
ICANN76 | CF - ICANN76 Fellows and NextGen Meet & Greet
Saturday, March 11, 2023 – 10:30 to 12:00 CUN

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Hello, everyone. Before we start, some logistic announcements from our remote moderator and my colleague. Deborah, please.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Hello, and welcome to today's meet and greet session. My name is Deborah Escalera, and I am the remote participation manager for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN expected standards of behavior.

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SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Deborah. Thank you very much. Hello, everyone. My name is Siranush Vardanyan, and many of you have heard my name through tons of e-mails coming to you during the last three months. But, NextGeners, I'm Siranush Vardanyan managing the Fellowship Program. And, together with me here is my colleague and friend, Deborah Escalera, who is managing the NextGen Program. So we are happy today to welcome all of you to ICANN76. We made it.

I also would like to greet our virtual Fellows. We have four Fellows who will join us during the entire week as virtual Fellows, and they were not able to make it to Cancun in person. But they are part of this group, and they are with us, all together. So greetings to our virtual Fellows and virtual participants as well.

So we are going to have an exciting week ahead of us. Today we will cover a brief description of what is expected for us but, most importantly, what is expected from you all to make us and yourselves feel as a group, as a talented group, as a powerful group, of people who came to ICANN to make their voice heard. So we are here to make the change for the global Internet, and we all will be looking at you as the future changers of the world, to the best. Welcome to ICANN76. Yes! Great.

Before we go to the portion of the entire week's activities, I would like to name our mentors and ask them to stand up and all of us to give our huge appreciation and applauds to them. Chris Disspain? Thank you. Kristina Hakobyan. Lilian Ivette. Jennifer Lopez. Please note we have our own Jennifer Lopez here. Afifia Abbas. Please note these are our five Fellowship mentors.

And I would like to see NextGen mentors. I know when of them couldn't make it. Ali, where are you? Where is Ali—yes. And who is the second mentor?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Denise.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Who?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Denise.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Denise? Where is Denise? Our applauses to Denise as well. Thank you very much.

I also would like for mentors to see you in person, your faces, because you worked for the last two months with them. So will name the mentor, and then I will ask those who were under the person's mentorship to stand up. Chris Disspain. Who was in his group. Chris? Stand up, stand up, stand up. So you will go to meet. Thank you. Afifa Abbas? Stand up. Who was under Afifa's mentorship? Good. Four. Good. Okay, thank you. Jennifer, please? Stand up. Jennifer? So know these people in person. And then, in the corridors, you are going to meet with them. Just meet them now. Good. Lilian? Love it, love it. Yes.

And, NextGen, I would like you to stand up, everybody, to see your faces. NextGen? Do we have—good. Okay. Welcome. Welcome to ICANN76. Kristina, I forgot to name you. I'm sorry. Who was under Kristina's mentoring? I thought I named you already. Okay, great.

So my huge thanks goes to our community mentors. You all know that, since ICANN65, all our mentors are assigned or nominated by their respective communities. They are here just to give their time, their experience, and their expertise to all of you as newcomers. They are not getting paid for this, but they are spending their time, enormous time

and efforts, to help the Fellowship Program. And my huge appreciation goes to them for their efforts, their support, their dedication, and their love. I love you all. Thank you. Thank you very much.

Can I just briefly give a couple of words to the mentors to start with? And then we'll move forward with the presenters.

CHRIS DISSPAIN:

You should never give me the microphone, Siranush. You know what happens. Hi, everybody. Welcome. It's great that you're all here. I will say most of you later on today, and I will make sure that I seek out those of you who've been working with me on Zoom. This is a fantastic opportunity. Go everywhere. Do everything. Talk to people. Follow today's stuff. Today's stuff is really important because it's all about how to get the best out of all of what happens in the next few days. Enjoy.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:

Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Guys, we do have interpretation in English, French, Spanish, and Arabic. If you want to use it, feel free to take headsets over there. And don't forget to switch into English or the language you want to speak when you are in Zoom. Okay?

Afifa?

AFIFA ABBAS: Hello, everyone. This is Afifa Abbas from Bangladesh. So it's really good to see you all in person. And I just love the Fellowship energy. It just keeps me motivated and going. It's like food for me. So enjoy. See you. And enjoy the rest of the ICANN week.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Lilian, please?

LILIAN IVETTE DELUQUE: [Spanish] Welcome to the beautiful Latin American and Caribbean region. We are very, very happy for [inaudible] all you with us in this meeting, ICANN76. I am Lilian Ivette de Luque. I am from Columbia. I was a Fellow. I [inaudible]. I am a mentor for ALAC. This is, for me, very, very special: learning about all you. And welcome, again.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: By the way, if you don't know Spanish, you will not know what Lilian just said at the beginning. So use headsets for interpretation, please.

Jennifer?

JENNIFER LOPEZ: Thank you. Hi, everyone. Glad to be here. I want to thank all my mentees because they're very kind with me. This is a hard time for me because I just lost my only nephew, so I want to thank you because you are so kind to me. And welcome to this program. You will love all the experience and you will learn a lot. So welcome to this.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Jennifer. And you are among your friends.

Kristina?

KRISTINA HAKOBYAN: Hello, everyone. I'm Kristina from Armenia. I would like one more time to welcome everybody here. I'm very happy to see everybody in person. So I hope to work with you hard this week. And welcome to ICANN76.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Kristina.

Ali, please?

