
ICANN82 | CF – GNSO: NPOC Membership Work Session
Sunday, March 09, 2025 – 09:00 to 10:00 PST

ANDREA GLANDON

Hello and welcome to the NPOC membership session. My name is Andrea Glandon and I am a 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. If you would like to speak during this session, please raise your hand in Zoom. When called upon, virtual participants will be given permission to unmute in Zoom. On-site participants will use a physical microphone to speak. Please state your name for the record and speak at a reasonable pace. I will now hand the floor over to our chair, Juan. You may begin.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Thank you, Andrea. Thank you, everyone. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. I hope everything is going well. As Andrea said, my name is Juan Manuel Rojas. I'm currently chair, serving as the current chair for NPOC, Non-for-Profit Organizations constituency, despite we have the name operational concerns still in some times, in some people, some parts of ICANN yet. So, welcome to everyone. So, let's start with a roundtable just to know each other because we are known each other, but please introduce yourselves. It's apply also for remote participants, but start here in

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the physical room and then we are going to remote to just please state your name and what organization are you belonging? That's it. Start with maybe here.

TAPANI TARVAINEN

Okay. I'm Tapani Tarvainen, presently representing Electronic Frontier Finland, not the foundation, and a member of the NCSG ExComm representing NPOC there. And I guess that's enough for now.

EMMANUEL VITUS

Good morning, everyone. So, my name is Emmanuel Vitus, and I'm the policy chair for the NPOC.

GLENN MCKNIGHT

Good morning, everyone. Glenn McKnight, former vice, longstanding member of NPOC for years. Happy to be here. Thank you.

WISOM DONKOR

Good morning. My name is Wisdom Donkor, and a chair for NCUC.

AMIN HACHA

Good morning, everyone. My name is Amin Hacha, and my association is Lebanese Cyberspace, and I am NPOC member.

ADISA BOLUTIFE	Good morning. My name is Adisa Bolutife, Bolu for the record. I'm an executive council member, currently the secretary for NPOC, and it's nice to be here as well.
CALEB OGUNDELE	Hi, good morning, everyone. My name is Caleb Ogundele, and I am the membership engagement coordinator, and I'm happy to welcome you all to ICANN 82.
JUAN MANUEL ROJAS	Thank you, everyone. Please, we have some remote participants. Please go ahead. Just introduce yourself.
ANDREA GLANDON	Call them by name one so that they know.
JUAN MANUEL ROJAS	Okay. So, we have, I don't know how to say, Yao Amevi. Welcome back. Welcome.
YAO AMEVI	Hello. Hi. Hello, everyone. My name is Yao Amevi. I'm a member of the [NCSG] and NPOC, and my affiliation is the youth IGF Benin. Nice to be here.

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- JUAN MANUEL ROJAS Thank you very much. And we have the company of our old-time friend, Benjamin. Welcome, Benjamin.
- BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE Hi. Hello, everybody. Good afternoon. My name is Benjamin. Excited to be here. Thank you.
- JUAN MANUEL ROJAS Thank you to join us. And I think that's all for now.
- ANDREA GLANDON One more. Wale, would you to introduce yourself? I can see.
- ADEDOKUN ADEWALE Okay. Good day, everyone. My name is Wale Adedokun. I'm from Nigeria. It's good to be here. I represent NPOC on the NCSG EC. Thank you.
- JUAN MANUEL ROJAS Welcome. Glad to be here with you. Thank you for joining us, despite the time, I think. So I think that's it. That's all the people that we have. Welcome, everyone. So I think we can start with our agenda. The first item, it was the welcome. That was the welcome. So we are going to move forward to the next one. And we are going to show a little bit what are the sessions that have relevance for our members. We thought that it could be a good thing to show that this week, it's a short week, but it have very busy. Yesterday, we have all day long with meetings in CSG and CPH meeting and some

others. But this week, we have another joint. We have a lot of sessions, joint sessions. Today, we have one with a lack and some others. But I think that, Emmanuel, can you take the floor to introduce what sessions could be relevant for our members? And that's it for now.

