
ICANN81 | AGM – APAC Space
Tuesday, November 12, 2024 – 16:30 to 17:30 TRT

YASH AGARWAL:

Hello, everyone. A very warm welcome. My name is Yash. Welcome to the APAC space. I work for the GSE team based out of New Delhi in South Asia. I'm the participation manager for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior and ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policies.

If you would like to speak during this session, please raise your hand in Zoom. When called upon, virtual participants will unmute in Zoom, and on-site participants will use a physical microphone to speak. For the benefit of other participants, please state your name for the record and speak at a reasonable pace. During this session, questions or comments may also be submitted in chat. These questions or comments will only be read aloud if you put it in a proper format, and I'll share that in the chat shortly. I will read them aloud during the time set by the facilitators of this session. Without further ado, I'll hand the mic to Yien Chyn to kickstart this session. Yien Chyn Yien Chyn, please.

YIEN CHYN TAN:

Thank you, Yash. So, hi, everyone. My name is Yien Chyn from the ICANN APAC regional office. Sorry, I lost my voice a bit, so I'm sounding really strange. And first of all, before we even start, I need to apologize to all of you. I know people are standing, and believe me, we had a very,

Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.

very challenging time to find a timing that doesn't conflict too much with the schedule for APAC community members.

The other option given to us was the grand ballroom, so that's too big, so we have to be cozy here. APAC people like to be cozy, and maybe we could stretch a bit later. So, yeah, so sorry about that, but I seek your kindness in understanding that. And basically, I will be your moderator for this session. Basically, what I'll be doing is just to bring you through each segment. We will have different facilitators and speakers for this session. I will have a group photo and networking sessions at the end as well. So, I'll hand the time now to Samiran for the welcoming introductions, as well as to share the FY24 achievements and FY25 highlights right after. Samiran, please.

SAMIRAN GUPTA:

Thank you, Yien Chyn, and again, before I get much into my session over here, ending in the room, and I was hoping that we could get a room of the right size on the right day. All of this didn't work out, but anyway, here we are. So, thank you, everyone, for coming and joining us today. So, the APAC space is, just for those who are joining for the first time, it's the space for APAC community members. This is to help facilitate networking, discussion, and participation.

We try to do this at every ICANN meeting. Sometimes if there are not enough community members at a meeting, we may not do one, but usually there's one held at every ICANN meeting. The agenda is community-led, and we have community facilitators helping us as we

go along. Before going very far into the agenda, I'd like to acknowledge the presence of a couple of our Board members in the room.

We have Edmon, and we have Sajid. And Edmon, particularly, we are calling out because he is finishing his term in a couple of days. Edmon, thank you for serving the community, and would like to say a couple of words, but you're happy to, there's a mic here. Yes.

EDMON CHUNG:

Yeah, thank you for having me. And it has been, really, my honor to serve on the Board in the last three years from the Asia-Pacific region. And I guess one thing about APAC space, as we start on this, is that I'm also quite honored that actually my organization, DotAsia, and the ICANN APAC Hub helped start this APAC space in 2014.

I remember the first one should be in Singapore. And this is a space, really, for people to speak up and ask questions about any kind of thing, and I'm sure there are different topics that are being discussed today, but the idea is not necessarily to replace whatever else is happening around Asia, but to if you're new here, or even if you're not so new, there must be other different parts that you might not be super familiar with, and this is a space where you can ask stupid questions, if you will. I always ask many stupid questions, but that is to get cheap updates.

The best way to get updates on different things is to ask people, hey, what happened. I mean, that's what the APAC space is about. And one of the things I did want to also mention as I step off the Board, for those of you, especially those of you who are really young, I started

participating at ICANN 25 years ago when I was just graduating from university, and this is a community that allows us to work from bottom up.

I started working, participating at ICANN, bringing IDNs, Internationalized Domain Names, to ICANN as a movement to help protect and defend the unique authoritative route that ICANN runs, because at that time, there were a lot of alternate route systems that were threatening ICANN's single unique root. So, these are some of the things that are really exciting for me over the last three years. I've been having a lot of meetings and night meetings, but it excites me, and I hope that in the future that I would be able to serve the community, continue to. And the one thing that is important, just because I step off the Board doesn't mean I will disappear. You can't get rid of me. I'll be back. But for now, I will have to rejoin my Board colleagues in another session. Sorry, so I need to leave.