ALI HUSSAIN: Welcome to the NextGens and the new Fellows. And thank you, everyone, for joining the session. I would like to say to the newcomers [inaudible], when you are attending the ICANN meeting, as it's your first meeting, it brings you a lot of privilege. So you can shout out to anybody. So feel free to network around without [moderating] what comes to your mind. So your thoughts are equally important to the community. So this a little note. So welcome to ICANN76.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Ali. Thank you.

Today we have my colleagues from the Global Stakeholder Engagement team, which we used to call GSE. So they are here to welcome all of you. And everybody who is from that region, I will encourage you, during the week, to make time to meet with them, and

to share with them your expectations, your needs, and your ways, your opportunities, and ideas for the entire region for becoming a part of that region after your first Fellowship or first ICANN meeting or first NextGen meeting so you start and set your stage for the next several years today and during this week.

And I would like to start with the host of the Latin American and Caribbean region here, our Vice-President for this region, Rodrigo de la Parra, who is the first ICANN Fellow, from ICANN29.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you, Siranush. I was a kid back then, very young. I'm going to speak in English, unless you go and pick up your headsets, because otherwise you are not going to be able to understand what I say in Spanish. But I will encourage you to do that. Every time you have an opportunity to have interpretation, please use it. It's very nice to hear different languages across different sessions at ICANN. So I'll be [moving to] Spanish very soon, and maybe I'll be making some special announcements. So you don't want to miss that.

[SIRANUSH VARDANYAN]: [inaudible]

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Yeah, exactly. Move because the room is already very cold as well. So if you don't move ... Okay. Are you guys ready for the switch? It's coming. Okay.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: That's why I told you at the beginning.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Exactly.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Get ready for the [challenges].

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: It's coming.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yeah, NextGens are lucky. They are from the region. They know [inaudible].

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Exactly. That's why they seem so relaxed. What I'm going to speak in is Mexican Spanish, which might be difficult for some. We don't have interpretation for that. Alright. Well, thank you very much. Okay, I'll wait a couple more minutes.

All set? Testing. 1, 2, 3. Yes? Good. [Spanish] Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Rodrigo. And thank you for being here and welcoming our NextGen and Fellows. So it's great to see you here. And thank you for hosting a wonderful event.

I would like to introduce you now to our North American Global Stakeholder Engagement team, who will be our next meeting host group. So Naela, please?

NAELA SARRAS:

Thank you, Siranush. And welcome, everybody. My name is Naela Sarras, and I'm the Regional Vice-President for the North America region. I've been working on my Spanish, but I'm not as good with Rodrigo, so I'll stick with English. I'm really happy to have this opportunity to come meet with all of you. I know we have several Fellows from the North America region that we're going to meet with later this week.

There are several team members that are here with me today, and I'd like to ask our North America team to please stand up. So we have Joe Catapano. He's the Senior Regional Manager for the stakeholder engagement for North America. And then we also have Giose McGinty, who I seem to have lost—no, right there. Really happy to have you here.

Please stop us, talk to us. We're so excited to see a lot of faces that will be basically coming in and helping this community continue to grow. You have great mentors here. As I was looking at the mentors that are standing up and introducing themselves, some of them have been mentors to us even as staff for many years, and we've learned a lot from them as well. We're so excited to have the meeting coming to Washington, D.C., indeed, in June, and we'll look forward to meeting all the Fellows there and NextGen and working with Siranush to hopefully make sure everyone has a great experience. Welcome. Bienvenido.

JOE CATAPANO: Hi. Joe, Stakeholder Engagement, North America. It's great to see you all. Just enjoy your experience and just take it all in. Ask questions. Don't worry about, "Oh, I don't know about X subject, and this might be a silly question." Chances are, someone else have the same question. And if you need anything, even if you're not from North America, or you have a question, please, we're here for all of you. So thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Joe. Thank you, Naela. Those who are from North America, these are the guys with whom you will be working.

Before I move to introduce a great person who is with us here, I would like to give my special thanks to the people from JPNIC, who bring their two students here to join us and enjoy ICANN76 and learn from many of you. I would like to thank Akinori, who is in charge, and [Chyn], who actually supported their participation, and our two students who are here. Please stand up, guys. I want everyone to know you. So this is their first ICANN meeting. You as newcomers are already part of the Fellowship mentoring groups. You need to help the to find their way along this week. Welcome, guys. And it's a great pleasure having them with us. Thank you.

With that, Rodrigo de la Parra mentioned PRS. What does it mean? I know it was a strange abbreviation for you, but this is Public Responsibility Report, the team which me and Deborah are part of. But this team is led by the great person who is with us here, Ergys Ramaj, whom I want to give the floor.

ERGYS RAMAJ:

Thank you, Sirsanush. Good morning, everyone. I have never been introduced as a great person before, but I'm not going to complain. So welcome—excuse me. Let me just turn around. Welcome to Cancun. How many of you here are newcomers? Can we just see by show of hands?

Okay. That's amazing. Well, welcome to ICANN to all of you. We are very fortunate to have each and every one of you, not only because you are super smart and talented but also because you bring to ICANN a diversity of views and skills which are super critical to the multistakeholder model. So I want you to take this opportunity to ask questions, to learn as much as you can, not only from the community, from the Board, but also from one another. Those of you are returning Fellows, please do work with your counterparts. Tell them what works, what doesn't work, from your own perspectives. And then show them the ropes because this is a community. The Fellowship Program, as Siranush and others say, is a family. So make sure you take care of your family. This is your opportunity to share who you are, what you'd like to do, what are your wants, what are your needs, and then pursue those needs.

