
ICANN82 | CF – Get to Know ICANN Community: CSG/BC and ccNSO
Saturday, March 08, 2025 – 15:00 to 16:00 PST

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Well, we're back for learning about ICANN community. As you may remember, since the morning, I'm still Siranush Vardanyan for the record. And this is the first session, actually, about ICANN community. Before that, we covered technical and policy development part of ICANN. So we actually start, and the first session, we will learn about commercial stakeholder group, as I mentioned at the end of the previous session. My pleasure to introduce colleagues from business community, which we usually call BC. So if you hear BC, these are those folks and my pleasure to introduce Mason Vivek and Lawrence here. These two guys next to Mason are ICANN fellows. So they are coming from the fellowship program and they are now part of this business constituency. Lawrence was serving vice chair for the community for several years, right? Yeah. So without further ado, I will give the floor to you to facilitate this 30 minutes and tell us what is BC and what you do. The floor is yours.

MASON COLE

Thank you very much. Well, good afternoon, everyone. It's a pleasure to be here. My name is Mason Cole. I am chair of the business constituency. I'm joined here with Vivek and Lawrence,

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who are our GNSO councilors. And again, it's a pleasure to be with you. Thank you for the opportunity to tell you a bit about the BC. The BC is one of ICANN's original constituencies. We've been around since, gosh, the late '90s, whenever ICANN was founded. And we represent the business users voice inside of ICANN. And not only do we represent business users, but we represent their customers, their partners and others who have business interests in the outcomes of the DNS and the Internet. So the BC represents any kind of business. We have a tiered membership structure and we represent companies that are in economically emerging areas, startup companies, all the way up to the Fortune 50. So we have a very broad membership base with all different kinds of companies. And I think we're up to about 80 members now, something like that. Yeah. And it's a very active constituency within ICANN. We're part of the CSG, which I understand you just learned a bit about, the Commercial Stakeholder Group. We were joined in that group by the IPC and the ISPCP. So together we formed the CSG. We advance commercial interests inside of ICANN. And that's our main role. So a bit about some of the priorities of the BC. We are very invested in combating abuse that flows through the domain name system. The reason that this is such a priority for us is because the businesses we represent are heavily impacted by DNS abuse. And by DNS abuse, I'm talking about things like phishing, malware, impersonation, business email compromise, and any kind of abuse that leverages elements of the domain name system is a problem for those that we represent. It costs literally Billions of dollars per year. In fact, I just read a statistic, which may interest you. Online

cybercrime is now the third largest economy in the world in terms of GDP behind the United States and China. So that's how much crime flows through the internet. Some of that is facilitated through the DNS, and it impacts those that we represent. So we're very interested in doing something about DNS abuse. In terms of other priorities of the BC, we're very interested in a successful outcome of the new gTLD round, which is approaching next year. And we have any number of other, you know, we're interested in structural improvements for ICANN and some other issues. But the advancing tools for combating DNS abuse is probably our top priority right now. So at the risk of talking far too long, let me turn it over to Vivek and Lawrence, and then we look forward to your questions.

VIVEK GOYAL

Thank you, Mason. Can I get a show of hands? Fellows in the room, please show of hands quickly. Okay. And NextGen. You know, if you sit on the front seats, you get extra points. So remember that next time. Okay. Now for the next 10 minutes, I would request you to not look at your phones and your laptops. Don't write down. You will be hearing the same things again and again. Just focus at us. So it's customary in ICANN that whenever BC is mentioned, everybody supposed to clap. So you're going to practice that now. So we are, we are from the BC. Great. Thank you. And we have some members from the BC. We are very glad to be here. This is the place where the future leaders of ICANN emerge from. You will see all of us during your time in this meeting. Please at any point of time, stop us. Ask us questions. If you meet me in one of the restaurants, please

approach me. I'll buy you a meal for sure. I'm not kidding. Like Mason said, we help businesses across the world irrespective of size to put their point across in ICANN and help develop policies that enable businesses to do their job better to reach out to customers in a safe and secure environment. You will hear from a lot of us different constituencies. What I would encourage you to do is to find your home within the ICANN as quickly as possible BC being the best home and then dig deep. So thank you. Somebody remembers wherever the BC is mentioned. You're supposed to clap irrespective of where you are. Okay. So I'll let Lawrence speak now. But after that we would encourage you to ask questions. No question is stupid. Everybody has the same question. Just some people are fearless to ask. So please be fearless. Thank you.

