
ICANN80 | PF – GNSO: NCUC Membership Work Session
Wednesday, June 12, 2024 - 9:00 to 10:15 KGL

ANDREA GLANDON: Hello, and welcome to the NCUC membership session. My name is Andrea, and I am the 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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I will now turn it over to our chair, Benjamin. You may begin.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Good morning, everybody. And this is the Non-Commercial User Constituency meeting. I feel only at the top right now. Everybody is not sitting here. But anyways, we'll proceed. So in case you're wondering where you are, as I've said, it is NCUC, and it's our mission to ensure that the voice of non-commercial stakeholders, or users, is heard in ICANN. And how do we do that? We mobilize, we collaborate, we engage, and we represent.

So today we have come to discuss some of those things. And as you can see, the agenda is up there. I hope you can see it is a bit tiny, but I'm

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trying. That's my fault. Let me wear my glasses. Now I see. So, we have a list of items that we're going to discuss, and we hope that by the end of today, you would have learned one or two things to enable you to participate actively in our community and some of the plans we have moving forward.

And one of the things you might have noticed is that we as a community successfully held our elections, and we have new leaders who are understudying the leaders right now. So we are going to do a good job to coach the new leaders to make sure they come in flying.

With that said, I'm going to start today's meeting by welcoming every one of you to today's meeting. Thank you, y'all, for waking up early and joining us. I know it's not easy for a 9:00 a.m. meeting. Manju, Ken, [Millie], thank you for coming out. Houda, Fidya, we're excited to have you in our midst. And for the IGF—Flavio. Thank you. Flavio is always coming to our meeting because he's a member, too. And, Jenny, we're excited to have you in our midst. Our newly elected Chair, Wisdom, you are also welcome. And then the almighty ... Yes, yes, yes, yes. A round of applause. Sometimes, forgive me, I take for granted our friendship. And as well, we have Tomslin, our Policy Chair, who is doing an amazing job. And this morning he did a fantastic job as well. Thank you for the nine K's run this morning. That was a lot. Amrita, please sit here. Please. You are my friend.

Anyways, so today we hope we have enough time to discuss some of the things we have. And I will just kick that off by welcoming the Internet Governance Forum Support Association, who are coming to reintroduce this amazing group to us again. And we have an

opportunity to engage them and ask them questions that might be of use to us this morning. Chris has sent Jenny and Wisdom to come and do ... And Chris sent a powerful delegate, so we're in good hands. And Amrita as well. Thank you.

WISDOM DONKOR:

Thank you very much, Benjamin. And then also thanks to NCUC for accommodating the IGFS as part of their agenda. I will be stepping into the shoes of Chris Mondini to take us through a brief presentation. But before I start, I'm here with the Chair of IGFS in person of Amrita. And then we have Jennifer and then also Flavio. So the presentation we'll be doing together. So I will start. And they might step in at a point in time.

So we have the presentation on the screen. So, first of all, I would like to talk briefly about IGFS. As we can all see on the screen, IGFS stands for Internet Governance Support Association. Now, the reason for this association is to kind of put together resources in support of the Internet Governance Forum and also look at the various initiatives across the globe, which is the NRIs, or I should say the various National Internet Governance Forum Initiatives.

Now, we also realize, especially taking into consideration the developing world, [we] need a bit of support in terms of outreach of the Internet governance, taking the Internet governance to everyone—so taking the Internet governance to the grassroots and bringing them up to speed on what exactly needs to be done and supporting national government and all of that.

So we have some bullet points on the screen. The first one is that the Internet governance Forum brings people together from various stakeholder groups, as I mentioned. Then the second bullet point is: that inform and inspire those with policy making powers. When you look within the space, we have various actors, and then there are specific actors that most often need to understand some of the Internet policies and all of that. So we use this platform to support some of these people and bring them into the Internet governance space. And also the IGF has met annually since 2006. Then the last bullet point is the purpose of the IGFC (I think I did mention this earlier on): to promote and support the global IGF, as well as the national regional initiatives. So basically, these are the briefs about IGFSa.

Next slide, please. Okay, so why support the local IGF? So, as mentioned early on, we look at specifically the developing world who need more of these supports. We use this platform to kind of mobilize resources in support of these national, regional IGFs, including the IGF itself, and then also close the DNS knowledge gap. Yes, there's a lot of gaps when it comes to the developing world and in terms of DNS knowledge. So we try to use this platform also to kind of create awareness of some of these topics and also advise when need be. And we also encourage inclusion of ICANN-relevant issues on IGF agendas. So basically, these are some of the supports that we give to the local IGFs across the world.

Next slide, please. Yes. So these are the coverage areas. So IGFSa currently is in 130 countries. And then as you can see, the grant that we mostly give ranges from \$500 to 3,500 USD across the globe to help

them in a way to organize capacity-building programs across these countries that you see.

