LONDON – High Level Government Meeting
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ICANN – London, England

ED VAIZEY: Ladies and gentlemen, for those who do not yet have your headsets for the translation, they are located at the back of the room. If you do wish to speak or listen in one of the languages, please feel free to pick up a headset and the translation receiver. Thank you.

Could we ask people to sit down, please.

Good morning, everybody. My name is Ed Vaizey. I'm your host for the rest of the day. I'm the minister for Culture, Communications, and Creative Industries for the U.K. government. And I'll attempt to talk over the background noise in order to get this meeting started. Because, as is the way with so many of these amazing conferences that we all attend, nothing ever runs quite to time. But I'm going to do my best to keep us to time.

This is the second ever high-level meeting for governments to be held at ICANN. And I'm delighted to be the chairman of it and also to be sitting next to Heather Dryden, who is the vice chair for today but, as you all know, chairs ICANN's Government Advisory Committee, the GAC.

It's also a great pleasure to see so many ministers and high-level officials from governments all across the globe. I think seeing everybody here provides a visual demonstration of the importance for everyone of supporting ICANN and participating in its processes. It's a measure of ICANN's global reach. And also an example of how important it is for us

all in government to contribute to the vital function of coordinating the domain name system and allowing it to evolve to serve the interests of our citizens, our businesses, and our communities.

Without ICANN's serving the public interest, with the help of the GAC, there would be no global digital economy.

So some interesting statistics, we have today here 175 representatives of 77 governments and territory administrations of which 11 are not currently GAC members.

We have got 11 representatives of intergovernmental organizations which are observers on the GAC. I wanted to hold this high-level meeting alongside ICANN because it's vital we build an understanding between governments and other members of the multistakeholder community. We want governments to learn about the ICANN community and the ICANN community to learn about governments.

And an understanding is vital to take forward these important issues.

And this meeting, of course, takes place at a key time on the future of the Internet of Internet governance. ICANN's position in the landscape is under scrutiny. We're meeting on a complex trajectory of competencies and initiatives that eventually converges in a final review next year by the U.N. general assembly of the outcomes of the World Summit on Information Society, the WSIS, agreed almost a decade ago.

This morning we are going to discuss and provide preliminary reviews on the U.S. government's important decision in March to transition stewardship of the IANA function. And also, following a session on the role of governments in the ICANN model and the way forward for the

GAC, there will also be a chance to discuss the way forward after the NETmundial conference. ICANN has initiated processes for examining its contribution to the system of Internet governance, so this afternoon we'll hear about the recommendations of the high-level panel on global Internet cooperation and governance mechanisms which was chaired by the president of Estonia.

So we have got a busy agenda. And after today we are going to publish a report of the chair, which I hope will capture the main points that are made today.

I want to now turn to Heather Dryden to set the scene in respect to the GAC and its evolving role. Heather.

HEATHER DRYDEN: Many thanks, Minister Vaizey. It is a real pleasure to be here this morning. Good morning, everyone. I think it's an important acknowledgment of the role of the Governmental Advisory Committee at ICANN. I believe the GAC, as we call it, is integral to the success of ICANN and has had many successes over recent years. And, even though it can be challenging, I do hope that we recognize that this is the nature of multistakeholder approaches, that they are difficult. And the Governmental Advisory Committee is no exception to that. But I wouldn't want that to obscure, as I say, the successes and the improvements that have been achieved in recent years. And the GAC continues to be, as I say, crucial to the future of ICANN. And I think the GAC really is the place, the main channel via which governments

represent and advance their collective views on matters pertaining to ICANN's mandate.

We will have a session later today to focus on some of that and have further exchanges. So I look forward to that. And, again, on my own behalf, on behalf of the GAC and the vice chairs who are here participating in the room as well from Australia, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, I look forward to a positive day to discuss a range of matters of pertinence to governments.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much, Heather. Now I'm going to ask Steve Crocker sitting to my left, Fadi Chehade on my right are going to make presentations on ICANN's globalization strategy and its position in the Internet ecosystem. We're now only running six minutes behind time, Steve. So I know you're going to want to make up that time as well.

STEVE CROCKER: Any questions? No.

[Laughter]

ED VAIZEY: Well done. Touche'.

STEVE CROCKER:	Fadi and I have agreed I'll try to cover what we need to cover. So let me add my welcome to Your Excellencies, ministers, senior officials, GAC members, ladies and gentlemen, we're all part of the ICANN community. I'm proud and humbled as chairman of the board to be here in front of you today. And, by way of being humbled -- I'll go off script here a little bit -- I had the privilege and mostly by accident of time and place of being involved in the early days of the ARPANET which led into the Internet going back more than 45 years. And then rapidly right after that I was -- had the privilege of working for the U.S. government, being a government official at a sort of mid-level, if you will, working for DARPA. And, as we are making grand --- debates ahead of -- so I will be brief. You may have one or two questions to ask Fadi or me.

We have to -- I think we have a press conference that's going to whisk us away for a bit. And at least I'll be back for some good fraction of our proceedings here today.   And let me repeat and endorse the brief remarks I made earlier considering my appreciation for the U.K. government, particularly for Ed Vaizey for hosting the meeting today. A huge amount of work goes into these, as we all know. And I thank you all for attending.

This is the second of our high-level government meetings. The first was October 2012. Quite a lot has happened since then.

Let me address quickly the major developments. With respect to gTLDs, which is has concerned very many of us, we went from 22 of the pre-existing gTLDs. Now there are 320 and more coming on a regular basis. Quite a few of them in non-Latin script. And it will now be interesting

and exciting to watch what innovation and in every dimension, technical and business and so forth, these strings bring in their wake.

We're growing not just in terms of staff but also geographical scope with hub offices being opened in Singapore and Istanbul and what we call engagement offices in Montevideo, Beijing, and Geneva.

It was great to be in Singapore for the last meeting. And we got a chance to see the Singapore hub in operation. And I've also been to the Istanbul office and watched the growth there.

This is part of a broader strategy of growing our presence and engagement across the world. We have regional strategies and regional vice presidents, not the least in Africa, the Middle East, and Latin-America. These have already borne fruit in engaging many new voices and new experiences and bringing new wisdoms into ICANN.

So the things that we're involved in that I know that you are interested in are the global Internet governance agenda. Quite a lot of activity recently, including NETmundial and the 10-year review of actions and targets stemming from WSIS and future events during this year.

The NETmundial conference was a singular event that has really changed the dialogue. Many of us will remember it for a long time. The principles and ideas that came out of that will inform our processes going forward and confirm in a very deep way, the idea that the participation has to be very broad, not just channeled through the excellent organs of government that we all represent here but has to be a true multistakeholder process.

We have, of course, the announcement from the U.S. government that they are looking for a transition out of the stewardship of the IANA function, that they've held on far longer than was originally envisioned. The IANA function has been working smoothly and quietly for a very long time. And we will have a full and complete discussion of all of the effects. But at the core that function has been working quite smoothly.

I hope the cooperation we found in Brazil will be evident in the forthcoming decisions this year and next in several global and regional fora, not the least of which is the high-level meeting in New York next year to discuss the WSIS+10 review.

And I want to wish you well in discussions today. We'll touch on several of the issues that I've mentioned. Everyone here has an important role to play in ensuring and in particular ensuring that these discussions get full -- these topics get full discussion and that, in particular, the Internet ecosystem that we have actually all together built is now used and enjoyed by three billion users globally is made stronger, more accessible, and more secure for all the world in the years to come.

So thank you. I appreciate the opportunity to be here. And I hope that you are as thrilled as I am that events have conspired so well to bring us here, including even the propitious good weather, unusual as it is for London.

ED VAIZEY: Excellent. Thank you very much, Steve. A few housekeeping points. People keep thanking me for organizing this meeting. I had absolutely nothing to do with it. The only work I've done is to read my brief. The

ICANN team, Mark Carvell to my left as well from the U.K. GAC, Sarah Taylor in my office at DCMS, and all the other officials have worked -- sweated blood, sweat, and tears to make this happen. I've had absolutely nothing to do with it. Secondly, thank you, Steve. I think I've had insight into ICANN's strategy. It appears that all high-level meetings from now on will take place where it is possible to maximize shopping activities. London next year, New York next year, Dubai probably the year after. That's a joke, by the way. Please don't read anything into that. We're running almost to time. And I know that Fadi is going to be brief and quick because I want to bring in as many people from the floor as possible. And I'll explain how I do that when Fadi has finished his presentation.

FADI CHEHADE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for setting the scene here for us. I want to talk about two things. First about ICANN and second about the ecosystem in which ICANN participates.

ICANN itself has embarked on a major globalization effort. The ICANN board that brought me to this position did not think I'm going to keep the status quo.

They knew and they brought me on purpose to be a change agent to make ICANN the global institution we all want it to be.

I'm doing this on three fronts: An operational front, which is evidenced with some of the things I showed you this morning, moving the operations around the world, understanding global needs, et cetera. And I think everyone is aware this is really happening in realtime.

The second layer of globalization of ICANN has to do with its accountability. ICANN is obsessed with accountability.

I don't know of any other place that does more reviews on accountability as ICANN does.

Some days we think is it enough? Are we accountable enough?

Well, the answer to that depends on perception. Do people view us as accountable enough to them? So the accountability discussion, in my opinion, will never end and should never end. This is like perfection. We have to keep working on it.

And we started an important process that my colleague, Theresa Swinehart here, will talk about later to improve and strengthen the accountability of ICANN. This is a non-ending process. But today is uniquely important, because as the U.S. government steps back from its role with ICANN -- that doesn't mean the U.S. role in ICANN will go away. U.S., like any other government, should and will have an active role in ICANN. But the unique role of the United States will go away. And as that role goes away, we want to ensure that ICANN has the accountability framework that satisfies all of us so that we can trust in that system.

And we're committed to do that work in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

The third layer of ICANN globalization is the IANA transition of stewardship from the U.S. government to the community.

Now, to my right, Assistant Secretary Strickling is here personally. I want, in front of all of you, to let you know that if it weren't for his incredible vision and true stewardship, we would not be today sitting here talking about this transition. He is owed the thanks for not only working through his government halls, but working with us and others, as he is today, again here in front of us, when many of us sometimes do not recognize the great stewardship that his administration and his government have had. I think to them are owed many thanks for getting the Internet to where it is today. And we should be gracious for that, and grateful.

Now, as we move forward, and they have the vision and the graciousness to say it's time for the world to do what it's supposed to do, and we will step back into an equal role to everyone as a government, we -- it's incumbent upon us to take this responsibility and to execute on it in the best possible way.

So we're here to do that together, and that journey has started. This journey will not take ten years, as some people wish.

We are on a schedule. Now, there is nothing rushing us, because the U.S. government said that they will stand by us as long as we need, as a community, to figure out what is a good way to replace their role. But having said that, we still have a schedule and we're moving on it. And we hope that by the end of next year, we would be independent of this particular contract, but more important than independent of the contract, we will be ready and accountable to be able to carry these functions for all of us in an equal way.

Now, that's ICANN. ICANN belongs to an ecosystem. It is not alone. And many of you have seen us engaged in the ecosystem.

ICANN took a leading role in NETmundial. I think many know that. ICANN took a leading role in bringing together the panel that President Toomas Ilves led. But that leadership, which led to the great design of an Internet governance model by NETmundial attendees, followed by a blueprint for distributed internet governance by President Toomas Ilves' panel, these efforts need to carry on forward into real implementation. And who will implement them? Who will implement this blueprint based on these principles?

Well, it can't be ICANN alone.

And so we are working with many people of good will. Countries, governments, institutions, businesses, civil society, technical folks, to actually, together, form an alliance that will take these principles and that blueprint and make it a reality.

And that's the work we would be doing. Again, participating, but not leading. We need all of you to come and join us in this very momentous time when we can show the world that the multistakeholder model of Internet governance works. We will simply expand it and grow it so we can address all the issues at hand.

Thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Thanks, Fadi. You ended just a few seconds before I expected there, keeping me on my toes.

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Now, everyone is invited to speak. And my instructions tell me that you are meant to raise your board, and clearly you will want to do it, like Neelie Kroes has done over there. You want to wave it are not so that people see it. If you simply do it like this (indicating), I will not see it because it's not banked seating.

But just -- although Neelie has raised her board, I do have to say I had two other bids earlier in the day, so I will come to those first.

The first speaker is going to be Minister Lu Wei from China. The second speaker is going to be Minister Lemaire from France and then I will call on Neelie Kroes, our great commissioner for digital who has done so much to promote the digital economy in Europe.

So starting with Minister Lu Wei.

LU WEI: I was waving on my hand to see that I want to speak.

Respected Minister Ed Vaizey, respected Chairman Steve Crocker, President Fadi, respected colleagues from all over the world, it is my pleasure to attend the ICANN high-level government meeting.

ICANN, as the core institution for global Internet management, has been earnestly fulfilling its duty and missions in maintaining a stable operation of the Internet since it was established 16 years ago and just played an irreplaceable role in promoting economic and social development and bring some more benefit to people.

The Government Advisory Committee, or GAC, is the bridge between the government of all the countries. We welcome what Fadi just said.

For the last 16 years, what they promote -- they have a great role in promoting people's life. The GAC. And it's a channel to connect all the countries, all the governments, and also played an important role in the communication and coordination .

In the opening ceremony, I have said the seven ideas I shared with everyone. Now I want to say something about our opinion about the Internet governance.

China, we have over 6 million citizens, and China supports the internationalization of ICANN, and we encourage the Chinese Internet social groups. And we also like to encourage the Chinese business and research institutions to take an active part in ICANN's affairs. That's also our idea, because yesterday we were very happy to see the China academy of the telecommunication research of ICANN -- and ICANN sign agreement, an MOU.

So this is -- is a new page for our collaboration.

This year, last April, we have gathered in Sao Paulo in Brazil. We have reached the many common consensus at that time. We appreciate and welcome those. And that means it's a new page for the ICANN development, and that means the Internet has become -- has stepped into the age of the global governance, because we have a common net space. And that needs the governments of all our globe.

The global governance, we should be following the four principles below. The equality and openness. The Internet has turned the world into a global village where people from all over countries are well connected.

There are no national boundaries in online information flow, but there are, indeed, domains in cyberspace.

Every country, large or small, is equal. Equality is based on independence, and we should respect every country's Internet sovereignty, its right to develop and administer the Internet, and its rights of participation in global Internet management.

The independence of a country does not mean excluding itself from outside world but serves for more further open up.

There will be no development and sharing without opening up.

Break down the barriers of information; narrow the information gap so that people across the world can enjoy the achievement of cyber development.   Multi-participation.   The Internet is the shared homestead of mankind. It needs everyone's conscientious efforts so as to create a space in which harmony is seen despite different colors and despite competing voices, government should play a leading role draw up the public policy for promoting Internet development and safeguarding people's interest and solve the problems the Internet faces in a coordinated way.

Internet business should play the role as the main force and take social responsibilities and boost connections and mutually beneficial cooperation with international communities. Social groups on the Internet should play the roles as bridges and promoters, participate in public services and push forward the industry's development.

Technical groups should give intellectual support, strengthen technical R & D and innovation, improve services and operational guarantees, and tap the infinite potential for the future of cyberspace.

Netizens should actively participate in global cyberspace management, expressing their demands and voices while abiding by the law and the rules.

Number three, security is credibility. Nobody likes living in a cyberspace where rumors are spread, privacies are exposed, and crimes are rampant.

Lots of countries, including China, are victims of cyber surveillance attacks and spying. No country can manage alone or stand aloof in the face of cybersecurity challenges.

All governments should step up cooperation and resolutely crack down on cybercrimes.

The Chinese government is resolutely against the cyber terrorism, and I hereby call on all countries to work together in fighting terrorist activities in cyberspace, preventing the Internet from being the soil of terrorism.

Number four, cooperation and mutual benefit.

George Bernard Shaw has a famous line. If you have an apple and I have an apple and we exchange apples, then you and I will still each have one apple. But if you have an idea and I have an idea, and we exchange these ideas, then each of us will have two ideas. That is also

true for exchanges and cooperation among different countries in cyberspace management.

It is not a zero-sum game but one with increasing returns. International communities should establish a mechanism for proactive cooperation to communicate ideas, exchange experiences, enhance mutual understanding, and constantly create more meeting points for shared interest and more growth points for cooperation.

Developed countries and developing countries should accommodate each other, learn from each other, enjoy sharing with each other and seek mutual benefits. They should focus on the theme of development, narrow down the information gap, and make the Internet serve more people.

Colleagues, the Chinese government sincerely hopes to strengthen cooperation with each country in the internationalization of ICANN, and we hope that ICANN can continue to play its core role and advance the function, transfer, and other work of IANA in a coordinated way.

Hence, I would like to put forth six proposals. One, determine the candidates for the working team as soon as possible. The team should reflect the proportion of Internet users distributed among the world and the regional representation.

Number two, draw up the reform plans for the Internet -- internationalization of ICANN as soon as possible and to make practical efforts to achieve the reform goal at an earlier date.

Number three, draw up the charter for the alliance of Internet governance as soon as possible and speed up the establishment of the alliance.

Four, establish and improve the mechanism and working mode for cyberspace management and areas of divergence and problems in the development of the Internet in a timely way.

Number five, gather world experts on frontier theories and technology to study and explore the Internet development pattern and push for a scientific, innovative, and healthy development of the world.

Number six, set up a platform for Internet exchanges, open multilingual Web sites, listen to voices from all sides. Promote communication and dialogue, and build consensus among all sides.

I believe that with the joint efforts of international communities and the reform, the ICANN internationalization will surely be a complete success.

It is our common wish that the Internet will face a brighter future and better serve the society and the people.

Thank you.

[Applause]

ED VAIZEY: I'm very grateful -- I think it's very good to hear about the involvement of business and civil society in Chinese Internet governance and the endorsement of what is happening.

Now, without further ado, I would very much like to invite Madam Lemaire from France, the Minister for the Digital Economy in France, to speak. She is going to speak from her seat.

Her button is not working. I promise you that this is not a conspiracy. We want to hear what Madam Lemaire says. You can come up and sit on the podium. Look, there is somebody else over there who is asking, themselves, to speak.

This is always the way. When we discuss the ground-breaking technology of the Internet, we can't even make the basic technology work.

Madam Lemaire.

AXELLE LEMAIRE: Thank you very much. Madam Lemaire has taken the floor. Thank you very much, Minister. I am really very grateful of having this microphone because it means that I will be able to be listened. Are you listening to me? Okay.

This is a very great day for us because this is ICANN number 50, and we are here to celebrate the success.

The French government has insisted on an extraordinary support that ICANN has taken in the evolution of Internet. 100,000 in 1998, and more than 3 billion today.

This is the evidence that the multistakeholder model is the approach that consists of including all stakeholders and listening all viewpoints. And this constitutes a guarantee of success.

In France, the .PARIS was recently delegated, and we prepare a party for the launching of this domain name, and we have Sasial Ritania (phonetic) in France that were able to apply to defend their identity on the global space; namely, Internet.

However, this is a transition stage, and we see that we have to find some balances, even though they are fragile.

We have started enlarging domain names to generic names, so we should not give the impression that these delegation are for the benefit of some agents, some players, but certainly damage the interest of other interest that perhaps are not properly represented at ICANN. This is why the government of France and the President of the Republic, who I met last year to discuss this issue, are insisting on the fact that we should move forward through the Internet governance issues, including the ICANN. It includes all citizens, all countries, all professional sectors, all regions around the world.