LAWRENCE
ROBERTS

OLAWALE- Can we give a round of applause to Vivek for that wonderful presentation? Thank you. So I just wanted to add that membership of the business constituency actually is made up of companies. Unlike other parts of the community within ICANN where individuals members, you know end users and all that for the business constituency our members are actually commercial users of the internet. So if you were to get to our website, you will see on the membership companies listed because that's the nucleus that forms our membership. So for anyone who is interested in joining the business constituency, you will have to be a commercial entity. Definitely the commercial entities are powered by people and that's why you see us all here. But while I represent MicroBoss, every other member represents their individual companies. And I

would want to say that the business constituency is a very active group within the ICANN ecosystem. There's always work for us to do because we make it a priority to contribute to every policy process that is ongoing. So every other week, we have our meetings our calls for about an hour on Zoom and that transports to about, you know, two meetings average of two to three meetings in a month. It's an exciting one hour of discussions and we give opportunities for our members to contribute to policy development You know by either being a pen holder or just contributing to comments, but there is always work ongoing within the BC, you know, like other maybe some other constituencies that might not have so much engagement in terms of policy development. We do a lot of that. So if you're also looking for a place to actually influence policy development within ICANN, the BC is a very, very good example. And one thing that I personally want to thank the BC for is their openness. The fact that you might not be an expert in the field, you don't know it all, doesn't mean that you cannot contribute. You might not know the topic that we are currently discussing or having discussions around, but you are able to join veterans, people who are experts within that particular field in the BC, to contribute to the subject matter and end up learning yourself. So if you're looking for a place where you can develop yourselves, where you can expand, and where, despite the fact that you're not an expert, you can jump into policy development, is definitely the business constituency. I think we can take your questions at this point.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. And just if, Lawrence, if you can add a couple of words, I know by the time you were just starting joining BC, the challenge was the fee and the engagement from underserved communities. And you, as a person who was running not a big business at that time, what challenges you faced and how you overcome thanks to BC approach and suggestions made?

LAWRENCE
ROBERTS

OLAWALE- Thank you. That's an excellent question. So the BC makes it a priority to allow businesses from developing regions to join and participate actively by giving a 70% discount on membership fees. So we have, like Mersin started off, we have three levels of, three tiers of membership. For companies that are global and have branches in up to five continents, there is a particular amount that is expected at about \$1,000. We have trade associations, very large associations that have other companies under them. They have membership fees about \$200, about \$500. And then individual, I mean, smaller companies, 200. But for companies that are developing and, I mean, small businesses, startups that are also in developing regions, which pay just 70% of that fee. So that's gave, that's given a lot of opportunity for, you know, the barrier that costs could have brought up to, you know, be exercised. So up till today, I pay just a fraction of the fee, just 30%. If anyone weighs from developing region, the cost shouldn't be an issue. And we have the same voice, we have the same number of votes, you know, for others in that particular category. Well, like Siranush was saying, got in very green, didn't have so much knowledge. But by just listening to people within the BC and joining in the discussions and

the comments, I've been able to, you know, grow my knowledge, expand, and today, farewell as a leader. Thank you.

MASON COLE

Thank you. Lawrence makes an excellent point that the BC is an open constituency. We welcome anyone who has a business interest in the Internet, whether you're a one person consultancy or you're a multinational corporation, you're welcome in the BC. I also wanted to echo what Lawrence just said in that in the BC, you're going to find a friendly group, a professional and driven group, but also a friendly group. One that will help you learn the ins and outs of ICANN and how to work inside the policy development process. One that will help you explain how to get things done and otherwise be a productive member of this community and outside the community as well. So if you are inclined to think about active participation in ICANN, and I hope you are, the BC is a good place for you to start. And we have friendly members like Vivek and Lawrence who will take you into their wing and help you understand the ins and outs and learn how to participate productively inside of ICANN. So Lawrence, excellent points. Thank you very much.