EMMANUEL VITUS

Thank you very much, Juan, Emmanuel for the records. For NPOC, we have some of them, but I've actually listed a couple of them that can be of interest for those who are on site and both those who are online as well. So we have a lot of conversation going on now around the applicant support program for the next round, the next gTLD round. So as you know, the not-for-profit organizations are actually eligible to apply for the applicant support program. And they can have up to 75 to 85% reduction in application fee. So I try to check the statistics so far to see whether we have our members and the non-commercial, I mean, organizations applying at the moment for the applicant support. So so far, we have in total as of February, we have 20 application in draft for the not-for-profit organization. We only have one in application review now. So I will invite members. I know there is a lot of workshops going on right now around the applicant support so they can attend, understand more. And for the policy, how do you call it? The issue forum that will organize together with NCUC, what we call the NCSG issue forum that will happen on Tuesday, we'll discuss, we'll dig into the applicant support to see how best we can support non-commercial groups and not-for-profit organizations across the world to apply for this applicant support. And also the second element, I also put

a bold notice on for our organizational members, the Latin Diacritics and IDNs. So yesterday we had the first meeting. So that first meeting that we had yesterday, we had a couple of our members that actually were presenting the non-commercial stakeholder group. So we have Tapani here, we have Kunle from Nigeria and myself from the non-commercial stakeholder group representing, how do you call it, representing our group within that working group. So we hope to ensure that accessibility to the diverse linguistic communities around the world are well represented in this policy development process. So we also have the DNS abuse mitigation. So there's a lot of work going on together with ALAC, the ccNSO, the DNS abuse standing committee and other stakeholders that actually they plan for a lot of meetings during this ICANN meeting. So for those who are interested in the DNS abuse mitigation, this can be of interest for them to participate and discuss. So we started some of them yesterday, but I know for ALAC, for example, it will continue today. So I think it will be across the whole meeting. We have ALAC, ccNSO and the DNS abuse standing committee. I think it's on the agenda. I'm just putting it on the floor here so people can actually have an interest to it. We have the Continuous Improvement Program, which aims to have a policy-making inclusivity. So the program is working towards increasing the participation of underrepresented communities, including our members who are not-for-profit organizations. So I will invite the community to share insight on how NPOC can contribute in making the CIP more effective. So I'm very open to the

community to share those insights. And we have the transfer policy. The transfer policy review-

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Wait, just to clarify a little bit, because maybe there are some people that are not aware of that, do you have any session specific or maybe that you can recommend to our members, okay, you can follow this meeting or this time, local time, of course.

EMMANUEL VITUS

So for that, I think I shared that by mail in the mailing list. Caleb also shared it, and almost every day we try to share it. So I didn't actually put all those dates here so that we can move on quickly with this, but those were shared by mail. I think even yesterday, Caleb actually made mention of those with their time and shared that. That's the reason why I'm not actually indicating the various sessions. So for the transfer policy review for this ICANN 82 meeting, it will focus on the phase two, addressing the transfer dispute resolution policy, the bulk transfer and ICANN improved transfer. So that was already approved. Sorry, can I move? Okay. So I think that was shared. We have our representatives, which is, I think Juan is in that group and Ken is leading our representatives in that group. I think Raoul as well. So that was actually submitted, the phase one recommendation was submitted for the board review for implementation. So I think we encourage the NPOC member to participate in the discussion regarding the phase two, ensuring that our not-for-profit concerns are reflected in the final policy recommendation. So I think the last one, but not the least, is

the RDRS, the registration data request service. So the RDRS standing committee is currently reviewing how registration data requests are processed. Yesterday, it was discussed a bit during the policy committee session, and I think we can also include some of our priorities as a not-for-profit organization, including advocating for stronger privacy protections and also ensuring that not-for-profit registrants are safeguarded and also balancing security and transparency in handling the registration data requests, especially for law enforcement, especially from countries where we don't have that freedom of expression and protection of those registrants. And also, I will invite our members to join the ongoing public comment, and I would to actually congratulate Yao, who has been very, very active representing us, writing, taking pen for some of the policies, public comments. So that is very, very remarkable, and I would to acknowledge that. We also have Wale, we have Bolu here. So we have a couple of members, I mean, putting their pens down for the public comments, and I will encourage the new ones to also join. So if you cannot hold a pen, you can at least join, bring your perspective, your insight to the various public comments. So I think I will leave it here, and also, as I said earlier, I will be very open to see how best the members think that NPOC can actually reorganize itself in terms of policy committee, so that the not-for-profit interests are well actually reflected in the non-commercial stakeholder group in terms of ongoing policies. Thank you.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Thank you, Manuel. Yes, I hope, I need to say that it's glad to see how is NPOC growing, and as you said, that we are almost people

in so many topics, commenting, participating, engaging, being engaging in this ecosystem. So Caleb, do you want to add something, or not really? Okay. So yeah, because after this report that we have from Emmanuel, I would to let our members that should know that what topics are we following from the EC, just to let them know that, okay, we are following this, we are not so many, but we are trying to covering all the aspects that we feel that are relevant for not-for-profit organizations. So Tapani, do you want to add something?