ICANN has seemed to understand that and have made lots of efforts to change. So we are congratulating you on these efforts; in favor of the changes. This is why some interests are now being heard. When we talk about Internet, we are talking about trade over the Internet so as to reach the goal of an open Internet in favor of the freedom of trade where the eCommerce is certainly a large tool, the benefits, trade and being open to new markets. The core value in this case is trust. Trust of consumers, trust of users.

So this trust, this confidence, is really very important.

And this may not exist if some voices are not heard. You should not forget the role of the government. We should not ignore the concerns of the peoples because they are saying that they are really concerned because they do not know what will we to use their personal data. They are concerned because they feel that the trade over the Internet may uniformize all of us so as to lose our identity, so as to lose our richness, the cultural diversity, what in fact makes an extraordinary identity of our world. So these peoples ask where these products are coming from, are these products genuine? So for many years European countries have tried to raise their voice at several fora regarding trade, the WTO, for instance, so as to preserve what France has called the cultural diversity. But behind the cultural diversity we have wine. I know that this does not involve all countries, and I do not want to give the impression that I'm speaking of a subject that is only reserved for Europe and is not of interest at all for the other countries. I think that in this case the delegation of the point -- .VIN and .WINE will be emblematic and will show the capacity or incapacity of ICANN to make certain changes and to listen to other voices and listen to the business community. This case will be emblematic. Why? Because it will be a decision of the ICANN. ICANN cannot ignore public interest so as to favor just a business.

The business at issue has 350 domain names and the damage will be lower but the risk of this delegation is really important for the credibility of ICANN. Because ICANN will be defending a commercial position that is only promoted and defended by some players at some other international instances. This is why France has put on hold the delegation of the .VIN and .WINE so as to participate in the agenda of

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extraordinary reform that has been set forth by ICANN. This issue has become such a problem, and not only for wineries and wine producers because they have written to ICANN from Australia, New Zealand, Chile, Argentina, South Africa, asking for their interests to be heard.

Apart from the commercial issues, we are talking about commercial diversity here, and the French government considers that ICANN is not in a position to resolve this complex issue that is being negotiated in some other international fora. So the French government is asking on the one hand to divide it, to split it regarding this issue, but also the board of the ICANN should listen to our requests. We are suggesting this position which we think is reasonable, the idea of putting this delegation on hold so as to move forward on the rest of the agenda regarding the changes or the reform and so that each jurisdiction will then have a say on the control denominations of origins and how these issues should be dealt with.

Apart from .WINE France would like to make some constructive comments, and this is open to discussion. This is open to dialogue. So why not generated a general meeting, a General Assembly, as well as in any other organization where the shareholders would be here, the accounts will be approved, the strategy will be defined, the budget will be approved, the members of the board will be appointed? Why not create or make ICANN a really international organization where international agreements will be subjected to the principles of international law and to jurisdictions that are -- will not be domestic? Why don't we make a distinction of some sensitive issues that are sensitive to political issues, from some other issues that are non-administrative? Why don't we make ICANN an inclusiveness? We say in

France we want Internet everywhere to anyone for anyone. If ICANN takes this attitude, then our Internet will be open to any trade activity, to any country, including developing country. The Internet will not be a supplementary vector excluding some from the international trade but it will be the tool for international trade over the Internet to include some countries that are not now present in the digital space.

So once again, ICANN should prove its independence, together with the president of the republic we think that .VIN and .WINE are emblematic. So I make an appeal to the members of GAC and to those perhaps my -- might think about being a minority if the consensus rule is applied, I ask you to show some responsibility and please take into account that we have to build up a lot of things altogether. ICANN has done a lot in the past, and we have to think of building a successful transition in the future. Thank you very much.

[Applause]

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much, Madam Minister. And I thank you very much for your contribution focusing on trust and the role of government but also recognizing the need for ICANN to become an international organization.

I'd now like to ask the European Commissioner Neelie Kroes, responsible for the digital economy, to make her remarks. And she will be speaking from her seat.

NEELIE KROES: Thank you, Dear Minister. Very briefly. From what we have heard so far, there is anyhow one issue that we must see progress on and that is accountability. And I am glad to hear Fadi emphasizes on it. And you have to take account of the public interest. .WINE, by the way, is one, but others equally important for other regions, so to say. So a globalized ICANN must serve the public interest with clearly implementable and verifiable accountability and transparency mechanisms.

I will take the floor later in the day to put this key issue. Thank you, Ed.

[Applause]

ED VAIZEY: Well, I'm slightly in shock. It's not normally that somebody of Neelie's status like that would make such a short contribution. Thank you for getting us back on track. This means thanks to your pertinent and to-the-point contribution we can invite others to contribute. Now, there's someone over there. Yes, you, sir. If you'd stand up so no one else thinks it's them? That's you. That's who I'm calling. You're next. Stand up and say hello. I mean sit down now and speak.

[Laughter]

And if you can say who you are because I can't see that far.

MOHAMED IBRAHIM: Okay, I'll try. Mohamed Ibrahim from Somalia. Thank you, Minister. I appreciate the opportunity and greetings to you all from Mogadishu. I

just flew in yesterday from Mogadishu and I'd like to make a few comments, and I'll be very brief.

ED VAIZEY: You'll keep it to Neelie length, won't you?

MOHAMED IBRAHIM: I'll try. The first issue I want to raise and very quickly, I want to thank and congratulate to ICANN over the last few years by having offices in Istanbul and Singapore which means we are opening up and we're no longer just from LA. In fact, when I saw that, it reminds me of the following: Istanbul is I-S, LA is L-A and Singapore is S-I-N. If you add those words together it becomes "ISLASIN," which in Somali means making things equal.   So perhaps ICANN can use that for their marketing.

But more seriously, I want to mention a couple of things. One of them is I grew up in Sydney and Melbourne, Australia. The reason I'm saying this is not to color the views I'm going to express. But now I live in Mogadishu, and I run a telecommunication and post. So while I was in Australia there are a lot of values -- we talked about core values today -- that very good for me and I lived by them and they were very good for a long time.   As I said served at Bondi Beach or St. Kilda Beach in Melbourne, they worked. But now I'm in Mogadishu. Those values are no longer applicable. Therefore, my question is, how do we make the Internet applicable everywhere and how do we make those core values work anyplace we live in?

In Mogadishu accessing Internet is a challenge. There are many challenges in Somalia. And getting into the Internet itself is a major challenge. There are a group of people who will stop everyone to get access to the Internet. Now, how do we make that reversed? How do we make all Somalians get access to the Internet? It's a challenge that I will pose to ICANN and others. But very briefly, that perhaps can't be resolved as I work through other bodies and other entities. Like the U.N. bodies, there are legal frameworks that I can use that I can enforce a set of rules. But when I come to ICANN, anything goes, and I like that. I'm happy with that. But that was when I was in Australia. Now I'm in Somalia, those rules don't apply. And we need different rules that can work everywhere.

Now, the question I guess I'm asking is, when a group of people can stop the whole country to get access to the Internet but they can get access themselves to the Internet, in other words, they can have domains they can use to propagate their hate and violence and everything, and I cannot stop that from someone to have domains that are working for them but on the other hand everyone else cannot access them. What do I do?

If I was at the ITU or elsewhere, there are rules that I can apply and they would work but unfortunately not here.

Now the other question I just quickly mention which is not local to Somalia but a bit more general is the IDN. Very interesting idea, it works. I'm happy with that. But I'm just a little bit worried. As the Internet opens up the world and we can all interact and communicate, I'm just a little bit worried that on the other hand we might become

islands. Now I might have to learn Chinese or Korean or Russian whereby before perhaps I was able to get some of those ideas through other ways. Maybe Google or others can come up with a mechanism that can translate things real-time so I can get all these ideas. Now, I guess what I am hinting about here is, as we move into the IDN, which I like it and I support, maybe we should also think about not creating items that will become many Internets rather than just one Internet.

Now I very quickly want to say a couple of other issues. The issue I want to mention is about when we do something in ICANN, and I was involved in this into which I like very much over the last ten years or so, things work in a Democratic way. We talk, we decide, and the whole idea of stakeholderism, very long word, I do not understand exactly what it means but I like it. But what does it mean? How I will stop there -- thank you. Thank you very much. I will stop there.

ED VAIZEY: You said that anything goes in ICANN and that may be the case. But not anything goes when I am chairing the meetings. So I bring your remarks to a close --

Thank you.

--- (indiscernible), authoritarian, undemocratically drawing your remarks to a close. But thank you for your point. You made two important points about core values. How do you have core values in something that is global and how do we stop the Internet becoming an island, as we actually -- some of the measures ICANN is introducing which are right and proper to address certain issues, do carry with them other

challenges. I am going to ask Hasanul Haq Inu, from Bangladesh. The minister from Bangladesh has indicated he wants to speak, and we want to hear from him.

HASANUL HAQ INU: Thank you very much.

ED VAIZEY: And I hope you'll keep your remarks to the point, Minister.

HASANUL HAQ INU: Thank you very much. Respected Minister Ed Vaizey, ICANN CEO Mr. Fadi and Chairman and other ministers, colleagues and friends, where I come from a country where 40 million people are now using Internet. When we all are meeting today at this hotel now at present five billion peoples of the world currently not enjoying access to Internet. Connecting them with the most (indiscernible) tools, storing data and applications in locations unknown, and routing data through jurisdictions that do not guarantee their rights will simply magnify the privacy and security problems currently experienced by two billion people online. As you know, most of the Internet users and non-users do not know that data stored in Google are subject to U.S. Patriot Act which compels Google to turn over this data to the U.S. authority.

DNS of Internet is still nice target of hackers using cyber attacks and protocol attacks. Cybercrime is becoming a major threat to security. Besides that, nearly every day we hear of high level cyber breaches against government departments, private companies, and other

infrastructure. Internet cyber villains, (indiscernible) cyber villains, undermines trust in the Internet and trust in the Internet governance system. On the contrary, in the name of combating cybercrime, many governments are trying to push forward the idea of new surveillance powers proposing Internet content filtering, et cetera. That is a problem. The question is, who guards the guardians, how to take away hatred from the power, how to reign in the badness of market? There is definitely exists a democracy deficit, (indiscernible) deficit, deficit of consultation. Existing governance elements for the global Internet is inadequate. They suffer from lack of democracy, an absence of legitimacy, accountability, transparency, excessive corporate influence, excessive commoditization and monetization of information and knowledge, inequitable flow of finances between poor and rich countries, and (indiscernible) cultural diversities.

And also too few opportunities for effective participation by people, especially from the developing countries. Scholars recently have described the present system as governance by design. Minister Vaizey, at present there is no framework that gives legal rights to gTLDs or ccTLDs to any of the regional and national registers. This has led to the emergence of global monopolies in this space within a very short time.

The technological architecture when the Internet was born and grew in its infancy is in many ways now outdated. The Internet now must advance human rights and social justice. So we need a new framework for governance of Internet.

NETmundial outcome document is a bold effort to address the emerging scenario. NETmundial identified a set of common principles and

important values that may contribute for an inclusive multistakeholder effective legitimate and evolving Internet governance framework and, thus, ensures human rights, social justice, freedom of information, accessibility for all, recognizing cultural and linguistic diversity, the right to innovation and creativity, and also ensuring security, stability, and resilience of the Internet maintaining an open and distributive infrastructure. NETmundial also outcome document boldly opted for multistakeholderism, open participative consistent governance that is with the full participation of governments, the private sector, civil society, the technical community, academia, and the users in their respective roles and responsibilities. I repeat, in their respective roles and responsibilities.

Also, NETmundial outcome document emphasized Internet governance should promote universal equal opportunity, affordable high-quality Internet access so it can be effective for enabling human development and social inclusion. That should be no -- there should be no unreasonable barriers to entry for new users. To look forward from the NETmundial outcome document, we, therefore, request appropriate interventions at all levels of Internet governance.

ED VAIZEY: Excellent. Minister, I'm going to have to end it there because we have a whole session on the NETmundial conference. And I'm eager to move on to the next section on the -- from Larry Strickling. But I'm going to take one more intervention on this, which is from the minister from Portugal, Mr. Crato. And then I'm going to end this session and we're going to move on to the next session, which is IANA function.

NUNO CRATO: Thank you, Mr. President, excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen.   Portugal would like to congratulate the U.K. government for hosting and organizing the second ICANN high-level governmental meeting which is taking place in a particularly political sensitive moment of the Internet governance at worldwide level.

I would also like to congratulate ICANN through the chair of the board and the president and CEO for that efforts to make domain name system evolved to make multistakeholder approach to Internet policy making.

Let me speak in my native language Portuguese now, a language spoken by 250 million people all over the world, the fourth most spoken language worldwide, the fifth most spoken language on the Internet, and the most spoken language in the southern hemisphere.   I don't know if this is news for you, but for me it's good news. I'll come back to English later on.

With democratic legitimacy and open societies and in order to defend public interest and ensure that we foster economic growth, Portugal has participated since its beginnings in ICANN in a very active manner, especially within the GAC, always with a purpose of contributing to multistakeholder Internet governance system and also for policy making for the DNS.

Internet has grown significantly.   And it has played a major role in technology, innovation and science, education, economy, in society and democracy. Given its open and decentralized nature, it has contributed

to stimulate economies opening up opportunities for the peoples and also extending the horizons for citizens and organizations in general.

ICANN has also made a tremendous effort to reinforce the dialogue between governments and other stakeholders. And we compliment ICANN for the work that is being done in order to have the GAC early engagement GNSO and PDPs.

--- has expressed in number 6 section 2 of its core values by facilitating and promoting competition in registration of domain names where practicable and of benefit to the public interest.

Governments, as other stakeholders, should help this purpose. In Portugal we'll continue to do so.

However, multistakeholder systems where necessary checks and balance are not established, at risk of seizure by special interests exercised through influence, lobbying, and manipulation. ICANN is a private, nonprofit corporation. And, as stated in number 4, of ICANN's Articles of Incorporation shall operate for the benefit of the Internet community as a whole carrying out its activities in conformity with relevant principles of international law and applicable international conventions and local law.

ICANN is not the proper venue to solve political issues that are being discussed at international intergovernmental organizations and, therefore, cannot decide on something that will have complex implications on international negotiations by adopting resolutions that go much beyond its scope of activity, circumscribed to critical DNS functions. This would be too reckless.

There is no international law to support such activity. On the contrary. In our view, such movements will negatively impact the organizational legitimacy at the world level. Portugal recognizes and will continue to support ICANN as the entity that coordinates at the overall level the operation and evolution of DNS, of course, and the development principles of international law and applicable conventions and local laws.

In doing so, ICANN may affect negatively the economy of a country as it is the case with the proposed gTLDs, .WINE and .VIN, in particular due to the potential fraudulent use of wine-related geographical indications in the wine regions they represent on a second level.

Finally, Portugal congratulates all the continued efforts of improving openness and accountability of ICANN since the Affirmation of Commitments and remains committed to actively support and be part of the process for a truly international multistakeholder governance in terms of accountability in legal framework. We have had great successes in several organizations, including complex international research laboratories. And we should do the same for the operation, management, and policy development of a worldwide technological infrastructure such as the Internet.

Thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much, minister. Now we are moving on. And I am going to ask Larry Strickling to talk about transitioning the stewardship of the IANA function.

LARRY STRICKLING: Thank you, minister. I am very pleased to be here today at the high-level governmental meeting. And I had wanted to thank you for making arrangements for this session. But I -- with given your disclaimer, I will thank Sarah and Mark instead.

The first accountability and transparency team recommended holding these meetings as a way to increase the level of support and commitment of governance to the ICANN multistakeholder process. As you have heard, and some of you participated, Canada hosted the first of these meetings in Toronto in 2012 where participants did affirm the importance of the multistakeholder model and made recommendations for improving ICANN's accountability, all of which were addressed in the second accountability and transparency review team report released at the end of last year.

This week in London, the ICANN board will be making its formal response to that latest set of recommendations. As you've heard, this is an eventful year for Internet governance issues. Already we have seen the successful NETmundial meeting which Brazil hosted in April. At this meeting, which Virgilio Almeida will summarize later today, not only did participants agree that internet governance should be built on democratic, multistakeholder processes, the entire meeting was a demonstration of the open, participative, and consensus-driven governance that has allowed the Internet to develop as an unparalleled engine of economic growth and innovation.

In May the high-level panel on internet governance released its report once again affirming the power and strength of the multistakeholder

model of policy development. And just last Friday I participated in a session at the OECD in Paris celebrating the third anniversary of its Internet policy making principles which endorsed multistakeholder policy development because that model provides the flexibility and global scalability required to address Internet policy challenges.

Later this year Turkey will host a pivotal internet governance forum in September followed by Korea hosting the ITU plenipotentiary conference in October. Earlier in March the United States government added its contribution to this year's internet governance agenda when we announced our intent to transition our role in key Internet domain name functions, what are called the IANA functions, to the global multistakeholder community.

From the inception of ICANN in 1998, we envisioned that our role in the IANA functions would be temporary. But we took this action last spring for two reasons. First, as ICANN has performed the IANA functions over the years, it has matured as an organization and has taken important steps to improve its accountability and transparency as well as its technical competence.

Second, as witnessed so strongly in Sao Paulo, international support has continued to grow for the multistakeholder model of internet governance.

So in March we asked ICANN to convene global stakeholders to develop a proposal to transition the current role played by my agency, NTIA, in the coordination of the domain name system. Our role is largely procedural in that NTIA reduces changes to the root zone file for accuracy before VeriSign implements them. We have no operational

role and we do not initiate any changes of our own to the root zone file, to the assignment of IP numbers, or the allocation of Internet numbering resources.

In making our announcement, we have communicated a number of conditions that we insist must apply to the transition. First, the proposal must support and enhance the multistakeholder model in that it should be developed by the multistakeholder community and have broad community support.

More specifically, we will not accept a transition proposal that replaces the NTIA role with a government-led or intergovernmental organization solution.

Second, the proposal must maintain the security, stability, and resiliency of the domain name system. And in that regard, all we have put on the table is a transitioning of our role. Due to the need to maintain security and stability, we have not urged and opened up a complete evaluation of the role of ICANN and VeriSign in this process. Third, it must meet the needs and expectations of the global customers and partners of the IANA services. And, finally, it must maintain the openness of the Internet.

Since our announcement, ICANN, working with other Internet organizations such as the Internet Engineering Task Force, the Internet Architecture Board, the Internet Society, the Regional Internet Registries, has laid out a process for developing the plan based on consultations with stakeholders which began in Singapore in March. Theresa Swinehart will be providing more details on that process later in this session, but I will just address the matter of timing.

The current contract between ICANN and NTIA is scheduled to expire at the end of September 30th, 2015.

To the extent that all projects of this nature benefit from setting a timeline for a work, that's a good date for the community to use.

But we have not set a deadline. If the community needs more time, we can extend the contract past September 2015 for up to four years. But we all should understand that, before any transition takes place, the businesses, civil society, and technical experts of this community must present a consensus plan that ensures the uninterrupted and stable functioning of the Internet and its present openness.

Now, I will be happy to answer any questions you have about this matter. But, before I close, I'd like to offer some suggestions to those of you who are wondering how you can help achieve a smooth transition.

First, show your support for the transition process by participating in it. We have made it crystal clear that the plan should be developed in an open and transparent manner. Now, there will need to be coordination, and you have heard reference to a coordination group just out of necessity.

But anyone can provide input into the process, and I urge you to do so.

Second, continue to demonstrate your support for the multistakeholder model of internet governance. As with any consensus-based organization, one will not always be able to get everything one wants. But that is a hallmark of the process. It is not a sign of failure of the process.

Third, reaffirm the importance of consensus. This is particularly true for governments participating at ICANN through the GAC.