Next slide, please. So, local IGF provides consistent and accurate information on how the DNS, the Internet, and the governance model work. So one of the things that we also do is to somehow advise on the kind of topics that maybe the public, when submitting their workshops and all of that, consider in their workshop submissions. And then these are some of the few topics. Currently, the IGF secretariat, together with the MAG, are reviewing the workshop proposals. And I'm sure along the line it will be announced to the general public. And then we should be seeing some of these topics in this year's global IGF.

Next slide, please. The Internet Governance Forum supports supporting a governance ecosystem. So when you look at the structure of the entire IGF, trickled down to the national, regional and all of that, the ecosystem is kind of broad and we try our best to kind of make sure that we bring everybody onto the table.

Next slide, please. Yes. So our added value. So globally, our added values are globally reached to dozens of events annually. So when you look at the various NRIs across the globe, they organize NRIs or national IGFs, including regional, subregional and all of that. And then, on the quality control and supervision, you somehow supervise the NRIs in terms of the resources that need to go into their event and all of that, and an assurance of consistent, basic and accurate technical curriculum, and then a clearing house of information on agendas, speakers and topics, and then sometimes we also try to make available some speakers from within the IGF space. So IGFSAs, one way or the

other, looks for some of these speakers and make them available for the national IGF to enrich their programs. And then one of the other things that we also do is to kind of get a feedback from these regional IGFs, national IGFs, including the global IGF itself.

Next slide, please. Yes. So how to get involved? Now, currently, membership for the IGFS is ... \$25? Yes, \$25. It's an annual ... For individuals, it's \$25. So to become a member, all that you need to do is to go to the IGFS website, as you see the address on the screen. You just go there. The process is very simple. And then if you are also an organization, you can as well become a member and also decide to donate or also sponsor. So that is how you can get involved. We are also here on ground to assist whoever wants to get involved with IGFS. And then once you are a member, you have that privilege to also become an executive committee member. When the time is due, you can also apply. So this is the process to get involved.

Next slide, please. All right, so these are the 2024 executive committee members. So you can see some of them in the room, and I believe you know most of them on the screen.

Next slide, please. So this is the last slide. So we have the Chair in the house. So I believe she would like to say a few words as well.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Wisdom. I know you have a question. There was a question informally to me. So while the individual fee is \$25 US dollar annually, entities can start with \$100. But you could join yourself. You could also send it to your mailing list, because not all your members are

here today at Kigali. But if you could share the message, they can themselves join, or they may be associated with some organization who may help to join, who may want to contribute, because this goes towards supporting the national, regional IGFs and even youth initiatives in developing countries.

And many of you were there in the earlier discussion also where we mentioned that the IGF is having a front crunch. They are not able to support the national regional initiatives. We are doing it as per our budgets. We would like to give more to them. But again, that is why we are reaching out to all of you. And during the last ... Today is the third day, and tomorrow is the fourth day. We got some good comments from many of our SO/ACs. SSAC said they would be willing to help with speakers, for example, if any of the NRIs need technical speakers on issues.

Similarly we can think of things creatively, for example, if NRIs come up with requests. Or we can also have a repository in that these are the people who could speak on a topic. I'm not saying that for an event in Benin, we need to have a US speaker. We could also have someone from Benin or even from Africa speaking, because they would understand the situations more. And that's where the pool of talent, the resources, your knowledge, helps.

So we can contribute in many ways. Yes, financially does help us, but we could also expand in terms of resources, in terms of the thought process, because what you discussed, the multistakeholder model which you propound, is also very important today.

And that's why we actually started speaking to all of you, because, while governments want to take decisions, the Internet is used by all of us. We have our rights, we have all our interests, because we are the ultimate users of the Internet. If we don't have a say, it doesn't sound right.

And topics which are very endemic to a particular country or region need to also be discussed globally. And people, even there, the young people, should know, be aware, of what is being discussed and what the others are doing.

So it's just not the financial part. It is also strengthening that ecosystem. And that's what we urge you to support.

You had a question?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yeah, my question was just regarding what the benefits of members are. I didn't see that on the slide.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: That's actually a very good point. Since we are doing it for the first time, we've not done it like professionals. We like your inputs. So currently, if you're talking about big sponsors, we have just a few at this point. We have not been aggressive as an entity. We've been very passive, but we've just started it again because we thought it's necessary. Those who have been supporting us, like ICANN, the NROs, or even Google, etcetera, understand the value of these discussions at the grass level—for example, what benefits is ... From the ICANN parlance (I'll just give

examples) if it is a domain name company, for example, or a hosting company, what benefit would they have? Like, if there are topics which are discussed in the country ... For example, let's talk about new gTLD round, which is coming. If there is a, for example, panel discussing the new gTLD round, how does it benefit the community there, or even the applicant support, hypothetically.

It may also indirectly help that organization to spread the message because, many times in the national, regional IGFs also, you have regulators coming, you have businesses coming, small enterprises, medium enterprises coming. The word of mouth goes. Many of them come up with newsletters or social media posts which actually go to other people. So it's also an indirect way of spreading the message.