TAPANI TARVAINEN

Yes, Tapani, for the record. Two points I want to raise. First about that Latin Diacritics, which Emmanuel mentioned. It was just a kickstart meeting yesterday, but I raised a couple of points about scope, notably that situations where multiple different Diacritics of the same letter could be meaningfully distinct domains. I have some examples where that actually makes sense. As well as perhaps more controversially, there might be cases where the base Latin version should not exist. I have a couple of reasons why that would be, including one – I have a nice example where that – in one language, where dropping the Latin Diacritics results in a word that has, let's say, negative connotations, so it might not be ideal to have that association. But that will come when the work goes on. Another issue that's completely unrelated, but NPOC has been active in the ecological impact of ICANN way past. We have this green ICANN.org domain, which I brought up in the list just yesterday and which is about to expire, and I have gotten enough

support for keeping it. I will pay the 10 euros to keep it for one more year at least, and we'll see what we make of it. Thank you.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Thank you, Tapani. Bulu, you are –

ADISA BOLUTIFE

Yes. Bulutife for the record. I just wanted to quickly add one more thing. I think one of the relevant sessions that we'd to invite our members to attend is the NCSG issue forum, yeah, which is jointly organized by NPOC as well as the NCUC. So, it would be nice to have everyone participate because we'll be discussing important topics there. Thanks.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Thank you, Volodymyr. I think that NCSG issue forum is on Tuesday?

ADISA BOLUTIFE

Yeah.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Do you want to say something?

CALEB OGUNDELE

Yes. So, I wanted to call the attention of our members to the fact that the public comment for CIP, that's the Continuous Improvement Program was put out and every stakeholder within

ICANN ecosystem did have their comments all published. And so, the reason why I am flagging this is in the event that you read all the curated comments and you see something that some other stakeholders are putting out there and you see that it's something that does not conform with the NPOC or NCSG, please just flag it so that we can pass that comment along, although the public comments are out all for review. So, please just pass that along and we can know anything about that. Outside that, I think members should just check their email for all the sessions that we have that is interesting that they can participate in.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Yeah, yeah. We are trying to have our members inform about the mailing list that we have. But, yeah, it's just in case that, okay, we have this meeting to also inform our members to that. Before to proceed, I would to know that if there are any questions on the floor to this topic before moving on.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER

Just one online. I just noticed Frank from Ghana on maybe one technology.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Okay, thank you. I haven't, I don't know why, but I don't know seeing any hands. But, Frank, are you here and you can introduce yourself please if you want to add something. Go ahead, please. Okay, so we can, in the chat, we are copying the continuous improvement program comment that Caleb says. Also, we have the

time for NCSG issue forum. It's Tuesday on 13.15 local time. So we are going to move to next topic. According to our agenda is that our CROP recipient lecture, it's in this case is Mr. Glenn McKnight, who is our CROP selected to join us here. And he is going to talk about some of the initiatives that he already have. So Glenn has been a long timer. He was here in ICANN before I came. So Glenn, please go ahead, take the floor, and please go ahead.

GLENN MCKNIGHT

Thank you. Good morning, everyone. Good afternoon, good evening. It's a pleasure to be here. Yeah, I expected to do a lecture. It probably won't be a lecture, but I'll try to fill you in on some of the things we've been doing. And just for the correction, I'm not on the IDN committee for Latin script. That's Louis Uhl. But I have a lot to say about it, particularly on universal acceptance. Just to put in context, in the past year and a half, my health hasn't been the greatest. So I've been having some ups and downs. But I feel great today. I've been at a therapy is working. So that's the good news. But apart from that, what's important, I think, as we look on the reaching out to our community, we have a few, I guess you would say, neglected potential members that we should consider. We have a new person now that's running the NextGen. The NextGen meetings are going to be on the 11th and 12th. This is where the students, local students in the region, are doing presentations. So we have presentations, short presentations, with 11 NextGen that's starting tomorrow and Wednesday. And this is a bit of a problem, because people don't always have time to go to see the presentations. But I do want to give you one tip. Every one of their

