
ICANN78 | Prep Week – Policy and Advice Update
Wednesday, October 11, 2023 – 7:30 to 9:00 HAM

ANDREA GLANDON:

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DAVID OLIVE:

Welcome, everyone. I'm David Olive, Senior Vice President for Policy Development Support. I'm speaking to you from the Washington, D.C. office where I reside at the moment. We want to have this policy and advice update for you as preparation for ICANN78, our Annual General Meeting in Hamburg. I'm pleased to say that the members of the Policy Team will be informing you of some of the activities of policy development and advice at ICANN78. And they work closely with the Supporting Organizations and the Advisory Committees to move these agendas forward. I think you'll know some of them, and you may also just begin to meet others. So we welcome you for that.

Of course, there will be many educational opportunities at ICANN78. It is an Annual General Meeting but there's also a Tech Day and DNS Security Workshops. The Governmental Advisory Committee will, of course, be working on its communiqué and holding other sessions and conversations with members of the community. And so that is very important. We'll also have an award ceremony—you'll hear a little bit more about that—in the beginning of the program. So it's going to be an exciting and action-packed session. I hear over 220 sessions are

going to be planned. We'll be helping and supporting your work in many of those.

So I want to thank you for making the considerable effort of time and effort to participate in the prep work. And for those who are attending in person, we look forward to seeing you. And also to remind you that those who cannot be in person, we have a robust remote participation so that you can be part of all the activities and discussions at ICANN78. With that, I want to welcome you and turn it over to my team. First, I'll send it over to our moderator, Dan Gluck. Dan, please.

DANIEL GLUCK:

Thank you, David, and thanks, everyone, for joining us for the ICANN78 Policy Update. I'm Dan Gluck coming to you also where David is from the home of the last ICANN meeting, Washington in D.C.

Let's walk through the next 90 minutes or so of your time that we are absolutely thrilled that you're willing to spend with us. They say it takes two to tango or something along those lines. Our two panels are going to dance right off the screen and into Hamburg during this session. First, we're going to start with the all-encompassing and all-knowing New gTLD Program Next Round. Then we'll drill down a bit deeper and get updates from Support staff for each of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees participating in Hamburg. After each topic, we'll spotlight additional information relevant to ICANN78 and also have a brief Q&A with the panel of presenters. That's where you're going

to come in at home. Interactivity is the goal. We want to hear your questions to maximize the value of your time today.

We're in a regular Zoom Room, so you'll be able to ask questions in two ways. You may place your questions in the chat using the format our wonderful producer and remote participation manager, Andrea, will share shortly. Slow down a bit, my apologies. You may also raise your hand and I'll frantically look for the yellow hand emote that pops up on my screen. Any questions that we don't get to during that Q&A time, please make sure to add to the chat, and we'll be sure to follow up at the end of the session. That'll be generic and overarching Q&A session. If we can't get to it then, we'll definitely get to it via e-mail.

We're very happy to provide a Resource document for the participants. Andrea will also place this link into the chat as well. This document contains links and information that will follow the flow of our session. Please take a look at this document and refer to it throughout the presentations.

Additionally, as a resource, here's a few quick facts to know and try to provide context for today's presentation. ICANN's policymaking is based on the multistakeholder model. This is a decentralized governance model and allows for community-based consensus-driven policymaking. ICANN Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees participate in this policymaking work. And the fantastic Org Policy Team, some of whom you'll meet throughout this webinar, support the work of these constituencies.

As has been our role, the Policy Team will be supporting 146 out of the 230 sessions at ICANN78 that's on our schedule. Before we begin, as part of the policy development support function at ICANN, I've had the great honor of supporting the Expedited Policy Development Process on Internationalized Domain Names Working Group. I'm learning a great deal about linguistics. It's just popping into my head now organically, of course. Seeing how different scripts other than Latin and additional diacritics included in TLD policy has been really interesting and got me thinking about my own name, Dan Gluck. Before they chopped off the umlaut in Ellis Island about a century ago, my last name would have been Glück. And in German, that means luck, to which I say viel Glück or good luck to the Policy Team today and everyone at home as you make your travels over to Hamburg. My first coworker from the team is also a teammate on the IDN Support staff, Steve Chan, who's going to get us started with some new gTLD chat. Steve?

STEVE CHAN:

Thanks very much, Dan, especially for the wishes of good luck. My name is Steve Chan. I lead the GNSO Support Team within the policy function. I am joining you from Los Angeles. I can actually call it "Sunny Los Angeles," that's usually the cliché we've say, but it's actually sunny today. So that's nice.

So you might recall that the Policy Team provided an update on the new gTLD universe of work taking place within all the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees prior to ICANN77. So there's a lot of work that's actually already been completed but there still

remains quite a bit of work directly related to new gTLDs that, in many cases, the next round of new gTLD is actually dependent upon. So because of that, many of us are reprising our roles in this update and we're going to provide a brief overview of all the things that are happening in the SOs and ACs involving new gTLDs.

So before we get to all that detail, I'd like to try to set the scene and take a look backwards to try to briefly look at some of the work that has happened since ICANN77, and then we'll transition to where we are now and where we're going. So for this update, you'll be fortunate to also hear from a number of my colleagues who support all this work. So for now, though, I'll start with ICANN77 and onwards.

At ICANN77, the Council delivered a comprehensive work plan that included three things. It was the remaining pending recommendations, so the ones that the Board did not adopt and placed in a pending status, the IDNs EPDP that Dan just mentioned, and then also the third thing was the closed generics, and then a work plan for the next steps, which was presumably an Expedited Policy Development Process at the time. So this work plan was requested by the Board and it fit into the overall implementation work plan that ICANN Org was responsible for delivering to the Board in August. So the Org successfully delivered that work plan at the end of July, which is great. It was actually, I think, literally a day early.

So for the GNSO Councils work, things have already changed pretty dramatically from what was actually communicated. So you'll hear from Ariel Liang shortly on the IDNs EPDP. She's the staff lead for that

project. They have actually already communicated an updated work plan. Then you'll also hear from my colleague, Benedetta Rossi, on the Facilitated Dialogue on Closed Generics, where, again, quite a bit has changed since ICANN77.

So before we get to that portion of this new gTLD next round segment, I'm going to provide an update on the GNSO Council's pending recommendations small team. So here again, quite a bit has changed. So coming out of ICANN77, there are a total of 38 recommendations still pending. We're at a stage now where there are only 13 still in that pending state. I do believe that should be quickly reduced to zero quite quickly.

So how did we get to this point? The GNSO Council Small Team and the Board's SubPro Caucus and primarily its co-leads, Avri Doria and Becky, collaborated on a regular basis to come to a number of mutual agreements. So there was agreement that several recommendations can be adopted as is, and some of the ambiguities, they can actually be resolved during implementation by the ICANN or its staff in collaboration with the Implementation Review Team. So there was also agreement that for several other recommendations, a clarifying statement from the Council can allow for Board adoption, with that clarifying statement helping to guide the next step in implementation.