And many times, for example, if you have a panel, you can demystify things, like DNS abuse, for example. There is a very thin line. There is a content issue and there is something on the networking part or the domain part. You can also demystify those issues. Many times regulators may come to a domain name registrar and say, "Look, this is your issue," but it may be a content issue also. So many times, in many ways, you can demystify those, which I think also helps entities who are associated with ICANN.

Similarly, on many topics which are of interest, like content governance, or even, say, intermediary liability, or even the privacy or data protection aspects, which are discussed, there are many companies who want to promote it, or there are some gray areas could be discussed. So not that you can dictate the topic, but some topics

may be suitable for even entities to support because it actually helps them in the long run.

I hope I've been able to answer to some extent. Of course, your logo would be there and other stuff is there, and you may get a speaker's [slot], but those are additional things.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [What about for individuals?]

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: For individuals, I would say you are supporting a cause, just like you may support Greenpeace.

[JENNIFER CHUNG]: So regarding, I guess, individual members, why is it good for you to join this IGFS? I mean, this was really created so that individuals are able to support the IGF. I'm not sure how many of you realize how difficult it actually is to support the global IGF, and especially the regionals, because the seed funding that we give (in fact, I think our priority is to give to the global south initiatives) actually allows them to do a lot of things at their regional meetings. If you are someone who cares about Internet governance, if you go to your national or local IGF, this is actually a really great way for you to show your support. I think you've heard this year(and next year), there's a lot of talk about Internet governance: what are we going to do about it, do we really support the multistakeholder process and model? This is one way to get your point across as an individual.

The second thing is, if you are an individual and you're a member, you can actually direct the IGFSA on how we allocate budgets and how we plan the next year's activity. So we take in at our general assembly how the next year plan should go. So that is another part of being a member of IGFSA. You can tell us, "We would like to allocate this here" and think about your budget in this way and also create more value for the general multistakeholder community.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

And also to add, how many of you organize national, regional or youth IGFs here?

Yeah. No, no, no, not you two. You two are discounted. So let me tell you something. And recently we've had quite a few applications from the African countries. Trust me, the people who are organizing it really find it hard to raise money, as in, for us, sometimes it's very difficult because we are limited and we have we have allocations to a certain amount we can do. Sometimes you feel that you really need to support them more, but we are not able to support. Even a small contribution of \$25 USD annually can go a long way, as in just imagine if 1000 people put in \$2500 USD. It goes to support at least two or three initiatives. You know, you could look at it that way. Thank you.

ANDREA GLANDON:

Pedro online has his hand up to Benjamin.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE:

Okay, Pedro, quickly. We're rounding this up.

PEDRO DE PERDIGAO LANA: Oh, no, I was just answering the question about who had received support. IGFSa was fundamental to the [inaudible] IGF last year. So I was just thanking for the support we received.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: What did it ...

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: [They got support].

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: They've got support. Okay, awesome. Thank you for letting us know that. Houda?

HOUDA: Thank you for giving me the mic. Hello, everyone. My question is, what are the topics discussed in this Internet Governance Forum? Support? And is there is any call of session or papers?

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: So what we do is we do not make content. We do not design the program. We support the regional and national. It is a bottom-up process. Say, for example, Tunisia is having a national IGF. The community out there comes up with a proposal and then sends it to us. We just ratify whether it is okay, is a legit thing. Jennifer checks with the IGF secretariat if it is legitimate national initiative. We look at the

budgets. She has a careful look at it, what the program is, and then the EC members discuss it, and then we approve.

At times, they may ask us for support in terms of a speaker or some topic. We may then give it to it, but we don't try to dictate it, as in, that would be a very top-down approach. We don't want that.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Thank you, everyone. I think we now know what IGFSa is all about. And you can get more details on this ...

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Online.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Brochure or pamphlet, and then online as well. Although I have a question, I will ask you guys later.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Ask it if you have time.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: We are running out of time, and she's looking at me like, "You're burning your time." Initially, when IGFSa was set up, it used to support individuals to go to the IGF. I don't know if I'm correct or wrong. Initially, Wisdom, when IGFSa was initially launched, it used to support individuals to go to IGF?

WISDOM DONKOR: [No].

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: He never did that. So it was specifically set up to support NRI?

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Yes

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Okay, that's good. Thank you for clarifying.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: We support NRIs. We also support the IGF because they at times they want to do certain things. They don't have funds for the IGF, for the community. That is the time we step in. We translate. Translation facilities, transcripts, etcetera. Yes.

[JENNIFER CHUNG]: Ben, actually, you reminded me. In the past, we have supported some people to go to the global IGF, but that was through the accessibility funding, through Google, because they were accessibility, I guess, fellows who were going.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Okay, thank you. Thank you very much for this enlightening session.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: [inaudible]

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Oh.

