others in the ecosystem. So going forward, we will absolutely be doing that and embracing, as you said, that as an example. But good comment. Thank you for your feedback.

DANKO JEVTOVIC:

I would also like to add a bit about the particular financial identifier. And this is something that we looked into, and currently there exists a number of financial identifiers that help facilitate financial [trust] access. Currently, we don't use it because it has been evaluated as not really necessary in the work we are having. But going into the SubPro, we expect more contracted parties to be on board. And one of the important parts of that to drive is to have more global firms that come from the different global regions. So I think this is something that will be reevaluated again. And thank you for this initiative.

On another [level], you also mentioned the possibility of using such a financial identifier in the domain name registrations. This is, for me, a new idea, but this is something that is part of the policies. So it should be included in our bottom-up policy development process.

Thanks, Leon.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Danko.

We will now take another remote participant question.

ALEX DANS:

Jeff Neuman: “I have been participating remotely in this meeting since Tuesday because I had to go home, and I actually have to say that ICANN has done an amazing job with making remote participants actually feel like we can participate.

I also wanted to express my sincere thanks to the ICANN travel team and everyone else that made it possible for me to get home with essentially no notice. Thank you so much, travel team and everyone else behind the scenes that make these meetings run so smoothly.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you so much for that comment, Jeff. You’re very kind.

Jordan, you have the floor.

JORDAN CARTER:

Jordan Carter. I’m a staff member at auDA, the Australian Domain Administration. I’m speaking today with a bit of a reflection on the WSIS+20 plenary session that was held yesterday. It canvassed a lot of ground but did draw the point out at the WSIS+20 in 2025: the risk to the continuity of the multistakeholder model of Internet governance at the global level. And if the Internet and technical communities are going to

have a good impact on those dialogues, we need to be well-coordinated. And you start coordinating by working together and talking, which is kind of a statement of the obvious. But the soundings taken in the discussion that has continued among the panelists since yesterday's panel suggests that there's a bit of a vacuum in technical community leadership to achieve that coordination.

So it's not so much a question as a request, I guess, for the ICANN leadership at the Board and executive level. Can you take some action to instigate/ignite/begin that sort of collaboration, working with ISOC and the other I-STAR organizations? I think it would be great to see ICANN play a role, if not in leading all the collaboration leading up to those events but at least to start the conversations and make sure that things start to glue together because these processes are underway already. The dialogues are already happening. We're starting a little bit late if we start today. And it'll be great to see ICANN stepping up into that. Thank you.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Jordan.

Tripti, you have the floor.

TRIPTI SINHA:

Indeed, it is time for us to begin to work with our colleagues. You mentioned ISOC. Many years ago, the ISOC board and the ICANN Board used to meet at the AGM. That hasn't happened because of COVID and various other reasons. So, yes, we are going to reach out to the I-STAR community and others and begin this conversation. So it is time. It is

time, and we're all collective. We have to work together—this ecosystem. And that is indeed going to happen. Thank you.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Tripti.

Edmon, I think you want to chime in.

EDMON CHUNG:

Just actually echoing what Tripti said. And I think, in the past, we did have different liaisons, but we were loud and clear that, at this juncture, it's important to go out to the technical community RIRs. And early in the week in the meeting with the ASO, I think there was a very clear invitation for better ICANN presence at the RIR meetings and, of course, beyond, as you mentioned.

And also that speaks to what Werner mentioned earlier as well: reaching out to the I-STAR community and having discussion and coordination, driving towards the WSIS+20. Thank you.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Edmon.

Matthew, you have the floor.

MATTHEW SHEARS:

Thank you for the point, Jordan. It's incredibly important to realize that we have three years of back-to-back events that may impact upon the multistakeholder model. And certainly we'll discuss the multistakeholder model. So I think this is a good point to raise:

coordination, talking about the multistakeholder model and how important it is, not just in the context of the Internet but in the broader context of development and reaching out to other communities and other aspects. So I think this is a great way of spinning that in that context and in those events. So thank you for that comment.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you.

The gentleman here in the room, please? You have the floor.

HARISH CHOWDHARY:

Harish Chowdhary, ICANN Fellow. [inaudible] to my question that recently, on the 12th of March, some Indian ISPs have blocked access to three major domain name registrars. So the move comes as part of a long-running dispute over cybersquatting. Indian courts acted in response as registrars are not responding to their takedown notices.

So my question is, what is the role of ICANN in this situation to avoid these kinds of scenarios—an action plan of ICANN if there is a role—and towards the registrars which are not obeying the law of the land to ease the situation? Thanks.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Do any of my colleagues want to comment on this one?

Sally?

SALLY COSTERTON: Thank you very much for the question. And we spoke about this yesterday. And since we spoke, as I said I would, I've been having discussions with the team. And I'm going to ask John—I think it's probably you, John Jeffrey or Jamie—just to quickly update the room because this is a live issue, I know. Thank you. Can somebody give John a microphone? Thank you, John.