So in September, the Board resolved to adopt recommendations falling into these two categories that I just mentioned. They also resolved to not adopt several other recommendations that were deemed to not be in the best interest of ICANN or the ICANN community. So that action of

non-adoption actually kicks off several Bylaws mandated actions, which includes the development and communication of a Board statement. That Board statement includes the detailed rationale for why their recommendations were not adopted. So that that step is actually already completed. It is included in an Annex to the resolution that the Board took.

Then ICANN78—so this is actually looking a little bit into the future now—the Council and the Board will have at least a preliminary dialogue on the non-adopted recommendations. So that dialogue and conversation is another Bylaws mandated step when recommendations are not adopted. So continuing to look forward, the small team will be asked to help guide the GNSO Council in determining how the non-adopted recommendation should be handled. At a very, very high level, the options include allowing the non-adoption to stand and the Council taking no further action. Or instead, they can take a path that's so-called Supplemental Recommendations. In this case, it would be the modification of the recommendations, obviously, to try to address the Board's concerns and allow for Board adoptions. And so that is what lies ahead for the Council Small Team trying to determine how to address those non-adopted recommendations.

So a key component of this work will actually be to solicit input from the SOs and ACs beyond just the GNSO because topics, particularly something like Applicant Support, those are broadly important to many community groups. So the GNSO Council Small Team is cognizant of

that interest and is keen to make sure that it's integrated into the process.

That is how we are in the position of just having a small number of pending recommendations remaining. I just want to emphasize that took a great deal of good faith collaboration and dialogue between the Council Small Team and the Board Caucus, and without which we would be nowhere close to where we are today, which is having made a great deal of progress.

So with that update on the small team, I think I'll pretty much stop there and cede to my colleagues. You can expect to hear about specific work efforts that are needed and our dependency for the next round. But there will also be a general update from my colleagues about, as I noted, the new gTLD work and universe of work taking place in SOs and ACs.

One thing I want to emphasize is the focus of this update is on the work that remains. But I think it's also really important to put things into perspective, and that is the vast majority of the SubPro recommendations have in fact been adopted by the Board and they're actively in implementation led by my ICANN Org colleagues in the Global Domains Strategy Group and they're supported by the Implementation Review Team, which is constituted of community members. So I just want to reemphasize that point. We're looking at the work that still needs to be completed. But we've made a great deal of progress so far, and a lot of work has already taken place in implementation as well. So we're just concentrating on all the

additional hard work that needs to be done to bring in the rest of these pieces in for a landing. So with that, I'll wrap things up. The next person up is Ariel to talk about the IDNs EPDP. Over to you, Ariel. Thanks.

ARIEL LIANG:

Thanks very much, Steve. This is Ariel Liang. I'm also based in Washington, D.C. I will briefly talk about the effort related to Internationalized Domain Names, which was one of the dependencies as identified by the community and the Board for the next round. So just so quickly, what a PDP is about, the GNSO Council initiated an expedited PDP on this topic in May 2021. The team is actually scoped to work on two major things. One is to develop a solution to consistently define the generic top level domains. Then the second area of work is to develop policy recommendations that will eventually allow for the introduction of variant gTLDs to be delegated in the future.

So variant is actually a very important topic for Internationalized Domain Names. So that's why IDN is part of the EPDP's title but it's not all about IDNs. The key focus is about variants, which is related to the equivalent way of characters or alphabets in different scripts and languages, and then that's regarded as equal by those language script using communities. So that's the key focus of this EPDP. It's about variant management.

Even the focus is to allow the delegation of variant gTLDs at the top level, the scope of the work encompasses both top level and to second level variant management. And with that thinking, the group decided to

split its work into two phases in November last year. The first phase is focused on the top level, and the second phase is focused on the second level. This is one of the ways the group intends to expedite its work so that the top level recommendations can be more quickly incorporated into the Applicant Guidebook for the implementation for next round.

In April this year, the EPDP team has delivered its Phase 1 Initial Report for Public Comment on time. And in June, the Public Comment period closed, the team received about 12 submissions from Public Comment. Following that work, the group has been deliberating all these comments and also incorporating the input into its final recommendations. So far, the group has been making great progress and it's almost done with the work of finalizing all of its Phase 1 recommendations, and the consensus call process for all these recommendations is about to start.

Now I will talk about the plan next is basically to deliver the Final Report for Phase 1 to the GNSO Council in no later than November this year. As the Phase 1 work is drawing to a close, the team has restarted its Phase 2 deliberation. So now I will quickly talk about what's going on in the Phase 2 progress.

So as what Steve mentioned earlier, in March 2023, the ICANN Board requested the GNSO Council to deliver a comprehensive project plan that includes the key elements related to IDN EPDP, and the ask is for the group to identify all of its Charter questions that may have an impact on the next Applicant Guidebook, as well as a timeline to deliver relevant recommendations to the GNSO Council. So after thorough

analysis of its Charter, the EPDP team has reported back and concluded that almost all of its Charter questions may have an impact on the next Applicant Guidebook, and therefore it didn't plan to change the way to approach the work and its project plan remains the same. In July, the GNSO Council delivered this deliverable to the ICANN Board, noting the unchanged plan for the EPDP team.

But in July this year, the GNSO Council delivered an updated project plan because the EPDP team was able to consider several factors it wasn't able to consider in June, and then consider any additional update to that. One of the elements is regarding the public comment submission. It only received top submissions, they were mostly non-controversial. So it wasn't becoming a factor to further extend his timeline to finish the Phase 1 work. The second factor is regarding the Phase 2 work, it has progressed in advanced to its project plan. And the third factor is its request for a dedicated face-to-face workshop in December this year. That request was approved in June, and the team is going to meet in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in December for a dedicated face-to-face workshop.

So with all these considerations, the EPDP team is able to shorten its Phase 2 timeline by 13 months with a new target date of deliver of the Phase 2 Final Report to the GNSO Council in October 2024. So with that, the EPDP team is most likely going to focus its work in the ICANN78 meeting all on Phase 2 topics and it will hold three sessions about that. And if the ICANN community is interested in learning more about the work this group does, you're welcome to observe the session. And now

I will turn over the floor to my colleague, Benedetta Rossi, to talk about the Facilitated Dialogue on the Closed Generics. Over to Benedetta.

BENEDETTA ROSSI:

Thank you very much, Ariel. My name is Benedetta Rossi, and I'm based in France. I'm going to be talking to you about closed generics. So closed generics, as a lot of you may know, was one of the topics within the SubPro PDP Charter, but the working group was ultimately unable to come to an agreement on recommendations. As a result, the Board does not have policy recommendations on this topic to consider.