presentations are downloadable. And I don't think they have a separate fellowship party like the fellowship program. But they'll probably be there. And you'll know them, because they're younger than you. And they look scared. So I think it's important for us to make an effort to get to know them. But secondly, new blood is always a good idea. The other is, as you all know, and I believe, Juan, you were a fellow a number of years ago, right? And that's how I met, because Caleb saw me taking pictures. He says, give me that camera. OK, here's the camera. And then I got him, because we started the GEM. And he was all excited to start playing drums. So he's been deeply involved with the community. And this is the important thing, is beyond NPOC, there is this larger community that one needs to reach out to and get to know. And sometimes it takes a lot of effort to reach out to them. But on the other hand, there's some real tangible results. So in terms of what we're doing on the scripts, because I'm not involved with the IDN, and Louis is, we are quite aware of the importance of indigenous languages online. As you know, other scripts are online. You could type in your Unicode. You can get a result to a website. But if you're an Athabascan speaker, a Nunatak, a Cherokee, many of the North American languages, it's not going to happen. So you have to go through the process of getting the script acknowledged. People have to work on the script. And it's got to be adopted. And then after that, you have to work with the local ISPs to make sure they have the training in order to put the scripts online. So we are doing that. And one of the things we're having coming up on April 4th, it's why I have the flyer here. And basically, what we have is I think

ICANN gets it now. For the long time I've been with ICANN, there was the standard UN languages, right? Arabic, French, Spanish, English, Chinese. But the other languages were ignored. And I think that's been a disservice. So we have stage one is getting their languages online. Stage two is having content. And that's going to be the next session. But we're seeing a real change in attitude on universal acceptance. If you were at the last IGF in Saudi Arabia, which I was remotely, but there were 300 sessions. And again and again and again, people talked about their native language online as a human right. So one of the things we're doing on April 4th, we're focused on indigenous languages. But we're going to be delivering our sessions in English, French, and Spanish. So I have a card for you folks to join us. And that will be online. That's coming up on April 4th. And there's a staggered times. What's also important on the indigenous languages is the preservation. Particularly Louis Houle, I give him a shout out because he's been very formative in working with the Quebec government and the Nunatak community to be able to get their script online. We're meeting with Sarmad, who's the head of the universal acceptance group and his staff, to go over what we're actually going to be doing on the 4th. But if you have a particular passion for getting your, if you have a second language, and if the language, whether Swahili or whatever the language is, please reach out to Sarmad and staff and work on that campaign. Because we've been doing this for, I'd say, two or three years. And we've actually got fruition. We've moved the needle really, really far. So we're very pleased with that. I just want to, besides the outreach going to the sessions for the

NextGen, or the fellows party, I guess, reception, but ICANN's booth, which was a disaster in Turkey, it was not well organized. It was really nobody there. I think we're well positioned with the booth this time. Where it is, I just noticed it. I'll be volunteering at the booth. And what I did is, fortunately, and I brought some pins. Do you remember this pin, the NPOC pins? Do you guys have it? OK, I have, yeah, please distribute those. I have some brochures, as well, for everybody. Pass those out. And bring me back, because I need those for the booth. OK, so don't sell them, Wisdom, OK? And I have some cards. So my wife, I guess, while she was the chair, had these. And I made sure I rated her filing cabinet for the stuff I have. So that's a little bit of literature. I'll take it to the booth. Any time I have, if you want to catch me, more than likely, I'll be at the ICANN booth doing outreach and a promotion. So I won't be giving the people this literature, but I can flash it. How did I get involved with so much universal acceptance? It's probably apropos to go back to what I've been doing the last five years. And it's my fifth anniversary this July in creation of the Virtual School of Internet Governance. And Benjamin was, I don't think anybody else, I don't think. Tapani, were you at the North American School of Internet Governance? No, OK. Caleb is very aware of schools of internet governance with ISOC and the Nigerian school. We started the virtual school because of COVID, and very quickly we converted the course into Spanish. And so 12 cohorts later, about 1,600 students, and eight versions in Spanish, which is roughly 700, and three versions in French. Now, what's important about the Spanish one is the first Cuban partnership with the university was done last year, and we

