
ICANN82 | CF – ccNSO: Universal Acceptance Committee Session
Saturday, March 08, 2025 – 15:00 to 16:00 PST

CLAUDIA RUIZ

Hello, and welcome to the ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee Session. My name is Claudia Ruiz, and I am the remote participation manager for this session. Please note, 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 submitted in chat will be read aloud if put in the proper form as noted in the chat.

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ABDALMONEM GALILA

Thank you, Claudia. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening, wherever you are, wherever you are here at USA or any other place in the world. I think if I remember well that this is the second time for Universal Acceptance Committee to be held at USA. I think the

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first one was at Washington DC, and second one here at Seattle. This is a working session. Not the actual one that will be at Wednesday for—I will talk about this later. This is a working session like the normal ones that happened in biweekly basis. And as usual, we start by—if there are any updates about your statement of interest, it's mandatory to fill it in, or if it is an update for your statement, any items inside the form we filled for the statement, you should share that with ccNSO staff.

Actually, for example of that, I changed my role at the Telecom Regulatory of Egypt. Now I am the Director of Numbering Affairs, so I need to reflect that at my statement of interest, and I will do that after the meeting. But I still have the IDN ccTLD of Egypt under my responsibilities. So, anyone have any updates related to his statement of interest? None. Actually, if there is anything happen in the future related to the statement of interest, please share it with ccNSO staff for Universal Acceptance Committee.

Since ICANN81 for Istanbul, we started working before, what shall we go? We need to go for survey about Universal Acceptance Readiness for ccTLDs, or have any other things that could be similar and have a good effect related to ccTLDs. Something like consultation. After many discussions through the community of the Committee of Universal Acceptance Committee, after many discussion, we agreed that we need to go for consultation. Consultation for two main topics. What are the key motivators that help or that encourage ccTLDs in order to achieve Universal Acceptance Readiness inside his own ccTLD, and what are the

blockers that prevent ccTLDs in order to achieve Universal Acceptance Readiness?

We agreed that through ICANN82, this ICANN meeting, we will discuss the motivators or the drivers behind achievement of Universal Acceptance Readiness. And after that, we will go for ICANN83 for blockers. For identifying the blockers related to achieving Universal Acceptance Readiness. So, at this moment, I could leave the floor for Bart in order to go in more details about the preparation for this session during the ICANN meeting that will be held at ICANN at Wednesday. Bart?

BART BOSWINKEL

Can you go to the slide, please, for this session? And we'll stick to this. This is more about the, I would say, the way leading up to the session itself. As you can see, you see the presenters in front of you. The chair of the session will be Abdalmonem, and we do have, yeah, three, I would say, keynote speakers. And that's the real keynote speaker, is Jaco du Toit of UNESCO. He will introduce, I would say, why UA Readiness is important to support local language communities. And given the role of UNESCO, they have a very broad overview, and he will allude to it.

Then there will be two testimonials. One from Masha or Maria Kolesnikova. She will participate remotely, and she will present, I would say, one of the more long-standing cases of the use of IDNs and UA Readiness in support specifically of one language, and that's Russian and Cyrillic. They are in the process, as she will

allude to, to make it broader. And she will allude to some of the experience they have and it's testimonial.

The other one will be from Andrew Lewela. And that's a very interesting one because the Kenyan registry just embarked on the journey of UA Readiness and IDNs. So, I think they started about half a year, three quarters of a year ago. So, he will go into and discuss and present their motivators. Why they got involved as registry, and what they've encountered, and how they fared. So that's the two testimonials, and then the keynote from Jaco.

So that's the major part of it, of the session. You can see Ram Mohan will introduce the launch of the Coalition for Digital Impact. So that's just a brief introduction because the real launch will be at the Prague meeting. But the major part will be, as I said, the keynote presentation. What you will see as well is we'll do some polling of the community. And the polling is around other drivers than just the role of UA in supporting local language communities. It is also checking, and that's the consultation part that Abdalmonem alluded to.

