ICANN82 | CF – Get to Know ICANN Community: GNSO and SSAC
Sunday, March 09, 2025 – 9:00 to 10:00 PST

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. Hello everyone and welcome to the second day of onboarding sessions for newcomers. My name is Siranush Vardanyan and I will be participation manager for the session and remote manager for the session. Please note that this session is being recorded and governed by the ICANN standards of behavior and ICANN community anti-harassment policy. During this session, comments and questions will only be read aloud if submitted in the proper form as I have noted in the chat. Interpretation for this session includes English, French, and Spanish. 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 the language you will speak, if speaking a language other than English, and speak at a reasonable pace to allow the proper interpretation. Today we start, we continue actually to find out what is ICANN multistakeholder model and learn about ICANN communities and we will cover during the first session, we will cover what is GNSO and we know GNSO, what it stands for, and we also will cover SSAC, which is Security and Stability Advisory Committee. So we will start with the GNSO and my immense

pleasure to introduce you one of the bright fellows who is currently serving as a GNSO Vice Chair in GNSO Council, Vice Chair Tomslin, and I will give the floor to you to introduce what are you doing in GNSO and how our newcomers can learn more and be part of GNSO. Thank you.

TOMSLIN SAMME-NLAR

Thanks, Siranush, and good morning everyone. Like Siranush mentioned, my name is Tomslin and I'm the Vice Chair of the GNSO Council. The GNSO Council has two Vice Chairs and I come from the non-contracted party house side of things, but you'll get to see what that is shortly. And I'm sure you already know the parts that make up ICANN and we fall under that community part. You see the ICANN community. So the GNSO itself, I'd like you to focus on the column that sits under the Board of Directors. You'll see GNSO there and GNSO is made up of those groups. You see the gTLD registries, the gTLD registrars and the community that's interested in the intellectual property rights. It's made up of ISPs. It's made up of businesses, both large and small. Then there are the non-commercial community members with non-commercial interests. They make up what we call the non-commercial stakeholder group. There are primarily two constituencies under that. That's the non-commercial users and the not-for-profit operational concerns group of users. So let's look at what we do in GNSO. And this is based on the ICANN bylaws and it states that our group or body will be formed and it will be called that, GNSO, Generic Name Supporting Organization. And its primary responsibility will be for developing and recommending to the ICANN board substantive

policies relating to generic top-level domains. I'm sure you've heard of the other side of these top-level domains called the country-specific top-level domains already. So we are on the other side, the generic top-level domains. And input from our community is a crucial ingredient in this bottom-up approach, multi-stakeholder approach to developing internet policies. I mentioned, we are primarily responsible for developing and recommending policies related only to the generic top-level domains. We do not develop policies that affect country-specific domains, top-level domains. This slide here, while it shows a bit of the GNSO concept, I want to talk a bit, use it to describe how the GNSO works in general. I mentioned in an earlier slide, we have the registries and the registrants. Now these groups of stakeholders do have contracts with ICANN and so we call them the contracted parties. While the rest of the groups, the businesses, the intellectual property constituency, the ISPs and the non-commercial constituencies have no contract with ICANN, so we call them non-contracted parties. Each of these groups are required to participate and contribute to every policy development process that the GNSO develops and that process of the development of policies in GNSO is managed by what we call the GNSO council. Each of these groups, as you see there, that's the number of councilors, those icons, human icons you see in the image, are the number of councilors each group contributes or appoints to the GNSO council. And I'll explain the difference in the role of the council and the role of the groups themselves in that policy development process. But talking a bit more about the council, we also have