Now, from a program perspective, you heard PRS, which is one of the acronyms—Public Responsibility Report. We are here to literally support you—anything you need, information, tools, networking opportunities. That is our role. But it's not just PRS. Us as an ICANN family, as an ICANN Org family, with all the regions—we are here also as a team, as a family. And our job is to support our new family, the

Fellowship Program. So please, again, do not hesitate. This is your opportunity. Take it. Learn. And please, again, Siranush is here. I know that she's going to push you all the time. Go to all the sessions that you're supposed to be going to and try to understand how you can best fit within this ecosystem that's ICANN.

Now, you're going to hear from a lot of people this week, and they're going to tell you about their own individual journeys. So if I can just leave you with one thing, you are a unique individual. Your journey is yours. So try to understand, again, how you can best fit within ICANN and what is it you need to get you there. And we are here to support you just for that.

So thank you, and I'm looking forward to engaging with you for the rest of the week.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you, Ergys. Thank you for being here.

Okay, our next region is the Asia-Pacific region. So I would like to give the floor to Vice-President for ... what is the music here? Sorry. Jia-Rong, our Vice-President for the Asia-Pacific region.

JIA-RONG LOW:

Thank you. So I'm in this corner. My name is Jia-Rong. I'm based in Singapore, and I look after the Asia-Pacific. So today, taking a very long trip with me, is Yien-Chyn. She's one of my relationship managers looking after the region. So look for us if you're from the APAC region—so Yien-Chyn and myself—and welcome to Cancun. It's a very long trip

for us coming from Asia. For me, coming from Singapore, the whole trip was, like, 26 hours. So I hope the rest of you who comes' journey wasn't as grueling as mine but that you enjoy this place.

Just a heads up if you're from our region. We have a lot of activities happening towards the second half of the year, and I'd like to keep in touch with you because then that's where, in your journey, starting from this meeting, you'll be involved a lot more in the Internet governance conversations within the region as well. And I hope to be able to work with you and help you participate. So a heads up for that. And I hope to get some time to talk to you one-on-one in person. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you, Jia-Rong.

I would like to give the floor to one special person to me personally. When I was a Fellow back at ICANN31. Yes, I came to the ICANN world through the Fellowship Program, like many of you. But I would like to give the floor to a person who was unofficially my mentor at that time. He was introduced by Rodrigo, but I would like to give a special opportunity for Albert Daniels, who was my mentor at ICANN31.

ALBERT DANIELS:

Thank you so much, Siranush. My name is Albert Daniels. I am a Fellow because we have this saying in the Fellowship Program, "Once a Fellow, always a Fellow." Like Rodrigo, I was one of the first fellows at ICANN29 in 2007, and I really want to congratulate each of you because, as Ergys said, you are experts and most knowledgeable on your own regions.

You bring as much as ICANN as you will be able to take back to your own regions. So take advantage of this opportunity that you have at the Fellowship sessions because your fellowship badge gives you a special V.I.P. status. You can ask any question. There is no silly question. You can ask any question, and everyone is going to be anxious to help you and guide you through this process. Do exactly what Siranush says you should do. Come here on time, attend the sessions that you need to attend, and support each other because you become ambassadors for ICANN. You take back to your own communities, to your own regions, everything that you learn from here. And very much become a part of the Fellowship Program. And we are all brothers and sisters in this fellowship program.

Thank you, Siranush. You were one of the best Fellows that I know, a very good Fellow. And also we remember our original Fellowship mother, Mama J (Janice).

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: And we will have a special group with all the alumni there. So I will send the information and invite all of you.

Next region is our Europe region. And I see Adam Peake here. Adam, if you can introduce yourself and talk from the perspective of Europe.

ADAM PEAKE: Right. Well, hello. Thank you very much. Adam Peake. I'm part of the Global Stakeholder Engagement team for Europe. I have colleagues here who I think might be on buses: Chris Mondini, who's the V.P. for the region, Andrea Beccalli, who some of you may know. And what we'd like

to do for the European Fellows—and this tempting ... Well, anyway, the other V.P.s may end up with the same thing. We'd like to meet you and take you for lunch at some point if you're here. So we've had some e-mail with some of you. So don't forget. Let me know when you're free, and we'll have a lunch at some point.

For Europe, it's a broad region. We also have other staff. We cover the central and—I'm trying to think of the right way to describe it—and eastern European countries. Other staff members, Mikhail Asinimov and Gabriella Schitteck, will be here. And except for me, they're all multiple-bilingual, very able to talk to you in our own languages, if you wish.

About asking questions, please do ask questions. We all pretend that we know the answers, particularly if it's about acronyms. But we can make it all up. And we'll help you and guide you through all the experience.

So I'm looking forward to meeting the European Fellows in particular. Chris and Andrea will be here shortly. And enjoy your time. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you, Adam. Thank you very much.

Our African team is not here yet, but I hope they will join us in the meantime.

But we have here the person who was leading the At-Large AFRALO, which is the African Regional At-Large Organization. Aziz is here, and I would like to give the floor to him to welcome all of you. Aziz?

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you. Thank you very much, Siranush. I will speak in French, so please take your headphones. [French].

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Aziz. Thank you.

Moving forward, I would like to introduce you to several people who are here who came through the Fellowship Program but now are part of the community and are playing a very important role in the community by shaping the future of the Internet. So one of them is Alfredo Calderon. Please, Alfredo, stand up. I want everyone to applaud you. Sarah Kiden from At-Large AFRALO. I see here Naveed Bin Rais. Please stand up, Naveed. He's the guy who actually wrote the mentoring procedures for the Fellowship Program. Thank you, Navid. I see Raymond here. Please, Raymond, stand up. He is part of At-Large now. And I see Claudio here. Claudio, please stand up. Thank you. These guys are those who are always giving back to the program, to ICANN, for being a Fellow and starting their journey as Fellows. And now they have their own role. But I'm thankful to all of you that you are always coming back to support newcomers. Thank you. Thank you for being with us.

