COPENHAGEN – Public Forum 2
Thursday, March 16, 2017 – 13:45 to 16:45 CET
ICANN58 | Copenhagen, Denmark

BRAD WHITE:	Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to ICANN 58 Public Forum 2. Allow me to introduce ICANN board vice chair, Cherine Chalaby. Cherine?
CHERINE CHALABY:	Good afternoon, everyone. Could you please take your seat?
	Well, hello and welcome to the ICANN Public Forum Number 2. For those of you who are new to ICANN, this is our second public forum. We've had one already on Monday, and sometimes we refer to the public forum as the open mic session. So there are a few mics around and, please, you would come in due course to speak, if you wanted to, come to those mics. Thank you.
	So this session will last three hours and we will take a break around about an hour and a half from now. An hour and 15, hour and a half.
	A couple of short announcements and then we'll kick off.

The first two sessions or topics before we get into the questions will be around what the expected standards of behavior are for this session, and this will be done by our ombudsman, Herb Waye, when he's there, and I will call him in due course.

And then another session about the participation rules and how to handle any unanswered questions, and this will be done by Khaled, who is sitting next to me, and I understand he's going to do this in Arabic, so please pay attention.

So one thing is that, please understand that this session, coming to the mic and speaking, is not a replacement for submitting your comments to any public comments of a review, of a policy. Make sure you do that in the right way. This is not the place to do it.

And the other thing I'd like to bring to your attention, that sometimes there's a bit of frustration in the community when someone comes to the mic and asks a question and we look at each other here and don't give you an answer immediately.

That is not because we don't want to give you an answer but it's sometimes we don't have the information at our possession at this point in time but we promise that we will answer it afterwards, but not in the session, if we can't do that.

So with that in mind, we can kick off this second public forum, and I'm going to ask our ombudsman, Herb Waye, to come and talk to us about the expected standards of behavior during this session. Thank you.

HERB WAYE: Mr. Vice Chair, thank you for the opportunity to present the ICANN expected standards of behavior.

For those who are participating remotely, there is a link to the standards of behavior in the Adobe Connect room.

My name is Herb Waye and I was appointed to the ICANN ombudsman role last July. I've also been actively involved in the office for over 10 years, serving as the adjunct for the two former ombuds.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is all about relationships. ICANN is a unique environment that thrives on volunteerism. Without the devotion and sacrifice of the people who support ICANN, and their participation, often as volunteers, in the multistakeholder model, ICANN simply could not survive.

Look around the room at the vast diversity of culture, knowledge, passion, and commitment. Devoted people who have given up the comfort of their homes and families to spend a week at the Internet's alternative Club Med.

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[Laughter]

HERB WAYE: During my 35 years in law enforcement, I was paid to take abuse and to ignore the swearing, the insults, and the hate, but at all times my organization demanded that I respond with compassion, professionalism, and, above all, respect.

It's imperative to challenge decisions, demand transparency, question the application of policy. Community members and their leadership understand their role and expect to be held accountable.

But in the past few months, I have received several complaints regarding inappropriate behavior. Not many, but even a few is too many.

Nobody in ICANN should have to tolerate abuse and nobody should be forced to have to deal with inappropriate behavior except me.

So before you hit "Send" or before you speak, I would like you to ask yourself a very simple question: Is my message respectful and am I being constructive?

As I've said before, live the ICANN expected standards of behavior that asks you to respect all members of the ICANN

community equally, behave in a professional manner, and demonstrate appropriate behavior.

Together, we can make ICANN a safe, respectful, and harassment-free environment for everyone. Thank you.

Mr. Koubaa, the mic is yours.

[Applause]

KHALED KOUBAA: Thanks, Herb. I would like to ask you, please, to use the headset, so I will be speaking in Arabic, please.

I would like to present to you a brief on what we're going to do today. We're going to have four blocks of Q&A. Each block will take 15 minutes and we will welcome all the questions of community interest.

If you have any question or comment, I would like to invite you to start queueing up now at these two microphones.