First of all, check whether any of the ccTLDs in the room are involved in UA and IDNs at all. The second one will be around the motivators. And this is where you can see the other seven of the motivators, or the other six.

And the next slide will be around, say, seeking more additional drivers of ccTLDs. And I think that's the real core. And having an

interaction with the audience around, say, their responses is what drives them.

And then the next one is around, yeah. Okay, this is the presentation of Jaco du Toit. I think this is where we stop. Otherwise, we take away the fun of it, and you will not attend the meeting. So that's how it looks like.

But, say, the consultation is really about, why do ccTLDs get involved and engage and seek additional reasons why they get involved? And that's the first part of it. As you could see from the agenda, and that's probably a point for discussion today is in fact, we'll do the second half. And that's really about what are the blockers, what are the thresholds, et cetera, for ccTLDs to get involved, and what are the issues they encounter with respect to UA Readiness, and however you define it? But it's really to understand, yeah, the landscape. I think I'll pause here for a minute and open the floor for questions. Abdalmonem, back to you.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Any questions related to motivators or the key driver or the blockers that will be discussed after a while? I think I have a comment here that motivates my country in order to go for the adoption of Universal Acceptance. You know that after COVID-19, all the countries went into digital transformation projects to make all the services to become online. How could we reach out to the large scale of people inside my country or inside the local community without adopting IDNs or AIs, and of course, in believing the Universal Acceptance project. That one that

motivates me at my country in order to go for IDN, AI, and Universal Acceptance.

And I wanted to be sure that Universal Acceptance is not only for IDNs and AIs, but also, for the new generic level domain names. And not only for the first level of TLDs. Maybe the first level is [ASCII]. For example, .eg. But the second level may be Unicode that will be considered IDN and subjected to the issues that are related to Universal Acceptance. So, our community as Universal Acceptance Committee care about all ccTLDs, whatever as a first level or other levels. Whatever this domain name itself is considered to be Unicode. Any question? Any suggestion? Any thoughts? Yeah, go ahead, Anil.

ANIL JAIN

Thank you, Abdalmonem. This is Anil Jain for the record. I am Chair, UASG. I must congratulate UAC for undertaking this particular session. And this will generate a lot of interest in ccTLDs who have not actually gone for UA Readiness in their system.

My suggestion here is that if we can invite one of the ccTLD who has implemented UA for the last two, three years, because it will give us, number one, the motivators which motivated them to go for UA. Number two, for the last two, three years since they have implemented, what are the results and experience they have gained compared to those motivators which motivated them to come to UA Readiness? What is the impact of this? And what

message that particular ccTLD can give to other community? Thank you.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Go ahead, Bart.

BART BOSWINKEL

Thanks, Anil, for the suggestion. And maybe I wasn't clear enough. That's one of the reasons why we say she is part of this group, is Masha. She's with .rf Cyrillic, and they have been, "in the game" since 2009. So, they are probably one of the largest IDN ccTLDs with I think around 700,000 domain names at second level. So, it's very interesting to have their perspective because in that sense, they've been very successful. And especially, if you contrast this with somebody who's just started or the [inaudible] who has just started. So that's why it's—we only have an hour. So, you need to do something that is engaging and that solicits discussion, because that's the goal of the UAC to uncover. Where is the ccTLD community with respect to UA Readiness, and how can we motivate them to get more involved? Thanks.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Yeah. As an addition to what Bart said, at ICANN81 and ICANN 82, we have testimonials. Previous who have two testimonials, I think, one of them related to [inaudible], which they are adopting IDN and AI and birth of Universal Acceptance. I couldn't remember the other one. And for this one, we have, as said by Bart, we have Masha .rf or .ru in English. Also, we have UNESCO. That UNESCO don't go for IDN

or AI but went for [multilingualism] and digital equality. So, it is [inaudible] to content. We are looking for consistent environment that have content in local language, have URL in local language, communicate with other using local language, and all of these should be like the same engine for ASCII or legacy domain name or email addresses or whatever with universal acceptance.

