
ICANN84 | AGM – ccNSO: Casual Meet Up for ccNSO Newcomers
Wednesday, October 29, 2025 – 9:00 to 10:00 IST

CLAUDIA RUIZ

Hello, and welcome to the casual meetup for ccNSO newcomers. My name is Claudia Ruiz, and I am the participation manager 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. If you would like to speak during this session, please use the physical microphone at the table and please leave your Zoom microphone disconnected.

For the benefit of participants, please state your name for the record and speak at a reasonable pace. Thank you. And with that, I will now hand the floor over to Jenifer Lopez, Chair of the Onboarding and Mentoring Committee. Thank you.

JENIFER LOPEZ

Thank you, Claudia. Good morning, everyone, and welcome to our casual meetup for newcomers. As Claudia said, I'm Jenifer Lopez, the Onboarding and Mentoring Committee Chair, and I'd like to

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start by thanking for joining us today. I'm like very excited for this day, I was awaiting a lot for it. It's great to see a lot of familiar faces and also a lot of new faces, at least for me. And I want to especially thank our secretariat for preparing and supporting this session.

This is an informal session. It's a space to connect, share experiences, and help our new ccNSO newcomers to feel at home, a community so welcome to this. Please relax, something for me, grab a coffee if you want, and let's make this a friendly conversation rather than a formal meeting. And before we start introductions, let's quickly talk about the Buddy program, what is this, and why it matters. Bart, do you want me to do it or you? Okay.

The idea is simple, to connect newcomers with experienced ccNSO members who can help them navigate through ccNSO and answer questions, share tips on how to participate effectively in the meeting and also at ccNSO. Well, Bart, will you like to add something or the goals of the program, please?

BART BOSWINKEL

Yeah, I will add something. The reason for starting with something like the onboarding is, we found that a lot of newcomers get lost and feel lost if they're attending ICANN meetings for the first time. And that's the reason why we'll do an introduction at the real tour de table at the start of the meeting. Let me share my experience at least of attending ICANN meetings.

My first ICANN meeting was in 1999 in Berlin. That was the second ICANN meeting ever. I was still with Dothanel at the time. And once you get into an environment like an ICANN meeting, especially in those days, it felt like you're going to the zoo. You see a lot of things happening, you have no clue what is happening and why people interact the way they do. And it only takes after a couple of, in my case, years that you get a grip on what is happening and understand what is happening.

And we all went through this experience, so don't feel alone in that experience. It is natural. Probably you have to distrust the person who said, "Oh, I understand it after one meeting," because they have just scratched the surface of what is really happening in this building.

And just to make you aware that you're not alone in that sense, and to help you to get some direction, we thought, or the ccNSO thought, we need this onboarding program, that you connect with somebody who is experienced and can explain what is happening in this environment, at least in the ccNSO, because you all sat in the room yesterday morning and you see all these presentations coming on and why are we doing this?

There was a little bit of a tip by Alejandra when she said that this is all the topics that the ccNSO is working on. But even if this is your second or third meeting, you don't understand why we're having that topic on the agenda for that reason. So, to help you, to really

help you and to meet those needs you may have, again, the onboarding program.

Maybe one more thing is, if you want to participate actively after this meeting, it's not necessary that you become a member, we hope you will, of a working group, or that you attend every ICANN meeting.

One of the nice things you've learned by now is that we have Zoom and it has its downsides, but an upside is that you can participate remotely and your voice will be heard and you learn a lot by just listening in and looking at Zoom meetings and participating. I would say just acting and participating in Zoom rooms is already good to get a little bit of the flavor of the type of discussions moving forward.

So, there is a low threshold, although it seems miles away, the threshold is low to participate. So that's maybe a final remark? Not really. Alejandra, you want to add anything? Because you went through an interesting-- She's the chair of the ccNSO Council, for that matter, and one of the persons really promoting the onboarding and set of newcomers. You want to add anything?

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Well, thank you, Bart, and thank you, Jenifer. And yes, my name is Alejandra Reynoso. I am from Guatemala and what I want to tell everyone in the room or if anyone is listening to us remotely is that

the ccNSO is, I would say, the most welcoming communities there are.

And anyone in the room would be more than delighted to answer any of your questions, so don't feel inhibited to sit down next to someone and ask them what this is all about. I'm sure anyone can do that and if not, well, you can reach always to anyone in the council, for sure we will help you and welcome.

BART BOSWINKEL

Maybe a final one. Shall I kick off the tour de table? Because I'm having the microphone anyway. So, let me explain my role. I am, say, part of the ccNSO Secretariat or ccNSO support staff together with Claudia and Joke. I've been around with ICANN inside and outside ICANN since 1999, so that's quite some time. At the time, as I said, my first meeting was in Berlin, that was ICANN's second meeting, and I missed one ever since. You could say that's a failure because you don't have anything else to do, but it is nice, I can tell you.

