
COPENHAGEN – ICANN GDD: Registry Roundtable
Thursday, March 16, 2017 – 09:00 to 10:30 CET
ICANN58 | Copenhagen, Denmark

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: This is the ICANN 58, ICANN GDD registry roundtable at 9 AM in hall B5.1 on March 16, 2017.

DENNIS: Come join us at the table please. We'll get started here in a minute.

For the record?

[SPEAKER OFF MICROPHONE]

Welcome. Please sit at the table. Join us. This is, after all, the roundtable.

[SPEAKER OFF MICROPHONE]

You guys want to come on up and sit at the table please? It's okay. No? Shy ones back there.

So, I see is 9:01. Good morning everyone, and welcome to the registry roundtable at ICANN 58. Thanks for showing up, last day, 9 AM. But this has now become sort of a tradition for the ICANN meeting, and what we would like to do is gather together

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after a full week of meetings to see if there are other additional topics, or anything remaining, that you would like to discuss.

Come on up, and join the table here. [Inaudible] here. Come on up. Please come join us. We have seats at the table.

Come on Jordyn, right here. We have reserved a seat for you, in front. Come on up. So, let's do this. So, this is what we affectionally call the un-conference. So, this is the only session where we come in without a set agenda, or any prepared material. So, you never know what's going to happen here.

Which is the fun of it. So, it's going to go something like this. We're going to start by everyone suggesting a topic that they would like to discuss. So, this is an opportunity for not just the registry operators to engage with the ICANN org, and everybody knows what that means, right? ICANN org.

It's the new word for staff. But also, most importantly I think, is say, opportunity for you, registry operators to interact with one another and ask each other questions. I think, which is probably a very valuable thing. And when you do that, we as the ICANN org, are listening and learning as well.

So, the more we learn about your operation, and how you do your business, better we can serve you all. Does that kind of make sense? Who has been to the registry roundtable un-

conference before? Everybody. Any newcomers? You kind of know what this is, because you've been to the roadshow.

Welcome. A newcomer! So, let's do this. This is an intimate setting, just us, right? Just us. So, what we're going to do is, we're going to get to know each other a little bit. So, here is what I would like you to do. I would like you to go around and we're going to introduce ourselves, and please let us know your name, your affiliation, and your ICANN age. And what I mean by that is, how many years have you been associated with the ICANN community?

So, we'll start from here.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Good morning everyone. My name is [inaudible]. I work for [inaudible], it's a German registrar and registry. So, my ICANN age, I suppose, it's around a year or two. I think two years. That's it.

MARTIN: Good morning everybody. My name is Martin [inaudible]. I'm also working for [inaudible]. We're serving a couple of top brands. And this morning, my ICANN age feels very old, actually, I have to admit that after this long week, but I think since five

years, I'm within this... But we're actually, we just had our 15 year birthday, so I'm a little bit longer in this community.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] from AJPRS, Japan registry services. Registry, registrar and backends. Registry service provider. The first ICANN meeting was the Paris, so nine years. Thank you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Good morning everybody. My name is [inaudible]. I come from the dot [inaudible] registry. And I'm new. I'm two years old. Yes.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Good morning. [Inaudible] from Bangladesh, we're brand consulting firm. 15 years in the ICANN community, five years at ICANN meetings.

MARK ANDERSON: Hi, good morning everyone. I'm Mark Anderson from VeriSign. I've been at VeriSign 13 years, so I guess 13 years in the industry, but this is only my third ICANN meeting in person.

STAN: I'm Stan [inaudible] from dot global. My first ICANN meeting was in 2000, so quite a long time. Registry and registrar operations in all of that period. [Inaudible] period in registry.

DANIEL: My name is Daniel. Good morning. This is my very first ICANN. [Applause] I work for [Domainer?]. We're ICANN accredited registrar, but we just provide instant domain search.

[RADEAN]: Hi. My name is [Radean] [inaudible], I work with Central NIC, on behalf of its registry clients, and which I work with both brands and generics like [Quinto], who has dot bar, dot rest. I've been going to ICANN meetings since the December 2001 LA meeting. So I guess that puts about 16 years.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hi, good morning. I'm [inaudible] with China Organizational Name Administration Center. It's a registry, and also have affiliate registrar. I know ICANN [inaudible], my first ICANN meeting is 2010. I've been to ICANN meeting for six or seven times. Thank you.

CRYSTAL: Crystal [inaudible], Doughnuts and three years.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible], vice-president of operations at Doughnuts. We have 195 TLDs under, oh, 198 today under management. This is my 13th year of attending ICANN meetings. It's quite enjoyable. I keep coming back.

CARLA [HUCKINSON]: Good morning. Carla [Huckinson] formally of VeriSign for almost five years, formally of Go Daddy for four years, and now ICANN staff, I'm sorry, ICANN org, less than 120 days, and first ICANN was Durban.

AMANDA: Amanda [inaudible], and also ICANN org. And I think my ICANN age is around five and a half years. First one was Costa Rica.

FRANCISCO ARIAS: Francisco Arias. ICANN registration. My first ICANN meeting was in 2005, but I've been around in the industry since '98, or something like that.

CHRISTA: Good morning everybody. Christa [inaudible], ICANN organization. I'll be 16 years old on April 1st, that is not a joke,

April 1st is April Fool's Day in the United States. And my first ICANN meeting, someone said over here, LA 2001 as well.

VALERIE: Hi. My name is Valerie, ICANN org. My ICANN age is two and a half years, and first ICANN meeting, I think, was in LA 2004. Right?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hi everyone. This is [inaudible]. My first ICANN meeting was, I guess, London, so I'm two and a half years old as well.

LENETTE: Hi, good morning. My name is Lenette [inaudible], also ICANN org. And my ICANN age is three years.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] Green, ICANN org. About four and a half year old.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible], registry stakeholder group in GNSO council. I've been with ICANN since Dakar, so I'm five years old.

MARTIN SUTTON: Martin Sutton. I'm an ICANN-holic of some years, I think 2008, Paris. And I am from the brand registry group, but have been in many disguises before then.

JEFF NEWMAN; Jeff Newman. I'm with [inaudible]. And my first, I've been in the industry since 1996. First ICANN meeting was Boston, 1998. So, I guess I'm 19 going on 20 at some point.

KAREN DAY: Karen Day from [inaudible]. We have three TLDs. I'm a year and a half, first meeting was Dublin.

MICHAEL FLEMMING: Michael Flemming, part of IPC as well as corporate registrar, as well as brand TLD consultant, involved in the BRG and representing several brand TLDs. Personal ICANN age, it's about five years, but if you want to be remotely speaking, since about Beijing or so. But my company has been involved for a little over 15 years.

COLE: My name is Cole [inaudible]. I work for Microsoft, and [inaudible] TLDs, and I'm also involved with the brand registry group. And

my first ICANN meeting was about a year and a half ago at Dublin.