In March 2022, the Board proposed a Board-facilitated process for a GAC and GNSO Council dialogue on closed generics. And then the GAC and GNSO jointly invited the ALAC to participate in the dialogue as well. Just before ICANN77, the group shared a draft framework for community input. The draft framework represented a number of compromises reached by the group in order to have initial proposals for the community to review. Several community members and groups commented on the draft framework, identifying some fundamental issues which would need to be addressed before the draft framework could be finalized. As such, the group consulted with the GAC, ALAC, and GNSO chairs to determine whether it would be possible for the dialogue group to ultimately achieve a finalized framework addressing the substantive issues identified by the community. The three chairs met multiple times and collectively determined that resolving the issue of closed generics should not be a dependency for the next round of new

gTLDs. As such, the group should memorialize its work to date and wrap up the dialogue.

The Facilitated Dialogue Group is now currently working on an Outcomes Report, which will include the work conducted by the group to date and all of its documentation. The ALAC, GAC, and GNSO chairs are currently preparing communications to the Board to inform the Board of their collective decisions.

With the conclusion of the Facilitated Dialogue on Closed Generics, this means that, first of all, the Expedited Policy Development Process that had previously been anticipated to build on a final framework will not take place. And secondly, in the absence of community development policy at this point, the question of how to handle any applications for closed generic gTLDs, they may come in for the next round, it will be a question for the Board to consider. I'll now turn it back to my colleague, Steve Chan for an update on the GNSO Guidance Process on Applicant Support. Back to you, Steve.

STEVE CHAN:

Thanks very much, Benedetta. This would normally be Julie Hedlund providing the update but she's unable to join us today. So instead, you'll get the update from me. Before I actually provide the update, I just want to reflect for a brief moment and say that I noted that there's quite a bit of hard work that still needs to take place. I think it's important to take a look at or I guess consider the updates that Ariel and Benedetta just provided, which is that some of that hard work that

I mentioned that needs to still be done, it's completing, it's near completion. So that Phase 1 IDNs EPDP Report, it's almost at the point where it can be delivered to Council. The Facilitated Dialogue on Closed Generics is concluding, maybe not the way that folks expected, but it is indeed concluded. And what you're about to hear right now is that the GNSO Guidance Process on Applicant Support is also near its completion. So with that, here's the actual update on the GGP. It will be quite brief.

But before I get into that detail, I just want to provide actually a reminder on what the GNSO Guidance Process is. It's actually a new mechanism and so folks might not be familiar with it. This GGP on Applicant Support is actually the first time it's ever been used. It's used when there's a need to provide guidance in relation to recommendations. So it cannot modify those existing recommendations nor provide new policy recommendations, but it can help provide important guidance for the implementation of policy recommendations.

So with that background, this GGP is focused on two areas. The first is about identifying what constitutes success for the Applicant Support Program, and then identifying the data and metrics to help them measure whether or not the program was in fact successful. The second area is recommending the funding mechanism for the circumstance where there are so many qualified applicants that it actually exceeds the allocated funding. So that second set of recommendations is I think the outcome we all really want to see. We have so many successful

applicants, we now have a new problem which is how do we fund it all? But those are the two areas of focus for the GGP. So they've been meeting diligently for weeks now. And after extensive discussions over many months, the working group published its GGP Guidance Recommendations Initial Report for Public Comment. And in September, after the Public Comment period concluded, the GGP Working Group began reviewing and analyzing those responses.

So during ICANN78, the working group will not actually be meeting. They're focusing and they're pretty much laser-focused on that review of the public comments. And in parallel, they're also starting to revise the recommendations as necessary, updating the draft Final Report to reflect deliberations and document those revisions. So again, they're laser-focused on getting to a final Guidance Recommendations Final Report. So the goal there is to deliver that Final Report to the Council by December 2023, if not sooner. So with that, I will turn it to my colleague, Heidi, for an update on At-Large activities related to SubPro. Thanks. Over to you, Heidi.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Thank you very much, Steve. Hello, everyone. My name is Heidi Ullrich and I'm based in Southern California. I'll be speaking to you about the policy development work discussions related to the New gTLD Program, the At-Large Advisory Committee or the ALAC and the At-Large Community which is a global organization that participate in.

ALAC representatives have been active in several policy discussions, including the Expedited PDP on Internationalized Domain Names or IDNs, Facilitated Dialogues on Closed Generics, the Generic Names Supporting Organization Guidance Process or the GGP on Applicant Support, and the New gTLD Program Next Round Implementation Review Team or IRT.

So let's go ahead and begin with the IDNs EPDP. So ALAC continues to participate in the EPDP IDN's work and identifies IDNs as a priority ahead of the next round. The ALAC recognizes and strongly supports the call for IDNs as one of the primary reasons for proceeding with a new round of applications for new gTLDs. Related to IDNs, the ALAC continues to advise ICANN to advance Universal Acceptance or UA as part of the preparations for the new round. This includes development and monitoring metrics on adoption of UA by third parties.

Moving to closed generics. The ALAC participated in the Facilitated Dialogue on Closed Generics that you heard Benedetta previously mentioned. They attempted to build a framework on which policy could be built to consider under what public interest circumstances might closed generics be acceptable. However, it was the view of the ALAC that the closed generics draft framework did not provide sufficient intent in clarity to be operationally useful. As Benedetta noted, the ALAC chair, along with the chairs of the GNSO and the GAC, sent a letter to Facilitated Dialogue participants, stating their view that the issue of closed generics should not be a dependency for the next round of new

gTLDs. And currently, the three chairs are discussing the next steps regarding a joint letter to the Board.

Moving to the GGP for Applicant Support, the ALAC is actively being represented in the work of the GGP to prepare the ALAC for the Public Comment. The At-Large pen holders sent a survey to At-Large members to gain a better understanding of their views on this topic. The survey results noted that At-Large supported the vast majority of proposed recommendations on Applicant Support Guidance and offered wording changes on two of those proposed recommendations. The ALAC believes that the true inclusion in the next round of new gTLDs will require a sustained concerted effort, sufficient funding, and a willingness to identify opportunities to help beyond a mere discount in fees.

On the New gTLD Program Next Round implementation, the ALAC is actively participating in the SubPro IRT. Topics considered so far but not necessarily completed yet are Predictability, including the Standing Predictability Implementation Review Team, Applicant Freedom of Expression, Universal Acceptance, Conflicts of Interest, String Similarity Evaluations, and Reserved Names and Geo Names.

During ICANN78, At-Large will be holding several sessions on this topic related to new gTLDs. Most likely, most of the time, there'll be joint sessions. Andrea will be putting the At-Large link to the ICANN78 sessions being hosted by At-Large into the chat.

And now I will turn the floor to my colleague, Steve Sheng, for an update on the activities relating to that Name Collision Analysis Project. Thank you. Over to you, Steve.

STEVE SHENG:

Thank you, Heidi, and good day, everyone. My name is Steve Sheng. One of the communities I support is the Security and Stability Advisory Committee. They have been working for about five years on a project called Name Collision Analysis Project.

So what is name collision? A name collision occurs when an attempt to resolve a name used in private namespace under a non-delegated TLD. That results in a query to the public Domain Name System or the DNS. So really, when the administrative boundaries of private and public namespaces overlap, name resolution, in this case, a name collision, may yield unintended or harmful results. This is the reason the ICANN Board has tasked the SSAD to do analysis on this topic.