Going back, so my experience at the first meeting, yeah, it was a zoo. I felt lost. My boss at the time was one of the persons who was at the founding of the European ccTLD regional organizations, but also participated in the creation of ICANN, so I think he went to Singapore and even before had all kinds of meetings, and he just threw me in and said, "Swim and if you have questions get back to

me,” which I did. And ever since, yeah, I stayed involved and over time I became ICANN staff as well, so that is my background.

By education, and that maybe gives you a flavor of the type of person, I'm a lawyer and anthropologist. So, it's a weird combination for some, not for me and then you end up in a technical environment so it does work. So, maybe with this, may I give the floor? Maybe you, Jenifer, go ahead.

JENIFER LOPEZ

Well, I'm from Panama, and I'm a manager for ccTLD.PA and I started my journey in ICANN and ccNSO in ICANN66 in Montreal, like 2019, maybe. And I was pretty lost at that time. Now I'm kind of lost sometimes, but I do love that in this community we can ask anything and we get an answer. So that's a nice community for me. It's like very approachable people. They are nice people. So, whatever you need to talk to someone, do it because they really matter or us... how do you say [inaudible - 00:10:10]?

PABLO RODRIGUEZ

[inaudible - 00:10:11] care for you.

JENIFER LOPEZ

They care about you and all the things that you need to say and ask. I don't know, I'm pretty happy to be in this community. Thank you.

PABLO RODRIGUEZ

Thank you, Bart. Good morning, all. My name is Pablo Rodriguez. I was formerly with the registry that we are in Puerto Rico. My first ICANN meeting was in ICANN18 in Tunisia and just like Bart mentioned, and it will be the experience for most of you, I was completely lost. This is like you're walking into a conversation that has been going on for a long time, and you just walked in and it's like, what? Who? What did he say? What are they talking about? Why is this important? And so on and so forth.

But like Jenifer mentioned, as you begin to meet people, people are always willing to help you. There're very good people here, ICANN staff, not because they are here, but we have become family and you will see that throughout the years, you will become like family.

Bart, Joke, Claudia, and so many others they will help you. Don't be afraid to ask. I mean, nobody wants to be the person that says, "I don't know what they're talking about." No one wants to do that, but if you honestly come to someone and say, "Can you give me some light, what is going on here?" So, I did, and get involved.

Get involved. It matters. What you say, what you do, and what you get involved matters. It will make a difference in the world, believe it or not. What we do here makes a difference. So, you have to get involved, and when you do get involved, you will get the reward of knowing that you're changing the world. Stuff that happens in ICANN, ICANN is an organization like no other. The stuff that gets done here, it's amazing and it truly moves the needle in the right

direction. So, it is important to get involved. Don't be afraid. Get involved.

There are people who are willing, just like there was people that helped us out, Margarita was one of those individuals that also helped me out throughout the work, throughout the times that I was here, Alejandra, Biyi, and so many others, we will help each other out. We will pull each other out and make sure that you can contribute and participate in this.

After that, being in Tunisia in 2003, I said, hmm, I think we could do this in Puerto Rico. And so, we celebrated three ICANN events. ICANN29 in 2007, ICANN61 in 2018, and ICANN79 in 2023 and possibly in the future there may be another one, so who knows. But at the end of the day, you will travel the world. That's good stuff. And you'll get to meet a lot of interesting people and get involved in a lot of interesting projects that really matter. Thank you.

WAFDA DAHMANI

Yes, thank you. Good morning, everyone. So, I'm Wafa Dahmani. Today I'm an ICANN ccNSO counselor. My first experience in ICANN was in 2013. I used to work for our Tunisian registry. That's why I attended the meeting and especially the ccNSO meetings, like others I was confused in that meeting.

I remember the only session that I could see it clearly was the [inaudible - 00:14:19] news, since I'm working in the CC. So that was the only session that I could understand what was happening in

that session. And today... I forget to say that I was working for the Internet Regional Registry for Africa. I left the registry in 2022. What helped me to engage with the ccNSO is that one time after two meetings, I remember I decided to join the Strategy and Operational Working Group. Then I think that when I joined this group, my journey started with the ccNSO and I didn't stop engaging.

The members of the working group were so kind and they helped me to understand many things in the ccNSO. And when you join a working group, I think it's a good thing to understand, it's a good point of start to understand what's happening and we can then understand more and more and why not become chair of any working group or join the ccNSO council and be active and engaged. Thank you.