FIDYA SHABRINA: Thank you, Benjamin. Just a quick question before we move on. So, since this is for an individual member, would it make any difference if he or she who signed him up is someone from the governments, or would it be okay if it's like, not from the governments? What would be the best take out? Would it be better if it's someone from the government? Will it give her or he, I don't know, different capacity to give inputs to the activities in the IGFSa because as someone from the government, they know what's actually going on with their local IGF and where would they want to move forward with the international engagement?

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Not really. Everyone, be it an individual member .. If I or even the prime minister somewhere puts in \$25, we are the same. And it is not that anyone can dictate the program. You can suggest that this is how IGFSa can spend the money, or you increase the money, but not how, for example, the Indonesia IGF should have a program designed, another IGF. We don't allow that.

FIDYA SHABRINA:

Okay, thanks, Amrita.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE:

Thank you. So we're going to proceed. IGFSa, thank you so much. This was enlightening. So, because we have spent some time on this, we have to run through other activities. So we're hoping that at this meeting we would have opportunity to reach out to local communities. But I can announce to you that we did reach out to ISOC Rwanda, so we have exchanged contacts and we can continue that conversation. It wasn't as easy because it required a lot of protocols. So that's why we couldn't get as many locals that I would always love to see. Like, yesterday, I saw National Association of Journalists and things like that. But I'm hoping that with our continuous engagement with the ISOC ... because the group that really leads non-commercial in Rwanda is the ISOC chapter. They said they are primarily the face of digital non-governmental associations, that they coordinate them. And I met Emmanuel yesterday, and I think because we had the elections, we were all busy with the elections, even me. I was busy with the elections. I was campaigning. So [I] forgot to do outreach, which is not very good. But as members, as you meet people locally during these meetings, we still have today, we still have tomorrow. Please tell them about us, especially non-commercial individuals or organizations that are based in Kigali.

With that said, I think we've saved on time on that and we'll move over to the continuous improvement work. So we were thinking we were going to get somebody in our session, but that wasn't going to happen anymore. So this conversation will just be open to anyone who has

questions with this particular work. Because we had the intervention at this NCSG level, the staff supporting the CIP-CCG came to give us an orientation. So I don't know if there was anybody at that session or not. Who participated in the Continuous Improvement Cross-Community Working Group?

Okay, you don't know what this work is, so I have to start now. Yes, but on the session during the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group, does anybody want to know about this work?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [inaudible]

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Okay, that's why I'm asking. So there is a group that has been set up for quite a while to review. Every number of years (I think five years), ICANN is supposed to review its structures, all of the constituencies, SOs, all the organizations in ICANN community to review their structures and their functions if they are still meeting the reason why they are set up. So, for example, for NCUC, are we serving the mission, the purpose, where we have been set up, the visions we set out to do? Are the current structures we have meeting the value that we are supposed to contribute to the multistakeholder engagement model of the domain name governance?

So that's what the work is about. It has about five principles that we've shared on the mailing list, and we have asked members to look at these principles and see if they work for us, if they are good for the Non-

Commercial User Constituency. It requires a little bit of reading and all of that. And that's why we called the staff to explain it to us, and they shared the timeline. So the work has started now, and we have about ... I'm representing the Non-Commercial User Constituency. There's also an alternate individual that is representing us. There's someone representing NCSG and NPOC. Manju, are you still representing? Who is representing us now in NCSG? Okay.

MANJU CHEN:

And then just quickly, more context on why we're doing this. So, in the past, according to ICANN bylaws, there are two kinds of reviews that we need to do. One is mandatory. It's called the specific reviews. They're the reviews that you might heard of multiple times: the ATRT, the [RDRS], the SSRs. Therefore, they're specific reviews. And there are the organization reviews, like Benjamin was talking about.

But according to the ATRT3 recommendations, they were saying this organization reviews, because in the past, how it was done is that they hire independent reviewers from the outside to contact and do a review of the organizations or structures within ICANN. And according to the ATRT review team, they didn't think this is efficient, or they thought it would be better if the ICANN community itself developed this continuous improvement structure that they can use to continuously improve themselves, rather than having third party every few years coming to ICANN to do a review of their structures and how they work.

So that's why we're doing this continuous improvement thing. So that's why we're asking the community, what do you think is the best criteria,

best identifiers, for example, to kind of evaluate how you're performing and how and where you can improve your structure.

And that's why Benjamin's saying that they are principles, and under the principles, there will be criteria. And you can pick, as NCUC or NCSG, which criteria you think works for you. And if you think, “Oh, this criteria, for example, is more security oriented or looks like it fits more with the GAC, with the SSAC,” you can be like, “Oh, this doesn't work for NCUC. We don't need this criteria,” and there will be criteria that you’ll feel like, “Oh, this is more what we think NCUC is already having (or this is a thing that will aspire to be in the future).” So we have to have this criteria and we work towards it. And so that's what we're doing now—not me, because I'm not part of that group anymore. That's what they are doing now to solicit community feedback on the criteria. What do you think that fits most for you? Of course, it's a rolling basis thing, so you can definitely add criteria in the future when you think you achieve something and you want further improvement of NCUC as a structure. That's why it's called continuous improvement. And I was representing, actually, GNSO Council on a team, but the meeting time just doesn't work for me, so we're having another person from the United States doing that. Thank you.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Okay. Thank you for rescuing me right here.