As one group of stakeholders in the ICANN process, governments have unique power to speak to the public interest when they speak as one based on consensus positions. As Minister Lu Wei commented, the Internet does not respect national boundaries. No one country, no two countries, no ten countries can claim to speak on behalf of the public interest. And this fact is reflected in the ICANN bylaws in which governments can provide advice on public policy matters to the board. But such advice only has true power when it is presented as the consensus advice of governments. And any effort among governments to eliminate that requirement of consensus will simply weaken the role of governments within ICANN.

And, finally, continue to work with all of the stakeholders at ICANN to improve accountability and transparency of the organization. Government officials from China, Denmark, Costa Rica, Australia, and the EU have made important contributions through their participation on the two prior accountability and transparency review teams. And I encourage all of you to contribute to these efforts in the future. Thank you for listening.

(Applause)

ED VAIZEY: Thanks very much, Larry. I'm going to ask Theresa Swinehart to follow up on that, as Larry indicated in his remarks.

THERESA SWINEHART: Thank you. Thank you very much. And thank you, Larry.

Honorable ministers, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, it's a real pleasure to be here to talk about the processes that have been discussed here and what's underway.

Before I go into that, it might be useful just to provide a very short historical context and overview.   In the relationship to the IANA functions, as Larry has identified, NTIA and U.S. administration has played a long-time historical role.

The IANA services actually date back to the early 1970s. And then, prior to the establishment of ICANN, IANA was administered principally by somebody by the name of Jon Postel at the Information Sciences Institute at the University of Southern California under various contractual relationships with the U.S. administration.

The reason I highlight this point is it actually explains some of the historical context of ICANN and its location.

Following the explosion of the Internet usage in the mid-1990s, it was recognized that more suitable multistakeholder structure was needed to carry out the Internet management functions.   The internet community participated in processes that actually resulted in the creation of ICANN.   In 1998 ICANN assumed the IANA role at the University of Southern California Internet Science Institute. Excuse me. Need to take a sip of water.

And today the IANA is administered under the terms of the contract between ICANN and the U.S. administration.

ICANN's relationship with the U.S. government has evolved in parallel to efforts to continue globalization of ICANN and of the Internet itself.

The broad stakeholder participation is the key of the ICANN's effectiveness as an Internet technical coordination body.

So ICANN and its overall globalization -- sorry -- the topic of NTIA stewardship role and the IANA functions is certainly not a new topic. The World Summit on Information Society, the WSIS, touched on topics relating to ICANN's globalization. And this has been a wish of many governments worldwide.

The alignment of years of discussing this at this moment in time in this opportunity to fulfill the wish of the global community. It is at this point that it's very important to realize that this is an opportunity to participate in this process for which we'd very much like to invite you to do so.

On the processes themselves, NTIA's IANA stewardship transition process -- thank you.

On the 14th of March, as we had expressed, the U.S. had announced its intention to transition its stewardship of the IANA functions to the global multistakeholder community. ICANN was asked to convene this process and to develop a proposal to transition this role played by the U.S. administration. ICANN was asked to serve as convenor based on its role as the IANA functions administrator since 1998 and the global coordinator of the Internet's domain name system. So to point out the fact that ICANN was asked to serve as a coordinator for this, as a facilitator in order to move this process forward.

As Larry had identified, there were certain criteria that actually need to be fulfilled in any sort of proposal that is put forward.

And those criteria are fundamental to what we have to put and do. The official launch of the multistakeholder process took place at the ICANN meeting in Singapore. ICANN convened the global community. It engaged with the stakeholders. It provided public dialogue mechanisms. And it received comments from multiple, multiple stakeholders worldwide. The level of participation was indirect, it was direct, it was with different parties coming forward. And with that we put forward a process that expresses the diversity of the views. This process was posted on the 6th of June. It proposes that there is a coordination group with the representation of stakeholders worldwide.

And of important emphasis in all of this -- and I think this goes to the point that Larry made earlier -- is that the process needs to be transparent, inclusive, representative, and multistakeholder. That is absolutely fundamental.

So on the process itself, it calls for the presentation of a Coordination Group which will be responsible for preparing a transition proposal respective of the differing needs of the various parties that relate to the IANA functions, and that it fulfills the criteria put forward by NTIA.

The Coordination Group is comprised of 27 members representing 13 different communities, including representation from governments. And there should be a slide up here that provides the information where you can find all that information.

The call that was put out in the document posted on the 6th of June asks that each of the communities represented on this group select, through their internal processes, candidates to put forward, and that those names are put forward by the 2nd of July.

The Coordination Group itself is responsible for preparing the proposal for the NTIA IANA stewardship transition to meet the criteria set out.

Now in the spirit of the multistakeholder model and Internet policy-making, the Coordination Group itself needs to address and identify it's modes of operation and working methods, including any potential timelines during its face-to-face meeting which is anticipated to be held in mid-July.

We very formally invite you to participate in this process and any mechanisms that the Coordination Group identifies have to ensure that they capture the ability to participate in an open and accountable way.

Now, there had been discussion about the accountability mechanisms themselves and in this process we have also launched a process for that. Materials on the Web site. Participation is welcome. And we are still receiving feedback on that.

So as Larry addressed, we have a unique window of opportunity for this, and we're committed to be playing a neutral role in these processes in order to ensure that we have a very smooth transition.

I am happy to address any questions.

Thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much. We in theory have got 20 minutes left of this session but we will probably carry on longer.

I have seven people who want to speak. I do not want to interrupt people too much, so I am going to introduce a new way of doing things. I'm going to set my stopwatch, and when you reach -- ideally I'd like you to speak three minutes but if you reach five minutes, I'll make some crude point the fact that you've had five minutes of time so hopefully you'll bring your remarks to an end.

I am going to start with the Minister from Namibia, Joel Kaapanda, who I do not know where he is, but if he could press his microphone and speak. Otherwise, if he is not ready, I will come back to him at a later stage.

He is not ready? Is he?

FADI CHEHADE: He is coming back later.

ED VAIZEY: We will go on to the German Minister and we will come back to the Minister from Namibia.

Detlef Dauke, the Director General of the Ministry of Economics and Technology in Germany, your time starts now. He does not have a microphone, so it gets better and better.

There he is. He has got a microphone. Go.

Five minutes, Detlef.

DETLEF DAUKE: I will try.

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, this March the U.S. administration announced that it is prepared to relinquish existing control it has in the present regarding ICANN's IANA function if certain criteria are met. This transition of U.S. stewardship of the IANA function signals a possible paradigm shift for ICANN. I am convinced that this reformation process needs to be accompanied by reform of ICANN's principles of accountability structure.

The future system should ensure that ICANN's accountability to the worldwide users of the Internet is strengthened further.

The government, German government, welcomes announcement of the U.S. administration. Germany will actively participate in the discussion here at ICANN but also in other fora where the ICANN reform is discussed.

The German government will advocate that ICANN is not taken over by governments or not taken over by interest groups dependent on ICANN in the future. However, we must make sure that governments will have a say on issues that touch upon political aspects and, most importantly, matters of public interest.

We think it would be useful to identify whether governments need more than an advisory role on certain specific issues yet to be defined. These issues might include certain aspects of the introduction of new generic top-level domains, like the use of geographical names. In any

case, questions regarding a country code top-level domain should remain a question of national sovereignty.

Since its establishment in 1998, ICANN, as a private organization, is playing a key role in the administration of the Internet architecture. So far it has also been a successful example of the multistakeholder approach.

The German government considers this multistakeholder model to be a key factor for the maintenance of free and open Internet.

I am afraid there is only very little that can be achieved by following the traditional procedures in place of intergovernmental negotiations. U.N. organizations, for instance, which operate by consensus, are simply not as quick and flexible as the Internet requires. Moreover, now that the communication markets have been liberalized in many countries, it is often private sector companies and the technical community, rather than governments that have the necessary know-how required to operate the Internet.

And so it is necessary to start discussions of these issues with all interested groups worldwide in Europe, at home in Germany, for finalization of a position, a clear position for the future.

Thank you very much.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much, director general. That was three minutes and 18 seconds. Many congratulations.

DETLEF DAUKE:	I'm sorry, I'm sorry.

ED VAIZEY:	No, no. That was great. That was under time. So Joel Kaapanda, the Minister of Information and Communication Technology from Namibia is happy to speak.
	Yes, I can hear your microphone.

JOEL KAAPANDA:	Your Excellencies, fellow ministers, senior government officials, members of governments, Advisory Committee, and member for the board of ICANN, the CEO and the president of ICANN and the staff, ladies and gentlemen, the government of the Republic of Namibia is delighted to have been invited to this high-level governmental meeting on the occasion of the 50th ICANN international public meeting series.
	As a developing country, to not just follow developments from afar but to actively participate in the discussion of the future of the Internet and the ever-evolving issues that arise.
	From that, this is only a second time that a meeting at this level is organized alongside the ICANN public meetings, previously in Toronto, Canada. With the unprecedented growth of the Internet and the development impact it has worldwide, this meeting comes at an opportune time.
	Looking at how the Internet came into being, the creation of Internet is attributable to one major success factor; namely, collaboration.

Prime years of the Internet such as Vint Cerf, Jon Postel, Steve Crocker, and many others made the Internet work over time based on the principle of multistakeholder approach.

As the saying goes, the most powerful force ever known on this planet is the human cooperation, a force for construction and destruction.

It has become a way of life of many, especially young people. It has become intrinsic to our economies.

The Internet has become inseparable from our educational system. It is becoming strong instrument on how we govern our nations and how we protect our sovereignty as nations. There is just no way that continued efficient and effective administration and governance of the Internet can be done without participation of all of us, in the interest of the Internet it must function.

The evolving nature of the Internet has made all nations equal beneficiaries, and therefore equal in stewards in how it should be administered. This is a value that ICANN holds true and that Namibia is keen to safeguard during the transitional period as well as the transition to key Internet domain name functions to the global multistakeholder community.

The role of ICANN in facilitating a model for the transition of the United States to national telecoms and information administration towards stewardship of the Internet assigned numbers authority, functions and accountability for ICANN remains a matter of critical importance to the global Internet community; particularly for governments.

Domestically, we initiate the process to transition the administration of Namibia country code top-level domain, .NM domain, as a true national asset for the benefit of Namibians. We believe that the multistakeholders open, participative, and consensus-driven approach will guide our domestic transition process to a satisfactory conclusion while learning from the best practices worldwide.

Internet of things requires this model. Innovation and local content development require this model. The Namibia digital economy requires this model.

We would like to thank ICANN and its officials for their support as we continue to discuss this transition in Namibia as we work towards an amicable outcome.

Lastly, in the greater interest of One Internet, One World, let us continue the dialogue and find common ground on the principle and roadmap for governing the Internet in the future, such as those from the NETmundial 2014.

It is also important to forge ahead independent of commercial interest, but solely based on neutral, open access, and usage of this global resource, we all share stakeholders of.

In this fashion, we harness the most powerful force ever known on this planet: Human cooperation, a force for the construction and effective regularity framework of the Internet.

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

I thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much, indeed, Minister.

I am now going to ask Jose Sanchez from Mexico, the Director of Telecommunications and Broadcasting Policy, to speak.

VICTOR LAGUNES: Hello, good afternoon.

I am speaking on behalf of Undersecretary Ignacio Peralta. My name is Victor Lagunes, CIO of the office of the President, Mexico.

Good morning, distinguished Ministers, Vice Ministers, dear colleagues of the ICANN community.

I would like to recognize the effort of the government of the United Kingdom to arrange this important meeting.

In a key moment for Internet governance, also, His Excellency, Minister Ed, please let me express the appreciation of the Mexico federal government for your leadership and effort to have a better Internet ecosystem.

Since the beginning of his administration, our President, Mr. Enrique Pena, has provided us with clear guidelines to maximize the potential of the Internet and the importance of broadband penetration in order to increase impact of the Mexican economy and social development.

We believe in a multistakeholder model as a better form to continue strengthening the global Internet governance, and for that reason,

Mexico will endorse its commitment to international community and host IGF 2016 once the mandate is renewed by the United Nations.

Today, the security, the resiliency and the stability of the Internet need to be addressed. We are convinced that a robust environment will provide trust and certainty in favor for the development of the Internet.

The transition of the responsibilities of IANA is a big step, and for that reason we recognize the importance of the decision by the United States government that will benefit the public interest.

Mexico will continue collaborating in the effort to build transparent procedures to transit to a commitment with a global community where all the activities must be in benefit of the public interest and not only for commercial or other interest groups.

In this sense, we seek for a process that establishes the best mechanisms for transparency and accountability, that provide opportunity for all stakeholders and oversee the correct operation of the IANA functions.

Also, as a government stakeholder, we are very concerned about the deadlines of the consultation process and we kindly request this to be reassessed.

Furthermore, the integration of a steering group that would only be comprised of two countries, two governments will present the challenge that this may hinder true global representation and may not express all opinions and views of all the GAC members where social, cultural, economic, and ideological environment is so richly different and, therefore, the public-policy context they offer.

Finally, by underscoring that Internet governance includes more than the Internet name and addressing, Mexico is convinced that an appropriate and successful transition is a key element to reach the goals expressed in the Tunis Agenda of the World Summit of Information Society.

Thank you so much.

ED VAIZEY: I would now like to ask Heleen Uijt De Haag from the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs.

HELEEN UIJT DE HAAG: Thank you, chair. My compliments for the pronunciation of my name.

And thank you also for this very professional stewardship of this meeting.

Let me start by expressing the Dutch support for the announcement of the Department of Commerce of U.S. to transition key Internet domain name functions to the global multistakeholder community.

We think this step is not only timely and needed, but it's also courageous. And it's an inevitable step. The amount of Internet users outside the U.S. is a factor ten or more than those in the U.S. This means that any new oversight mechanism should reflect the global nature of the Internet. And the Netherlands has always advocated that the oversight of the IANA function should be a shared responsibility between private sector and governments all over the world.

So we oppose an intergovernmental arrangement. We think any stewardship should be a shared responsibility of all parties affected by the IANA function, the ones that depend on the IANA services, and we governments are one of them.

Our interest is to maintain a stable Internet for our citizens, whether individuals or companies, who rely on the Internet.

And we believe in self-regulation as the preferred model for the Internet. This model has led to enormous economic and social benefits worldwide, and we see no reason why this would not work with the oversight of the IANA functions.

The mechanism replacing the current oversight should be as equally light and hands off.

And we see, of course, besides accountability, important criteria for the new oversight, and that's firstly independence and commercial, political, or organizational influence on this oversight should be avoided.

And, secondly, besides multistakeholder representation should reflect the diversity of affected parties.

Thank you, Chair.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much, indeed.

And now I would like to ask Ms. Song, who is the Director of ICT Structure, the Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning in Korea to make her contribution, if she is -- Yes.

KYUNGHEE SONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

We first would like to express our gratitude to ICANN and to Minister Vaizey for providing this forum for the global community.   The government of Korea is pleased to be a part of the ongoing global discussion on Internet governance, and I would like to share with you our ministry's opinion on the recent developments in the global Internet governance debate, especially with regard to the transfer of IANA functions.

We would first like to commend ICANN in upholding the global cooperative spirit that was widely shared during the NETmundial in April.

This was clearly displayed by Mr. Fadi in his speech this morning when he reaffirmed his firm commitment to a truly cooperative model that supports the participation of multistakeholders.

The revised proposal for the formation of a "Coordination Group" is the evidence of ICANN's support for the open participatory multistakeholder model, and we see this as a very promising beginning for a new Internet ecosystem that is accepted by the global community. However, we feel that there are several additional issues that need to be addressed in order to establish a successful Internet governance ecosystem.

First of all, we note that there are many governments that are still not participating in the recent Internet governance debates.

EN

As we all are aware, there are many countries that participate in other international fora, such as the ITU, but do not participate in ICANN.

This is mostly because of the lack of resources and awareness on the part of many of the developing countries.

Also, many governments do not see the necessity of participating in the global Internet governance discussions.

We feel that additional outreach efforts would help in this regard. Thus, we would like to encourage ICANN to explore more customized outreach mechanisms that would induce participation by additional stakeholders.

We believe that the new Internet governance ecosystem can succeed only when it is achieved through a truly global effort.

Second, although we agree in principle to the September 1st, 2015 time frame for the completion of IANA transfer, we feel that we need to be given sufficient time turning the process over to allow the stakeholders to voice their opinions and to try to arrive at our solution based on consensus.

Some recent announcements with regard to the IANA transfer process have not allowed enough time for the stakeholders to engage in discussions.

We are on a relatively tight schedule, but we would like to ask ICANN to let due process to run its due time frame whenever possible.

Third, we believe that the role of the GAC within the ICANN structure needed to be enhanced. The Korean government does recognize that

there has been an encouraging respect for the voices of the GAC since 2002. But their current non-voting status of the GAC within ICANN is something that needs to be reconsidered. Implementing a more formal mechanism for GAC within ICANN is an issue that should be further explored.

Finally, we note that transfer of the IANA functions cannot be accepted by the global community unless an independent system of checks and balances are put in place. Thus, we would like to stress that the process of ensuring ICANN accountability should be completed before the transfer of IANA. The government of Korea hopes that ICANN will be able to successfully establish a truly global Internet governance ecosystem that embodies the open and transparent multistakeholder principle that will be sustainable.   We are prepared to our part, especially in adding the efforts to increase global governmental participation. Thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much. Fadi and Steve have to go to attend a press conference. We have, I think, at least six speakers left for the session, which is technically over in the sense that it's now 12:30. I'm going to let you know when you have spoken for three minutes. You can, of course -- I don't like interrupting people or closing them down, but hopefully you'll take the hint. But we have got one, two, three, four, five, six countries, plus I'm going to ask the -- seven countries, and I'm going to ask the OECD to speak now and then start calling countries. So Andrew Wycoff hopefully will keep his remarks to around three minutes, if that's not too brutal of me.

ANDREW WYCOFF: Thank Minister Vaizey. As Assistant Secretary Strickling mentioned, just last Friday we celebrated the third anniversary of OECD's policymaking principles which you played an instrumental role in their development. These principles in trying the importance of inclusiveness, transparency, accountability, and made be a useful reference point for the IANA transition. As you know, the OECD places significant importance in preserving the Internet as a platform for innovation, economic growth, and social welfare. We will hold a ministerial meeting that focuses on these themes in Mexico in 2016.

To this end, we are concerned not only about the public policy that shapes the Internet in operations like IANA but also the protection of entities that serve the public interest, like intergovernmental organizations or IGOs. Specifically I want to raise the issue of protecting the entities, the identities of IGOs in the new gTLDs, ensuring that IGOs can carry out their public missions as reflected in GAC's consistent consensus advice on this issue. Unless protection is provided, the risks of wasting taxpayers' money in an era of budget austerity are higher. A coalition of more than 40 IGOs, many of them sitting around me here today, have been working with two years with the GAC to resolve this problem. Despite GAC and IGO efforts, this matter is still over as a final decision is yet to be taken by the ICANN board where countries and IGOs do not have a vote. High level support from governments is needed to resolve this matter. Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

ED VAIZEY:	Very grateful. That was less than two minutes. I'm going to ask Ambassador Fonseca from Brazil, who I probably should have called earlier. A lot of people have been talking about NETmundial. So it will be fascinating to hear what he has to say, if it's all right to call him. I'm calling people slightly randomly so they may not be prepared.
BENEDICTO FONSECA FILHO:	Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you. Let me first of all thank you and the U.K. government and also ICANN for organizing this meeting. As you have said, Professor Virgilio who was the chair of NETmundial will speak more extensively on this in the afternoon session so I will not linger on this. I would like to refer to the issue at hand, which is the ICANN transition and the announcement by the U.S. government. First of all, to state that the government of Brazil, as many other governments in the room, this is an historical thing. We have been voicing this wish for a long time. Therefore, we are very glad with the announcement that was made by the U.S. As someone has said, courageous and timely. We are more than glad to participate in this process in a constructive way. We fully embrace those criteria which are, let us say, the ground rules under which we have been working here. So we are comfortable. We don't think that any government should feel challenged by the fact that one of the consensus about this exercise is that there should be multistakeholder not led by one stakeholder, be it government, private sector, or any of the communities but all parties working together.