JONATHAN FRAKES: Hi. I'm Jonathan Frakes, member of the domain name association here as a CEO of a private label internet service corporation. I call it [inaudible] dot com, it's a white label registrar for registries. And, what? '97 is when I started? Thanks.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: My name is [inaudible] service provider for the domain name industry. I'm here for [Tango?] registry systems, which is a backend service provider. We are running about 20 [peers?] responsible for 25 TLDs. And I attended several ICANN meetings. I stopped counting after 50 ICANN meetings, so I'm also one of the [inaudible].

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hi. My name is [inaudible]. And I also work for [inaudible], so the same backend. But my ICANN age is just one. My first ICANN meeting was last year in Helsinki. So, not too far from here.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hello. [Inaudible], working for dot [inaudible] registry, Vienna. My ICANN age is about five years. The first meeting was Prague in 2012.

[DONNA AUSTIN]: [Donna Austin?], I had to look it up. My first ICANN meeting was in Melbourne from March 9 to 13th, 2001. But I did take some time off in between.

DENNIS: Hello? Okay. What we're doing is introducing ourselves. Name, affiliation, and your ICANN age, which means, how long have you been associated with ICANN?

JOHN: My name is John [inaudible]. I'm a member of the BC, and I've been around ICANN since '92, when Esther [inaudible] was thinking it up.

SHERRY [FALCO]: Sherry [Falco], ICM registry. Since 2011, Dakar.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] for dot Paris and AfriNIC. And I've been around for something like five years.

AMY [CRAMER]: Amy [Cramer], I'm with ICANN, and this is my first meeting.

BOB: Bob [inaudible], ICANN org. And when you're young, it's usually with half, so it's a year and a half.

ELISE FERGUSON: Elise Ferguson, dot design. Three years, I think.

ANDREW: Andrew [inaudible]. Also Top Level Design. ICANN 40 in San Francisco, when ICM was spicing it up.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Good morning. My name is [inaudible]. I work for [inaudible] university based in Tokyo. My first ICANN meeting was in, I remember, New Delhi, which is 2008, but I only attended ICANN meeting only intermediately, so this is my first time after several years.

CHRIS BEAR: Chris Bear, ICANN org, almost five years.

RYAN: Ryan [inaudible], first ICANN was Cairo, 2008. And then a little gap in between.

SAMANTHA: Samantha [inaudible] partners. First ICANN was in 2011. [Inaudible]

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible], ICANN org. Just over three years.

CHRISTINE: Christine [inaudible], ICANN org, five years.

SUE: Sue [inaudible], data management for the registry stakeholder group. My first ICANN was in LA in 2014.

LEANNE: Leanne [inaudible] registry. Three to four years.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] with Google Registry, and this is my first ICANN meeting.

ANDREA BLOOM: Andrea Bloom for dot VN, about three years.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] from dot Berlin. First ICANN meeting was Luxembourg 2005, 12 years.

GIGI: Gigi [inaudible], dot pharmacy. And about five years. First meeting was in Toronto in 2012, I believe.

JENNIFER SCOTT: Jennifer Scott, ICANN org. Three and a half years.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible], ICANN, two and a half years.

HOPE: Hope [inaudible], ICANN, four years.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible], ICANN compliance, three years.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible], ICANN organization, three years.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible], Google Registry, one year.

MICHAEL: Michael [inaudible], 54th ICANN meeting, 18th year.

DENNIS: Welcome everyone. Let's see. We have a couple of empty seats at the table, please join us. Join us at the table. We have one seat here. Michael?

Again, welcome. Make yourself comfortable. This is our informal, what we call the un-conference. So, this is where we decide what to talk about at the meeting without a preset agenda. So, the first thing we do is just raise your hand and throw out any topics that you have in mind. It could be a question that you have, but it could be a subject you would like to discuss with each other.

It could be, maybe a piece of information you'd like to share with the other registry operator and the ICANN org. It could be anything. So, throughout this whole week, you've had many, many meetings, many sessions, and you've asked a lot of questions. You probably answered a lot of, a whole bunch of questions. But there is still something that you would like to talk about. And this is where you have an opportunity for an hour together, to just talk it out.

So, here we go. Go ahead and raise your hand, and name your topic, and Valerie will capture it on our whiteboard here. Once we have a list, then what we'll do is, we will vote on the topics on which topics do we want to all talk about first, and we'll rank them, and we'll try to get through as many topics as possible. Does that make sense? The process wise? Go ahead.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: C-O-I.

DENNIS: C-O-I is a topic, number one topic.

[SPEAKER OFF MICROPHONE]

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: ...implications for registry WHOIS. I'm just kind of curious where we should go with that.

DENNIS: New data directive. Any other topic?

[SPEAKER OFF MICROPHONE]

Raising awareness of new gTLD.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: How to deal with the new GAC communique regarding the second level, two-character second level things.

DENNIS: How to deal with the GAC communique regarding two characters on second level. There is one seat here. Come along. Any other topics? Go ahead.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Just for the second one, new data but not directive, it's a regulation. That's the very, very important part. It's not a directive, it's a regulation.

DENNIS: New data regulation, Valerie...

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Which makes it really different.

DENNIS: Yeah, I missed all of those sessions, so I would be anxious to find out also. Go ahead, Francisco.

Oh, go ahead.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I think we did it in Hyderabad already, but I want to take this topic up again about change of escrow provider.

DENNIS: Change of escrow provider. You like that topic.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I would like to remain, point number two, two, general data protection regulation, that is the official thing.

[SPEAKER OFF MICROPHONE]

DENNIS: General data regulation.

[SPEAKER OFF MICROPHONE]

General data protection regulation is the request of the topic name.

[SPEAKER OFF MICROPHONE]

Any topics? Francisco has a topic.

FRANCISCO ARIAS: Francisco Arias, ICANN organization. If this time I would like to make a short announcement on [inaudible].

DENNIS: You want to make an announcement. Okay. URS password change. Okay, we'll see if we can get to that.

Anybody have...? Yes, go ahead.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Change of backend registry provider.

DENNIS: Change of backend registry provider. So, we have six, seven topics so far. Anyone else want to add to the list before we take the vote? One back there.

[SPEAKER OFF MICROPHONE]

ICANN's audit of registry alerts and threats? Threat [inaudible] and responses, oh. Sounds like spec 11 things.

MICHAEL: I can't think of the title for it, but the thing that was said this week about ICANN looking at composing, or making efforts to put together or work with Spam House, I believe, to keep records of the abuse that's going on in the new gTLDs. I think there was a discussion on that. If you could coin a term for it, we can maybe vote on it.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Michael, maybe it's... I just lost it. DNS abuse initiatives.

MICHAEL: That sounds like a great title, let's go with that.

DENNIS: DNS abusive... Abuse. Initiative.

[SPEAKER OFF MICROPHONE]

It's more of a metrics, he says. Should be an anti-abuse, right.
It's not how to abuse, but okay.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Universal acceptance.