SAMIRAN GUPTA:

Thank you so much, Edmon. Thank you. While we bid goodbye to Edmon, we are also welcoming Amitabh Singhal, who will be seated at the end of this Board meeting. Amitabh, welcome to APAC State.

AMITABH SINGHAL:

Thank you, Samiran. And I think the ICANN Org will replace this photograph with the older self that I am now. This was taken at my stint at PIR Board many, many years back. So, that's the younger version of me, a better version then. I don't know what will happen during the

stint here. So, I take charge as one of the Board members at ICANN the day after tomorrow. So, a couple of days more to have fun. And thank you so much for welcoming me here. And I think I'll not take too much time.

But it is definitely an honor to have been selected to be at the Board by the nominating committee to serve a term of three years until 2027. And I think it is my endeavor. I mean, there are a list of things that I have in mind. But to keep it short, I would say that representing the APAC space is at the core of my passion to at the ICANN Board, which is what I have been sincerely trying for many, many, many years.

Back home in India, where I come from, I've been associated with the internet industry for about 30 years now. I've collaborated with almost every stakeholder there over the years, including building some critical infrastructure projects for internet. And some of you have been my collaborators there. And it's a very precious thing to hold. And I think going forward, I would like to build more relationships within the region, hear more voices, and like Edmon said, probably ask more stupid questions so that we get more information from you, which we can then kind of reasonably place before the Board as well. Because these inputs are very, very important for Board members.

There should not be a disconnect between the community and the Board members. And I think people like us would want to bridge any perceived or potential gaps that may happen or not happen, but then ideas to keep ourselves close together. And I think Sajeiv has been

around for a long time. I see my old friend, my co-worker there, we were at the PIR Board together. Screen time.

So, I think the joke was that the moment I joined the PIR Board, he moved away and joined the ICANN Board. So, that was a long time back. Yes, so I think my time is up. I think that's what you said. Okay, thank you.

SAMIRAN GUPTA: I said you're following. Thank you so much. Thank you. Thank you.

YASH AGARWAL: Just a request for feedback from online participants. Please do speak closer to the mic. Thank you.

SAMIRAN GUPTA: Okay, let's get going. Yeah, thank you. So, we're going to cover off some of the highlights, the key highlights of 2024. I'm cognizant of the time. Some of the slides will have a lot of material. You'll get copies of these slides, access to copies of these slides later. So, I'm just going to touch on some of the highlights as we go along. The first highlight that we are sharing is the APAC DNS Forum, which was held in July this year. And it was held in Indonesia and Bali.

We had over 290 people in person, 465, virtual participants. And while there were several key topics, as you can see on the screen, but there were also side events that took place, which really made the event very complete. So, we're really happy with having all the community

members join us for that event. And in the reporting period, and incidentally, I must add over here, the reporting period is July, 2024 to July, 2025. And not June, 2025, because we had several events taking place in the month of July.

So, there were two APIGA, or Regional Asia-Pacific Internet Governance Academy events that took place in 2023 and 2024. We've trained 42 youth from 20 economies in 2023 and 39 youth from 22 economies in 2024. The APIGA program has also expanded at the local level. We have something called a Local APIGA. If you're interested, we can share more information, but we've already done three of those local events in different parts of our region. And the next one, Yien Chyn, is coming up next year in Australia. Yeah, okay.

So that's the whole idea behind the Local APIGA, is for that session to complement the Regional APIGA. UA Day 2024, of all the proposals sent in from the APAC region, there were 30, 12 were accepted. You can see the countries where UA Day events were held. That includes Bangladesh, China, Hong Kong, India, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, PNG, South Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Some pictures from some of those events. And of course, again, we have UA Day being planned for 2025 and we look forward. I know the deadline for applications have come and gone and it's in the process of evaluation and hopefully we'll see some good events this year as well.

We did two APAC space events in the last year. So, one was at Hamburg in October last year, the Annual General Meeting and then the Community Forum at San Juan earlier this year. Again, 218 in-person

and virtual attendees participated across both sessions and we continue to prioritize in-person participation.

