
HYDERABAD – Regional Strategy Outlook (Eastern Europe and Central Asia)

Tuesday, November 08, 2016 – 15:15 to 16:30 IST

ICANN57 | Hyderabad, India

MICHAEL: So, testing the equipment. We will start in approximately five minutes.

I urge everyone who does not speak Russian to have your equipment for translation. Some speeches may be in the Russian language. Definitely would be something in the Russian language.

Colleagues, we are starting in approximately two minutes. A reminder for everyone who does not speak good Russian, that you should take the equipment.

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. I am Michael [inaudible], ICANN VP for the regional office for Europe and Central Asia. And we are starting our panel on regional strategically outlook on the regional office in Europe and Central Asia. As most of us, we are Russian speakers, I will continue in the Russian language.

Just for the better understanding for the participants from the region, including the remote participants.

[RUSSIAN]

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

Dear colleagues, I'm very happy to be able to say that for the first time, we are holding a session on regional strategy outlook in Eastern Europe and Central Asian region. And that we're doing it in the Russian language, which is our language, and which is a language that's a common language for most of the countries in our region.

We will have a presentation about the vision of ICANN, about what we should be doing in this region in the near future. We also have several presentations that will include those who are here with us today, and from among those who are participating remotely.

I'm going to say a couple of words about that region. It's one of the largest regions on our planet. And it incorporates 12 countries, 22 million square kilometers, almost one-sixth of the earth. There are 11 time zones there, and a population of over 300 million. Historically, this used to be part of the Soviet Union. We have a common history.

We have a good and advanced education backgrounds. We understand internet and technology. Russian is a common trait as well. There are resources that, in terms of the distribution online, are second only to English. We have 19 ccTLDs, including six IDNs in non-English language. We also have pretty active

DNS industry, which is involved both in what ICANN is doing, as well as others.

There are 11 countries that are represented in the advisory committees, committee. In the GAC, we also have stakeholders involved with ICANN for a while now. However, there are things to be approved, and to be a voice of our region, is not very well heard, including the voice in Russian, which means that we need to be doing more of participation.

For example, we still have no one from the region serving on the Board, even though we do have members among ALAC leadership, and among those working on the ccNSO and GNSO. So, there is, if you will, penetration. There is a ration [inaudible] that have been involved in the gTLD, as well as we also had a representative from Armenia, has had of APRALO.

So, we do have a presentation, but there are things to be improved. There is room for improvement, which is why we have invited you here to look at our strategy for the future. So, we can have a discussion about what we can do. I am going to now yield the floor to Alexander [inaudible], deputy for engagement in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

ALEXANDER:

Thank you very much Michael. I would like to add a few words about our plans as of today. We will tell you about how we're seeing general review and vision of the strategy in the region. Then ask some representatives from our community, from our long-term partners, for the most part. We'll ask them to talk.

And then we will ask them questions and comments from those who are unable to be here with us in India. They will be participating remotely, unfortunately not everybody was able to come here. We're not selling any products. Here, we are trying to listen to you, and trying to see where we can interact, and where we have things in common.

We want to hear what you guys need, as representatives of the countries, that comprise the region. So, one of today's stages for preparing the strategies here, we don't have an official document here, because we have lots of ideas, the region is very diverse and varied. It has a different needs, and just like the slide says, and at different stages, there were, at times, adhering what we already in place, and as to what needs to be done.

We hope that this meeting will produce, well maybe not answers right away, but at least well formulated questions as to what we should be doing in the following months and years, months really. Our plans in the region will be based on ICANN's

corporate strategy that has already been formulated for the next five years.

The long-term community members already know of those. Here, I present some of those that are already relevant, including those that are already being carried out by ICANN throughout Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Those are a priority. This is, of course, ICANN's priority and the regionalization, the regional focus.

This is, of course, the agenda that already exists in our region. We need very active involvement and participation of stakeholders [inaudible], to do this. To make sure that the attempts and the efforts were put into ensuring stability and security of the internet, of the infrastructure. [Inaudible] we need, or to be able to see that the priorities that we have set for ourselves, are also priorities for our partners.