DENNIS: Universal acceptance. You want to talk more about that, that's good.

Final call. I think we have enough on the list. Yes? Valerie says yes. No more. Okay, so thank you for numbering them. I was just going to ask you to do that. That makes it easier for me to say number one, two, instead of...

So, we're going to take a vote. So, it's very easy. So, all you have to do is raise your hand and you can vote more than once, that's okay. As many as you like, and then one of our ICANN org members will count the hands. Who is going to do that? I can't count. May I ask you to count? Yeah, thank you Lynette.

So, a very quick count of the hands, and we'll go right down the list, very quickly. And then we'll see what the room will really want to discuss.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Dennis, it looks like Michael Flemming added something in the chat, another topic. I think this correlates with the backend process, but I think just what the general current standing RSP accreditation, I'm sorry, I'm not going to use the word accreditation, nobody, let's not start the cats.

Just that terminology that practiced where that kind of came to a standstill if it's current existing or not.

DENNIS: Okay. No, that's a fair question.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: RSP program is what we're calling it. [CROSSTALK] Yeah.

DENNIS: RSP program status, Elise, right? You would like to no more about that. That's fair.

[SPEAKER OFF MICROPHONE]

It's already number seven.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: That's what I was trying to point out, is it correlates with that one.

DENNIS: Okay, so why don't we combine the topic, and you know...? RSP, yeah, on number seven, add in parentheses, RSP program. Okay. Any more? Why are you adding to the chat? You're sitting right here. [CROSSTALK]

You feel guilty about having multiple... Dominating... [Laughter] Okay. No, don't feel bad, no. This is... Feel free. Okay, let's do the counting and the voting. Are we ready? Are we ready? Yes. No? Okay. Number one, COI, raise your hands.

One hand per person, please. Raise it high so Lenette can see it.

Tell me when you say you got it. Okay, number two, general data protection regulation. Raise your hand.

This is going to be tough to count, so many.

Looks like a winner.

You got it? Okay, thank you. Number three, raising awareness of new gTLDs.

Number four, GAC communique regarding the two-characters on the second level.

There was one behind you, Lennette, I think. Okay. Number five, change of data escrow providers.

Number six, announce USR password change.

Oh, Francisco. It can't be that long, you're right. Okay. Number seven, change of backend registry provider, or RSP program.

Donna raised her hand too. Up here, very slowly. Okay number eight, ICANN audit regarding the threats, and alerts, and responses. There has got to be at least one hand. That's very odd, okay.

Number nine, DNS anti-abuse initiative. It's the anti one, not the non-anti one.

Number 10, universal acceptance.

There you have it, ladies and gentlemen. We have the counts. So, it looks like number two has the most number of votes, so we are going to start with general data protection regulation,

and then number seven, the backend registry provider got 22 votes, that will be number two topic.

And a close in competition is anti-abuse initiative, right? 15. Those and then the GAC communique with 14 votes. So, that gives us four topics. How much time do we have left? Krista, go ahead, do you have a comment?

KRISTA:

Yes, I was going to answer your question too. I was going to say, can we...? Would it make sense to open up with the USR password change and then go to the topics? I mean, this is your meeting. I am being serious with the question, because it is your meeting and I don't want to usurp you.

Okay. And then the answer to your question is, I think we have more than 30 minutes. Yeah, we have an hour left.

DENNIS:

One hour left? Okay. So, I think we can cover probably, allocating about 15 minutes per discussion, at least four topics on top there, and then if we have more time left over, then we can go down the list with COI, universal acceptance, and so on. Probably won't get through all of the topics, but the high count number with most interest, I think we can go ahead and cover that.

So, everybody okay with this? Okay, Francisco, per Krista's wish, go ahead and make your announcement.

FRANCISCO ARIAS:

Okay, very quickly. As some of you may have seen, a few weeks ago, there was an announcement of a breakthrough in cryptography in breaking one specific algorithm. So, we went looking towards systems as a precaution measure to see where we are using this, and we found a subsystem that is using this specific algorithm.

There is, to be clear, there is no immediate threat. This is something that it's coming for the future, but in order to be proactive, we would like to do a change right now in our systems. The algorithm we are using for keeping the password and [inaudible].

And if we make that change, that would require you, each of the registries, to change your passwords in this subsystem. So, you will be seeing... This is just a heads up, you are going to receive in the next, should be in the next couple of months, like there is no origin issue. We just are taking precautionary measures here.

So, in the next couple of months, you will receive an email asking you to change your password for the URS subsystem.

This is a system that registries use to obtain the contact data for the [inaudible] providers. Thank you.

DENNIS:

Thank you, Francisco. So, in a couple of months, wait for a notification. And be ready for it. Right? That's the announcement. Any questions on that? No? Okay. Then let's get into our first topic, general data protection regulation. Who brought up this topic? I would like you to go ahead and tell us more about it, and would you want to talk more about in this particular... Lenette, you have a question?

[SPEAKER OFF MICROPHONE]

UNKNOWN SPEAKER:

Yes, I brought it up, and I just basically I heard some rumblings that the EU regulation is going to impact WHOIS information that's publicly accessible, and that that will happen at some point next year. But beyond saying that sentence, I would actually rather defer to anybody who knows more about it and could even title the discussion point correctly.

So, if anybody would like to speak up on that.

DENNIS: Is there anybody who knows about this topic? Have you been attending the sessions? Go ahead, and raise your hand, and speak up. Go ahead.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible], AfriNic, representing dot Paris. The topic is that next year, in May 2018, a new regulation from Europe, which is the GDOP, will be applicable to everyone selling something in Europe, basically. And according to this regulation, the WHOIS as it is today, meaning publishing personal data of domain name holders, will not be compliant any more.

So, this is a subject of high concern for all Europe registry operators, of course. But it should also be a subject of concern for everybody who is somehow dealing with Europe. And a solution has to be found with regard to this publishing of information in the WHOIS. According to before, at least October, November of next year, let's say [inaudible], because then we will need time to implement it before May 2018.

So, this is why this is a subject of great concern.

Yes, solution, this year, before... Well, we say because [Abu Dhabi?] because that's clear for everyone. Yeah, this year, a solution has to be found.

DENNIS: Abu Dhabi being ICANN 60. Yeah.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah, just so, I think, unless somebody knows a bit more about it, that they can describe it more accurately. My understanding of it is something related to, if you have information about a European residence, and that's publicly accessible from the WHOIS, that somehow, by definition, because you have to get that European resident's permission to display their information, and so by just having that available on your public WHOIS that somehow you're going to be in violation of this regulation.

And so, what strikes me obviously is, there tons of privacy and proxy services, so I don't know how that's going to play out. Maybe that's not a violation of everybody then just has a privacy service, but I'm certain that that will probably have some ripples for other interests in having publicly available WHOIS information. And I'm wondering where the responsibility is going to lie for implementing a solution.