observers from the At-Large community and the ccNSO, the country-specific name supporting organization. And the NomCom also does select three councilors to participate in the GNSO council. We call them the NCO or the non-com appointed councilors. Two of them each, sorry, two of them have the ability to vote because they are appointed to each of the houses, the contracted party house and the non-contracted party house, while one of them is non-voting, they sit in between, in the middle. They do not vote but they participate on equal footing as every other councilor. They just do not vote. Now, when we, and you will see it shortly, but when we develop policies, the community, these groups you see listed there, do the actual development of the policy. They appoint members into working groups who discuss, deliberate and come up with policy recommendations. Once that's done, the council, well, during that development, the council monitors that, manages that process, and then approves the recommendations for the board to adopt. And I'll show you how that process works. So we use this diagram to describe the policy development process in the GNSO. And it might look a bit complex, but it's not. Usually the community would identify an issue that they believe requires a policy to be developed on. It can be the community or the board would identify this. And they would request for an issue report once this issue is identified. Now, this issue report request would be sent to the GNSO council. And once the council votes on whether this request meets the requirements of an issue report, that request is sent to ICANN support staff to put together this issue report. And the issue report will normally

contain things like the recommendation of ICANN staff as to whether it's something that we need to put together a policy development process for, and also recommendations from ICANN legal as well. And the reason ICANN legal gets involved is because it needs to meet ICANN's mission. It has to be within ICANN's mission. So those are the things that are being looked at in the issue report, at the issue report phase. And once that report comes back to the council, well, before it comes back to the council, it is put out for public comments. And this is where everyone, not only people participating in ICANN and the community groups in GNSO, but anyone whatsoever can submit a comment on that report. And those comments must be considered, well, they do not have to be adopted, but must be considered and those are gathered, considered, and then a final issue report is published and sent to the council. The council deliberates on this and votes on whether a policy development process can, we call it PDP, a PDP process can begin. And if that's the case, if that vote was successful, then a working group is formed. And this working group will be based on a charter that defines how the membership of this group would look like. And those community groups you saw earlier will appoint members to participate in this working group. And they'll give their official positions of their group and their stakeholder groups and their constituencies as well. And they deliberate within the working group, come up with recommendations and the working group then develops or writes an initial report with their recommendations. That report is again published for public comments. Similarly, same proceeding like the previous one where

the public summits comments, both members participating in the ICANN process or not. And that is used to develop the final report based on those comments. So this ensures that there is participation from the community and hence the bottom-up approach and multi-stakeholder model as well. And once that report is finalized, it is submitted to the council again. Now, remember I mentioned the council manages the process. And so the council doesn't go look into whether those recommendations are valid or not, but looks at whether the process was correctly followed. So it votes based on the process, the procedural aspects of the process rather than the actual substance of the report itself. And once it votes successfully, it then submits the recommendations to the board for board's consideration. The boards either adopts them or sends them back to us. I'm sure you hear from the board how they work in that aspect. And once the board votes, it's implementation time. Usually the ICANN staff leads the implementation of the recommendations or the policy. However, the GNSO council puts together in collaboration with ICANN staff, puts together what we call the implementation review team. This will be made up of GNSO members and ICANN staff to work out how to implement this policy and based on the implementation guidance that is in the report. So in a nutshell, that is what GNSO does. That is how it operates. And probably go back to... Yes, I'm sure the questions will come, but I just want to come back to this slide so that you see where every of the community fits within the GNSO.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Yeah, thank you, Tomslin. And actually this is the response to the question yesterday when we were discussing how policy works in ICANN, why one policy can take so long in order to be developed, recommended and then implemented. So it has this long process to go through. Yes, we can open up for the questions and Rola, we'll start from you and then we'll come to you.

ROLLA HAMZA Good morning, Rola Hamza from Egypt for the records. I wonder why we have three phases that name gather public comments. What the difference between each of them, these phases, and is it was easier way to have consolidated in one stage so that we can shorten the PDP? Thank you.

TOMSLIN SAMME-NLAR Good question. And as council, we are always thinking about how to shorten that process because the community would rather the process was quicker. However, because these are different reports, you do not want to combine them and go into one public comment phase. You want to publish each of them and take comments, consider the comments and then use the final report to go to the next phase of the process. So if we were to combine them together, then we'll probably be using the initial report to perhaps of initial report, say for the issue report, for example, we would not have taken the public's comments in developing that report that would use to go to the next phase. And that's why we have to do them at each phase so that we make sure that we've taken input from the

community and inputs from the public, especially those who did not participate in the actual development of the report.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Thanks. Mabda, go ahead.