One very specific thing that emerged from NETmundial was the call for this transition period, this transition process, to extend beyond what is called the ICANN community. Of course, recognizing the unique role |

that ICANN has and its associated organizations, supporting organizations and committees, in that sense to ensure the effectiveness that at the end of the process we come up with an output that is effective, that enhances the effectiveness, stability, and security, but at the same time NETmundial made that call for these to be enlarged. And we think it is very important for the output to be seen as legitimate, that it can be embraced by the global community at large and think in terms of government since this is a high level governmental meeting. I think this challenge is particularly true in regard to governments. As you are aware, many countries do not participate in the GAC, which could be seen as the ICANN community arm of government, so we think there is a particular interest in enlarging this exercise and to stimulate participation on the part of other governments. In that sense, we truly concur with what was said by Korea in that regard and we are very glad with the way the process has been organized, that is inclusive, that is transparent, and we are encouraged this will be followed throughout the process, making clear channels will be -- remain open for participation, even from those people who will not be in this steering group but it will open for participation of other participants even beyond those communities. Thank you very much.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you. Thank you very much. I'm now going to ask Torstein Olsen from Norway. And just quickly, everyone is now free from having to thank anyone for this conference, okay? It's a given that you're all grateful to be here and you'll get an extra 15 seconds to make your point. Torstein.

TORSTEIN ORSEN: Thank you. Thank you, Chairman.

[Laughter]

And In spite of this, I will try to take a Nellie, being very short. So Norway welcomes this initiative from the U.S. government to transfer the responsibility for the stewardship of the root zone of the DNS to the global multistakeholder community. However, we will emphasize that this is imperative that the security and stability of the DNS will be maintained.

Another point we would like to make is that proper accountability must be ensured. Also that the new model for stewardship of the DNS does not jeopardize the national sovereignty of the Country Code Top Level Domains.

And to finalize my short intervention, Norway's committed to work with the community to identify the best solutions during this transaction process. Thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Gold star for Norway. Ms. Cullen from Australia. I know you're grateful to be here. Please speak.

MARIANNE CULLEN: Thank you, Chair. Good afternoon, Your Excellencies, Ministers, Vice Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen, Australia welcomes the United States Government's announcement about the transition of the IANA oversight

function to the multistakeholder community. We are a strong supporter of the multistakeholder model and the role of governments within this model. We consider the GAC has had considerable success in advancing public policy agendas within the ICANN framework, including the development of a comprehensive series of public policy safeguards for sensitive new gTLDs. A key strength of the GAC has been its ability to convey the consensus view of all governments, and where this has not been possible, to convey the full range of views and public policy considerations to inform ICANN's deliberations.

As Assistant Secretary Strickland has indicated, the central contractual role of the NTIA in the management of the Internet domain name functions has in practice amounted to little more than the retention of reserve powers, providing an umbrella of security and confidence to the Internet community. In this context we see the United States Government's announcement as part of the natural evolution in the globalization of the Internet's governance structures.

Australia considers that it is important not to replace the U.S. government's largely symbolic role with a unnecessarily burdensome or complex structure going forward. In particular it is fundamental that the architecture and administration of global cyberspace remains free of government dominance or control. Australia looks forward to participating in close collaboration with all stakeholders on this issue to develop an appropriate model. While the main focus must be on ensuring that there are -- must be on ensuring there are appropriate accountability and transparency arrangements for ICANN and IANA which are robust and sustainable and able to develop and evolve over

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much. I would now like to ask Mr. Petersen from Denmark.

FINN PETERSEN: Thank you. And thank you to the U.S. for making this decision which we think is very, very timely to transfer the IANA function to the global Internet Society. We think it's very important signals to give greater responsibility to the stakeholder model.

We also support that there is a globalization of all Internet governance institutions under the multistakeholder model, but we still think it's important that we have the security and the stability in the Internet and also that the Internet still are a free and open Internet and which are administrative under democratic values. We think it's an interesting suggestion which have come up also that the affirmative of commitment could be looked at in an international and globalization way.   For   Denmark,   we   attach   very   much   weight   on   the multistakeholder   model   in   ICANN   but   we   still   think   it   can   be strengthened and refined. It's a key priority for us to secure effective accountability mechanism and also check and balancing and redress mechanism.   We   have   from   Denmark   put   a   lot   of   effort   in   the accountability working group, and we are still ready to work with ICANN and others on this matter. We are looking very much forward to the process of the coronation committee. Governments have only two

seats. We are increasing GAC. That might be something which could be reflected upon. But what is important for us is that when the final draft is ready, that it's going up for hearings of government and GAC in response of that. Thank you very much.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much. Mr. Metzger from Switzerland.

PHILLIPP METZGER: Thank you,Chairman.   I would like to express also the gratitude of Switzerland that ICANN and U.S. government are committed to globalizing ICANN and the oversight, and of course we will come to the statement or the announcement to start a process aiming to transfer oversight over the IANA functions to the global Internet community. The two points I really wanted to emphasize, having listened in particular to the delegate from Korea, is time on the one hand and the other point is outreach. I think the oversight over IANA is of such fundamental importance for the functioning of the Internet that we should craft the process and the actual outcome very carefully, of course in an inclusive way, as I think everybody has stated. But we should take time. I'm a little bit torn between maybe the French saying (Speaking in non-English language), give the time to the time. That may sound a little bit too cozy for some, and on the other hand, if you are a keener contributor to the process, you may want to see a sense of urgency. And I think what we ultimately need is probably a realistic sense of urgency, if I may call it that way.

And the last point is the outreach. I think it is crucial that the debate over this transition goes beyond the ICANN community, that we are here today and that we also discussed this process in other fora, in particular the Internet governance forum.

ED VAIZEY: Excellent. Thank you very much. Mr. Milashevskiy from Russia.

IGOR MILASHEVSKIY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Excellencies and distinguished guests, to be brief, let me speak Russian. Please, use your headphones.

Today, together with the global community, we are participating in a very substantive discussion about Internet governance. There are social challenges, technical challenges, and operational challenges in terms of the technical challenges. We see a certain contradiction between the centralized Internet and centralized function in managing the resources. There are many threats to Internet security today, and we need real mechanisms of accountability and transparency in Internet governance. In terms of the policy instruments, they have to -- they have to primarily consider the end beneficiaries and respect the rights and liberties. These challenges dictate that we need to improve confidence in the governance of the Internet on the part of all stakeholders and their respective roles.

We believe that it is necessary to have several steps such as to divide the critical functions in Internet management, to define the universal policies in terms of unique Internet identifiers. We also need to consider separately administrative functions in terms of the

accreditation of Internet registries, et cetera, and the functions to observe the allocation of critical resources in the Internet and to control that these -- these units follow the established policies.

In terms of the technical functions, we need to look into IANA functions, root zone, the support of the root zone and others. At the same time, we need to ensure mechanisms of accountability in all of these functions, including external surveillance and audit. And all of the suggestions have been put forward by experts, and I have a question to Minister Strickland. Why is it that we're not trying to build a model, a clear model, where these functions would be separated, the -- in terms of the separating of the critical resources in Internet governance. Thank you .

ED VAIZEY: I think Larry's tempted to respond, but I'm not going to let him. What I'll do is I'll ask the minister from Iran, Mr. Arasteh, and then the minister from Egypt, Mr. El Alaily, to speak and then I'll ask Larry very briefly to --

LARRY STRICKLING: We can talk in the hall.

ED VAIZEY: They're going to talk in the hall. Maybe people want to hear your response in public, Larry. Anyway, Mr. Arasteh from Iran. And those are the last two speakers, Iran and Egypt. I'm not taking any more.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon to everybody. Mr. Chairman, in the multistakeholder approach there is a need to clearly define the constituency of this multistakeholder approach. The rights and obligations and legitimacy of each of these constituencies and, in particular, the footing of each constituency needs to be further clarified. The transition of stewardship of the IANA function needs to be accompanied with the accountability to the entity which replaced that, whether it would be the ICANN or the ICANN restructured.

On the accountability itself, there is a need to separate the policy, policy making, and policy implementing. Currently, these three are totally mixed up when you have to clear that.

With the respect of role in the government in the future internationalized Internet or globalized Internet, we need to carefully review the matter and possibly upgrade the role of government from the advisory status to an appropriate status.

Last, but not least, chairman, the role of the government in the two group -- coordination group for the transition and the working group on the accountability need to be increased from two currently included in the structure up to minimum five in order to achieve the reasonable representations and wider participation. And I thank you very much.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you for that excellently short contribution but very much to the point. And now Mr. El Alaily from Egypt as our final speaker.

HESHAM EL ALAILY: Your excellency, thank you.   Just would like to highlight that Egypt has been supporting the globalization of the ICANN and IANA function for many years.   In line we welcome the NTIA announcement on March 14th to transition stewardship of IANA functions to the global multistakeholder Internet community.

Also, Egypt supports the four overarching principles for the transition proposal as set out by the announcement.

Internet in Egypt has developed through collaborative work of private sector, academia, and government.   And, hence, Egypt supports an Internet environment that enables innovation, growth, and individual empowerment which can only be achieved through a multistakeholder approach to internet governance.   Hence, we agree with the view that envisaged model should be purely intergovernment or government-only led.

Egypt believes in having an open, transparent, inclusive, and bottom-up process to develop the transition plan that is multistakeholder throughout all stages.   We believe it is important to make sure that the process extends beyond the ICANN community and reaches out to Internet communities especially in developing countries.   Further, it should be made clear how the process would take into account input provided through other fora generally.   The community should have the chance to see and review the final draft before being announced.

Furthermore, we think there is the need for more clarity on the evaluation of the envisaged proposal and also to add more members for the GAC representatives in the coordination committee.

Finally, Egypt believes that the discussion on enhancing ICANN accountability is very relevant to the discussion on the IANA transition. We, hence, suggest to ultimately integrate both processes before developing the final proposal for the transition of stewardship of IANA function. Thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Because Egypt was so commendably brief and to the point, I'm going to invite the minister from Qatar to speak but. He has a very, very short time because people are getting ready to have their lunch.

HESSA SULTAN AL-JABER: I will be very short.

ED VAIZEY: She. So sorry.

HESSA SULTAN AL-JABER: I'd just like to -- Qatar would like to thank the U.S. government. And we support the U.S. government's agenda to transfer oversight function of the Internet assigned number authority to the global multitask -- multistakeholder community and the internationalization of the ICANN function a moment for evaluation and governance of the Internet.

Also, we are looking to this new management model that will preserve the core critical function of the Internet which should be global, transparent, multistakeholder, and free of control from a single government or a business entity.

Regardless of the sector we come from whether it's a government, technical, social, and academic, we should all work together not only to maintain the current state of Internet but also to move forward to keep the Internet as open, secure, and there should be no invasion of privacy for all users. Thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much. Now we're coming to the end of this session. In fact, this session is really ending. But I'm going to ask Larry Strickling to very briefly just make a couple points in response. I don't know whether Nigel is then going to make housekeeping points. I've got to leave to do some government business. After, you'll be so sadly deprived of my company this afternoon, which I know will cause mass depression. But I just wanted to warn you and prepare you for that beforehand. Larry.

LARRY STRICKLING: I'll be very brief. I wanted to respond to Igor's question. And my response would simply be that, once we made our announcement, we turned this over to the global Internet community to decide how to move forward. Your suggestion seems quite reasonable, and I would urge you to make it in to that process for consideration there.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much, Larry. Nigel, did you want to make some housekeeping points.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you, minister. Just to note thank you very much for this session. Lunch for heads of delegation is up on the 23rd floor. So heads of delegation and heads of IGOs, 23rd floor of the hotel in the restaurant there.

And we'd like to see everyone back there who wants to come back here in just over an hour.

For those observers on the seats, we're going to rearrange the seating in the wings. So please take your bags and other stuff with you. Thank you very much.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much. This session lasted just over an hour. We managed to get 15 countries and speakers in as well as Larry and Theresa. Thank you for being so brief and to the point.

(Lunch break)

SUE OWEN: Okay. Perhaps you could move to take your seats, people so that we could start this afternoon's session.

I'd like to start this session in one minute, please.

Welcome back everybody after lunch. My name is Sue Owen. I'm the permanent secretary for the Ministry of Culture, Media and Sport here in the U.K. I'm going to chair this session while Ed Vaizey has been called away for some parliamentary business. But I can assure you he's coming back the minute that that's over in an hour or an hour and a half.

So you won't have to put up with me for the rest of the day.

So I would like to hand over the lead now to Heather, the chair of the Governmental Advisory Committee, the GAC, so she can describe the role of governments in the ICANN multistakeholder model and, in particular, how the GAC contributes to ICANN's policy development processes with a quick look back over the last four years under her chairmanship and a look forward for strengthening the GAC as the membership now reaches close to 140 governments and designated territories as well as the intergovernmental organizations which have elected to be observers of the GAC, some which of which I'm pleased to see are represented at our meeting today. So, Heather, over to you.

HEATHER DRYDEN: Many thanks for that introduction.

So I would like to start this afternoon by talking a bit about ICANN's Governmental Advisory Committee or, as we call it, the GAC.

It is an organization I have had the privilege of chairing for the past four years. And I think a good starting point is what others think about the GAC or at least what they are saying. In the picture of Dorian Gray, Oscar Wilde said there was only one thing in the world worse than being talked about and that is not being talked about.

As you may have gathered by now, there is no danger of that with ICANN for the foreseeable future.

And, just as there's no shortage of people with opinions about ICANN, there is now a lot more focus than there used to be on the role and operations of the GAC.

The commentary in the ICANN community does seem to have moved from the GAC does not have enough influence to, perhaps, the GAC has too much influence. This could be seen as progress from the point of view of many in the GAC.

But I do want to talk today about how the GAC operates and what it has achieved.

There is a positive and constructive story to tell. In doing so, I also want to talk more generally about the role of governments in the ICANN model. ICANN engages with governments and intergovernmental bodies in many ways, including through the GAC. And it does so for good reasons.

I also want to provide some thoughts on why ICANN needs a GAC and also why governments need a GAC. There are reasons for both.

EN

So, in terms of the role of governments within the ICANN model, it goes back to the formation of ICANN in 1998 when a number of governments cautiously supported the new model. I'm not going to suggest that governments at that time had a firm understanding of the domain name system; but many did recognize that the infrastructure of the Internet was evolving, that its standards and administration were being built from the bottom up and not the top down, and that a new type of global coordination body was at least worth trying.

ICANN has engaged directly with governments from the earliest days on issues such as delegation and redelegation of country code top-level domains or ccTLDs. Some of these were originally administered by government authorities, some by technical bodies or individuals, and some by private commercial interests, which at times can be described as colorful arrangements.

ICANN has worked through these issues with national governments and local Internet communities. And today we have a strong supporting organization within the ICANN framework known as the country code name supporting organization or the ccNSO.

One way in which this cooperation is demonstrated between the Governmental Advisory Committee and the ccNSO is through identifying a principles-based framework for the issue of delegation and redelegation of country codes.

I will talk more about the specifics of the GAC shortly, but note that it has a broad remit to advise ICANN on public policy aspects within ICANN's responsibilities.

Today governments and intergovernmental organizations play a key role in the ICANN model on several levels.

The main channel of involvement being through the collective and coordinated involvement of governments via the GAC. But also increasingly through specialized groupings where we see law enforcement agencies wanting to take particular interest in matters within ICANN's purview.

So why does ICANN need the GAC? Indeed, why do the ICANN bylaws specifically require the existence of a Governmental Advisory Committee?

The main reason is that ICANN sees the importance of getting public policy perspectives on its activities. And in the real world this means the way that governments see them for better or for worse.

There are also issues at a practical working level. I think that ICANN is coming to realize that it gets considerable benefit from engaging with specialist working-level officials in the GAC who are familiar with domain name system issues. Another set of eyes cast over complex issues such as safeguards for new gTLDs can only help, especially when extensive policy and regulatory experience is being drawn upon.

Finally, the GAC adds real value to ICANN's work by helping ICANN in being proactive on public policy issues. This means early stage identification of such issues rather than just reacting at later stages. This is still a work in progress, but it is in progress.

So why do governments and IGOs need the GAC? The most obvious reason is to have a common voice that is heard directly by the ICANN

board. That direct link to the board is strengthened by the bylaws which require GAC advice to be duly taken into account. And, if the board does not proceed with it, for reasons to be explained publicly, and effort made to reconcile differences.

The GAC also gives governments access to policy-making processes in other areas of the ICANN community. This includes the Generic Name Supporting Organization with whom the GAC is working on formal information sharing structures and the Country Code Name Supporting Organization, which I already mentioned, where there has been a history of successful working together.

Both governments and ICANN have a common interest in early stage identification of public policy issues. And no one wants issues to develop through reaction and misunderstanding late in the process. And recent experiences tell me that this is something that is very much at the crux of making the model work here at ICANN in working with governments.

The GAC provides the best mechanism for governments in ICANN to be proactive and work cooperatively to develop the best outcomes that address the needs of all stakeholders. It is flexible, transparent, and a resource for governments and ICANN alike.

How does the GAC go about its business? You can come see for yourself while in London as meetings are open to all apart from the finalization of what we call the GAC communique, which is the negotiated document that we generate at each of our meetings.

GAC membership is open to national governments and distinct economies recognized in international forums and usually in an observer capacity, multinational governmental, and treaty organizations, and public authorities.

There are currently 141 GAC members and 31 observers. We are growing. Membership is always open, and joining requires minimal formalities.

Most GAC business is done at face-to-face meetings, and these are held in conjunction with ICANN meetings three times a year.

Work is also done intersessionally, much of it through working groups. And there are currently a few of these underway in the GAC.

For the purposes of its advice to ICANN, the GAC operates on the basis of consensus. And this is really the GAC's main strength.

And this advice is usually issued by the GAC in the form of the communique that I just mentioned. The GAC receives administrative support from ICANN staff and full-time secretariat support from contracted firm, the Australian Continuous Improvement Group. And this engagement of ACIG reflects the wish of the GAC to have a degree of independence in its work from ICANN. The GAC has supported this engagement through the financial support of several GAC member countries.

In terms of what the GAC has achieved over the last 15 years of its experience, there's quite a list. I will mention a few of these achievements here.

So I mentioned that the cc -- country code top-level domain delegation principles. And I think associated with that were the introduction of non-Latin script or Internationalized Domain Names in the form of country codes, which was a major development for many governments.

In terms of new generic top-level domain safeguards, the current program underway at ICANN is broad, contains many issues. And, in relation to that, the Governmental Advisory Committee was given a very particular role to play, to comment on the program, the rules, and sensitive top-level domains part and parcel with that. So ICANN accepted the GAC's advice on safeguards for the program for these top-level domains. And these included consumer protection issues, law enforcement considerations, and the need to support community-based applications. And those were from developing countries and regions. This advice emphasized the public interest rather than just commercial interests.