So, what's upcoming? We've got the ICANN APAC Forum 2025, which was till this year known as APAC DNS Forum. We are sort of in the process of rebranding the name, but it's just to attract even more participants because a lot of folks thought that the word DNS makes it sound like a more technical event and we just wanted to make sure that it is much more than just a technical event.

We will have a UA Day 2025, both local, regional and global. And of course, there will be a regional APIGA 2025 and local APIGA events. And lastly, there's going to be the ICANN APAC-TWNIC Engagement Forum for 2025. Now, these four events that we are listing here are the highlighted events for next year. We will obviously be participating in several other forums across the region and of course, in various countries in the region.

I'm now going to share some of the four key objectives from the Strategic Plan and what has been achieved in the last financial year. So, the first objective, strengthening the security of the DNS and the DNS root server system. In this space, we worked with the Beijing Engineering Research Center or ZDNS to participate in a knowledge sharing and instantiate, well, if I can ever pronounce that correctly, instantiating norms for DNS, or which we call kindness for DNS. And then we published several articles on root server systems.

We launched two IMRS instances in Cook Island and also in Kunming, China. And we engage with ccTLD. ph to successfully deploy DNSSEC.

on the root zone file. Objective two, improve the effectiveness of ICANN multi-stakeholder model of governance. This is a longish set of achievements. There're several slides on this. So, let's start with the first one. So, the APAC community submitted inputs for 10 public comment proceedings. The top three topics were PDP4, initial report on the deselection of IDN, ccTLD, Root Zone, DNSSEC, algorithm rollover study, and the DNS abuse contract obligations.

As part of the initiative to increase APAC representation in ICANN leadership roles, we conducted a networking session for 15 APAC community veterans, regulars, and newcomers at ICANN79. And we've supported APRALO activities. There is a report that we published of the activities that we have supported. Again, when you receive this deck, you will be able to click on that link and see the whole report. We finalized APRALO's FY24 outreach and engagement plan. And then we accredited four new At-Large structures from Nepal, PNG, Samoa, and Tonga.

We also brought in four unaffiliated independent members, UIMs from Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Malaysia. We have a host of leaders who've come in. And again, before I start on this and the next two pages, I want to thank the community for supporting the ICANN Org and as well as taking up these roles in leading the community.

So, I'm not going to read every name, but as you would know, many of the folks listed on the slide are with us today, some of whom may not be in the room, but many of them are here for the meeting. And then we have more leaders, some of whom are repeating their terms. We've

got Edmon, Sajid, Chris Chapman, Chris Buckridge, Satish Babu, Anil Kumar Jain, Mr. Duan, Nitin, Walia, Sarika, some of whom are repeating their roles. There are others on the right-hand side of this screen. And then of course, we've got Amrita, Aris, Gunela, Gaurav Kansal, Di Ma, Jordan Carter, Ai-Chin Lu, Sebastien, and Antonia in leadership roles as well, Kenny and Donna included. So, these were all our capacity building and leadership engagement programs.

Objective three, this is where we talk about the evolution or evolve the unique identifier system in coordination and collaboration with relevant parties. This is where we've supported the Lao National Internet Center or LANIC on adopting EAI compliance. We've engaged with Sri Lanka's Theekshana Research and Development, who set up the first UA Ready website in Sri Lanka and EAI compliant email services. We also worked with second level reference label generation rules.

We published LGRs for seven new scripts, including commonly used scripts in the APAC, Japan, Korea, and Myanmar. Supported the community on the development of new scripts, including Balinese and Thana. And we published six articles on UA in media outlets in China, India, and Thailand. We go to strategic objective four, addressing geopolitical issues impacting ICANN's mission to ensure a single global interoperable internet. So, this was very unique to us this year because of all the IGEO activities taking place globally.

Now, to start with, we had the HLG meeting at ICANN80, where 12 APAC delegations were in attendance. We organized a couple of APAC-

GAC networking sessions. And there was one, the third one was actually a couple of days ago over here, a very similar situation where the room wasn't big enough and we were dragging chairs around. So, it's the theme for APAC for this meeting. But yes, we did this APAC-GAC capacity building workshop at the APAC DNS forum in July in Bali. And we had 30 participants from 10 economies who joined on site and a couple of economies virtually.