JOKE BRAEKEN

Hello everyone. My name is Joke and I work for the ccNSO Secretariat together with Bart and Claudia and I joined ICANN ccNSO Secretariat almost 10 years ago, but before I was working for a registrar and that registrar was mostly interested in gTLD, so a slightly different world. Well, I skipped one step actually. I started working for a registrar in 2000, and it was also my first time that I attended an ICANN meeting. After working for this registrar, I joined .EU, the European Union's ccTLD. That was when my involvement with ccTLD and ccNSO matters started.

As a consumer, let's say, of ccNSO sessions, I had a hard time following, not only the topics, but I thought also the rules of engagement and the working groups were quite different than what I expected, like for instance how to become a member? What is the formal process? Is there an approval process needed? Once you are a member, what do you do? You just dial into meetings and you decide yourself when you join or not? Or how does it work? Do you send apologies if you cannot join? So, those small things were a little bit, yeah, a mystery to me, finding out while swimming as Bart said.

Since I started working for the ccNSO Secretariat, I think the past experiences helped me a lot in my current role, but the learning process never ends. It's a continuous journey, and that is also what makes it so interesting, both in terms of topics, in terms of simply how things work, and the relations between the different ccTLDs, but not only also other stakeholders within ICANN. Yeah, over to you, Bart.

BART BOSWINKEL

Okay, thanks. Claudia?

CLAUDIA RUIZ

Hi everyone. My name is Claudia. I'm in ccNSO with Bart and Joke. I've been with ICANN for going on eight years now. I started here with no background, not even knowing what ICANN does. I googled it, it was hard to figure it out honestly, very lost.

The first meeting did help, but it is good to ask questions, even if you're shy, to ask them in the chat, because other people might be wondering the same thing and are too embarrassed to ask the questions. But it's okay to be lost and to not know, but asking questions is the best way to go reaching out.

The whole plan here is to figure out from you all what you're interested in and where you want to go so we can match you up with the correct person that will steer you in the correct direction. So that's it. Thank you and welcome.

BART BOSWINKEL

Thanks, Claudia. Alejandra.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Thank you. I'm back again. Just to let you know, my first ICANN meeting was in 2011, ICANN41 in Singapore and that was my very first trip alone to the other side of the world. My mom was kind of worried. I made it. I'm alive and well.

I had the great opportunity of joining the ICANN meeting through the fellowship program and there we had former or alumni fellows who were there for us in case we had any questions, and I glued myself to one of them. Every time I saw them in the room, I sat beside them. That's why I'm telling you, sit beside someone, grab them, don't let them go, and they will respond to all your questions. What else did I need to say, sorry? Why do I participate in the ccNSO?

Okay, back then I was working for .GT, ccTLD, that's the ccTLD for Guatemala, and literally my boss said, "You go to the ccNSO meetings," and I am a very obedient and responsible person, so I did. At first it took me a while to understand what people were talking about because I was fairly new in my job as well, so I was not even sure what a ccTLD was supposed to do or what this ICANN thing was, but many things became clear. Not that meeting, but the next one that I attended a year later. So, it takes a while.

But then everything started falling down as in the pieces and I'm like, oh, we are a very important part of the whole Internet in the world. It's not just an office in the university. So, it's normal, it's natural, and yes, as Claudia was saying, asking the questions that others may be also having, it's fundamental, so don't hesitate. And there's tons and tons and tons and tons of information. Like, for example, I saw now that we were supposed to say our first ICANN meeting, and we don't know everything, but we know where to look, and that's one of the most important things. So, I went straight to the website, and I checked mine.

So, if we don't know, we can figure it out or point you to where you need to go. So, that's my experience. Thank you.

BIYI OLADIPO

Good morning, everyone. My name is Biyi Oladipo. I wish I had the same kind of experience with the others, where they had to come

because their bosses asked them to come. Mine was a bit more dramatic.

Okay, so we formed the organization that manages the .NG in 2005, but we started operations in 2007. I had the first elections into the board, and I was elected into the board, but I was managing a telecoms company in Nigeria at that time. I went to see one of the board members. I went to the regulator to have discussions about something that pertained to my company, and then after that, I just said, “Oh, Mary is here.” A lot of us know Mary Uduma. I said, “Mary is here. Let me say hello to Mary before I leave the building.”

So, I just walked into Mary's office and Mary goes, “Oh, Biyi, how are you? Are you coming for ICANN meeting?” And I looked at her. So, that's another thing about acronyms, there's an organization in Nigeria that is ICAN, which is for the accountants. So, when she said, “Oh, are you coming for ICANN meeting?” I was like, “ICAN? I'm not an accountant now, what do I need it for?” And then she went, “Oh, no, no, no, not that ICAN. This is ICANN.” I said, “Okay, so it's not ICAN, it's ICANN.” I said, “What's that?” Then she told me, gave me a little brief of what it was, and she said, “Oh, it's holding in LA.” I said, “Okay, LA, I haven't been to LA in a while, why not? At least I know it's a holiday. I'll just take a holiday and go.”