JOHN JEFFREY: Thank you. We're aware of the situation and we're looking into it, but we can't speak about it because it's currently under an investigation by Compliance.

LEON SANCHEZ: Thank you, John.

Well, I'd like to thank my colleagues for their participation. And I will pass the microphone to my colleague, Becky, to continue leading us in this session.

BECKY BURR: Thank you, Leon, and welcome, everybody.

Please go ahead, Mason.

MASON COLE: Thank you, Becky. My name is Mason Cole. I'm Chair of the Business Constituency, but I'm speaking in my personal capacity. The imposition of the European Union's NIS2 directive clarified the duties of contracted parties under GDPR and created conflicts with the current policy. Article

28 provides detailed requirements on the stewards of WHOIS data, namely registrars and registrars. In order to comply with the updated law, there now is a need for a new temp spec to align contracted party operations with the new law. A temporary specification could be needed to distinguish between legal and natural registrants and to impose the mandatory publication of legal registration data, reevaluate the option of permitting registry operators to go thin, address the new completeness and accuracy requirements, address how ICANN Org will ensure that domain name registration data is available, free of charge, and address how to apply the WHOIS requirements to resellers and privacy-proxy providers—this will likely require ICANN Org to prioritize and update the privacy-proxy accreditation work—and finally to secure the supply chain for domain names as it relates to resellers and privacy-proxy providers.

Accordingly, the Board should consider, as it did upon imposition of GDPR, issuing a new temp spec to align DNS operations with the revised law. As we heard this week, the directive is already in effect, so there's no need to wait.

Thank you, and I look forward to your comments.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you, Mason. I have to say that the Board has not discussed the temp spec in this connection. And so we don't have a view on it that we can present to you at all.

I think it's important to look to the conditions under which a temp spec is appropriate and permitted, and those are where the modifications to

the amendment are justified [for] the immediate temporary establishment of the specification or a policy on the subject is necessary to maintain the stability or security of the registry services of the DNS or registrar services. So that is the standard that we would have to apply in terms of making a decision. But as I said, we have not had any discussion on that.

MASON COLE: Thank you.

BECKY BURR: Thank you.

Could we go to an online question, please?

ALEX DANS: The next question is from Siva Subramanian M. “There are participants who have attended 75 out of 76 meetings. Does the Board have plans to recognize them and honor them with a pot of gold each?”

BECKY BURR: Does anybody want to—Tripti, go ahead.

TRIPTI SINHA: We certainly will recognize them. I’m not sure a pot of gold will come with it. But, yes, the Board is looking at thanking our community members. We’ve received a lot of feedback on not just tenure and years of service or longevity but just contributions that are being made in working group levels and so forth.

So, yes, we are looking at being very creative and genuinely expressing our gratitude. The gratitude is there. It just isn't being expressed in a visible way, and we will make sure that we do that. But unfortunately I don't think it'll come with a pot of gold.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you.

Please go ahead.

MILAGRO SUIRA:

Hello. I'm going to speak in Spanish. Good morning to everyone. My name is Milagro Suira. I'm a NextGen from Panama. And first and foremost, I'd like to make a comment. Yesterday, the NextGen had presentations. They were short presentations, and it's a little bit sad to me not to see any members of the Board present in the session. None of you came to see us. And what I've heard in these days from Sally and from Tripti is that I've heard you say that the NextGen and the Fellows are, in some way, shape, or form, the future of ICANN. However, none of you came to see our presentations. I just wanted to say that I hope that you can watch the recordings. I know that they will be available. You can see the PowerPoint presentations that we prepared.

I wanted to say one more thing. I really hope that we can have interpretation in all future sessions because I know that there is interpretation in a number of sessions but, for example, yesterday we had an excellent session with the members of the Board; however, there wasn't interpretation. So I really struggled to follow what was being

discussed. So I think that, in the future, it would be excellent if we could have interpreting in all of the sessions.

And one thing I'd like to add. I'd like to express my gratitude for how ICANN has been managing the integration of the Fellows and the NextGen. We had sessions before the meetings, and I hadn't actually experienced that in any other organization. So I thought that was an excellent idea. Thank you once again.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you very much for those thoughtful comments. And we did indeed view NextGen as the future of this organization. And the Board is aware of the scheduling conflicts.

Let me turn to Sally Costerton to respond.

SALLY COSTERTON:

Thank you, Becky. Yes, exactly. This is a practical problem. This is a scheduling conflict. So the Board obviously can't be in two places at once. So what I'm going to do as a result of that question is I'm going to go back to the team that organizes the NextGen presentations and see if we can tackle it the other way around and see if we can move the presentation slots of the NextGen to prioritize time that the Board can attend.

In terms of the translation, we will continue to work on our technical translation solutions, our online solutions, as well as our in-the-room solutions during the pandemic that has offered us tremendous ability to expand the amount of interpretation that we offer to sessions. And

we see vastly more than we used to. There is still more to do. I appreciated that, in your session, I had to speak to one of the questions in French, which was a bit of a challenge. So I'm completely with you on that one and leave it with this: we'll take both those as actions out of this meeting. Thank you.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you, Sally.