I also would like to introduce the Chair of the North American Regional At-Large Organization, who will be hosting the next meeting here, Eduardo Diaz. Thank you for being with us.

Last but not least, I would like to introduce Denise, who was the mentor for the NextGeners. She was a bit late, but I would like to give the floor to her, just to introduce herself.

DENISE HOCHBAUM: I'm sorry for the delay a little bit. I was a little confused about the time. I'm very happy to be here. The process [inaudible] for the technology. It really feels my heart with happiness and hope for the future. Everybody is really unbelievable and wonderful. And it's just really NextGen. So I'm totally a believer that the future of the community is in very good hands. So everybody is wonderful. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Denise. At the beginning, I sent my appreciation words to all the mentors for their dedication. So you are one of them. So my thankfulness to you as well.

I also would like to introduce you to the ladies who are part of the Public Responsibility Support team and our guru of ICANN Learn portal, which many of you have seen and took the courses of. Betsy Andrews?

BETSY ANDREWS: Hi. I'm Betsy Andrews. I work on Siranush with Deb and Ergys and Fernanda here and our colleagues, Mariana and [Megan], who are not in the room with us. I'm very happy to meet all of you. One of my responsibilities is to look after the online learning platform, ICANN Learn, so if you have any questions about that or brilliant ideas that we can employ, I would love to talk to you about that. And if you have any questions, I'm approachable. I'm here. I want you to have the best meeting that you can. Like Ergys said, you have a unique journey, and you need to consider what you need in order to have those needs met. And I'm happy to help you.

So I'll pass it off to my colleague Fernanda to introduce herself.

FERNANDA IUNES: Hello. My name is Fernanda Iunes. I am based in Washington, D.C. Like Betsy said, I work with all these wonderful people. I manage a few of the programs under our department, including the Leadership Program Chairing Skills. But one of the programs that we just launched recently that could be beneficial to you all is the new ICANN for Beginners Virtual Program, which involves a few webinars and a series of webinars on a series of topics. So keep your eye out on that. We'll have an introduction one coming up here in April soon. So I'm looking forward to meeting you all this week. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, ladies. And I know Deborah today is helping with the remote moderation, but I would like to give a special time for her to introduce herself for everyone to know this lady.

DEBORATE ESCALERA: Thank you. I'm Deborah Escalera. I manage the NextGen at ICANN Program. I've been with ICANN about twelve years, and I truly believe my program, Public Responsibility Support, is the best. I'm very happy to be here with you all today, and I look forward to ICANN76. And I want you to all to make sure you have a fantastic, fantastic time here and meet and greet everybody while you're here.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Deborah. Thank you.

Okay. So we are now just briefly ... We will briefly cover the week ahead of us so you know what to do. But a couple of tips before we start. So from a safety perspective, please, please, please—I encourage you—don't go outside of the hotel areas here to the city. If you would like to go and see the city when you are not at the sessions, it should be at night, probably. Don't go alone, please. Always pay attention to your belongings, please. We are here, and everybody looking at our face will not know that we are tourists here. So please be cautious. Don't walk alone. Don't go outside of this area alone. Even with a group, be very cautious.

Second thing. We have the health and safety booth here. If you don't feel good, in your bags you should have the tests for COVID. Try to take, every morning, before coming to the sessions, a COVID test. If you don't feel good, don't come. Just notify me or Deborah that you don't feel good. If you need help, our health team is here to help you. So make sure you go them. Contact them. You have all the information on our ICANN76 meeting website. So please contact them. Don't feel obligated: "I am a Fellow," or NextGen. "Even if I don't feel good, I need to be there." No, if you don't feel good, don't come and make us not feel good as well. So stay in your room. We will give special support to you if there is any need. Okay?

So, for the rest of the week ... Many of you have seen this PowerPoint because we have sent this before coming here, and we reviewed this with the Fellowship group separately as well as NextGen separately. You know all this information, where to find all the sessions' information, the times, etc.

One of the key things for us to be on time for the sessions. I really don't like when people are late because it's disrespectful towards the presenters. They are invited to come to our sessions for a particular short period of time out of their busy schedule. But please, please, please respect their time and come on time to the sessions. If we are set to start our own session at 1:15, it doesn't mean that you don't have anything to do that morning and you can go and enjoy the beach. You can do that at 6:00 A.M. because the weather is beautiful at 6:00 A.M. and then have your breakfast in the hotel and be at 9:00 here. This is a good, refreshing start for your day, right? And I should also learn how to do this. I don't know how to do this. I'm just coming here just directly. I don't have time to go at 6:00 A.M. there.

If you want to have a party—and we will have a lot of parties here as well—don't drink to much, or drink as much as you can, but don't go over this. Don't make yourself overdose. But try to make this fun, an interesting place.

This—all the gatherings, the social gatherings—is for networking. So please use these networking opportunities to introduce yourself to people in ICANN—to staff, to Board members, to community members. Get your business cards ready. Show them, every single time.

You will be able to see the public forum, how ICANN holds its public forum, how our Board is doing their Board meeting.