Is that going to be at the registry level? Is that maybe at the registrar level. Does every registrar now need to provide free privacy services? Who is going to sort of collaboratively solve this problem? Is that an ICANN issue? Is there something to discuss with the EU?

So, those are kind of the questions that come to mind when I heard that issue.

KRISTA:

So, this is Krista [inaudible], ICANN org for those of you who don't know me. So, I don't know anything about the GDPR. Or, I know enough about it to not know anything about it, if that makes sense. But I think the general concern we keep hearing, and this is just sort of elevated it, is just about conflicts, WHOIS conflicts with national law.

And, I mean, does everybody sort of agree with that?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER:

Sorry, it's not just about WHOIS, it's about registries and registrars being considered data controllers. And I know there are a lot of rumors going around, but I don't think anyone in this room is a privacy expert. So, I would love to hear what you have to say, but maybe the note is, ICANN hires a privacy expert and helps some of us.

I don't know if that's the takeaway.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER:

So, if I can... Okay. So, maybe I'll focus on WHOIS conflicts with national law. So, there is... Donna, you might have some, you

might want to add... I think you know where I'm going and you might have something to add to this, but there is a WHOIS conflicts with national law procedure that's out there.

Some, or all of you, maybe familiar with it. It's an ICANN procedure. Unfortunately, the trigger that is in the procedure isn't very useful to... You basically have to... You're going to get the layman's version, my version is layman's version. You basically have to be in trouble with the law, or you know, be arrested before you can actually get relief from ICANN.

So, the procedure is supposed to be a way to get a waiver from ICANN, so that you can meet national laws, but then you have to be in trouble in order to get the waiver. So, there was a review of the procedure. The procedure calls for a review every year. The first... And it's been around for several years.

The first review is kicked off a couple of years ago, and I think contracted parties were in the throes of rolling out new gTLDs and trying to work their way through launch, and I think there wasn't a lot of participation in this review from contracted parties. And the review team did a great job, did their work, came up with some recommendations.

But I think because of the sort of lower participation from contracted parties, the recommendations they put forth still aren't all that helpful to you guys. Those recommendations

were recently approved and have been, they're supposed to get implemented.

But the trigger hasn't changed much. It's a very small, nuanced change. It doesn't really help you for the problem you have. The good news is, that GNSO council, as part of their resolution, has asked that there be another review started immediately. So, ICANN org is in the process of getting that kicked off.

I think there is a lot more people that are familiar and aware of this and paying attention, because you're sort of getting into a steady state with operations, and can focus on this. So, I guess the thing I would... I think one of the immediate needs is to kind of create some sort of release valve, at least related to WHOIS conflict. So, at least taking a small part of the big problem you're referring to, Crystal.

And I would encourage you to participate in that review, and hopefully the review can go really quickly, because if everybody gets focused on it, I've seen it happen before in the community, where people can get focused on something and work through pretty quickly. Hopefully, that would lead to some different triggers that would enable you to then come... Who knows what the outcome could be, but you guys have the ability to sort of influence that.

So, there is something for consideration. And Donna, maybe you can clean up anything I misspoke.

DONNA AUSTIN:

Thanks. Donna Austin from New Star. So, in relation to the WHOIS national law procedure that Krista was just talking about, I think the council sound off on the additional trigger. I think it was only at the last council meeting, and I think the review requirement is that it starts by October. So, I think that's the star point.

In relation to this GDPR, while I think it's associated, I think there is some differences regarding it, and I'm not, you know, full bottle on it. I'm [inaudible] from New Star's pretty much across it. But just to flag that we did have some, the registries had conversations with the Board about this during the week, and also the GNSO Council had quite a bit of discussion about this yesterday, just to try to understand whose responsibility this is, and why the Council can do, if anything, about this.

Whether it's something that we can shoe-horn into the [inaudible] PDP, which it seems very unlikely, because they haven't got to this issue yet, or if there is any other mechanism that we can deal with this. So, it is a conversation that I expect will continue in the Council that we don't have any answers here. Thanks.

KRISTA: Can I just...? I'm sorry to jump ahead. You reminded me of something, thank you. You guys did discuss this with the Board the other day, and the Board, my recollection was committed to continuing this conversation with the contracted parties, understands the urgency, and I think even wanted to add it to the GDD Summit agenda, if I'm not mistaken.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah, I think that's right Krista. And Becky Burr, who is our representative on the Board, is pretty heavily involved in this as well, so hopefully that's a positive. Thanks.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible]. Just to give you a very basic understanding. So, ICANN forces us to do complete list of the domain names and the domain name owners, including email addresses, private addresses, whatever. The new regulation says, you have to have an opt-in from any user. So, I must ask you whether you are all right, whether I include your domain name details in the WHOIS.

And any... And it doesn't only affect WHOIS, it affects any directory services within the EU. Then the one that has the registry service, has to be able to give to the end user the capability that he can opt-out any personal information that he

likes. For example, he doesn't like to have his email displayed, or he doesn't like to be the address displayed.

So, the user must be able to login at a registry, to opt-out, for example, the email address, which means the direct contact from the registrant to the registry, which we are not allowed to have at the moment. And to give you a basic understanding of the problem, money wise, at least as far as I'm informed, the Netherlands, any single case.

So, if one private person goes to court and wants to file, and files a law case, it costs you \$25,000 per case per week. So, if you register 10 domain names, go to let's say the Netherland court, in Amsterdam, and file 10 cases, it's a quarter million dollar a week. Yeah? For 10 domain names.

So, this is the point and it's going into effect on the 18th, I guess, 18th of May 2018, which is 40 or 30 months away from now. This is the effects, and this is a regulation. A regulation becomes law automatic. A directive, this is the distinction, would be subject to local law. It's a regulation, this will come into effect. The \$25,000, this is subject to Netherlands in that case.

But it is really urgent, and starting with talks next October, and having some idea early let's say, next year, beginning of May, is far too late because we have to implement something. Thanks.

JOHN: Yeah, this is John [inaudible]. It's May 25, 2018. So, it's the 25th of May, but it doesn't obviate the point that was just made. The data protection participation that we've had at the meeting so far this week, has offered some insight, but not much consolation, because of the discussion, particularly yesterday about the regulation focusing on a purpose driven regime for data collection.

So, what is the purpose for which you are collecting? Primary purpose, perhaps secondary purpose, but the indiscriminate collection of data is what the regulation is seeking to eliminate. From a practical point of view, everybody in this room, or the companies that you work for, are likely going to have to hire a data protection officer by the time the regulation is implemented.

And as you all know, having worked in companies, nothing focuses an organization on what it needs to do like having to hire a new executive to carve out space in the table of organization to create a mission, and establish a budget. And so, if your companies are not now already moving toward hiring a data protection officer, I suspect that you could use that lever to get a lot of the other questions that you have answered.