And lastly, we reviewed 31 legislations/regulations in the APAC region and shared key information with the community through ICANN's GE webpage and during ICANN meetings. With that, I come to the end of this segment, but do check out my blog for a snapshot of the APAC FY24 regional report. And of course, we will have proposed updates to the APAC regional plan for 21 to 25. We will be sharing that via email for community inputs very soon. I'm now looking for the gentleman who's going to take my place.

YIEN CHYN TAN: Thank you, Samiran.

SAMIRAN GUPTA: Yes, okay.

YIEN CHYN TAN: Yeah, so next, I would need to ask you all to kindly just hold your questions for this segment. We will have an open community discussion segment after the sharing. So, if you have any questions, just

hold it. And I will hand the time to our next facilitator, Ian Sheldon, Australia GAC rep, to facilitate sharing and updates on WSIS+20 Process with other speakers. So, he'll introduce that.

IAN SHELDON:

Thank you, Yien Chyn. My name's Ian Sheldon. I'm the Australian GAC. I think you obviously picked up, WSIS has been quite a big topic of conversation across this week. I think we've had quite a number of sessions on this already. But what I'm very keen to do is make sure our region is deeply involved and engaged in this issue. A lot of these conversations will be happening on the other side of the world to us.

They have the potential to reshape a lot of the way that the UN engages on digital issues. And importantly, there are a lot of safeguards presently in the current WSIS processes, which give a lot of stability and security to the way the internet currently operates. I think there's a real opportunity for this region to come together and make sure we all deeply engage in this process.

In Australia, my government, my team, are running a multi-stakeholder process. We rely very deeply on the expertise of the community to help us guide our way through these negotiations. We've set up a little bit of a task force. There are some Australians here in the room. I know Cheryl and George are part of this work, where we work alongside government and the multi-stakeholder community to draft up some talking points, some policy issues, some of those papers, which will help directly inform how we prepare for this work.

For us, it's quite important that the multi-stakeholder community and governments work very closely together through this piece. But for me, I don't have a good sense how many others in this room and across the region are paying attention to this. So, I had asked two of my colleagues, Jen and Angela, to provide some of their perspectives on this process. And then I'd also like to open up and get a bit of a sense for who else in this room is interested in this work and who's paying attention to this process.

For me, that's kind of the core interest I had in asking for this agenda item, just basically identifying who else is paying attention to this work so we can build those relationships out with each other, so we can find other people in our region who might also be interested and start forming and sharing ideas and making sure we can all stay abreast of this process.

Next year will be incredibly busy. This process will move quite quickly. And I think it's important that our region prepare and get ready on the front foot so when negotiations do start, we are ready and we are informed. And importantly, those in this room know and have an understanding of how those government processes work and work out how they can get involved and how you can reach out to your governments as well through this process. I might throw to Jen in the first instance. Thank you.

JENNIFER CHUNG:

Hi, everyone. This is Jen Chung. DotAsia. A lot of familiar faces, a lot of new faces, which is really quite lovely because we are a huge region,

small room, huge region. Just answering two questions I think Ian wanted me to talk about. It's the how and the why. The why first. Speaking as a registry operator, obviously. Asia is registry operative top. We are part of the people who operate and manage core infrastructure of the internet. This is really important because we need to actually be at the table on equal footing with the governments here because they're making decisions on how it will look like in the future for internet governance. So, that's the first part of it.

Speaking from technical community point of view, also a lot of the registries and the registrars, as you know, here in ICANN, Contractor Party House, a lot of them also check the box for private sector. If we want our business to continue as usual, this is what we have to defend as well because if this is taken away, if it goes to multilateral process, solely multilateral processes or intergovernmental processes, we will not actually have the voice that actually inputs into how the internet is governed. And that, of course, for the contractor parties, that affects very much our business.

Now to go very quickly to the how. The WSIS+20 process going on, well, next year, it is a multilateral process. It will be decided at the UN General Assembly at the end of next year. But how can we here, non-governmental stakeholders, actually get ahead of making sure before they even pick the co-facilitators to actually say we are actually very interested in this process. We would like this to be a real, true multi-stakeholder process, unlike the GDC process, which maybe many of us have been quite disappointed with.

