
ICANN82 | Prep Week – ICANN Board Engagement with the ICANN Community
Monday, February 24, 2025 – 07:00 to 08:00 PST

FRANCO CARRASCO

Hello, and welcome, everybody, to the ICANN Board Engagement with Community Work Session. Please note that this session is being recorded and follows the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior. Interpretation for this session today will include two languages, which are Spanish and French. You may click on the interpretation icon in Zoom and select the language you will listen to during this session.

All participants today are kindly asked to state their name for the record and to speak at a reasonable pace. If you wish to speak or ask a question during this session, please raise your hand in the Zoom room. Org staff will monitor the queue and you will be prompt to unmute yourself when the host calls on you. Having said this, I will now hand the floor over to the ICANN Board Chair, Tripti Sinha.

TRIPTI SINHA

Thank you, Franco. Welcome, everyone, and thank you for joining us online today. It is a pleasure to open this virtual community-based engagement session just ahead of ICANN82 in Seattle. As you know, this session is an opportunity to reinforce our cooperation and work together on topics that are very important for ICANN and our future. For this 60-minute session, there will be

Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.

two breakout rooms where discussions will be hosted by Board members. The discussion in each room will focus on a different topic. We will spend 40 minutes in these breakout rooms.

In Room 1, led by Becky Burr and Chris Buckridge, you will hear about ICANN's ongoing efforts to understand and address the global public interest, the GPI. Participants will learn about key tools, such as the GPI framework and checklist, developed in consultation with the community to help identify and address GPI considerations in ICANN's work. During the session, attendees will be invited to provide feedback on the checklist, explore ways to improve it, and discuss how it can support ICANN's bottom-up community-driven processes.

In Room 2, Christian Kaufmann and Alan Barrett will invite attendees to provide inputs to inform ICANN's continued engagement in the development of the updated ICP-2 document currently under discussion and encourage ICANN community awareness and participation in this process.

We are very much looking forward to hearing your input and perspectives on these two topics. After the 40 minutes of breakout room sessions, we will all come back together in this room to listen to a summary of the different rooms presented by the Board shepherds. So, I will now ask our support team to explain the logistics of the breakout rooms. Franco, please.

FRANCO CARRASCO

Thank you, Tripti. To select a breakout room, please click the breakout room's button in your meetings control below. This button will be visible once the meeting host opens the breakout rooms, which will happen shortly. If you do not see the button, please click on the "more" button. Choose from the list of the two rooms provided. You then hover over the desired room, click join, and confirm. Please click "leave room" when you wish to return to the main room. You may repeat this as necessary.

If you need help, please click on the "ask help" button in the meeting's control and then click "invite host" to notify the host. The breakout rooms will not be recorded, live captioned, interpreted, or transcribed. Instead, we will have work staff monitoring each breakout room and taking notes. You will be able to move freely in and out of the breakout rooms if you wish to change topics, or you can spend the full time in each room.

After 40 minutes, we'll all return to the main room where the Board hosts from each breakout room will debrief the audience on their respective breakout room discussions. The summary discussions will be transcribed and interpreted. Please join the breakout rooms now as we're going to start. Thank you.

WENDY PROFIT

If anyone needs help being assigned to a breakout room, just let us know and we can put you in there. But you should be able to click on the "more" icon at the bottom of your Zoom chat and select

breakout rooms and then choose the breakout room that you'd like to join.

FRANCO CARRASCO

Tripti, everybody from both rooms is now back in the main room.

TRIPTI SINHA

Okay. Thank you, Franco. Welcome back, everyone. I hope you had some good, vibrant discussions. I think the attendance overall has been very healthy. We're creeping up to past 170 attendees and each room had a very healthy attendance of those who are interested in the topics. So now I'm going to turn it over to the session chairs to recap the findings of each room. So, we'll start with Becky and Chris. Could you please share your summary of the discussions in Room 1, which focus on the Global Public Interest?

BECKY BURR

Thanks, Tripti. We spent a lot of time talking about the voluntary nature of the Global Public Interest framework and whether that's where we needed to be or whether it needs to be a mandatory tool that gets used as part, not just part of the policy development, but I think there was a broad agreement that it is a useful tool across a whole variety of ICANN activities. It's useful when we're getting input from advisory committees. It's useful in policy development processes. It's useful in cross-community working group sessions. So, it's not just a PDP thing.