But the... As the gentleman down there said, the penalties are clear insignificant. Violations could run up to 4% of your annual revenue, and the cost of litigation is not inconsiderable. The subjective overlay, of course, is that the European courts have, are now encouraging citizens to take legal action.

In the past, that's been the primary role of citizens in the United States, we're such a litigious society, but now Europeans, thanks to a fellow whose name you might have heard, Mac [inaudible], now litigation, civil litigation by citizens of the EU is now even more at the forefront. So, the penalties are clear, perhaps using the hiring of a new executive might focus attention of an organization. Thank you.

DENNIS: Thank you for the suggestion. Anybody else want to speak on this topic? Go ahead. Go ahead, Ruben.

RUBEN: Ruben [inaudible]. Actually a question for our European colleagues. Those regulations apply to information supplied by companies registering domains, or only to private individuals? If any European friends could clarify on that?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: First of all, sorry [inaudible] for the record. Personal data protected, so it means that there are individuals, but also all of the data that can help identifying someone in a company as an individual.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: So, to clarify, are you saying that if a company registers a domain name, and they use a non-personal email address, and give no individual names, then that's not going to apply.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] for the record. I cannot answer those questions, because there might be particular cases that I'm not aware of right now. So, the idea today, is to raise awareness on that subject, but then we would definitely have to take care of understanding each situation.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] for the record. [Inaudible] is a lawyer, that's why she's not say yes or no. As far as I'm informed, it's all about private people, or individuals and any information that is not already in a public company registry for example, is bound to this new regulation. I'm in a registry, in the company registry as being CEO. So, if my company registers a domain name using

my name as an owner, it's not a problem, because I'm already in another public...

But, if you're going as a private person and have a domain name registered, that's a problem.

DENNIS: Thank you for that clarification. Certainly, okay, one more question, and we have to move on to another topic.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Okay, so my question is related to the data escrow. Will it be impacted by this policy, because those data, they may be generated from different countries like... Will the registries and registrars, they have to deposit the data in EU? Also, will the data be separated? Like, some of the data not generated in the EU, they may be need to keep it locally.

So, the data escrow will be separated because of this policy... Or, will this policy impact the registry and registrar data [inaudible]?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Again, I'm not a lawyer, but as far as I know, storing data and not publishing it, which is the idea of data escrow is not the problem. The problem with data escrow is that we have to keep

these data escrow, I think at least for two years, and this is against European data protection law. The longest timeframe, as far as, I'm not an expert, is 12 months.

So, this is another issue, but it is not to be seen directly in correlation with these new regulations.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I want to add, if I may. So, doesn't mean European companies only can choose those data escrow providers?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Okay, to this topic. One thing by which this emerges is that we have separate contacts as a domain name owner, and there is the domain name admin, and the admin is often used, was a personal contact. In a lot of countries, it's mandatory to have the admin contact as a real person, so there are real personal data then behind the admin.

The company is something else. The company [inaudible]. And the other thing is, I think registrars and registries are also concerned with the new data regulation, we have to have you know, all opt-in of all of our registrants, and if we were to have to contact them, or the registrars would have to contact them, to opt something in, everybody fears that they lose registrations,

because people think, I don't want to opt into something which I don't understand, and so on.

That's always the question. If something like this comes up, there is a danger of losing a lot of registrations, because people don't understand this. So, the only chance for registries in my view, is just to close the WHOIS completely, then all of our opt-in, and then see how it goes on.

DENNIS:

Thank you. No doubt, this is a hot topic of discussion, and years to come, and it will unfold, and we will have probably many, many more opportunities to discuss this. Just one thing that I would like to do is make sure that we try to separate the overall regulation, and that issued with the ICANN business of the issue. Okay, so one last remark on this.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER:

Okay. I just want to mention, it's not... The WHOIS is not the only problem, the problem is also that the user has the right of erasure of his data in the database that is not public. So, that is new also.

DENNIS: Thank you. So, that is the end of the first topic discussion. And we spend little more than the 15 minutes then we had planned for, but I think that was worthwhile. And thank you for contributing to the discussion, and sharing your knowledge and concerns. So, next topic is the change of backend registry provider, or RSP program. Who would like to kick-off this topic discussion?

Who brought it up? Go ahead.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: The issue is that [inaudible] to change backend registry provider, the new backend registry provider has to go through PDT testing all over again. Possibly through evaluation through that backend wasn't evaluated in the 2012 round, so that could lead to making things slower to move, and so, [inaudible] portability and customer choice for [inaudible] operators.

DENNIS: Good point. Go ahead.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I was going to ask ICANN org if anybody has had to undergo a full evaluation as part of a backend transition? Have there been new operators coming onboard or backend providers?

FRANCISCO ARIAS: Francisco Arias, ICANN organization. Yes. They come from time to time.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Just to clarify, that's completely new. They would never, okay.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Never gone through the [CROSSTALK]...

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: ...at all. Never met you before.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: So, is there a process, price, documentation? Where do we find that information?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Does somebody else want to take it? If not, I will. So, we've published the material subcontracting arrangement how to guide. And it covers all scenarios. And we do have a, not a backend, but an operational process. That's the, yeah. And we've... I can think of one, there might have been more though.

There are so many transactions any more, I can't keep up. Yeah, there is... It's in the how to guide.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I'm sorry. I think the question was, where do we find that information? Publicly?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: It's on the website. I'll put it in the chat right now.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: One of these days we just need to do a webinar where we teach you guys how to use your registry pages. We all know that the ICANN website is really awesome for finding information, but we've been trying to make your particular section much more, hopefully...

And actually, Lenette and Lisa, who is not at this meeting, or working at improving that more, but we're trying to put information there. So, you guys should take an action item to maybe host a webinar on how to use the registry pages, and I'll put it in the chat.

DENNIS: And also, we could put it on the topic for our next roundtable discussion, and see if we could actually do it right here, go through the webpages. Go ahead.

JEFF NEWMAN: Yeah, Jeff Newman. So, the process is laid out, as Krista said, and it's, you know, it's the right steps, and it seems to collect all of the right information. What's not in there are things like timeframes and the specific criteria on how that's scored and all of that stuff.

You know, in terms of passing. So, while the process is there and it's great, it's the right process, it just needs more information on timelines and what someone who is submitting a request can expect in terms of thought process, and that, right now, it feels like it's kind of a black hole. You get the information in, and you're just not sure when someone is going to get around to it and respond.

And the same thing is true with like, just routine name changes of organizations. I mean, in one case our company has worked on, it has taken six, seven months or more. I'm looking at [inaudible] over there, more than six or seven months just to change the name of the entity that's actually the registry operator. So literally, it's just a name change.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Is there a price tag in that document?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: There is, there is three... I think there are three levels. We don't know you, we kind of know you, and we really know you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah, so let me... It's Krista, let me take a couple of these. I don't believe we have the pricing in there, but you can always just ask Aaron and his team can give you a quote. It is just pass through fees like everything else. So, it's not a for-profit business for us by any means. And I think Aaron wanted to add something to this and then I'll come back to one of the other comments.