ANIL JAIN

Thank you, Abdalmonem.

BART BOSWINKEL

Maybe Abdalmonem, may I make one more point in addition to say the introduction I already made. As I said, this session will be focusing on the support of local language communities as you may have seen. What you see in front of you is a list of other drivers that have been identified over time through various surveys.

One is from, I think, from ICANN, what we say, the UA survey and IDN survey with ccTLDs. The other one is from EURid, the World IDN Survey, and there have been two. The working group looked at these various topics, and they wanted to make it as much engaging as possible. And that's why they selected this particular point as an indicator, but that's why you see the other areas as well.

So, they are not developed or designed, et cetera by the working group. They are based already on existing material, and the working group wanted to avoid in doing another survey because at one point people are really fed up with surveys, especially, it doesn't matter in which area, the same will respond on UCR DNS.

So that's one reason to try a different tag on say, consultation. And that's why the group decided to use the word consultation instead of survey. Thanks.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Yes. Thank you, Bart. Any comment? Yeah, actually, what is good for the sake of Universal Acceptance adoption, not only for ccTLDs in order to adopt the UA, also have something before academia here done in order to build the future engineers, the future technicals in order to go for Universal Acceptance or know something about Universal Acceptance for more adoption about that.

Till the moment here we have seven motivators that will be selected by the participant or the community member who will attend the session, and maybe there will be another key motivator in order to be added. It will be for the next question for Mentimeter. So, I think now we need to go for the blocker and discuss that part. So, could you handle this? Yeah, go ahead.

BART BOSWINKEL

I want to look for a document. Just to introduce the discussion from the blockers. Can you go to the...?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE

Can you show the link one more time for the Menti?

BART BOSWINKEL

This is not Menti. Not yet. We don't do Menti yet.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Yeah. Menti will be available by Wednesday at the session of UAC here.

BART BOSWINKEL

The blocker session will be effectively structured, will be structured in a similar way. It is one of the things the working group will need to do is identify, and at least, that's the suggestion. Identify which blocker you want to highlight, and build some testimonials around it as well. That would be my advice.

And again, once you have this structure in place, you can also check again with the audience where they are. And at least, you have a very rich area for going forward afterwards around which one you want to highlight further, or need to address and raise awareness with the broader community and say, this is what ccTLDs encounter, both in the positive and negative sense of promoting IDNs and BUA ready.

What I was looking for was the document with the—I would say the blockers thresholds that we identified. The group identified early this year before taking on the—I think it was prior to Istanbul, where we looked at the various results from the survey. So, bear with me for a moment. Yeah. Go on. Again, this was the motivators, etc. So, this is going back and you scroll forward. Next one.

So, this was a question that is—go to the next one. These are some other questions to be raised. Say, what are the risks you see at the moment, etc. Next one.

Again, we've discussed this with the community. This is not the one I was looking...

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Maybe one of the blockers that—you got it?

BART BOSWINKEL

No.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Maybe one of the blockers that will be there for blocking that achievement of Universal Acceptance related to awareness within the local community, and also, awareness related to the provider of the software within the local community.

For example, maybe you have software companies inside your area, inside your country that don't have any information about Universal Acceptance. You don't have any policies that mandate Universal Acceptance as a special requirement that should be adopted for the new software or even modify the old software in order to support Universal Acceptance. And also, the origin for all of these for the local community is our ccTLDs. Maybe you are going to register interface, to register a domain name, and add the email address that is in Unicode. It will not be accepted. Maybe you are

trying to register a domain name as a second level for the ASCII domain name.

For example, some word in Germany that have some umlaut,.eg. You couldn't register that. So, we need to start by the software itself for ccTLDs. Starting by GUI, starting by the communication between the registrar and the registry, the protocol itself should be Universal Acceptance ready. And also, the email server itself used to send notification to the registrant about the status of the domain name should be Universal Acceptance ready as well.

