
ICANN81 | AGM – GAC Opening Plenary
Saturday, November 9, 2024 - 9:00 to 10:00 TRT

DAN GLUCK: Welcome to ICANN 81 and the GAC Opening Plenary. My name is Dan Gluck from the ICANN Policy Development GAC Support Team, and I am the Participation Manager for this session. Please note this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior and ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy. During this session, questions or comments will only be read aloud if submitted within the chat pod. Interpretation for this session will include all six UN languages, including Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish, and also Portuguese. If you would like to speak during this session, please raise your hand and Zoom. When called upon, virtual participants will be given permission to unmute in Zoom. Onsite participants will use a physical microphone to speak. Please state your name for the record and the language you will be speaking when speaking a language other than English, and please speak at a reasonable pace. I will now hand the floor over to GAC Chair Nico Caballero.

NICO CABALLERO: Thank you, Daniel. Welcome, everyone. Ladies and gentlemen, it is with great honor and privilege and immense gratitude to the 183 GAC members and 39 observing organizations for re-electing me as GAC Chair for another two-year term, that I welcome you to the opening

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ceremony of ICANN 81 here in the beautiful and historic city of Istanbul, Türkiye.

So as we gather here, you know, a city that bridges continents and cultures, we are reminded of the rich tapestry of history that has shaped this land. From ancient times, we recall the legacy of Emperor Justinian I, whose reign saw the construction of the magnificent Hagia Sophia, a symbol of architectural and cultural brilliance. Moving forward to the Ottoman period, we honor Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent, whose leadership not only expanded the empire, but also fostered an era of artistic and legal advancements. In more modern times, we celebrate Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the visionary founder of the Republic of Türkiye, Türkiye nowadays, whose reforms laid the foundation for a progressive and secular nation.

As we can see from the Byzantine era to the Ottoman Empire and the modern Republic of Türkiye, this city has been a crossroads of civilizations and a testament to human ingenuity and resilience. As we transition from these historical reflections to the present day, we recognize the significant challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for the domain name system industry. The forthcoming round of generic top-level domains, gTLDs, presents both exciting prospects and complex challenges. It is imperative that we address this with a forward-thinking approach, ensuring scalability, security, and compliance.

Furthermore, the ongoing discussions around Internet governance, particularly the WSIS+20 review, the GDC, that is the Global Digital Compact, and initiatives like the Coalition for Digital Africa, underscore

the need for a collaborative and inclusive approach to shaping the future of the Internet.

In our deliberations over the coming days, the importance of mitigating DNS abuse cannot be overstated. As we strive to maintain the integrity and security of the DNS, we must also focus on the critical issues of WHOIS and data protection, ensuring data accuracy and the transparency of Statements of Interest, or SOIs. These discussions are vital to maintaining trust and accountability within the ICANN community.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to our gracious hosts, the Turkish government and the Turkish GAC representative, for their warm hospitality and support in organizing this significant event. I would also like to express my sincere thanks to Gülten Tepe Oksuzoglu, a valued member of the GAC staff, who recently welcomed a new child. Her dedication to the GAC and the Internet community in general is truly inspiring.

Finally, I reiterate my warm welcome to all government representatives, both those who are here with us today in person and those joining us online. Your participation is invaluable, and I look forward to our productive discussions and collaborative efforts in shaping the future of the global Internet. Thank you very much. Now let me give the floor now to Meltem Ergun from the Republic of Türkiye. Please go ahead.

MELTEM ERGUN:

Thank you very much, dear Nico, dear Vice-Chairs and distinguished members of the Governmental Advisory Committee. It is a great honor to welcome you to ICANN81 here in the most beautiful city in Türkiye, Istanbul. As mentioned, this is the first time an ICANN meeting has been held in Türkiye. On behalf of the Government of Türkiye and as a GAC member, I extend a warm welcome to all the representatives and delegations from around the world, and also to our valued members who are connecting to us remotely.

Istanbul is a city that has long been a meeting point for different cultures, continents and civilizations. And it stands as a symbol of connection between East and West, past and future. Our gathering here today reflects how we come together globally to govern the Internet, which is a network without borders. ICANN, through its multi-stakeholder model, provides us with a critical platform to ensure the stability and security of this global network. As we all know, these meetings play a critical role in maintaining a safe, stable and interoperable Internet for everyone.

As governments, we have a dual responsibility to protect the rights of our users by fostering innovation and digital transformation. Through intergovernmental cooperation and advisory mechanisms, GAC plays a key role in shaping Internet governance. We are proud to be part of this important process. Türkiye has made significant strides in its digital transformation in recent years. With our growing technological infrastructure and expanding digital services, ensuring that our citizens can use the Internet safely and effectively has been a priority for us.