Tripti, did you have something to add?

Great. We have some hands raised, so let us go to the first one. Olga—I'm going to butcher this; I'm sorry—Kyryliuk. Please go to your question.

OLGA KYRYLIUK:

Thank you, Becky, for giving me the floor. My name is Olga Kyryliuk, NCUC EC, but I'm speaking in my individual capacity. This meeting had a lot of focus on the future of ICANN and DNS. My question is related both the legacy of the past and our future. While the Soviet Union collapsed more than 30 years ago, the .su ccTLD has not been removed from the root zone until now. When you add a similar TLD to [inaudible] was successfully retired and ceased to exist in quite a short time. Among such examples are dot-[yu] from Yugoslavia, dot-cs for Czechoslovakia, dot-et for East Timor, and dot-dd for the German Democratic Republic. Russia as an aggressive state is actively using dot-su for websites of occupying authorities and data created on temporarily seized territories of Ukraine.

So my question is two parts. First, why until now has the dot-su hasn't been retired, especially given its illegal use for geographical territories and the jurisdiction of Ukraine as a sovereign state. And the second: when can we expect that ICANN will finally act upon this case and complete the dot-su retirement?

Please note that my question has nothing to do with disconnecting Russia from the Internet or messing up the root zone because ICANN already made its position clear on this issue. My point is that this country has the dot-[no] ccTLD and respective IDN in Cyrillic. Keeping dot-su alive is only feeding their imperialistic ambitions of this aggressive state. After 32 years since the dissolution of the Soviet Union, it is high time both for ICANN and Russia to embrace the reality that there is no such country as the Soviet Union and there shouldn't be such a ccTLD as dot-su. So why and when? Thank you.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you very much.

Could I turn to Patricio and maybe Katrina to respond?

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Yeah. ccNSO had a policy development process on retirement of ccTLDs, but that particular point that you mentioned about dot-su was outside the scope of that. So after finishing that process, the matter reverted back to IANA, and the information that I have is that the IANA staff is beginning to consider alternatives around that issue. We don't have anything definite yet, but IANA is working on it.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you, Patricio.

Katrina, nothing to add?

Okay.

Let us go to the next person in line. Thank you.

LAWRENCE OLAWALE-ROBERTS:

Thank you. Good day, everybody. My name is Robert Olawale-Roberts. I have to serve as the Vice-Chair for Finance and Operations of the Business Constituency and also represent the CSG on the GGP guidance process for applicant support, for which I speak. The GGP and its outcomes are of great interest in the community from deliberations that we have seen in different sessions this week. Hence, there should be adequate mechanisms baked into its process to measure and ensure that it's on course and correct in good time any perceived shortcomings. While meeting the timeline as proposed is not in doubt, steps should be taken to ensure all contributions are heard and that non-agreement of any group participating in the GGP does not invalidate the outcomes and advice to the GNSO Council.

The BC spent some of its own members funds on a study to learn why more Latin Americans did not apply in the last round. We know from that study and experience from the last round that many applicants from the global south did not apply as they simply did not know or [did not know] that there was support available for them. Outreach and

education, especially to micro and small companies in developing countries, is vital if this round is to be inclusive. Thank you.

BECKY BURR: Thanks. First, let me turn to Avri, and then perhaps Sally Newell Cohen has something to add on it.

AVRI DORIA: Thank you, Lawrence, for the comment. And it indeed was a problem with an insufficient time to do outreach at the last round. In this round, it is being figured in from the beginning that, to the launch from now, there really needs to be an outreach that is sufficient to reach enough people. We certainly need the output from the GGP, but we don't necessarily need to wait for that to start outreach about language, about IDNs, about UA, etc., to make sure that, by the time there is a launch, anywhere in the world could have heard of it and could apply. So hopefully we're going to fix that. The intention is to fix that this time.

BECKY BURR: Thank you, Avri. I don't know if Sally Newell Cohen is around—yes, please.

SALLY NEWELL COHEN: For the outreach campaign, there's a couple of things we're doing, I think, differently than happened before. And it is to actually identify the countries that need to be targeted, if you will, to look at the criteria and what are the developing areas where there's a potential, where there's the opportunity to do that. Then we're sub-targeting those audiences—

I know I'm talking a little bit marketing-ese—to look at small businesses, look at trade associations, where are those places where there's most potential to create awareness about the New gTLD Program? So that's part of the planning for it, to make sure that we hit those areas that we weren't able to before in a much longer timeframe than we did in the past. Thank you.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you.

I'm really happy to see so much interest in the energy in this session. And in light of the discussion, we're going to close the queue now to make sure that we get to everybody who has their hands raised and the written questions who are in line.

Let us go now to Michael Palage, who has his hand raised.

