
ICANN84 | AGM – ccNSO: Q & A with Candidates board seat 11 and Council
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CLAUDIA RUIZ

Hello, and welcome to the Q&A Candidate Board seat 11 and Council session. My name is Claudia Ruiz, and I, along with my colleague, Joke Braeken, are the participation managers for this session. Please note this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Community Participant Code of Conduct, the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior, and the ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy. Please observe the following guidelines to participate in this session. They will be posted in the chat for your reference. During this session, questions or comments submitted in chat will be read aloud if put in the proper form, as noted in the chat. Interpretation for this session will include English, Spanish and French. 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 please speak at a reasonable pace to allow for accurate interpretation. Thank you. And with that, I will now hand the floor over to Andrew Lewela, moderator for this session.

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ANDREW LEWELA

Good afternoon from Dublin. Good morning, good evening from all those joining us from across the world. For the record, my name is Andrew from .ke and I'll be facilitating this Q&A session, which is an important session for the ccNSO. As you all know, the three-year terms for the five members of the ccNSO Council was open and it will conclude in March 2026. And we have nominations for all four of the regions apart from Africa. And today we have a session for all ccNSO members to engage with candidates. Including the 11th board seat for the Board of ICANN. So I'll be facilitating this session. To start off, I will give each candidate, starting with Patricio, who is going for the board seat 11, three minutes to give a high level statement, statements which were shared with all of us. And then I will open up with leading questions that will hopefully will allow all members, colleagues in the room and those joining us online to be able to ask and engage with all candidates. I'll also mention that for the APAC region, we have two candidates, Boyoung and Sami. For the EU region, we have Chris. For LAC, we have Alejandra and for the North American region, we have Charles. So very quickly, I'd like to give the floor two to three minutes to Mr. Patricio to give you a high level statement to members in the room. Over to you, Patricio.

PATRICIO POBLETE

Thank you very much and hello, everyone. It's a pleasure for me to be here with you. I've been on the Board of ICANN for a while now and it's often the case that we have to spend most of our time elsewhere and with very few opportunities to come to this room and meet my own people, my own community. So thanks for this

opportunity. And it is a bit strange to be speaking here as a candidate because there's no election in my case. I am very grateful to Demi and Clara who put forward my name and to the many colleagues who encouraged me to continue for another term. So thanks, everyone. And since, as I said, it feels a bit strange to be speaking as a candidate when there's no election. I thought I would tell you a bit about what I've been doing and what I will be doing in this next term.

As you know, most of what ICANN does and the Board has to do not with ccTLDs, but with gTLDs. By design, the policy of the ccTLDs is mostly local with very few cases where there is a global policy. While on the other hand, for gTLDs, all the policy is developed here. So there is a tendency that most of the issues that we have to tackle have to do more with gTLDs. Although when we get things from the ccTLDs, we try to do our best to get the Board to understand what they are about and process hopefully quickly. We don't always succeed, as you know. It took us some time to go through the ccPDP3 outcome, which fortunately is already being adopted, but we are now in the phase of implementation. Byron has generously volunteered, or he has been volunteered, to chair our side of that implementation effort. I'm chairing the ccPDP4 group, which has to do with IDNs. We are making progress, not as fast as we'd like, but we are making progress. There are some complicated issues because we are dealing with things that are really new variants, that will be variants, but that's not something that we have known how to handle from before. So there are many corner cases that have to

be understood and made sure that they're being dealt with appropriately, but we're getting there. Besides, I'm trying not to lose touch with this community. So I'm a frequent observer in MPC, which is a committee of this committee that I really like because it has to do with what we do when we get together. So and besides, I'm doing work on a number of board committees, BAC, that's an audit technical committee, BAMC, those are the accountability mechanisms, BFC, there's coming term financials, and I have been in the board risk committee and OEC, organizational effectiveness committee. So whenever I go, what I try to do is to help my board colleagues when there are issues that involve the ccTLDs to better understand how we work, because as I say, they most of them really understand well how detailed this work and try to simply translate that into ccTLDs. And that's not how things work. So Byron and I are often needed to help our colleagues in the board understand well how we work and how the policies that we develop work. And we try to do our best with that. So that's basically it. I think I have not exceeded my three minutes or if I did. Apologies.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you, Patricio. Very quickly, I'll now give the floor to Sami. Three minutes, please.