In this regard, we fully support ICANN's transparent and inclusive model of Internet governance. As the Internet becomes more central to our lives every day, you all know that we also face challenges from cybersecurity to data protection and Internet freedoms also. I believe that ICANN81 will serve as a platform to develop new solutions and approaches to these critical issues. It is always gratifying to see how these meetings strengthen global cooperation and help ensure that Internet remains accessible, reliable and inclusive for everyone.

As I conclude my remarks, I would like to once again express our great pleasure in hosting you here in Istanbul. I hope that your time in this beautiful city will offer not only productive meetings, but also the opportunity to experience our rich cultural and historical heritage and culinary delights also. In closing, I would like to invite you to our welcome reception on Monday evening, the 11th of November, hosted by Information and Communication Technologies Authority that will be held in the foyer of Atatürk Cultural Center at 6:30 PM and followed by a performance by Istanbul State Symphony Orchestra. Thank you very much and I wish you all a successful, fruitful and constructive meeting. Thank you very much.

NICO CABALLERO:

Thank you very much. Let me give you a quick review of the agenda highlights for today. Right after that, we'll have a review of the meeting logistics by our fantastic team, the Fabulous Five. I assume Rob will be giving that. Oh. Okay. It's going to be Daniel. Perfect. And then we'll have the traditional tour de table. You know, remember, all we need you to state is your country, your name and whatever else you would

like to say at this point. Please keep it short and sweet, you know, for the sake of time. But of course, you're more than welcome. to say anything else. And then right after that, we'll have some updates regarding GAC transitions. And finally, a reminder of the GAC communicate development process. So without further ado, let's move on to the next slide, please, Daniel. Let's review the block agenda, the block schedule.

So for today, this is the GAC, the opening plenary. Then right after that, we'll have a short coffee break. You know, I won't read the whole thing, we'll just go day by day, if you don't mind. We have the strategic planning and operational matters session running for 90 minutes and three capacity building sessions in the afternoon today, right, including coffee breaks and lunch break and everything else. So that's the schedule for today, Saturday, November the 9th.

Tomorrow, Sunday, November the 10th, we'll have the meeting with the RSSAC and we'll start discussions on new gTLDs before lunch. Right after lunch, we'll have the second session on the GAC discussions on new gTLDs. That is the next round. And right after that, we'll have, again, our traditional meeting with the GNSO Council and the meeting with the SSAC. As a matter of fact, it's been a while since the last time we met the SSAC. Correct me if I'm wrong, but at least we're talking about six years. Rob, is that more or less the case? Six or seven years. So more than welcome. So that's the schedule for Sunday.

Monday, we have the welcome ceremony and the Tarek Kamel Award. Right after that, there's the geopolitical forum, lunch break, and then we'll start discussions on WHOIS and registration data issues. After the

coffee break, we'll have the GAC meeting with the CPH. That is the Contracted Parties House. And finally, on Monday, last thing of the day is the first communiqué review session. So again, that's the schedule for Monday.

Tuesday, November 12th, we'll have the GAC meeting with the ALAC. And right after that, the discussions on DNS abuse, a 90-minute session. After lunch, we'll have the GAC meeting with the ICANN board, a session running for 75 minutes, and I hope we'll have enough time to ask all questions and to answer all the questions the board has for us. And then another long-awaited meeting with the ASO, and thanks to the Netherlands for facilitating the whole process. Thank you, Marco, for organizing this. Greatly appreciate it. And then the last session of the day on Tuesday will be the second GAC communiqué drafting session.

Wednesday, we'll start with a GAC meeting with the ccNSO, and then we'll have a community session, as everybody knows, on paradigms, multistakeholderism, geopolitics, and so on. After lunch, we'll have the third communiqué drafting session, and the same will go for the rest of the afternoon on Wednesday.

As you can see, on Thursday, we'll have two sessions running at the same time. One is the ECA, the empowered community session, running for 60 minutes, in parallel with the GNSO subsequent procedures IRT. After the break, we'll have the fifth GAC communiqué drafting session, and after lunch, hopefully, the last communiqué drafting session. And finally, this is at 3:00 PM on Thursday, last thing of the week will be the GAC wrap-up session, by which time we will have the communiqué already drafted and everything agreed. So, hopefully, I'm crossing my

fingers in order not to have the need to use that time for further communiqué drafting.

And then, finally, for the ones who are still in Istanbul, we'll have the board annual general meeting and community leader recognition. So that's the schedule. Sorry for taking a little bit longer than expected, but I just wanted you to have an overview of how the week will go. So without further ado, let me give the floor to Daniel Gluck, who will be talking about some housekeeping issues. Daniel, over to you.

DAN GLUCK:

Thank you so much, Nico. Yeah, that's right. Dan back here, back of the room, part of the GAC staff. Thanks for handing over the floor. So take a look at this slide, a couple bullet points for you to take in right here.