MICHEALE PALAGE:

Hello, Becky. I'd like to begin by thanking the entire ICANN community for a really successful ICANN76 meeting. There really has been a positive, can-do vibe that has been missing way too long.

However, there is one topic that I personally have not heard discussed this week. And my apologies if I have missed. And this involves the recent Namecheap independent review decision. And I would like to discuss this briefly for three reasons, first from an openness and transparency perspective. This week, we heard a lot about ICANN's renewed commitment to openness and transparency. However, as the Namecheap IRP decision makes clear, ICANN Legal extended (some

might even say) abuse of the attorney-client privilege for seemingly normal business communications is concerning. So I would really encourage every director to read that decision and see how that reconciles with ICANN's obligations under Article 3 of its bylaws.

And second is from a financial perspective. As a result of ICANN being the losing party in the Namecheap IRP, it had to pay over \$850,000 in panelist fees. While ICANN overall has a six-win, ten-loss IRP scorecard, ICANN has actually lost six out of its last seven IRPs that gone to a panelist decision. This has resulted in ICANN having to pay millions of dollars in panelist fees and does not include the perhaps much more substantial fees paid to Jones Day. Hopefully, the Board will start asking questions about what internal or external changes might be necessary to change this very disturbing trend.

The third and final point I would like to raise is the recommendation of the panel regarding an economic study. However, instead of an economic study focused on two registries—dot-info and dot-org—I think ICANN needs to look at and undertake an overall economic study of the entire domain name ecosystem. I believe such an economic analysis would be timely as ICANN is about to embark on its five-year strategic plan. Thank you.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you, Michael.

Leon, as chair of the BAMC, do you have anything to comment?

LEON SANCHEZ: Thanks, Becky. Well, all I can say, Mike, is that the BAMC is definitely looking at this. And, yes, your comments are very relevant to [intervening in] this process. And we will definitely look into it and try to minimize any impacts to ICANN.

BECKY BURR: Thank you very much.

Let's take the next person in line, and then we'll go into the written questions.

MARTIN SUTTON: Buenos dias. My name is Martin Sutton from Com Laude, a corporate registrar, and also former member of the working group for the subsequent procedures and one of the co-leads for a work track within that. So that was an expensive and comprehensive six years of cross-community effort. So I'm pleased that the step up in energy recently as we head towards what is hopefully the start of implementation.

I just wanted to emphasize the fact that there are many organizations looking forward to the next opportunity to apply. And what would be really helpful at this stage—and I know we may not receive it in terms of the resolution this time around—is a timeline and a transparency of the costs and how the fees are calculated, even if it's within a range. Doesn't need to be specific as we still refine the implementation work, but just say that we can help you, the community, that can go out and help and support the outreach to make this a truly global initiative and to release that information to us as soon as possible so that we can give you the

feedback and we can get this in motion and step up that momentum that we've seen this week. Thank you.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you very much, Martin.

Avri, would you like to comment?

AVRI DORIA:

Thank you. Yeah. I think that you're right. The resolution that will be done this afternoon will not include that, but it will include a set of steps and procedure that we need to take to get exactly to what you're asking. So please stay tuned and remain hopeful.

MARTIN SUTTON:

And thank you for that, Avri. What I would say though is we do have a tendency to work by ICANN meetings at ICANN meetings. So if anything can be released in between, that starts to help that effort for us, the community, to start that outreach effort alongside ICANN.

AVRI DORIA:

I think you'll be happy that the resolution, while it talks about meetings, also talks about timings that aren't necessarily meeting-bound.

MARTIN SUTTON:

Thank you.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you so much.

Let's go to one of the written questions.

ALEX DANS: Thank you. The next question is anonymous. "How is ICANN handling with GAC members from highly risky countries, such as Afghanistan and Myanmar? How is it going on?"

BECKY BURR: I think I'd like to ask John or Sally to respond to that question.

SALLY COSTERTON: And what about Nico?

BECKY BURR: It was actually directed to Manal. Sorry.

MANAL ISMAIL: Sorry. So thank you for the question. Just to start with a quick background on the GAC operating principles, which specify that members of the GAC shall be national governments, multinational governmental organizations, treaty organizations, and public authorities ... And membership is also open to distinct economists as recognized in international fora. The GAC operating principles also define the members' rights to appoint representatives who must hold a formal official position with the members' public administration. And the GAC maintains a public roster of its members and appointed representatives on the GAC website.

That said, when it comes to political matters such as country or government recognition, the GAC refers to international law and global political consensus. And the GAC cannot revoke or bar participation from GAC-based representatives which are nominated by their own countries.

So in brief, we try to maintain national issues being resolved at the national level. Thank you.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you very much.

Let's go to one of the written questions.

ALEX DANS:

Thank you. "To ensure a successful ICANN77 policy forum in the USA, can ICANN provide assistance for participants from countries affected by COVID-19 disruption to obtain emergency visa appointments for the event?" And this is an anonymous question.