MABDA SIDIQ Thank you. I have two questions. First, with regards to having observers from ALAC and ccNSO, I was wondering, why them specifically? And second, what are their specific roles, particularly in terms of the PDP processes? Do they observe actively and present there every time? Or how does that work in terms of their observation? And second, I was also wondering about, because yesterday we had a session which explains about how PDP generally works, and there were explanations about expedited PDPs. I was wondering, and I think it was mentioned that expedited PDPs would happen when something is deemed urgent. So I was wondering, to what extent is something is thought to be urgent that it necessitates expedited process? Thank you.

TOMSLIN SAMME-NLAR Thanks, and very important questions. To the first question about the participation of ALAC and ccNSO. So the bylaws says that other communities could appoint observers to the council. So it doesn't specifically say ALAC or ccNSO. And these two appointed observers, in recent times, GAC is also beginning to appoint a liaison too, because we do appoint a liaison to the GAC, but they used to not appoint one to the council. But I think they might

change that in the future. So it is up to the communities, because the bylaws only says other communities could appoint observers. Now, in respect to how they contribute to the policy process, the working group, when we put in the working group together, we actually invite all these groups. And recently, they do appoint members to also participate in the working groups, so that we collect and take their inputs at the working group deliberation stage rather than later. So all of them do appoint members to the working group. But again, it's not mandatory for them. It's when they choose to. But we recommend that they do, so that their concerns are captured earlier than later. To the second question, in the operating procedures of the policy development process, the expedited really removes the phase of the issue request and the issue report. That's all that's taken off that process. And yes, when it's urgent, but also there are other things that must be made for that to become an expedited policy development process. So the issue itself must be understood already by the community enough for the issue report phase to be skipped. Or there's probably an issue where there already exists an issue. It's probably coming from another process where there's no need to write an issue report for that particular issue, probably a sub-issue out of a larger one. And so you skip the whole issue report process and jump right into the working group from the working group phase. And so that is the expedited bit of the process.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Before going to Saima, we have another question from our remote participant, Seth, who is an ICANN 82 fellow joining us virtually. My

question is, once a policy is developed through the PDP, what are the most common hurdles the GNSO faces in working with ICANN or to put this into action?

TOMSLIN SAMME-NLAR: That's a difficult one. Hurdles. Well, I think probably the most common one would be whether the policy when developed can actually be implemented financially. I think that's usually the most common one. And therefore, in recent policy development processes, we've been inviting ICANN org to sort of advise the process so that we make sure that the policies we are developing are feasible and are in with the financial constraints of the organization as well. So that would be the most common one.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: So you don't come back to the same process again and again. Thank you. Yes, we have a question here from Saima.

SAIMA NISAR: Thank you. Saima here. Actually, my question is quite similar to that one. I want to know what are the biggest policy challenges currently facing by GNSO? And what are the some upcoming policy change or train in domain name governance that we should be aware of? And another part, how does the GNSO ensure that its policy is implemented financially? How does the GNSO ensure that its policy with the global Internet governance? Thank you.

TOMSLIN SAMME-NLAR Thanks. In terms of, I don't want to describe one as most challenging, but in terms of the policies that we are currently actively discussing in the GNSO, one of them relates to access to domain registrants data. That is one of the main topics. There are many subtopics under that that the community is discussing, but I'll bundle them up to access to registrants data. And that is one of the major topics we are discussing in GNSO. The other is internationalized domain names, which that working group just submitted its final report, and the council is yet to vote, no, has voted on that. But the one that they've just recently completed is, I forget what it's called now, but it relates to transfer, yes, transfer of domain names. And we are yet to vote on that. Upcoming ones, I don't have a list up in my head, but a couple of them that we have as potential that might come up. Yeah, potential ones DNS abuse and stuff.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN And we'll take last question for the session, Iulia, please.