So I just want to quickly show you the principles. So I thought why this wasn't carrying a lot. Thank you so much, Manju. So she just gave you the context. So what I said to you is ... Okay, let me just quickly share

my screen so that you can see the principles, because that's the only thing left to show to you right now. So if you look at the screen, those are the principles so far that has been identified because we, as a community, are reviewing ourselves, and these are the principles that have been identified.

The first one is, are the SOs and ACs or NomCom (we are an SO) fulfilling its purpose? The second one is, are our operations efficient? Do we collaborate to further the mission of ICANN and the effectiveness of the ICANN multistakeholder model? And then the other one is also, is our operation effective? As I've said, that's also another one. And then the final one: internally to its stakeholders, are we accountable to our stakeholders?

So these are the principles they've identified. All these principles—are they okay with us as NCUC, or would we like to add some to it, or would we like to remove some from it? So that's this continuous improvement. [Let me learn now.]

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [inaudible]

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Okay. So that is what we are discussing. So, regularly I'll come back to you to ask you questions. And they want to know a lot about ... So the feedback I should be giving should be feedback from the community, not my own personal impression. So if there are things you see that you're like, "No, with the way we are structured, maybe we can improve

this or that,” this is the opportunity now, at least recommendations. So this should cut across all the organizations. And so that's what it is. So thank you.

I don't know if there are additional questions. There's a lot going on there. We've shared it on the mailing list.

I think also something that is worth remembering ... I don't know if I have it. Here is the timeline. This is going to go until about ... This is how long it's going to go on, you see. And along the line, the ICANN Board will come to check [to see] if this is useful and [see] the outcome of this.

So what is very important is to make sure that our voice is inside of this. So whenever you see mail about this, please look at it and share your thoughts and opinion. So what am I asking? I'm asking for your continuous contribution and taking time out to look at it. It might look like a lot, but mostly is not a lot as well. So please look at it and make contributions because we haven't been getting feedback on the mailing list. And one of the things we understand is probably people don't understand what this is all about. And I've tried as much as possible to explain to you that it's just for us to evaluate ourselves for continuous improvement, and we all have something to contribute.

So I won't belabor the topic anymore. Go ahead, please.

[PETERKING QUAYE]:

Thank you so much, Ben. I just wanted to touch on when Manju was saying, “Who are the representatives on this?” like you said, because I

wanted to bring up continuous improvement. So what are we improving actually? Because as a stakeholder, we need to know what we need to focus on. So if we don't understand our challenges, then that will be difficult for us to know, as would be how to contribute to this process. Like you said, there has been less engagement. We need to orientate people or like a mini-NomCom or mini group within our distance to look at our challenge so that [inaudible] when they finish, we start saying, "Oh, they didn't [take our NPU], they didn't take these," because we don't understand our challenges. We really don't thoroughly evaluate what our problems are for us to be able to contribute.

So in that case, I just wanted to point your attention or maybe just ask for a clarification. The principles number three and two are "efficient" and "effective." So NomCom, can you elaborate more on that for those that have been part of this group? What are you talking about? Because I could see efficient and effective. So what are we trying to measure in that?

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE:

So I think "efficient" is that we don't waste things. We are not wasteful. We utilize resources effectively, then effectively we achieve our goals. You understand? They are two different things. We have said we want the voice of non-commercials to be heard. We are doing that consistently. But we can do that wastefully too. We can be spending a lot of money and they are still hearing the voice of our people. We are effective in what we have set out to do, but are we efficient in the way and manner we do it?

[PETERKING QUAYE]: Thank you so much for that. So that's now brought me to how to evaluate in terms of what is the current gap. So where do we need to be so that we can really contribute and evaluate and say that this is how we need to improve because if we don't know our current condition, we won't know where we're going. So that's just my contribution. Thank you.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Thank you very much, Peter. I see where you are going there. Unfortunately, we don't have time. So what is going to happen is I think we should raise this conversation on our mailing list. And I agree with you that we should set up I don't know at which level we can ... Okay, this NCUC. So we can start it from NCUC because we saw it on the mailing list during the election to where people raised like, oh, we only see participation during ... So maybe this is a good time to start that conversation. Like, what can make us be more efficient as a community? So it's welcome idea. And I think you do us a good favor by writing something up on the mailing list. Just to say, in continuation of this conversation, could we consider putting together a team of people to just do an internal evaluation of how we're doing as a constituency?

REMMY NWEKE: Okay, just very quickly, thanks for this section. I'm glad that Wisdom is also here. And I don't know if there's any other new team member that is here.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Sara is here.