SAMI MOHAMED ALI

Thank you. My name is Sami Ali. I'm from the Kingdom of Bahrain. We manage the ccTLD.BH. And I am currently the UA expert for ccNSO, representing ccNSO Council and the UA expert working

group. I'm also the APTLD Asia-Pacific top level domain name board member. The treasurer, I'm on the board. Currently with the ccNSO, I'm working on onboarding and mentoring working group, universal acceptance committee, ccNSO strategic and operational planning committee. And I will also the part of second IANA naming function review. The purpose of me running for the ccNSO Council candidate is basically to represent Asia-Pacific region, Central Asia, Middle East, which is not generally represented when it comes to Asia-Pacific in ccNSO Council. So we have a lot of countries. I would like to thank Bangladesh who nominated me and Oman, which seconded my nomination. So looking at all those countries and when we are discussing it in our onboarding and mentoring committee, we want to activate more ccNSO countries and make them more active when it comes to different engagements and initiatives we have in ccNSO Council. So for that, my plan is to work on commitment on strengthening the voice of all these Asia-Pacific region countries when it comes to the board and ccNSO Council.

Practical regional experience. We have a lot of engagement with through the APTLD currently, and we do support other developing countries and engage with them in terms of preparing new policies, work on new strategies on how they should work on operations, collaboration, capacity building and knowledge. We did a lot of sessions. We did a Middle East space currently yesterday and today as well to support and develop, develop, develop. We did a lot of sessions. We did a Middle East space currently yesterday and today as well to support the space of domain within the Middle East as well

as Central Asia and currently we are all working towards digital transformation. So these are some of my focus points that I would like to work on when I'm the ccNSO councilor. I think I have done three minutes, Andrew?

ANDREW LEWELA

Yes, thank you, Sami. Thank you. Appreciate it. Next, very quickly, I'll give the floor to Ms. Boyoung.

BOYOUNG KIM

Hello, everyone. My name is Boyoung Kim from kisa.kr, cctl.kr registry in Korea. I believe most of you here have a lot longer experience in ICANN and ccNSO than me, but still for the last 13 years, I have been working on internet governance and domain name policy, both domestically and internationally through ICANN GAC, ccNSO, and APTLD board. It was my second year back in 2015 when I came to Dublin for the ICANN meeting as a very junior staff and it is quite thrilled and such an honor to sit here as a councilor candidate today. I started my ICANN journey as a GAC representative of Korea for first seven years, where I learned most of ICANN's policy in public perspective. Recent few years of experience in ccNSO and APTLD board, I learned how essential it is for ccTLDs to balance local policy autonomy with global coordination and how diverse AP regions are. If elected, I aim to bridge ICANN, ccNSO, and Asia-Pacific community, ensuring that our region's diverse voice, whether it is large or small, developed or emerging, are heard and respected. For that, I believe ccNSO needs to put effort for capacity building for

newcomers and new members. I will focus on strengthening regional participation, translating global policy into local level, and supporting capacity building to empower the new and next generation of ccTLD managers. With the full support of KISA, my organization, and Korean multi-stakeholder community, I will serve with transparency, collaboration, and strong commitment to making the ccNSO both globally effective and locally grounded. Thank you.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you, Boyoung. I'll now hand over the floor from the EU region, Chris.