Now, I want to start by saying that name collisions are not new, right? I mean, we see name collisions, not only in the name space, but also somewhat in the numbers community as well. So these are not new phenomenon. And they were dealt in the 2012 round. In this case, what is the scope of the NCAP project of what it's trying to solve?

Well, the problem we're trying to solve is that ICANN Board needs a methodology for evaluating and really reducing the risk of delegation of proposed TLD strings. So to this end, the Name Collision Analysis Project is proposing a methodology for identifying collision strings or

colloquially called high-risk labels that should not be delegated. And really, no other string will be blocked as a result of name collisions.

When the NCAP is approaching this problem, the view name collision analysis, really, as a risk management problem, because as I said earlier, name collisions are not new, they appear on various hierarchies of the DNS. So, to that end, they're proposing at a high level a series of evaluation steps that includes temporary delegations of TLDs to neutral third party to do a series of name collision analysis. Now they are finishing up, as Steve Chan, mentioned these various efforts. For the NCAP effort, they are finishing up before the next ICANN meeting, hopefully sooner towards the end of this year. The Board has to consider the end result of NCAP, in addition to expert advice from ICANN, from what the GNSO PDP has produced, it has to synthesize those together and arrive at a conclusion, how the ICANN community, or the from the Board's perspective, the name collision is to be dealt.

So that's a quick overview of NCAP. I'd like to hand over to my colleague, Benedetta, to talk about GAC initiatives on new gTLDs. Benedetta?

BENEDETTA ROSSI:

Thank you very much, Steve. I'll now be changing gears a little bit. I'll be speaking about the Governmental Advisory Committee or the GAC's engagement on the new gTLD next round.

The GAC has been closely involved since the inception of the discussions on new gTLDs as the topic has been a priority for

governments and observers in the GAC for the last several years. The GAC's focus on matters pertaining to the next round of new gTLDs continues to increase, notably due to recent Board activities and decisions, including the resolutions which were approved at ICANN76, where most of the SubPro PDP Working Group recommendations were approved, and then the subsequent Board review of recommendations that were marked as pending.

So why is this topic important to the GAC and to governments more broadly? First of all, new gTLDs raised public safety and rights protection concerns, for example, relative to DNS abuse and IGO protection. Secondly, the GNSO SubPro effort will ultimately determine the application rules for the next round of new gTLDs. And finally, participation in ICANN by governments is important to develop mechanisms that preserve or protect important public policy interests, including GAC early warnings and GAC consensus advice.

So how did the GAC engage in this effort? In order to actively engage in this subject internally, so within the committee, the GAC formed a focal group which evolved into a small group of interested GAC members and observers. The purpose of this group is to follow matters on new gTLDs and flagging areas where GAC input or advice may be required. GAC members also participated in the SubPro PDP Working Group effort directly and provided feedback as requested throughout the PDP, including by Public Comment. Most recently, the GAC submitted advice—

DANIEL GLUCK: Benedetta, I think you might be muted.

BENEDETTA ROSSI: How bizarre. My microphone muted itself. I'm not sure where you lost me. All right. Thank you.

So most recently, the GAC submitted advice—apologies if I'm repeating myself—to the Board at ICANN77 as part of its communiqué. There are three processes in which the GAC is actively participating in at the moment. The GNSO Guidance Process on Applicant Support, the GAC and GNSO, At-Large Facilitated Dialogue on Closed Generics, and the SubPro Implementation Review Team or IRT. For each of these efforts, the GAC has a dedicated member representative taking part in the discussion.

So why are these specific topics important to government? For Applicant Support, GAC members note the importance of fostering gTLD applications from diverse applicants and increasing the number of applications from underrepresented regions. Governments wish to reduce or eliminate ongoing ICANN registry fees to expand financial support. On the other hand, for closed generics, GAC members worked closely with the GNSO and At-Large members to attempt to draft a framework for closed generics, taking into account GAC advice from the Beijing communiqué from 2013, which noted that exclusive registry access should serve a public interest goal. The GAC understand that if as the GAC and GNSO and ALAC chairs are currently outlining, the

facilitated group does not produce an agreed framework on closed generics. This issue will be submitted to the ICANN Board for a decision, similarly to what occurred in the 2012 round.

Finally, for the Implementation Review Team, GAC members look forward to providing input to the IRT in preparation for the development of the next Applicant Guidebook. At ICANN78, the GAC will hold two GAC Plenary sessions on this topic to collectively discuss the recent Board decisions on SubPro PDP Working Group recommendations, as well as potential further engagement with the Board on these matters, and then discuss GAC-wide discussions on the three ongoing activities. So the GGP on Applicant Support, the IRT, and closed generics. Additionally, the GAC is looking forward to engaging with the GNSO Council, the ALAC, and the ICANN Board on items pertaining to the next round of new gTLDs at ICANN78 during their bilateral meetings.

So that concludes on my section here. I'll turn it back over to our colleague, Dan, for any questions, I believe. Thank you.

DANIEL GLUCK:

Thank you so much, Benedetta, our newest Kansas City Football fan in the presentation now. Thank you to everyone on this panel. Before you turn your cameras off and head out of here, let's check if anyone in the chat has a question for anyone here. Now's your only chance to do that. We'll have one at the end. Thank you, Andrea, for posting that prompt

in the chat. But I'm not seeing any. Oh, I do see a hand in chat. Okay, go ahead.

ADEBUNMI AKINBO:

Just a suggestion. There is an important document that will be referred to and it would be very awesome if we could get it in our mail so that we could be able to understand as members, as newcomers, ICANN Fellows. We just got coming into the ecosystem. We need to understand all we need to know about policy. Thank you.

DANIEL GLUCK:

Absolutely. Thank you for that comment. I do have a quick question for newcomers. I see we have a lot here, a lot of Fellows. This is for Ariel. I know we have three IDN meetings coming up at this meeting. Let's say you were a newcomer, your first ICANN, you want to see how like a workgroup is being conducted. Of the three, which one would you recommend a newcomer attend?

ARIEL LIANG:

Great question, Dan. Actually, I would recommend the first one because that's the opening session of the entire meeting, it's Saturday, the first slot. And in fact, the second one is back to back. The reason it's not just because of scheduling, but also the session will talk about some key concepts of variant management at the second level, like source, domain name, and how to identify the same registrant in the registrar so that there will be mitigation for confusion, that kind of things that

will be discussed during these sessions. And it could be a really good way to gain some foundational knowledge about what we're talking about of variant management at a second level. As one of our Fellows just mentioned, before you go to the session, make sure to check the Policy Outlooks Report and also there's a GNSO policy briefing that provide more background information on IDNs and other topics that my colleagues have mentioned so that you will come to the sessions prepared. Hopefully that's helpful.