VIVEK GOYAL

Yeah, I know this is just the starting for many of you in ICANN and it's okay to feel lost with all the information that will be thrown at you. I was in the same space once and it was just impossible to understand what's going on. But I was lucky enough to stumble onto the BC and join the BC. They encourage you to ask questions.

They encourage you to take responsibilities with the knowledge that you will stumble and you will fail because you're doing this for the first time. Right. But there's always help. There's always support. You can reach out to anybody within the community, especially in the BC and ask for help. And from the words of Harry Potter, help will be given to those who ask for it. Right. And in BC, it does. I mean, when I came in, I did not know anything about Internet policy, Internet governance. I thought multi-stakeholder model was something you invented recently. I had no idea. Right. But BC gave me responsibility anytime I asked for it. They provided me the support to fulfill that responsibility. And slowly and surely, I have reached a space where I'm a general councilor today. It's only because the support of all the BC members. So I would strongly encourage you to find your community very quickly. Pick one. If you don't like it, pick another one. You will find a lot of people who go from community to community till they find the right fit. Right. But find a community and start learning. If it's BC, we'll welcome you with open arms. If it's some other community, that's great. But find a community quickly or you'll always feel lost. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Vivek. And now it's time for a couple of questions to be taken. Amged, we didn't give you a chance last time, so we will start with you.

AMGED SHWEHDY

So this is Amged from Libya. The first and then your opening statement, you said like the main goal is like competing, abusing DNS. So my question here is, can you give us an example of how the BC deals with the with, let's say, the DNS blocks applies in many regions by governments? You know, a few two weeks ago, the Iraqi government, they applied the block on the quad eight, the Google DNS there. So how do you fight or work and benefit of the BC members or the company's private sector here in these situations?

MASON COLE

Thanks for the question. It's a very good question. How does the BC address DNS abuse? Well, we do that in a myriad of ways. First, I want to point out that there is no within ICANN, there is an established definition of DNS abuse. It's malware, phishing, botnets, spam and pharming. That is too narrow a definition, far too narrow a definition in our estimation. The SSAC, the Stability and Security Advisory Committee, several years ago, advised the ICANN board. There's no suitable definition for DNS abuse. There are too many threat vectors that evolve over time. And the community would be well advised to revisit the definition of DNS abuse regularly so that it can be updated as necessary and accommodate new threat vectors where they do emerge. The BC has been extremely active on DNS abuse now for probably three years. And just this last April, we were able to help secure some amendments to the RAA, the Registrar Accreditation Agreement that obligates registrars to act to mitigate those forms of DNS abuse that I just talked about. Those don't go far enough to be candid. We're very, very interested and very driven toward an

expanded definition of DNS abuse, one that accommodates new threat vectors, one that mitigates abuse in the places where it hurts our members and those we represent the most. And for example, we're asking now for new tools for mitigation of DNS abuse, things like the ability to take out offending domain names at the account level, rather than just play whack a mole and hit one domain name, one domain name, one domain name, one domain name at a time. If you have one bad actor, for example, who owns thousands of domain names, which is not unusual with registrars cooperation, we can learn who those people are and we can we can deal with abuse in much bigger chunks than we're able to today. You know, we're asking for sensible tools like this and we're asking for the cooperation of the contracted parties. We're asking for the cooperation of the CSG and the NCSG and of ICANN leadership, because if we don't if we don't address DNS abuse even more proactively than we already are, the line of abuse is going to keep going up and to the right. And that's not a healthy environment for business users of the Internet. So we need to do something about things like impersonation, business email compromise, you know, all forms of abuse that evolve over time that that that impact those that we represent. And that's why we're here. So we work both inside and outside the ICANN sphere to do that. We're not ashamed to admit that we're, we're very busy in multiple forums asking for help, and we intend to continue to do that until we do get the tools that we need.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Yes, let's go to Raymond.

RAYMOND MAMATTAH

My question is from the website, you have only 59 members, 11 from Africa and one from Ghana. And this being a global entity, I think your membership is too low. What are your plans for outreach and engagement to get more memberships?