How we can do that? The first thing is having this discussion here in APAC space, informal discussions. And then the second thing is to actually leverage on the current groupings that you have within your stakeholder group for ALAC, within stakeholder groups here at ICANN, and I guess the wider internet governance community. So, not even just talking about the SOACs here, but we're talking about civil society, we're talking about technical community, we're talking about private sector, within and also across the collaborative efforts.

So, I think there's one thing that we have to appreciate. When you're talking about UN processes, if you're not a government, they don't really, they don't listen to you, they don't want to listen to you. But if there's many, many voices across the whole breadth of the stakeholder groupings, I think it actually behooves them to listen, start listening, saying, okay, the Internet Governance or the internet community at large really do want this to be a true multi-stakeholder effort. And then finally, also leveraging the current things that you have in your economies, in your geographies.

There are many national regional initiatives, there's many informal gatherings. There are many ISOC chapters that are located in all of these different economies. Leverage that as well. And finally, I want to do a little plug for the TCCM. So, the Technical Community Coalition for Multi-stakeholderism, it is something that's born out of four ccTLDs, two of which are in this region, which is really awesome. And they are involving a lot more of the registries, registrars, CCs, to actually pay attention to the WSIS+20 process. So, I'm going to pause here. I want to listen to really more of the room.

IAN SHELDON: Thank you. Maybe I can throw to Angela.

ANGELA WIBAWA: Yes.

IAN SHELDON: Yes, and then we can open the room up for a bit of an open discussion. Thank you.

ANGELA WIBAWA: Okay, thanks Ian. So, yes, I'm Angela, I'm from ICANN. Maybe for those of you whom I've had not had a chance to meet, looking at my talking point, I wish I can just say, ditto. Jen essentially has said most of the things that need to be said, and I'm sure you've, a lot of you have heard what ICANN thinks about this. It is indeed very important to start the process going. It's not 2025 yet, but we are very close to 2025.

The process itself will go very fast, and it will be very surprising. And for those people who do not know how everything works, by the time you figure out how things work, the train would have left the station. And it's also very important that you talk to other people. Inform your government, your negotiator, exactly like what Jen said. The WSIS+20 process is a multilateral process. We don't know whether there will be multi-stakeholder process or consultations or discussion or dialogue. We're not sure. It's not been announced, it has not been decided. If there is, great. How will that happen? I don't know.

If there's not, that's why it's important to speak to your government. What do you think matters for this region? What do you think matters for your organization? What do you think matters for your country? Because at the end of the day, the impact of the WSIS+20 process is not limited to the UN, is not limited to the diplomats in New York, is not limited to the politics, but it's across everything. Because right now, you can't draw the line of internet with just ICT and telecommunications. It's pervasive in our life.

So, the impact could trickle down the line and affect what you do. So, you need to make your voices heard. So, how can you do that? You need to keep yourself informed of the developments. Now, saying is easier than being applied because there are a lot of developments. They all have government legalese, which I have heard been abused, quote unquote. I'm quoting Jose on this. It's very difficult to understand. It's very difficult for you to figure out what's going on.

By the time you figure it out, just giving you example, by the time people found out that there's the Global Digital Compact Revision 3, Revision 4 came out. So, those kinds of things, sometimes it's very difficult. So, please use shared resources. There are several organizations following discussions. We are happy to share some of this knowledge and resources. Jen plucked the CCM. ICANN will pluck our WSIS+20 Outreach Network.

If you go to our webpage, the webpage has a lot of resources on short fact sheet. If for instance, WSIS+20 is a lingo among us. Some people pronounce it differently. Can't blame them. So, we have a fact sheet on

explaining what is WSIS+20, essentially it. It's like three pages long with pictorial and table. So, it's easy to understand for you so that you will be able to understand this better and share it with other people.

Another thing that is also important, people in this room are technically inclined. Your negotiators, your diplomat may not be. You may not know them directly, but somebody that you know may know them. So, please reach out, talk, inform them of the importance of this, make the information heard. It's important that they will go into that negotiation with the correct information. And of course, your colleagues here, ICANN is around. So, if you need information, further information, discussions, we are always ready to help. So, yes, that's it from me. Thank you.

IAN SHELDON:

Thank you, Angela. So, for me, our community thrives and it operates well when we know each other, when we have those personal connections and we can understand where each other are coming from. I'd like to open the floor up and get a sense of, are people in this room interested in following the WSIS process? Who's paying attention? Well, I don't know about this. So, I mean, looking for questions, comments, thoughts, please.