In addition, for remote participants, you can ask questions via email at engagement@icann.org. Again, that email address is engagement@icann.org.

When you speak, please remember three things.

First, to state your name and who you are representing, and to speak slowly and clearly.

As most of you know, there is a time limit on questions and comments. You will have two minutes to ask your question, and that will be enforced by a timer that is projected on the screen behind me, and also the board responses will be also limited to two minutes and there will be one follow-up to be allowed which is also limited by two minutes.

We want to hear from as many participants as possible, and the timer is aimed at facilitating that.

So with that, I'm now going to turn to our first board facilitator, Becky Burr, and before that, you, Brad, probably there is something to add about engagement. Thank you.

BRAD WHITE: Thank you. I just wanted to add that it looks like we will have three video hubs during this session. One from Venezuela, Uganda, and Kenya.

And Becky, it's yours.

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BECKY BURR: Thank you. And welcome, everybody. I believe that we may have had some questions in the -- in remote participants from Forum 1.

Brad, is that correct? I don't --

BRAD WHITE: That is correct. We had one question from Michael Fleming.

Are there any ICANN board members that are involved in the PDP process for subsequent procedures or at least following the process?

BECKY BURR: Well, I will take a stab at that and ask others if they have additions.

Generally, there's no rule that prohibits board members from participating -- being participants in PDPs but it hasn't traditionally been done. However, board members are free to follow them. I do. I think that there is -- that there are others that may be following it.

In addition, the board is regularly briefed on development in the PDPs, both prior to our board meetings and intersessionally in board calls or in our workshops.

Okay. If there are no other comments, we will go to the floor. Andrew?

ANDREW SULLIVAN: Hi there. My name is Andrew Sullivan and I work for a company called Dyn, and I am currently, for a very short time -- I'm looking forward to the end of it -- still the chair of the Internet Architecture Board, but I'm not speaking for anybody except myself.

And I should say that this is not intended as a "gotcha" question or anything. It's just something that occurred to me this morning and I thought I would ask about it.

This week I looked for some session on the PTI, which of course is an organization that is subsidiary to ICANN but has exactly one customer and it's this community, and it struck me that I didn't see one.

I saw lots of sessions from the customer standing committee but I didn't see anything about the PTI itself, and I wondered whether that was on purpose or by accident or if I just overlooked it, which is entirely possible.

And, you know, if you could say something about what the plan is in the future for how those things would be put across to the --

to the community, I mean, there are lots of ways to do this and I just didn't know what the plan was. Thanks.

CHERINE CHALABY: Thank you for that question, and it is a good question. The -- a couple of points.

One is that the PTI budget was discussed by the board in an open session on I think Sunday morning, and this was open to the public, and there are other budget sessions which discuss it.

Also, the board had a meeting with the customer standing committee and we went through all of the safeguards and the role of each one of the committees, whether it's the CSC or the review committee or the RZERC committee and what's the bylaws and interrelationship between them. That was open to the public.

But point taken, and we will make sure that in the future there is a session for the public on it. That's definitely a good point because it's an important part of our structure now. I agree with you. Thank you.

BECKY BURR: Mr. Palage.

MICHAEL PALAGE:	Thank you, Ms. Burr.
	Mike Palage, Pharos Global.
	My question is to the board. On September 17th, 2016, you passed a board resolution which directed the president and CEO to undertake an independent review of the process by which staff interacted with the CPE providers.
	Can you provide any update on the status of that independent review?
BECKY BURR:	Chris?
CHRIS DISSPAIN:	Thank you. Hi, Mike.
	Yes. It's ongoing. They are -- the independent people are -- have been in the -- have visited the offices and are working through what needs to be worked through. I can't give you a time because I don't know, but I'm told it's not that long before it's going to be -- it's going to come back to us, having been completed.
	So it is underway.

MICHAEL PALAGE: What is the exact -- could you provide what the scope of the review was and who oversaw that?

CHRIS DISSPAIN: It would probably be best if that was done by -- by Goran or John. Whoever. Goran, probably.

GORAN MARBY: J.J.?