We often talk about the fact that ICANN is a piece in a puzzle that is the big internet governance ecosystem, with its own mission, and bylaws. As you know, both have been updated recently. And everything that will be done with our partners, will be adhering strictly to the mission in ICANN's bylaws. We need to strengthen trust in the organization, and we need to take into account public interests while we do that.

At the same time, as an outcome, we would like to see an internet community comprised of regional countries, but a community that's more advanced, more technologically knowledgeable, and active as well. This helps us too, because then these are the people who will be helping develop policies within the ICANN community.

And so here, we see two main areas for our work in the region. And that is, developing trust in ICANN in the region, in terms of the force that ensures stability, security, of internet identifiers. And second, this means more targeted engagement with stakeholders on the ground, especially in areas that overlap for both of us.

If I go to more detail, in order to ensure stability and security, we need to understand the priorities here for specific countries and sub-regions. And for that, we need to hear from these regions' representatives, to understand what the concerns are at this particular stage. If there are any new problems that have already initiatives have already been raised at a higher level, that's good.

But if you give us more detailed information, that's of course, even better, because that will be able to respond in a more targeted manner. There is also outreach about ICANN's

activities about technical community. We want to expand interest and professionalism in this area.

Obviously, this is a two-way street. And if we go into a bit more detail in terms of involvement of the multistakeholder community, we need to make sure that it's significant. We need to have quality and not quantity. We need to have the expertise and the skills that are unique within this region. We need to ensure that we include and take into account national policies.

So, we really would like to see more representatives from our regions in various working groups, in councils, in advisory committees. Again, let me stress that as of today, and in the future, we would like to hear from you about what it is exactly that we can help each other, and where our interests intersect. We want to understand where we can serve our long-term partners, and how we can be a trusted partner in the region.

I would mistrust separately that we would really like to see more participation from the technical community, who are already present in other forums. And we would like to see you not just at ICANN conferences three times a year, but also within the framework of mailing list exchanges.

Those are, these are the three areas that are seen more of a priority for us. In line with ICANN's mission that is stability, security, and resiliency and extension of internet infrastructure.

Obviously, we would like to see it as a long-term social and economic policies in the countries where we are active.

We also would like to involve stakeholders in the development of the policies that our community is, ICANN's community At-Large is involved in. Well, of course, here, we see some of the examples of where our interests and needs intersect. Obviously, there is IGF. This IGF happens throughout our region in many countries, and let me stress that ICANN is always involved in those, always has a very specific objective of, objective being involvement, engagement with people, in the nation that we have.

Let me use this opportunity to remind all of the events that we are having in December in Kiev. This is the first large scale event in the region. We would like to see all of you. We're also interested in developing cyber security training. They will involve law enforcement representatives.

Those seminars are organized very often in other countries and regions, and we believe that it will be very useful for Eastern Europe and Central Asia as well. We already had a very good experience with our partners, and we're hoping that other countries will express interest and we'll have similar training sessions.

We're also working on network infrastructure development on installing new root server incidents, root server mirrors. We're already working on a couple of projects in this area. It's a very important area, specifically we installed a L root mirror in Belarus. We're very happy that our colleagues were able to [inaudible] project very quickly and efficiently.,

We are planning to continue media briefings next month, specifically also about the gTLDs. We already held an event like that in Kiev, but obviously, this is not the only type of webinar we'll be holding. Please suggest ideas. We're done with IANA transition, which means that we can start discussing other topics as well, which will incidentally might be more interesting for specific countries in the region.

We would also like to work more with our education institutions. We already have a good experience with Moscow State University, located in Moscow, with the universities [inaudible] and we'll be happy to continue expanding our network, and to continue coming with lectures.

Also, one of the priority topics for the next year, or year and a half, will be KSK rollover. We will be making presentations and giving you updates about this effort. We try, in every way, to support groups that are aimed at IDN domains, Cyrillic domains for example. Groups will be meeting in Istanbul at the end of the

month, we'll also have a very active Georgian script panel, which is good. We're very happy about that.