LAWRENCE
ROBERTS

OLAWALE-

Thank you for that question. So, from time to time, we have to review membership. Like we say, there is a due that needs to be paid every year. So, for members who do not or have not paid their dues, you won't find the details on the website. But to the question about, you know, the spread, especially across Africa and Ghana, the chap from Ghana is a very, very good friend that really forced and helped to come on board. We've had a few other applications, I think two or three other applications from Ghana, particularly, but they haven't been able to meet certain conditions. So, because we have a process and a charter to follow, there are conditions that have to be met. And the cost is not just that. It has to actually be, you know, a business who isn't contracted with ICANN or who isn't in that particular space, you know, reselling domains and stuff like that. So, we are also doing a lot of outreach, not just to Africa. There are other regions of the world. Anytime we get into, we go for a public meeting, we try to make it a priority to reach out to commercial business entities in that region, talking about the BC and the merits of, you know, joining because we want to have a global voice. But I must let you know that beyond what you see on

the site, by virtue of our membership of trade associations, our membership goes into millions. We have a number of trade associations. I mean, a trade association has a lot of members. And by being a member of the BC, those members that they have are also impacted by the work that we do. So, in terms of direct membership, we are a very large and influential body. But yes, we also seek for more companies to join us because we believe that that will also give us a lot stronger voice. And we do everything to support any commercial entity that shows interest in wanting to join the BC. I hope that answers the question.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. Iulia, please.

IULIA-MELISSA GIT

Yes, thank you. My name is Iulia. I'm a first time fellow from Romania and I have two questions. But the first one would be can an individual person take part in the BC from a support role, for example, or is it strictly related to businesses? And the second one is why would a very small business like a one-person consultancy, like you mentioned, want to pay the fee and as in what benefits would they have from being part in the BC? Thank you.

VIVEK GOYAL

To be a member of the BC, you have to have a business. Even if you are an independent person, you should be running a business to become a member of the BC, so you can definitely become a member. There are two big reasons I think you should, even a single

person should join the BC. One, if you are playing in the domain space, then becoming a member of the BC, you are always in the know of what new is happening in the domain space, where the policy is being changed, how it will impact businesses in large thing. Secondly, you get access to so many businesses from across the world, which you would not have otherwise, right? So not only it helps your learning, it helps increase your network of people that you meet, that you interact with, like Lawrence and Mason said, we have multinational businesses part of the BC, so you get direct access to those businesses and which helps your own work as well.

LAWRENCE
ROBERTS

OLAWALE- I just wanted to add also that as long as you make money, as long as you have a business that is making money online, what happens not just within the BC, but within ICANN should be of interest. And that's one of the primary reasons why any commercial entity should want to get behind the BC. If the internet goes down for a minute and you are CNN, imagine what could happen. Keeping the internet stable, reliant, interoperable is of paramount interest to the BC and it should be of interest to you if you are a commercial entity.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. There is a question from remote participant Todd Ryan. What role will the BC play in the next round of gTLDs, which is generic top level domain, and how can it support its member who intends to apply?

MASON COLE

Another good question. Thank you. Thank you. We intend to participate in the safe delivery of a new gTLD round. And by safe, I mean as free from abuse as possible, as smooth an application process as possible, one that protects, has rights protection mechanisms in place for those who have, for example, intellectual property rights and other rights that need to be protected. We haven't really taken a formal position for or against a new gTLD round. There are plenty of our members who are interested in new in new gTLDs. Okay, then we'll help advocate for the safe delivery of that gTLD round. We did so back in 20, I think the last round was in 2012, 2013, somewhere in there. Yep. And several of our members applied for and were granted new gTLDs and they operate those gTLDs successfully. We anticipate that will happen again. And so our interest in that is not only helping our members who are interested in participating in the round itself, but in the outcome of that round so that at the end of the day, the new gTLDs are safe and effective and good places for our members to go and conduct commerce and carry on with their customers as needed. So it's really all about making sure that the new gTLD round is delivered as safely and efficiently as possible.