In addition, I mentioned other advice that we can give. And this has happened over the past four meetings where the GAC has addressed concerns regarding a certain set of strings that have been proposed as part of the program. And this includes names with geographic, cultural, and religious significance. The board has generally responded positively and constructively to the advice that has been given by the GAC. In terms of outreach and capacity building, we have an opportunity in the GAC to receive briefings about matters related to ICANN. And we've had support available to us from ICANN in the form of travel funding for developing countries and interpretation and translation. And these have all enabled us to increase the membership of the GAC and still be effective in our work.

In terms of the approach to accountability and transparency, this is another area where the GAC has really had a lot to contribute and a great deal of experience to contribute to these matters at ICANN. And we have heard today already that this continues to be a main thrust for governments in relation to ICANN.

So, for the future, well, ICANN is evolving. And the GAC must evolve with it, not away from it.

The current round of debates about internet governance clearly involves much more than just ICANN's functions. However, ICANN is very much a key player in these debates. And, indeed, it should be. So GAC's role within this current climate is doubly crucial. The GAC provides governments with a seat at the very table where governments are best able to influence matters related to the Internet's technical functions. For example, the other Internet technical organizations do not have a Governmental Advisory Committee. And so this provides a really good focal point for governments to engage with these matters.

The GAC is currently considering how it will be involved in the two related issues of developing a proposal to transition the U.S. government's IANA stewardship function and enhancing ICANN accountability. I can say that members of the GAC are interested, motivated, and ready to bring the views of their governments to bear on the issues. However, while the GAC has an excellent record of achievement and a busy current agenda, the future cannot be taken for granted. Let me sound a cautionary note. There are some possible future scenarios that would be counterproductive. One possibility is that the GAC becomes more distant from ICANN, not involving itself in

processes across the organization and becoming more inwardly focused. Over time the GAC has become more and more relevant to ICANN, not less.

That closeness is leading to genuinely positive public policy outcomes and is to be fostered, not squandered. That means hard work for GAC members and our support staff in putting time and effort into engaging with things that are happening generally in the community.

Another possibility is that the GAC becomes more like an intergovernmental setting. And this will exert a certain pressure on a model like this that needs to remain responsive to developments and move at a quick pace.

And, really, the GAC, as it grows and needs more time to achieve consensus and influence these processes, has a particular challenge in remaining effective within this framework because of those pressures.

I think the best possible way forward is one that keeps the GAC's core competencies and its best operational features intact. So not changing the fundamentals. And that continues and the GAC would continue as an active and influential voice within the ICANN framework as a result.

Thank you.

SUE OWEN: So thank you very much, Heather. It's, clearly, an important time for the GAC because it implements a range of improvements in its working methods following the two accountability and transparency reviews.

Now, I've got a lot of speakers on my list who I'd like to call to speak. I've got at least 10 so far. We've got a maximum of 30 minutes. So, in the interest of fairness to everyone, if you could keep your remarks brief, just one or two minutes.

So first I'd like to invite from Spain, Victor Calvo-Sotelo, Secretary of State for Telecommunications.

SPAIN: Thank you very much. And good afternoon. I would like to start with congratulations to the U.K. and to our chair and to Ed Vaizey for the efficient conduction of the meeting.

Spain fully supports the multistakeholder model and welcomes ICANN's process of globalization. We would actively participate in this process both as a country and also in coordination with other European Union countries under the leadership of co-Minister, Neelie Kroes. We would like to highlight the need for improvement in internal working methods and in GAC's relationship with ICANN structures. And, to this end, Spain has been leading the GAC working group on working methods whose recommendations are subject to approval in this meeting.

We would also like to see reinforced presence of the GAC in the coordination group in the future. I would say that an example of procedures that have not been able to resolve important issues for several countries is the .WINE controversy that we've been talking about today. I'm fully confident that we will reach a consensus this week on this very important issue, a consensus that will give us enough time to face with confidence the challenges that face us. Thank you.

SUE OWEN: Thank you very much.   Now Jose Sanchez, who is director of Telecommunications and Broadcasting Policy in Mexico.

So are you here?

VICTOR LAGUNES: Good afternoon.   I'm speaking on behalf of Undersecretary Ignacio Peralta Sanchez. I'm Victor Lagunes, CIO of the office of the President, Mexico.

Considering the key importance of government engagement with all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, private sector, technical community and academia, in protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms online, recognizes the global and open nature of the Internet as a driving force in accelerating progress towards development in its various forms, affirms that the same rights that people have off-line must also be protected online.

In particular, freedom of expression, which is applicable regardless of frontiers and through any media of one choice.

In accordance with Articles XIX of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Recognition of the Internet as a unique resource, comprehensive and unfragmented; human rights as a guiding principle of the public policy and Internet governance; strengthen Internet governance principles and promote dialogue at regional and national levels with multiple

stakeholders; promote collaboration schemes from the national (indiscernible) on strategy.

We recognize IGF as a unique setting for the discussion of issues related to the Internet; that the result of IGF generates recommendations and optional application that can be applied in other forms and scenarios. Identify potential conflicts of jurisdiction applicable law around the Internet and promote international cooperation.

We recognize important building on Global Internet Policy Observatory, GIPO 2014, as stated by the European Union, stressing the importance of regional strengthening due to a better dimension of socioeconomic characteristics and for the cultural identity of the people.

Thank you so much.

SUE OWEN: Thank you very much.

Now, Nuno Crato, Minister of Education and Science in Portugal.

Okay. So the next on my list is Dr. Ali Abbasov, the Azerbaijan Minister of Communications and Information Technology.

ALI ABBASOV: Madam Chairperson, Ministers, distinguished participants, it is a pleasure and responsibility to participate at ICANN 50 high-level government meeting today.

For the last couple of years, ICANN became global and more visible because of its involvement, transparency, and publicity.

With leadership over ICANN and the global spirit of collaboration, we witness certain reforms today in Internet governance. At least attempt to reforms.

In this regard, we highly appreciate the recent decision made by the NTIA for transition key Internet domain name functions to the global multistakeholder model, policy-making and governance.

We believe that the appropriate transition plan will be successfully concluded by September next year, and upcoming IGF meeting in Istanbul will facilitate this process.

We also think European Union's Internet governance principles can be taken for consideration during these discussions.

We also appreciate the recent NETmundial multistakeholder statement on principles and the roadmap for the future evolution of the Internet governance.

As you may remember, Azerbaijan hosted the IGF meeting in 2012, and we have been taking 2005 role in WSIS process as well since 2003.

With these, we are trying to contribute to the ongoing process and consider the dialogue as the best platform for achieving tangible results.

I find worth it to mention GAC's role in this process and under new conditions increasing GAC's involvement in the transition process. In this regard, GAC Singapore meeting should be appreciated because during this meeting, a wide range of issues were discussed and recommendations were adopted.

I also propose increasing two seats allocated to GAC in the Coordination Group for IANA transition. However, the representation of GAC in the Coordination Group is important.

Also, it would be appropriate to consider the candidate of ITU into the group.   In this case, necessary conditions for multistakeholder participation and protection of their interests would be created.

Thank you for your attention.

SUE OWEN: Thank you very much.

And now I would like to call on Mr. Tjahjono, Director of Information Security from Indonesia.

BAMBANG HERU TJAHJONO: Thank you, Madam Chair. Good afternoon for all.

It is our common understanding that currently, the Internet global governance should be restructured. Let us discussion in ICANN 49 conference in Singapore and during the NETmundial in Brazil shows that it is important for the informational community to intensify discussion on various issues regarding Internet governance.

In addition, it is inevitable that Internet governance restructuring process needs to be supported by governments.   In this context, Indonesia appreciates the initiative of the U.K. government to host this second high-level GAC meeting today.

First, it has to be noted that the new horizon of Internet has been introduced following the development of deliberation of Internet addresses, such as the introduction of .ANYTHING as gTLD or .ANYTHING for all ccTLDs and many other new developments.

While this new initiative have developed further the Internet, this development have also triggered some intensive discussion between GAC members as well as between GAC and other ICANN committees. In this regard, ICANN and GAC should be strengthened in order to quickly solve similar problems in the future.

Secondly, it is necessary to have common understanding among all countries of all Internet stakeholders that the Internet is a global connection which may allow any content to flow freely globally. Nonetheless, as the culture and tradition of countries are not the same, but there are basic universal norms that all peoples address to principle of all is to respect other cultures, ethnic, race, religion, and so forth.

Hence, it is critical that all global stakeholder must ensure that global Internet should be utilized for the good of mankind, a tool to bring people and nations closer and prosper.

Finally, I would like to draw our attention to the fast development of Internet-related technologies. Satellite, broadband internet, Internet of things, big data processing are just a few examples of these developments.

On the other hand, the technology capabilities of the global stakeholders are not at the same level. Therefore, there is a need for all of us here, for all of stakeholder, including the GAC, to have cooperation

to capacity building, global technical cooperation, to increase technical capability of us all.

ICANN, of course, can facilitate these needs.

Thank you.

SUE OWEN: Thank you very much.

And now I call on Henrik Ishihara of the Swedish Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications.

HENRIK ISHIHARA: Thank you very much. And thank you, U.K. government, for hosting this well-organized conference.

Sweden understands GAC to be a multilateral committee that is contributing in a constructive way to further public-policy interests in the operations of ICANN. This is the way it should be.

Governments have a weighty role for public policy. As the Tunis Agenda correctly states, governments have the authority in public policy, but we also recognize that other actors have legitimate interests in public-policy issues. And public policy is not the only legitimate interest in Internet governance.

Stakeholders in business, civil society, the Internet technical communities, governments, and academic institutions make significant contributions to the development of the Internet.

A continued development of the Internet requires that we continue to balance different interests; that no one group can veto another.

But importantly, we are not simply putting in the hands of the ICANN board the responsibility to balance public-policy interest to other legitimate interests.

The ICANN Board is obliged by the ICANN bylaws to consider public-policy interests and GAC advice, and to engage with GAC when they have the difficulties with the advice they have received.

Sweden is of the opinion that increased government influence at the expense of the influence of other stakeholders, will be a disincentive for the innovation and entrepreneurship that is the driving force for the development of the Internet.

Our support for the multistakeholder model is rooted in our firm belief that this is the only model that will continue to generate technological development and solutions for the future and preserving the Internet's open nature.

This does not mean, however, that the model is perfect. We should look at how the role of governments can be better described and understood; how accountability can be improved, and how all stakeholders can deal with situations where there are remaining conflicts about a decision made.

We must certainly support, to continue and to improve the multistakeholder model.

Thank you very much.

SUE OWEN: Thank you.

And now I'm going to call on, I believe, a new participant from the international committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, Charlotte Lindsey.

CHARLOTTE LINDSEY: Thank you, and thank you to our hosts.

I take the floor on behalf of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the ICRC, which is the guardian of international humanitarian law, which is a role assigned to the ICRC by all states and high contracting parties.

I also speak on behalf of the 189 national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and their international federation.

The protections accorded to Red Cross and Red Crescent terms and associated designations have been recognized by all states in their capacities as parties to the XIX49 Geneva conventions for the protection of victims of war.

In 2011, the GAC recognized the obligation that the protections of the names should extend to Internet domains at the top and second levels. And despite complementary advice to this end over the last three years, the question of full and permanent protection in line with international law and global public interest still remains under consideration within ICANN mechanisms.

We appreciate the support we have received within the GAC and the continued attention from ICANN CEO Mr. Chehade. We call for a full and rapid resolution of this matter, not as a policy or trademark issue but in recognition of the legal obligations and the real harm and risks that may ensue from the misuse of the names and terms Red Cross and Red Crescent on the Internet, including the diversion of public funds and donations.

Thank you for your attention.

SUE OWEN: Thank you.

And now I'd like to invite Heleen Uijt De Haag from the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs.

HELEEN UIJT DE HAAG: Thank you, Chair.

Let me focus, due to the time, on two particular points: participation and legitimacy.

The GAC's role is to channel the governmental input worldwide into the ICANN process, and there are now more than 130 members in the GAC. Nevertheless, less than half of the membership attends regularly the GAC, and only a very small part is actively participating in discussions.

And, okay, many good initiatives have been started to increase participation, but despite these initiatives, we have not seen a lot of

changes in this pattern. So we think it's important and it's good to see that the current initiatives are promising.

We see the working group on working methods has come up with an overall plan with concrete recommendations to be approved in this meeting, and we've heard from our GAC chair that we are now ensured of professional secretarial support for the next three years.

For us, the Netherlands, and for the other two financial donor countries for the GAC secretariat, this is a very gratifying moment.

We've been advocates for an independent and professional secretariat since a long time, and all these efforts will bring members to a higher information level and empower them to be active participants.

And there is also an external part, because the GAC needs to intensify its outreach in other fora.

We need to demonstrate that the multistakeholder model works and works, and we should show it in the fora.

SUE OWEN: Thank you very much.

The next on my list is Dr. Olga Cavalli from Argentina.

OLGA CAVALLI: Thank you, Madam Chair, and on behalf of the government of Argentina, I will speak in Spanish.

Argentina would like to thank the hosts who have organized this high-level meeting within the framework of ICANN 50.

Regarding the role of governments in ICANN and in order to strengthen the debate and to set positions at the national level, Argentina has created a national commission on Internet policies led by the secretariat of communications under the umbrella of the Ministry of Federal Planning, Public Investment and Services.

This commission has the role of coordinating all actions related to the Internet at the national level and to have a unified voice toward regional and international fora, including the advisory -- the Governmental Advisory Committee at ICANN, GAC.

Argentina actively participates in GAC, and in this regard, it wants to highlight the importance that relevant representation of the GAC will have in the Coordination Group as part of their IANA transition process.

This representation has to reflect the interests of all countries and the regional diversity.

Argentina works in ICANN and in international and regional fora to strengthen regional coordination in relevant issues such as the Internet governance. In this sense, Argentina supports the multi-participatory multistakeholder model and thanks the Brazilian government for organizing the NETmundial conference in which it participated as a co-organizing country. Thank you.

SUE OWEN:	Thank you very much. And now I'll call on Phillip Metzger from Switzerland.

PHILLIP METZGER:	Thank you, Madam Chair.

I just briefly would like to share a few thoughts around the role of GAC and what it takes in Switzerland's view to strengthen that role of the Governmental Advisory Committee.

Obviously the point of departure is that the GAC is here to advise ICANN about issues of global public interest, and we think this is a very tall and challenging order, in a sense, because global public interest is an aggregate, ultimately, of very diverse and specific interests and needs which are particularly dependent on different cultural, economic, and social circumstances.

And so if the GAC wants to have a lasting role, we believe that it needs to be strengthened in terms of its capability to identify and to convey and flag those global public interest issues.

And to do so, I can probably limit myself to three points because I think most of the delegates who have just spoken have already mentioned the points that seem to be important to Switzerland as well. As a point of departure, we believe that we need a common set of internationally agreed standards; in particular, as far as the human rights are concerned, and I think that has been mentioned by Mexico.

The second point, as just earlier mentioned by the Netherlands, is an active participation. We have still a relatively selective and limited

participation. I think we have to foster that. That, of course, includes putting at the disposal of smaller countries with less means and resources the necessary support. Not only just logistical and financial support, but also substantive support, to be able to deal and grasp the issues that are in stake at the bounds, as we can see looking at the agenda that we have in front of us.

And the third main point, certainly, is the efficiency and effectiveness of the actual working methods. I think Spain has already done great efforts in spurring that and in trying to be more disciplined, also more -- encourage the stakeholders to be more self-disciplined when it comes to these processes. And I think we've heard the testimony of the Red Cross today. I think the case of the protection of the Red Cross also shows where the challenges lie with regard to effectiveness and efficiency.

And so I think overall I have the impression listening to the room as well there is a quite ride consensus and a common understanding of the challenges that we need to tackle to make the GAC deliver better in the future.

Thank you.

SUE OWEN: Thank you very much.

Now I call on Rita Forsi, Director General in the Economic Ministry in Italy.

RITA FORSI:	Good afternoon. Thank you, Madam Chair. Distinguished Ministers, Distinguished Vice Ministers, Colleagues of the ICANN community, I bring you greetings from the Italian Secretary of State, the Honorable Antonello Giacomelli, who unfortunately was not able to attend the meeting due to sudden domestic institutional commitments.

On behalf of the Italian government I would like to thank the United Kingdom for the organization of such a relevant event. In a few days the Italian presidency of the European Union will begin. Internet governance will be one of the main points in our (indiscernible). Italian government confirms and promotes a cultural true multistakeholderism for the governance of Internet. Italy welcomes globalization program for a new Internet governance. We need to work together, through the GAC and with other constituencies, to make a multistakeholder transparent Internet governance happen. In particular we need to reshape the role of the GAC within the ICANN ecosystem. The .WINE and .VIN issue has been a problem for the GAC. For this reason our commitment is to avoid any occurrence of a similar situation. The new gTLD program must address the significant public policy concerns. We are not talking about commercial matters but the stream of political sensitive ones. The reputation of GI serves the public interest because of the particular risks of fraudulent misuse of GIs which the interested parties regularly witness. For this reason we need the GAC 2.0, a new mechanism of accountability and transparency. Italy will cooperate so that a new model can be reached. Thank you.

SUE OWEN:	Thank you. And now Minister Anusha Rahman from Pakistan.

ANUSHA RAHMAN: Thank you. Honorable Madam Chairperson, Honorable Ministers, ICANN President, Board members, GSE members, CEOs and other dignitaries, a very good afternoon. I'm extremely pleased to note here today that ICANN has emerged as a very prominent gathering of government officials, CEOs and business leaders of IT and telecommunications sector, political and government leaders, and this indeed is very encouraging to see that because one feels that this technical community and government will work together to safeguard a stable, secure, and resilient internet and Domain Name System.

I just wanted to say a few things very -- in particular to the gTLDS. The multistakeholder model of ICANN is important. It really helps in producing comprehensive policies regarding the Internet governance, and one feels that the Governmental Advisory Committee has made significant progress in expanding the membership and capacity of the GSE participation. Pakistan became an active member of GSE and it has given its views on the ICANN policy guidelines regarding the gTLDs. I would just like to add here three specific things that are important for a follow-up. The bidding option is something one feels that it should not be based purely on cost for resolving gTLD string contention, ignoring the fact that, you know, it is possible that one party may be more entitled to use that string due to historical, cultural, or other reasons. So just the bidding process alone may not suffice when we are looking at this model. And in the case of community-based gTLDs where the community is local and unique, the relevant public authority should be involved to ensure that the applicant is bona fide to use that name in the approval process.

And the third thing is that the fee structure of the new gTLDs is very high, especially fee for the new gTLD evaluation may be a bit high for financially privileged groups or low income countries. So perhaps there needs to be a reconsideration for developing countries. And when one sees a high congregation of developing countries here participating I think I would be shared in this input positively by some of them. And thank you very much. It's indeed a great pleasure.

One last thing that again is important, I would want to appreciate the role of ICANN is in the -- in the fast track program for introducing the international domain names and non-legend script. We have benefited from it, and I think that the local languages promotion would be fast tracked because of this initiative. Thank you very much.

SUE OWEN: Okay. Thank you very much. Our next up is Pamela Miller from Canada.

PAMELA MILLER: Thank you, Chair. As an overarching point, I'd like to emphasize that the current Internet governance framework is sound. The multistakeholder institutions that collectively ensure the functioning of the Domain Name System have enabled continuing innovation, social development, and economic growth.

Turning to the GAC, I would like to underline the progress that GAC has made, looking at the overall picture. GAC's prominent new role in identifying public policy concerns related to ICANN's expansion of the domain name space demonstrated its effectiveness as a consensus-based institution. There was a collaborative and creative approach in

developing safeguards. The Board accepted these safeguards. And now the focus is on implementation, which the GAC is watching closely. While some issues remain, given the scope of the issues raised by the new top-level domain names, GAC's role in bringing public policy issues to bear is a considerable achievement and I believe it has made a significant difference.