have a new one starting now in March with Lillian from Columbia, and that's 117 students. So this stuff can be done, it's challenging, especially since they can't use tools Zoom, you know, the American hegemony is strong, right? So, but what it exposed me to is the importance of content, content beyond just the language. So we're about midway through the conversion of our course into Bengali and Urdu. We have two large teams, two of my members are here, Moya Bal, he's a fellow, he works full-time for Microsoft, but he volunteers with a large team which are mostly from Bangladesh and some people from near Kolkata. So we have a Bengali slash Bangla, and that should be ready for our first test in that language in June, and a little bit later for Urdu. Down the road, we're looking at Armenian and Russian as the other two that will come. But I'm just mentioning that you can do this stuff, but it takes a lot of effort, and so I'm just saying that it's one thing believing in universal acceptance, it's another thing doing something. So we've made a strong effort to reach out and do that. One of the other things that, and I have to tip my hat off to our good friend who's not here, Raoul Plommer, former chair, who's now, I understand, in China, or?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER

No, he came back from China two weeks ago, I think. But he was in China.

GLENN MCKNIGHT

So I understand he's married now.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER Yes, that's also true.

GLENN MCKNIGHT And I understand he's been busy?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER Definitely.

GLENN MCKNIGHT Yes, with a baby? Okay. He's the one with a small group of us, and Tipani can say it, we envisioned the green internet. We mentioned the green ICANN, and Tipani created a website. We had meetings, and we all stood up and got everybody to stand up to support a carbon-free ICANN.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS Glenn, sorry. Benjamin, he's raising up his hand, so I don't know if maybe he wants to ask something?

GLENN MCKNIGHT Oh yeah, let me just finish this. I'm meeting with the VP on Tuesday, because their strategic plan has incorporated environmental strategy. So I have to shout out, Raoul actually had an impact, because it's in the strategic plan. So I'm following up. If anybody wants to know about the results of that meeting, or if you want to join me, you're welcome to it. It's on Tuesday. And that's it. I can go on forever, but I'm done.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Thank you, Glenn. Benjamin?

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE

Thank you. I just wanted to tell Glenn that the flyer is not publicly available. It's requiring that you should sign into your email. So you might want to think about sharing a flyer that is publicly available. Yeah, and I was in the first, what was it, V-SIG, yes. Thank you.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Thank you, Glenn.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE

Thank you. Sorry.

GLENN MCKNIGHT

I'm sorry. I just got new hearing aids, so I'm getting tons of noise, but I don't really hear the words very well. I can hear Benjamin, but I couldn't make out what he was asking me.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

He said that the URL flyer is not publicly available.

GLENN MCKNIGHT

I'm still having a problem. Maybe Tapani?

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- TAPANI TARVAINEN Basically, it's in Canva, and it requires you to log in to create an account in Canva in order to download it. So it's not downloadable without an account, but that's, of course, free if you want to do that. But it's not technically publicly available if you have to identify yourself in order to get it. So I guess that's the point.
- JUAN MANUEL ROJAS Yeah. Thank you for answering that.
- ANDREA GLANDON: The flyer, Glenn, the flyer that you handed out, the QR code, is not going to where it's publicly available for people to see.
- GLENN MCKNIGHT Oh, okay.
- JUAN MANUEL ROJAS I have also copied the link of the universal acceptance day in the chat, the link of this card that Glenn gave us. It, remember, is April 4th, but the link is on the chat right now. So, Emmanuel, do you want to add something?
- EMMANUEL VITUS Yes. Since we are speaking about the Latin Day Critics, I think it's important to make mention of yesterday, during our starting meeting, we have our fellow from Nigeria, Kunle, the Nigeria Internet Society chapter president, raised a question about why the over 1,200 languages on the continent are not in the scope of

the Latin Diacritics Working Group. And the answer was just that basically we don't have them in the root zone, so it's not in the scope of any discussion. So, I'm thinking we have a lot of our members advocating for this, so I think it may be a time to see how NPOC can champion that, integrating African, how do you call it, African language, their scripts into the root zone label generation rules, so that we have a lot of Africans, our group and organization today doing that, Smart Africa, you have the African Union, all those organizations, how best NPOC can actually, I mean, champion this, having a proper position paper to the ICANN board and other policy, how do you call it, processes, so that we can actually have something more concrete. So, I think it's something that yesterday when he asked the question and the answer that he got, it triggered, how do you call it, that idea in seeing how best NPOC, not just for the African continent, but looking at all those indigenous languages, how can we go beyond the work that the universal acceptance group is doing, how can we go beyond that and make sure that we have those scripts accepted and developed better in the DNS. So, I think Tapani has something to say about it.