IULIA-MELISSA GIT Thank you. My name is Yulia. I'm a fellow and I was wondering, once a policy is implemented, how binding is it? I can imagine how it can be enforced for contracted parties, but how do you ensure that non-contracted parties follow the policies? Thank you.

TOMSLIN SAMME-NLAR Well, because once we develop that policy and the ICANN board adopts it, that is essentially the law, once it's implemented, of

course. So once it's implemented, that's the only vehicle through which you could interact with that policy. It's how it has been implemented. And therefore, if you interacted with that policy outside the way it's implemented, then you're violating the policy. And therefore, for those with contracts, yes, there are repercussions contractually. For those without contracts, well, the contracted party might force or might ensure that you follow the policy the way you interact with them as well, because they have a contract to ensure that the policy is implemented. Sorry, it's followed the way it's been implemented. For example, if you went to register a domain name, it must be, even though you have no contract with ICANN, you would have a contract with the contracted party and therefore they would ensure that the policy is followed the way that it has been implemented.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN There was a question online from Doreen, another fellow who participates virtually, so I don't want not to take this question for you, but what procedures and mechanisms exist within GNSO PDP to review and amend policies once they have been implemented already? If you can briefly cover this, it would be great.

TOMSLIN SAMME-NLAR Yes, so we do have a review process. We actually, the GNSO in its procedure must review every policy. I forget the duration now, but we must review policies frequently within that duration and to determine whether the policy is still relevant or not. So, those are

some of the mechanisms we do and we also look at expired policies as well as part of our mechanisms.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Tomslin, and thank you very much for your time, for explaining how GNSO works and appreciate your being here with your business schedule. Thank you. And now we'll move to one of the interesting topics which many of you would to learn more, and this is security and stability. And it's my pleasure to introduce you, Chair of SSAC Security and Stability Advisory Committee, Ram Mohan, who always is very supportive to newcomers program and is always accepting the invitation to be with us. Ram, the floor is yours.

RAM MOHAN

Thank you so much. Good morning here in Seattle and good day to others who are dialing in and listening to this session. It's my pleasure to be here. I'm Ram Mohan. As Srinivasan introduced me, I'm the Chair of the Security and Stability Advisory Committee. This is ICANN, so we don't keep any names in full. Everything has to be made into an acronym. So we're the SSAC. By now, you probably recognize that part of ICANN's mission is to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems. That's a big part of why ICANN exists. Inside of that, the Security and Stability Advisory Committee, it provides expert counsel on matters that impact the security and stability of the Internet's domain name and addressing systems. It's an advisory body to the ICANN community, to the ICANN board, and what the SSAC actually

does is it conducts a rigorous analysis of potential threats. It assesses operational vulnerabilities, and then it delivers some recommendations for risk mitigation. It's comprised of experienced technical security professionals, and the things that SSAC does, it produces authoritative reports, it provides guidance, and all of those are focused on ensuring the resilience of critical Internet infrastructure. So that's the professional description. The real world description is that while the rest of the community blissfully streams cat videos and gets on Zoom calls, what folks in the SSAC do is to analyze the subtle nuances of DNS problems. We write technical reports that detail what happens when that one wrong configuration in that one DNS resolver out of the thousands that are out there, what happens if that one wrong configuration goes bad, and what the impact on security and integrity of the naming and addressing systems might be. How will that make that cat video blur? How will that, you know, cause a potential problem. So that's the real world piece of what we do. So we do that, you know, you see what's here. I'm not going to read everything that's there, but the entire focus of the SSAC is to look at the variety of issues that are important for this community, but also for the community that is looking at critical infrastructure. So we generally do not comment on what's happening in social media or what's happening at the content level of the Internet. Our focus is on the critical infrastructure level of the Internet. The part that most of the world takes for granted, the part that most of the world thinks is just another utility. That's the part that we spend a lot of our time and energy on. And in that area, we focus on five keystone areas