BECKY BURR:

Go ahead, Sally.

SALLY COSTERTON:

Thank you for the question. Yes, this has come up in several meetings this week, including yesterday with me directly. I've been discussing our process we handle. Just to be clear, ICANN cannot control the pace at which any embassy issues its visas. We are of course very aware that there is a big backlog around the world, including for the US.

What we have done is issued the invitation that is already. We have got our foot on the gas to issue those invitation matters early and fast. We already started that process for the Washington meeting. So we are doing everything we can expedite, to put you as applicants and people who want to come to the meeting in a strong position. And we have our travel support team that's standing by on individual cases.

But I do want to take this opportunity to remind the community we will do everything we can to support you. We do not have the agency or the power to control the speed at which any government allocates its appointments for granting visas. But if anybody has any specific issues on this, any committee member, please come to me or to come to our meetings team. And we have a team to set up to deal with specific questions. We will not be able to speed up the applications meetings themselves. Thank you very much for the opportunity.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you, Sally.

I believe Leon has something to add.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Becky. Yes, of course these are problems that are always a hot topic here. In the case of this meeting, I can assure you that I've seen firsthand all the efforts that Org puts into trying to ease the processes of granting these visa applications. And I personally follow many applications with the Mexican authorities. And as Sally said, we wish we had the power to say, "Grant the visa for all our applicants," but it isn't so.

So, yes, I am a witness of the efforts, and I personally did many of those. So we'll keep working on that.

BECKY BURR:

Thank you, Leon.

And thank you, all for the past 30 minutes or so.

Patricio, please? Where are you? I'm tossing it to you.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Thank you. Thanks, Becky. I see there is a good number of people in the queue. Hopefully we can let them all keep their questions. So please, Joe, you're next.

JOE ALAGNA:

Good morning. My name is Joe Alagna, and first I want to thank this esteemed Board, all the ICANN staff, and in fact the whole entire community for putting on this public forum.

As a representative of the IT.com private registry offering domain names at the third level, I'd like once again read the words of Jon Postel in his original RFC920. And I quote it, "The domain system is a tree-structured global name space that has a few top-level domains. The top-level domains are subdivided into second-level domains. The second-level domains may be subdivided into third-level domains, and so on.[""]

Sometimes we hear third-level domain names being referred to in the same sentences as spam and phishing and abuse. And although abuse

exists in this space, I think it's important to remind everyone that, in the same way as a domain registrant—a company like Google or AOL---has the right to issue or sell innumerable e-mail addresses, registrants also have the right to issue or sell innumerable third-level domain names in a legitimate manner. In fact, I'd like to even propose that we consider making some of the same kinds of protections that we offer to private companies that apply for new TLDs: an applicant contracts available to private registries like Intis Telecom that offers IT.com and [who is] to offer subdomains under second-level domains. The idea could increase the namespace exponentially with multiple channels, per se, and in a meaningful and safe way with no risk of collision and very few issues related to universal acceptance. Thank you.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Thanks.

Who can take this?

BECKY BURR:

Patricio, I can take this. This is a very interesting question. And as someone who lives in the US and has worked with the dot-US, I know very well that third-level registrations are meaningful and used. I think this is a bylaws issue. ICANN's bylaws set out its mission very specifically and give us specific responsibilities with respect to the top level and registrations at the second level. But we don't have authority under the bylaws to issue consensus policy. At least I think it would be complicated to do that. And we can certainly take a look, but I would just caution that we are very careful about staying within our mission.

And whenever we get to a point that's below that second level, we have to be careful.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Thanks, Becky.

Next question from the floor.

RAOUL PLOMMER:

Hello, everyone. My name is Raol Plommer. Thank you, all. Glad to hear that I'm not here to vent my frustration this time. Since the Kuala Lumpur meeting, we've had a small team creating awareness throughout the community about ICANN going carbon-neutral. And to expedite that process, we're gathering as wide a coalition as possible to support this goal. I'm happy to tell you that the reception of this goal has been overwhelming positive. Apparently everyone wants to see ICANN become sustainable.

And to keep that goal as clear and focused as possible, we've decided to start that approach and that goal with the data that we already have, offsetting the flight emissions that ICANN Org and the community create, which allows to get us started as quickly as possible.

Hopefully in Hamburg, we could have a session that could be used for getting the whole community up to speed on where we're at and what's the most widely accepted route in mitigating the negative impact ICANN has on the environment.

If you want to join this cross-community working group and participate in our already widely accepted goal of making ICANN carbon-neutral,

please sign up on our mailing list at GreenICANN.org. We just registered this domain last night, so there's not much there. But I would encourage everyone to get on that publicly archived mailing list to help ICANN become environmentally friendly and essentially sustainable.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Thanks.

Maarten?