You will see people lining up to the mic and come to ask questions. Every time they come, they always say their name. “My name is Siranush Vardanyan. I am an ICANN76 Fellow,” or ICANN76 NextGen. “But I speak on behalf of my own capacity,” or on behalf of someone.

But if you plan to ask a question or take a mic, please think twice. Don't ask the question just for the sake of asking or just for the sake of having your picture on the big screen over there. No, please. Think several times before asking. You will see people are coming with their computers, written questions. Well thought, well prepared. If you want to say, like, a group announcement, think about this during the week, the public forum on the last day. So you can make a statement on behalf of the group if that's what you want to say. But don't go and ask the question which is not well-thought. Okay?

For those whom this is the first meeting, this is a learning opportunity. We'll have more than 300 sessions during the week, and we are not expecting that you will learn everything during your first meeting. Try to visit the website, the sessions. Listen to the recordings. Every sessions is recorded, and the recordings will be available after the meeting. So try to digest this information as much as possible, okay? Don't try to learn everything, to be everywhere. You will not be able to do that.

But we have this remote opportunity. We have virtual Fellows with us who are sharing their experience as you are here in person. They do not have that much interaction opportunity like you have, but they are also a part of this group and a part of this challenge. So please be aware of this.

And those, by the way, who didn't get their stickers for ICANN Fellows—and we have a special for ICANN NextGeners—after this session, please come and see me and Deborah over here.

Okay. So today is Saturday, 11th of March, and we started with this meet and greet session. This will be followed up by two important sessions today, which will be facilitated by my colleague from the policy team, Melissa Allgood. One of them is a closed session for Fellows only. This is the consensus playbook. And those are alumni who have been part of this session during their previous fellowship are welcome to come because they will be having a special group and the scenario to discuss as alumni of this. And, mentors, we always seek your support during this session as well.

At 15:15, we will start The Art of Small Talk. This is another interactive with Melissa Allgood, where you will be listening to the people who will share their experience about this art of small talk, like when you meet someone with, like, a glass of champagne during the social, what you are talking about and how important those small talks within the ICANN context are.

Today is a very important networking hour, especially planned for NextGeners and Fellows. This is the Fellowship Social Networking Hour. And we invite the entire community. It's an open hour of networking. So everybody is welcome to come. We invited our ICANN Org people, our colleagues from Public Responsibility Support, and the community members to come and meet you and greet you and know them, and you know them. So use this opportunity. Talk to them. There will be drinks for this social gathering, and there will be some food as well for us.

So for the food, we notified that lunch will not be provided during the ICANN76 meeting, neither for Fellows nor for NextGeners. This is for security reasons. Still COVID is here. So lunch will not be here, but I hope

that many of you all had the opportunity to get your stipend prior to coming here. If not, you have some pocket money with you as well. There are a lot of restaurants nearby, just to go together to have a small lunch there and be back. But whenever you are out, please to remember to come back on time, okay?

So today we will finish with this social gathering, and I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there.

Sunday, we have several community interaction sessions. So this is getting to know the ICANN community. We invited several community representatives and also the representatives from two pillars of ICANN: technical and policy. So we invited our policy team and our technical team (the OCTO team). They will come and talk to you and introduce to you to what does it mean and how it works. So it's from a technical perspective and a policy perspective.

We will also have a special guest from the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group. They will come and introduce themselves to you and talk about their community. We have a lot of Fellows who are now part of this community.

So tomorrow, Sunday, from 6:30 to 7:00, there is an ICANN Fellowship official group photo. When I say 6:30 to 7:00, it doesn't mean you can come at 7:00. You should be there at 6:25. So the picture will take place at 6:30—

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: 4:00.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: 4:00. 16:30. Okay, 4:30. So be there five minutes before. I will find out the place where we are going to meet. And this is for Fellows only. NextGeners will have their special group photo, and Deborah will notify—

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Our photo is directly following yours.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Okay. Okay, good. So tomorrow at 4:30. You will get an e-mail from me, and our alumni will get the post in our special Facebook group for where the photo will be. And I invite all our alumni to come and have the photo with ICANN76 Fellows as well. But I need to see everybody's face at the ICANN76 Fellowship group photo. Make sure you are there. And you will get the information from me about the place.

Tomorrow, you know that the Latin American and Caribbean Regional At-Large Organization is holding, as a host of this meeting here, their general assembly. So that means that all At-Large organizations who are part of Latin America and the Caribbean are here. So those who are from this region, especially NextGeners and the Fellows who are from Latin America and the Caribbean, are invited to join their sessions. But before starting the sessions on Monday, they are invited to their welcomer reception. But this does not mean, for those who are not from the Latin American and Caribbean region, everybody is invited to the social, okay? So take the opportunity. I'm sure a nice local [inaudible] will be included there. So I also came from At-Large, but I was the Asia-

Pacific part of the world. But today I'm happy to see that the Latin American and Caribbean region is holding their general assembly. And you see LACRALO. LAC is everywhere. It means Latin America and Caribbean, okay? So you, step by step, will start learning the abbreviations in ICANN.

In every slide, you can see it says, "The rest of the day: participation as per sector of interest." What does it mean? So, if you are a business person and are interested in learning about the business activities in ICANN, in the agenda, find the specific business-related session and make sure you go there and learn what is taking place and what discussions are on their table. And it refers to every sector you are interesting in knowing.

But if this is your first fellowship, Tuesday is a Constituency Day, which means that every community constituency in ICANN is holding their own session discussions. Take time to participate in several of them. Don't go, for example, to an At-Large session and stay there for the entire day. Try to switch to learn more about other communities as well because you may think that you are, for example, a business person, but coming to an At-Large session, you find out that, "This community's discussions are much closer to me than business sector discussions." So you may think about changing your sector of interest and then joining the other group there. So please make sure you take this time to learn.