DANIEL GLUCK:

Thank you so much, Ariel. I see we have a question here in chat from Giovanni who is a NextGen from Italy. "Very interested in learning in the GAC's work. Any advice on how to learn more and be more engaged in Hamburg?" You're a little bit ahead of us. We're going to get to that. We have a great GAC presentation coming up. But thank you so much for that question.

All right. So thanks, everyone, here. We're going to move along now to our next part of the presentation. That panel, they did a great job explaining updates and context for the New gTLD Program next round. I see Melissa, who leads the new Policy Development Accelerator, has joined me on the screen here. She's going to tell me a little bit about a program that the Policy Team is running to accomplish similar goals, I would assume, right, Melissa?

MELISSA PETERS ALLGOOD: Yes, Dan. Let's talk about the Policy Development Accelerator. September marked the beginning of our first semester of this program. The accelerator program creates opportunities for ICANN community members to cultivate substantive knowledge on a specific policy topic while fostering relationships and value and service through connections with experienced ICANN community members. And as Dan mentioned, gTLD registration data is the topic that we're exploring this semester.

So our participants receive sequential learning modules that include background summaries, webinar and session recordings, and other relevant resources that offer differing points of view. Our participants study these materials on their own. They do that asynchronously. And then they participate in our monthly interactive discussions with subject matter experts, so community members who actually live the work. This semester, we're also incorporating a role play exercise towards the end of the semester. Policy staff members create these learning modules and facilitate the program interaction.

So, as I mentioned, our term has begun. We have more than 50 participants in our program. There's a few of you on this call today. So I'm happy to see you. And while we're not taking any additional Expressions of Interest in the program itself at this time, if you're interested in this policy topic, if you're interested in learning more about gTLD registration data, the learning modules and our session

recordings, those meetings that we're having with subject matter experts, they are available on our Accelerator workspace.

So the link to our workspace is in that resource document that Andrea put in the chat, I really encourage you to bookmark this space because we will have a total of four learning modules. The first is already available. The remaining three will be published monthly as the group works through the materials. So Module 2 will be published next week as we meet on the 17th. Module 3 will be published mid November, and Module 4 mid December. Again, this is along with those session recordings that correspond with the work.

So in March of 2024, we will begin another semester of the accelerator program and we will explore a different policy topic. Notice of the new term will go out through all the usual ICANN channels in January. So please keep an eye out if you're interested. And in the meantime, you can always reach out to me or any of the Policy Team for more information. So with that, Dan, I'm going to hand it back over to you.

DANIEL GLUCK:

Thank you so much, Melissa. I'm very excited to be helping with that program, and also looking forward to next week's sessions for our October meetings.

We're going to keep things rolling now down the autobahn and bring our discussion down to the individual building blocks of the multistakeholder model of policy development. We have a great group here of Policy Development Support staff who represent Supporting

Organizations and Advisory Committees, and they're going to talk about a few different topics, I would say. I'm looking forward to this.

First up, we're lucky to have to have Caitlin, who did a great job yesterday on GNSO's update. Before you begin, Caitlin, if you happen to miss it, you can check out the recording, it's on the ICANN78 Sched page. Sierra, Charlie, Hotel, Echo, Delta .com, icann78.sched.com. You can find that event where the Zoom recording is posted and you'll be able to find the Zoom recording for this session as well after we wrap up here. Caitlin, it's all yours.

CAITLIN TUBERGEN:

Thank you, Dan. Hello, everyone. My name is Caitlin Tubergen. I am coming at you from Nashville, Tennessee, where I'm located currently. Thank you, Dan, for plugging the webinar that occurred yesterday. So for those of you who are interested in learning a little bit more and hearing from some of the leaders in the GNSO community, I do encourage you to visit that recording. Also, as I'm speaking, my colleague, Andrea, who's been our trusty link paster into the chat, will be pasting a link of a resource for people who would like to read more about the Generic Names Supporting Organization.

So for those of you who are new, the GNSO or Generic Names Supporting Organization is the arm within ICANN that develops new policies and recommends updates to existing policies for generic top-level domains. And they do that through what's called the Policy Development Process or PDP. You heard earlier in the presentation

from my colleague, Ariel, who spoke about one of the PDPs that is currently ongoing, that's the Expedited Policy Development Process on Internationalized Domain Names. As you heard, that team has been working really hard and is meeting three times in Hamburg, so I encourage you to attend one of those sessions. And as Ariel noted, the first session would be great for anyone who's interested and knew that topic to attend.

The other active Policy Development Process or PDP in the GNSO is the Transfer Policy Review Working Group. That group is looking at the Transfer Policy or the inter registrar Transfer Policy, which is the policy that governs the process if a customer would like to transfer its domain name from one registrar to another registrar. That group has been working together for about two and a half years on enhanced security to that policy, and looking at how some things have changed over the years and how it could be improved. That group will be meeting at ICANN78. And for those who are interested in that topic, we encourage you to attend either in person or remotely. Again, that briefing document that Andrea posted in the chat has more information about the Transfer Policy.

Another group that will be meeting several times during ICANN78 is the GNSO Council. That is the body that oversees these policy development processes and the policy development work of the GNSO. During ICANN78, the GNSO Council will be holding a public meeting which I encourage everyone to attend. It will also be holding several bilateral meetings with some of the groups that my colleagues support on the

screen, including the At-Large Advisory Committee, the Country Codes Names Supporting Organization, the Governmental Advisory Committee, and also the Council will be meeting with the ICANN Board.

During the Council's public meeting, the Council will be electing a new chair. So I quickly wanted to thank the current leadership that is outgoing and all of the work that they've put in, and that includes Sebastien Ducos, the current chair of the GNSO Council; Greg DiBiase and John McElwaine, who currently serve as vice chairs for the GNSO Council. So thank you to them.

Another theme that you'll see emerging with some of my colleagues who will present later is that the GNSO will be celebrating its 20-year anniversary. So whether you're brand new to ICANN or you've been a veteran who's been involved in a lot of these policy development processes, we encourage you to come celebrate with us and celebrate this important milestone.

So now with that, I'm going to turn things over to my colleague, Gisella, and she is going to share some more information about the At-Large Advisory Committee. So over to you, Gisella. Thank you.

GISELLA GRUBER:

Thank you very much, Caitlin, and welcome again to everyone. I'm Gisella Gruber, and I'm from the At-Large team and coming to you from a very stormy bath in the UK. So hopefully our Internet will hold up during the storm.

I'm just going to provide you, following up on Heidi's intervention in the first part, with a brief overview of our main sessions. So during ICANN78, the At-Large Advisory Committee known as the ALAC, the Regional At-Large Organizations, the RALOs, which we'll hear further on, the At-Large liaisons and other At-Large community members will hold a total of 18 sessions during our six days. It will be part of the three At-Large work tracks of Policy, Outreach and Engagement, and Operations. So in all of these sessions, we will have two Plenary sessions, individual sessions focusing on these tracks of Policy, Outreach and Engagement, and Operations. Four joint sessions, four RALO sessions and a session marking on the 20th anniversary of the ALAC. Similar to the GNSO, the two sessions we will also have incoming and continuing leaders training sessions, a welcome session, and a wrap-up session to end the week. So at ICANN78, which is the AGM, we also mark the traditional transition in At-Large leadership positions. I won't be running through those, but we will be providing the update during our wrap-up when we officially welcome the new leaders in.