CHRIS DISSPAIN

Thank you, Andrew. Good afternoon, everybody. It's a pleasure to be here and an honor to be sitting in front of you as the unopposed candidate for a council seat in Europe. I thought I would just briefly talk about what I'm doing and have been doing in ccNSO. I chair the triage committee at the moment. I'm on the Domain Abuse Standing Committee, the Internet Governance Liaison Committee, and various other things. I'm also one of the ccNSO representatives on the Review of Reviews cross-community group. I'm one of the co-chairs of that group. Although I bounce around the ICANN community and you'll find me in all sorts of different rooms, the ccNSO is and always has been my home, and I am delighted that I'm able to continue to serve on the council. I'm going to end with an apology. I need to leave at quarter two. I know this meeting runs

until four, but I'm going to need to go at quarter four. My apologies for that. When we get to questions, I'm very happy to answer any questions anybody has. Thank you. Back to you, Andrew.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you, Chris, for keeping it very brief. Next, I will hand it over to Alejandra.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Thank you, Andrew, and thank you, everyone. A special thanks to Jennifer from Panama and Demi from Brazil for nominating and seconding me, and to the whole Latin American and Caribbean region for their steady support. I've been receiving lots of messages, either in person or through the electronic means, and it's an honor to feel supported by the region. I would just like to say that the future work that I would like to focus is on what, well, Chris just mentioned, the review of reviews. This has been an initiative that the ccNSO has been advancing, and we are looking forward for a successful outcome. Additionally, with the continuous improvement program, we are reaching out to the regional organizations with the aim of strengthening the relationships within the regions for ccTLDs, and also here in this room, in the global environment of the ccNSO. One thing I wanted to share that I was going to say at the beginning, but somehow skipped my mind and just remembered, is that 10 years ago, I was here in Dublin in the leadership program from ICANN, and looking back now, or saying the other way around, 10 years later, being here sitting at this table and being representative for the Latin

American and Caribbean region, it's amazing. It has proven to be very useful, all the tools learned in that program, and I'm happy to be able to continue. One more thing that I would like to share with you is that it's something that we've been doing, and I think today, all of you who participated in the joint session with the GAC notice, is that we are also trying to cross-pollinate with other groups on the methodologies and the activities that we do, because we think that if we want things to be different, we need to do things differently. And in this case, we are doing the World Café methodology with, well, this time with the GAC, and we can do it with other communities, and it has proven to open the dialogue to increase the networking between the ccTLD managers and the GAC representatives, and we're trying to build bridges here to have those communities closer together, as was one of the objectives that we asked of the community, what would you like to be improved of the ccNSO in 2030, for example, this is one of them improving that relationship, and we're working on them, and we will continue to look to all the other goals that you guys have set for us. So, thank you so much for the support, and I'm honored to be here and continue to serve you. Thank you.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you, Alejandra. Last, but definitely not least, my good friend, Charles from North America region.

CHARLES NOIR

Hi, everyone. First of all, thank you to Sean and Stephen for supporting my candidacy, and thank you to Stephen for all the work that you've done over your time here. I'll give you a brief overview of my role at CIRA and my connection to ICANN so far. I'm Vice-President of Policy and Advocacy and Community Investment at CIRA, so responsible for all of our give-back programs, also known as NETGOOD. Our policy work both within Canada around legislation and supporting internet governance policy in Canada, but also quite active internationally through the TCCM and through work in various global forums. Before I came to CIRA two and a half years ago, most of my career was in the Government of Canada, where I spent 15 years. My last role there was a Senior Director of International Telecommunications and Internet Policy, which is where I first landed at ICANN 60 in Abu Dhabi, and I'll certainly never forget that, because the .amazon delegation was quite active and quite busy, and that was my first experience. And since then, it's been quite the ride. I'm really looking forward to serving in a different capacity, particularly learning more about the inner workings of the ccNSO. I would also say that our priority certainly has been strengthening multi-stakeholder internet governance, not just defending the status quo. I think Byron was talking about that yesterday. So, really looking forward to ways that we can work within the ccNSO community to in fact improve the model. And in general, I already put my hand up for the SOPC, so looking forward to rolling up my sleeves and getting to work there. Thank you.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you very much, Charles. So, we just have under 40 minutes to then now allow members in the room, colleagues, to shoot any questions in no particular order, but I'll guide the process. Due to the courtesy that Chris requested, because it dropped off early, may I just ask a quick question? Chris and Patricio to open it up, and then I will open the floor. So, Chris, from a vision and strategy point of view, how do you see the role of the ccNSO or ccTLDs evolving over the next three years, especially with emerging technologies and new governance pressures? And what's one specific priority will you champion if elected?