TAPANI TARVAINEN

Yeah, that was mentioned yesterday, and that was out of scope for the present PDP, and actually, I acknowledge that, but it means we should go back to the root zone label generation thing and bring up these scripts along there, and there are, of course, quite a few other things that were missing, because they basically covered only those languages that the members of that working group then knew well enough to talk about. Some experts noted that, for

example, the only special case double letter was the German sharpest, because there are two German speakers in the group, and so forth. So, I think that's something we'll have to deal with, that when minorities, ever smaller languages, get involved, we'll have to get new rounds of updating these rules to cover their scripts, and that's definitely something NPOC should be doing.

EMMANUEL VITUS

Yes, and I think we can at least start with the low-hanging fruit, at least a position paper, or something to start the conversation as a not-for-profit, I mean, organizational consent, , let's go and start with at least a position paper, so that we raise awareness about it, and people can, I mean, join the queue, because, as you said, usually the people sitting on the table can only speak about what they understand, and yesterday, that was very funny, because I was telling them that I'm here sitting to speak more about the French. Okay, we have the Finnish there, we have the Germans there, those things, but those who are not represented on the table, I mean, those in general group, those over 1,200 languages on the continent, at least, let's start at least with a position paper, and raise awareness about this, so that the conversation can at least start.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Thank you, Emmanuel. Just to add that Benjamin says that that has always been the response, because the same thing that you have said before—Go ahead, Benjamin, please.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE

Yes, thank you for reading my comment. I just wanted to tell Emmanuel as well that that conversation of trying to put African languages uniquely at the root as well, or even in UA conversation, UASG group, UA conversation, UASG group, the conversation is always most African languages are Latin script-based, but I do tell them sometimes we have hyphens, all of these donations that are on top of some of these languages that make them totally different from direct Latin scripts. So maybe this is important to also take note when you get to the next level of the conversation to let them know that, yes, some of them might be written in Latin scripts because of our colonial inheritance, but there are some things that make them different in terms of ...

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Ben, we get lost a little bit of your comment, so we didn't hear a part of what you said.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE

My internet is poor today. Sorry. I just supported Emmanuel's point. That's all. Don't worry.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Okay. Caleb, do you want to add something before moving on?

CALEB OGUNDELE

So that part where his internet was a bit shaky, what I think I heard him say was that most African languages have tonal markings, right, which are very important. Take, for example, from where I come from. If you're writing in my own language, it has a lot of tonal markings, yet it is in the usual alphabetical stuff, and there are certain alphabets that are not even used that does not exist in my language. So, yeah, these are just things. I think Emmanuel and I probably have closer language to each other, even though we are in different countries and we're colonized by two different colonial masters. Yeah.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Yeah, but the solution is, okay, we need a new one, PDP, to discuss that because it's not in the scope of this one. So it doesn't have sense, but it's what you have.

TAPANI TARVAINEN

Although it's not really in scope of this to introduce new variants, but we can try to come up with a general enough solution that this working group does not have to be opened when the more characters come from their own label generation thing. So that's what I'm trying to push in that PDP, that we get a generalizable solution that will not collapse when we get more languages in.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Yeah, in that case, so I think that we should follow this topic in not just the working group topic, but also the discussions inside the councils about that, because maybe they are not aware that this

could not be entering the present scope, but it can help to feed the discussion inside the GNSO Council, because they have another more European vision, I think. Anyone to add something in this topic? No? Okay, so we now can move forward to the next topic item. It's just administrative matters. We had some issue with our social media accounts, handles and that, but just to let inform our members, we are trying to solve. We have just the info in just one part that it's accessible for EC, right? That Caleb shared with us last week, I think. I don't remember, but I think we are now ready to improve that and to solve that.