that impact security, stability, and resilience. We focus on DNS abuse. And the DNS abuse focus, our intent, is to study the area and then come up with recommendations or observations. And the intent of all of that is to improve the integrity of the domain name system. Lower abuse means better hygiene, and that means a safer environment, a more reliable, predictable environment for everybody. New TLDs have been around since 2001. That was the first new TLD was in 2001. We're 24 years into new TLDs. And interestingly, the 2001 TLDs are now called legacy TLDs. But there are new TLDs coming again, as you know, next year. And a big part of what we do is to provide advice on responsible expansion of new gTLDs. So we're not a committee that comes in and says, there are plenty of TLDs we don't need anymore. But we're the committee that comes in and says, when you are introducing new TLDs, what are the things you should worry about? What are the things you should focus on? We also spend a bit of our time looking at DNSSEC. I was telling you about acronyms. That's DNS security extensions, DNSSEC. And DNSSEC is a way that enhances the security and trustworthiness of the Internet. And we spend time on that. It's a major focus. In fact, here and at every ICANN meeting, the SSAC runs a DNSSEC and security workshop. Technical tracks, if you are technically minded, those are great sessions to come to. I believe at this ICANN meeting, they're on Wednesday. And these are all sessions that are open to all. We have run them, I think, for the last 40 or 50 ICANN meetings, something like that. So that's a key focus, key area that we look at. We've also been spending time looking at alternative namespaces. We're talking about things blockchain,

things where does AI fit in to the expansion of the namespace? How does it impact these areas? So alternative namespaces, new technologies that impact the DNS, we're very focused on that. And in fact, right now, the SSAC is kicking off a new work party that is focused on the responsible integration of new naming technologies, specifically in the blockchain area. And of course, it goes without saying that we live in an environment that has the governance, the political aspect of it. And our focus is not on the politics. Our focus is on advising and informing those who are building policy, those who are considering regulation, telling them actually what are the crucial security, stability and resiliency topics, and how it actually works. We find every once in a while, we interact with folks who are looking at policy development. They don't understand how the DNS works. They don't understand that if you change some little thing, that can have a significant effect downstream. They don't understand sometimes that if you pass a national regulation that says, for the sake of national security, block DNS itself. Don't block just the particular URL or the particular domain name, but block at the DNS level. They sometimes do not understand what the impact is. So our job is not to tell them you are wrong or you're right. Our job is to tell them, consider the consequence. Consider not only the intended effect, but consider the unintended effects of regulation. Of policymaking. So that's a part of what we do. Next slide. So over the years, so the SSAC, we were founded in the days hot after 9/11. Some of you here probably weren't born at that time. But that was what gave the impetus to get the SSAC going, because the thinking was, if people

can take down physical infrastructure, what do you do when virtual infrastructure gets attacked? Who is even looking at it? Who is paying attention? And who is then providing some advice on what to do? So over the years, we have done that. You look at the various topics that are here. All the SSAC reports are numbered. They are, as a result, they are referenceable. You can find them. You can Google them. Or you can look through the ICANN website. You can find all of our publications there. But we've written on, as you can see, quite a lot of work on DNS security. We've written about DNS management, about registration data. We've written about internationalized domain names, about routing security. And we're continuing to work. In fact, right now, we have two work parties. One is working on updating advice on DNS blocking. And we have another work party that is focused on the role and impact of open-source software in DNS, in the DNS, in critical infrastructure. And I mentioned we have also commissioned new work on the responsible integration of, you know, next-generation technologies into the DNS. And we're in the process of chartering and discussing inside the SSAC a discussion about DNSSEC and our observations on how DNSSEC implementations are going. Next slide, please. So this, what you saw before is historical context. But what you see here, SAC-123 to SAC-126, that gives you a sense of the most recent work of the SSAC. We've written about evolution of DNS resolution. Name collision analysis was a huge SAC-124. It's one report. It took us six and a half years to put that report together. And that was a report that we worked with the entire ICANN community, ran it, you know, through the consensus-based