GUO WEI:

Well, this is Guo Wei from Taiwan. I'd just like to ask the people in this room, how many of you are going to the IGF this year, December? Can you raise your hand?

SAMIRAN GUPTA: Physically or participating?

GUO WEI: Participate, no matter physical or online, because this year is 2024. If you know the IGF process, I think this year they have to be almost going to decide the idea of going to another five-year or not. Next year will be too late. I think the people in the IGF, you know that. So, if you, no matter your personal be there or online there, I would suggest you usually by end of the IGF in the last session, they will ask anybody, you want to another five-year IGF or not?

I encourage you, no matter you are personal or online, go on the stage and tell them what do you want, because if the IGF going to stop in the 2025, I think we are losing the channel to talking to the UN system. So, please some of the people will be personal there and raise their hand, say you will be online, just do it. Thank you.

YIEN CHYN: Thank you. I'm going to use the mic from Ian here, because he jumped ahead of me. We're going to go into questions and comments now, which will be, so open community discussion should be facilitated by Boyoung Kim, General Researcher from Korean International Security Agency. Boyoung, please.

BOYOUNG KIM:

Hello, my name is Boyoung Kim, and I'm working for KISA, which is the ccTLD registry, and I'm happy to lead the discussion today. So, personally, I see this APAC space as a great opportunity to meet our community members and then get to know each other and what they do in our community, and also what we can collaborate even further. So, thank you, Samiran, to share what ICANN, APAC office does throughout the year, and then thank you, Ian, Jennifer, Angela, about the WSIS+20 process, which is very important and coming very soon, which we need to act together. So, I would like to open floor, whatever you have, like comments or, yes, Pablo first.

PABLO HINOJOSA:

Hello, how are you all? I am Pablo, I work for APNIC, and I would like to call for action, and it is very important, because the voice of our region needs to win against all other regions. So, this is a competition. There is an open consultation. There are two access points to that open consultation. One at ICANN, it's good, but I will promote the NRO consultation about a very important thing, which is a very ancient policy document. The questionnaire is only seven minutes, but it takes a little while to understand what this is about.

The important thing is that you answer the question. So, it's about an ancient document. It's a policy document of ICANN, one of the first, actually it was the second policy document, it's called ICP-2. And ICP-2 is the criteria for establishing new Regional Internet Registries. This is a 2001 document, two years old ICANN, creating two new RIRs, LACNIC and AFRINIC, were created through that ICP-2 document.

The thing is that 20 years have passed, and this document has become the source of legitimacy of where the RIRs come from. At the same time, the stability of the RIRs can be compromised sometimes, and we have some issues in the African region with the RIR in Africa. That gave us the need to update this policy document 20 or so years after.

So, there is a public consultation that requires community support and requires the voice of the Asia-Pacific community. Please go nro.net website right now. There is an ICP-2 questionnaire link there. Answer the questionnaire. There are only five answers from Asia-Pacific so far. That doesn't speak very well about our region. So, please, let's increase those numbers. I appreciate it very much. Can you contact me? I will provide the cheat sheet to answer the questionnaire. Thank you so much.

BOYOUNG KIM:

Thank you.

PABLO HINOJOSA:

Yes, on the homepage of the nro.net, there is ICP-2 questionnaire link.

SAMIRAN GUPTA:

If you cannot find on our webpage, you can just Google ICP-2 survey. That's it.

BOYOUNG KIM: Yeah, and if someone knows the link, please leave in the chat. That will be helpful. Thank you for sharing good and important things with us. And anyone else to raise the issue or share your thoughts on the WSIS+20 or like whatever ICANN does? Can someone share what your country or your ccTLD or your organization is doing to preparing for the WSIS+20?

ANGELA WIBAWA: Yes.

YASH AGARWAL: Just a reminder for all online participants, that we'll be taking up all questions during the open community discussion. So, if you have any, do put it in the chat. Thank you.

AKINORI MAEMURA: Thank you very much. My name is Aki. Akinori Maemura from JPNIC. Not limited to the ICP-2, what you can do in your country is to have important issues discussed in domestic in-country forums. And what I am doing is to write a blog of the introduction of the ICP-2 and to have the session in the Japan IGF to discuss the ICP-2. And then I will have one session in the Japan Open Policy Forum next week to do the same thing.