So that's for Sunday. Now we move to Monday. Okay. For 9:00, early in the morning, it's a welcoming ceremony. Yes, you can say we started today. "Why are we doing a welcoming ceremony on Monday?" But this

is the community discussions day. And, Fellowship and NextGeners, we start from Saturday, but the official welcome ceremony will take place on Monday, in the big hall. So you will see the entire ICANN76 participants there. Please don't be late.

At 10:30 until 12:00 that day, we have Q&A with the ICANN Org executive team. So the ICANN organization executive team will be sitting here as panelists, and the community will have the opportunity to ask questions—whatever they are interested in knowing. And please come to that session and learn how it takes place, how this multistakeholder model works in action. Okay?

So there will be three sessions during that day. It's called Tech Day. So if you are a tech person, definitely you may be interested in being in all sessions, but all the Fellows and all the NextGeners I encourage to at least go to one of the sessions.

On Monday, there is a special guest. A special group is coming from one of the universities in Mexico. So they will be here for the entire day to be part of the LACRALO general assembly.

And at 3:00 Cancun time, I will be also doing the presentation for the students about the Fellowship/NextGen beginners' program—so the newcomers program—whatever we are doing for the community within the Public Responsibility Support team. So if you want to come and participate and learn and also show your support to the students from the university here, the group is led by one of the Fellows, Eunice, is their [lecture]. So she organized and planned along with our Global Stakeholder Engagement team from Latin America and the Caribbean. So we will see this group of 40-45 students on Monday here. Okay?

There will be several joint sessions with the Board. Like, the At-Large group is holding their special session with the Board. The non-commercial stakeholders are holding their separate session. So each community is holding separate sessions with the Board. If you want to know specific sectors, if you are interested in learning more about that specific sector, go to that meeting with the ICANN Board and see how they run the discussions within their own community.

And on that day, also we have the Latin America and Caribbean Space [inaudible] LAC Space, Africa Space. You will see the North America space later on. Those who are from that particular region, please go to that session, where you will see all the people from your region coming and discussing everything which relates to your community, to your region. And it's very important for you to be there. So please don't miss that opportunity to be in your own regional space discussions.

We have a LACRALO networking event concluding Monday, so please come and enjoy. Have fun.

So Tuesday we have only the morning session. This is listed as mandatory for Fellows and NextGeners. It's the topic of universal acceptance, which all of you know is one of the hot topics discussed no all around the world. And Universal Acceptance Day is coming up on March 28th, soon. So you will learn more about what is planned and what kind of events will be taking place and where. So this is a special session for you. The universal acceptance team and the community members who are dealing with this issue will be coming to us and talking to you. So this will be a unique opportunity for you to meet with

them face-to-face and ask the questions in a smaller group, not in the big public halls.

We have a root server system information session that day. Please go and definitely participate.

On Monday and Tuesday, we have NextGen sessions. These guys will be doing their great presentations for us, for the community. And we are all looking forward to being a part of your sessions. So if you have time, go and show your support to our NextGeners. They are here for their first time as well, as many of the Fellows here, but they are doing their special presentations for all of us related to their topic of study—so whatever they are learning during their study at the universities or PhDs. So please come and support our NextGeners during those two days.

So Wednesday, we have one plenary session. Everybody is invited to go there. There will be no other parallel sessions.

We also have a very important session that day at 1:15. We organized and planned that for ICANN interim CEO, Sally Costerton, and the Board Chair, Tripti Sinha, and one of the Fellows who is now serving in the Board, Leon Sanchez, to come and meet with you. So they will be here to talk with you. Please come with your questions to the Board members, Board Chair, and ICANN CEO and President. So take this opportunity to talk to them. Ask your questions. This will be an open discussion. There will be no set agenda for that session. But I'm sure you will be enjoying meeting with them and talking to them during this session.

We also have the DNSSEC and Security Workshop. It listed two sessions. So if you can participate in at least one of them. So this is a learning opportunity for all of you.

I highlighted here in this daily agenda the sessions which you can get most out of that. So if you go to other sessions, the people will be discussing everything which they used to discuss, and as a newcomer, you might not get the entire context. But these sessions are for the newcomers. So please take this opportunity to go. They are not just listed there for the sake of having some sessions for you. They are especially planned for newcomers. So please take advantage of this.

And on Wednesday, there will be also the North America Space. So those who are from North America, please go there.

Thursday, we will start the morning with the wrap-ups. So NextGeners and Fellows will have their separate wrap-up sessions. We will talk to each other without interpretation, without recording, of what is the takeaway of your participation during the entire week. So if this is your first ICANN meeting, it's how you will move forward, how you want to, where are the spaces for you to learn more, and how we as staff, as alumni, and as mentors can help to guide you in your further engagement. Okay? This is the day for us to wrap-up.

And this is the day for the public forum. The ICANN public forum and the ICANN official Board meeting will take place on this day. A lot of communities are holding their wrap-up sessions on Thursday, so go and participate in at least the session where you think is your sector of interest. And there will be an ICANN76 wrap-up cocktail for the entire community who is here. It will be here in the venue.

So this is for us for the entire week. Any questions related to the agenda or what is expected? Where I'm going ... Deborah is going to see you, and you'll see us.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Siranush, we have a question online.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes, please?

DEBORAH ESCALERA: "As a newcomer with technical expertise, which of the sessions would you advise that I attend?"