We would really like to involve registrars to get accreditation from ICANN, which specifically helps us in our work, and we're looking for people who are really to explain why the status is useful and this effort will help them in that as well. We understand there are so-called usual suspects, but we'd also would love to see new faces in areas, such as management, and DNS industry, will want to involve us through Fellowship, Next Gen, and Newcomers programs.

This is not all. We're looking for ideas from you. Please, please talk to us. Please let us know what your priorities are, where we need to adapt to what you need to do. Please let us know what we need in terms of developing new engagement interaction, projects that we haven't even thought of before. I will stop here, and I will yield the floor to our representatives, representatives from various countries and communities, who have expressed interest in sharing their ideas about thoughts and proposals.

We will definitely then get in touch with remote participants, and listen to questions from the audience.

MICHAEL: Thank you very much, Alexander. I would like to give the floor to the new gTLD representative, who will launch in our region at the same time as in the rest of the world. Unfortunately, we only have new gTLD operators only in Russian, but Russia, but they are successful, and those are, for example, dot [inaudible] registry.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Michael, and thank you very much Sasha. The slides are up on the screen, and I would like to explain right away, because just like you see on, you see the logo, I will be speaking on behalf of several Russian registries, because it so happens that I am first and foremost staff RU dot RF for registries, the Russian ccTLD. And I'm also in charge of dot [inaudible] a new gTLD registry, in charge of operations.

So, I will be talking on behalf of registries. Well, for our region, obviously, I'll speak on behalf of Russia, right? So, if we compare with regions that are active in ICANN, well North America and Europe are very active, and we have then Asia, Brazil, but obviously, North America and Europe are the most active participants.

Russia and our nearest neighbors are, well, unfortunately, our experts are not fully ready to be involved in this work. The obstacles are language barriers, and the level of awareness

about internet governance processes, about the forces that are involved in this processes, about the events involved, and probably in light of our history, well, we just don't have that much experience holding these types of public dialogues involving many stakeholders.

The discussion skills or dialogue, maybe skills in that sense, are not as developed as maybe they could be. However, ICANN has been lately trying to actively meet us halfway. My first ICANN conference was in 2010 in Brussels, and so this conference is my anniversary, 20th ICANN conference.

This is the first time I'm speaking in Russian and hearing my colleagues speak in Russian, and I am extremely happy about it. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Also, I was very happy to participate in the webinars done as part of the IANA transition. Also, for the first time, all of those difficult terms and abbreviations, very difficult to pronounce names, are being heard in the right, proper Russian.

This is a huge step forward, and it will help a lot. Our colleagues, that will be reading the documents in a language that they can understand. Unfortunately, the older versions of the translations were not as amazing. I'm also very happy to see ICANN representatives at our many industry level events.

They're not as large as ICANN conferences, but in any event, they are important for us. I'm very happy to see you, to see them attend the main presentations that they tell us what's going on, which helps us hear a live person, and to have a live dialogue.

Well, I was asked to share my negative ICANN experiences in advance of this presentation. Well, in terms of the gTLD registry, I've had a lot of negative experiences. I know there are lots of people in the audience that will help me expand on this. I'll give you one specific example. The example involves the situation where dot [inaudible] registry was trying to change the, a part of the contract, which took like 18 months.

So, nine months from the moment we raised the issue, and then through the time, ICANN developed and published the procedure, all the way to the end of the procedure, that's how long it took. What are we expecting and looking for? Well, since we're discussing ICANN's regional strategy, I think it would be a good idea to start with an explanation of what global strategy means.

Well, there were a few words said about it here, but I would definitely welcome another Russian language webinar that would discuss the... That would... The well worded statements about ICANN's missions that we usually hear in English, it would

be good to hear them, in terms of more practical applications, and we would hear them in Russian.

And also, if you can see that for the future.

[RUSSIAN]

...that was on Friday and Saturday, but as of now, I can say that we don't have many positive results. We do see that in terms of our interaction with the global players, there are some positive developments. But I think there are some players who could contribute to finding solutions in our market, but at the same time, would welcome additional events and additional efforts, that would help us to come up with specific results, and more discussions to finding specific applications.