First, Zoom sessions. Please log into the Zoom room, use your full name, and if you're feeling nice, maybe the name of your delegation as well. That'd be really helpful for everyone to get to know each other. As far as your daily calendar invites, Julia's sending some great calendar invites right to your calendar. They have the Zoom link, the Scribe links, everything you need. But if you miss them, [ikan81.sched.com](https://www.ikan81.com/sched) is your friend, a great reference for all the calendar invites for the GAC and also anything else you may want to attend, like, I don't know, Monday's geopolitical update, for example.

The GAC logistics documents, also a great resource for you. Get around that. It could be on the GAC website and maybe in your emails as well. For in-person attendees, if you're at one of the tables up front with the microphones, you should be a GAC member or an observer. That's

where you can be sitting. Behind that, though, that's where the observers are welcomed, all the seats back here. And that's for observers for the ICANN meeting, not observers as like, you know, the GAC term. Seats in the front will be reserved for a few sessions, so sort of goes against what I said in the first bullet here. But for all of our bilaterals, and we do have a lot of bilaterals for this meeting, very impressive, that may have some reserve signs on there for people like ICANN Board or GNSO Council. So just keep an eye out if you're here for one of the bilateral sessions and make sure you're not sitting in one of the reserved seats.

Finally, health and safety protocols, we want you to make yourself comfortable. So take a mask, don't wear a mask, break whenever you'd like, take some distance. Whatever you need to feel comfortable, it's your meeting. So whatever works for you works for us, and I'd like to bring it back to the chair discussion and pass the mic back off to the GAC chair. Thank you very much, Daniel.

Do we have any question, any comment for Daniel at this point? I don't see any hand up. So let's begin with the tour de table. So basically we'll start with the in-person, you know, we'll start in the room and then we'll continue online.

NICO CABALLERO:

My name is Nico Caballero, I'm from Paraguay, and I'm very glad to be here with you again.

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- THIAGO DAL-TOE:** Thank you so much, Nico. Good morning, everyone. My name is Thiago Dal-Toe, I'm an advisor at the Vice Minister of Digital Transformation of the Ministry of ICT. Happy to be here. I'm current Vice Chair and running again for re-election and Vice Chair. So in case you haven't voted, please do cast your ballot and think of us. Thank you.
- ZEINA BOU HARB:** Good morning, everyone. My name is Zeina Bou Harb, I'm GAC Representative of Lebanon and currently Vice Chair of the GAC.
- NIGEL HICKSON:** Good morning, I'm Nigel Hickson. I work for the UK government and represent them here on the GAC. I'm a Vice Chair, but I'm standing down so you don't need to buy me coffee, just buy Thiago coffee and, oh no, he'll buy you coffee, sorry, yeah. And it's great to be here and really good to see so many people, fantastic to see new GAC members and please chat to us, come and talk to us anything, if anything's not clear and it's great to see you. Nigel,
- NICO CABALLERO:** I'm not going to rival with the Turkish coffee. Colombian coffee is very good, but I did bring some Colombian sweets so feel free to reach in the back, there is going to be Colombian sweets.
- CHRISTINE ARIDA:** Good morning, everyone. My name is Christine Arida and I work for the Egyptian government for the Telecom Regulatory Authority. I represent

Egypt here at the GAC and I am also Vice Chair and also running again like Thiago, but I drink tea, not coffee.

WANG LANG: Good morning everyone, I'm Wang Lang from China. First I would like to thank Türkiye for hosting this fantastic event. This is my first time visiting this historic city and here I got my historical experience of tasting the most delicious Turkish kebab. And last, I believe ICANN 81 will be the historic meeting regarding its fruitful outcomes. Have a nice week. Thank you very much.

MOHAMED EL MOCTAR MOHAMEDINE: Thank you very much. Mohamed El Moctar Mohamedine. I'm the GAC representative of Mauritania. Thank you.

NIGEL CASSIMIRE: Good morning, everyone. I'm Nigel Cassimire from the Caribbean Telecommunications Union, intergovernmental organization in the Caribbean. I'm here supporting, well, in support of our 20 member states, some of which are here. Thank you.

ANA NEVES: Hello, good morning. I'm Ana Neves. I'm from Portugal and so I'm here representing Portugal, of course.

[JAKUB KUBAN:] Good morning. I'm [Jakub Kuban] from Slovakia.

FINN PETERSEN: Good morning. My name is Finn Petersen and I come from the Danish government.

RUDY NOLDE: Good morning, everyone. I'm Rudi Nolde and I'm the German GAC Representative. I would also like to thank the Turkish government for hosting this meeting and, yeah, also looking forward to compare the German-Turkish doner kebab with the original Turkish kebab.