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you for the question. There are several technical sessions. One of them, if I go back ... There is a Tech Day on Monday. There are three sessions, and I listed these as that you should participate at least in one of them. But if you are a technical person, you definitely would like to be at three of them. So follow those Tech Day sessions on Monday.

And also, for Sunday, if you can join us remotely for the 10:30 meeting, an interaction with the ICANN OCTO team and a presentation of the KINDNS project, this is where we will talk about how, from a technical perspective, ICANN works.

So please join us for those sessions. And thank you for your question.

Any other questions, Deborah?

Not yet. Okay, thank you.

So this is one of the slides in the Fellowship slide deck. Four Fellows, actually, Deborah will talk about the reporting after this with the NextGeners as well. But we will come to this during our last wrap-up session. Okay?

Now, any questions for the week? Any questions you would like to ask? Please.

I don't see any hands raised. Deborah, is there any hands in the remote?

Yeah. Ergys, please?

ERGYS RAMAJ:

Maybe, since there are no questions, if we could have volunteers to go over what their individual goals are, what they're trying to accomplish during the week, I think that would be a useful conversation. Also, it would be interesting to hear what people's individual goals are. Any volunteers. That would be great.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Yes, please.

CINDYNEIA CANTANHEDE:

Good morning, everyone. I am Cindyneia Cantanhede. I'm a Fellow for ICANN, and I have been attending the online ICANN also back in the meeting. So the focus that I am working on, as I'm a data protection manager, is to work in the WHOIS, but I'm also exploring the At-Large activity so I can get to make connections with data protection and

human rights. And in my experience with ICANN, specifically with NextGen, it has been very useful to get in touch not only with the Latin region, which is the region where I am from, but also with regions where we have [interactions], for example, where we have groups that we are part of, our university. So this is something that I advise you do, and it has been very helpful for me. So thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you for sharing this tip.

Adam, please? You have the mic.

ADAM PEAKE: Just responding to that, please ask the GSE people and others around. If you have an interest that isn't necessarily directly ICANN—data protection, etc.—we may know who the other people in the community that are interested in it. It could be data protection. It might be something to do with other regulation, etc. Please ask. Our job tends to be to know people. So if we know people, we can help you get to know them, too. You're more than welcome to do that.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you.

Yes, Claudio, please.

CLAUDIO LUCENA: Quick heads up, Siranush. Good morning, everyone. I'm Claudia Lucena. I'm also a Fellow. I've been a mentor and part of this. This is a

very technical community, but this program and the NextGen tend to get very emotional. And that is a very good thing. Bonds here last for a long time. Alfredo, Kristina, Afifa.

Just a heads up, Adam. I'm currently a member of the National Privacy and Data Protection Council in Brazil. So any doubt you have or any comments or any conversation you want to have about those topics, please feel free. I'm a Brazilian. I speak Portuguese as a native language and also interact in Spanish and in English. Thanks.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Claudio. Thank you for being here with us as well.

And I also would like to use—Setondji, please go ahead.

SETONDJI HOUZANDJI: I would like to speak—

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: So, “My name is Setondji. We’re setting up the way how”—

SETONDJI HOUZANDJI: Yes. I would like to speak in French.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes. So state your name first. So whenever you speak everybody knows who’s speaking.

SETONDJI HOUZANDJI: I understand. I told you I want to speak in French.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Welcome.

SETONDJI HOUZANDJI: Okay.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Take your headsets. French.

SETONDJI HOUZANDJI: Okay. Hello. [French].

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Setondji. During the week, we will have the opportunity to introduce you to our Global Stakeholder Engagement team from Africa. They are not here today, but they will be joining us during the evening networking. So please make sure I introduce you.

But with what relates to Europe, I wanted to come to this guy who just came, and I want to introduce Andrea Beccalli, who is our representative from Europe. Andrea, please?

ANDREA BACCALLI: Thank you, Siranush. I was about to provide a few notes, and you just got me before I started, so I'll have to improvise. I'll just stand up so everyone can see me. So I'm Andrea Beccalli. I'm the Global Stakeholder Engagement representative for Europe.

How many of you are from Europe here?

Okay. Ah, of course. [French]. So come see me as my colleague Adam said. We will be very happy to help you not only within ICANN but also with the larger Internet ecosystem, the other organizations, and events happening in our region. We will be happy to introduce you to the events that we organizing in your respective regions. And for us, it's always a privilege to meet you because you are really the lifeblood of this organization. Now that we get back into physical interaction, I think that we can also regain this very important and valuable relationship that we missed a little bit when we were all online. So we couldn't interact as we should.

Because from you, we also learn. We learn what's your interest, how do you see ICANN can be helpful for your work, what you look to ICANN to learn. And that helps us also in getting better in our engagement at large in this community. And it's very difficult to have a meeting in Cancun, I think, because we are in a very cold room, and outside there is a beautiful beach and sun and sands, no? But for how much I would love to be on the beach, I really mean that I come from, as many of you ... You come from all over the world, and I want really to make the most of the time that we are here. It's a privilege to be here. It's a lot of organization, a lot of logistics, a lot of effort, a lot of resources. So make the most out of the resources and don't think too much about how cold it is inside and how beautiful it could be outside because you can really learn and take a lot from these few days altogether.

Thank you, Siranush.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Andrea. Thank you for coming.

Yes, please? Razoana, you have your own mic.