So, it is the chain of information that should be there in order to achieve Universal Acceptance. And the key for starting the adoption for UA starting from ccTLDs. Bart, you got it?

BART BOSWINKEL

Yes. You can see it in front of you. Yeah. And this goes back to the, I would say, the motivators, etc. And how this group derived it. Can you scroll down, please? So, this is the motivators. You can see them, the barrier. And effectively, UA Readiness, this is, I would say, the first cut of barriers that were identified in all the surveys. And they rate from ccTLDs have other priorities, which is valid. All of them are valid, of course. But no need to support UA Readiness. So, this is for a specific sub ccTLDs. Really, at the time, gave this as a reason that they are not UA ready, because there is no need.

Lack of technical expertise. You can see the critical third party. And then other lack of demand and political situation in the region. Can you scroll down? That was a first cut. No trust in open sources and

maintenance, etc. Can you scroll down? So, scroll down. So, the main benefits, that's the positive. Impediments as well, say from this one, is more in the technical area. It is technical limitations, software issues, third-party dependency. So, this is more policy-related hurdles. This is more a technical and operational approach to these issues.

What this group needs to do, the UAC needs to do, and as I said, is identify which you believe are the major, I would say, thresholds or impediments or blockers for UA Readiness, and then build on that one for a presentation and solicitation of views.

Can we scroll back to the first list of barriers for UA Readiness? So, show them all. Scroll down a little bit more. No. Yeah, there we go. This is where you see the, I would say, the barriers for UA Readiness has been identified some time ago. And looking at you is, which one do you think? And probably there are some ccTLDs in this room who are not really involved yet in UA for what do they consider to be the major barrier to be involved?

And maybe another question is, what do you—and those who are involved, what do you consider to be the major barrier in moving forward with UA and UA Readiness? So maybe that's the first question for this group now to answer.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

So, let's go for the best practices. For example, for India, I know there is a huge number of IDN, domain names registered, and a huge number of email address and [inaudible] email address.

Already they're propagated for a lot of citizen. So, how did India as a country overcome the challenges that are related to awareness, Universe Acceptance awareness, in order to have this large number of IDNs or AI working this mostly in all application devices and systems.

ANIL JAIN

Thank you, Abdalmonem. So, first of all, I would like to come to Bart on the various barriers of UA Readiness. When we made this report of UA Readiness 2024, this include both ccTLDs as well as gTLDs. So, these barriers are list of combination of both ccTLDs and gTLDs. I personally want to, based on our experience, two more areas which are important for barriers of UA Readiness, lack or barriers. Number one is the motivation of government to implement UA. This is very, very important, because ccTLDs, a large number of ccTLDs are basically directly or indirectly controlled by that local government. So, unless the local government is committed in getting the UA Readiness implemented in their system, it may be difficult for those to implement.

The second aspect of this is that India was the first, or you can say, initial motivator in getting IDNs. So, we have 22 IDNs in all 22 officially supported languages in India. So, this was the first step which we started long back in 2007, 2008 itself, since we are working. And second, it is the government which is now not only implementing UA Readiness system in their own government organizations, but they are also talking to people like Google, Microsoft, Meta also, to ensure that UA is part of the long-term

planning in those big organizations. So, it is the government influence which is motivating them.

And lately, the private people are also able to see the importance of UA. That's why they are adopting. Now here, I just want to give one example of the government. They are now enforcing the government purchases to have their system which is UA Readiness. It means that any vendor who want to sell their product to the government, we are insisting that their system should be UA Readiness. So, this actually motivate a large number of people to be part of the UA Readiness. Thank you.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Thank you, Anil. Actually, what I understood well from Anil is that Universal Acceptance is one of the arms of the digital transformation project in order to make its role effectively and successfully. You have adopted Universal Acceptance well. It means you have IDNs and AI, and you have Universal Acceptance, so all these services will go to the local community in an effective way like others. Yeah. Any other comment? Yeah, Bart, go ahead.