CHRIS DISSPAIN

Thank you, Andrew, for a great question. Actually, two questions, possibly three. Anyway, I think the challenges that exist, there are a number of challenges that exist for ccTLDs both within the ICANN community and outside of the ICANN community, and a combination of both. So I think we're coming to the end now of this sort of WSIS thing, and one hopes that this will end up being in reasonable shape by the time we get to the UNGA in December, and that the IGF will be endorsed and the ICANN will continue to operate and so on and so forth. But I think that the ccTLD community has throughout this process created an environment with the TCCM and various other initiatives that have shown that there is actually a lot we can do outside of ICANN as a group. And I think that's important and we can try to build on that for the greater good of the internet community around the world. I think that there's also work happening within ICANN, which the council's begun working on,

which is to try to bring the registries from the gTLD community and the registries from the ccTLDs together in ICANN under an umbrella that enables us to talk as registries. So we may not operate the same way, but in the same way that ccTLD registries don't all operate in the same way, different ownerships, some governments, some not, and so on. The gTLD registries obviously are different, but there's a lot that we can do together both inside of ICANN and actually outside of ICANN. And there are a number of initiatives going on at the moment that we can build on. For me, the next 18 months to two years, well, the next 12 months, and then we'll see what happens from the point of view of implementation. But the review of reviews is the major thing that I'm going to be working on because that's got to be done and dealt with. That plus the relationships across the ICANN community and just the sort of day-to-day work of the ccNSO are the kind of priorities for me. Thanks.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you. Because Chris will drop off early, I wish to welcome any follow-up question from the room and also online. Please state your name for the record and keep it very short, please. Any questions? One over here. Please go ahead.

PIERRE BONIS

Hello, thank you. Hello, Chris. Very quick question. You are not the only one, but some of you are not affiliated to a specific ccTLD on this election, but you are affiliated to a region. So, I'm wondering if you could tell us so could you tell us who you are affiliated with? If

it's not a CC, maybe you work for someone else and explain us where you are living to be European. Thank you.

CHRIS DISSPAIN

Thank you very much, Pierre. So I live in the UK and I, now, and I have my own company, which is called DNS Capital, which is a company that deals with DNS issues. And that company consults through me, basically, to Identity Digital, which, as you know, is one of the largest TLD registries in the world. And Identity Digital, I am the senior advisor to Identity Digital on policy and internet governance. And ID is an American company, but is also based in Ireland. So, it has a fairly high European footprint. And it is also the RSP, Registry Service Provider, for a number of ccTLDs. I could easily have hooked onto one of those and said, I am appointed, but that just didn't seem to be the right thing to do. So, that's why I'm kind of not associated with a particular ccTLD. Does that give you enough information? Thank you.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you for the transparency, Chris. Any other questions before I jump on to the other candidates? Anyone online? There was one hand up in the Zoom room. Oh, Olga, please go for it. Sorry, I didn't see that.

OLGA CAVALLI

Thank you, Chair. It's a question for Alejandra. I don't know if there are other questions for Chris.

ANDREW LEWELA

I think, Patricio, I had a similar question to you. I can repeat it. From a vision perspective, you serve on many committees on the board, as you mentioned. Once again, how do you see the role of ccNSOs and ccTLDs evolve? And what specific one priority, I know you mentioned a few, will you put on top of your inbox? Thank you.

PATRICIO POBLETE

Thanks. I always thought that the ccNSO brings to the ICANN community richness, diversity that you cannot find on the G side because all the gTLDs have to do the things, what they do according to the contracts that they have with ICANN. If one needs for them to do something differently, those contracts have to be amended, just like it happened recently with the DNS abuse provisions. ccTLDs, on the other hand, are free to experiment, to look for different solutions and to come together and share their best practices. So I'm a firm believer in the fact that what the ccTLDs bring here is this genetic diversity that will allow the whole of the community to get better and better as we move ahead with taking into account many of the ideas that got us started here in our community. Well, Alejandra just mentioned one, which is the World Cafe, which works extremely well when trying to brainstorm and come up with new ideas in the community. I believe that DNS abuse is another area where the ccTLDs can contribute a lot through the DASC, the Domain Abuse Standing Committee, and many of those ideas can be brought forward to the whole of the ICANN community and perhaps it will