And when I entered into the meeting, all through that meeting I was asking myself, “Biyi, what are you doing here?” I'd console myself, “Biyi, you came on a holiday, no problem, enjoy your holiday, but you will learn while on holiday.” Since then, I told myself, “Okay,

this meeting holds three times a year. It's nice. I can stagger my holidays to this period. So, I'll just go wherever it is and then we'll..."

Every meeting that I went to, I discovered that there were things that people were doing that was affecting how we live in the world. And for me, it was just an understanding and I made up my mind that okay, let's see how far this can go. Each time I went back I told my colleagues on the board, "Guys, we need to start attending ICANN meetings." They said, "What are they doing there?" "I don't understand it yet, but I know that it's something that one could learn from."

So, I was able to convince another one and then another one and Mary also did quite a bit of work in mentoring us and taking us through the process. And how did I start to get involved? I told myself that, "Listen, this is making a contribution to the world, you need to be intentional about it," and I started getting involved.

I joined the SOPC, even though it was as a passive member initially. Then from there, the Review Working Party came on and I volunteered to join the Review Working Party, and then from there I started getting more and more involved. And Katrina was never going to leave you alone. Once she saw a new face, she grabbed on and held on to it. And Pablo was so, so, so instrumental to me getting more and more involved. Each time I had questions, I would go to him, and he would say, "Look, my brother," and then

he would explain. And Pablo was never tired of stopping on the corridor and having a conversation with you.

It was later that I found out that, yes, that's his person, but every other person was also like that, helping you to get up to speed. And then when the opportunity came to get into the council... No, first of all, I applied to be a liaison to GNSO and of course, I wasn't picked, nobody knew me. But later, the second time the opportunity came again, I applied again, and then I was picked as a liaison to GNSO. It was then that I started to understand the difference between GNSO and ccNSO. I started in 2007, and this wasn't until 2016 when I became a liaison. So, you could imagine the difference, that's a whopping, how many years? That's like nine years. So, you could understand how...

My colleagues on the NERA board always used to ask me, "This thing that you said we should be coming, we don't understand what they are saying. Why would we continue to waste our money going for the meetings?" I said, "Take it easy. You will understand as time comes."

So, I think it takes an interest, it takes intentionality, and it takes a commitment for you to actually get up to speed and be able to make a difference. Okay? So, I say welcome to everyone and waiting to see you. We are always around the ccNSO room and on the corridors to answer your questions. Thank you.

BART BOSWINKEL

Thanks, Biyi. Margarita?

MARGARITA VALDES

Good morning, everyone. My name is Margarita Valdez. I'm from Chile. I work for .CL registry, and perhaps I look younger than Bart, but my first ICANN meeting was in 1999 in August in Santiago. Exactly, exactly, yeah. I was thinking about that. And something that was the main challenge for me, it's because in my country the English language is not something that is very common to learn from the beginning. And I could understand mostly all the conversations and panels and so on, but I couldn't say anything in English.

So normally, and that happens very often, is that you will find in this community the main diversity that I love, and culturally, and the various backgrounds that you will find in all the people that are gathering in these meetings, but also are very supportive in terms of including the language. So, the very language that is in those days wasn't any concern about these differences. The good situation currently is that we have a translation, for example, so that barrier is not so hard in these days.

And the other thing is that I could say that, including all the things that Biyi and Alejandra and my colleagues said, this is an environment that is overwhelming at the very beginning, but is addictive at the last.

BIYI OLADIPO

Very well said.

MARGARITA VALDES

So, it's a warm community. I can say that I have a lot of friends in this community since the days that I started participating, but also, this community in particular, at the ccNSO, it has particular behaviors and community and supportive people and how you can approach to anybody to try to have any kind of information. Not only in terms of the CCs or whatever, it's something that is very interconnected because all the constituencies that are around, we are definitely connected in order to do internet works for the whole world. So that is something that is in my mind is something that is our purpose.

It's a matter of purpose. We are here with a purpose and in my case, my background is lawyer, and I do a lot of things in my organization, but also, I am distinguished by mentoring people, a lot of generations of ICANN, and so I'm a certified coach also. So, I enjoy it very much to help people, to give orientation or whatever you need to know, especially because we are mostly from the beginning, so we know all the things that were happening and the efforts that built this organization that is currently doing, and all the efforts where a lot. Huge efforts in order to have our ICANN as a state of here and currently.

So my advice is, approach people, know people. Mostly in the case of ccNSO, we have these labels. You can approach whoever, but also if you want to learn more about these things that we do in the

ccNSO, yes, please reach out, we can interchange cards or whatever information in order to be connected. Thank you for here. Thanks for your effort, because I know, I really know that it's an effort to be here and understand these dynamics, but you will have your reward at the end of the meeting. Thank you very much.