But one question that Avri raised was, how do you get useful input that enables evaluation of the global public interest if one part of the community or one part of the discussion is using the checklist and the other is not? So, for example, if a PDP is using the checklist, but commenters aren't using the checklist or the Board is using the checklist, but the PDP isn't. And my question was, well, should we make it mandatory? And Avri pointed out that that was not very bottom-up, which I think is absolutely fair.

But as Alan Greenberg pointed out, there have been times where we start from the premise that the global public interest is identified through ICANN's bottom-up multi-stakeholder process. But we've had situations where the policy recommendation has come up and the Board has said, for example, in urgent requests, no, we're not comfortable that that serves the global public interest. So, most of our conversation focused on how it should be used, whether it should be mandatory, whether there's a way to bring it in an impasse situation and use it for temperature taking across the community when we come to difficult issues.

It was noted that we really haven't had a test of the checklist yet. And I think that the IDN recommendations are going to be probably the first formal test of that. But I think we had some very interesting ideas about ways to use it. It seemed clear to me. I guess, my takeaway is we shouldn't make it mandatory right now, but we should bring it out in a variety of different situations and be transparent about it to see if it is a tool that helps us develop consensus more efficiently and helps us develop better policy.

Chris, and there were other members of the Board and other members of the community in the room, so I welcome any input on that.

CHRIS BUCKRIDGE

I think you've covered it very well there, Becky. I was just going to add that I've put a link in the chat. So those who are in the ICP-2 discussion, please have a look at the checklist. We're certainly very eager to hear feedback from everyone. So, thank you.

TRIPTI SINHA

Any other comments, Becky, from your team? No.

BECKY BURR

Anybody from the community?

TRIPTI SINHA

Okay. Well, thank you, Becky and Chris. If we have some time left after the update from the other room, we'll open it up for questions for either breakout room. So now we'll turn it over to Christian and Alan. And their breakout room had a discussion on ICP-2. So over to you, Alan and Christian.

CHRISTIAN KAUFMANN

Thank you. In room 2, we provided an update about the current state of the ICP-2. That's a document which outlines the establishing of regional internet registries. We had two surveys we

quickly talked about, covering all one process, and I'll come to that in a second. And the ICANN public consultation, where we got 14 submissions, where one has to say that groups and stakeholders consolidated their feedback. So that's why the number is a little bit lower, but the representation was actually quite good.

And we talked about the NRO questionnaire. This is the questionnaire to the RIR communities from the number resource organization. And they got 300 submissions. And they actually just published their feedback and their report this morning.

We had several questions from At-Large, GAC and the ISP community in the breakout room. I think they centered around one or two main topics. One is that it is really one process. So even if ICANN works on it and the NRO RIRs work on it, and there were two questionnaires, it is one process. And it is actually mainly driven by the NRO, the SO/AC.

The second part was, there was a lot of feedback for the people who have actually seen it or will look at the report. One could give feedback. And it is important that it will be looked at all of the feedback. And it is not a counting feedback, more for that or that, but more holistic view at the various comments to actually understand what the people wanted to communicate. Otherwise, the ball is now with the SO/AC. They work on that this week, actually. So, they will provide a new draft, which then goes to the RIR communities, as well as the ICANN communities, as soon as they are done with a draft for an updated version.

And besides that, we figured out that half of the questions were actually not for me and ICANN, but rather for the SO/AC and for their questionnaire. So, we might think about if we have another webinar to bring them on stage as well immediately so that the questions can be pointed to them. And with that, have I forgotten anything, Alan?

ALAN BARRETT

Thanks, Christian. I think you covered it all. I want to emphasize that the two public comment processes run by ICANN and by the RIRs will be considered together by the SO/AC as they draft a new proposed version of ICP-2.

CHRISTIAN KAUFMANN

Thank you. And with that, I would give it back to you, Tripti. Thank you. The magic mute button.

TRIPTI SINHA

My apologies. I thought I was unmuted. I just wanted to thank you for facilitating the discussion. I was in your room, and it was indeed a vibrant discussion. We have a few minutes left, so if there are questions for either breakout room facilitators, can you please put up your hands now? Yes, Avri. Go ahead.

AVRI DORIA

Hi. Can I ask a question that's more about the whole format as opposed to one of the specific issues?

TRIPTI SINHA

Sure. Go ahead, Avri.