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN:

Thanks, Raoul. And thank you for all those that you've been talking with. It's very good to hear it's in line with what you brought up in KL as well indeed. I can assure you that the Board has a keen interest in further looking at what we can do, and we're very much aware of the ecological footprint we have, and the way we do it is something to consider. And talking about it helps us to also change the culture. Partly it's done by our processes, and partly it's done by your own choices. And we do things already, as you know. If you are in the [inaudible] support program, [inaudible] is actually using the travel calculations based on the greenhouse gas protocol, the most vitally used international accounting tool. As you know, in our investment policies, we are already looking at ESG elements.

So this is really something that we're moving together on, and I think it's really something that we seem to embrace together. I can talk for our initial discussions on the Board and the community. So thank you very much for your initiative.

And for all those who want to join Raoul, I recommend you do so. This is here to talk more about over the year to come.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Thanks, Maarten.

We'll go now to a hand raised online.

ALEX DANS:

Thank you, Patricio. Gopal Tadepalli, can you unmute yourself?

GOPAL TADEPALLI:

Thank you. This is Gopal from Anna University in Chennai, India. There is [inaudible] on the Internet [inaudible]. Thank you.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

I had some trouble understanding, and it seems the scribes did, too.

Anybody?

SALLY COSTERTON:

Can you say it again?

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Can you please repeat your question? Or type it.

GOPAL TADEPALLI:

[inaudible]. Thanks. [inaudible].

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Thank you.

We'll take the next question from the floor.

JONATHAN ZUCK:

Hi. Thank you. Jonathan Zuck. I'm the newly drafted Chair of the ALAC, but I'm speaking today as someone that was involved in a number of large-scale [system] deployments. And I think we're at time, when we are talking about an inflection point ... One of the inflections is that we're at sort of an operational spike at ICANN. I think we're privileged to have people with similar experience on the Board and in particular our new chair, and I think that's a very good development. Those of us that have been involved in these large systems know that 70% of the work is actually the redesign of the business process and not the system development or design itself.

And I think that, with the two ODP processes that we've had, the resulting ODAs, and budget recommendations, while the work of both the community and the staff has been gigantic and noble, both reveal a problem or a challenge. There are firms that specialize in the redesign of these business processes. And I guess I want to implore the Board to consider the introduction of some of this outside into these discussions so that we're not dealing with numbers that seem to most of us to be so far out of bounds with the reality that we came from in the outside world.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Tripti?

TRIPTI SINHA: Thank you, Jonthan. Very good suggestion. Yes, it was probably a good time to look at process reengineering. And that would then dictate the systems and how they get built behind the scenes. But good input. We take that under advisement.

JONTHAN ZUCK: Thanks.

PATRICIO POBLETE: Thanks. We'll go now to a written question.

ALEX DANS: Thank you, Patricio. The next question is from Oksana Prykhodko. "Hello. I'm Oksana Prykhodko from Ukraine, a RALO ALS. Question for Sally Costerton. We highly appreciate ICANN's decision to allocate funds to keep Ukraine connected. We expected a lot of Starlinks and [inaudible] generators. We did not receive any. Instead, we received a chatbot. We tried to discuss the situation at our Ukrainian IGF, and we highly appreciate Becky's participation in our forum. Both representatives of the Emergency Telecommunication Cluster (ETC) organization selected by ICANN to administrate this money refused to participate in it. Did you receive the final report from ETC? Are you planning to organize discussions of such a report with the Ukrainian stakeholder? We are ready to organize such discussions in Ukraine with your participation. Thank you."

SALLY COSTERTON:

Shall I go straight to answer?

Yes. Okay. Thank you very much for the question, Oksana. So the partner that we partnered with—ETC in Ukraine—publishes monthly reports on their website, so there should be no problem at all in being able to access that information.

For the room to be aware, and to answer you, Oksana, in Ukraine, they've established five Internet hubs, two of which are using Starlink satellite facilities. And we are very happy to engage with the community and anyone else interested in your meetings in Ukraine or in the ICANN community more broadly. Please just let me know. This is a very important issue, and we want to go on being able to interact and discuss with you. Thank you very much for the question.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Thanks.

Next question from the floor.

LISE FUHR:

I'm Lise Fuhr. I'm the Director General of ETNO and also am on the IGF Leadership Panel, but I'm now speaking in my private capacity. We've heard a lot of requests for ICANN to get more active, get more involved, in different area of the digital ecosystem.

And I agree with Jordan Carter's comment about ICANN getting more involved in the I-stars again and starting dialogues about the WSIS+20.

I'm also very pleased about Tripti's speech at the opening ceremony about getting more involved in the broader ecosystem. And we see many things happening right now with the Global Digital Compact consultation that might affect the ICANN community.

But I also think there is a fine line to thread here for ICANN when it comes to involvement that can be seen to be more political than technical. So whatever outreach and involvement that ICANN plans to do, I'll also urge you to be more transparent about your outreach, not only after but also, equally important, before you do it. Thank you.

TRIPTI SINHA: Thank you. We will ensure that our engagement remains within mission, and we will report on it before and after. Thank you.

PATRICIO POBLETE: Next question, please.