And our users would really welcome that. Here is another issue, and that is something that has been mentioned a number of times. This is not so much a [inaudible] as ccTLD registries, but this is more of an issue for the gTLD registries. There is a gap between the requirements that we face in terms of the agreements that we have with ICANN, and the requirements that are imposed on us by our local legislation, by legislation of the countries where we work.

This is an issue that has been brought up a number of times. Right now, I don't see anything happening in reality in that area.

Our number one issue is the requirement on the protection of private data, or privacy requirements. Starting with publishing private data in WHOIS, and all the way to escrow data, and the better operators. I do hope that we would be able to come up with specific solutions.

And last, but not least, and this is something we're working towards, we also welcome the efforts within ICANN and would like ICANN to continue working in that area, and that is we would ask ICANN to continue to actively engage with our colleagues who live in those countries, with technical experts and specialists, and we will be very happy to work with you. Thank you very much. This is all I had to say.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you [inaudible]. I have to say that your suggestion is a very good one, and I accept the criticism. We will indeed have to work together on it. And let me give the floor to the representative from Kazakhstan.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you very much. So thank you very much once again. Unfortunately, at this moment, I am [inaudible] representing five countries, so I will have to speak in general about the situation

in those five countries and will not be able to drill down to what happens in each country individually.

So, I'm here representing the five countries in Central Asia. This is my third ICANN conference, and I hope I will be attending 30, or however many there may be. So, let me just say that the countries of Central Asia need to become more active in all of the ICANN structures, not just in the ccTLD and SP operators.

And in order for that to happen, we need to involve non-governmental organizations, we need to involve the end users, and the business community in working in ICANN.

So, I can imagine our participation in [inaudible], talking to others. We would also very much welcome wide dissemination of information about ICANN structures and ICANN communities. We would like our region to be better informed about ICANN activities. So, I would welcome ICANN's presence in the region, so we're not talking about financial support of any kind, but rather the personal commitment to being there and visiting a region, and allow me to say that we could perhaps organize activities, ICANN activities in our region.

I think that the time has come for ICANN to become really present and engaged in the countries of Central Asia. And the countries of Central Asia need to defend the interests within ICANN with renewed vigor. Thank you very much.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I would like to ask everyone presenting to not rush, so that the interpreters will be able to render 100% of what we say into English. I'm going to try to connect with a remote participant from Belarus, [inaudible] from [inaudible].

[Inaudible], can you hear us?

[Inaudible] is not responding. [Inaudible], could you turn on your microphone please?

All right, if we're not able to connect with Belarus, we will try again later, but now let me give the floor to Andre [inaudible], who is a member of the governance board.

ANDRE: Thank you very much. It is a pleasure to see you all here. People that I know, it's a pleasure to see you both here in the room and online. I did not prepare slides. So, let me just share with you our past experience of working with ICANN, tell you about what we do now, and address the issues that we hope to be able to address with ICANN in the future.

I will mostly speak about Russia. I can tell you that ICANN became active in Russia back in 2010, unless my memory has failed me. But I believe that was when ICANN became an

acronym known to various Russian officials. This is when ICANN became a non-acronym, the Russian media. So, it hasn't been that many years, but since then, ICANN has become much more presence, present in Russia.

And this is definitely due to the fact that ICANN took part in a number of events that took place in Russia. Those events had to do with internet governance, and ICANN representatives helped organize and run those events. Let me give you specific examples, the Russian Internet Governance Forum. This year, no, last year, no, this year. Was the forum, it was the sixth forum.

And ICANN representatives always took very active part in those forums. TLD conference, which is main conference for registration in the countries of Central Europe, and that conference relied on ICANN support. The [inaudible] domain that, RR, I was involved in it personally, and I can say with certainty that if it hadn't been for interaction between that [inaudible] registry and ICANN, dot RR domain would not have become so widely accepted, and without it, it would have not gained in popularity in the Cyrillic domain.