AARON: Aaron [inaudible], ICANN org. Yeah, prices do change a little bit over time, so we don't have a specific quote in there, and it doesn't happen that often that we need to publish like a price list. But it is ongoing, whatever the ongoing fee, and it is a complete pass through, no markup or anything like that.

MICHAEL FLEMMING: My question in regards... Sorry. Michael Flemming for the record. My question as to where this information is public is, now that the process is public, or published, but where the results are published. Where do we see those new registry operators coming in? I mean, the... My point is that we can see the results, I'm sorry...

For example, through the application process, we weren't able to see a lot of the results for a lot of the applications. I think it's a valid concern for many of us to see who these new backends are for example. I think we can see in the registry agreement, where those changes come in is one area.

I mean, we can also check IANA information to see that in others. But to know the scoring, I mean, are we able to see the scoring? That is a valid concern for a lot of us, in a way.

While, some of that information may be confidential.

KRISTA: So, thanks Michael. We have not been publishing the MSA results. We have recently started publishing, and we sent out a notification to everyone. So seven point... Let me set back. 7.5 of the contract covers transition, registry transition. Registry transition has two basic flavors, and then it gets all goofy from there.

But the two basic flavors are change of control, and change to a material sub-contractor. So, we recently started the direct change of control. So, what happens with direct change of control is when there is one and it gets completed, we update the registry agreement page. So, I sell my TLD to Valerie, and it's no longer run Krista, Inc. It's now run by Valerie, Inc. You can see that on the webpage.

But that doesn't help people who want to know what's... For all 1240, or whatever the number is, who has had a change of control. So, we created, Aaron and his team created a table, thank you, a table that summarizes what those are, and that gets updated regularly. For material subcontracting, changes to a material sub-contractor, those we have not been publishing on registry pages, because we did feel that maybe there is some confidentiality in there.

It's something we're certainly willing to discuss. We were more thinking that, you know, we're going through those evaluations. We're using, per the registry transition process, the same level of due diligence that was used in the new application gTLD reviews, etc. But again, we're certainly open to having that discussion. We were thinking you guys wouldn't want that stuff published.

I don't know that we have... I mean, I guess, sorry. I don't know if our lawyers would have any commentary about that, but yeah. We are open to that.

DENNIS: Go ahead, over here.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] from JPRS. I know that Krista mentioned that direct change has already published on the ICANN website, and my understanding is that ICANN has no right to publish the sub-contracting changes, because just the registry operators have contract with back, and so that's kind of confidentiality, it's a kind of a business, kind of business, so that...

If it is the community who wants to change this, it means that the ICANN and the ISP has direct contract. Or, it... In that situation, it's same as the direct change things. So, needs to publish. But in current arrangement, I think that the... It's not suitable to publish the backend change, which will A to B has occurred, new provider emerges, C provider coming. Thanks.

DENNIS: Thank you. Go ahead.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah, we have a number of backend changes with different clients, and they have an expectation that necessarily is something that they control, because it's the registry operator who remains responsible, irrespective as who the third party is, so long as ICANN approves it. I don't see why that's any other third party's business.

DENNIS: Thank you. You have a comment?

MICHAEL: Yes. My comment is, I'm not asking to disclose information as regards to disclosing contracts or anything like that. What I am asking is that, as part of the applicant guidebook due diligence itself, showing test result for backend providers, to see whether or not they were, well, worthy, that's probably not the correct wording.

But that, something we all went through initially, I don't see why new emerging backend providers, for example, wouldn't have to go through something like that.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: So, Michael, they do have to go through that. But [CROSSTALK]...

MICHAEL: ...displayed like all the rest of ours.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: What was displayed was that they were approved, but we didn't publish test results. We're not publishing test results here. They're being subject to the same level of due diligence. There is not... The application process for new gTLDs was a different process, but we're still following the same level of due diligence. They're still being held to the same standard that the initial backend or technical evaluation was held to.

And if you go look at the how to guide, you will see, very familiar language in there, about what needs to happen if you are to answer an earlier question, I think maybe yours even, a brand-new registry operator.

So, and I just want to let you guys know what I'm hearing is, you don't want those results published, so we will not look into that, unless you guys tell me something differently in the next 30 minutes.

JEFF NEWMAN: Thanks. Jeff Newman. I think, I'll approach it from kind of a different angle, and more related to a RSP program. Potentially,

rather than publishing the results of, you know, in one registry asks for the transition of a backend provider, one of the things that we're looking at with a RSP program, especially in the subsequent procedures, is maybe you can have a list of those backend providers that have passed at some point, regardless of who they are the backend for.

So that is something that we can look at in terms of RSP program, is listing those backend providers that have passed either one or more evaluations, but you don't have to list who they are the backend provider for. That's something that I think we can look into.

And also, if you could just address the timeframes, because I think that's... From our companies' perspective, that's the biggest issue, is that putting in some sort of timeframes, so that there is a reasonable expectation when you ask for this type of request that you'll get a response within a reasonable time, so that we can tell our customers, okay, you want a backend provider changed.

Well, assuming, you know, if they are an existing provider, it's this number of days if you're... You know what I mean. Thanks.

DENNIS: Thank you. Go ahead, Francisco.

FRANCISCO ARIAS: Yeah, so we'll have to look into that. It sounds like maybe a feasible to publish the RSPs that are perhaps just one question to me in my mind is, so why someone stop being a RSP for whatever reason, for example, I think they fail [inaudible] and they are, the lose the TLD or something like that.

What do you think about removing someone from the list?

JEFF NEWMAN: So, is there any registry servicer provider that's in that position? That has been removed or terminated?

FRANCISCO ARIAS: We have no [inaudible]...

JEFF NEWMAN: No. So, I think, you know, we can work on that and think about that, but I wouldn't want that to, that question to prevent... Like, if you're thinking about listing them, that's kind of an edge case and we can kind of talk about how we resolve that, but I don't think we need to resolve that before we start publishing a list.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: On that same note, I don't know that we need RSP program to publish a list of approved registry service providers, people who have been through testing. Food for thought. I think it is an interesting idea to say, like these are all of the providers that have been tested and approved, and then, as new ones come along, boom, the list gets updated.

I really... I think I wouldn't want to wait too long to decide what to do about somebody that may no longer be an ISP, because my experience, in this job, at ICANN is every time we think something is an edge case, it happens, and we don't have an answer for it, and then we have to run around in circles for months trying to figure out what to do, so that's just my advice as I'm transitioning to another role.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I mean, if you list it as active registry service providers, once they become inactive, you remove them.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah, I think that makes sense. So, maybe we can take an action item for that on our side. There is two other things that came up in this conversation, and Jeff, you just gave us a hard time about one. But I was patiently waiting to answer your question that I wanted to let this conversation, the part of the conversation play

out. So, we've already taken an action item with the how to guides to put some projected timelines in there. I think the way we'll do it is how we did it, I hate to bring up what probably is a sore subject, but how we used to do it during the new gTLD programs.