JULF HELSINGIUS: I'm Julf Helsingius, this year in the role of Chairman for the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group and also in the unusual role of being here to thank Org and the Board. We've been having discussions over quite a long time on the problem that many of our constituencies are having, which is, once we actually attract new people in who are really burning to participate, how do they really get up to speed? And how do they make policy? It's a very hard transition. And we've been really happy to be a part of the pilot for the policy transition program. And we've been extremely happy with the outcome.

So thank you, Melissa, who ran the program. Thank you, Org, for running the program. Thank you, Board, for supporting it. And I encourage everybody, once it's rolled out the other constituencies, to really support that program. Thank you.

PATRICIO POBLETE: Thanks.

Any comments?

SALLY COSTERTON: Thank you so much for the feedback. I'm happy to say that we've had a lot of very positive feedback about this particular pilot. So thank you for sharing it in the wider room. And Melissa and I were having a discussion about this in a separate meeting yesterday—this exact question. So we are evaluating the pilot at the end of this meeting, so we will come back to the community with feedback on next steps. I'm so glad it's been so effective. Thank you for the feedback.

PATRICIO POBLETE: Thanks.

Sebastien?

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much. I will speak in French. My name is Sebastien Bachollet. I am the EURALO Chair. And the first of my comments is that I would like to support the comment coming from Claire Craig, the LACRALO Secretariat. I think we should try to find means in order to

enable participants to stay on when they've already come all this way. It's a shame to send them home before the end of the meeting.

And secondly, the NextGen participant who stood in front of the microphone, Milagro, said something. Perhaps we should hold a plenary where they can present their work instead of having them present in parallel sessions that are their own and not everyone else's.

Yesterday, at the end of the WSIS+20 session, I heard a comment saying that there were only old folks who came to discuss Internet governance. And I found it was quite an accurate comment. I'm not sure, though, how we could go about having younger people in the room. We will have to try harder next time. But perhaps next time we should try and hold sessions where NextGen participants are there as well and not just their own, where it is up to us to remember to attend their meetings. They should come here to our rooms. And then I hope we get to go back to the discussions held at WSIS+20.

I have a few seconds left, and so for that I would like to ask a question which shouldn't represent any controversy. But for the sake of transparency, I would like to know where we stand in terms of the pilot transparency review. Thank you.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Katrina?

KATRINA SATAKI:

Thank you very much. Sorry, pilot transparency review or pilot holistic review?

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: No, no. Okay, I will do it in English, but I wanted, for transparency reasons for the participants here, to know where we are with the pilot holistic review. Thank you.

KATRINA SATAKI: Thank you very much for clarifying that. We have analyzed all the comments received from public comments of the pilot holistic review terms-of-reference document. We received positive comments and also not-so-supportive comments. So we're working with our colleagues from the ATRT3 team, and we will hopefully come up with an update to our document to ensure that we address all the comments and the concerns expressed during the public comment period.

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you.

KATRINA SATAKI: Thank you very much, Sebastien.

SALLY COSTERTON: Thank you, Sebastien, and for your earlier comments. They are much appreciated and well-made. And we will have a thorough look at the scheduling of the newcomers' slots at the ICANN meetings to try to improve the amount of time that they can come to the bigger sessions, not just being in their own room. It's a little bit of a problem of physics,

but it's a very good point, and I'm taking that as a priority, as I said earlier. Thank you for sharing it.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Okay. There is very little time left, so please go ahead.

OWEN SMIGELSKI:

Thank you. My name is Owen Smigelski. I am with the registrar Namecheap. I'm also Vice-Chair of Policy for the Registrar Stakeholder Group. This is not an official comment on behalf of Namecheap but they certainly do know that they are here.

I do appreciate Michael Palage I guess stealing my thunder earlier by referring to the IRP decision where, if I quote the decision, it said, "ICANN did not prevail." That was ultimately an IRP over ICANN's almost unilateral decision not remove price caps from certain legacy TLDs, such as dot-org, and ignored many thousands of public comments supporting keeping those.

So we filed this IRP. We did get a decision. I'm not going to speak about that because there's a lot of grave concerns raised by the panel's decision. It identified a number of areas where there were flaws with ICANN not following process, with the Board not doing things it's supposed to do.

And more troubling, I think, for an open and transparent organization, in the 170-page decision, the word "privilege" or "privileged" was cited over 100 times. That does not look good for an open and transparent

organization that's making decisions that will affect millions of people around the world.

So my colleague, [Essie], is going to place, in the chat for the Zoom room, links to an ICANN blog, where at the very bottom you can see the main recommendations from the panel. I encourage everybody to look at those. And also I'll put a link in there to the ICANN page for the IRPs so you can review things there. There's also a post-IRP section with the letters that our lawyers are sending to each other. As much as I am sure our lawyers appreciate doing that, I think we could address this and resolve this in a way without having to spend all this money and time. I think we should resolve this and do this as we are at this inflection point moving forward to make a more open and transparent and better ICANN. Thank you.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Thank you.