CHRIS DISSPAIN: Okay. Apparently J.J., so thanks.

JOHN JEFFREY: This is John Jeffrey. I'm way back at the secretary's table behind the camera man.

The scope of the review is consistent with the board's suggestion in the resolution that it be a review of the community priority evaluations, and so they're looking at both staff involvement that came from the IRP question and looking -- because there were other complaints from reconsideration requests, we're looking more deeply at all of the community evaluations.

So we instructed the firm that is conducting the investigation to look thoroughly at the involvement of staff with the outside evaluators and outside evaluators' approach to it, and they're digging in very deeply and, as you can imagine, trying to understand the complex process of the new gTLD program and the community priority evaluation process.

MICHAEL PALAGE: So thank you. So just to clarify, it is broader than the resolution because the original resolution was just interaction between staff and CPE providers? You're suggesting that there's a broader scope?

JOHN JEFFREY: Yes. I think that when the Board Governance Committee and the board's discussions on it occurred, the request was that there be a full look at the community priority evaluation, as opposed to just a very limited approach of how staff was involved.

MICHAEL PALAGE: And since I have 45 seconds left, just a quick follow-up. Perhaps, John, you could answer this as well.

Has this review impacted any of the applicants? Has the ICANN taken any action?

JOHN JEFFREY: We've certainly heard from a number of the applicants that they're unhappy with the delay, and so with some of the reconsideration requests -- and I don't have them at the top of my head, but a few of the reconsideration requests have also been delayed in light of that evaluation.

MICHAEL PALAGE: So with 10 -- 15 seconds left, question to Becky from a governance standpoint.

I guess my concern here is the bylaws provide some specific guidelines on when reconsideration requests, independent reviews, need to be processed, and I guess I just have a governance concern --

[Timer sounds]

-- that a board resolution on an independent evaluation would somehow stay or impact other time lines set forth in the bylaws, so --

CHRIS DISSPAIN: Mike --

MICHAEL PALAGE: -- just a point.

CHRIS DISSPAIN: Mike, just stay there. It's Chris.

Yes, I understand. I was actually -- I have -- we have actually drafted a blog about this but it -- I think it's all got caught up in the rush of an ICANN meeting but I had hoped to get it out before we started.

There are a number of reconsideration requests, et cetera, that have been delayed and are, in essence, outside of our time frame, but I think our time frame is described as, you know, where -- "unless necessary," and I think the board's strong view is that any of the reconsideration requests or IRP results that could -- that could -- where there might be an impact from the results of the independent review should await the results of that before making a decision.

So we've taken that view. I accept that it's inconvenient, but I think it's the right way forward.

MICHAEL PALAGE: Thank you. The only thing I would have to say is: If you could just communicate, that would help.

CHRIS DISSPAIN: I agree. And hopefully we'll get the blog out shortly.

BECKY BURR: Next?

RICHARD HILL: Richard Hill speaking for myself.

It's been some years since I attended an ICANN meeting, and I have to say I find the organization has significantly matured and stabilized, from what I've seen, and it's a comment, really, not a question.

I think the new independent review panel is going to be an important component to help the organization to further progress, and I'm very pleased with the criteria that have been developed for choosing the arbitrators, which includes, of course, legal expertise but also knowledge of ICANN and independence of ICANN and its supporting organization and advisory committees. So I really commend the organization for that step. Thank you.

BECKY BURR: Does anybody have a comment? I think we agree with you and we always like positive feedback.

And actually in this case, the feedback, the initial positive feedback, goes to the community who established the criteria.

SAURABH DUBEY: Hello. Saurabh, first-time ICANN fellow from India. I have two questions.

My first question is how ICANN manages to receive complaints from stakeholders and how is the most kind of complaints board -- complaints raised to the board?

BECKY BURR: I think I will turn this to Goran.

GORAN MARBY: Thank you.

Now we don't handle complaints very well. They seem to, unfortunately, disappear. There are complaints.