process, a multi-stakeholder process. But at the end, the recommendations that are in SAC-124 are primarily about how do you safeguard the next round of TLDs and not just the next round of TLDs, but future rounds of TLDs. And for the test that comes at the end of this session, name collision analysis is abbreviated to NCAP. So that's a sense of what we do. Last slide, who we are. Last but one slide, who we are from around the world. Still quite a bit of folks from North America and Europe, but that's changing rapidly. And you can see, you know, just here by the faces, you get to see, you know, who are some of the members of the SSAC. And we're continuing to expand. And as you can see, Latin America, Caribbean islands, we are at zero. And that's an invitation for those of you who are interested in that, in the work that we do and who want to participate. The SSAC runs all its sessions open. So, and it's listed on the calendar. Come and listen to what we do. We have an open mic session, I believe, on Wednesday morning. And that's a, you know, Reddit style, ask us anything session. So come there. You can talk about what does it take to be an SSAC member. We'll have some of our newer members there. They can tell you what it took for them to get in. And then you can, you know, speak to us and say, okay, once you get in, what do you actually do? How do you do it? Right. So we can chat about all of those things. Last slide. The leadership team for the SSAC, we work in a very collaborative way. So what you see there, in many, many places, you'll find that the leadership team consists of only the members. But the way we work is we think the ICANN policy support staff are an essential part of our work. We would not be successful without the policy support

staff's efforts. That's because they, many of them, are actually technically qualified experts themselves. And so what happens as a result is when we're working on, say, DNSSEC, we'll have Danielle step in and say something that has a technical basis behind, you know, what's there. Or, you know, when we're working on DNS abuse, we'll have John Emery step in and say, actually, there is research that shows that what you're saying can be enhanced in a certain way. So it's a very collaborative approach. And it works really well. You know, you look at the output that we have. The value of what we put out is based completely on the relevance of our advice. It's based completely on can you actually use what we're saying. And that's a large part of our focus now is to make sure that the advice that we put out is technically sound, is directly relevant to what ICANN and its community needs. But in addition to that, is expressed in ways that are understandable to everybody. You don't need to have an advanced degree in engineering in order to decipher what we're saying. Right. So that's a great deal of our focus. And with that, I'll hand it back to you, Siranush, for Q&A.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Thank you, Ram. Thank you very much. And when Ram mentioned that they have open sessions, I want to understand how important it is. When I was a fellow, we were dreaming to know what SSAC is doing behind the closed doors. So, yeah, we didn't have any information. And now having this opportunity for SSAC opening their doors and having the open sessions and especially open mic, it's unbelievably, I mean, a step forward for all of us. And I also, I'm happy, personally happy to see so lovely new faces of fellowship

program members coming to SSAC recently and congratulate my folks there. So let's open some questions for Ram, as we have about 10 minutes to go. Yes, I see two hands over there, but I see an SSAC member who probably wants to make a comment.

BARRY LEIBA Thanks. I'm Barry Leba, top right on the screen. I just wanted to add to what you said that our opening our meetings has been valuable not only to you, but to us as well, because we've gotten comments from the community in our meetings that really helped the conversation.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Thank you.

VINNY ADJIBI Good morning. So you mentioned that you commissioned research work. And so my question is, do you post your call for research publicly or how do you go about funding academics for doing your research?

RAM MOHAN Thank you. If you could go a couple of slides prior. One, two, two further, two in the front. One more. No, no, no. The other way. One more. There you go. So if you look at the active work that is there, you see that there are three work parties there. What we end up doing is when we, if you look at open source software, for instance, there is a survey that is going on in that work party that is being

done, that is being executed by work party members. We have the ability to invite experts from outside the SSAC to participate in it. So in general, we provide a high level in meetings like this, a high level of what we're doing. The open source software work party actually met yesterday and that was a public meeting. Their meeting was accessible to everybody here at ICANN. And if academics or others are interested, they can approach the work party chairs and say, “I'm interested, I can contribute.” And they come through. Everybody in the SSAC is a volunteer. Nobody gets paid. We have no money to give out. We, in fact, we sometimes give out advice, but mostly we try and just do the work.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Khadija, please.