Secondly, ICANN is successfully implementing continuous improvements in transparency and accountability mechanisms as well as enhancing meaningful participation from developing countries. For example, one can look to the registry of GAC advice and the board responses. The GAC is evolving as an institution. It needs to gain further legitimacy without becoming overly politicized. The GAC's evolution will become increasingly important to strengthen the further globalization of the Internet organizations, including ICANN. The strength of the GAC has been in its flexibility and adaptation in its advisory capacity at ICANN. From Canada's perspective, the success of ICANN will be contingent on anchoring the GAC as a consensus-based institution within ICANN, not separate or above. Thank you very much.

SUE OWEN: Thank you. I'd now like to call on Mr. Sakamoto, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications in Japan.

YASUO SAKAMOTO: Thank you very much. I'm Yasuo Sakamoto from Japan. In dealings with Internet governance, one of the most important principles is to secure the free flow of information across borders. The Internet is a global

space which we will face for the first time in the history. Through keeping this global space unfragmented with collaboration of each country, it will enable us to solve the global problems such as global warming, resource problems, et cetera.

The Internet is involved with various stakeholders who are playing their respective roles. From this point of view, the public-private partnerships and the international cooperation are very important. It is not wise to let the government strictly regulate the Internet. The management of the security, stability, and resiliency of fundamental Internet resources is essential.

Concerning this management, the multistakeholder approach based on ICANN, which has contributed to the development of the Internet, should be maintained. The Japanese government is pleased applaud NTIA's brave decision. Taking this occasion of this transition, we need to establish a multistakeholder governance framework toward the future of the Internet. To that end, enhancement of ICANN's accountability, including the role of government and GAC, is very important. From this point of view, I'd like to comment. First of all, the post-transition mechanism needs effectivity to maintain and evolve the stability and resiliency of the Internet as well as its transparency and accountability.

From the prospect of effectivity, recognizing the existing structure has long contributed to development and stable operation of the Internet. We should use wisdom and know-how of these existing mechanisms. And it is beneficial to respect their opinion in the considering process.

From the prospect of transparency and accountability, governments should play a firm role as one of the multistakeholders on the way. We

need to consider that new governance does not excessively burden mobility and flexibility on the Internet, and does not become a barrier for the Internet which is hoped to evolve continuously.

Finally, as all the functions such as stewardship and accountability have linkage with each other, the post-transition governance framework by multistakeholders, including the role of government and the role of GAC in ICANN, should be considered in an integrated manner. Thank you for your kind attention.

SUE OWEN: Thank you. I have just three more speakers. So Mr. Chung Shu Chen from the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

CHUNG SHU CHEN: Thank you, Chair and Vice Chair and President, CEO, and other distinguished guests at the front desk. It's good to be here at one of the most important biannual occasions of the Internet Society. I would like to put forward three viewpoints here following the topic we are discussing today. First, as we all know, the kernel (phonetic) value of Internet is openings and I think it is objective to say that for the past 15 years ICANN has made it to support and embrace this kernel (phonetic) value as best as it can by practicing its co-principle of global stakeholder engagement. By and large, to be fair, ICANN deserves a big hand in this regard.

Second, for multistakeholders' perspective, government around the world surely are important part of this contribution and cooperation ecosystem for Internet development. And GAC has long been support

to act as the bridge between government and ICANN in terms of a multistakeholder mechanism. To let a government play the role of involvement rather than interference or dominance, GAC has done its best for this purpose, making itself synonymous with the best mediator or role model between public sector and Internet community.

Third, to further avail itself of the opportunity to contribute to the Internet development over the issue of transfer of IANA function maybe GAC should be added by ICANN some more right to play a greater yet more appropriate role than it does now. How or in what way GAC can improve its role should be open to consider or debate for the time being. For example, maybe it's time to make GAC has the right to vote in ICANN board in the future. That's all for me. Thank you.

SUE OWEN: Thank you. Penultimate intervention from Igor Milashevskiy from the Russian federation.

IGOR MILASHEVSKIY: Thank you, Chair. I will speak Russian, please.

At the outset allow me to share with you my opinion on the effectiveness of GAC within ICANN. I would like to thank the

I would like to I thank the chair of GAC, and would like to thank all those who actively participate in the work of GAC. At the same time, I would say that the role of GAC within ICANN and the role of governments within the multistakeholder model are not, strictly speaking, equivalent. Let me give you an example.

In terms of the initiative to create PDP, policy development process, there are many other international organizations that develop policy that are mandatory. And these are policies in terms of Internet use or Internet management. They are such structures within the U.N., UNESCO, the ITU, within the OECD, within the Council of Europe, within the European Union, and in other organizations.

The policies developed by these institutions are not directly related to the policies developed by ICANN.

And I'm certain that the developing multistakeholder model will specify the roles of different stakeholders including the role of the governments in terms of the developing Internet ecosystem. We need to find a place for the role of these various international organizations. They need to play a role, and we should define the realm of responsibility for governments, the role of governments is going to be significant. It would perhaps have to be able to have a veto or give binding recommendations. Thank you.

SUE OWEN: Thank you. Finally, I call on minister, Axelle Lemarie, Secretary of State for Digital in France.

AXELLE LEMAIRE: Thank you very much, madam chair. I would like to salute the second high-level government meeting. It is very important and also all the efforts that have made to open up to government public interests including the need to address domain names in many languages.

The French government supports the multistakeholder model that guarantees flexibility and representation of all the interests. However, it seems that with expansion of the Internet and with delegation of gTLDs, the number of problematic cases is on the rise.

The Red Cross example is one of those cases. And multistakeholder system, governments play an essential role because they stand up for public interest. And they are the only ones who are accountable from a democratic standpoint before their peoples.

In the Indian population represents several billion. The Brazilians 200 million. Governments are the ones who represent all those peoples.

To consolidate the role played by these governments in respect in the multistakeholder model, it would be important that -- to have within the GAC some kind of evolution regarding the consensus roles. In Sao Paulo, the outcome document evoked this principle of rough consensus. So perhaps this idea could be explored, because the consensus rule is a positive force, but it can also turn into a weakness or into a problem if a minority of states decides to oppose to a solution that otherwise would be adopted by consensus. The influence that the GAC members may have on the board at ICANN, I believe, that in this regard we can make some progress when there is a commercial agreement between a private entity, on the one hand, and a government, on the other hand, or a state-run entity. When you have this kind of arrangement, these commercial arrangements should be respected by the board.

And, finally, the GAC should play an essential role in identifying the most sensitive and most politically sensitive issues. GAC can also be helpful in addressing accessibility to delegation procedures for the TLDs.

And, in particular, the cost side of these processes that sometimes is too high for the smaller states or for small companies that do not have the means to spend 350,000 Euros as a minimum in order to apply for a domain name. I think it was Pakistan who said that perhaps these processes are not sufficient. Therefore, the GAC members can play a role also along these lines. A concrete solution should be put forward at this 50th edition of the ICANN meetings. Here we have an opportunity to see which will be the board's capability to listen to the opinions of the governments. Not only to advocate the interests that these governments are trying to put forward, but also especially to deal with those issues of competition that are more problematic especially when negotiations are taking place in other international fora, more reserved for international trade. GAC 2.0 has to be a well-balanced and representative GAC. Thank you.

SUE OWEN: We're over time. And I did say that was the last one, but I'm prepared to give very quick final intervention from Mr. Arasteh from Iran.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, Madam Chairman. Thank you for giving me the floor. I raise my flag many times before the speakers, however. Thank you very much again.

                            Madam Chairman, two things I have to mention. First of all, this meeting should not be used to make any modification whatsoever to the term of reference and the scope of IGF. It's outside the mandate of this meeting. That is the general assembly of United Nations, and that is

by the general assembly to make any modification to that. So this should not be used as a tribune for that. That is point number 1. Point number 2, the chairman of the GAC mentioned various options how the GAC should continue. That reflects her point of view only. It has not been discussed in the GAC and does not have the view of the GAC as such unless somebody pronounced in favor or against that.

Thirdly, we have mentioned that the representation of GAC in the coordination group and in the working group relating to transition and to the accountability needs to be increased up to minimum five in order to respect the regional representation. Last, but not least, the GAC status should be modified. And GAC should not continue to be advisory, chairman. It is not proper. It is inappropriate in a multistakeholder -- in equal footing that government role will be as advisory only. And that is not appropriate. Thank you.

SUE OWEN: Okay. Well, we've gone over time. I think it was worth it. Are there any quick reactions from you, Fadi or Heather? Do you want to -- okay.

So, clearly, the GAC performs a vital role in ICANN. We've seen its membership grow and observers from intergovernmental organizations coming in. I hope the representatives of governments present here today which have yet to join the GAC have gained a better understanding of its role and how it carries out its responsibilities in relation to in ensuring that the public interest is fully taken into account in ICANN's bottom-up policy development processes. The GAC is not perfect, but we have heard how it's programmed to improve its working methods and enhance the community with the rest of ICANN. The

community is ICANN is now underway. So we will see some key changes instituted by the time of the next GAC meeting during the ICANN meeting in Los Angeles.

So now we'll move straight on to the 4th section, reviewing the outcomes from the NETmundial meeting in Sao Paulo in April. We've all heard of NETmundial. It's into the global vocabulary of Internet governance. Before the conference took place there was, quite frankly, a lot of apprehension. Would it aim to train certain processes, new structures? Would it lead to an increase in the role of governments in terms of oversight and control? But we found reassurance, however, that the planning and the conduct of the conference itself would be rigorously multistakeholder and transparent. Our government in the U.K., like many others, readily contributed supporting the preparatory process and contributing our views in response to the fully open consultation stages and at the conference. We welcome the outcome, the statement of principles, and the roadmap for future work. We think they're coherent and well-focused.

So time now to take these forward to the IGF in Istanbul in September and in other Internet-related organizations and processes including ICANN.

So, to hear more about the outcomes, I now invite our colleague from Brazil, Professor Almeida, who is Secretary for Policies on Information Technology to the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation to summarize the aims and outcomes of this major meeting, including the NETmundial principles and crucially the roadmap for strengthening the existing multistakeholder processes and initiatives. Professor Almeida?

VIRGILIO ALMEIDA: Thank you. First, I would like to thank the U.K. government and ICANN for hosting this session.

And I will summarize here what we saw at NETmundial in the main outcomes of the meeting.

I have some slides that I would like to ask them to -- just a second.

So that's -- yeah.

Yes, I have some numbers there. That's why I'm asking for the slides to show. Thanks.

Let's see if they work. Okay. All right. Let me see if they managed to upload these slides.

Okay.

>> Can you start without them?

VIRGILIO ALMEIDA: Here they are. So next, please.

I see that they uploaded the wrong file. But, anyway, let's go with this.

It's ICANN NETmundial London. Could you please -- okay. So we -- when we started talking about NETmundial -- and I will present the events that led to to the onset of NETmundial.

But, since the beginning, we had in mind that there was a focus for the conference. And the focus was to address two blocks of goals. One was to set Internet governance principles in a multistakeholder environment. And the second one was to propose a roadmap for further evolution of the Internet governance ecosystem.

So this is the chronology of events that led to the onset of NETmundial. It started with the speech of the President Dilma at the United Nations in September 2013. Then there was Montevideo meeting with Internet societies. And after that, the president of ICANN Fadi Chehade met the president of Brazil in Brazilia where they proposed the idea of executing this meeting on Internet governance.

So later in November President Dilma announced the multistakeholder Internet governance meeting in Brazil.

Initial discussions about the Internet at the NETmundial were held in Bali at the IGF 2013. And then a partnership between CGI, ICANN, and 1net was done to organize NETmundial meeting. It was in November 2013. And then the first meeting to organize NETmundial was held in Brazil in December 2013. And the reference documents were published in April 11th, and then we had the conference in April 23rd.

So these are the events that were -- that led to the conference in Brazil.

Next, please.

So that's an overview of the NETmundial. The goal was to produce an outcome document with international and multistakeholder legitimacy with broad consensus. That was the goal that we pursued.

We introduced a series of innovations in the preparation of NETmundial. And I'm going to go in detail for some of these innovations. We had several multistakeholder committees. We worked for several months in a reference document preparation in a multistakeholder style. The modus operandi of the conference was modified. We had things such as separate queues for -- by stakeholder. We searched for transparency during all the phases of the preparation of the documents and during the conference.

We had open drafting rooms, international hubs --

We had open draft rooms, international hubs. And we also had one parallel popular event called Arena NETmundial, and the goal was to make a connection between the discussions in NETmundial with the population, the common citizen.

We had some -- some points of tension during the preparation of the meeting. The first one was the nature and scope of the Internet governance processes. Should they include nontechnical questions or issues, such as privacy, such as surveillancy, or should it be limited to critical resources managed. That was a conflict that permeated the discussions.

And we also saw a conflict between two schools of thought: multistakeholder and multilateral styles. And NETmundial showed that we have a conference where the two schools of thought went well together. And we had people from the two sides of this way of doing Internet governance working together.

So next, please.

Next, please.

So I'm going to skip this. That's the committees used to organize the conference.

Next, please.

This is an important slide. The first. It shows that we had more than 900 attendees. We had almost 200 journalists attending the meeting, and people from 110 countries. And you can see from that piece chart that we had all the stakeholders participating at NETmundial: governments, civil society, academia, technical community, and private sector.

The other important observation is that we got a large number of contributions from the different sectors.188 contributions to prepare the initial reference documents. And then once they were made publicly available, we got more than 1300 comments on those documents. We had also the remote participation that I'm going to show later.

Next, please.

You can see here that we had more than 900 participants from 110 countries, and that shows that NETmundial was a truly global meeting. You can see the map shows that. And also the circles presented in the picture and the size of the circles is proportional to the number of attendees from those countries.

So we see that it covered most of the countries of the world.

Next, please.

Also in terms of contributions, we got contribution from civil society, from academia, private sector, and that shows that NETmundial was a truly multistakeholder conference, where the ideas came from all the sectors, from all the stakeholders involved in the governance process.

Next, please.

There we have the distribution of the attendees by continent, so we cover the whole world.

Next, please.

And this is another interesting slide that shows we had remote hubs where people could interact with the conference in real-time participation. And these hubs were installed in 33 places, in 30 cities, in 23 countries.

One important observation is that there was -- most of the hubs were located in developing countries, in different time zones. So it was interesting to see people at 3:00 in the morning waiting in line to interact with the people in Sao Paulo at 10:00 in the morning or 12:00 in the morning. That showed the interest in the global discussions of Internet governance.

Next, please.

Another innovation introduced in this meeting was the stage layout. We had the session chairs, we had sessions that were assigned for each part of the document, of the reference document.

Each session chairs were helped by advisors that took notes of the comments and then worked on the incorporation of the comments on the final document.

We had four mics, one for each sector, for governments, the civil society, business, and technical community. And these four mics created four separate lines. And on a funny side of the meetings is that the civil society was very happy to see a lot of government officials queuing up to speak. That was something that they really enjoyed.

Another funny comment on the innovations. During the night sessions, the drafting in the draft rooms, people were very happy because they stayed working until 2:00 in the morning, having wine and food at the end of the sessions. So that created a very positive mood for the preparation of the documents.

Next, please.

We can skip the principles because they are in the document that you all received.

Next.

Even also skip the roadmap.

And then let's talk about a reflection on NETmundial.

What reasons for the success of this meeting. It seems to us that the first thing was that the meeting had a focus; it was to create outcomes documents for principles and for a roadmap. And that created a mind set that permeated the participation of the several sectors involved in the preparation of the documents.

The second -- the second aspect that was really important was the full commitment and the multistakeholder experience of the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee. It is a committee that has -- it's a multistakeholder committee that has been in place for almost 20 years and works very well in practices.

Another aspect of this conference, it was a bottom-up and equal footing participatory process.

It seems to me that two aspects were very important for the success in obtaining outcomes approved by broad consensus. We had reference documents, so people arrived at the conference knowing what was going to be discussed. And second was the negotiation process. The conference -- actually, the meeting -- was a combination of a long time for document preparation plus the two-day event plus the remote participation. So the negotiation started three months before the conference, during the process of preparing the reference documents. So when people got there, they knew what they wanted to approve or to reject or to change. So that was a quite important aspect of the conference.

The real-time participation, in particular for developing countries, was also quite important. The modus operandi of the meeting, the separate mics, the drafting rooms, the transparency in preparing the final document. Everything was displayed on big screens so people could follow what was being changed in the documents to obtain the final document.

And I think that the positive mood of the meeting. People wanted to see change in this process of Internet governance.

Next, please.

Next, please.

So lessons learned. The first one is that during the preparation of NETmundial, we learned that it was important to tailor the event to the multiple stakeholders' specificities. So each stakeholder has its specificities. Government has timing different from private sector. Civil society has a multiple way of looking at the different questions.

So we took all of those things into consideration and we had respect for the differences. And that's something that was quite important to obtain -- to obtain the success in the conference.

Second point is that an open, transparent, participatory and multistakeholder preparation process pays off. So it paid off when we got more than 100 countries, almost 1,000 participants, more than almost 200 journalists, so that that also is another sign of the success.

Innovation is the name of the game. Several innovations were introduced in the format, in the procedures, in the way that people interact with each other, in the participation with the multistakeholders. That was something important.

Need to improve multistakeholder working methods, especially in regard to the decision-making procedures. That's something that we think that we should work on in order to see how this multistakeholder environment decides about important questions. What are the procedures? We need to establish rules for that.

We also -- One thing that we have observed. We had almost 200 journalists, more than 100 from all over the world, and it was difficult to explain to them what is Internet governance.

Internet governance is -- sometimes is restricted to people that attend conference such as ICANN, IGF, and people outside that do not see the importance of that.

So one thing that we learned, it is that we need to construct narratives for global Internet governance. Economics of Internet, free flow of information, human rights, could be possible approach to construct narratives.

If we look at climate change, we have problems that are global and they have very good narratives, we thought.

Next, please.

What comes next? So NETmundial principles and roadmap should feed into other Internet governance processes and forums like ICANN, this forum here; IGF 2014, there will be a pre-event day zero to discuss NETmundial outcomes; ITU plenipot in Busan; the IGF 2015; the overall review of implementation of the WSIS outcomes in 2015.

NETmundial format innovations and organizational improvements could be adapted to other IG forums. And NETmundial multistakeholder principles could be used as inspiration for national establishment of national Internet ecosystems.

Next.

So where do we take the outcomes of NETmundial? We saw that some important decisions were left for the future. So we can see here five of them. And I think that is up to us, all of us, the community, to construct pathways to find solutions for those important questions.

To conclude, I would say that we humbly believe that NETmundial was a success, and we hope that the Mundial football is going to be a success, too. That's what we want.

[Laughter]

VIRGILIO ALMEIDA: Thanks.

[Applause]

SUE OWEN: Well, I can confirm that our Secretary of State is going to watch Brazil play football this week. He's also going to watch England.

Now, clearly the conference was a great success, and I think we should recognize the substantial support from ISOC, from the international society. I don't know, Kathy -- Kathy Brown, whether you wanted to say a word or two at this point.

KATHY BROWN: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

SUE OWEN: Okay. Now, we have to recover some time, I'm afraid, so I'm only going to take interventions from the four people I already have on my list. So first of all, I'd like to invite Neelie Kroes, Vice President of the European Commission.

NEELIE KROES: Thank you very -- You did want to speak.

KATHY BROWN: Yes. I tried to say yes. Thank you.

Excuse me, Commissioner Kroes. I will just be a moment.