influence the process for the gTLDs and ultimately for everyone. So there is a great strength here in this room and in our community that we can offer to the whole of the ICANN community. The last two priorities, well it or not, the big priority for the ICANN is just coming up is the launch of the next round of new gTLDs that will occupy us as a board supervising what the org does a lot. A lot of our time will be devoted to making sure that that works well. And in terms of what involves the ccTLDs, I'm really keen on finishing soon the processing of the policies that we have on our desk, both completing the implementation of CCPDP3-RM review mechanism and the CCPDP4-IDN. Oh, sorry. But that's my answer.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you very much. So ladies and gentlemen, I also want now to open the floor up a bit more, especially for our two candidates from APAC. So if you have a question for Sami or Boyoung, I think this is a good time. I think there we might have a bit of a race. A race. So any questions from the room? Go for it. And then we'll have a second one follow up here.

BRUCE TONKIN

Thank you. Bruce Tonkin from .au. This is a question for both of the candidates in the Asia Pacific region. I noticed on the slide, the blue area is sort of Asia, but it's kind of missing most of the Pacific Island TLDs. But there are quite a few. I'm just interested in your views on how we, what the ccNSO can do to engage more of the CCs in the Asia Pacific region beyond some of the big ones, obviously,

Australia, India, China, etc. there. But in the Asia Pacific region, beyond some of the big ones, obviously, Australia, India, China, etc. there's a lot of smaller ccTLDs that we don't seem to have much interaction with that I can.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you. I'll allow one more and then they can take them in concert. And just a polite reminder, ask your questions slowly after introduction.

ATSUSHI ENDO

Thank you, Chair. Atsushi Endo from .jp for the record. Thank you so much, all candidates for showing your willingness to contribute to ccNSO. I have kind of very basic questions, especially for Charles, Sami, Boyoung, those who are not incumbent. My question is, what are the pressing issues of ccNSO and or ccNSO council that need to be addressed? As a councilor, how can you contribute to resolving them? Thank you.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you, sir, for that question. So I'll allow Boyoung to go first and you can address both questions and keep it short.

BOYOUNG KIM

Thank you for your question. I agree that I think it's an issue that we are facing in the Asia-Pacific region and also the broader ccNSO community that in some region, there is a low participation from the

smaller registry. So what I think needs and what I can contribute for the ccNSO council and then for the Asia-Pacific community, I want to point out the two points. I want to mention the two points. First, I understand and then I agree that there are like lack of participants in the smaller ccTLD. I have been thinking like the reason why they are not participating is first is they are not aware of this community and then the second is they don't feel necessity to join and then contribute in this community. From the last five years of experience in the Asia-Pacific APTLD board, where it has like APTLD board, I learned that how diverse and then how different the ccTLD managers and ccTLD operate in our region. Some ccTLDs are large and advanced, but still some ccTLDs get like domain registration manually and then their security standards are low. So whether it's small or large or advanced or not advanced yet, our common goal is having safe, stable, open, and trusted internet for all. So from my experience, ICANN is a very kind organization. So there are huge like lots of information everywhere. It's a lot and it's very detailed. So for the newcomers and the small ccTLDs, I believe there is a high barrier to enter this community, especially for the non-English speaking countries, especially for the who doesn't have the ICANN's language service that require three or four times of effort to understand what's going on in here. So I believe, a strong belief in the importance of capacity building for the newcomers. So I suggest to have the APTLDs material in easy and simple way for the better understanding for the newcomers. And that requires the effort from the council, but also from the ccTLD staff. And also I think that we can collaborate with the regional communities such as like APTLD

or ICANN APAC office. KISA, my organization, has a strong belief in the capacity building. And this kind of effort is necessary for our ccTLD community. And I have a strong experience in that. And second, I want to mention is like the language barrier, especially in the Asia Pacific. Most of the countries are not having English as a mother language and then have a strong desire for the language localization. So globally, nearly 50% of contents are in English and that caused the limit of participation. So having contents in local language is very important in terms of digital division and then having diversity in language. So what we can do in our field as a like in domain sector for the digital inclusion, having the IDN and the universal acceptance is very important. And the ccNSO council and ccNSO community needs to think more about, put more effort and find the solution. I believe that it aligns with our common goal for the safe, stable, open, and trusted internet. Thank you.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you. Sami?