What we do now is to try -- we -- through the new function we have with a complaints officer, when she takes office, she's going to make sure that they're publicized and they're commented and proposed for eventual change.

In my job as the CEO responsible for the ICANN org, it is important for me there are things that will be -- I have to take up

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the role because they could be systematic approaches, so we're building that process to be able to do that. It's going to be completely open and completely transparent, so that's an answer to your question. Thank you for it.

SAURABH DUBEY: One more question. How did the public interest factor into the decision?

BECKY BURR: I'm sorry. How did the public interest factor into the decision? Is this with respect to the complaints officer?

SAURABH DUBEY: Yeah.

BECKY BURR: This is Goran's organization. So I'm going to turn to him to ask him for that. But we always -- public interest always factors in.

GORAN MARBY: It is an important part. But, to be honest, it's going to be related to what kind of question or complaint we get in. We have underlying principles how we do things. We started to get the first -- thank you very much -- complaints coming in. And most

of them are probably related to things that we probably need to address or questions that are unanswered. So maybe we can -- you can challenge me in a year or so and say if you think we've fulfilled that obligation. Thank you.

SAURABH DUBEY: Thank you so much.

BECKY BURR: Cherine.

CHERINE CHALABY: I'd like to also respond quickly to best to get complaints to the Board.

The community is not shy about doing this. And we individually get complaints all the time when we walk in the corridor on any meeting. So, please, never be shy.

But I think the best way to get a formal response is to write to the chairman of the board either an email or drop a note. This will, then, get formally logged. And you'll get a formal response to that. Thank you.

BECKY BURR:	Before we take the next question, I just want to -- we've been -- we've gotten a reminder from one of our very thoughtful participants. And this is a reminder to the Board and to participants. The first time you use an acronym and maybe even the second, let's say the whole name. We have a lot of new people here, and we have an awful lot of acronyms.
	So you, please, go ahead.
CLAIRE CRAIG:	Thank you. Good afternoon. My name is Claire Craig. I'm from Trinidad and Tobago, and this is my first ICANN meeting as well as I'm a fellow, and I appreciate being here. I'm also an ICT researcher looking at Internet exchange points in the Caribbean.
	At our first meeting we were asked what were our expectations of this meeting. I felt at the time, while it was critical and important to network, that it was also important for me to understand enough about ICANN so that I could go back home and use the information effectively to contribute to the development of the Caribbean region.
	As you know, the Caribbean is part of the Latin America and the Caribbean. However, I have found, based on my research and also some of the meetings that I have been to here, that

sometimes the LAC landscape is seen as -- there's a small "c." So, as one person actually put it, the "c" is silent.

So I know that there are several persons from the Caribbean who have been members and volunteers and have contributed to ICANN over the years.

However, for me to effectively go back home and say that, yes, I have learned a lot from this meeting and I have achieved my goal, the question I have for the Board is: How can I, and my other fellows at ICANN 58 who are Caribbean members, what can we take back home and with us that would help us to not only raise the profile of the Caribbean at these meetings but also to help our region to be regarded as a capital "C" within the LAC landscape so that we are not only seen as SIDS but as viable markets with opportunities, resources that can be developed.

BECKY BURR: Thank you very much. Do we have any -- Asha.

ASHA HEMRAJANI: Thank you very much for that question. To me the "C" is never silent. The Caribbean is the most beautiful place in the world, and I have a big family living in the Caribbean Islands. So in many different islands that constitute the Caribbean.

But your question, I think, is not only about the Caribbean but, really, it applies to multiple regions who are not as present in ICANN.

And I think your question is about how do we contribute and how do we go back -- how do you go back home and say that you have contributed in different areas? Is that a fair summary?

CLAIRE CRAIG: And how do we continue to contribute so that we become a force within -- because we do have resources. And we are quite knowledgeable, and we are quite innovative.

ASHA HEMRAJANI: Yes, you are. And I think, to answer those questions, I think it has to be continued participation, not only at ICANN meetings but between ICANN meetings. A lot of our work is done between ICANN meetings in a lot of conference calls. Some of them, unfortunately, at very odd hours of the day, depending on where you live.