The highlights, though, for our sessions, just coming back to the two Plenary sessions, I'd like to highlight the first one which is on WSIS+20. It is towards an intervention strategy. This is co-moderated by Marita Moll, who is a former ALAC member, and Olivier Crépin-Leblond, who is the co-chair of the At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group. The second Plenary is on the Impact of Technological Advancements on ICANN, and this session will be moderated by Hadia El Miniawi, who is the co-chair of the At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group.

The four joint sessions I mentioned are with the other Advisory Committees and Supporting Organizations. So this is very important to the ALAC as they follow up to open dialogue and new perspectives. We will be meeting with the Board, the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), and the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) to discuss issues of mutual importance. I'm just spelling those ones out. As I know, we do have newcomers and it can get quite confusing at times.

We will have the full Regional At-Large Organizations' activities. So that's known as the RALOs. To start, we have the RALO Coordination session. This gets the five regions together to focus on issues which will benefit from a strategic and coordinated action among the RALOs. Always important to underline this.

The second regional event is the joint AFRALO-AfriCANN meeting. This is traditionally held at every ICANN public meeting. And this time it will touch on theme of Internet resource management and governance in Africa.

Last but not least, being in Europe, the European region is very pleased to host two sessions. One is a Plenary session which is moderated by Joanna Kulesza. She is the vice chair of the ALAC and also our liaison to the GAC. And this will be on the Multistakeholder Governance for New Internet Infrastructures: SpaceX, IRIS2, and Equitable Internet Access for All. This one, we already had part one held a couple of weeks ago. And in order to allow everyone to listen to the recording, if you weren't able to join us, we've put the link on our At-Large ICANN78 Schedule. So

if you weren't with us a couple of weeks ago, but you do wish to join us at this session, please do go and listen to the recording. It will provide you a little bit more background.

The second European event is the EURALO Annual General Assembly. We hold this annually. This session in Hamburg, we will be reviewing the past year the yearly report, and also very importantly, looking towards the future.

I've just about come to an end. But to end on a special note, we have the At-Large Community marking its 20th anniversary. It will be the 20th anniversary of ALAC during ICANN78. And in honor of this anniversary, we are holding a session on Wednesday, the 25th of October, which will not only celebrate the achievements but also serve as a brainstorming session to help shape the future of the ALAC and the At-Large community. So very much looking forward to that.

All our sessions are open to the public and we very much look forward to welcoming many of you, not only online as this is a fully hybrid meeting, but also for those who are able to join us in person. So thank you for your time and I very much look forward to seeing many of you in Hamburg. I will now hand the floor over to Ozan. Ozan, over to you.

OZAN SAHIN:

Thank you, Gisella, and hello, everyone. My name is Ozan Sahin, and I'm coming to you today from Izmir, Turkey. I will talk about the Root Server System Advisory Committee or RSSAC. Since we have many ICANN Fellows on the call today, let me start with explaining what RSSAC does.

The RSSAC advises the ICANN community and the ICANN Board on matters relating to the operation, administration, security, and integrity of the Internet's root server system. The RSSAC currently has one work party ongoing. This work party has only recently started and it is called the Security Incident Reporting Work Party. This work party is looking into new processes to call for security incident reporting and response. This is related to the root server system's ongoing governance evolution. So this work party comes out of an RSSAC publication published in 2021 called RSSAC058 or 58 success criteria for the root server system governance structure.

This publication requested that the eventual governance structure for the root server system include a provision for cyber incident oversight and disclosure obligations. In addition to a public work session of the Security Incident Reporting Work Party, that RSSAC will be hosting multiple open meetings at ICANN78, including RSSAC Caucus meeting and How It Works session on the root server operations. Thank you. And now over to my colleague, Danielle, for SSAC highlights.

DANIELLE RUTHERFORD: Thank you so much Ozan. Hi, everyone. My name is Danielle Rutherford, and I'm on the Policy Team supporting the Security and Stability Advisory Committee or the SSAC. In the ICANN Community, the SSAC advises the ICANN Community and the ICANN Board on all matters relating to the security and integrity of the naming and address allocation systems of the Internet.

Currently, the SSAC has three work parties in progress. The first is studying Delegation Signer or DS record automation. The maintenance of DS records is an important part of DNSSEC provisioning, and DS records connect a domains DNS data to the chain of trust provided by its parent. This work party is studying the automation for the data exchanges required for DNS maintenance so that when the domain's DNS service is operated specifically by a third party, registries or registrars can retrieve all of the information needed for keeping DS records up to date.

The second work party is studying the current state and evolving nature of the DNS resolution. So this work party is examining a variety of topics of how the technology has changed over time and it includes the growing proliferation of blockchain-based naming systems and their security implications.

The third current work party is studying registrar name server management. So they're exploring a particular DNS resolution hijacking risk, but as a byproduct of undocumented operational practices between domain registrars and registries regarding name servers.

At ICANN78, we're doing things a little bit differently this time. So traditionally, all of the SSAC's working sessions have been closed. But for ICANN78, they're opening up four of their scheduled work parties for 78 on top of their regularly scheduled open sessions. So on the scheduled SSAC sessions, work sessions one through four will be open and available to be attended by observers. The SSAC will also still conduct their regular public information sessions, which is geared

towards anyone in the community, where the SSAC provides in depth updates on the progress of its current work parties and a look at future work priorities.

Last but not least, the SSAC is sponsoring the DNS second Security Workshop. This is a multisession workshop that is a public presentation and discussion with those actively engaged in the deployment of DNSSEC. The workshop will also touch on various emerging security-related issues. So anyone with an interest in the deployment of DNSSEC or interested in DNS security, we highly encourage you to attend that workshop. And now I will turn it over to my colleague, Fabian, to talk about the GAC.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX:

Thank you, Danielle. My name is Fabien Betremieux. I'm from the Policy Team as well and supporting the GAC. I'll start with a reminder about what the GAC is before getting into the updates.

The GAC, the Governmental Advisory Committee, that's a committee of 182 member countries or territories and 38 observers. Observers are International Governmental Organizations. The GAC is an Advisory Committee, so per the ICANN Bylaw Section 12, if you're interested, the role of the GAC is to provide advice on the activities of ICANN as they relate to concerns of governments, particularly—and I'm paraphrasing the Bylaws here—where they may affect public policy issues or where there may be interactions between ICANN policies and national or international law. The Bylaws also provide that the GAC may put issues

to the Board directly, either by way of comments or advice, recommending action, new policy developments, or revision to existing policies. And in practice, usually the GAC input comes in the form of GAC comments as part Public Comment Proceedings, GAC correspondence to the ICANN Board or other ICANN constituencies, or the GAC communiqué. You may be familiar with the GAC communiqué, which is the main product, the main outcome, of the GAC's deliberations during an ICANN meeting.