GEMMA CAROLILLO: Good morning, everyone. This is Gemma Carolillo. I'm from the European Commission. I'm the GAC Representative. It's a real pleasure to be here. Thank you to the hosts for this warm welcome in all senses. Coming from Brussels, this has been kind of a temperature shock, but positive. And wishing for a fruitful meeting to everyone.

MELINA STROUNGI: Hi everyone. My name is Melina Stroungi, also from the European Commission and part of the GAC, focusing especially on the domain name registration data. Also my first ICANN in person. Most of you I have met online, so I'm really happy to be here.

MARTINA BARBERA: Good morning. This is Martina Barbera, European Commission.

SAYSOMVANG SOUVANNAVONG: Yes. Good morning. My name is Saysomvang Souvannavong. I'm from the GAC Representative from Laos. Thank you to the hosts and thank you to ICANN and GAC for hosting this event.

KAREL DOUGLAS: Hello. My name is Karel Douglas, Advisor Trinidad and Tobago GAC, and of course it's a pleasure and honor to be here in this wonderful, beautiful city. Thank you.

JORGE CANCIO: Hello, everyone. My name is Jorge Cancio and I am the Switzerland Representative at the GAC, and I'm also the liaison between the GAC and the GNSO. I also intend to run as Vice Chair for the GAC. And if you want to have some coffee and discuss this over coffee, I am available to do so. So I'm delighted to be here with you today. Thank you.

STÉPHANE BONDALLAZ: Hello. My name is Stéphane Bondallaz. I am also a Swiss Representative and I represent .SWISS, because as you know, the Swiss government manages the gTLD.

LUCAS PRÊTRE: Hello. My name is Lucas Prêtre, and I also work for the Swiss government in the Federal Office of Communications, and I also work at the .SWISS team. So thank you for hosting us here in Istanbul.

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- ANA MALDONADO: I am Ana Maldonado. I'm the Representative of Spain here. I'm very happy to be here with all of you. I'd like to take advantage of this opportunity to thank the Turkish government for hosting us. I'd also like to thank ICANN Org, our leadership team, for making this possible. And I'm very, very happy to be here with all of you. I hope we all enjoy a great week and a fruitful week. Thank you, everyone.
- KRISTINA HAKOBYAN: Good morning. My name is Kristina Hakobyan. I'm from Armenia, and I'm an Advisor to GAC Representation Armenia, also liaison to At-Large Advisory Committee from GAC. Thank you.
- HAZEM HAZZAH: Good morning, everyone. My name is Hazem Hazzah, and I'm representing the League of Arab States.
- MANAL ISMAIL: Good morning, everyone. My name is Manal Ismail. I work with the Egyptian regulator and represent Egypt here at the GAC. And thanks to our generous Turkish host. Thank you.
- DAVIDE COLUCCINI: Good morning, everyone. My name is Davide Coluccini, and I represent the Vatican City State. And it's an absolute pleasure to be here with you, with all of you.

RENATA MIELLI: Good morning, everyone. My name is Renata Mielli. I'm a Representative from Brazil. It's a pleasure to be here in Türkiye. Good work for us.

VINICIUS WAGNER OLIVEIRA SANTOS: Good morning. Vinicius, also from Brazil, GAC Delegate with the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [inaudible], also from Brazil. It's a pleasure to be here. Thank you.

PHILIPPE KOUAME: Good morning. My name is Philippe. I'm the GAC Representative from Ivory Coast.

DAVID BEDARD: Good morning, everybody. My name is David Bedard, and I'm the GAC Representative for Canada. And thank you to the Turkish government for hosting this meeting in such a beautiful city. It's great to be here. Thank you.

BO MARTINSSON: Good morning. My name is Bo Martinsson from Sweden.

KAZI MUSTAFIZUR RAHMAN: Good morning, everyone. This is Director General Mustafizur from Bangladesh. I'm working in Bangladesh Telecom Regulatory Commission. It's a pleasure to be here. Thank you.

WAHKEEN MURRAY: Good morning, everyone. My name is Joaquin Mori, and I'm the GAC Rep for Jamaica.

SHELLEY-ANN CLARKE-HINDS: Good morning, everyone. I'm Shelley-Ann Clarke-Hinds, GAC Representative for Trinidad and Tobago. It's wonderful to be here in this beautiful city.

WENDY [inaudible]: Good morning. Wendy [inaudible], Ministry of Transport, Communication, and Tourism, Suriname.

PEARL RISBERG: Good morning, everyone. My name is Pearl Risberg. I am a member of the U.S. team from the National Telecommunication and Information Administration, NTIA.

OWEN FLETCHER: Hello, everyone. I'm Owen Fletcher from NTIA and the U.S. GAC as well. Thank you to Türkiye for hosting the meeting.