But that's where -- and I think Herb alluded to that earlier on. That's where the strength of ICANN lies in the hard work and the awesome attitude of its multiple volunteers.

So this is where I think it's very important to have more people from the Caribbean contributing to all the different parts of the different activities that ICANN is involved in.

And not only coming -- so not only coming to ICANN meetings, but being involved in that. And then as well as participating in ICANN meetings to share in what has been completed and achieved

So I encourage you to continue what you're doing. Thank you.

BECKY BURR: Thanks. Lito?

LITO IBARRA: Yes. I would like to answer in Spanish. So you may use your --

Lito Ibarra speaking. Thank you very much for the question. I come from El Salvador, a Central American country, very related to the Caribbean region.

We share the same needs and aspirations. My recommendation would be to come closer to the regional organizations such as LAC TLD for the domain names, the ccTLD TLD managers, or LACNIC, which is the IP managers.

And there are some other organizations in the regions that might be useful for you to reinforce and to work together towards a

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better development of skills and competencies in the region. So welcome. Thank you.

BECKY BURR: Great interest in this topic. Maarten, I think, has a quick comment and then Chris.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Very quickly, one of the things ICANN does to make it easier for newcomers to participate is also to accommodate new leaders. As I'm new on the Board, I was in the new leader training last week. And, actually, there was a Caribbean gentleman, Javier Rua. And I'm sure we're going to hear more of him. It's just an example. The ways are open to participate. And it's really to encourage the people around you to also step up for that.

CHRIS DISSPAIN: Thank you.

Hi, Claire. Right here. Welcome. Speaking from a ccTLD perspective and generally just to acknowledge what you said, I think this is a level below what you said or above what you said, which are the language challenges. And the Caribbean is particularly challenged in that area because there are islands that speak English, French, Spanish, and probably Dutch as well.

Maybe others. So I think that's quite challenging. Because you find yourself in the Latin America Caribbean region. And it's hard sometimes to work out how to get your voice heard and so on.

The only point -- having said that, I wanted to briefly raise the point. There is work going on right now at the CC world and generally in ICANN about how to help with those things. There's talk of the possibility of being able to sort of move region in certain circumstances, not, obviously, physically. That would be quite a challenge, not even ICANN could pull that off. But virtually. So, from that point of view, I just wanted to flag that and say that, if you wanted to get involved in helping with that, that will be fantastic. And I can see you afterwards and give you some details on who you should talk to.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Just a few minutes, can I just respond?

BECKY BURR: Briefly, please.

CLAIRE CRAIG: So I agree very much with what you're saying. And it's not that I'm saying the Caribbean has not participated. We have. It's just

that the awareness sometimes we still feel that there's a small "c." Just as a matter of comment, I also wanted to thank the CTU. Because I went to a session yesterday. And we were invited to come and look at your Network Operating Center, the NOC. And I was really amazed at the amount of work that goes on by that team to bring this meeting together and the kind of facilities that are available.

So kudos to your team, to Josh and his team, for the work that he has done. And I think that it is an opportunity that other people should take to go have a look at the NOC to see what it does to bring this meeting together.

[Applause.]

BECKY BURR: Thank you. As I said, we always like to recognize the great contributions. We're going to go to you. And then after that we'll take one of the remote participation questions. So please go ahead.

SALVADOR CAMACHO: Hello, my name is Salvador Camacho. I'm from Mexico. First time fellow and newcomer. I'm speaking in my personal capacity.

Okay. ICANN has been known since its creation as a revolutionary pioneer and a concerned, evolving organization in several topics such as inclusion of new gTLDs and IDNs. They are changing the way that we really do understand the Internet.

Last year the DynoTech raised the forgotten topic that has been brought by several people around the globe for around five years. I'm referring to the years of blockchain to create an alternative and more secure, allegedly, DNS, mainly like projects like Namecoin and BlockStack that are raising this issue and these topics. So my question is: Is ICANN on this constant evolution starting the possibility or the probability to adapt blockchain, that is also changing the way we understand the Internet? Is ICANN starting the possibility to use blockchain for an alternative DNS or the evolution of the DNS? Thank you very much.