REMMY NWEKE: Oh, sorry, Sara. Oh, okay. So it's good that we have them much earlier in the system to at least have an idea where the current leadership is so when they are migrating, it is a bit easier.

One thing I would like to add is that I know in the time past, we have done a kind of flyer. We get to events, we share it, and then we encourage people to also come to the meeting. But you raise a very salient issue, which I want to touch on: lack of engagement on the platform.

So based on that, instead of assigning Peter to do that, can we do a kind of internal survey and share it with members and ask them to respond on the expectations? So that will help us to gauge exactly where we are going or where we are to know where we are going or where we are headed because if you can throw in information on the platform and you didn't get enough response, I wonder what Peter will be doing with this one. So that's just my suggestion. Thank you.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Thank you. We will take that up. The ACs are here. We all make sure we act on this. Please hold us accountable if you don't see any action on this in a month's time.

REMMY NWEKE:

Quickly, please, there is an announcement regarding the pilot holistic review in the system, and I encourage our members to please apply to be part of it. Outside it being a learning curve for some of us to know what is also going on around ICANN, you should also take part in the activities. It's open now. I intended on sending an email to the NCSG platform, but since I'm here, it's also good that I [inaudible] because I represent us.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE:

Thank you. Yes. It's about the holistic review process. So I will share the email, and I would encourage everybody to please apply. It's also an opportunity to be part of a team of people. If you apply, there's also a selective selection committee that will pick people. We were talking about it yesterday. I'll send off the email today. That's on me. I'll do that. So thank you very much.

We still have a few things to cover. I yield this sharing. [Andrea], I'm sorry. I know I'm bad with this. Thank you. So at this point, as you know, we always have our CROP, which is also another opportunity (Community Outreach Program) that allows us to bring one or two persons to the meeting, just to experience the meeting in the region to get them to start participating actively. Fortunately, we have the privilege of having Professor Wale in our midst and he will just share his experience or whatever he wants to tell us about him participating with us as a CROP fellow.

WALE ADEBANWI:

Okay. Thank you, Benjamin, and good morning everyone. My name is Wale Adebani. I work with [UPenn] as a professor of computer engineering. I'm from Nigeria. My university is somewhere in the northern part of Nigeria. It's a very serious privilege to be a CROP fellow with NCUC, and I want to thank the EC and all the NCUC members for this privilege. The last few days have been very engaging for me, maybe not very new to ICANN, but when it comes to engagement, basically I can say I'm still very new. I'm trying to learn the ropes. I'm trying to see and understand what the community basically is all about and how to get engaged.

I've had a lot of engagements in the last few days. I've been here since Friday. I've had a lot of engagement, and with the privilege of the fellowship that I got, one of the very impactful engagements I've had is what I'm going to talk about and was a workshop, a policy development workshop, with [K]athy. We started last week, Friday, and we had a few days of very serious engagement. There were just a very few participants, and the workshop exposed participants to some very clear understanding and practical activities on how to look at proposals, probably develop proposals, analyze proposals, understand those proposals, and be able to contribute to the proposals meaningfully as a non-commercial.

In the last few days, I'm sure you'll have seen Kathy and some of the participants discuss the singular and plural proposal. That was the outcome of that workshop. It was one of those simulations that we had during the workshop. And sincerely, whatever you had, some of our colleagues (we were just, like, six or seven) discussed singular and

plural proposal, things that are conceived, discussed, analyzed within just very few hours. And that actually brought a very different perspective and understanding on how to look at proposals as far as non-commercial is concerned.

So it wasn't only the singular and prior, because we had a lot of simulations. She made us do a lot of simulations about proposal development. And I think for probably people like me that can be called newbies within the community, this is one of the very engagements that can make people really contribute more to proposals from the position of understanding. It's not going to be people just contributing proposals on the fly. People have an understanding on how to look at proposals.

And one of the things I will want to probably encourage people that have been here for some time who already understand the workings of ICANN and NCUC to do is to look at these proposals whenever these proposals come up and try to probably develop a small document that will provide the evolution of that proposal and very small summary that someone can easily identify with to understand those that kind of proposal so that they can contribute at times.

I see a lot of mails. I've been using email for, I don't know, probably close to three decades. But since I joined NCUC and NPOC, the amount of mails I receive in a day is something else. So you can relate that it becomes very difficult for people. I'm sure all of us are very busy people. It becomes very difficult for people to be able to sift through these mails, take time to read them and time to understand them, and now begin to contribute meaningfully to those mails. So as the mails comes,

I don't know how NCUC can do that. When there are proposals that people really need to relate with and make meaningful contribution, it won't be a bad idea for NCUC users to see how we can have a summary of the proposal; for someone to be able to look at that proposal within a very short time, relate with it, understand it, and begin to meaningfully contribute to that proposal.