BART BOSWINKEL

Thanks, Margarita. So, the intention of this tour de table from this end was to give you a flavor of our journeys throughout ICANN, and this is more for you to reach out to one of us and to who you think can be of help to you. But to understand how you got engaged in ICANN in the first place and the type of maybe assistance you would look for, I want to reverse it now and that we do a tour de table of the newcomers.

Some of them are less newcomer than others, what I've noticed. I see one person I've seen from another area like Bastian, but it really doesn't matter and maybe I start with you, Bastian, to introduce yourself, ccNSO and if there is any areas you'd like to be assistance. Then we can try to match people with you or with other newcomers after this, at the end of the session. That's the real purpose, is to match up buddies and newcomers to assist you in your journey throughout the session as well, if necessary. Thanks. Bastian.

BASTIAN HOSLINGS

Thank you very much, Bart. Hello, everyone. Thank you for the overview that a lot of you have been giving. My name is Bastian

Hoslings, I'm Dutch. I work for SIDN, the ccTLD registry for .NL. I've been with them for just over a year now, as their manager for public affairs and yeah, the ccNSO is relatively new to me.

In all fairness, it's not my first ICANN experience. I think my first, at least the one that made a real impression, was the second At-Large summit, Atlas in 2014 in London. I was a board member of the Dutch Internet Society chapter at the time and from that angle invited to participate there. And yeah, that made an impression. It was the first time I was actually confronted, you know, with this ecosystem and the workings and the particularities of ICANN as a multi-stakeholder gathering.

Skip a couple of years, that was in 2016, I became an ALAC member myself, so on the At-Large Advisory Committee. Did that for a couple of years and it's probably the nature of, especially when it comes to global policy setting that, at least from my experience, you tend to gravitate more towards what's happening within the GNSO. So, my familiarity with policies and everything that comes along with it comes more from that space, the gTLD space.

I cannot really foresee, you know, in terms of my engagements with regard to ICANN in the future. I don't think I will be attending on a regular basis all of the meetings physically. I don't think that's necessary either. I have other colleagues, you know, that do so. SIDN is very much engaged, so I think that's a good thing and I'm quite open-minded in terms of, you know, joining working groups

and see, you know, what might be fitting also in terms of time and, you know, what my availability might be.

Me, being the manager for public affairs, and also been working quite a while in the internet industry and developing more towards regulatory affairs, public affairs compliance, I think, you know, with regard to internet governance related topics on a global scale, I think that's interesting and relevant to me. But also, security related aspects, stability, you know, what we can share there amongst peers. Abuse mitigation is a very important topic to us as well, so I think those are like in general terms the areas that I might be interested in and maybe can contribute in working groups or some other space. Thank you.

BART BOSWINKEL

Thanks, Bastian, and maybe you picked on one thing, I can't participate and will not be attending ICANN meetings on a regular basis, that's not necessary, at least in this environment. You mentioned two working groups, for example, or two areas of activities that's Internet governance and Internet governance-related matters. I don't know if you've attended the session yesterday on WSIS+20, et cetera, that was organized by one of the working groups, or committees we call them, because they're standing, so they don't have an end date, that's why we call them committees. A working group like in a project, they have a specific end date and a specific goal. Internet governance committees,

they just go on and on and organize activities around it so that's one.

The other one is DNS abuse and definitely, definitely, you don't need to attend in person. Like yesterday, it was remote participation. I think we had a lot of remote participants. It saves you and with ICANN meetings, you can pick and choose the topic you like. That's the good thing as well. So that's one of the things at least I promote is that don't feel, say, the threshold is low. Don't feel obliged that you need to attend in person to participate in sessions and participation, what is already enough, at least from a staff perspective, is that you attend, listen, and that the session meets your needs.

It is your needs that drives our work, at least from a staff perspective and the only way we can know this is if you participate and provide feedback. Thanks. May I go to the right from my perspective? Can you introduce yourself and how many meetings, et cetera., your interests and that's all we need for today.

UNKNWON SPEAKER

Hi everyone, my name is [inaudible – 00:37:47, I'm from .NO in Norway, Norid is the registry and this is my first ICANN meeting. I have just been with the registry for six months, so I'm very fresh in the industry. I had no experience in this industry before that, so I'm here to learn a lot.

BART BOSWINKEL May I ask you, what do you hope to learn? Because I hope to learn is very broad. It's like going, yep, I want to go to 10 universities.

UNKNWON SPEAKER It's hard to say because it's also new to me, but I have enjoyed the ccNSO meeting so far because I get to see the bigger picture of how the ccTLDs work together globally and I would like to engage more in that, I think. All the small pieces fit together in the big picture.