So, that kind of thing is good for the community in your country to know about that. And then by preparing that, you will be really, really knowledgeable for that. So, I'm sure Pablo Hinojosa is ready to help for

the ICP-2. And many people, many experts in Asia Pacific region are also the same, willing to help. So, please contact the subject matter expert and then get the help for that and then spread the word to your country. Thank you very much.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Hi, thank you for these questions, Amrita, for the record. I think most people are in a wait and watch phase about the WSIS+20, because the agenda has not been set. And as Ian mentioned, it is more than what is ICANN's remit or it's just not the renewal of the IGF also, it goes beyond that, the scope. So, I think knowing the scoping is important, but information which comes from the WSIS+20 mailing list or the other mailing lists, which many people are subscribed, or your SOAC having those discussions, because most of them are, those can help the discussions.

And once our GAC colleagues come to know who the co-facilitators are or the others and sharing it with us helps. But during the GDC, what happened once, what we did is through the community is we made a community submission. Pablo, if you recall, we had about 45, 50 people from the region making the submission together. Many times, people may not even know the entire thing, but even if a like-minded submission happens from the region, it works.

And yes, while it's a multilateral discussion, which happens, but when the proposal of forming a new digital forum came up, there was a pushback from everyone and it kind of vanished from the table at least

till now. So, things may also happen if we collectively do. So, I think we need to strategize based upon how things develop. Thanks.

BOYOUNG KIM:

Thank you, Amrita. Considering time, I will have one last comment or question. Anyone?

SARMAD HUSSAIN:

Thank you. My name is Sarmad Hussain. I'm not going to talk about WSIS. I guess you can guess what I'm going to talk about. So, what I would encourage each of you to do is go to usg.tech website and there is a link there right in front which says test your email. Put your email address in there and it will tell you whether your email server or service is UA ready or not. And if it's not UA ready, please get in touch with your email service provider and request them to make it UA ready. Thank you.

BOYOUNG KIM:

Yeah, thank you. So, I will hand over to Yien Chyn.

YIEN CHYN:

Thank you, Bayang, and thank you for the comments and questions. So, now we're at AOB. Just a final one- or two-minute wrap to see if anything else. Final hands. Okay, please go ahead.

GUO WEI: If the people in this room, they don't know what is the ICP-2, if they don't know the WSIS+20, who they can ask for? Is anybody can provide a short message for them? You are asking them to put a comment for ICP-2. I think they have to understand what you are talking about in a very brief. Oh, let's see. Okay, no, don't do it. Well, Kenny is here, Kenny. And the same thing, the WSIS+20. I think we keep talking, but I think you assume everybody know what you are talking about.

SAMIRAN GUPTA: So, if I may just respond, standing behind you is my colleague, is my colleague Angela and her team. They are our Government Engagement Team and they have all the resources. Feel free to reach out to them for not ICP-2, but WSIS+20. ICP-2 is Kenny. Kenny, go for it.

KENNY HUANG: Kenny is chair of APNIC and because I just assigned Pablo to increase the volume of the questionnaire and unfortunately, he just run away. But if you have any question, please feel free to talk to me or anyone from APNIC. Thank you very much.

SAMIRAN GUPTA: Thank you. If there are no more questions? Are there any questions online?

YASH AGARWAL: Can confirm no questions online.

SAMIRAN GUPTA: Thank you. Go ahead.

NITISH REDDY YERRADODDI: Hello. My name is Nitish. I'm from India, a next gen for the record. So, this question is regarding domain name dispute resolution process. Would it be the right form to ask?

SAMIRAN GUPTA: You can always ask.

NITISH REDDY YERRADODDI: Yeah. So, basically there are more and more internet businesses coming in from India, mainly B2C brands and multiple things. I've been a domain name consultant for about nine years now. The challenge I've seen is mainly with going for a domain name dispute resolution process. The process is very foreign as of now. Is there any proposal on cards to bring a dispute resolution panel for the gTLDs to India? Because what I've seen in my experience is most of the companies, they give up going for this process and they would rather give the squatter some fees and just take the domain rather than going for the actual process. So, bringing this to India where there are a lot of internet business going in. So, it will help them get the domain at an affordable price. Yeah.