Sort of like best possible timeline. Some of the things that testing has more time bound limits. Some of the other things depend on back and forth with the registry operator. But Winnie, who is responsible for this service, has already taken the action item to update the guides with that information. It's a great suggestion, thank you.

And by the way, all of the content we have on our pages, if you guys see areas for improvement, and we've gotten feedback from others before, we'd love to hear that. They're there for you, they're to make it helpful. So, there is that. I see a bunch of hands. I wanted to just address one other thing that came up which was about name change.

Truth be told, we had not thought about name changes until we got one. We've only really had a handful of them. We get tons of change of control, but name change is not a common one. So, they are taking a while, because we had to like quickly figure out a process for it, and you know, we all work with lawyers in our

companies, and figuring out what the lawyers think what we do and don't need, and we have to check. It takes time.

So, that process has improved quite a bit. It's probably not as efficient as some of the other ones, because we don't do it as much, but the team has been working to improve that. There was also a how to guide for it, but it's a really simple, straightforward process. So, we know that we had some issues with some of the initial ones.

DENNIS:

Thank you. We've spent more than 15 minutes on this topic already, so we would like to move on if that's okay?

Is that okay? Oh, okay, Donna, one more.

DONNA:

I mean, this is just a public announcement more than anything. For folks to understand that this is a discussion that is going on within a working group with the registry stakeholder group. And you know, if you want to participate, then just send, if you're members of the registry stakeholder group, send a message to Sherry or Sue and we can have you added. Thanks.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Dennis, if I could give a quick status. So, at the moment, I think what we've agreed to do is deal with a problem that Elaine first raised, and that's tackled a problem of swapping out the ISP, because we understand there are some challenges associated with that. So, that's the first problem we want to try to address.

And then to the PDP working group, and that kind of bigger conversation around whether we need a RSP program or something like that, that's, at the moment, I think the thinking is that stays within the PDP working group. So that's, yeah. I mean, notwithstanding that we've had a lot of conversations on this topic, but I think we're back, to some extent, back to the beginning again.

DENNIS: Thank you for that status. So, let's move on to our third topic. And that is the DNS anti-abuse initiatives. Who wants to start off this topic? Who brought it up? Of course.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: So, I don't know the full workings behind this, but there was talk about this week of, in one of the sessions, where ICANN is going to be... I think it was in response to perhaps GAC advice, that ICANN would be working with, looking at compiling or working

with, maybe spam [inaudible] or other providers like that to kind of conduct the monitoring of abuse for new gTLDs.

To kind of respond to GAC advice... I'm not sure where that went, where that was brought up, but we did discuss that, I think, yeah in the joint session, I believe.

DENNIS: Is there anybody in the room that have been involved in that discussion?

STEVE: Sorry, Dennis. It's Steve. That was brought up with PSWG in compliance, and it was a screen that was flashed on... It was a copy of a screen that flashed up on the board, listing TLDs, how much abuse has been reported against that particular TLD, and what scoring do they have with regard to everybody else?

So, I don't know if that's actually a public release yet. I think that might have just been up a beta. Yeah.

COLE QUINN: Yeah, this is Cole Quinn. So, we've been talking around with some of the folks from the BC and the IPC, about ways to expeditiously communicate across which TLDs are sort of known

for abuse. And perhaps develop a system of reputation so that the appropriate actions might be taken.

This was also brought up in relation to universal acceptance, and being able to prioritize some things and do some pre-filtering before the final, you know, long-term solution is put into place.

DENNIS: Any other comments on this topic? Go ahead, Krista.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I was just going to say that, one of the issues that was raised in that particular session was, where the fees is coming from. And I think some of the fees were, we were giving the indication that some of the fees were actually proprietary fields, so fees, so we wouldn't know any information about those. And then there are some that we use generally as register operators ourselves, to monitor threat abuse, as part of speculative 3B.

So, this is adding... So, yeah, the issue, I guess, is these fees are coming in, but we're not really getting too much information about what the action abuse is, and which fee is actually providing that information.

STAN: Stan [inaudible] from dot global. As an example, we are testing out several abuse systems, anti-abuse systems. We have a name space of 30,000, and within the same names, depending on what different sources, it varies from one to 50. So, what is the...? What is the correct one? I like the one, I don't like the 50s. So, having that kind of statistics is so important to kind of define what is valid sources and so on. And it's a long, long run actually, I think.

KRISTA: It's Krista [inaudible], ICANN org. Admittedly, I don't know anything about this topic. As far as like what ICANN has been doing, David Conrad, our chief technology officer, is leading the effort. One of the action items I've taken from this meeting is... Because I think there has been...

I think I mentioned this in the stakeholder group the other day too. Or maybe I talked offline to somebody. But it became obvious to me in the stakeholder group the other day that the communication between the org, to you guys, and I only care about registries through the end of today... No, I'm just kidding.

I don't. But I don't know what's going on in the registrar channel, but from a registry perspective, it became very clear to me on Tuesday that there is a breakdown in communication between the organization and you guys. And I think it's just a

function of... David is off doing his stuff, and we haven't told him like, hey, you need to loop us in so we can [inaudible]...

So anyway, we'll go back and I'll try and close that gap. That being said, I think I would like to make a suggestion to you guys, which is to invite David to one of your stakeholder group meetings to come talk to you directly, and he can answer, I would think, all of these questions, or most of them, and that might be quite useful to you.

And then, on the backside, the operational side, we'll try and tighten up the communication, so you guys aren't so surprised in the future.

DENNIS: Crystal? Go ahead, Crystal.

CRYSTAL: Crystal [inaudible]. I think someone else, Krista, that we can add to that is Jamie and Maggie, the compliance department in terms of what you're doing with these abuse numbers. I mean, we are all required to report our abuse to compliance upon request. So, having a better understanding of what David and his team are doing, versus what we are reporting to you and how that interplay works, is very important.

KRISTA: Yeah, thanks for the suggestion Crystal. Another suggestion would be for you guys to come ask compliance, ask David, whoever, for the data, and let them work to see what they can provide you with. So, sort of create that, that channel between you and those departments to get the stuff you're interested in.

CRYSTAL: And just one more thing. So that they're talking to each other... I've had conversations this week with Conrad and with Maggie's team, and I don't think that they've actually talked to each other first. So, it would be better if they talk to each other first, and then came and talked to us, fi that made sense.