In rounding up, that workshop was a very good one. Thanks to Kathy. Alex too was there as well as one of the resource persons. I will want to also appeal probably to people that have a lot of experiences here to consider that that kind of workshop is going to help to bring up so many people within the community on how to get meaningfully engage with the activities of, especially, NCUC. So NCUC can also consider, at any of the ICANN events, just very few people ... Kathy brought, I think just about seven of us together and three faculties, so were just ten. But it was very engaging. It was from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. I mean, I've not been able to go out to see what Kigali looks like, but from where I stand, it was a very, very productive and meaningful engagement that we have. Once again, thank you, everybody.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Thank you, Prof. That was really insightful. So I can attest to that that was a very useful way of passing knowledge across. Kathy did a good job, and when you see her, please thank her for us and thank her for NCUC as well because now we have some champions in our midst. And we are hoping that when Tomslin calls for volunteers to comment, we will see people who can effectively do justice to them. All he's asking for is just that, if we can find our veterans who can easily tell us which

part of those call for comments are critical, a little bit background and where we stand as a non-commercial stakeholder, people will be able to jump on it and share where they stand or gather community input to be able to make sure we meet the deadline and submit a very quality call for comments as a constituency.

With that said, as still the Non--Commercial Stakeholder Group, I think we now leave the stage for Tomslin. Does anybody have question for Prof? You have question for him. Quickly, quickly. Thank you.

ADEBUMNI AKINBO: Don't mind my village attitude. Are you in the ICANN community wiki?

WALE ADEBANWI: Yes, I am.

ADEBUMNI AKINBO: Oh, great. So I think you were just pointing us in that direction that we should make more use of the ICANN community wiki. And so the chair should help us out because sometimes logging in from other handheld mobile devices could be somehow tricky based on IP. Once it detects that you're in another region, it begins to ask questions which you may not be able to answer. Again, using the ICANN community wiki more allows for an easy readthrough on the opinion, the old draft, the new draft, rather than the emails, except for some of us who are used to it. Thank you.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Okay, thanks Akinbo. All right.

REMMY NWEKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Let me start by congratulating the professor and his other fellows. What I wanted to ask is, as they concluded their ... Should I say internship? Now, I think from that point they should either be assigned or asked to choose any of our departments they will be very active in, especially in policy development, so that we don't start waiting for them to key in. We adopt them immediately, yes.

And then it will also be nice if you can have, even if it is once a year, a kind of re-capacity for members. I know we do have webinars, but there's a very big margin between webinars and a face-to-face, especially when we want people to do the practicals and want to see what they have been able to do. That will also help Tomslin's assignment as we progress. Thank you.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Thank you very much. Okay. Short.

[PETERKING QUAYE]: Yeah. Thank you so much, Ben. Thanks to Kathy and the people that joined the simulation exercise. So I just wanted to ask. You that you've given us a background of what happened. But from your own perspective, where do you want to fit? What do you want to do? What particular topics that is of interest to you that you want to champion? So that's just what I want to ask. And we appreciate that each individual that participates in the simulation pick a particular area so that we

know, when issue comes out from there, then the PC can say, oh, [inaudible] and come directly. So that's just my contribution. Thank you.

WALE ADEBANWI: Okay. Thank you. You are trying to put me on the spot. You know, like Remmy said, he said, on internships, they should adopt those. Adoption is very nice and I think anybody that is adopting someone knows that adoption comes with responsibility. So we are very available to be adopted. You know, I cannot give you right now a topic of interest, but I assure you that for many of us as attended, we are committed to get actively engaged in policy development.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [inaudible]

WALE ADEBANWI: Okay. I'm not sure about that, but if you have signed one, then I'm going to sign one too. Thank you.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Thank you very much.

ANDREA GLANDON: Benjamin, just before we move on, Pedro commented about the ICANN staff primers that are also great. And he put the link in the chat for the ICANN staff primer. So you'll want to check those out.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Thank you. So at ICANN 79, this came up as well. So right now the link is in the chat. So ICANN staff has been providing primers for us.

So can I ask a question quickly? Do those primers come immediately? The call for comments comes out too. Or it comes out later? I'm just asking.

ANDREA GLANDON: The staff primers would come out not necessarily immediately after the comment. I think they're just doing the topics as they come.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Thank you. Tomslin will tell us what he thinks about all of this in addition to his policy updates.

TOMSLIN SAMME-NLAR: I think they should start working. All right, I thought I'll give a quick policy update. So this item is not for us to delve deep into any of the topics. It's just to update on what's happening and where NCSG has been providing input or discussing or contributing to the conversation. So that is what this will be about. So pardon me if I don't go too deep into them, but that's because we've probably already discussed it in other sessions or in our monthly policy committee meetings as well. However, I will give an overview of each topic and then just provide where it is at in the general ICANN ecosystem.

Okay, next. So probably should try to make this really big. Maybe too big? Is that good? All right, so the first one is the subsequent procedure or next round of new gTLDs. If you have been here for a few hours, you would have heard the preferred word, which is [Opera], and that's what everyone calls it. But it's really about the next round of new gTLDs that will be coming up soon.