BECKY BURR: So we have both Steve and Kaveh are going to respond. Thank you very much.

STEVE CROCKER: Thank you very much. We do watch for emerging technologies. We have a Technical Expert Group that met yesterday and had presentations on Namecoin which is built on blockchain.

So there's really two things that I want to say on top of that. One is the technology that is implemented in the Internet is generally created and standardized and tested through the IETF. We are not generally in the position of making leading-edge decisions about technology but more about administering and following in a way

The other is that -- and I have a long -- most of my career is in leading-edge research. There is a very, very long distance from a neat idea versus what it takes to put it into use. And I would not be too worried about how long it's taking. Just as a personal thing. 1971, I went to work at the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency. The first note on the ARPANET had been installed two years earlier in 1969. The director of the agency had a pattern of inviting new program managers to have a talk shortly after they're on board.

So I got a call. And on my way up to the office I'm in my 20s I'm thinking how am I going to keep this guy entertained for 20 minutes? And so I said, "Sir, ARPANET has been running for two years. How come it hasn't totally transformed the defense communication system?"

He took it very well. He leaned over his desk and looked at me. And he said, "I think you should look at the U.S. government as like a computer that has a cycle time of one year, and it's only

had two computing cycles to think about this." So these things take time. Thank you.

BECKY BURR: Kaveh.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much. I think you, basically, covered everything I wanted to say except for the part when you were 20 years old.

BECKY BURR: Kaveh.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much. Steve basically covered everything I wanted to say, except the part about when you were 20 years old.

[Laughter]

SALVADOR CAMACHO: Thank you.

BECKY BURR: Okay, Marilyn. If you would just wait one second. We were going to go to the online question. Brad.

REMOTE INTERVENTION: We have a question from Nick O'Donnell. A long comment and then a question. He's a developer with IWantMyName.

Mr. O'Donnell says: I would like to speak first on behalf of my team and then for my own person. To acknowledge the obvious, we live in a time of increased threat from botnet, DDOS and cybercrime attacks,hurtful hate speech, fake news, not talking here about -- talking here about real fake news, not that defined by President Trump, but through to invasive -- but rather to invasive attempts at capturing private information and content filters. But all this reinforces the vital role our community plays through our diversity and willingness to come together and engage in dialogue. We, in effect, provide a compass toward a global voice of reason. With that in mind, we invite all others in this community to contribute to ICANN, but also to the independent Web with direct action in the decisions we make daily within our own channels of influence, be it your position, Twitter accounts, blogs, Snapchats, and medium threats.

A more personal remark I would like to say is that I attended ICANN 50 in London, and though I still feel like a newcomer, there has been a factor of magnitude improvement in how this experience compares with the one in terms of the efforts taken to be more inclusive, welcoming, and approachable for us

coming in. A big part of that, I believe, is the adoption of a more humble and honest, less-strictly-enforced formal tone.

And finally a question, which is, more important, a point of clarification. I've heard about two board members on two separate occasions stating that ICANN has no obligation to end users. So in your mantra about being multistakeholder, bottom-up, I'd just like to ask who those board members might think the bottom-up is if not end users?

BECKY BURR: Do we have somebody interested in speaking on that topic?

George. We think you're the man here.

GEORGE SADOWSKY: Thank you.

BECKY BURR: He's been elected by the Board.

GEORGE SADOWSKY: Thank you.

I'm not aware -- Excuse me. I'm not aware of statements like that being made, although they probably have been. I think it's quite clear that ICANN operates in the global public interest, and

to me that means it operates on the -- for every Internet user on the planet, including people who are going to become Internet users.

This is a bottom-up organization. Users are a fundamental part of how we get ideas and opinions that make our programs better and make us more effective in serving.

Thank you.

BECKY BURR: Thank you.

I am going to hand over the facilitation role to Maarten, and in the meanwhile call on Marilyn to ask her question.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Marilyn, please.