RAZOANA MOSLAM: Hi, everyone. My name is Razoana Moslam. I have joined ICANN as a NextGen with Deborah when I was representing Bangladesh, but then I joined as a NextGen ambassador from Australia. And now I'm joining as a Fellow. So it's been six years that I have been attached with ICANN and the meeting and all. But this year, I'm just expecting a lot because my goal is not only to understand and be involved with ICANN but also to spread the news because ... I'm not a newcomer anymore, so what my goal is now is to not only learn but also to take back whatever my learnings are from here and then take it back to my country. Then we can establish more youth involvement and then Internet governance issues and cybersecurity issues there. So this year, I'm looking forward. And thank you, Siranush, for giving us the opportunity to be a part of the ICANN Fellowship.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Razoana. Thank you.

Harish, please?

HARISH CHOWDHARY: Hello, everyone. Can I?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Okay. After Harish, we'll give the floor to our virtual participant.

HARISH CHOWDHARY: Yeah. Hello, everyone. I am Harish Chowdhary, ICANN76 Fellow. So it's great to be here. And I want to share that I've also been a universal acceptance ambassador for the last five years. So first of all, I'm really looking forward to learning a lot from this wonderful community. And at the same time, I want to share my experiences with you, with all the NextGen and the Fellows, on universal acceptance. So that [inaudible].

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Excellent. Then we would like you to be also here with us at the universal acceptance session. So you will help to spread the word among the Fellows and NextGeners.

HARISH CHOWDHARY: Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Deborah?

DEBORAH ESCALERA: In response to Ergys' question, Jemesa Lave says, "Hi, I'm Jemesa from Fiji. I come from a digital forensic and cybersecurity background. I look forward to joining sessions on Internet security, particularly DNSSEC and other areas and groups with security agendas. Thank you."

"Shanelle McPherson, ICANN76 NexGen, participating remotely. One of my goals is to learn about DNSSEC and its deployment in the Caribbean and any updates on mitigation of domain abuse. I would like to meet

and greet with ICANN’s technical support team, especially Mr. John Crain.”

Stephen Dakyi, ICANN76 Fellow, says, “Hi, I’m Stephen Dakyi from Accra, Ghana.”

That’s all.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you. Thank you for joining us virtually, and thank you for your input.

Yes, Rookayya? That’s the correct pronunciation, right?

Yes, please?

ROOKAYYA GULMAHAMED: Hello, everyone. I’m Rookayya. I’m a Fellow. This is my first time with ICANN, and my goal is ... Well, I’m trying to gather as much useful information I can so I can be an active part of the mission and help out as much as I can and be part of the advocacy as well. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you. We’re looking forward to your active participation.

Yes, Lilian? Spanish?

LILIAN IVETTE DE LUQUE: Reminder for the Fellows—no, we are learning English. No problem.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: English? Good. Go ahead.

LILIAN IVETTE DE LUQUE: Reminder, Fellows and NextGen: don't forget to participate in the At-Large Twitter competition. Okay? Post your message in Twitter with the hashtag At-Large76. And participate for [two] prizes for more tweets. In the other contest in the past, the Fellows won.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: We always win.

LILIAN IVETTE DE LUQUE: I want the Fellows to win again. Please.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Okay. Thank you. Please share with us the special hashtag you are going to use, and I will spread the word among Fellows and NextGeners. And we always win, so there is nothing strange there.

Yes, Afifa, please go ahead.

AFIFA ABBAS: Hello, everyone. So I've been talking to a few Fellows and newcomers offline before this session. So it turned out that many of the Fellows are interested in cybersecurity. So just to share the background, I've been working this field. It's been more than eight years. So if anybody is interested in this particular group, you can reach out to me and I can help you figure out people who are working in this field in ICANN. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Excellent. We have a cybersecurity specialist here. So if you are interested, just find her. Great.

So just to summarize what I have said, the entire week comes to the end, and what's next? There will be, as I said, all the recording available, and you will be asked to write your post-meeting report. Deborah will tell to the NextGen a specific process for their reporting, but whatever I say now relates to the Fellowship team. But we will talk about this in more detail during our last day.

But remember, until you prepare your final post-meeting report, and until it's getting published, you will not be officially considered as alumni of the Fellowship Program. So there is a long way to go, all together. And I'm sure that, with supporting each other during this journey, we'll come to a successful finish, which will be the start of the next stage. So as Albert mentioned, in the Fellowship Program, we always say, "Once a Fellow, always a Fellow." So once you become a part of this fantastic group, then you stay here always. And many alumni come and share and give back to the program. This is the way how we move forward, calling it a Fellowship family, Fellowship bond.

So I'm looking forward to this entire week of interaction with all of you. We all are here—me and Deborah in particular—to support you. Please see us. Send us e-mails. You know our e-mails quite well.

Any final questions for this session?

None? Yes. So I would like, if there are no questions, to close this session by thanking our interpreters, who are behind the scenes (you don't see

them, but they are providing their service and support to our sessions) and our tech team, who we can see, who are doing their work behind the scene so everything works perfectly here. So our applause to the interpreters and the tech team support.

Don't forget to come and take your ribbons if you are a Fellow—your Fellowship ribbon—and, if you are a NextGen, your NextGen [ribbon].

And from Monday to Tuesday until Wednesday, from 10:00 to 2:00, there will be an engagement booth here in the corridor. So if you have any questions, our Fellowship alumni will be there to help newcomers with any information. So it will be open, and working hours are from Monday at 10:00 to 2:00 until Wednesday. Three days only. Okay?

Any final questions?

If not, then this meeting is adjourned. So let's go and make ICANN76 great fun for all of us. Again, welcome to Cancun. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]