The Internet society had a wonderful part in participating in NETmundial, and I wanted to just take one moment to say that Secretary Almeida is the prime example of why an individual person makes a difference. His dedication, persistence, patience, skill, and pure leadership in this conference leaves us today talking about it the way we do in glowing terms.

The conference brought together a diverse group of stakeholders who made a conscious decision to work with each other.

I think this was part of the magic here.

The conference illustrated a very practical application of the multistakeholder process. The technical community, as was just stated, stood shoulder to shoulder with government officials, business leaders, civil society, and human rights advocates. We talked with each other, we listened to each other. We came away with a statement of

principles that were embraced by the assembly in a spirit of collaboration.

As others have said, we have multiple opportunities ahead to deepen our resolve, to forge agreements, norms, and mechanisms that will help us realize the benefits of a globally connected open and secure Internet.

The upcoming Internet Governance Forum in Istanbul gives us another opportunity to collaborate. The Internet society is working with other stakeholders to enrich the knowledge agenda -- excuse me -- by discussing and advancing best practices that are so crucial to governance in a distributed ecosystem.

The critical question for all of us is not whether or if but how diverse stakeholders can work together toward a common vision for the future.

We believe there is not a one-size-fits-all multistakeholder model that is identical from region to region, or from institution to institution. We agree with Minister Vaizey, however, that the dynamic nature of the Internet does not lend itself to traditional top-down processes. Rather, the bottom-up innovation and governance that has been the engine of growth for the Internet is facilitated by a multistakeholder approach that share common principles of openness, inclusiveness, and transparency.

I thank you for this opportunity to lend my voice in support of what I think we all experienced in Brazil.

Thank you.

SUE OWEN: Well, thank you, too, Kathy.

So Neelie Kroes, you're vice president of the European Commission and EU Commission for the digital agenda.

NEELIE KROES: Thank you, Madam Chair.

NETmundial was a success and is a success, and thanks for all the efforts that are done so far.

It was, indeed, the demonstration that was just explained that the multistakeholder model really works and that it can produce concrete outcomes. And result can make the multistakeholder model more inclusive, more transparent, and more sustainable in the long term as well as moving us towards a clear definition of the principles that must guide global Internet governance.

NETmundial puts us on the right track, but that doesn't mean, Madam Chair, that the work is over. We now have to achieve the goals that were so well outlined in Sao Paulo.

To implement those concrete actions, number one, the Internet is available to everyone and belongs to everyone, and we need everyone to have their say. And that is why the multistakeholder model is the right one, one we should champion, but we should also defend. A model based purely on government control would be very dangerous.

And second, the Internet is global, and it is right that we move IANA towards a mobile global base without putting stability and security in jeopardy, of course we can't afford that. But this transition is an historic

and a welcome step towards globalization of key Internet resource, and this transition has to follow some key criteria: inclusiveness, legitimacy, accountability, global public interest, rule of law, and separation of policy and technical functions.

It has been a long time coming, and in some quarters, patience would wear thin if there is further unnecessary delay.

Let us also not forget that today's Internet is unified. To keep it that way, we need to keep people engaged. Global governance for a global Internet. And that is why we need to strengthen the Internet Governance Forum and give it financial and political sustainability. We need to make its discussions more accessible for all people in the world. We need to strengthen the links between national and regional and the global IGF, because only by doing so, we can make sure that the discussions at IGF are relevant and are useful.

We have to make sure that technologies and the policymakers talk more and talk better, by the way.

Nowhere as in ICANN is it crystal clear that apparently technical discussions and decisions can have deep public-policy implications.

And you have to recognize the rights and responsibilities of governments to care about those issues.

You can't ignore their role.

You have to recognize the public interest and the debate over .WINE is damaging, for example. And as I said this morning, there are other domain names that are equally sensitive in other regions, in other

cultures. A lack of accountability on such issues could damage the whole multistakeholder model on which ICANN is based.

That is why it is absolutely essential that ICANN continues its efforts to become more accountable to the global community. And Madam Chair, ICANN, whether people realize it or not, is a symbol. It is a symbol of what multistakeholder governance really means. Its successes and its failures will always and unavoidably be interpreted in such larger context than ICANN itself.

And I have one final thing to mention today, Madam Chair. And I want to speak quite directly to those who disagreed with the results coming out of NETmundial, either because of procedural or substantive issues. And my message is, let us not focus on what divides us. I accept there will always be different views on how much openness is acceptable on the Internet, but the Internet is a global common resource. It benefits them from its global nature. And while government's ability to apply local laws should be preserved, of course.

And in conclusion, Madam Chair, therefore let us respect our differences. Let us voice them. Let us discover them, and let us try to find compromises. Just as Brazil did in its courageous leadership in Sao Paulo and in its willingness to move out of its comfort zone to find a compromise. As a result, NETmundial has given us an absolute strong boost in the right direction, and it's now our responsibility to turn words into practice and realize the potential that the Internet has for each and every one of us. And let's make sure it works. Thank you.

SUE OWEN: Thank you very much.

                                  [Applause]

                                  So I'd like to call now on Minister Vega, Minister of Information, Technologies, and Communications in Colombia.

DIEGO MOLANO VEGA: Thank you very much. And first of all, I'd like to join to congratulate Brazil, especially President Dilma Rousseff, for the leadership in NETmundial. It was a great outcome, a great conference, and also very good results for such a short discussion in just the previous weeks of the event.

                                  I think in terms of implementing what we saw in Brazil, every single country should be the example. I think we all have to work hard on strengthening our local or national Internet governance ecosystems. That's key. If we want to discuss this globally, we'll have to fix our national ecosystem. That's an important element. So that we can learn domestically. We can improve our local operations. That's key.

                                  But also, we have to work as well on strengthening the whole Internet ecosystem. As you all know Internet is a great tool to close the gaps, the gaps between the haves and the have nots. The gaps between developed -- the developed countries and the developing countries. However, in this new game of the information society, developing countries are lacking of strong national Internet ecosystems. We have to also help the developing world to strengthen the whole Internet ecosystem. And I encourage especially big Internet companies that are leading the developing of Internet to help our countries to

strengthening those innovation ecosystems. To help developing countries to train people locally. To develop local applications for our local people. I think there are -- those are two main areas that we have to work on to keep moving on with what happened in NETmundial. Thank you very much.

SUE OWEN: And now I'd like to call on Hasanul Haq Inu, Minister of Information from Bangladesh.

HASANUL HAQ INU: Thank you very much. I thought I did not talk this evening. Well, I was talking in the morning. Thank you, Madam Chair. That after the NETmundial outcome document we believe that we need to have two distinct mechanisms are needed. One that looks at the global Internet related public policy issues in various social, economical, cultural, and political domains, and another that undertakes an oversight of the technical and operational functions related to Internet replacing the current unilateral oversight of ICANN and IANA by U.S. government. This will require the setting up of appropriate new global governance bodies as well as a framework of international law to facilitate this work. These bodies, to my understanding, need to be anchored at the U.N. system with a very strong and institutionalized public consultative mechanism in the form of multistakeholder advisory groups. And also the new Internet technical oversight advisory board can be formed to oversee the technical and operational functions. We must together properly interpret NETmundial's outcome document on multistakeholderism. Otherwise there will develop a cloud of

confusion. Multistakeholder pol -- participation as expanding the consultative base of public policymaking is well taken. We support that. But, however, claims to formal equal roles for all stakeholders in decision-making process is not truly democrative. Public policymaking is a specific political function that can only undertaken by formally constituted authorities who draw their legitimacy from the people through clearly laid out political process. So multistakeholder is okay in their respective roles and responsibilities as mentioned in the NETmundial outcome document.

Madam Chair, the post-NETmundial -- so naturally these are the few things I want to mention. And besides that, the transition period, the important thing is to ensure the security and reliability of the whole transition process. So that is a challenge. That challenge will have to be taken up by us.

Our other things is that -- that we need to think of the other areas. For example, we need to take care of the customers' concerns and users' concerns, that is, we need to protect intellectual property rights, then community interests, religious and ethnic groups, interests of the governments along with the mechanism of dispute resolution. Finance is also required to divert it, to develop the market, digital literacy, ensure broadband affordability, to educate the public about delivering and promoting ccTLDs use. Above all, we need to ensure reliability, stability of the DNS during the transition. Thank you, Madam Chair.

SUE OWEN: Okay. Thank you very much. So we just have our last speaker, and after that I want you to think about whether you actually want to have a

break or whether you want to move straight into the last session now that Minister Vaizey is back here to chair it. So you have a couple of minutes to think about that one.

So our last speaker is Hesham El Elaily, the Executive President of the National Telecommunications Regulatory Authority in Egypt.

HESHAM EL ELAILY: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to highlight that Egypt commends the effort by the Brazilian government and appreciate the novelty of the NETmundial event. We believe that NETmundial sets a precedence and a model for a bottom-up global multistakeholder model that is (indiscernible) -- it was proved that inclusivity and outcome oriented process are not mutually exclusive.

We believe that NETmundial multistakeholder statement which was agreed upon rough consensus reflects to a great extent the consensus of the community. The statement comes as a result of broad political support provided by most attending governments, key players from the private sector, broad range of civil society representatives, as well as key figures from both technical and academic communities. Egypt has actively participated to NETmundial values, the multistakeholder statement, and is glad to have contributed to it, even to its Arabic translation. We believe that the set of agreed principles provides an excellent common starting point and that the output roadmap comprises an agreed work plan for a common way forward.

Finally, it is worth noting that NETmundial is not an end in itself but an input and milestone. A start of a process and an effort that should be

continued and built on. It is thus important to have an ambitious and clear objective for the next IGF in Istanbul. Thank you.

SUE OWEN: Okay, thank you very much. So that draws that excellent session to a close. We have now -- the next session was supposed to start at 4:00. It is 4:00. So the choice is either we move straight into the next session with Minister Vaizey chairing it and you can go and get a cup of coffee and just bring it back to your seat or whether you would like a ten-minute break. So let's have a show of hands. All those who want to start straightaway.

>> Okay.

SUE OWEN: All those who want a ten-minute break.

>> It's consensus.

SUE OWEN: I think it's a ten-minute break. Thank you very much. Please be back here. Ed will start at ten past 4:00.

[Break]

NIGEL HICKSON: Ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon. Can we resume the high-level government final session? If we could have everyone seated, we'd be very grateful. Could we have everyone sitting down, please. Minister Vaizey wants to start the session. Thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Good afternoon. We are now at -- as Nigel Hickson said, this is the high-level meeting, the final session, which sounds like a Hollywood movie. And we are going to discuss the report of ICANN's high-level panel on global Internet cooperation. ICANN established last year a number of strategic multistakeholder panels. And the most important one, perhaps, was on the global Internet governance ecosystem. So it links up with the NETmundial outcomes. The panel was chaired by President Ilves on global Internet cooperation and governance mechanism. A member of the panel is here to report directly to us. Andile Ngcaba, who is the chairman and founder of Convergence Partners, executive chairman Dimension Data Middle East and Africa, and previously was the Director of Communications in South Africa. Andile will introduce the main conclusions of the panel's report including supporting multistakeholder alliances, strengthening existing Internet governance mechanisms, and supporting Internet accountability and globalization. After that, I will take interventions from the floor. Depending on the number of interventions, I will limit the contributions.

In order to make this session even more interesting, I have asked -- and Andile has agreed to be the first -- each speaker to begin with a personal anecdote about what they love most about London.

I can reveal that what I love most about London is its green parks. I think we're very lucky to have Hyde Park, Green Park, and where I live Ravenscourt Park. We're a city that is still relatively low-rise with big open green spaces. I think that's a great thing. But all of you are here. I'm sure many of you have visited London before, but some of you are here for the first time. You'll get an insight from this global community about what it is they love most about this global city. Andile, over to you.

ANDILE NGCABA: Minister, thank you very much.

What I love most about London is jazz. Ronnie Scott. I would advise the minister to go to Ronnie Scott's this weekend.

ED VAIZEY: There you go. Ronnie Scott's. If any of you have time, please go there.

ANDILE NGCABA: Thank you, honorable chair and honorable ministers and government delegation present here today, the ICANN leadership, and members of this very important community. When I was part of GAC many years ago, we were 12 of us. When you look at the room today, GAC has certainly grown. And I think this is an illustration of the importance of

the Internet in particular within governments and the public service globally.

If you look at the title of this report, it is the Panel on Global Internet Cooperation and Governance Mechanism. We spent a lot of time defining exactly almost every word here -- global, Internet, cooperation, governance and mechanisms.

And, again, we have been talking about multistakeholder model for almost since beginning of the day today. And this is something that I'm sure all of us have accepted and adopted in the way in which we look at the future of the Internet.

But two things I'm going to emphasize in the report. One, issues relating to decentralized I think is very important. You will see the structure where we will define further, you know, how far deep do we go when we talk about decentralization and the entire ecosystem. Next slide, please.

I think it is important -- let me start by thanking all members of the panel who are here today. I mean, their contribution and the amount of work they have done in putting together this report. I mean, the series of conversations both face-to-face meetings, online, and the amount of work that each of the members prepared to ensure that we are where we are today.

And, again, I want to emphasize that this has been a partnership between ICANN, the World Economic Forum, assisted by the Annenberg retreat at Sunnylands.

EN

Again, I'm sure all members of the panel here today will attest to the fact that President Ilves really -- and his vice president, Vint Cerf, did a great job in steering the panel. The people who came across who came from different works of life -- private sector, technical community, civil society -- managed to come together and bring about a very constructive document that will lead not only us as a community but the world at large.

The team of Internet governance experts helped a lot in ensuring that they provide both technical and intellectual input in the work of the panel itself.

Next slide, please.

Those are some pictures that you would see of members of the panel. But I think it is important for me to emphasize that we started here in this town and just -- less than a kilometer from here where we met for the first time.

This was in December of last year. And then the drafting team met again in January and to start to prepare the work. And other people met during the World Economic Forum meeting toward the end of January. We then in February met in the U.S. in Sunnylands to ensure that we can consolidate some of these inputs. And then, lastly, we were hosted by Mohamed and in Dubai where we almost finalized the document. There were some activities that happened after Dubai to almost polish and ensure that the document that you see both on the Web site, which I will give you the address later, almost encapsulated all the discussions of the events starting from December and the activities that were happening between face-to-face meetings.

Next slide, please.

Just to dive a little bit down in to some of the interesting issues, I think fundamental is that we all realize that, you know, this will be based on what we call rough consensus. The reports supports this aspect of decentralization and collaborative model in as far as Internet governance is concerned.

Firstly, to be distributed to participatory, meaning allowing as many stakeholders as possible, beyond the community that you would find here or in regular Internet meetings.

Thirdly, that it should be layered.

This will ensure, you know, suitable allocation of resources and expertise across all these different layers.

So the panel presents the report to global community in order to inform the community of their actions and the evolution of this collaborative decentralized Internet governance ecosystem and to ensure the interconnectedness, secure, stable and resilient and Internet that is trustworthy, which is, again, one of the values that were discussed earlier today both by the chairman and the CEO and president of ICANN.

Next slide, please.

So the report components of the global collaborative decentralized Internet governance ecosystem, they cover a number of issues. But, in particular, what was presented by, again, one of the panel members, Virgilio, who hosted NETmundial successfully in Brazil, again, we took

and realized that some of the documentation and the papers and the work that was done there clearly supported the work of the panel.

The panel did not work in isolation. The panel took most of the statements and the output that came out of Sao Paulo as part of the integral work of the panel itself.

For an example, the issues related to what I would call DGs or distributed governance, defining as a group of organizations and/or individual aspects, basically, that come together to address specific issues and outcomes, again, in the -- what I would call the wheel of governance that you will see at the end, you will see how distributed governance would work with other aspects of the ecosystem.

So the Internet governance process then defined in four elements. One, which is issues identified; two, solution mapping; three, solution formulation; and then, fourthly, solution implementation.

The other very important aspect is what we call enablers, enablers that facilitate the above two companies that I've talked about, including fora in different parts of the world, dialogues, and expert communities and toolkits for purposes of helping either less developed countries or developing communities that would not necessarily have capability or depth in understanding a number of the issues that are related to governance and ecosystem in general.

Next slide, please.

This is what I truly believe is a very interesting output out of what we were talking about.

If you see on the left, on my left, where we talk about what we call distributed governance groups where we look at issues, issues can be technical issues or non-technical issues, basically. And there will be then community that will debate these issues at different levels or spheres of society.

And these spheres could be local in a country or province or sublevel below that or a city. Or they could be, for instance, regional in a continent or subcontinent and, ultimately, global.

So these spheres would cut across almost every area of geography where humans live.

The solutions then, as I've discussed earlier, would then form, you know, this broad galaxy of issues that will have to be addressed.

Now, if you look then on the side of governance enablers, dialogue is very, very important. I think this is an example of what dialogue is all about.

And in this journey, trying to ensure that we come up with the best model that will address issues of this ecosystem, one very, very important pillar is the fact that we're able to talk to each other and be able to engage each other. So forums and dialogues form critical enabling platform for governance of the Internet.

The other very important aspect are expert communities. We all understand that without expert communities, there wouldn't be Internet today. This is a very important pillar in driving this collaborative, decentralized Internet governance model that expert

communities must be able to be heard by even the non-technical community and by the ecosystem in general.

We all understand where we are in the world today, that there are those -- I mean, the Internet today almost more just over three billion people are connected on the Internet. Capacity development and toolkits recognizes the fact that there is still or there are parts of the world that are still requiring deep understanding not just technical issues but the broader issues of Internet governance and decentralization of this ecosystem.

So capacity development is going to be that part of this process to assist to bring those who are not or part of this process as we have seen it today.

So then there are some roles of distributed governance model, if you will see on my extreme right. Yes.

Now, I would finish with what I call governance principles at the bottom of this picture. These are issues of human rights, for instance, issues that are related to aspects that were addressed by most people here, for instance, today. These issues are covered as, for instance, ensuring that the Internet is not fragmented, that we have unified Internet, that we deal with issues of human rights and shared values that, again, were discussed during the opening session.

I'm sure you might have heard from various ministers intervention this morning, the issues of security, stability, and resiliency in the Internet. These are all governance principles when discussed by the panel over

the following years. These are same principles that, if you remember in the NETmundial statement, were embedded in that judgment, too.

Enabling the environment for sustainable innovation and creativity and also ensuring diversity in both culture, language, and related aspects.

And the process principles and protection of intermediaries. Again, if you remember this debate for people who were involved when the drafting was taking place in Brazil, that protecting intermediaries was, again, very important.

Open standards. And, lastly, open and distributed architecture. These all form what we would call the governance principles in as far as the Internet is concerned.

Next slide, please.

Now, clearly all of us are involved in this process, wanting to know what next, what is next going to happen. People don't want just to engage in meetings for the sake of it. People want to understand what next, what is going to happen, what actions will be taken after NETmundial, having seen the report of the panel.

Now, one of the -- or critical issues that we came up with as far as the panel is concerned are action plans. One is to look at short-term issues, medium term and long term. Short term to ensure that we promote a the community the global Internet governance based on the NETmundial principles. I'm sure you might have seen or had during the day and which I would really like to emphasize is that how do we, as different parts of the world, as the continent, how do we as countries,

as stakeholders, take this -- the principles or take what came out of Brazil forward?

I mean, the issue of, for instance, the alliance or alliances is what is being discussed today and what you will hear about in the next of -- in the next days or so.

How, as countries, as private sector, how do we endorse, how do we embrace NETmundial? Our respective areas?

I think the issue of the alliance or alliances will assist us in ensuring that we subscribe not purely at a general level; how do we take some of the statements or the report or these principles and action them in our respective areas of work?