VIVEK GOYAL

Just to add to what Mason said, there's a lot of knowledge within the members in the BC. Like I was part of the first round and my company is registered as a pro bono service provider to anybody who wants to know more about it. So if you're a BC member, you

have access to so much talent pool that you can leverage if you are planning to apply for a string.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Actually, we will not be able to take a lot of questions because we have limited time for each group to come. But the idea behind this is know these people. And if you just sum up what sessions BC will be holding during the week so people can come to you participate and what are important sessions that newcomers can benefit from?

MASON COLE

Yeah, good question. So the BC will have its membership meeting on Tuesday and Tuesday morning, I believe it is. And it's an open meeting. Yep, thank you, Vivek. 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM on Tuesday. Yep, in room 502. It's an open meeting. Anyone is welcome to come. You don't have to be a member. So if you would like to learn about—in that meeting, we're going to have some two presentations about trends on DNS abuse. And then we will conduct about a 30-minute discussion on what we call our policy calendar, which is all the policies inside and outside of ICANN that we're interested in as a BC. And then we talk as a group about how to address those needs for our business members. So there's the BC membership meeting. There's a commercial stakeholder group meeting that actually immediately follows this one. I don't want to try to compete against, I guess, your own schedule, but if you if you're interested, then that that'll happen at 4:30 today. We have a working session with the contracted party house, and I believe that

is on Monday. I don't have my calendar in front of me. I'm sorry. The CSG has a meeting with the board and we will be talking with the board candidly about the new tools that we're advocating for for combating DNS abuse. That is going to be an interesting session for everybody. So I would say BC membership, CSG membership, CSG with the contracted party house, CSG with the board. Am I missing anything? Our session with the board is Tuesday. Yep. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Every community, as I mentioned, Tuesday is a constituency day and every community will be holding their own membership sessions. So if you have an interest to one of them, this is the day for you to plan accordingly to visit their membership meetings. In that way, you will understand how the members are working within this group, what they are discussing and how it's structured overall, right? With that, I would like to thank this group for coming here. I know you have a busy schedule, but thank you for your time, for taking time to come and talk to us.

MASON COLE

Thank you. Thank you for having us. It's been an enjoyable time.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. And thank you, Mason, for as a chair of BC, always supporting coming to and talking to newcomers. Thank you. And we will move forward to the next community. And my pleasure to introduce Biyi, who is vice chair for country code name supporting organization, ccNSO. And this guy will be telling us what is ccNSO

and how we can identify who they are and what are they doing. And Biyi, the floor is yours.

BIYI OLADIPO

Thank you very much. Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Biyi Oladipo and I'm vice chair. I'm one of the vice chairs. There are two vice chairs. I'm one of the vice chairs of the country code name supporting organization within the ICANN ecosystem. So my responsibility here is to share some time with you and just to let you know who we are as the ccNSO and what we do. I have a few slides that I'm going to use to like a prompt for that discussion. But before I go into that, I just would like to ask in the room, how many of us from the countries that we are from know who the manager of our country code name supporting organization is? Okay. Of those of us who put up our hands, how many of us have actually had the opportunity or have made attempts to actually find out what they are doing? Okay, you see, it's interesting when I ask this question that when you ask how many of you know, you see all the hands come up when you say how many of you have actually gone to find out exactly what is happening there, just a few hands come up. And this shows that yes, we know, but we have not bothered to find out exactly what is happening there. It's a resource that belongs to your community and how you have not taken an interest in how it is being run and how it's being managed. And I would like to throw that challenge to us today that we should take an interest in it and whatever it is that the people are doing with it, I think we should know and we should participate in the process. Okay, so what is the ccNSO? Next slide, please. ccNSO stands for Country

Code Name Supporting Organization within the ICANN ecosystem. It was created for and by ccTLD managers and ccTLD managers by definition is the organization or entity responsible for managing your country code top level domain. Of course, we all know what country code top level domain is within the ICANN structure. We have the generic names and we have the country code. And we deal basically with country codes and country codes that is a popular standard defined by ISO 3166 for all the two letter designed by ISO 3166 for country codes. Next slide. Okay, so the question you want to ask yourself is why ccTLD is important. Of all top level domains, the top ten, there are seven out of the top ten largest top level domains in the world are ccTLDs and you can imagine why we would spend time to talk about them and why we can even have a whole structure devoted to managing them. Next slide. They've had discussions with the GNSO, right? Not yet. So you would actually get to talk to the GNSO and they would also come and make this kind of presentation. But what makes us different is that apart from the regional nature of ccTLDs is also the fact that in terms of governance models, in terms of registry models, in terms of how we run our businesses, country codes are autonomous on their own. So what that means is that each country could decide how their registry is being run. So, by definition, we have 179 members in the ccNSO. You have 179 different business models. We are not guided by how ICANN wants us to run. We are individual entities on our own and each organization runs based on their own decided models and how they want to run. Next slide. So let me try a little bit in the room and ask this question. Below is a list of top

