
ICANN81 | Prep Week – 2024 Nominating Committee Annual Update
Monday, October 28, 2024 – 11:30 to 12:30 AM TRT

JENNIFER JOHNSON: My name is Jennifer Johnson, 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 and the ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy.

During this session, questions or comments will only be read aloud if submitted within the Q &A pod. Interpretation for this session will include English, French, Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Arabic, and Portuguese. If you would like to speak during this session, please raise your hand in Zoom. When called upon, unmute your mic to speak. Please state your name for the record. The language you will speak if speaking in a language other than English and speak at a reasonable pace. I will now hand the floor over to the 2024 NomCom Chair, Amir Qayyum.

AMIR QAYYUM: Okay. Thank you. That's it. Thank you very much. On behalf of the 2024 Nominating Committee, I am really thankful for all the 78 applicants from whom we have received the applications. It was great to receive the maximum number of applications from African region. Obviously, the second highest was from Europe. Although the NomCom can appoint only on a limited number of open positions, however, the participation of all these applicants were great. We encourage all the

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applicants to continue participating as their involvement is very important for the ICANN mission.

I would also like to thank all the delegates of the 2024 Nominating Committee who really worked very hard and diligently to evaluate and assess all the applications. They have participated in a number of NomCom meetings, online and also in-person meetings, which finally concluded in the selection of our selectees. We would also like to congratulate all the selected candidates, and we have the confidence in their ability to lead the ICANN forward. We are excited that they will be taking on or continuing with their leadership positions.

Briefly about the Nominating Committee structure, it has slightly changed a little bit from this year onward. However, for the previous years in which we have selected and we are reporting for the 2024 NomCom, there are a total of 15 delegates who are distributed into voting and non-voting delegates. From this year onward, all the delegates will be the voting delegates. We have the representation of all the constituencies who send us their nominees as delegates for the Nominating Committee and then we have the chair-elect, chair, and the associate chair in the leadership team who guide all the Nominating Committee for their assessment and evaluation and their final selections.

The leadership team do not participate in the assessment, evaluation, and voting, even polling of the candidates. All the selections are made by the delegates who are nominated by their constituencies. They are

here as the NomCom delegates and do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of their constituencies. This is the overall structure of the Nominating Committee. I said from this year onward, all the delegates are the voting delegates. However, as we are reporting for 2024 NomCom, we had two RSSAC and SSAC delegates as the non-voting delegates also.

This was our great team of 2024 Nominating Committee consisting of all the nominees from all the constituencies. We had a great time meeting in person and doing our work in the virtual meetings. I think we have assessed the 78 candidates and evaluated them, finally came up with a number of selectees for the open positions that I will show you later. Thank you, everyone, from this 2024 Nominating Committee for your hard work.

Okay. The 2024 leadership positions that we filled. In the previous year, we had three open positions, all having the three-year term for the ICANN Board of Directors. We also had to fill two positions in ALAC. However, these positions were regional. One position was for the Europe, EURALO, and one position for the North American portion of ALAC. We also had to fill another position in ccNSO for a three-year term and one position in GNSO Council for two-year term. That position was a non-voting GNSO Council position. Overall, we have selected the candidates for these three ICANN Board positions, and for the SO/ACs, we have selected five candidates.

The regional distribution of candidate application, as I told in the introduction, that we have received the maximum number of applications from African region, followed by Europe, which from where we have received 24% of the applications. Although from the Latin American and Caribbean Island region, we have received approximately only 8%, but still we were able to find out very good and qualified applicants and we have filled the selected position for all the open available positions.

Now coming to our final selections, we start with the ICANN Board of Directors. We had to fill three open positions and we selected the Nominating Committee. It's the overall decision of the Nominating Committee for the selection of these ICANN Board of Director positions. First one is Amitabh Singhal. He is from Asia, Australia and Pacific region, and he is also appointed as an ICANN Board member. Second is the Miriam Sapiro from North American region. And Tripti Sinha, she was already on the Board and the ICANN NomCom reappointed her for another term. She is also from the North American region. These are the three ICANN Board of Directors positions that the ICANN NomCom filled. We have confidence on their abilities and I hope that they will be doing great job as a member of ICANN Board of Directors.

For the ALAC, we have the regional requirement to select one candidate for the Europe and one candidate for the North American region. For the ALAC Europe, we have selected Natalie Tercova, and we have selected Judith Hellerstein for the North American ALAC position. We also had to select one candidate for the ccNSO Council and Jhajit Bhattacharya

from Asia, Australia and Pacific Island, he was selected as a member of ccNSO Council. The last position is for the GNSO Council and the Nominating Committee selected Anne Aikman Scalese from North American region as a member of the GNSO Council. As I have briefed, that this is a non-voting GNSO Council position.

The timeline of the 2024 Nominating Committee, the Nominating Committee for 2024 was on board in the October meeting. We had our first meeting and we started our planning phase and constituting all our subcommittees, briefing the new candidates about the processes. Then we started the application process in which the format of the application, the form, the outreach, and everything was done from November to March. The application period was open until mid of March, and then when it was closed, we have received these 78 applications from various regions.