The second area is to promote capacity development that facilitates or enables broader representation and participation in a collaborative Internet governance ecosystem.

We all understand that one of the things that, again, as you know the anecdote I made earlier, at the time when I was sitting in GAC we were about 12 of us. And when you look at the other meetings that would be taking place, we would move as 12 people having to go back and report, and back to At Large and other respective meetings that would be taking place. But today, almost you look at these seats are not enough because of the participation of people in GAC.

Again, it's how to ensure that we expand this to other stakeholders, to operationalize these enablers and ensure that, you know, in Section 3 where we talk about dialogues and forum and expert communities and capacity development, these not only are kept within us as a community

but we are able to expand these to people who are future stakeholders, future groups much people that we want them to be part of this multistakeholder model.

And to share best practices of this multistakeholder model at national, regional, global, even at a local level within various countries.

And then lastly, when it comes to long term, to increase this global cooperation and investment, to grow the Internet and provide more Internet to more people. There are more -- There are 7 billion people in the world. Internet today connects 3 or just over 3 billion people. The critical question is how do we connect more people on the Internet? How do we, again, connect things on the Internet?

Next slide, please.

So to summarize, Minister, I would like to say that, you know, there are matters that are urgent that we need to deal with; I mean, to improve this collaborative decision-making by leveraging the practice of multistakeholder governance model, and to develop a set of guidelines and checklists on best practice on how these DG groups operate to define these concepts of accountability, basically.

And then lastly, to ensure that, you know, from a short-term point of view, we establish urgently needed sustainable funding and resources. Again, we all know that we might discuss here and agree with all these issues. Unless we resource some of these actions, nothing is going to happen.

Lastly -- next slide, please.

So the last point I would like to raise is supporting ICANN's accountability and the globalization of IANA. I think previous sessions have talked about this. I'm not going to delve much into it. It's something that we all are aware and this process is on. We did hear, I mean, what the Department of Commerce in the U.S. said earlier today. Critical is how do we ensure that that process between now and September next year is well run, well managed, and that we can involve as many stakeholders as possible.

I will stop here for now.

Thank you very much, Minister.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much, indeed, for that very comprehensive summary, Andile. And I know that you and all the other panelists put an enormous amount of work into this, and your report is very timely and an incredibly important contribution to the debates and how we take ICANN forward. And you've covered, I think, a great many very important points.

We only have at the moment one person who has indicated they want to speak, but I can see another one up there, another one up there. So we will go around -- send people around to get people's names so I can call them.

We're going to start with Jan Malinowski, and despite the intense seriousness of issues we're discussing please do not forget, Jan, you have to tell us what you love about London before you move on to the substantive points that you wish to make.

Jan from the Council of Europe.

JAN MALINOWSKI: Thank you, Minister. In addition to jazz and the parks, I would add the worldwide cuisine that you can find in --

ED VAIZEY: Very good point.

[Laughter]

JAN MALINOWSKI: Thank you very much.

I am not here to deliver a European message. Instead, I think I am and I think we all should be inspired by events like NETmundial and like the outcome of the high-level panel that we are discussing now. And these outcomes, for me, can be exemplified with the principle, the approach that has been written down in the conclusions of NETmundial and embraced by the high-level panel that Internet is a global public resource that should be managed in the public interest.

The public service value of the Internet is not only for the developed world, but for the whole world. And this requires access, affordable costs, choice, and also participation by everyone, by all stakeholders from everywhere in the world.

However, the first and foremost indicator for the serving of the public interest is the respect of human rights.

Human rights are universal, and they are indivisible. Governments have primary legal and political responsibility to protect human rights, and they are accountable, under international law, for the respect of human rights.

Freedom of expression and privacy are fundamental on the Internet. They are not a privilege for a few or a business for a few, but they are right for everyone.

And equally, as other actors in the ecosystem, ICANN should be mindful of those rights, should not become a gatekeeper in respect of freedom of expression and content, and should continue to be a facilitator.

Now, human rights can only be maximized, the highest standard can only be achieved if they are underpinned by the rule of law. In this connection I would like to pay tribute to the many delegations around this room that have embraced international instruments like the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime and the (indiscernible) Convention on the Protection of Individuals with regard to the automated processing of personal data.

These are tools, together with many other tools, that allow to underpin human rights through rule of law principles and processes.

The Council of Europe has contributed to these tools. I think that it is a question of demonstrating on the part of different actors maturity in the Internet governance processes that will allow us to advance and to progress.

I would suggest that as part of the outcomes of both NETmundial and of the high-level panel conclusions, I would move three possible ways

forward in which we could increase the impact of human rights in Internet governance context in relation to the work of ICANN, of course.

Firstly, human rights could be brought into, squarely into the bylaws of ICANN. The second place, it would be possible to elaborate the meaning of public service and the public interest in the context of ICANN. And finally, and this goes to governance and to the question of participation and the ecosystem, ICANN should avail itself of early engagement mechanisms in respect of international law and human rights law in its discussions.

Thank you very much.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much, Jan. We've got a couple of extra speakers who have indicated they want to speak, but, obviously, if you want to speak as well, please feel free to raise your banner. Now, Chris Painter is a fan of world cuisine for the United States government, but he's half the man he used to be. An example to us all.

Chris, will you speak, and make an important contribution as well as telling us what you love most about London.

CHRISTOPHER PAINTER: So thank you, Ed. And what I love most about London is a jog through Regent Park followed by a visit to a fine local pub, not necessarily in that order.

What I'd like to say about the important work of the panel is, first, we certainly -- the U.S. government certainly appreciates the efforts and

the work of the panel to advance discussion on a range of important Internet governmental and governance issues, including principles and processes to evolve the Internet governance ecosystem. And we thought that that was a very important step after what we believe was a very successful and important NETmundial conference that we talked about the last session.

There are a number of the recommendations that immediately resonate for the U.S. as they are complementary to our national thinking and approach on these issues. We are particularly supportive of the panel's strong interest in the evolution of a collaborative, decentralized Internet governance system that has at its core a unified Internet that is unfragmented, interconnected, interoperable, secure, stable, resilient, sustainable and trust building.

We anticipate that any such efforts to evolve the Internet governance system and ecosystem will preserve its core multistakeholder nature, which has worked so successfully to date and which was upheld in the NETmundial conference.

Thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much, Chris. That was commendably brief.

Now we have Mr. Arasteh from Iran, and nobody has mentioned our brilliant national museums in London. Maybe Mr. Arasteh will recall that the British museum, which has collections from all over the world, is known as the world's museum, recently lent to Iran the great Cyrus Cylinder, which was then displayed in Iran and was a huge success.

But, Mr. Arasteh, if you are present, as you have indicated your wish to speak, please do so now. And another flag has gone up, so we have another speaker coming after you.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you very much, Your Excellency. You have mentioned that. I don't want to repeat that, what you said. Thank you very much.

In addition with the three parks that we have mentioned -- Green Park, Hyde Park, and Regent Park -- I would add Hutton Court.

ED VAIZEY: Yes. Very good. Great place to --

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: When I studied in these cities, I used to go to that place. Thank you.

Now, coming to the issue, Chairman, what I heard from these presentations, the only element that attracts me is decentralized process.

The remaining talking of dialogue, forum, capacity building, these are just words which have heard for years and years and years. And I don't think that we should start to have, again, another dialogue; again, another IGF; and, again, another capacity building. We have discussed that -- these all other ways and all earlier. So we have to find a solution for that.

Then they talking about dealing with the principles and dealing with some other issues, that I don't know where, how, and who will implement that.

Action plans. How action plans are implemented? Who implement that?

Principles. Who have agreed with the principles? People are getting together. We thank them very much. They put element together, but they are not new.

Chairman, we have to go from words to the actions.

Thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Well, thank you very much for that contribution. I love it when people say what they think rather than read from a script. And that will give Fadi something to come back on. Words and words that Mr. Arasteh has heard for years, and hopefully that will provoke a good debate.

Mr. Surankana Wayuparb from Thailand, please tell us what you love most about London and also what you think of the presentation you've heard this afternoon.

SURANKANA WAYUPARB: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

When we're talking about the Internet governance, I think most of everyone here do understand the same way. Then when we're talking about this, we refer to the human rights, the privacy issues, for sure.

But when we're talking about the fundamental principle of human rights and the privacy issue, I think maybe not the same.

We do have to accept about the common understanding of the two words, but in detail, maybe not the same. Why? Because we have not the same culture, maybe not the same history.

We sometimes, in some regions like -- something like in Europe and in eastern country, are not the same. So to clarify the terminology for -- to retain or to encourage everyone to understand the same principle, the terminology of the two words are very important.

I would like to encourage everyone to reconsider about how can we leave the room for the common understanding in detail of the two word.

In principle, we do accept, but in principle, sometime we have to leave the room to encourage everyone to reconsider how can we try to finalize or how can we encourage everyone to think about what is different in each country or each region, something like.

Thanks.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much for that contribution.

And I think we now have Ivo Ivanoski.

Excellent.

We mustn't lose sight about what you love about London. Some people are failing to tell us.

Apart from the failed technology.

You might have to move seats.

It's a roving mic.

IVO IVANOSKI: Thank you, Excellency. Good afternoon, everybody.

What I love about London is three times a week you can get a good football match. That's what I love about London.

And I'm sorry that I was looking forward to watch England facing Spain in the finals.

[Laughter]

[Applause]

ED VAIZEY: When did Macedonia qualify for the World Cup?

[Laughter]

IVO IVANOSKI: But I think England will face Spain --

[Laughter]

ED VAIZEY:

I think regardless of our football indifferences we should acknowledge the Dutch and Chile delegation, who are missing their match. Such is their devotion to a multistakeholder model of Internet governance.

IVO IVANOSKI:

Anyway, England will face Spain at the Sao Paulo airport pretty soon, so ....

[Laughter]

IVO IVANOSKI:

I have to say that it was a privilege for me to be part of the high-level panel for Internet governance. And I think the work that has been done, it's a good place to continue all the multistakeholder discussions that we've had at the WSIS, at the NETmundial, at the high level panel, now will continue at the Internet governance, the United Nations, in Busan, but I also feel that we need to make more actions. I agree with the representative from Iran that it's a lot of talk, a lot of words, but we need to start making actions that we can prove to the people that are listening and following us, that multistakeholderism cannot be just on paper but it can be a reality for us. I think it's important period of time, next year, that some institutions show that words can be created in action, create an action plan that many can follow in order to satisfy the needs of all the stakeholders around the world. I think the Internet is growing so fast with the new mechanisms that are coming, more people will be looking forward to this actions to see the Internet continue to be an innovative place where everybody can have an equal footing regarding of the institutions they're representing. The governments

have a responsibility for their citizens. The governments have a lot of accountability, but also there are a lot of governments that are on board with multistakeholderism. We can hear some new governments today and yesterday that are very much on board with this. And I think it's a good momentum after the NETmundial, after the high level panel, that the London ICANN 50 can put a new milestone for the multistakeholderism for the rest of the world. So thank you very much.

ED VAIZEY: Thank you very much indeed. So that contribution from a member of the high level panel says that the words will be turned into actions, and I think that given that no one else has indicated they want to speak and we're coming to the end of the session anyway, this would be an appropriate moment for me to thank Andile for his contribution and also invite Fadi to, as it were, take the floor and to respond to some of the points that have been made, to talk about the high level panel, NETmundial, ICANN 50, how it all fits together, and where we go from here.

FADI CHEHADE: Thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Don't forget what you love about London.

FADI CHEHADE: I live in California so what I love about London is how close it is to Italy, because I love going to Italy.

[Laughter]

[Applause]

ED VAIZEY: I could wrap up the meeting, Fadi.

FADI CHEHADE: Thank you. Thank you, Minister Vaizey. This has been a tremendous day for me and for ICANN. When Andile sits to my right and says that he attended a GAC meeting with 12 people, I think we're told by the GAC chair that this GAC meeting here which will take place for the rest of this week will have 100 countries represented. This will be the highest ever. This is separate from this meeting here. The GAC meeting. This is all good.

You know, the Boston Consulting Group predicts that next year the Internet economy alone will account for $4.2 trillion in the G20 economies. So the good news is how big it is. The bad news is that obviously it is largely in the G20 countries.

The Internet is a massive driver of economic growth. It is also a very powerful tool for social cohesion. We've seen what it can do. But it also has challenged us. How does it challenge us? I was recently with a minister who's actually in the room telling me that in his country every month hundreds of court orders are issued to shut down Web sites. And these court orders arrive to his door as the Minister of Telecommunications. And of course 99% of these Web sites are not in his country. What does he do? It's complicated.

The Internet's transnational nature is challenging our laws, our systems, our jurisdictional model, and it's making us react. The reason you're all here and Internet governance is on the agenda of many global leaders is because the Internet is no longer just for children to play games or to send some emails. The Internet, as I said earlier today, is the space we live in. Cyberspace is dead. All space is cyber now. Everything. Governments, health, education. You can name it. So, of course, we're all interested on how we govern this together. It's a big issue. And it's a growing issue. It is not a shrinking issue.

When we all went to Dubai to the ITU meeting for the WCIT, I think you'd all agree with me that we left Dubai quite polarized. We had a group that insisted on one way and another group that insisted on one way, and a large group in the middle that actually was nowhere, kept looking for political reasons to go one side or the other. But in reality, the WCIT unfortunately polarized us and divided us. And we continue to carry these labels. We walk around with the label multilateral or multistakeholder as if it's a religion. I grew up in Beirut where 18 religions broke this country and completely decimated it for decades. No more labels in Internet governance. We need a pragmatic middle ground where we can work together and collaborate. That's what we do. And it is that middle ground that made NETmundial remarkable. Every speaker today spoke about this magic of NETmundial as if it was something, you know, supernatural. It wasn't. We just came together, collaborated, and we hashed out some principles that most of us have talked about for years. There's nothing new there. But we did it in a new way. The innovation, as Minister Almeida said, was very important. And we owe Brazil many thanks for the courage of Her Excellency

President Dilma Rousseff for doing this. When we visited with her and proposed to do something, because she said I want to do something about it, just like many of you said today, and we told her bring us together to start agreeing together. What happened at NETmundial is a great step forward. And today, for example, you heard the senior minister, who reports to the president of China on all matters of cyber, come for the first time to an ICANN meeting and make some strong statements that were never made by China before. They were made here today. This is history. The Chinese government recognizes that they need, as he said this morning, to find the common ground. Yes, we may disagree on many things, he said, but that's fine. Some common things, and move on them. And he mentioned all the aspects of the sectors we call multistakeholder. He may not have used the word "multistakeholder" and we're all -- we get worried about labels, but he said, business has a role, and he brought with him, with his delegation here, business leaders from China. He said civil society has a role. He said technical people have a role. This is the spirit that we want to build the middle ground. And I hope that the people that believe in pragmatic governance of this great resource -- because the Internet is not just, as we call football, the beautiful game. The Internet is the beautiful resource. It's a beautiful resource. And we will squander its power if we do not come to the middle ground.

Now, everybody said enough words. You know me, that even though I speak a lot, I actually like to get things done. And I think all of you today voiced a frustration with more words. So building on the NETmundial principles, which I believe we universally have looked at and have all embraced, the panel embraced them, we embraced them, many

people, including China today stood up and embraced them. Building on these, plus the model that this panel has developed which Andile covered today, you now have what I would call in engineering design principles and you have the specifications. Now we need to build the solution.

How do we do that? How do we move to action? I went back and visited Brazil and I presented President Rousseff with the proposal that what we did at NETmundial does not stop there. Why don't we go further and put the NETmundial principles, coupled with the model that we saw coming out of the panel, to action. And I'm happy to share with you that the response was superbly positive. And I have since talked to other governments, to other institutions, the WEF, civil society groups, and we together in the weeks ahead will be coming together to form the NETmundial alliance. The NETmundial alliance of governments, private sector, civil society, technical organizations. Institutions that believe in the principles of NETmundial will start putting in action a model of distributed collaborative Internet governance. Without labels. Practical, with real goals, set up and we will move forward with these as soon as we can. This is what we need. We need real action.

Now, this is on the front of Internet governance, on all the issues that for years we have not found common solutions, where all stakeholders solve them. Yes, ICANN has a model that needs, as we all agree today, to evolve for names and numbers and parameters that are technical matters. But we have so many issues that no one is addressing. We need an alliance that comes together and enables the addressing of these broader issues, and that will happen in the weeks ahead.

As to ICANN, I would like to say two things. I have listened very carefully to the many good inputs we received today. I am sincere in telling you that I am deeply thankful for the commitment many of you today have shown to the model of ICANN. We have much work to do and we will do it. If ICANN, the organization responsibility for names and numbers and parameters, is not operating in the most representative way of the multistakeholder model, we actually will hurt the whole ecosystem of governance. Our success is the success of the whole ecosystem and the success of the whole ecosystem of Internet governance will help ICANN to stay where it needs to stay. Not to grow it. To focus it on what it needs to do well. I'm committed, as is my board, to an accountability roadmap. We will do it. Many of the inputs I received today I'm going to take them to heart and to action. You can be sure of that. And I want to assure you that we will put people and the public back at the heart of ICANN. Not the interests. The people. And that we must do or else I think ICANN will fail. Thank you.

ED VAIZEY: Well, thank you very much, Fadi. That was fantastic. I think that -- I've worked with Fadi for -- since he took over at ICANN, and I think we've become good friends. He does talk a lot, but he has a lot to say. He also travels a lot. And I think that he has become friends with a lot of people in this room. And I think that the unique talent that he brings to his stewardship of ICANN is the fact that all of us, whatever culture or background we come from, trust him and trust him to do the right thing. ICANN is at a very important stage of its development, and I think to take it forward is going to rely a great deal on trust, trust from governments, trust from civil society and business. And also trust from

Fadi and ICANN that the critique, if you like, that is put forward by people, whether it's time scales, transparency, accountability, is well meant and reflects real concerns. And I've always said that we cannot move forward unless we get it absolutely right. It's pointless, I think, to seek a solution simply for the sake of seeking a solution. But the amount of work that has been put in to taking us forward, whether it's the triumph of the NETmundial conference, the work of the high level panel, this meeting in London, and future conferences throughout the rest of the year will, I hope, reap some great results.

I want to thank everyone who's come today and participated and those of you who are going on to participate in the GAC over the next few days. We have looked at what we need to do to work with the ICANN community, to strengthen the GAC and ensure it fulfills its mandate to promote ICANN's role in the global ecosystem. I would like to thank my colleague Mark Carvell, a silent rock next to me, a member of the GAC who did all the work, wrote my brilliant speech this morning.

[Applause]

Sue Owen who runs my department, the official who runs my department who chaired for me, and Sara Taylor and her team, my officials who have done so much to make this happen. You can clap for them as well, even though you can't see them.

[Applause]

And obviously I would like to thank the interpreters who have to put up with my sense of humor and try and get it across, not just in words, in

another language, but perhaps the rather frivolous tone I've adopted. Thank you very much, interpreters.

[Applause]

The great thing is now you can go and have a celebration and we have a party being laid on at the Grand Union Restaurant to which you will be guided and to which you will go and you will enjoy yourselves. Thank you so much.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much, Minister Vaizey. Just to mention that the reception which is -- of course, you're all very welcome to as GAC representative, high level representatives, whatever, is in the Grand Union Restaurant. It starts at 5:30. Don't go there yet. The beer has not been poured yet. But go there at 5:30. It's just opposite the hotel. Not across the Edgeware Road, the other road. So come out onto the level zero, go left, and then go out of the door on the left-hand side. So go back to level 0, go towards the conference suite, and go out the door on the left-hand side. There will be people.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]