BART BOSWINKEL

Maybe Anil, a question because listening to you, I see the role of government, especially in ccTLDs who are related to their governments twofold. Say the positive side is, if the government is really into UA Readiness, particularly into engaging say the digital inclusion, then it's really, I would say, it influences the ccTLD and their actions positively in getting UA Readiness.

On the other hand side, because they're very closely to the government or even run by, say, if a government doesn't want to do this, is not involved and doesn't want to spend money on it, it is truly impediment even if the ccTLD itself would want to do this. Is that a correct assessment?

ANIL JAIN

Yes, Bart. I fully agree with you. Your analysis on this particular party is 100 percent correct. Let me give one example for India itself. We have started a project called, Mera Gaon Meri Dharohar. Basically, it is like my village and my culture. So, India has more than 600,000 villages which are there. Now we are building up the digital information of each and every village, which includes the population, their education level, their cultivation level, their culture which they follow, educational level, and all those things. So, people of that particular village which are spread across the whole globe, they are getting connected with this particular approach.

Government has also decided that every village will have a domain which is in local language. So, we are going to have more than 600,000 UA ready domain, IDN domains which are going to work on this. So, this is motivating not only people in India but outside India. This is one example how government can influence not only at one time of the adoption but in promotion of those UA Readiness applications also in future.

BART BOSWINKEL

An associated question, but that's more for the people in the room and looking forward. I think the role of government, because it's of the close relationship with the ccTLD in your case and you will see others. For other works, we've looked at the, I would say, governance models of ccTLDs. It's not the only governance model, and I know there are some ccTLDs in this room who have, say, they're more organized like a private organization, either not for profit, for profit, doesn't really matter. But say they're subject to private law, and their relation with government is different.

And if you think about it that way is for those ccTLDs whose role with government is different. Is the role of government as important as well to drive UA Readiness because I think that's—and I'm looking at you. I know because the two of you are very clearly not directly related to your government. But are you aware of any government programs that influence your UA Readiness desire, etc.?

SABRINA WILKINSON

Hi, everyone. My name is Sabrina Wilkinson from CIRA, the Canadian ccTLD operator. Yeah, thanks so much for raising that, Bart. Happy to speak about this a little bit. Yeah, so CIRA is a private sector, not for profit organization. So, we have strong ties and relationship with the federal government in our industry department, but we are distinct entities. Well, I won't get into it, but that's the long and short in terms of CIRA's formal relationship with government.

With respect to the government's interest in Universal Acceptance vis-à-vis CIRA's ccTLD operator, it's something that we communicate with the government about, and government's interests in ensuring that the government's interests in bilingualism in particular, for instance, all government documents in Canada need to be published in French and English, factors into conversations about Universal Acceptance as well as a focus on bilingualism.

And also, there's a broader conversation ongoing about indigenous languages as well in Canada. So that's a little bit of context on our relationship with government, and the ways in which universal acceptance comes up. Thanks.

BART BOSWINKEL

Not as direct, obviously, as for example, as Anil alluded to say, where you almost say, in the case of [NIXI] at the time when you were involved. It is really driving your agenda, and I assume yours as well, Abdalmonem. That the government is really driving your agenda with respect to UA Readiness in a positive or a negative sense.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Yeah, you are totally right. But let me say that it is multi-stakeholder work. Not only government should be there, public, private, or even [inaudible] should be there in order to go for Universal Acceptance Readiness. I couldn't go for government in order to adopt Universal Acceptance for some applications that are

related to the citizen and other application. No care about all of this.

As said here by Masha at the chat box for the room, said that government can do IT work. Of course not. There are any private sector software companies that are national or international that develop software even for the government or even for the local community like, for example, Microsoft Exchange, Gmail, some other software that should adopt Universal Acceptance as well. How could government engage with this? It is multi-stakeholder work that should be there in order to go for Universal Acceptance. Masha, if you want to say something, you could open your mic and go ahead.