KHADIJA MIAN Thank you so much for your presentation. I'm Khadija for the record. I wanted to ask if I could have any more clarity on what the SSAC is looking for in terms of who benefits. So is this about simply technical maintenance and just looking to make sure that everything continues to work in the same way? Or is this about making sure that new developments don't negatively affect end users, businesses? I wanted more clarity on the focus.

RAM MOHAN Sure thing. If you could go to the slide that speaks to the five, yeah, these. So if you look at these five areas, they have both a preservation part of it, but also a growth part of it. So we're focused

on both of those. We recognize that simply maintaining existing systems is a pretty big job, but along the way there is innovation happening. There are new developments happening that change systems that are already running. So we have a dual focus in what we do. Our primary audience is really the ICANN community. We formally, if you look at the charter formally, our advice is aimed at the ICANN board, but in reality, our advice, you know, we sometimes issue advice that says this is relevant for network operators. This is relevant for domain name registrars and registries, et cetera.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Kasam, please.

KASUN WICKRAMASURIYA Hi, good morning. Just one thing, just to clarify. So other than the advice, the ICANN community and the board with the recommendations, how is that engaged with the policy development process?

RAM MOHAN So we don't directly create policy. The GNSO does that on the gTLD side. The ccNSO does work on the ccTLD side, but they invite us to come in, to participate. So they've most recently, for example, there's some work that the GNSO and the GAC is doing on accuracy. And they've asked us to come in and provide our advice. So we participate in that way as subject matter experts to provide a technical clue so that those who are making policy can be informed

by what, how things actually work rather than an assumption of how things work.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN There was intervention from an SSAC member, please go ahead. Oh, I thought you want to add to the comment. Oh, let me go take the turn. Dipsy, go.

DIPSY DESAI Oh, good morning. I was wondering if you have any document published on research or adoptability about DANE or DNS-based authentication of named entities.

RAM MOHAN I would suggest you look at our list. I don't recall specifically every document that we've published, but it's an area that I know that we've spent some time on. So please look at it and then come back.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Mohammad, go.

PETER THOMASSEN Hello, this is Peter. Can I ask a follow-up question on this? This is Peter from SSAC. So you were interested in this DANE topic. I'd be interested in what specific question you're looking for to be answered in such a report. So it might inform future work. That's why I'm asking.

DEBSI DESAI Yeah, I can chat with you.

MOHAMMAD ATIF Hi, my name is Mohammad Atif for the record, and I'm an ICANN fellow. My broad question is that how does SSAC work in balancing the dichotomy between privacy and security? And the premise for this question is based on the fact that access to domain registration data for legitimate purposes such as cybersecurity investigation is very important, but this has been hampered by recent developments of laws in the areas of privacy. For example, the law in Brazil or the GDPR, the General Data Protection Regulation in Europe. So does ICANN, does SAC work to mitigate this or strike a balance so that privacy and security could go hand in hand?

RAM MOHAN Great question. Thank you. We've been focused on this area for a long time, and we've written about this as well. We think that access to data is an important component for, especially, you know, for parties that have a need for it, you know, parties law enforcement, intellectual property firms, et cetera. So we've written about that. Where we are now arriving at is governments, you know, and in regulatory bodies have, for reasons that they have, they have specific regulations on who can access elements of registration data. And those are laws. We're not going to really say a whole lot about that. Where our focus is is on access to the data. So what we're advocating for is that it's important to preserve