After the conclusion of this application period, the actual and, I will say, the crucial task of assessment of the Nominating Committee started and we have started with our soft dive on these candidates. After the soft dive, we have an assessment meeting that was also in Istanbul last year, and then we have completed the deep dive on the candidates. After the deep dive phase, we have the assessment meeting which was online virtual meeting. Then we completed the short listing of the candidates who were called for their final interview in the Kigali meeting. In phase four, we have done the final selection of these candidates. For the Board candidates, we have invited them for a face-to-face interview in Kigali. For the SO/AC candidates, we have asked

them to submit a video response to our questions. And based on their video response, we have selected the SO/AC positions. After the conclusion of the selection, we have done the reporting and the due diligence for all these candidates were in process when we were doing the final selection also.

Just to summarize the overall work, meetings and trainings for the 2024 NomCom, we had conducted a total number of 15 NomCom meetings in the last year. Apart from these 15 meetings of NomCom, there were subcommittees in the NomCom. We have the Outreach Subcommittee, Assessment and Interview Subcommittee, then we have Recommendation Subcommittee and the Application Subcommittee. These subcommittees have also conducted a number of meetings which were 14 in total for the last year.

After the soft dive which is done by the individual delegates, we have conducted the deep dive assessment of the candidates which were done through the online interviews of these shortlisted candidates. Total of 33 interviews were conducted in this deep dive phase which were the virtual interviews. Then for the final selections, we have done the face-to-face interviews at Kigali. These were eight total interviews for the ICANN Board positions and the PTI candidates. However, as I said, that there were 11 other assessments which were done through the video responses or by the written responses from the shortlisted candidates for the SO and ACs.

We have also done four trainings for the 2024 Nominating Committee members. These were very important trainings to equip all our

NomCom delegates to do their work in a very efficient manner. These were the Interview Assessment Training, Leadership Training, Board Governance Training, and I think the first one was the Unconscious Bias Training. All these trainings helped our delegates to do their work and we equipped with different tools, online tools, assessment mechanisms, interview trainings, etc., which really helped our delegates to do their job of the assessment and final selection of the candidates.

For the next year, for the 2025 NomCom leadership team, I, myself, Amir Qayyum, am continuing as the chair of 2025 NomCom. Tom Barrett, he will be the chair-elect with me for the 2025 NomCom. Hopefully, in a week or so, we will be announcing the associate chair for this next year 2025 NomCom.

The 2025 NomCom delegates, I'm really pleased to see a very experienced members nominated from their constituencies to be part of the 2025 NomCom delegates. We have the representation from ALAC, all the five regions, Asia Pacific, Africa, Europe, Latin America and North America. Then we have the representation from ccNSO, and we have already these seven positions in the NomCom from GNSO, starting from NCUC and Business Constituency, Small and Large Business Constituencies, IPC, the Registry and Registrar Stakeholder Group and the ISPs Constituencies also. We are still waiting for the nominee from IETF but we have the nominations from RSSAC and SSAC. In the previous years, the RSSAC and SSAC members in the NomCom were the non-voting delegates. However, starting from this year, after the

implementation of the Review Implementation Committee, these two members will also be the voting members.

This year, we have a little bit more open leadership positions to fill. The total of 10 positions we will be filling for the ICANN Board of Directors, three open positions for all these positions are for three-year term, one open position for the PTI Board of Directors. Last year, we didn't have this open position. Again, one open position which is again a three-year term position for the ccNSO Council. This year, we have the ALAC positions for the Africa, Asia, Australia and Pacific Island regions and the Latin American and Caribbean region. As we have just seen, last year we have filled the position for the Europe and North American region and this year we will be doing the assessment and evaluation for the candidates from the remaining three regions. Now, there are two other positions. Both of these positions are the two-year term position for the GNSO Council, one voting position for the Contracted Party House and one voting position for the Non-Contracted Party House. Total of 10 leadership positions that we will be doing for this year 2025 NomCom.

Thank you very much. This ends the presentation. I think if there are questions, we would be happy to take those questions.

JENNIFER JOHNSON:

Amir, I don't see any questions in the Q &A and I don't see anyone has their hand raised.

AMIR QAYYUM: Okay. Anyway, you can reach out to us through e-mail. We will be there in Istanbul and we would be happy to discuss about the processes. The only part which I can say is non-confidential is the process. We have all the processes open and transparent and anyone can discuss with them. However, the assessment of candidates and the candidates themselves are confidential. We do talk about the processes, our procedures, but we keep the candidates and the assessment of the candidates, the discussion about the candidates all confidential.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Thank you, Amir.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Since we don't seem to have any additional questions or comments, we can go ahead and close this meeting. We thank all of you for your participation today.

JENNIFER JOHNSON: Please stop the recording. Thank you.

AMIR QAYYUM: Thank you.

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