Maria Kolesnikova

Good day, everyone. Thank you for let me jump in. No, I agree with you, Abdalmonem. I think that this is correct. And my idea is that you are right, government can't do this technical work, but they can influence. And this influencing can be done in different ways. And we have two steps here. First, to motivate government to make some influence, and the second is, how government can influence the software developers. This is two different tasks, and if they are talking about how government can influence software developers, I think that you can imagine, because [inaudible] be used different ways like regulation, like setting some local standards for software developers that will be [inaudible] ready, or some national programs to support local languages like was mentioned for Canadian region. So, it depends on what is actual, and what is

interesting and important for the exact government. This is what I think. Thank you.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Yeah, go.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE

[inaudible] from [inaudible], a Serbian Cyrillic IDN. We are also a private, not for profit organization, so we don't have besides memorandum of understanding with the government, nothing in particular or any law related to domain names. And I believe that some program of support for Universal Acceptance for government could be helpful to increase number at least. And for example, if government decide to make it as obligation for their agencies to use IDN, that will be some good start, and start for increasing domain names in IDN in our country. So, for the beginning, government is supposed to use those domains and make it obligatory for the agency.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Also, government depends on the [inaudible] that developed not only local one. There is a concept called [inaudible] reuse. It's developed maybe by Mexican, and used all over the world. So, it is a reuse of [inaudible]. So, do I need to change the wheel in order to make my own local community [inaudible] to be inside my country only? No. Who are going for the normal software itself, the [inaudible] that are according to the standard. The standard itself at the time, it is support Universal Acceptance like the mail

software. If this version of the mail software support Universal Acceptance, I will go for that. If otherwise, I will not go for that.

If the government has its role here, that is critical here, that said that it is mandate to have all software that are used inside the local community to be Universal Acceptance its role, it's fine. But look, software companies don't like to have it's mandatory. But it's preferred to have your software packages that are used to be Universal Acceptance Readiness ready for that. Go ahead, Bart.

BART BOSWINKEL

May I make a bold suggestion for the Prague meeting? Is the way we are now discussing, it is probably the interaction between government and the ccTLD in UA Readiness discussions is probably a critical one. Not just say both for the almost independent of the governance model because of what we will be discussing this week, the support for local languages. Why not make that the core of the session in Prague? Say how the different say ccTLDs with the different governance model and their interaction with their government on say, how this could be positive and how this could be retracting. Say in the areas of almost like procurement.

This is one area where you saw in IPv6, where the role of government was critical to drive IPv6. You can see it as well maybe in UA Readiness and IDNs and even say, it could be a blocker if the government is not interested. So why not make this a topic? Because then you can really look into it and make it interesting for a broader public and look at it from a different perspective.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Yeah. Thank you, Bart. Actually, I support that especially that challenges differs from one country to other country, from one region to another region. Maybe the blockers here, it's motivator otherwise, something like that. Thank you, Bart

BART BOSWINKEL

Any other feedback on say this little shift? Because if you look at this, it's almost and always ends up in the technical blockers. And we know this happens but it's, I think, the role of the government, and the interaction between government and ccTLDs is far more interesting from a ccTLD perspective in this area. Any other feedback from especially non-government related?

NABIL BENAMAR

Yeah, this is Nabil for the record. I'm not sure about the example that you have just mentioned about IPv6. So, the relationship between IPv6 deployment and the history of deployments of IPv6 all over the world is a bit different from the UA Readiness, and spreading the word and making it the awareness of UA.

For example, in some countries for IPv6 it was not the lack of the actions from the government that stops the development and deployment of IPv6, but they have seen that the ISPs at the end of the day, they were not encouraged to deploy IPv6 because they say they still have some IPv4 addresses, so there is no business from—there is no hurry to go for IPv6 so that—

BART BOSWINKEL

That's probably what you see with respect to IDNs as well. There's no business in IDN.