CALEB OGUNDELE

Yeah, let me just provide a bit of historical background and information. So usually when NPOC was still using the administrative office for communications chair, each communication chair every year transitions both the websites, cPanel, the WordPress control panel, all the social media accounts, they transition it from each communication chair to each other. In plain text, just behind the scene, this is a personal transition. The chair is always aware of whatever is going on. It is not published, so the secret passwords and everything is always done that way. And luckily for us, we also had another new transition chair, sorry, communication chair who decided to over-engineer the process. That's what I would perhaps call it, over-engineer a very simple process that was easy for everyone to do, which is also a good thing. We encourage good engineering because I come from good engineering background as well. However, over-engineering sometimes might not be as efficient to get the job done. So in this

case, we have been having a lot of back and forth emails internally with the person concerned trying to ask him, please transition the digital assets to the new person, which happens to be me. And it just so happened that I started this conversation in November and we are now in March. We are almost rounding up this term and significant work hasn't been done except for updating the WordPress website. I do not have access to the cPanel, which is making it a bit difficult to maybe even do any configuration or maybe do any cybersecurity checks, scanning that I need to do on the one hand, which also has put us at a very big cybersecurity risk in the event that I'm not able to have access to my cPanel. That alongside, we do not have access to our social media at the moment. There have been a lot of emails flying around which I choose not to respond to because I believe so much in diplomacy and at some point I feel that diplomacy has actually failed. We just thought that it's good that our members are aware that we are having this situation and that we should also have it on record that this is not a failure of the current executive, but the fact that we are unable to access these things as a result of human impediments that we currently have. So that's this quick summary.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Thank you, Caleb. Just to add that we asked to the owner of the hosting, I think, is hosting or domain?

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- EMMANUEL VITUS Yeah, we asked that we want to have direct access to the host company.
- JUAN MANUEL ROJAS Yeah, but he said that the hosting provider, it doesn't have cPanel. He doesn't provide that service in his hosting. So that's his answer. So, but now we are publishing, right? We are publishing things in our, we have been posting things in Facebook and X or not yet.
- CALEB OGUNDELE No, we have not been able to publish anything on X, LinkedIn and whatever. However, because I used to be the communications chair from way, way back, I still have access to the Facebook as a, not the admin, just a contributor. So because of that, it has given me opportunity to still sometimes post what I have to go through a longer channel.
- JUAN MANUEL ROJAS Okay. We are able to recover those passwords or any way to get access again?
- CALEB OGUNDELE So far we have not been able to recover any password. And I think behind the scene, you and I, we've been doing back and forth and we even created a group with the person concerned to please help us. And we've not gotten response even as we speak. It's documented there.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

So thank you. Yes.

TIPANI TARVAINEN:

does NPOC have, or are being considered a Mastodon account somewhere that Mastodon alternative to X and whatever else?

EMMNANUEL VITUS

Yeah, I know that has been Raoul's project before he left. But yeah, just to add up to this whole conversation, and I think some of you may have read my email that was not so diplomatic in the mailing list because it got to a stage where it looks the whole EC has failed. I don't think that was the case because we had a lot of internal conversation. Some of us have been observers to that process without saying a word before we end up ending in a public list that was not just NPOC members. And it's unfortunate that at this time that we speak today and from the last message I read from the person is that he neither does not have access to those accounts anymore. So my question is, what do we do? Because if we don't have access to them and the person says that he doesn't have access to it because he put all the accounts in a vault, and today he logged out from the vault and nobody's in the vault to remove those accounts from the vault. So I want to know concretely, having this whole discussion is very good, but the way forward, how do we get access to those accounts? Which process is in place that this will not happen again? Because it's not the first time that we are doing a transition of leadership. It has been very quiet.

Nobody heard about anybody. But this time around, it has been very, very tough. And I want to know, what is the way forward? Because we cannot just handle the issue as we are doing it right now. Because we'll be leaving the leadership probably in a few months. The people who may join us or the people who may leave. What are we doing? What is the process in place? So I leave this to the chair so that we find a solution. Or even the members that have joined this meeting, if they have some advice to the leadership, to be able to recover those accounts and continue our work. Thank you.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Thank you, Emmanuel. Yes, I think that is not only a chair decision. I think it's an easy decision. So yeah, we are trying to solve this. I think the first thing that we should do is try to recover those accesses to being able to publish something. We did try to manage this before, according to our last communications coordinator chair in that case. We had this tool called Vault. It was a Vault, the name. And the idea, it was to have all those handles and passwords just one site to be able to all the EC members have access to them. But when he left, he take out that. He downed the Vault. And according to the site, we had the handles and passwords. But when we tried with Caleb, we tried to access. And we didn't have the access to any account. I think that we still have our Gmail account from NPOC. I think that maybe we can access that. And maybe that could be the process to have the access to those, because all the handles, all the accounts were redirected to info at NPOC.org. The

thing is that none of us have access to that account, that info at NPOC. So I think we have access to the site, to the website.