It is a leader in the world in a number of registrations. We have 900,000 domains registered there, and the number keeps on growing. I haven't personally been involved with ICANN since

2009. I was forced in the GNSO, and ALAC since yesterday, actually, and I plan to continue working with ICANN.

So, let me help express my wish in terms of what will happen in the future. It seems to me that a region is not very largely represented in the At-Large structures, in structures in At-Large. So perhaps ICANN needs to be a little bit more active trying to engage other organizations in the region.

Years go by, but those who are involved in ICANN in Russia, and the other countries of the Eastern Europe, those people are still the same, the same old faces around the table. I would really like to see other people getting involved. We would also like to see the participation of non for profit organizations, research organizations involved in At-Large structures.

This is what I would really like to see would happen. Why I focus on that, because I think that everything else, ICANN is doing quite well in our region. Thank you very much, and let me confirm that, indeed, our engagement with At-Large is the most promising and a priority area for our future work in ICANN.

We certainly need to support each other, and we need to engage more. Okay, let me try it again. Let's see if we can get [inaudible] from Belarus. [Inaudible], can you hear us?

Yes, we can hear you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Good afternoon.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: You have five minutes.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you very much for this opportunity to be a part of this ICANN meeting remotely. I would like to discuss our engagement with ICANN over the past year. We worked very closely with ICANN representatives, including Michael [inaudible] and Alexander [inaudible]. So thanks to that, we've been able to, over the past year, to launch the [inaudible] domain.

This is a major event, not just for our company, but for the whole country in general, for Belarus. Currently, we have about 15,000 domains registered, and throughout this launch, we relied on ICANN support. They consulted with us, and they participated in our key events.

Thanks to that, we can now say with certainty, that we have been able to achieve a great deal. Our second achievement, over the past year, is [the installation?] of a L root server, that

helped us to increase speed, and to increase safety in our segment of the internet, and of the global internet in general.

Also would like to mention that we're now members of a ccNSO. We hope that [inaudible] members in ccNSO, we would be able to rely on experience of others in managing country domains, and we will be able to more actively participate in ICANN, and contribute towards the use of Cyrillic domains.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible], I'm going to ask you to speak not quite as fast, because everything is being interpreted into English.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Allow me to also mention that this year, we ran a first forum on internet governance in Belarus. It took [inaudible] May 17th. All stakeholders were involved from the government to research organizations and technical experts. More than 250 participants from various countries took part in the internet governance forum in Belarus.

And ICANN was our main partner in organizing the event. It helped us financially and also took a part in the event, and [inaudible] was present and present at ICANN in the forum. And last but not least, and perhaps this is the most important, that

we became registered, accredited registry with ICANN, hosted by the first Belarus registry that was accredited by ICANN.

And that means that we can do away with middleman, and in the future we'll be able to access markets in the neighboring countries. We active participants in the generation panel, and we look at various issues that face Cyrillic domains, and we develop standards for the domains in the Cyrillic.

In the fall, we held a training for law enforcement officials in Belarus, in order to fight cyber crime and to defend ourselves against cyber crime. Law enforcement officials said that the event was absolutely excellent, and in the future, we hope that ICANN will be more involved in IDN domains, and that it would do more to support IGF in Belarus in 2017.

We will also welcome any further future events in [inaudible] that ICANN may choose to organize.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you [inaudible]. [Inaudible] from Kiev, Ukraine.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Good afternoon, colleagues. Can you hear us?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes. You have five minutes.

YURI:

At the outset, allow me to thank you for this opportunity to speak and address ICANN today. Thank you for organizing this session. It is a great pleasure for me to see my colleagues, both from the countries of our region, but also everyone who is in the room today. Thank you for working together for the betterment of the internet.

Allow me to see if you would, about our project. This is a project that certain light of day, in our region in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. It has to do with content on the internet for the benefit of right owners, and in order to protect those whose rights have been infringed upon on the internet today.

The way things stand today, when we talk about defining parameters for those who register a domain, and for those who own domains for hosting a qualification, consider that it is possible to dynamically change those, that identify information. We have three issues that we face, that need to be resolved in order to protect the rights of those individuals and legal entities.