[LYNN HAWES:] Good morning. My name is [Lynn Hawes.] I'm from the U.S. Delegation, U.S. Department of State.

MARCO HOGEWONING: Good morning, colleagues. My name is Marco Hogewoning from the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs. I'm the GAC Representative for the Kingdom of the Netherlands. I would like to thank Türkiye for hosting us and a warm welcome. And, Mr. Chair, congratulations on your new appointment. A small correction on your earlier remark. Due to my busy schedule, I was barely involved in organizing the ASO session. The credits go to others. Thank you. And the last one, I am also running as a potential Vice Chair for the GAC and welcoming your support. Thank you.

MAAIKE VEENSTRA: Good morning, everyone. My name is Maaïke Veenstra and I recently started as a Representative of the Dutch government. I would also briefly like to take this opportunity to also thank the ICANN Support Team for the organization of the prep meetings ahead of this one. These were incredibly helpful for me as a newcomer and made me feel so much more prepared for this meeting. So, thank you.

VINCENT NGUNDI: Good morning. I'm Vincent Ngundi, GAC Representative for Kenya, and I'm happy to be in Türkiye and in this beautiful city. Thank you.

IGNACIO VELASQUEZ: Good morning, everyone. My name is Ignacio Velasquez and I'm from Paraguay.

RUZAMRI RUWANDI: Good morning. My name is Ruzamri Ruwandi from GAC Malaysia. Thank you.

JAN VANNIEUWENHUYSE: Good morning. My name is Jan van Vannieuwenhuyse. I'm the GAC Representative for Belgium, and I would also like to thank the Turkish government for hosting the meeting. And also to congratulate you, Nico, with your reappointment as Chair of this committee.

VIACHESLAV EROKHIN: Good morning, colleagues. My name is Viacheslav Erokhin. I am Alternative Representative of Russian Federation.

WAJDI GARALI: Good morning. My name is Wajdi Garali. I am the GAC Representative of Tunisia. Thank you.

[inaudible]: Good morning, everyone. I am [inaudible] from CAICT China. Thank you.

SHAOHONG WU: Good morning. My name is Shaohong Wu. I am from People's Republic of China and I am GAC Representative. I work in Ministry of Industry and

Information Technology. Glad to attend this meeting with everyone. Thank you for GAC Chairs and thank you for Türkiye hold this meeting. Thank you.

[inaudible]: Hello. My name is [inaudible]. I am on CAICT. Nice to meet you. Thank you.

IAN SHELDON: Good morning. My name is Ian Sheldon. I am the Australian GAC Representative from the Department of Infrastructure. Thank you to our generous host, Türkiye, for hosting us here in your wonderful country. Congratulations again, Nico, on your reappointment. I wish you all a fantastic collegiate and productive meeting. I am also standing for one of the Vice Chair slots at this election. Thank you.

INGRAM NIBLOCK: Hi. My name is Ingram Niblock. I am one of the Australian Alternative GAC Representatives.

PETER MUJTABA: Hi. I am Peter Mujtaba and I work for the Commonwealth Telecoms Organization. It is the first time I am coming to a GAC, so please excuse me if I get all of the acronyms mixed up. Great to be here. Thank you.

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- [LEE:] Hi. My name is Lee. I am from Vietnam and we have three people attending this ICANN meeting. I wish you all good health and happiness. I hope we can get useful information from this ICANN meeting. Thank you.
- RAINER SCHNEPFLEITNER: Good morning. Rainer Schnepfleitner from Liechtenstein.
- ZINA BUMBALKOVA: Good morning. I am Zina Bumbalkova from Czech Republic. I am representing Czechia in GAC.
- MINA OGIHARA: Good morning. My name is Mina Ogihara. I am from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications in Japan. Thank you.
- HAJIME ONGHA: Good morning. My name is Hajime Onga from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications in Japan. It is my first time to come to ICANN and also Türkiye, Istanbul, so I hope to enjoy and have a fruitful discussion this time. Thank you so much.
- AMOS TEO: Good morning. I am Amos Teo from Singapore and I am also first time here for GAC, so I would like to thank the host and ICANN for organizing this. Thanks.

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- SER PENG QUEH: Good morning. My name is Ser Peng from Singapore. Good to come back and attend in person. I see a lot of familiar faces and hope to know the new members also. Thanks to the host for having this meeting at this wonderful city. Thank you.
- MARINA FIEGO EIRAS: Good morning, everyone. Here is Marina Fiego Eiras from the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs. I am the GAC Alternate Representative for Argentina. It is always delightful to see you all in person and today in this amazing location, so thank you very much to the GAC leadership and the GAC staff. And well, I am convinced that we will make the most of this meeting. Thank you very much.
- WEN-FONG TSEN: Good morning, everyone. I am Wen-Fong. I am the GAC Representative from Chinese Taipei.
- CHENG-NAN CHIANG: Good morning, everyone. My name is Cheng-Nan Chiang from Chinese Taipei. Thank you.
- [inaudible]: Good morning, everyone. I am [inaudible] from Chinese Taipei.