Leon?

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Patricio. Thank you, Owen. The committee is actually reviewing this resolution in detail. And part of what we have said is, what are the measures we're going to take so that this is not repeated? We are working on this, and we probably will have more activity in the future. Thank you.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Okay, thanks.

Next question, please.

NICOLAS FUIMARELLI:

Thank you. Nicholas Fuimarelli, ICANN76 Fellow. I am part of the [inaudible] but will ask in my personal capacity. During yesterday's meeting between the ICANN Fellows, NextGen, and the Board, Tripti mentioned the development of quantum networks as a technology for the future. This technology, also known as the Quantum Internet, has implications for routing and could potentially lead to lower latencies and improved DNS resolution on routing. While we still have discussion on quantum networks at the RIR level, particularly in [RIPE] [inaudible] and IETF meetings with the [QIRC] Working Group, there was no mention of it in the entire ICANN meeting.

I would like to ask them when the ICANN Board believes it will be an appropriate time to begin discussion on the impact of quantum networks on the Internet infrastructure, Internet architecture, including DNS resolution on routing. Given the potential for significant changes to the Internet architecture, it seems prudent to start considering these implications sooner rather than later. Thank you so much for your consideration.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Tripti?

TRIPTI SINHA:

Thank you for the questions. Yes, quantum technology is current all the rage, and I will say is at least 10-15 years away. And I think having a

session here is certainly not a bad idea. Having eyes on it is certainly not a bad idea. But I will tell you that it is not going to be here any time soon. But I would encourage you to keep their focus on quantum technologies in all its forms. You've got quantum networking, quantum computing, quantum information, and all kinds of ... It's a very broad field. It's getting a lot of attention. There was a conference that was kicked off in Washington, D.C. It was the first of its kind, and it's going to be an annual event. I would encourage you to attend that.

But in terms of it being potentially deployed and on the Internet, it's still not quite mature and I can attest to that. I'm knee-deep in that technology today. Thank you.

NICOLAS FIUMARELLI: Thank you.

PATRICIO POBLETE: Thank you.

Next question, please, from the floor.

FARAZANEH BADIEI: Farzaneh Badiei, Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group. This is my personal statement. I have no position in the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group. I'm just a member. Access to the Internet is access to essential services. After the withdrawal of the US military from Afghanistan, we did nothing for that community and the Internet community there. And we did not even explore how we can help them as it relates to ICANN's limited mission. And we don't know what

happened to their domain names. We don't know what happened to their access to the Internet.

Also, come countries, like the Islamic Republic of Iran, are brutally killing kids and people and protestors on the street. And these people need access to the Internet urgently. But what they face is confiscation of their domain names and blocking access to other services because of sanctions. While sanctions are needed to weaken the brutal regimes, we need to make sure that we diligently comply narrowly with sanctions, not to hamper access of people who are in dire need of access to digital services.

We need to at least informally start talking about what ICANN can do about these things. And if it is not related to its mission, if it cannot do anything about it, then we should not just focus on any country. But at least we need to start the conversation with the ICANN community and mitigate the impact of crisis and geopolitical conflict on people's access to the Internet and to the domain name system. And I am aware of the programs that you have, like the emergency assistance program for continued Internet access. I'm just saying that maybe we should start talking about what we can do in the future, not specific to any single country but for the world. Thanks.

PATRICIO POBLETE:

Thanks.

Sally?

SALLY COSTERTON: Than you, Farzaneh. Yes, the Emergency Access Program (EAP) is exactly what we are starting to mobilize right now. So after the initiative in Ukraine, the Board has approved a framework for this to be fund a permanent opportunity—“tool” is a better word—for us to use in exactly the kind of situations you’re describing to assist with emergency access to Internet services in a situation of crisis. And that is currently—it's in an RFP stage—out looking for partners that can help us on a permanent basis. And we will keep the community updated on a regular basis. But we are moving through that quite quickly, and we expect to have that stood up relatively fast. Thank you so much for flagging it.

PATRICIO POBLETE: Thank you all very much for your participation.

And will give the meeting back now to Tripti.

TRIPTI SINHA: Thank you. If you didn’t get a chance to ask your questions, please send an e-mail to publicforum@ICANN.org, and we will respond to you via e-mail.

So I would first like to thank everyone who participated today. To my colleagues on the Board, thank you for this discussion. And I’d like to give my appreciation to our language services professionals for all of your support during the meetings.

We will see next at the Board meeting this afternoon, which will be held at 15:00 hours, Cancun time. And this session is open to all.

Finally, as we reach the end of this, I would like to encourage you to join the inaugural Universal Acceptance Day planned later this month and the various activities around the world at aim at building a more inclusive and multilingual Internet.

We also look forward to your participation at the ICANN77 policy forum in Washington, DC, whether you're physically attending or participating virtually.

Again, thank you for being here and making your voice heard. This session is adjourned.

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