Of particular interest, for anybody interested in specific policy matters, are two sections of the communiqué, the consensus advice to the ICANN Board section and the issues of importance. So for anybody who's joining the community, these are certainly where you can find the most current information on the GAC's position on various policy topics. And note when you consult these two sections of the communiqué, that issues of importance has been growing over the last few years and is seen by some as indicative, a potential precursor when an issue is discussed in issues of importance, of potential subsequent advice.

So with that, what are the policy topics that the GAC is going to consider and possibly advise or comment during ICANN78? There are three main priority policy areas at the moment in the GAC. You've heard about the next rounds of new gTLD. I'll talk a little bit about WHOIS and data protection policy, as well as DNS abuse mitigation. So as it relates to WHOIS and data protection, during ICANN78, you can expect that there will be discussions of the Registration Data Consensus Policy, and

specifically, the timeline for urgent request of disclosure of registration data in very specific circumstances of imminent threat to life, critical infrastructure, or child exploitation, there is an ongoing dialogue at this time between the GAC and the ICANN Board on this specific topic, and we can expect further consideration of this matter and discussion in Hamburg.

The second topic under the area of WHOIS and data protection policy is the Registration Data Request Service (RDRS). That's a development that the GAC has closely followed as the ICANN community has been discussing access system to registration data in the current data protection law environment and the various decisions that have been taken in ICANN on that matter. The GAC commented on this matter in many recent communiqués. It has representative involved in the GNSO Small Team that is working with ICANN Org in the development of this service. The GAC has been lately considering the promotion efforts around the expected launch of the system, which does signal is key to the success of the RDRS. So when we're talking about promotion, we're talking about promotion to users of that system, as well as the registrars who will be fielding the requests that come through the system.

Another policy matter connected to the RDRS is privacy and proxy services. Those are services that may be used by registrants or registrars to protect personal identifiable information of registrants. The GAC devised in its Cancún communiqué—ICANN 76, March 2023—for the Board to prioritize—and I will read here a quote—all necessary steps to resume implementation of policy recommendations regarding the

accreditation of privacy/proxy service providers. It followed up on that advice in the Washington, D.C. communiqué. This is, in part, connected to a concern in the RDRS that when a request for disclosure of registration data will concern a domain which involves privacy/proxy services. The concern is whether the data in response to that request will be that of the actual registrant, the underlying registrant, or the data of that privacy/proxy service provider, which obviously change the usability of the information that's requested.

The last topic under WHOIS and data protection, last but not least, the accuracy of registration data. That's a longstanding interest in the GAC. You can read about that and why in the GAC principles regarding gTLD WHOIS services from 2007. That's been most recently reflected in the Washington, D.C. communiqué, which noted that the GAC remains committed to the matter of assessing the current state of accuracy in registration data, while also considering the privacy needs of registrants. And so you can expect discussion of that, and specifically the status of a number of dependencies to resume work on accuracy in the GAC and between the GAC and the GNSO.

I'll move on quickly to the third priority policy area, if you followed, after new gTLDs WHOIS and data protection, that's DNS abuse mitigation. Here, the key development as being the recent conclusion of a Public Comment period on proposed amendments of the Registry and Registrar Agreements to incorporate new obligations regarding the mitigation of DNS abuse. So the GAC obviously commented on that. In line with its comment, we can expect during ICANN78 that the GAC will

turn its attention to the scope of possible policy work which the GAC will serve to further inform the new contractual obligations in the sense of providing more details, more specifics under those new obligations, and also address and hear—that's a quote from the GAC comments—outstanding issues that need to be addressed before the next round of new gTLDs. So you see a connection here between those two subject matters.

Now, those policy areas and those various policy topics have a certain depth of history and complexity. And in recognition of this, as well as turnover in the GAC, that's fairly natural and significant, and the needs of representatives from underserved regions in the GAC, a recent initiative will continue during ICANN78, and that is the holding of a Capacity Development Workshop that's organized by the GAC Underserved Regions Working Group in collaboration with various departments of ICANN Org, and which are meant to help participants, newcomers in the GAC, as well as, as I mentioned, representatives from underserved regions, to come up to speed on various topics. And you can expect those sessions you see are open and so anybody can attend, they will be held on the Saturday and Sunday, and they will touch on ICANN's role in the Internet governance space.

A few of the GAC priority topics, particularly new gTLD next round, including Applicant Support Program, and DNS abuse. There will be an innovation this time around, and that's going to be a Technology Day on a Sunday, which will cover the basics of the DNS, as well as alternative namespaces, and in particular, Blockchain-based

namespaces. Hopefully, that will help a number of those participants decode what Danielle was talking about and what the SSAC usually addresses or some of those more technical group in the ICANN community.

As part of my reminder about the GAC, I did not mention the GAC operations and some aspects of that. One important aspect of it is that deliberations of the GAC are convened by the GAC chair, which is assisted by five vice chairs, all elected by the members of the GAC. The GAC vice chairs, in particular, are elected for a one-year term. And that term starts and conclude every year during the Community Forum. That's the meeting in March. That's why during the AGM, we usually have a round of election of vice chairs so that they can be seated and ready to take over during the subsequent Community Forum. So that's what's going to happen at ICANN78.

Why should you care? The vice chairs represent in practice, generally, the five ICANN regions, each represent one region. Their role is expected to increase as the GAC works to coordinate its activities on a regional basis. This time around, there are eight nominations, which is a sign of the enthusiasm of GAC members to actively participate in the GAC's activities.

Finally, I'll mention an important development for the GAC and for governments at ICANN, and that's the preparation during ICANN78 for the next High Level Governmental Meeting (HLGM). HLGMs bring high level officials of all governments, including at the ministerial level, to ICANN with three objectives. One, reaffirming the role of governments

in ICANN; two, increasing the exposure of high level of governments to ICANN; and three, discussing current issues at a senior level. These meetings are generally meant to occur every few years. But due to COVID-19 and the global pandemic, there hasn't been an HLGM since the Barcelona meeting, ICANN63, five years ago. So that's a pretty significant development. In this HLGM, it will take place during ICANN80 in June next year in Kigali and will be hosted by the government of Rwanda. This will be the second HLGM in Africa and the fifth HLGM overall.

So I will leave you with that. And just to make sure that everybody has been following during this webinar, as well as over the last decade, I'd like to offer a quiz to our participants. And if you're so willing, please provide in the chat the least of all four previous HLGM meetings, date and location, and I'll let Dan figure out the prize for the winner. And with that, I'll give the floor to Joke for an update on the ccNSO. Thank you.

JOKE BRAEKEN:

Thanks much, Fabien. No prize for my end. But thanks also for introducing or starting with an introduction to the GAC. I will not do that today. ccNSO stands for Country Code Names Supporting Organization. And if you want to learn more about the ccNSO, we are having a webinar for newcomers tomorrow. So have a look at the ccNSO website and join the Newcomer webinar. So let's start with the beginning.