SAMIRAN GUPTA:

Since you've made a very targeted question, I'm the only one who can attempt an answer. I was looking at George, but then the moment he said India, it's me. In all seriousness, I think this is something that you as part of the domain can raise in the community and ICANN's role is limited in what we do with domain names. And I don't think we would be the entity doing anything, but if the community wants to build something, they're to support it. Does this sound like a good answer? My colleague, Howard.

HOWARD LI:

Yeah. This is Howard Li from ICANN, for the record. There are many serve the Registries and Registrars in the back space. So, I believe when you say trying to bring that to India, we do have a UDRP domain dispute resolution provider in APAC, the ADNDRC. The ADNDRC currently consists of four offices in Hong Kong, Seoul, Beijing, and Kuala Lumpur.

So, I think they're also thinking of expanding another office in Japan. So, if like arbitration center or dispute resolution center of India, they would like to join the ADNDRC as an office in India, might probably just solve what you just mentioned. So, I don't think anyone from ADNDRC came to this meeting this time, but the headquarter, well, they're not headquarter there. Secretary right now is based in Hong Kong. So, you can reach out to them, see how you can get them to set up an office in India. Would that work?

NITISH REDDY YERRADODDI: Yeah, that answers my question.

SAMIRAN GUPTA: That's a better version of my answer.

YIEN CHYN: Yes, I have to stop you all from asking questions anymore. I'm sorry. So, Samiran?

SAMIRAN GUPTA: Thank you, Yien Chyn. So, I'm going to just pass the mic to our Board member, Sajid, for a couple of words from him. Sajid, please.

SAJID RAHMAN: Thank you, Samiran, and thanks for inviting me and my Board colleagues. So, I thought I would probably give you a good, it's not a good idea, but a draft idea of what the Board is thinking, what are the Board's priorities are as we go into N24 and start in 2025. As you know that we have a new CEO who will be joining us next month. So, one of the important things that we are focusing on is to ensure that the new CEO hits the ground quickly and can start leading the Org to deliver the objectives that has been set forth by the Board.

We see our priorities broadly divided into three categories. The first category is essentially what we have been discussing about WSIS+20, what ICANN's role are as sometimes gets questioned, how can we ensure that the technical leadership has a standing in global forums, how the multi-stakeholderism can get recognized more as a very important tool. I don't know whether you have seen, but there was

recently a blog by Sam Altman who was the founder of OpenAI and he was suggesting multi-stakeholderism as an option for AI governance globally as that is coming up.

So, one area that we are clearly looking at is to ensure that as the world shifts its stand on different issues, which is not always within our control, how do we ensure that ICANN as an organization, ICANN as an institute continue to thrive. So, that's the first priority.

The second priority, of course, is somewhere where the community and ICANN interacts, which is essentially ensuring how can we be more efficient to respond to different community requests, how can we address the community concerns, how can we actually develop all these deliverables, whether system side or policy side, much more proactive way and efficient way. So, that is sort of where the community and the ICANN and everyone interacts. So, that's the second one.

And the third priority is a bit internal. As you know that ICANN had a few challenges this year. So, it is more about how we can ensure that ICANN finance remains strong so we have a balanced budget, how we can ensure we have the right bandwidth within the ICANN Org so that the team is strong enough to deliver to different requests. And third, of course, is to ensure that the culture within the Org as well as the overall culture that is conducive for the community and the Org and others to operate, how we can ensure that that continues to thrive. So, these are broadly three broad strokes of importance that the Board and the Org is looking at.

SAMIRAN GUPTA: Thank you so much, Sajid. These are good insights and inputs.

YIEN CHYN: Yeah, so we will end the presentations and download sessions and questions and comments as well. But we'll go into group photo. So, if I could have everyone slowly move towards this side, we'll take a group photo. And right after that is networking. So, I guess the most important part of the session because you do want to get to know your APAC colleagues and the community here. There are snacks and tea and coffee. We overran a little bit. So, I would say after the group photo, grab your snacks and coffee and tea first and then start talking to people, okay? All right, thank you, everyone.

YASH AGARWAL: Stop recording. Thank you, everyone.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]