KEN-YING TSENG: Good morning. My name is Ken-Ying. It is my pleasure and I am a little bit excited to see good friends, new friends here at the GAC meeting. I am part of the Chinese Taipei Representative.

KHALED ALTARHUNI: Good morning, everyone. My name is Khaled. I work for ICT regulator and I am GAC Representative of Libya.

LOURINO CHEMANE: Good morning. My name is Lorino Chemane. I work for the ICT Regulator in Mozambique. I am the GAC Representative of Mozambique. Thank you.

GUO FENG: Hello, good morning. My name is Guo Feng from China. Very glad to be here in this very beautiful city and historical city. I am also one of the candidates running for the Vice-Chairmanship of this round. I hope I can have your support. Thank you very much.

TRACEY HAKSHAW: Good morning. Tracey Hakshaw, Universal Postal Union, Observer of the GAC. I am glad to be in Istanbul. Thanks to the host country.

ANTOINE BARBRY: Hello, everyone. Antoine Barbry and I represent the International French-Speaking Organization. Thank you.

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- LEYLA GAMBAROVA: Hi, everyone. I am Leyla. I am from ICANN Contractual Compliance. Welcome to Türkiye.
- NICO CABALLERO: So, apparently we don't have any more GAC Representatives. We can continue over here, right behind Chinese Taipei, right behind Mozambique. Would you please go ahead? The line right before Mozambique. So, has everybody had the chance to identify? Oh, I am sorry. I am sorry. Go ahead.
- JANOS DRIENYOVSKI: Sorry, Nico and everyone. I have been a bit late. My name is Janos Drienyovszki and I am from the European Commission as well. I am a Co-Chair of the PSWG and I am looking forward to the discussions during this ICANN 81. Thank you.
- SAŠA KOVAČEVIĆ: Hello, everyone. My name is Saša Kovačević. I am coming from Serbia. I am pleased to join you here in Istanbul and look forward to productive discussion on our sharing goals.
- EUNITER AMOLO: Good morning, everyone. My name is Euniter Amolo. I am a GAC Advisor from Kenya. Thank you.

[inaudible]: Hello, this is [inaudible] from Qatar. I am GAC Representative from Qatar.

NICO CABALLERO: So, thank you, everyone, again. Thank you so much for taking the time, you know, to introduce yourselves. Yes, I see somebody else. Thank you. Thank you for taking the time, you know, to introduce yourselves.

DAN GLUCK: Nico, we need to introduce anyone who is online right now. If they would like to introduce themselves, raise your hand and we can call on you and you can introduce yourself.

JOSE A. LAY: Good morning, everyone. My name is Jose Lay, GAC Rep of Timor-Leste. I am joining remotely. Thank you.

WALEED ALORINY: I see Waleed. Good morning, everyone. This is Waleed Aloriny, a GAC Representative of Saudi Arabia. Glad to be here with you again. Thank you very much.

DEOLINDO COSTA: Good morning, everyone. I'm from São Tomé and Príncipe. My name is Deolindo Costa, GAC Representative of São Tomé and Príncipe. Thank you.

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- MISLAV HEBEL: Good morning. Good morning to all. My name is Mislav Hebel. And I'm GAC Representative of Croatia. I'm joining online from Zagreb and look forward for our discussion today and the day it follows. Thank you very much.
- BABAGANA DIGIMA: Good morning, everyone. My name is Babagana Digima. I'm the GAC Rep for Nigeria from the Nigerian Communications Commission. Thank you very much, Nico, and thank you, Republic of Türkiye, for this opportunity. I'd also like to say that a lot of Nigerian Representatives, members of the ICANN, could not make it because of visa issues. So we're still waiting for visas to be approved. Thank you.
- JOSEPH NZANO: Thank you. My name is Joseph Nzano, Supporting GAC Representative Kenya, working for the Communications Authority of Kenya, and I'm just working on my logistics to get to the meeting room. Thank you.
- IBISO KINGSLEY-GEORGE: Hello, everyone. My name is Ibis Kingsley-George, GAC Alternate from Nigeria. It's nice to join online. Thank you.
- RAPID SUN: Good morning. My name is Rapid Sun from the Ministry of [inaudible] Telecommunications, GAC representative from Cambodia.

CHRISTINA V. ABALOS-NAIG: Hello. Good morning. Good evening. Good afternoon. I am Christina, the GAC Representative for the Philippines. I'm looking forward to a fruitful discussion for this week.