level domains. Which one is not a ccTLD? Number two. Okay, who else has a different answer? I heard somebody said number one. Sorry, you think? No, what you think is important. I like to hear it.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER

Actually, I was saying that dot USA is a country code. But me, I'm not sure is there any country. So I believe it's dot me and dot com. Obviously, it's not a country code.

BIYI OLADIPO

So dot com is not a country code. Okay, thank you. So you're right. Dot com is not a country code. The other two are actually country codes. Both of them. The other two are country codes. Sorry.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER

I don't have any idea about dot me.

BIYI OLADIPO

No, I'm telling you that it is a country code. It's like saying dot TV. A lot of people would think that TV is generic. No, TV is actually a country code for Tuvalu. Okay, next slide.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

So dot me is Montenegro is Montenegro.

BIYI OLADIPO

Yeah. Okay, country code name supporting organization in terms of our composition and how we are. There are three main things

that guide things that we do. The first is that we undertake policy work and policy-related work. What this means, I know that I said earlier that we are independent. However, there are some general policies that guide the things that we do. And those are just general policies. And some of them, I'm going to talk about them in a little bit. But their general policies has nothing to do with our business model and how we and how we're structured. In the ccNSO, we also cooperate and we learn together. On Monday, there's going to be the tech day which is usually organized by the tech working group of the ccNSO, which talks about things that are important for ccTLDs to know as far as the technical infrastructure is concerned. And this is open to everybody who wants to come. Yes, it's organized by the tech working group of the ccNSO, but it's open. We cooperate, we learn from one another. I'm from the .ng registry, I remember when we're going to, when we're starting off, we got help from other ccNSO members who assisted us in some of the infrastructure that we put in. And of course we engage with other stakeholders within the broader ICANN ecosystem, and we participate in cross community work as far as ICANN is concerned. Next slide. Okay. Another question. Another quiz rather. So, the ccNSO expired domains deletion policy applies to all ccTLDs, true or false? Yes. Why do you think so?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER

If I recall correctly, ccTLDs do not expire?

BIYI OLADIPO They do expire. Yes, they do expire, especially when the territory or when the territory or the country ceases to exist. So they expire. Okay. Who wants to try again, true or false? Yes. I saw your hand.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER Hi. Is it because each CC has their own policy around how to treat them?

BIYI OLADIPO So is it true or false?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER False.

BIYI OLADIPO False. Okay. You're right. You're right by saying false. However, the real answer is that there's no such thing as expired domain deletion policy. It's just something that we made up. Okay. So there's no such thing as that. In my explanation earlier, I told you that ccTLDs run their own policies in terms of registration and what guides your domain, when your domain is going to be... It's a personal thing to you as the operator or the manager of the ccTLD. So there's no such thing as a ccNSO expired domains deletion policy. All right. Next slide. So let's look at the composition of the ccNSO. There are two major arms that make up the ccNSO. That's the ccNSO membership and also the ccNSO council. ccNSO members are those ccTLDs that have agreed and have applied to join the ccNSO. The fact that you are a ccTLD does not mean that you automatically