SAMI MOHAMED ALI

Hi, this is Sami from Bahrain. And thank you for the question. But I would like to extend that question to just not the Pacific islands, but as I mentioned, Middle East, Central Asia, you can look around in the room, you have a very low participation. And I'm also part of the ccNSO onboarding and mentoring committee, as well as universal acceptance committee. So we do discuss the same issues. And as my colleague, Boyoung mentioned that there is a lack of knowledge or

information when it comes to those countries where you need to work on capacity building and knowledge sharing. And it's more of, I'm aware that ODA does a lot of work in with the Pacific islands and they do support their initiatives. But I think what we can do more is to provide them the platform on ICANN's different various initiatives that can support them financially or technically to be aware of how ccNSO works and how it is performing. And APTLD board, again, me and Boyoung are both on APTLD board as well. We do a lot of work with developing countries or the countries which are in some kind of war zones or so on, in terms of giving them policy support. So we do free services for them and pro bono services, I would say, in terms of developing policies, providing technical support where necessary from all the relevant countries. And if you have countries that speak Arabic language, we do give them the countries that have the same setup so they can benefit from it. Same happens when it comes to South Asia, which is a huge population and have a similar cultural background. So the idea of imposing, not imposing more or less, providing them the tools to have some content in their own language will be very useful in the future. And that's why with the universal acceptance expert working group, Bahrain was the first one, first country to launch the universal acceptance curriculum in the universities. And we are replicating that in the region now, to begin with Kuwait and Saudi and UAE. And slowly that will be replicated in other regions as well, within the Asia-Pacific and most probably in Latin America and Europe. So this is something that we will work on. It's mainly the capacity building, knowledge sharing

and supporting where the ccTLD community requires in Asia-Pacific the support. Thank you.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you, Sami. Before I cross over, I really look forward to Mumbai then, hopefully coming closer to the region and hopefully Oman very soon. So I'll push it to you, Charles, on the same questions that were asked.

CHARLES NOIR

One thing that I've been struck with over the years at ICANN has been the degree to which the organization can maintain relevance with respect to governing the aspects that it does on the internet. So where I'm going with this is within the ccNSO in particular, I would like to certainly spend some time understanding how the processes are working more at an operational level and maybe work towards how we can improve our effectiveness and efficiencies. We were talking about this the other day. I think that would be my one of my main priorities is to think about how the ccNSO can potentially enable more nimble, agile policy making within the within the context of ICANN. And largely my concern there as well is how quickly as an organization, and that includes SOs, are responding to some of the challenges. We're doing well with DNS abuse. Where can we leverage that kind of cooperation to model for the rest of the community?

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you, Charles. I'll allow Olga to go now. And then we'll go to another set of questions. She's super excited.