KRISTA: Yeah, I think... I'm sure they're talking to each other, but I think hearing like the different conversations this week, it sort of opens up our eyes, like oh, we're talking to each other, but we need to have a bigger conversation. So, we're all learning together, in this together, and that's definitely a takeaway, so thanks for that.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible]. Having talked to David Conrad in the ITHA session, and so far, what they have been coming about is very problematic for registries. One thing to note is that they are still equating spam with security threats, and I think that oh, spam is [inaudible] to security threats, which is simply wrong. It's different to say that people that do phishing usually do spam to promote their phishing, but that doesn't correlate spam volumes with security threat volumes.

But they seem to not get that, and you probably have to talk a lot with them, so they stopped going outside the ICANN remit, which is what is happening now.

DENNIS: ...our last topic. I think we have nine minutes left? Eight minutes left. And that topic is the GAC communique regarding the two characters on second level. Who would like to kickoff this conversation? Who has this? Donna. Okay, there you are, go ahead.

DONNA: I mean, what can you do? The horse has bolted. So, I mean, I appreciate the sensitivities that the GAC has raised. The council has, I walked into a bit of a session with the GAC when the council met with them earlier this week. So, I understand the

frustration and concerns, and I tried to share with them some of our frustrations and concerns.

But I don't see how there is any way that this can be reversed.

STAN: Stan [inaudible], dot global. Are you saying that...? Let me phrase it this way. We have an amendment to our RA about we can sell registered all letter, letter from second level. Reading the GAC communique and the everlasting process for that one, would you kind of recommend that we can actually sell it? Register it?

DONNA: I mean, it's not my place to provide that advice, but...

JEFF NEWMAN: This is Jeff Newman. I think really, the position we as registries should take is that this is no longer an issue between the GAC and us. This is an issue between the GAC and the ICANN Board at this point in time. We have an agreement, as you said, we have... The agreement allows us to do it. We will follow that agreement.

And there is no right for the ICANN staff or the Board to unilaterally change that agreement without going through an

entire process. So, I'm not giving you legal advice, but as far as we're concerned, you are allowed to do it.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible]. We already tried to sell them. These are premium names, and luckily, nobody is willing to pay these premium prices. [Laughter] So, you are very much invited to buy one at dot [inaudible] registrars.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: It could be a matter of you have not priced it correctly. My understanding also is that at some point, ICANN actually can reverse...

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: At this point, you have a signed agreement. There is a mechanism in the contract to do a unilateral amendment, but it has to go through a very long and laborious process. So, no, there is no right for the ICANN Board to tell you to stop.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: But some time, during this process, there was some registries that received letters saying they can't use these two letters on second level. And then from other letters saying no, you can't use it anymore.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: And then a third amendment that was actually released, that says subject to the particular requirements, you can release them, as long as you have a policy or dispute policy, and you put it into the registrant agreement that they cannot use it in a manner that's, I'm paraphrasing, that's confusing with the country.

And then you have an option to provide kind of a pseudo-sunrise for them. That's all that's required.

[CROSSTALK]

Totally personal, has nothing to do with anybody else.

[SPEAKER OFF MICROPHONE]

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Can we get staff to weigh-in on what their position is? Or, have they had a chance to think about it?

KRISTA: Yeah, I can give you a fully vetted position. This is Krista. I saw the GAC advice at like 12:30 this morning, and just shut my laptop and when to bed. We have to take a look at it. I don't know about you guys, but for me, when I first... Every time I read the GAC advice for the first time, I'm like totally shocked.

And then you read it the second time, and the third time, and the fourth time, and you get less and less like upset about it. So, I don't know that will happen with this particular advice, but I've learned just personally, like internally in my own head, to not react for a week or so until you've had a chance to digest it a little bit.

Obviously, the Board will obviously have to discuss how to address this. And you know, we'll have to take a look at it from an operational, not operational, but an organizational perspective, but you know, I'm with [inaudible], I don't know what to say.

DENNIS: Well, anybody else know what to say about this?

KRISTA: Sorry, I just, thank you, [inaudible] just reminded me. I did want to... First, I wanted to say what everybody has been saying, and this is not legal advice. But, from the organization's perspective, and to kind of go directly to what you were getting at, we've given you releases or authorizations, blanket authorizations to release these codes.

It's subject to all other provisions of the contract, as well as you can only release them if you follow the mitigation, the avoidance

measures, excuse me, the avoidance measures that were approved. So, there are qualifiers, but you are... You can go do that with the exception of the five acronyms that are on the IGO list.

So, until, or if that doesn't... Unless that changes, you're free to go and be free.

DENNIS:

Okay. I think that is maybe the final comment on this topic, and we're running out of time. So, we have a couple of more minutes until the end of the session. So, what I would like to do is, if there is anything you would like to say, any remarks in terms of anything for the week, or this process, this session, before we conclude and... Go ahead.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER:

Thank you. I had raised the topic of universal acceptance, and it really didn't need a lot of time. Clearly, it's a very important topic, but I was very delighted, actually, in a session yesterday to see some of the resourcing, and the materials, and the momentum that's going on in this very important topic. One of the biggest challenges is where forms don't work, or email may not work, or people are blocking things.

And the staff at ICANN have setup a customer service group, and a page on USAG dot tech, where when there is an issue with software, that problems can be reported, and there is a team that take and investigate and spend the long hours and research and figure out what can be remedied with that.

And I was very inspired by that. I know Elaine has spent a lot of time on that. I personally spent a lot of time on that. it could be very time consuming. So, for those you who weren't aware of it, or when you see that, you have issues, or your customers have issues on USAG dot tech, there is now a form where those issues can be reported.

And there is a team now at ICANN that is actually looking at these and taking, looking at doing that. And then there is... I think it's on the 11th and the 12th, there is an event in Seattle where people can gather on this. So, I'm very inspired by the momentum, and I want to thanks staff for all of their efforts on that.

DENNIS: Thank you. That was a kind remark.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Can I just jump in for a sec? Thank you for raising that. So, yeah, just to reiterate, there is a place for you to either, on behalf of

your customers or send your customers, a form. You can put in whatever the URL is, or the link is that's broken, and they will work on it. So, we shouldn't hear a whole lot of complaints about our TLDs don't work when ICANN supplied this fabulous platform and group to fix these things for us. We need to use it.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: The other thing that's noted is, you know, often people say that they're broken, we always liken it to like a year 2000 type of problem. You know, where two digit years always worked, but know you need four digit years when you cross the horizon of the year 2000. So, messaging it with them is very important.

And there is a document that Don, from the group, has setup. Don Hollander has set up, that's very helpful. Thank you.

DENNIS: Thank you. So Krista, final remark and then we'll conclude. Go ahead.

KRISTA: It is, actually, a final remark. I just wanted to say thank you to you guys, and I'm really going to miss this session. This is actually my absolute favorite session at every ICANN meeting. It's just a very good discussion that always happens in here. So,

thank you all for being part of this, and sort of embracing this session, and I'll miss it. Thanks.

DENNIS:

And we'd like to... [Applause]

And we all would like to say thank you to Krista for her years of services. And supporting us. Thank you, Krista! [Applause]

Goodbye everyone.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]