become a member of the ccNSO. You need to apply and join. We also have ccTLDs that are not members of the ccNSO that are in existence today. And of course, the ccNSO council administers the affairs of the ccNSO. Next slide. This is the geographical spread of ccNSO members. Currently, we have 179 members, six from North America, 29 from Latin America and the Caribbean Islands, 40 from Africa, 47 from Europe, and then we have 57 from Asia, Australia, and the Pacific region. Now, this membership comprises of the ASCII ccTLDs as well as the IDN ccTLDs. IDN ccTLDs are those that have their names in their local scripts. And those ones also are members of the ccNSO. So why should I join the ccNSO as a ccTLD? Remember that the ccNSO membership is only open to ccTLD managers who want to be members. So as a member, you have the opportunity of selecting ccNSO council members and also voting for the ccNSO appointed or related board members. You also have the opportunity of voting on global policies, those policies that are global, I'll talk about them in a bit, and then make your voice heard within the ICANN community and also be able to share experiences and information. At least I'm going to spend a little while. If there's anything that the ccNSO does well, it's actually sharing experiences. We don't call them best practices because whatever best practices you have within your own environment might not be relevant in other environments. What we call what we do is we come together, we share what we have done, and then other people could glean from that. And that is something that we hold in very, very serious. It's very serious with us and throughout the week. So ccNSO members days on Tuesdays

and Wednesdays in the ICANN week. Monday is devoted to the tech day. On Tuesday and Wednesday, we have the ccNSO members days and all of these things that we're talking about. We discuss things around the things that we're working on, and then also we share experiences and information on the things that we've done. Next slide. So what does the council do? Generally, the council administers and coordinates the affairs of the ccNSO. If there's a global policy work to be undertaken, the ccNSO also manages it. Councilors actively involved in setting the course of the ccNSO, leading and participating in various ccNSO working groups, and also engage the community in topical issues. Councilors also help in developing positions based on community input. Next slide. Who sits on the council? The council has 18 members, 15 of them are elected based on the regions that are shown earlier. We have three members from every region, and then we have, which makes 15, and then we have three ICANN appointed, NomCom appointed councilors, which completes the 18. And of course, we have a liaison from the GNSO, a liaison from At-Large, and then we have observers from the various regional organizations from AFTLD for Africa, APTLD from the Asia-Pacific region, CENTR from Europe, and LACTLD from the Latin America and Caribbean region. Next slide. This is what the composition of the council looks like, the people who are there. And on the, it should be my left, on the left side of the screen you see the dates there. That's the dates in which the membership of the council membership for each of the individuals will expire. Okay. Next slide. So, which of the statements below is correct? A ccTLD manager is the CEO of a ccTLD registry. Or a ccTLD

manager is an organization or entity responsible for managing a ccTLD and is listed as such in the IANA root database. Okay, I'm hearing two from this side. What do I hear from this side? Two, two. Yes, you're right, two. Because he's the manager doesn't mean he's the CEO of the thing. The manager is the entity or the organization responsible. Next slide. So, how does the ccNSO fit within the ICANN structure? So, ICANN has Supporting organizations and advisory committees and ccNSO is one of the supporting organizations and we occupy seats 11 and 12 on the ICANN board. Currently, seat 11 is occupied by Patricio Poblete from the Chilean registry and seat 12 is now occupied by Byron Holland from the .ca registry, from the Canadian registry. The election just got concluded and we just have elected him into that board. If you look at the structure, the ccNSO actually is one of the voting members of the ICANN board. Next slide. So, in terms of participation in the work of the ccNSO, a ccNSO-sponsored individual can participate as a member of a working group or a committee within the ccNSO. Any entity that is registered as a manager of the ccTLD can participate as a member. A volunteer is any ccTLD representative, anybody that is sponsored or supported by a ccTLD can be a representative in any of the working groups in ccNSO. And the councilor has to be somebody who is nominated by a ccNSO member, seconded by a ccNSO member from the same region and also elected by ccNSO members from that region. I think I should just clarify that a little bit. When we looked at the council composition, you noticed that there are three from each region. Those three are nominated, supported and voted for by people in