ASHWIN SASONGKO SASTROSUBROTO: My name is Ashwin Sasongko Sastrosubroto from GAC Indonesia, and just want to inform you that there are three or four staff from the Ministry that come to Istanbul also and join GAC meeting. Thank you.

ELSIE YIN-KI CHU: Good morning, everyone. This is Elsie Chu. I'm the Advisor to the GAC Representative for Hong Kong, China. Thank you.

DRAVKO JUKIC: Good morning, everyone. This is Dravko Jukic representing Croatia, actually GAC Advisor Representative. Thank you.

DAN GLUCK: And finally, I see Florin. Florin, you're apparently on mute. Florin, can you hear me? Well, there seems to be some issue with his microphone or something like that.

TOMONORI MIYAMOTO: Tomonori. Hello, everyone. This is Tomonori Miyamoto from [inaudible] Telecommunications Japan. Nice to join you.

NICO CABALLERO:

So, thank you, everyone. Thank you for the patience. You know, this tour the table usually takes a while, but it's always good to associate names with faces. And it's a tradition in the GAC. So, without further ado, we'll go directly to some. We're still doing okay in terms of timing. So, we'll check some notable GAC transitions. And for that, I will give the floor to Fabien.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX:

Thank you, Nicolas. This is Fabien Betremieux from the GAC Support Team. I think Rob was planning to provide that quick update. I was just joining the table for what follows. So, I don't know if, Rob, you want to take over at this point?

ROB HOGGART:

My pleasure, Fabien and Mr. Chair. This slide is simply to note what we traditionally do when time is available during the opening plenary, and that's to acknowledge various changes that have taken place. This is not a period where any leaders of the organization have changed, but we have recognized that there are 25 new GAC participants joining the committee just since the ICANN 80 meeting. So, we welcome those of you who are joining either virtually or here in person. Looking forward to meeting you personally as members of the staff team. And please let your colleagues know here in the room if you're new and anybody can help you with advice or insights about the committee.

In terms of departures, there's always a significant amount of new blood that comes in, but we also unfortunately lose members to promotions, retirements, or other changes in their careers. The number

is a little bit higher for this meeting simply because we have embarked on a very rigorous review of the membership records, and a number of you have been working with our team, particularly Berry Cobb, to help us on truing up some of your delegation information. So, we greatly appreciate that. Typically, we have about 16 to 20 members or participants in the committee who do depart from meeting to meeting. It's a little bit higher this time. So, we thank all of you who are joining. We appreciated those who left. We will miss them, and we look forward to a productive meeting this week, Nico, with you and other members of the committee.

You also asked me to include the full roster of candidates for the Vice Chair positions. So, we've done that, and just sharing the reminder that the balloting period is open through Tuesday at 23:59 UTC. So, please make sure that you cast your ballots so that we can count your interests and desires for the next leadership team. Thank you very much, Nico. Back to you.

NICO CABALLERO:

Thank you so much, Rob. I hope that is clear for everyone. If you have any questions or comments, please talk to me or talk to any of the Fabulous Five, Fabien or Rob or Daniel or anybody from GAC staff. Thank you again to the Vice Chair candidates, Ian Sheldon from Australia, Christine, Thiago, Jorge, Marco, Santosh, Guo Feng, for stepping forward. It's a big responsibility, and I really appreciate your future time commitment, which, believe me, is going to be fun, that's for sure. So, thank you so much again. So, again, for the sake of time, let me give the floor at this point to my good friend Fabien for some

reminders regarding the GAC Communiqué development process. Over to you, Fabien.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX:

Thank you, Nico. Again, for the record, this is Fabien from the GAC Support Team, and what you see on the slide is our visual summary of the entire process of Communiqué development. You may be aware that the Communiqué is the main written outcome of the meeting for the GAC, where the GAC states its reports on its work and states its position, including potentially GAC advice to the ICANN Board or also issues of importance.

You may be aware that this development process starts before the meeting. You've seen in the last two weeks emails from the GAC Chair inviting GAC members to identify issues for potential consideration in the Communiqué, as well as for potential text. I do not know that we've seen these coming, but there is obviously the entire week for that to develop. So, we are currently in that square in the middle, the rectangle, sorry, so that's the meeting week during which the GAC will conduct its deliberations and progressively consider what should be reflected in the GAC Communiqué.

So, this is why you see we are talking today about this introduction of the process. The GAC will be holding its plenary sessions in the next few days. Starting on Monday, we'll discuss the Communiqué again. This will be the first opportunity to identify whether there are topics for consideration in the Communiqué, and then we will proceed in the following days to actual drafting of the Communiqué. The GAC

leadership has asked that generally during plenary session, or at least at the end of plenary sessions, the topic leads or the organizers of the sessions leave some time for discussion of what could go in the Communiqué from the discussions that were held in each session.