OLGA CAVALLI

Thank you. Thank you. And apologies. I misunderstood the order of the questions to the candidates. And first, I want to thank Alejandra and Patricio for representing our beautiful region in this nice environment. And it's somehow a question for both of you, but mainly for Alejandra. I've been following you since we met many, many years ago in a place in Africa. We were both speaking in English. It was fun. And after a while, we realized that we were sharing the same language. And I've been following you and I commend you for all the work that you have been doing in this community and in the ccNSO. I was checking the list of members of the ccNSO from the LAC region. It's quite big. But I would like to ask you and maybe also to Patricio. How do you foresee to make other CCs more engaged, apart from the ones that we know that work very well and are very well represented and active in the ccNSO and in the regional organizations? How do you foresee that we could engage some others that are more silent, be more active? And I think that you have been promoting very interesting activities. But I think we'd still miss a little bit, broaden a little bit the participation of some other CCS. But this is why I wanted to ask you and thank you, both of you, for your work.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Thank you, Olga, for the question. This is Alejandra for the record. It's a very good question. That's like the heart of the essence of what we do in the ccNSO and in our region is to get everyone in the table because we're on the table. I always have English issues at the table. OK, well, there you go. All points of view are important. And I understand in the region it's not easy for all ccTLDs to participate. Not all of them have the same resources. And I know that one of the most valuable ones is time. So it's not easy. But I believe that if we try and do small steps at a time would be better. I will seek with the help of the LACTLD and the councilors of the Latin American and Caribbean region here to maybe we could strategize in getting ourselves closer to the ccTLDs instead of keep asking them to come to us. I think that's one of the first steps we could do. And also to have a more companionship within neighbors, for example in the Central America. We will consider ourselves like kind of a family where siblings there that when there is a football match, we hate each other. But when we need to defend our place, we are all together like glue. So maybe the strategy of okay, let's partner up, let's talk to the neighbor first and slowly getting them up in this train. I could perceive this as a first step, but I think Patricio may want to add something more.

PATRICIO POBLETE

Yeah, well, I don't have a lot more to add. I think the regional organizations are key for this. The regional organizations are a place where the ccTLDs can go and join people who speak the same language, have similar cultures. But it's easier to trust them to help

them come on board on this environment, which is a bit intimidating for a newcomer. So coming together with some friends nearby is a good way to do it. And within that context, the regional organization can also help these newcomers to have access to some of the resources that are available, fellowships and scholarships provided from other sources. So that will ease the pain of coming here, having a way to pay for all the expenses and enrolling here into the all the help that there is available for newcomers. And there are mentors now, lots of things that help people come and get to understand what this all is about. And the good news is that it can be done. Lots of people that came here as fellows later, years later, are in positions of even big responsibility within the ICANN community. So but the beginning can be hard. And as I said, close friends can help a lot.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you for those practical possibilities that have been shared. I'll take another batch and just to be cognizant about just under 15 minutes. We'll start with you, sir.

TOM BOLT

Tom Bolt from the Virgin Islands. Chris Noir, I'd like to ask a question. And that is one of the only areas in the world that doesn't have a regional organization or an organized regional organization is North America. Should they and if you were elected or when you're elected what would you think about a North American organization?

CHARLES NOIR

Thanks for the question. We're a large region, but not a lot of CCs. So I think the question is a good one. I'm not sure as coming from the position in the ccNSO, particularly what that would look like representing the region here. But certainly an opportunity to bring us together and discuss what that could look like or what we might want to achieve. I'm not sure that that would happen within the ccNSO itself as much as it may happen collectively in terms of what we wanted to achieve with that organization.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you. Anyone online? I don't want to miss out anyone. Looks like you're satisfied, no? Maybe I could ask a question to Sami and Boyoung around the question of representation and accountability. Given the diversity of the country code registries in this room and across the world, from small developing registries to larger ones, how would you ensure balanced representation and fairness in the ccNSO policy development and council decision making? I'll start with you, Sami.

SAMI MOHAMED ALI

Thank you, Andrew. And that is one of the reasons why I am here for this council position because the Central Asia, South Asia, Middle East, which is a very large part of Asia Pacific, but there is no representation even in the room itself. You can see very few people are from that region. So the whole point was to engage with them more, and we have been doing that in the Asia Pacific top-level domain, APTLD, through their different initiatives in terms of

providing services for developing policies, sharing blocking lists, and different kinds of information sharing and knowledge sharing. And due to that, I thought if we do have a representation in board and the council itself, it will provide us more voice when it comes to that major region and a large population with so many ccTLDs that are not being able to share what they are doing, or they're not active in this region and this all came through when we have discussed it during onboarding and mentoring committee of ccNSO where we always have challenges in activating the ccNSO or ccTLDs that are not active currently.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you Sami.