their region. And it's only when that has been, when the nomination has been done from the region that we present them for election within the ccNSO and it's only people from your region that will vote. If we have elections and council spaces are available and people are vying to get into those seats, people from Europe will vote for the seat in Europe that is vacant. People from Africa will vote for the seats in Africa that is vacant and so on. That's how we elect the councilors into those positions. In terms of contributing, you can attend our sessions. Like I said, this week we have sessions holding on Tuesdays and on Wednesdays. And if you are interested in the Tech Day, you can join us on Monday. So it's Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, but members' days are Tuesdays and Wednesdays. So you can attend sessions. If you're a member, you can vote. But surveys go on from time to time, depending on what whatever issues we're working on, and you can participate. You can give a presentation if you are supported by ccTLD. You can use the mailing list that's open to as many people as want to join. You can join a working group or community, but you have to be supported by a ccTLD who is a member or not. Whether you're a member or not, as long as you're a ccTLD, you can join in the work. You can join the TLD Ops mailing list. I'll tell us what that is in a little bit and then apply for a position on the council if you are supported by a ccNSO member. Next slide. So can I join a committee or a working group? Membership is open to those who are associated with ccTLDs. Whether the ccTLD is a member of the ccNSO or not, depending on the scope of whatever it is we're working on, we take observers from the larger ICANN ecosystem.

So if you are from the larger ICANN ecosystem, if you are interested, for example, when we started the conversations on DNS abuse, we actually had people from the GNSO come join us as observers who came to see what we are, because it's something that is also of interest to them. And they joined us in the composition of the things that we did as far as that particular topic was concerned. Next slide. So what topics do we address? Things that are relevant to us in terms of security, Internet governance, legislative initiatives, operational best practices and things like that. Next, in terms of policy development, these are the policies that we're working on right now. Some of them are concluded. Some are awaiting the board's nod for us to make them into mainstream policies. Next one. These are the working groups and committees that we have. TLD Ops works on incident response for ccTLDs. They've worked on things around business continuity for small registries. DNS abuse, universal acceptance. Next, we have the strategic and operational planning committee, meetings program committee, Internet governance liaison, technical working group and guidelines review committee. Guidelines review committee is the committee that helps the ccNSO to sort of like regulate itself. Look at our policies and tells us if we're running short of them. Next one. So how do you keep a date with us? Next slide. These are the places where you can see information on the ccNSO. And throughout the week, you can walk up to I think our room is Columbia A. I don't know what—that's this particular room. So the meetings are going to hold here from Tuesday from tomorrow. So tech day will hold here and then all the other meetings will hold

here too. So you can walk on and you can talk to me. Meet me up on the corridor. Any of the councilors. that's why we put their pictures there so you could see who they are. You can walk up to them and ask any question that you may have. Next slide. Yeah, this is what the meetings look like for this week. You can avail yourself of any of those and join us. You're welcome to do so. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. Always a very interesting and interactive presentations. May take one or two maximum but very short questions.

[FARADIFA]

Hi, my name is Faradifa for the record. I wanted to ask, have there been any cases where a ccTLD the operator or the manager disagrees with a policy recommendation? And if there's any, is there any mechanism to encourage compliance without enforcement? Thank you.

BIYI OLADIPO

okay, let me answer it straight. Has there been any time when there's a policy recommendation somebody disagrees? Before it comes out, we would have done all the agreement and disagreement within the ccNSO. The working group would have gone through a number of alterations on policy recommendations, and the only policies that you see are the things that people agree with. So we would have had a consensus before any policy is published. Thank you. And

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN the last question we'll take is over there. I know you were raising your hand for so many sessions. Go ahead.

ASHIRWAD TRIPATHY Thank you. My question is simple. Can a country have two ccTLD's? ASCII ones and IDN ones.

BIYI OLADIPO Oh, yeah, that's also like Egypt. Egypt has the ASCII and also has the Arabic.

ASHIRWAD TRIPATHY Does the manager have to be the same?

BIYI OLADIPO We don't get involved with who manages it. The ccNSO does not get involved in the internal affairs of the of any country. All we were interested in is as long as you are registered on the IANA database as the manager, you apply to join the ccNSO. We take you in. We're not contracted with ICANN. As long as you are the one registered in IANA on the IANA database, then you are free to be a member of the ccNSO.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Okay, with that, I just want to thank this guy for being here with us and thank you on behalf of our group. We will be here in this room

for the entire week and ccNSO chair is also a person who is coming from the fellowship program. We have ccNSO mentor among the fellowship mentors, Jenifer Lopez. You already know her. So if you have any questions related to ccNSO, feel free to reach those guys. Come here and participate in ccNSO sessions. And thank you. With that, this meeting is adjourned.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]