So this is why we propose this continuous consideration of Communiqué at the end of each GAC plenary session. Once the Communiqué text is drafted and agreed upon by Thursday, then we move on to the review period, which is a 72-hour period during which the entirety of the committee is invited to review the Communiqué, and especially those who are not able to participate, but everyone obviously, but this is especially made to accommodate for time zone challenges of ICANN meetings, as well as various barriers such as language barriers that may still be present.

This was an evolution of the process that dates back to the remote meetings when ICANN meetings were not in person anymore, and so this was designed to ensure that the entirety of the committee had enough time to consider the Communiqué. And so at the end of Communiqué drafting on Thursday, please expect an email that will provide the detailed instructions of that review period. And I'll move on to the bottom of the slide just to a few quick references.

You may be aware that we use a Google Doc as our support for drafting the Communiqué, and you have received this link already in the GAC Chair's email of the last two weeks, but we will remind you and send you that link again. Be careful, please, not to share this link in a chat, because it is not a public link. It's only reserved for the GAC, and we would rather not have any sort of interference with the process. You are

invited to use that link and to edit the text and propose text yourself all the way into the drafting when there will be a deadline for contribution that will be agreed upon and communicated to you.

We'll then move to a phase of the finalization of the Communiqué, during which the GAC Chair may decide to close live collaboration on the document, just to ensure that we preserve the stability of the text, and in which case, the support team will be conducting the drafting on your behalf. But that's generally for the very end of the process. Nico?

NICO CABALLERO:

Very quickly, thank you for that, Fabien. Just to make sure everybody understands, so the, you know, GAC Representatives are more than welcome to provide initial, you know, inputs from today, well, as a matter of fact, since two weeks ago, right, all the way till Wednesday, where we need to stop, you know, for logistical reasons, you know, so basically Wednesday would be the deadline for the initial text contributions, and then from Wednesday evening, more or less, on Thursday, right, any addition needed at that point will be done only through staff, just to make sure that we're all on the same page and that there are no different versions of the same document.

Back to you, Fabien, thank you.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX:

For one last comment, which is that you are invited at any point in time to reach out to us, the GAC Support Team, for any needs in terms of researching precedent with prior practice in the Communiqué, so if you

have any doubt, if you need any assistance with the Communiqué, please come to us, including throughout the drafting process, we're happy to provide reference footnotes and check accuracy of references and such to ensure the highest quality possible to the Communiqué text. And with that, Nico, I'm done with this overview.

NICO CABALLERO: Christine, please go ahead.

CHRISTINE ARIDA: Yeah, I just wanted to come on the topic of what goes into the Communiqué, because this was previously discussed maybe in Kigali and also intersessionally, and I think it's important that we know that mostly also for newcomers, if there's a topic of interest that is not maybe covered by the text that is there, but as a GAC member you feel it should somehow be in some part of the Communiqué, it's important to raise it within the meeting to be discussed properly so that there is a chance for it to go into the Communiqué should you feel so. So just wanted to say that.

NICO CABALLERO: Thank you, Egypt. Any other comment? UK? Go ahead, please.

NIGEL HICKSON: Yes, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, Nigel Hickson, UK. Yes, the Communiqué, for those that are new to this, is quite an important document, to say the least. It's looked at by the wider community here,

and specifically it's looked at by ICANN org and the ICANN Board, so that's why we pay such a lot of attention to it. And if anyone is a bit confused by the different headings or what should go in or what shouldn't go in, and there's good advice from Christine there on what goes in issues of importance, we don't put the weather in issues of importance or the quality of the doner kebabs, well, we could do, but generally we only put things that we've discussed in these meetings. But please feel free to approach any of the Vice Chairs or any of the GAC members that have been around for a while if you just want to chat about it. I'd be more than happy. Thanks.

NICO CABALLERO:

Thank you so much for that, UK. So we still have two minutes before our fantastic Turkish coffee. So just as a reminder, and in order to avoid any kind of confusion regarding the Communiqué, one thing that cannot happen is that, you know, out of the blue, out of nowhere, somebody comes with an issue that was not discussed with the full GAC during the sessions this week and the very last day or, I don't know, 24, 48 hours before the deadline comes up with an issue that was not discussed. And that will not be included, for sure, because we need to discuss, we need to agree, we need to, you know, we need to fine-tune whatever suggestion, you know, might come from the floor in general.

So just a reminder. That doesn't preclude by no means, you know, any kind of suggestion, any kind of idea, any kind of input you would like to be included in the Communiqué. Just as a procedural reminder.

So having said that, are there any comments or questions at this point? I don't see any hand up. I don't see any hand in the chat room. Vice-Chairs, we are more than fine. So all right. So let's stop here. I'll give you 30 minutes to enjoy Turkish coffee. And we'll be back, we'll reconvene at 10:30. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]