CALEB OGUNDELE

So just to add to what you said, we don't have access to info at NPOC.org, because we do not have access to the cPanel, to even say, let's see what the configuration is, and maybe if we can change the password. The cPanel that they're talking about, to be very frank with you, I had access to that cPanel when Raoul was the chair, because I logged into his computer and I did some configurations. I provided technical back end during the time when he was chair, when I was also trying to configure the WordPress, the current website we have, which I built. So that is all we just need is, let's have access to the cPanel.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

I think that, in that case, the solution could be move the hosting to another provider, I think, could be a good thing to have access to cPanel and configure all the things. Tapani?

TAPANI TARVAINEN

Do we have access to the DNS setup on NPOC? Can we switch that to the email address? So is that where, who has access to that?

CALEB OGUNDELE

We do not, as I'm speaking to you, at least as far as I consider myself, I have very strong technical understanding of web

development and DNS. I do not have access to that control panel to make changes.

TAPANI TARVAINEN Where is the NPOC.org registered? What's the registrar? The registrar, the company where it's registered?

CALEB OGUNDELE As far as I'm concerned, Raoul is dealing with the registrar, and we don't have full information about that.

TAPANI TARVAINEN I can look it up, I guess.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS I think it's domain123.

CALEB OGUNDELE No, I think it's hell something. It starts with H, but at the end of the day—

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS Ah, Hetzner.

CALEB OGUNDELE Hetzner, yeah. But at the end of the day, this whole conversation, as I said, it looks we are amateurs. Unfortunately, none of us is amateur. Just because, and I will put this word on record, it's we

are being held ransom. Because if somebody finishes the election, there's a process of handing over. That handing over process was not done properly. We have been exposed in the mailing list. Up to date, the person has shut down all communication channels. So for me, the question to the chair, again, is what's the way forward? Then we take that way forward, because we have been going back and forth. We are saying we will recover the email, but we have tried that already with the info, and yield no results. So at the end of the day, what is the way forward? I think that is the question I keep asking, I mean, for a couple of weeks now. What is the way forward? And if, I don't know, any member can advise us on the way forward and support us in this process, I think we should be open to that.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER

So I'm thinking of something. I know ICANN is the one who pays for our website and every other thing. So if I might ask, I know I'm putting Andrea, who I'm looking at right behind me right now, on the outset. Yeah, is ICANN willing to help us get another payment if we decide to transfer our domain and hosting to another host, possibly in the next one month?

ANDREA GLANDON

Well, let me tell you, hi, this is Andrea from staff. First of all, we have one minute left. Also, yes, Raoul had the domain and was being reimbursed by ICANN. So I don't know if it would help to discuss this a little bit more with Raoul. There were obviously no issues before. But I don't think he submitted the documents for a repayment recently. But in the past, he has submitted to ICANN his

invoices to be reimbursed. So that is something that ICANN has been doing.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER Okay, so what I understand now is we can still probably get a little bit of additional budget just to get our hosting. I think we have one minute left.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER Okay, just to really add something, because I think what's resounding here is our way forward. I think in the future, to ensure proper handing over, assets the hosting, the domain name, registrar login should probably be kept. I don't know if the ICANN staff is willing to help with that. Since they are here, regardless of the term, they should have custody of that such that we won't be in this sort of situation. And if there are new people, we can always refer to them. So that's just my solution here.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS Thank you very much. I don't know if Andrea can respond to that question right now.

ANDREA GLANDON So I think that it would probably be okay for us to hold on to those passwords. But technically, we are not supposed to be involved with any applications or websites outside of ICANN. So we can look

into that a little bit more. And I think that's something that we can discuss.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

A backup, I think. Or maybe we can put it in a document that we all share in the EC. So we are on time. And I think then the last topic that we have is already we can discuss later. Because it was about Skype and the ways of communication between each other, between us. But we are running out of time. So thank you, everyone, to come here to thank you for the discussion. And I hope that we can find a solution for our issues very soon. And we will get all informed with what we're going to do in that case. Thank you very much.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]