The recommendations that were produced for this round are currently in the implementation phase, which means that ... Well, the adopted recommendations are currently in implementation phase. There are some non-adopted recommendations and we will look at some of those, but the ones that the Board has adopted are currently in implementation phase.

I just wanted to mention first that the Board has just yesterday, I believe, passed a number of resolutions that pertain to the next round and therefore SubPro. And Juan shared that, because Juan is our representative to the IRT (the Implementation Review Team). He shared that on the mailing list. So please have a look at that.

Then, related to implementation as well, the implementation team was looking at law enforcement agent requests, and, including the Board, has come to a conclusion that the recommendation as written (and that's recommendation number 18) is not fit for purpose. And we did discuss this yesterday at length, so I'm not going to go into the details, but I'll just mention that where it's at now is the council is meant to deliberate on how to respond to that letter from the Board and whether it will choose to propose options for the Board or ask the Board to

provide input. So that is on the council agenda for today at 1:15 or so, I believe.

The other item that is also related to this is a non-adopted recommendation that's related to the singular and plural again, which was discussed at length yesterday, so I'm not going anywhere into that. But the next step for that one is that a council small team is looking at a strawman proposal that was sent from ICANN Org to the council to consider as a potential language for the supplemental recommendation so that the Board could consider adopting it. The council small team is currently discussing that. So NCSG is actively participating in that as well, so I thought I'll mention those in case people (folks like Professor Wale) want to jump on it.

All right, the next policy item that is on our radar is the transfer policy review. Thanks for the music. On the transfer policy review, again, we got an update on this during the issues forum, but in terms of where it is at holistically, that working group plans to publish its initial report sometime in August. Ken, correct me if I'm wrong. All right. That's right. Ken is our representative to that working group. For accuracy, this one is a bit complicated and we did discuss it as well yesterday during the NCSG policy meeting. And it's complicated because the council output ... There was a request to look at accuracy, and the council put together a scoping team to look at what, if anything, should be done. The outcome of that could be an issues report which is usually provided by staff to start the policy development process.

However, the team could not agree on what the definition of accuracy is, and therefore they needed data to make this determination and they

looked to ICANN Org for this data and the contractual parties. There were some options provided a couple of months or even a year ago or more.

ICANN did an impact assessment on those options and has decided that the options previously offered are not feasible, and they've now offered two potential options. One is to use historical data from ICANN Compliance's existing audit program, and the second is to engage with contracted parties to review European ccTLD identity verification practices.

Now, the council hasn't had time to deliberate on these two options. That will happen today as well. So if anyone is keen on such a thing, please attend the council meeting, and you will love the conversation that happens there.

The next is the Latin diacritics. We didn't discuss this. We haven't discussed this in this week at all in ICANN80. Okay, time is running out. All right, even better. So for this one, the next step (we've discussed this in many monthly meetings) here is that the council has requested for staff to produce an issue report on the topic, and depending on what comes out of the report, we might go ahead with a policy development process or put together a working group, or not. We don't know. But ICANN Org staff has 45 days to provide this report to the council.

Last one is ... You would have heard this acronym a lot, which I love: PPSAI. But it's really hard to know what it is, but it does mean Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation. Now, there was a PDP put together years ago, and they produced their final report, I think, in 2016, but the

implementation was put on hold by ICANN Org due to overlapping issues with the expedited policy development process on the temporary specification. Now, that was called EPDP phase one and two when this GDPR thing had just come out. NCSG believes those issues still exist.

However, the implementation review team is being started during this meeting, and we do have a call out on the mailing list for volunteers. So if you are concerned that there are overlapping and conflicting privacy issues, potential conflicting privacy issues, between GDPR and the policy that was developed many years ago before that, then please consider joining that, because that IRT is meant to identify those issues.

So thank you for listening to my ...

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE:

I know I could trust you. Thank you very much.

So I want to thank every one of you for coming, but also, there's still two minutes. If anybody has anything to say, it's a member's meeting, and if there's any reaction or anything anyone has to say about the members meeting or something that you can't type on the mailing list, this is a good opportunity to share.

Okay. Peter, I wasn't thinking you were going to raise your hand, but anyway, yeah.

[PETERKING QUAYE]: Thank you so much. I just wanted to touch on the outreaches from different regions and that we need to actually work on that. So we need to get more members, especially from North America. So we need to do a lot of work and just, like, a call to our AC. Thank you.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: And the good thing is that you mentioned North America. You two are from there, and Ken is here. So please, you guys should do a bootcamp there and make something happen. Thank you very much.

If there's no other contribution, I want to thank every one of you for actively participating in our last election. And I don't want you to stop your participation. I want to see the same level of energy in every other thing we are doing. We are becoming a very strong force in this ICANN model governance process because we legitimize the entire process. So, please, let's continue to participate. And I want to thank every one of you. Congratulations to all of us. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]