BART BOSWINKEL Yeah, and may I ask you, what is your role with Norid?

UNKNWON SPEAKER Yes, sorry. I'm doing mostly communications and events, but also now dipping my toe into a bit of policy so that's also quite new to me, so any policy.

BART BOSWINKEL And that is, from that perspective, is whether you attend in person or... I know Norid doesn't attend all the meetings for their own reasons, definitely they attend the European ones. They participate remotely. That's always a possibility. Thank you.

UNKNWON SPEAKER Thank you.

BART BOSWINKEL

You, yeah, I'm sorry. I don't know your name so.

PHILIPPA HART

Hi, I'm Philippa Hart. I used to work for Com Laude as the registrar. This is my first ICANN with Jisc, who I work for now. You might know the Janet Network, but I run AC.UK, so the tiny little niche ccTLD as I call it, for education in the UK.

This is actually my fourth ICANN and the ccS, I always get the acronym wrong, so I apologize, they actually made sense to me for the first time and that's why I came today, because I want to get into it more. To make my little tiny corner of the UK space better, more robust, for the education and research sphere in the UK. So, that's where I'm coming from.

My first ICANN worked out was Brussels 38, That's when I very first started at Com Laude and I had no idea what was going on. And literally only these sessions made sense to me this time after my fourth ICANN.

BART BOSWINKEL

I think people know this. Again, what's your field of interest? Do you have any particular or just more broadly? I assume ccTLD's news was very interesting to you.

PHILIPPA HART

Very. I absolutely love that. I actually spoke to a couple of people on the boat last night how much I love the news session because it

really helped me because I'm going through a lot of changes in my TLD. It's a really busy, crazy period so I'm working on my policy because I have to update it and to hear how that those things have started to change for people is fascinating. So, it's more help with policy and guidance on how to make sure that I get it right for the membership and the wider governmental impacts that it has through the sector.

BART BOSWINKEL

And I think what is very interesting what you just observed is that, I don't know why, but we're not very good at teaming up people. That's one of the things that you, I think, and what everybody in this room said, is team up with people themselves, but they're very willing to share their experience with you. And as you did, like yesterday, after ccTDL, the news, approach people, ask questions, et cetera. Yeah, that's probably the burden on yourself. So, may I go to you?

RIKAKO TANAKA

Hi, good morning. I am Rikako Tanaka from Japan, the Japan Registry Service, .JP registry and it's, yeah, of course, my first time in ICANN and so I'm feeling a little bit dizzy.

Actually, in my company I just moved from .JP registrar department from my team from July, so I'm still learning what should I learn and what should I understand about ccNSO. So, because I was in the registrar department of .JP, I really interested

in the new trends and news about something that impacts to the domain name users, like the end users. So, as she said, the last day's ccNSO news session was so interesting for me. Yeah, that's all. Thank you.

BART BOSWINKEL

And I saw Yuri in the background, so I think you have your internal coach as well. Thank you very much. To you.

DAVID CHRISTOPHER

Thank you. My name is David Christopher. I'm a consultant with CIRA, the .CA Canadian ccTLD. I have been working with CIRA for about 18 months now, mostly on TCCM, and I see many, many TCCM colleagues in the room today, but this is actually my first ICANN. It is exciting, fascinating, bewildering absolutely, at times. I've been trying to kind of attend quite a few of the CC sessions, but also kind of sprinkle myself around a bit and get a sense of the bigger picture.

I'd say for me being here the best thing has been like just being in person, seeing people in person for the first time who I've only known over email before and certainly like catching up with TCCM colleagues. And of course, paying very close attention to what the WSIS co-facilitator team has been saying.

BART BOSWINKEL

I think, again, you have enough of colleagues to explain the whole experience of ICANN to you with CIRA so yeah, but thank you for joining.

JACOB ZACK

Hello, I'm Jacob Zack, DNS architect at CIRA, as well as a member of the DNS-OARC board. My first ICANN meeting was probably San Francisco, where Bill Clinton was the keynote speaker years and years ago. I've only been to three or four since. I've been in the conversation and out of the conversation repeatedly.

This is the first meeting that I come here with kind of a focus on ICANN. Generally, I've been attending ICANNs that were also co-hosting the DNS-OARC, so I just happened to be at ICANN, but this, I'm intentionally here and ready to contribute. So, I'm happy to be part of the community.

BART BOSWINKEL

And what I've noticed already, say you tend to participate or become a member of TLD Ops, so that's very good.

JACOB ZACK

That is correct.

BART BOSWINKEL

Welcome.

JACOB ZACK

We're trying to contribute everywhere we can.

BART BOSWINKEL

And you've got big shoes to fill with Shaq.

JACOB ZACK

I understand.