NABIL BENAMAR

Exactly. No, we agree because we have seen this during some UA event. We have seen that even the government is pushing towards the adoption of UA, they have seen that at the end of the day, the registrars are not really encouraged because they don't see any business opportunities from doing all this work, all this job, all this effort. So, they were hesitating a bit on pushing or stopping or going smoothly. That was my experience with some countries during the UA event. Thank you.

BART BOSWINKEL

But I was using this as an example of how you can see that the interaction between government and in this case the [inaudible] helped. It's not the only one, but you see the same mechanisms at play. Put it this way. You see some resistance, commercial resistance, which is valid but at the same time you see a role of government, which is valid as well in promoting. It's striking that balance and it will be different in different areas. But this is an area where you can see these different mechanisms in play.

And I think one of the roles of the UAC could be to bring these mechanisms to the table because it's always—but that's me, it's my thing, it's always easy to say, yeah, that there is a software issue. Yes, there is a technical issue, but how can you resolve this, and

yeah, it's looking at different perspectives. That's what I try to put on the table.

NABIL BENAMAR

I agree with you fully.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Thank you, Nabil. Do you have something to add here, Bart, for blockers or just to go for the next item of the agenda?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE

Just one point over here.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Yeah, go ahead.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE

I don't see availability of content as one of the barriers, but I believe that is a barrier. In fact, Anil Jain, you might want to weigh in because you've been in the middle of it. Isn't content availability an issue?

ANIL JAIN

In fact, contents in local languages are much, much more available even when people are accessing through English domain. So, content is not an issue. In fact, content is one of the motivators for your readiness.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Yeah, totally agree with Anil.

ANIL JAIN

Again, Anil for the record here. One experience which we are able to get, especially in APTLD is that when a small ccTLD would like to go for a UA Readiness, they are looking at somebody for hand-holding, who have already implemented UA. So sometime it may become difficult. We have seen in APTLD, they are doing wonderful job in collaborating and connecting those small ccTLDs who want to go for UA Readiness, but they don't have expertise with them.

So, this involved not only in setting up the backend registry, the required software, but also, training the local people in undertaking the establishment, commissioning and operation of UA-based backend registry and registrar system also.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Yes. Thank you, Anil. Actually, one of the testimonials that will be at Wednesday said by Bart, Andrew from Kenya, will speak about what is the role of public, private and their policies in order to go for Universal Acceptance. So, stay tuned in order to attend and have his view about what should be there for UA Readiness. Shall we go for the next item for the agenda, Bart, or you have something to add?

BART BOSWINKEL

Of course, maybe one final check with people here, and this is just a temperature of the room. And if you're in Zoom, please use your green or red ticks. If you think, say, this interaction between government and ccTLDs in say, the positive and negative aspect, so promotional UA Readiness is a good topic for the Prague meeting, please check your green marks, or if you don't think it's good or you don't have an opinion, please check your red marks in the Zoom room. Are in Zoom. Most of you will be in Zoom.

I don't see any, and maybe we revisit this topic on the next scheduled meeting, but then we definitely need to conclude this for the session in Prague if you want to have a successful meeting in Prague because it will be limited time.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Thank you very much, actually. I think it is three or more meetings for UAC before Prague.

BART BOSWINKEL

Yeah. Shall we go to the next topic?

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Yeah. Please, please. For Universal Acceptance Day 2025, I need to have the thoughts from UASG, especially you have Anil here and Nabil. What do you think about it? What is the progress of the ccTLDs, the number of ccTLDs joined Universal Acceptance Day 2025 compared to the number of ccTLDs joined in 2024?