The first is to identify the abuser, and the responsible party. Secondly is to identify the individuals who own rights, to intellectual property available on the internet, and the third issue is obtaining reliable and exact proof that an infringement took place. The author and the owner of the website are those

who infringe upon it. But in order to file a claim, the plaintiff needs to know who is behind that information.

Often, the website does not list information about who owns the site, who is responsible for placing content on the site.

And that is the current issue with WHOIS.

The way we look at it, there is need for assistant to fix content on the internet, and that is a problem that is directly related with the other unresolved issues that exist within WHOIS.

We understand that there may be different ways of collecting proof, of collecting evidence, through one print out the content images, and other kinds of evidence that can be gathered.

MICHAEL:

Michael [inaudible], Yuri, thank you very much. Unfortunately, we don't have enough time. This is a very interesting project, and it is a very useful one as well. I can assure you that we will work together on it, and I hope to be able to discuss further how we can work on this project at the DNS forum in Kiev, which will take place in a month.

So, thank you very much, but unfortunately, I must interrupt you and ask [inaudible] from Armenia to connect to speak with us.

[Inaudible]... [Inaudible], you have five minutes.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: First I thought [inaudible]'s voice changed dramatically. No, this is [inaudible] speaking. I would like to greet everyone. I would like to thank everyone who organized this session for the countries of our region. Let me first to say a few words about our organization.

The Internet Society of Armenia was founded in 1994. And throughout this period, up until now, we've been actively cooperating with [inaudible], because in our country, we have a top level domain dot AN, we also have a top level domain, dot HIN, that allows us to be a part of the growing IDN community.

We've had a L root server for the past three years. In 2011, we launched work on the DNS protocols. Many of us are probably very well familiar with the organization, but let me just say a few words and begin with a few words that are important. First, I think it would be very important to have an engagement center for the countries of our region.

We've discussed it at length in our organization, and we believe that such an engagement center will do the following, it would consult, provide consulting services on all issues pertaining to the internet and the countries of our region. And if we're able to launch that, and I think we will be quite successful, given our cooperation with the RSS.

So, this engagement center could also be a coordinator of all internet related centers in the region. Another area that I think would be useful, is to work on a concerted effort on the legal issue pertaining to the, to domain delegation, and the very terms, domain name, for instance, they do not have a one to one [inaudible] in the languages of the region, and that leads to a number of, a large number of issues.

We don't always have a legislative framework appropriate to the problems at hand, so it would be very helpful to have this kind of service provided to us. I think this engagement center could run, for example, summer schools, and conduct outreach. We could also work with neighbor countries, and I would like to put forward our country as a possible place for the engagement center.

We have experience working with ICANN. We have [inaudible] center, considering our work in the ccNSO, and At-Large structures, and others. And we also have some experience for the two years when we can, the internet center, and we have very active IT community in our country.

IT companies in Armenia created a society, and decided to run a large scale event in Armenia in 2019. Thank you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you [inaudible]. Georgia, small and medium size enterprise association. [Inaudible], can you hear us?

Perhaps he could un-mute [inaudible], please? Please un-mute [inaudible].

[Inaudible] if you have technical issues, I would ask [inaudible] to come online.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hello. Good afternoon. Can you hear me?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes, we can hear you, but please speak up, and don't be too fast.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Well, first off, thank you very much for the opportunity to speak. We have a good experience with ICANN, and I would like to say that this year, with ICANN support, we held the first Central Asian IGF. I'm very happy that some of the speakers participated in that event.

And we are already working on preparing for the next regional IGF, Central Asian IGF. There is another event that I would like to bring up here, and that has to do with my proposal, is the digital rights event that was also done with ICANN support.

It brought together lawyers of various industry related government agencies. I believe that it was a good opportunity to increase, if you would, literacy in terms of internet and internet governance. I think that we have also received additional requests from other government agencies, not just Kurdistan, but others as well.

We also received similar requests from [inaudible] and journalists. This means that we have an urgent need for expanding our potential. We have to say that there is very low attendance by [inaudible] in our region, but that's because there aren't enough, and that's a real issue.