BART BOSWINKEL

May I go to...? Yeah.

TOM BOLT

Good morning. I'm Tom Bolt from .VI. I'm kind of a backwards situation where I've been working 30 years with the VI registry. Before that, before it was .VI, it was the VIP FreeNet, and we started off in 1994 with Peter DeBlanc who was a colleague of Jon Postel, and I was the general counsel. I'm a lawyer by profession. In fact, I'm a legislative draftsman, I draft policy, I draft law and am quite active in that field.

But what happened, if anyone knows, that Peter passed away in 2002, and then Dotty Sparks, his wife, then continued, but when she continued, she says, "Oh, I need somebody to be the vice president." I was general counsel, but she said, "I need somebody to be vice president. You'll never have to do anything," and then she passed away and here I am.

I have some great colleagues that have assisted me, Sean Copeland who is with our .VI registry and runs that, Stephen Deerhake, but I would certainly welcome a buddy from someone outside the .VI registry. What I'm trying to do now is trying to build the .VI registry. I mean, what I found when I got in, I mean, the bylaws and the articles of incorporation were the ones I drafted back in the early 90s. I mean, things had not changed, and so we are making those changes and all, but certainly I would like to contribute to ICANN and to the ccNSO in any way I can.

BART BOSWINKEL

Thank you. I can't advise you. You look like you had a lot of experience already, but at the same time you don't. That makes it a little bit harder. Maybe the gentleman next to you.

RYOTARO KUDO

Good morning, everyone. My name is Ryotaro Kudo. As well as Rikako, I'm from Japan Registry Service. Well, it's my first time at ICANN as well and just from this April, I have started working in this industry. So, everything is very new and fresh for me. At the start, it was overwhelming, but I really like the atmosphere because the people here are very friendly and very welcoming for the newcomers. So, I really enjoy this meeting as well.

Currently, I'm in the Department of Strategic Planning where I do payment procedures to ICANN or LP TLD or prepare some events for the JP registrars. Well, as a newcomer here, I have a broad

interest especially I would like to contract with the youth who are very eager. I saw the new gens, the fellowships, working eagerly in these sessions, so yes, I would like to have a great relation with them and you as well. Thank you very much.

BART BOSWINKEL

Thank you.

DOMINIC RIVETT

Dominic Rivett, I'm a threat analyst in the domain abuse team at Nominet UK. So, that seems like a pretty simple place to start in that sense.

BART BOSWINKEL

I have a great chair who can really guide you.

DOMINIC RIVETT

But yeah, anywhere where there's tendrils of domain abuse, DNS abuse, what you want to call it, reach out to so that includes policy, registration detail handling, human rights stuff, all that stuff is interesting to us, yeah.

BART BOSWINKEL

And as you know and most of you if you're interested in DNS abuse the next session starting at 9:30 or 10:30 local time. It's going to be very interesting so.

RIYADH ZEHLRAH

Good morning. Thanks a lot. My name is Riyadh Zehrah. I'm working for TeleYemen, the ccTLD.YE. My main interest is the ccNSO, RSSAC, and SSAC. I came from a challenging environment. When I speak about challenging, you can say from all the life aspects, on the streets and even on the technical world. It was a chance for me to take this opportunity to ask for help in all the aspects of the technical environment. Actually, I wasn't prepared for the meeting.

BART BOSWINKEL

No worries.

RIYADH ZEHLRAH

The meeting was running good so far. I mean, so far, so good.

BART BOSWINKEL

Let me ask you, have you been able to meet people who are willing and able to assist you?

RIYADH ZEHLRAH

Sort of. Today I have a meeting with the IANA people.

BART BOSWINKEL

Yeah.

RIYADH ZEHLRAH I've got the chance to speak with Mr. Baher Esmat and also, I met the ccNSO ladies, they were so gentle, helping, adding me to the ccTLD group and getting some sort of help. Yeah.

BART BOSWINKEL Yeah, so, if necessary, reach out if you have questions, et cetera. I can understand, say, in your situation, it might be useful to contact specific ccTLDs who may be of assistance to what you do. Yeah, they are around and some of them are very willing to assist as well.

RIYADH ZEHLRAH Yes, by all means, thank you.

BART BOSWINKEL The gentleman next to you. Go ahead.

WATSON CYRUS ANIKWAI Hi everyone. My name is Watson. I am from the Solomon Islands and we are in ISP and at the same time, we also looking after the .SB. So, we are the ccTLD for .SB in our country. So, this is my first ICANN as a fellow, and, yeah, I meet a lot of people, a lot of acronyms to learn and all these things, so I'm fairly new. So, I'm coming from a technical background, working for ISP, but at the same time, I'm also looking after the .SB ccTLD as an administrator. So, learning from people from this community is something that I really want to take back home, you know.