AVRI DORIA

Okay. Let's actually send me a comment. First, I want to say that I'm really glad that you're continuing this sort of trying to bring the various silos together on a particular issue.

I don't know about in the ICP, but in the room I was in on the global public interest, the conversation wasn't distributed across all the silos. And so, I just wanted to say I really think it's a great idea, and I don't know if ICP was the same, that it was really only a few people from a couple of the stakeholder groups, constituents, or whether you got a full spread of comment across the board.

TRIPTI SINHA

Okay. Thank you, Avri. Before I turn this to Christian to answer, I just wanted to say this session is here to stay, so we will continue to have this going into the future, and we will continue to refine it with questions and comments that you make. So Christian, could you respond to Avri's question?

CHRISTIAN KAUFMANN

Certainly. Let me see if I fully grasped it. We got actually feedback and questions from various stakeholders. So, as I said, we had At-Large GAC, ISP communities. We were, I guess, well, we were not really limited by time per se, because there were no other

questions. But it was actually funny enough, more like a dialogue, because half of the answer then the SO/AC, or Hans-Petter answered when they were more in their direction. So, I think we had a lot of people which actually communicated and talked about it. But it felt less like a webinar than more like a conversation in a room.

TRIPTI SINHA

Thank you, Christian. Vanda? Yeah.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Thank you. Vanda for the record. Well, I was interested in both sides, so it was difficult to follow both. I start with ICP-2, because it's quite interesting, and come back to that. So maybe the best solution is to have one focus, and people can dedicate more time. Because if you change and move that, you lose the first part of the discussion, so you have no much to say, because you need to catch up on that. So, my suggestion was focus on one theme. It's a great solution. We need to have those spaces, certainly. But I could not follow correctly, even I'm very involved with both sides. Thank you.

TRIPTI SINHA

Thank you, Vanda, for that input. That has indeed come up even in the last session, which is it's really hard to go back and forth. And I myself try to go back and forth. And I understand what you mean. You lose the thread of one conversation jumping to another. But thank you for your input. And we will take that under consideration

and see how we can improve this. Maybe we just end up with one session. Marita?

MARITA MOLL

Yeah, thank you. Marita Moll speaking. And I'm with At-Large. I was in the global public interest session. There were 100 people in that room, and it just seemed to mostly address what was addressed to the people who already knew a lot about it. What was missing for me was some kind of continuity. There are people in the room who want to know more about it. Could they have a 15-minute session before and others could come in? Or Vanda's suggestion is just to have one and then there could be more explanation about what that topic was about for those many people who probably haven't done a lot of work on that issue. So that's just my comment.

TRIPTI SINHA

Thank you, Marita. Actually, interestingly, in the other session that I was in, ICP-2, someone posted a comment which we had said what ICP-2 was. And actually, thankfully, Christian did actually explain, gave some background on what it was. So, we will take that on advisement as well, that we do an introductory 5 to 10 minutes on what the topic exactly is. And so, thank you for that feedback. Any other hands? I thought I saw one, but it's gone down. All right. Oh, yes, Benjamin. I'm going to give you the last word. Go ahead, Benjamin.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE

Thank you, Tripti. I was in the global public interest room. And I was just thinking, because I remember the last time I was engaged in this conversation, if there's any attempt by the group to try and see if there could also still be another kind of marketing or talking about this to different stakeholders again, so that maybe there could be more interesting buy-in, at least beyond just working on the conversation, assuming maybe everybody has the same understanding. Maybe there could still be a warmer introduction to it again. That's just what I'm thinking throughout the conversation. Thank you.

TRIPTI SINHA

Benjamin, I want to make sure I understood what you were suggesting. So, you're saying a warm-up session to the discussion?

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE

No, I'm saying I think there's a different level of receptability across different stakeholder groups. So, I'm saying, could there be some effort again to reintroduce it to, just like the last speaker said, for others to know more about it so that we can get more momentum around it?

TRIPTI SINHA

Okay, understood. All right. Thank you very much for that input. And I see that we have one minute left, so I'm going to now close the session out. And once again, thank you very much for your active participation in the two sessions, as well as the feedback that you just provided. And we are looking forward to seeing you in

Seattle next week. And safe travels to everyone. Thank you. The session is closed.

CHRIS BUCKRIDGE

Thanks, everyone. Bye-bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]