access to the data itself. What the data elements are and who has access to the data elements, the registration data elements, that comes much more in the privacy area. And that's a debate that, you know, you can have for a long time, but those have to do with regulations and those have to do with various laws across the world. But we think that from a security stability point of view, it's important that access to registration data, that there be a good flow of access and that there be a method that allows for appropriate parties to continue to have access to data.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Thank you. Please, 30 seconds intervention, if possible.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER My first ICANN, even though I've been, I had a gap of 20 years. Ram, thank you. I don't know if I've heard a division or a group within ICANN communicate how they react and how they interrelate with the general public, with the public since we're at the public policy forum, of what they do and how it affects the public. So I just wanted to encourage you. Quick question, two words, quantum computing, it's going to destroy everything we know. It's just so fast. Will it have an effect on our DNS and our DNSSEC?

RAM MOHAN Yeah, I think every year we have a sky is falling issue. Look, we have folks inside who are looking at quantum computing. And in fact, I don't remember when the session is. We have a public session with the GAC. And one of the topics in our session with the GAC is

quantum computing, post quantum cryptography and its effect. So come to that session and you'll hear a little bit more about what we're thinking.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Lady behind, very quick insight. We'll take the last. Shreya, please.

Shreya Shivakumar Yes. Hi. I was just wondering if the SAC takes into account the perspective of law enforcement agencies when looking to improve integrity of the DNS.

RAM MOHAN The short answer is yes. We actually have some folks in the SAC who work in law enforcement. And I don't know if there's anybody who is in that capacity here who can speak to it. I don't know if there's anybody who is in that capacity here who can speak to it from the SAC. Is there anybody here who works with or in law enforcement? Gabe, Matthias, Georgia?

GEORGIA OSBORN Hi, everyone. I'm new to the SSAC, but my background is in law enforcement and counterterrorism. And, yeah, I believe that the perspective of law enforcement is captured within the SSAC, if I'm not incorrect, and we do consider that when creating, yeah, advice. Shreya, Matthias will be, you'll meet him tonight as well so you can talk to him more about that as well. I'll introduce you to him.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN I'm happy that response is coming from a newcomer ICANN fellow who is part of SSAC already. Said and Filimoni, and then we'll finish this.

SAIIDNAJIB SAIDISLOMZODA Hello there. I have two questions. And one of these, had there ever been an internal or external attack on the ICANN infrastructure? And if yes, and what type of attack was it and how you prevent it? And the second part of my question, how to become a part of SSAC?

RAM MOHAN Thank you. For the first question, I would refer you to the Q&A session with ICANN.org on Monday, because that's an operational issue with ICANN, and we don't deal with that. For the second one, chat with Tara Whalen, who is here. Tara, if you can, there you go. And she is our membership committee chair.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Excellent. And Filimoni, the last one. Very quick.

FILIMONI PELENATO Good morning. Again, thank you for the well-presented presentation. I just wanted to ask, since this is an advisory committee, how do we engage in being part of SSAC? Is this voluntary-based like the other committees, because it sounds very

technical, or is this a nominated position-based in order to be part of such a committee? Thank you.

RAM MOHAN

Thanks. The short answer is that you have to have some level of expertise that you can contribute inside of the SSAC on the things that we're doing. So that's inside the SSAC to qualify to come in. At the ICANN meetings, the SSAC runs most of its sessions in an open format, so you can watch what we do, and we have some sessions where we encourage Q&A. And we are in the very early stages of actually working with Siranush and Ergys on potentially opening up a security fellowship program, but we haven't moved that all the way through. But if we can get that to be successful, then that provides an avenue for those of you who have an interest in security and stability, and can back up that interest with some actual ability that might be a track for you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Ram. Thank you, all SSAC team also being here, joining to the session, and appreciate your time and appreciate your responses. You know now many SSAC members here, Tara, Vice Chair, and if I can request to stand up also the other members, so these guys will know you. Thank you. Yes, and you have two fellows among them here, so feel free to reach them, ask them questions. We have three fellows. Eventually, I see the third one over there. Thank you very much, and my thanks goes to you, Rahman, as well. With that, this meeting is adjourned. Thank you very much.

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