BART BOSWINKEL

Then you may want to team up with one of the more experienced people in this room to assist you, so we'll do that in a minute.

WATSON CYRUS ANIKWAI

Thank you very much.

RUSSELL DEKA HARADA

Thank you. Morning, everyone. My name is Russell Deka Harada. I was the assistant chair of ccNSO news station yesterday, and thank you for the many good feedback I received. Currently, my role is the director of ICTSB in the University of Technology as an academic and also ccTLD manager of .PNG, Papua New Guinea.

My neighbor, Solomon Island, Watson said, but many people, they don't know, where is Papua New Guinea, where is Solomon Island? We are located South Pacific. above of Australia, but not on top of head, just far north of Australia. Thank you. Yeah, I'm always funny, making joking. I know many ccTLD manager, ccNSO members is very serious, but I want to make something, make a difference.

This is my second time to attend a public meeting. My main aim, I'm not young, but I have to encourage our young people around the Pacific, not only PNG, but also around the Pacific because, you know, Pacific is a part of Asia, and Asia-Pacific, Asia is too big and too noisy like me, but the Pacific is too small and too quiet like him.

So, we need to encourage more young, not only boys, but also girls must participate and allow our voice, our message. So, thank you, everyone, and hope to meet you again somewhere around, and I think in the future, not this year, not next year, but in future, Australia or New Zealand will host this ICANN meeting around the region, hope to meet you again over there. Thank you.

BART BOSWINKEL

Thank you. And again, to the two of you, as you know, in person is really important. That really makes a difference, but you're not limited to just in person. Please, please, please join remotely as well in the Zoom rooms, and you can even go back to the recordings if they're of interest to you, just a topic. I think that's a main message of today as well.

RUSSELL DEKA HARADA

Yeah. Thank you.

SARAH DRAPER

So, I'm Sarah Draper. I'm the brand new, three weeks in, General Counsel and Company Secretary for Nominet, which is the .UK registry, for those of you who don't know. This is my first ICANN. I know absolutely nothing about this sector. I do come from a critical national infrastructure background, so I know a little bit about ancillary sectors, but I'm brand new to this particular area. So, my objective for this ICANN at least was to listen, learn, meet as many people as possible and try and work out what is going on.

BART BOSWINKEL

And I think you with Nick, et cetera, he can better explain, say, what your interest and we could-- So that's obvious, but this is a nice environment to meet other people. So, thank you for your frankness and everything. But first, yeah, go ahead, sorry.

JOEL SÖDERMAN

My name is Joel Söderman. I work for Netnod in Sweden. We're one of the root name server operators. I'm a DNS nerd. I've been working for DNS for 10 years, and I enjoy it quite much. This is my second ICANN. I was in Seattle in March as well. Since I work with DNS, and as many ccTLDs use our DNS service, I want to learn more. I feel obligated to learn more about the challenges that you have. And for me it's a personal interest, of course, to know about the policies that you face and all the challenges that you face. So, I'm here to learn more than anything.

OLAF KOLKMAN

Olaf Kolkman, Principal of Internet Technology Policy and Advocacy at the Internet Society. Also, a DNS nerd. 30 years in the industry, 20 years of deep technology, but I'm on this table with the head of supervisory board of SIDN, the Dutch Top Level Domain Registry.

BART BOSWINKEL

Thank you. I think, thank you for your frankness and conversation. I think we're reaching the top of the hour. The idea right now, and

this is an extensive group, but maybe you can use the break to meet up with people or the buddies around this room, so people who have more experience in decision as all matters, et cetera, meet up with you as newcomers to the extent necessary and yeah, team up for the rest of the day. And maybe afterwards if you have any questions, exchange email addresses, so if you have questions afterwards that you can contact your buddy. Yeah, as a point of contact and as a point of reference for questions afterwards.

So that was the intention of this extended tour de table so you can meet up now and really start the buddying. Biyi, go ahead.

BIYI OLADIPO

Okay, but I would also just like to recommend that for those who are really, really new, for you to check out the Know About the ccNSO on ICANN Learn. There's a course on ICANN Learn about the ccNSO. So, it gives you an idea of how we're structured, gives you an idea of what we do, the various working groups and all of that. Thank you.

BART BOSWINKEL

Thanks. Back to you, Jenifer.

JENIFER LOPEZ

Thank you all for sharing those experiences. Also, for all those beautiful memories and thank you Bart and it's been such a pleasure to have you here. Remember the goal is to stay connected, so feel free to reach out to anybody here in the corners

and don't hesitate to reach out to your buddy, to the OMC and to the ccNSO Secretariat if you have any questions. And we're happy to have you in the community. See you and enjoy the rest of ICANN84. Thank you for being here.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]