And so, in terms of the strategy that you are proposing, despite the fact that you did mention expanding the expertise, I would like to stress it again, specifically for our region. I would also like to note the following, that cyber security training sessions would also be very much in demand, just like [inaudible] was saying.

There are law enforcement agencies that have to do with it, and they don't always know how to deal with issues in that area. So, like I said, I think it would be a very good idea to stress expansion of expertise.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you very much [inaudible]. I would like to give the floor to [inaudible] from dot Moscow and dot [inaudible].

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hello. I am the only gTLD from our region, and as such, I would like to say that dot [inaudible] is a geographic TLD. We represent Russia's capital city TLD. So, I would like to say the following. Well, if you would increasing awareness, and making it more known, the idea of participating in ICANN. And I think that involving high educational situations, and universities, especially those that are more technically oriented, I think those need to be involved, but also we already have some departments that deal with internet governance specifically.

But I think we also need to involve internet governance, sorry. We need to involve lawyers, and people who are in the law field, as well as those in criminal law. And I believe that if while policy is being developed, there is no involvement, it's very difficult to change it afterwards.

I am involved in ICANN conferences, not very actively. But I do believe that we need a fresh faces and new blood, because you know, if we only have several people involved in the community here, if it's always the same people, you can count on the same hand, well that's not a great thing.

Unfortunately, there are no set terms, set translations, that have been approved and that the community agrees with. Really nothing was published until new gTLD program was launched. And essentially, everything was being translated by the community members themselves because nobody else was using those.

What else can we do? Well, because our region, it is important for it to have IDNs. We have to remember that there is the universal acceptance area at ICANN, but unfortunately for some reason it is always held at time slots that are really inconvenient for registries and locations.

You know, if you hold those in Washington, really close to us, it's hard to attend. So, really, we would like to ask for support for initiatives related to universal acceptance, including things like IDN services, that would involve bringing in a local mail services. And until you have local support, there won't be universal acceptance, and that limits the field to only those who read and write in English.

And one more small thing that has to do a local law violations, or conflicts with local laws. Well, this has to do not just with our region, but with others as well. Imagine a registry that doesn't care about this, you know, there are plenty in the US and

Canada, and even some in Europe are experiencing the same issues.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Let me respond. Everything you said is very important, very significant and urgent. We know what's going on, would like to say a few words about the following. Well, the language issue that was raised by [inaudible] even before I was starting to speak, and we are actually working on it with our corporate language services.

We do have an internal glossary being developed, and yes, it is important to get the community involved, maybe break it down by topics. But in any event, regional representatives, we do discuss it with the corporate linguists.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I would like to remind all that Russian is not the only language that's spoken in our region. There are same issues with other languages, and we would like to resolve these issues with other languages spoken in other region with our colleagues.

Well, we are almost at the end of our session. If you have any other questions, please raise them now. If not, I'm not sure what's going on with sound.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: So, I will repeat my question [inaudible] questions or comments, we have some time just to cover this.

So, [inaudible] has a question.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Right. Short comment about language. Please, please, in addition to internal discussions, discuss the terms with us with registries. We will definitely talk to you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I see [inaudible] doesn't have the floor, thank you very much. If you could come up to the mic please.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I'm very sorry. This is [inaudible] TLD, I was late because I was in the room next door. They were discussing the Middle East regional strategy. I'm going to ask the same question that I asked over there. I looked at the glossary, I looked at, actually in the dictionary, at the dictionary definition of the word strategy, and it presupposes, you know, a set definition of the outcome.

I would like to ask you, what is the desired outcome of the strategy? So, I wanted to understand what you mean.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Well, ICANN's mission is to ensure stability, security, and resiliency of the global internet identifiers. And so, our organization's strategy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, just as it is for other regions, and other vice presidents. So stakeholder engagement is stability and security, but taking into account local needs, and taking into account local pace of internet development in our countries, and our abilities to carry out ICANN's mission.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Dear colleagues, thank you very much. I am very grateful to those who spoke Russian here, the language of our common interaction in the region. Thank you all who spoke. I hope to see you at future ICANN meetings.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]