Moin, which is hello in North Germany, my name is Joke Braeken. I'm speaking to you from Germany, not from Hamburg, but close enough.

So today, I will provide you with a brief overview of some of the session highlights by the ccNSO in Hamburg. I will start with some working group sessions that take place over the weekend. There are various sessions. I will not go through all of them. You will see them in the Resource document that Andrea is putting at regular intervals in the chat.

But there are some innovative meeting formats that we are testing. One is called Open Space. The meeting format is being used by the Guidelines Review Committee. And the Guidelines Review Committee is exploring continuous improvement for the ccNSO. So it's a very important topic, looking forward to having this session. It will be a closed one but there will be a fully virtual follow-up post ICANN78. Then there's also some internal committees, working groups that meet such as, for instance, DNS Abuse Standing Committee. They have a working session, but they will also have a session later on during the week, during the ccNSO Members meeting. We'll talk about that later.

I will stop there in terms of the working group updates and go to the Monday. That's when Tech Day is being held. It's a workshop for all that are interested in security and related matters. The workshop has been taking place since 2006. Very interesting full-day program, so make sure to have a look at the schedule. But following Tech Day, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, there are other various interesting sessions as part of the ccNSO Members meeting. Topics are sometimes also covered by other SO and ACs, such as, for instance, WSIS+20. There's a session for ccTLDs specifically, explaining what is WSIS+20, why is it

important for ccTLDs, and what are ccTLDs doing in terms of WSIS+20 related activities. So it promises to be very informative and inspiring.

Other inspiring sessions focus on, for instance, corporate social responsibility. It's close to the heart of what ccTLDs do often. You will be able to hear more about what ccTLDs are doing in order to meet expectations and make sure that operations and procedures are up to date and reflect the current reality, both in terms of environmental concerns but also ethical concerns, etc.

Good governance is at the core of what ccTLDs do. And one of the topics that is part of this good governance of running a ccTLD is being aware of DNS abuse and making sure that it is being addressed in an appropriate manner. So the DNS Standing Committee is organizing a two-hour session on DNS abuse on tools and measurements as a useful resource for ccTLDs. The committee itself has some materials available that ccTLDs and others can make use of, but more importantly, they are exploring various perspectives on what are those tools that are out there, how to use them, how can ccTLDs make good benefit of them. We will not work in isolation so it's not only ccTLDs meeting, but we'll also have a conversation with leaders of the GNSO, DNS Abuse Working Group efforts to make sure that we discuss similarities and differences and have a good conversation.

I believe that those are some of the main highlights that I wanted to address regarding the ccNSO Members meeting. But I would like to conclude with the GNSO Council meeting that takes place on Thursday, and as other colleagues mentioned already, also the ccNSO is getting

ready for leadership transition. So the ccNSO Council elections will be held after ICANN78, and the councilors, their term starts at ICANN79 in March. So that's slightly different paced than what the other SOs and ACs are following. But before we have those elections, there's a Question and Answer session with all potential candidates in Hamburg. So with that, I give the floor to Steve. Thank you.

STEVE SHENG:

Thank you, Joke. Let me briefly talk about the Address Supporting Organization. I think the numbers community made up the second N in ICANN. And within that, the Address Supporting Organization reviews and develops recommendations on Internet numbers, and really advises the Board on policy issues relating to operation, assignment, and management of IP addresses.

I think it's important to know that the policies that govern how Internet number resources are distributed by the Regional Internet Registry are developed by the RIR communities. And it's the global policy that governs how PTI, the organization responsible for performing the IANA function, issues Internet resource numbers to RIRs. So the way it works, when consensus and similar policy language exists in all the five regions, each RIR's version of the policy are merged together into a single policy statement. And this is done through the Address Supporting Organization Address Council.

Now, the SO Address Council usually meets during the first ICANN meeting of the year, so there'll be no formal meeting at ICANN78.

However, members of the numbers community are present at ICANN78. And also the ASO will meet with ICANN Board to discuss matters of common interest. So I want to quickly plug in the numbers community as I think it's important that makes up the second end as part of the ICANN mission. So with that, let me turn it back to Dan.

DANIEL GLUCK:

Thank you so much, Steve. I'm going to go quickly through this last part, but not too fast, because we love our translators. Also please bear with us, we might go a minute over. But now I'm going to transition quickly to a really fun area of our presentation. I think it takes a superstar to know a superstar. So that's why Ozan's sticking around for our next little panel here to tell us a little bit about the Community Recognition Program at this year's AGM.

OZAN SAHIN:

Thank you, Dan. Hello again, everyone. I'm back this time to talk about the Community Recognition Program at ICANN78. Annual General Meeting in Hamburg will feature two community recognition events. The first one is the presentation of the 2023 Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building. This award recognizes members of the ICANN community who have made significant contributions to national, regional, or global capacity development programs related to ICANN's mission. The award recipient is selected by the ICANN Board of Directors and the award is presented at ICANN Annual General Meetings. At ICANN 78, we will witness the fourth presentation of the

award since its inception in 2020. And this program will take place during the Welcome ceremony.

The second event is the Community Leader Recognition Program that will be held during the 25th Annual General Meeting of ICANN on the final day of ICANN78. During this event, we will recognize 58 ICANN community leaders who have completed a term of service at ICANN75 or will be completing a term of service at ICANN78. At the end of the program, recognized community members will receive their certificates. We invite you to join the session on Thursday to celebrate the efforts and contributions of the ICANN community. Thank you. And back to you, Dan.

DANIEL GLUCK:

Thank you so much, Ozan. If I had an award to give out to everyone—I give it out to everyone that stuck with us through this whole presentation. Everybody did a great job. Everyone on the Policy Team did a great job with their sessions. But now we have a quick couple of seconds here for anyone in the chat at home that has any questions for our wonderful fountain of knowledge that we have here. If you'd like to tap in, feel free to send a message in chat, feel free to raise a hand, or send us an e-mail. We'd be happy to help out any way we can. That's why we're here. I'm not seeing any and also being cognizant of our time. Yes, nothing. And being cognizant of our time, I'd like to keep the appreciation train rolling along all the way to the Hamburg, down to our station. I've mapped out my trip already and I know where I'm heading. But yeah, if you have a quick second, we'd really appreciate if you could

fill out the survey that Andrea has dropped into the chat. I see a question here from Bill that Steve Sheng already answered. So thank you so much, Bill and Steve. Thank you so much to David for wrapping us up right now.

DAVID OLIVE:

Thank you very much, team and everyone, for your attention and participation in our webinar as an update for ICANN78. By all means, if you're going to be in person, please pull us aside, talk to us, have questions, or send us e-mails if you're going to be participating remotely. We're very happy to talk to you and to explain what we do and what the community is doing in policy and advice work. With that, I wish everyone a safe travel if you're going to Hamburg. If not, we wish everyone a safe remote participation experience. We look forward to welcoming everyone soon in Hamburg. Thank you very much. Good evening, good afternoon, and good morning, wherever you may be. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]