ANIL JAIN

Thank you, Abdalmonem. Anil for the record. Let me inform that we have received interest from various ccTLDs which are much large in number as compared to 2024, and we have selected large number of ccTLDs to conduct UA Day in 2025. So, there is a huge interest from ccTLDs in holding UA Day. And in fact, let me also tell you that because UASG and ICANN are not able to handle all requests and applications, we have requested those ccTLDs to undertake UA Day without support of ICANN.

So, I think the number of ccTLDs which are going to have UA Day during this particular financial year may exceed around 35. This is a very good motivator for UASG and UA community at large. Thank you.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Thank you, Anil. Second question from my perspective to my colleague Nabil from UASG. For the sake of the community, I have many participants here. Nabil, could you advise how could ccTLD join the Universal Acceptance Day from the early steps? How to write the form in order to apply, to be applicant for UA Day 2025 for the types of the events that are there by UASG?

Nabil Benamar

Thank you, Abdalmonem. So far, '25, it's all done, all set. So maybe for next year, for '26. And we have published every single detail on the main website of uasg.tech. And we have made a link for a specific page for the UA Day. So, we have there how to apply, how

to send the application, and then what kind of events you can organize. For example, we have awareness. We have training for programming, for programming languages, and training for email server. And then for awareness, for deployments. And now we have a new one which is about academia. So, there are four main different events that can be done for the UA Day.

And then for the application, the applicant should specify which type of workshop, what's the duration, whether it's half day or one day or two hours. And we have published the necessary material for conducting any event. And then, for example, now we are seeking feedback from and looking for those who have implemented some academia related to UA to see how the success story, what has been done, what is the feedback from the community, from the learners, so that we can move forward. I think that we have made everything clear on the website, and any applicant can find the way easily. Thank you.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Yeah. Go ahead, Anil.

ANIL JAIN

Thank you. Thank you, Nabil, for briefing about the various areas where UA Day is being celebrated. My suggestion to ccTLDs are that in case they can undertake a workshop on showing how a email can be EAI ready, they can demonstrate how this can be possible, so that it can motivate not only the email providers, but also, the technical community to undertake this. This is number one.

Number two, similar workshop can also be undertaken for a website. How a website can be a UA ready website, and it can be shown. So, these two workshops can, in addition to the UA curricula which has started now, and which is showing a lot of interest, will be quite useful and appreciated. Thank you.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Thank you, Anil. Actually, you read my mind. Yeah, I will consider that as a suggestion for the community, for AOB in other business. We have something similar for ICANN81. It is for TLD ops. They have a workshop for two sessions, I think. They have scenario, scenario of events, and ask the participant to arrange the slide decks in order to address the priority of these tasks in order to be held by specific group of people. You need something to change? Go ahead.

BART BOSWINKEL

It takes a lot of work, a lot of work. Say, TLD ops, it took them about six to seven months, very intense work to develop the scenarios and everything else of tabletop exercises if you really want to do it properly.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Yeah. Actually, it's good news that I already drafted the scenario for having something like this. Not at the moment, by the way, but it is just a thought in my mind in order to move from just the theory and the slides and the presentation into action. We are already now into action to have drivers or have blockers, then we need to implement all of these. We need to have the drivers and the blockers and how

to overcome these blockers through a workshop. We could, at this moment, we could deliver the messages correctly to ccTLDs. And from one time to time, we could enhance, we could enhance.

BART BOSWINKEL

Beware what you ask for.

ABDALMONEM GALILA

So, any other thoughts for this session? I see smile faces, which is good. Okay. We are exactly at the top of the hour. Thank you very much, and looking forward to see you all at Wednesday for the session for UAC. Thank you very much.

BART BOSWINKEL

Maybe one for the working group. Next meeting—

ABDALMONEM GALILA

Oh, okay. For the next meeting, we meet in bi-weekly basis. So, we'll have only five meetings before ICANN83 barrage. So also at this time, you could join UAC, whatever you are, a member of [inaudible] or not at the time you are working for organizations that operate ccTLD. Thank you very much. See you all. Bye-bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]