BOYOUNG KIM

Thank you for your question. So a big difference between gTLD and ccTLD. ccTLD we don't need to follow some major or common policy. Each country can have the their own policy. But still I feel that it's really important in this like the important factor in the ccNSO is we can learn each other. Whether we don't need to follow the like ICANN policy but we still need to learn from each other and that is very helpful to operate our own ccTLD. So of course we need to have more voice from the small or not representative not represented the ccTLDs voice but so we still need to have a lot of effort to have them in our like at the table and then like let them know the current issue in the like internet ecosystem and then share the good knowledge and then experience is really important. So still like whether it's not

the only issue in the Asia Pacific region it has other many in other regions as well there are many ccTLDs for are not represented here. So I will try my best like I will try my best to find like better solution to have like solve this issue. Thank you.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you both. Now I have some three minutes I will like towards the end to donate back to Yoke. She has an important update to all of us but before then there's something in in Kenya we call burning question. So if you have a burning question I know we'll have time before today between today and the election we can follow up with questions but we don't want to lock anyone out. So think about it if you have a burning question I will welcome it but before then I want to ask my good friend on my left a quick one. What principles do you think will guide you Alejandra in terms of collaboration within the council and the wider community as you take on this role? Is there a tool you you'd like to say you will use for collaboration and then I'll welcome any burning question.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Thank you. Well I think the best tool that that we have is our community for collaboration. We are the ones who make everything happen here like it's not the council it's not the councilors themselves but the whole community. We are the ones who invite others, who communicate with each and everyone in the room, who provide help, who provide information, who seek help. So to me the

best tool that we have to make either the regional organizations or the ccNSO successful in terms of collaboration it's their community.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you. Well put. Burning question. Good. Means there's no burning question. Anyone online? Excellent.

TOM BOLT

Can you define a burning question?

ANDREW LEWELA

Yes indeed. It's that question that you cannot leave the room with. It's burning inside you have.

JOKE BRAEKEN

Thank you very much Andrew. Just would like to talk to you about the next steps. So as you can see for the African region council will meet tomorrow and one of the topics on the agenda for council to decide on is the launch of a new call for nominations. And the expected start date of that call for nominations is the 13th of November. And as you noted previously there will be one region where elections will be held and that's the Australia Asia Pacific region. Voting in that region starts the week after that. So that's Tuesday the 18th of November, closes on the 9th of December. So keep an eye out on the announcements on the ccNSO website and on the mailing lists and the call for nominations for the African region and the launch of the elections for the Asia Pacific region will

be posted there. So for the European, Latin American and Caribbean and North American regions no elections will be held. Once the process is ended the election report will go to council for adoption and those candidates will take their seat once approved by council at the end of ICANN 85. That's the next meeting in March. I also wanted to give you a heads up about a new voting tool. Previously the ccNSO used Tally. You might remember that you received emails from Tally at ICANN.org and future emails will come from eBallot. So eBallot.com. You can see how those emails look like. I added a screenshot there. In the middle of that text that you will see with your ballot there will be a link. So please click on the link, follow the instructions to cast your vote. It's a new tool, pretty straightforward, but it requires a few clicks to make sure that you submit your vote. If you have any questions I'm happy to answer them to assist you. Please do feel free to reach out if there's anything that we can help you with. Thank you.

ANDREW LEWELA

Thank you, Joke. It's my humble duty and pleasure to just say congratulations to all our candidates. We wish you every success towards the completion of this process and more importantly as a community we expect and hope that you will continue to serve all of us fairly and we will support each and every one of you who's going to be in those places of responsibility. I want to also thank everyone in the room for engaging us during this Q&A and also for those who are not able to join us here. We are happy you are able to join us online and we look forward to your continued collaboration. There's

something going on on the screen, I'm not sure what it is, but people are rating this session and I, is that what's going on? Good.

JOKE BRAEKEN

Thank you, Andrew. Yes, in front of us there is a Menti polling regarding the rating of this session that this is feedback for the meetings program committee and the code is either, well you can use the QR code or it's at the top of the slide 84675775.

ANDREW LEWELA

I guess it is to wish you a good rest of the afternoon and evening and for those like me who are leaving tomorrow morning, bon voyage and God bless all of you. Thank you. Recording stopped. Yeah, I donate the two minutes that are remaining back to you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]