MARILYN CADE: Thank you. My name is Marilyn Cade and I am a small business owner that has been active in ICANN for a very long time.

My comments are going to address ICANN's engagement in external parts of the Internet governance ecosystem and some views I have that I wish to share with the broader community, and then I will close with a question.

This morning there was a Cross-Community Working Group on Internet governance that held a dialogue about some of the activities of that working group that took place last year and looked ahead and tried to highlight some of the rather serious challenges that continue to face ICANN.

At the time of the conclusion of the IANA agreement, there were some comments made in hallways, and perhaps elsewhere, that sort of "we're done now, we're free of government."

We have only begun to work outside of ICANN in the Internet governance ecosystem to make sure that we are satisfying answering questions and clarifying about ICANN's role, and that we are playing a role in helping to build a stronger, more informed multistakeholder ecosystem, so some people will participate in ICANN but some people will also participate in auxiliary activities such as the IGF and the NRIs, the national and regional IGF initiatives. And some of us will participate in all.

We highlighted several very challenging meetings that are going to happen, and I wanted to mention to the community that there will be a posting on the CCWG-IG page, the Wiki which will describe some of those meetings and provide more information.

My question is, is the board also aware of the full range of challenging events and activities that are out there?

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Thank you for this question, Marilyn. I think we have an answer.

Markus.

MARKUS KUMMER: Yes. The answer is yes.

MARILYN CADE: Okay. I'm done now.

MARKUS KUMMER: The board is aware of these. We had a session, we have a Board Working Group on Internet Governance, and we went through the whole list of events with staff and, indeed, it's a remarkable series of events. It's certainly many, many more events and processes have started than when we first had discussions on Internet governance in the ICANN framework.

Staff -- ICANN org engages, but it's also clear that ICANN org cannot be everywhere, and the involvement of the community is obviously greatly appreciated.

The Board also discussed at some length the IGF. We had a retreat in early February, and memories are still fresh. Many board members have participated in Guadalajara. And we all

agreed and reaffirmed the importance ICANN attaches to the IGF as an organization where broad issues related to Internet governance are taken up.

ICANN's support to the IGF is a support to the broader multistakeholder Internet system, and it is important this takes place in a U.N. context. The IGF, as you all know, is called -- is convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and that gives it a great credibility, especially among developing countries.

And we think that the engagement and the support of the IGF, also financial support for an organization which is funded through voluntary contribution, is important and should continue.

And also, ICANN, and through also the regional vice presidents, supports the national and regional IGFs and makes a contribution to the IGF support --

[Timer sounds]

-- association which in turn also supports national/regional IGF initiatives.

So yes, you can see we are aware.

Thank you.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Thank you very much for that. Do I understand there's an online question? Brad?

REMOTE INTERVENTION: Yes. We have a question from Tracy Hackshaw. What are the next concrete steps for various DNS market studies that have now been completed? In many cases it is clear that the various subregions -- eg, the Caribbean, would require a different strategic and/or tactical approach than the region in which they were included. In this case, the LAC region.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Thank you for the question. Is that a question for you, Goran?

GORAN MARBY: I think that the underlying question is is there going to be a new round, is something going to happen? That lies very much in the community and not with us.

We try to provide the facts going forward. So we are in the waiting mode for that.

We have received several questions about this this week, and we're looking forward to how the community is going to work with it.

Thank you.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Chris, please.

CHRIS DISSPAIN: Thank you. I may have misunderstood the question, Tracy. I know you're listening remotely. But if I have understood it correctly, I think we have a Caribbean strategy group. We have an African strategy group and we have various other strategy groups, and I think -- I'm not 100% sure but I think we have a Caribbean strategy group. And assuming I am right, that would be the place to have the discussion. I can see Rodrigo is nodding at me from the audience.

Thank you.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Thank you very much for that. Please, gentleman on the right.

CLEMENT GENTY: Good afternoon. I'm going to ask my question in French.

Hello, everyone. My name is Clement Genty. I am a Ph.D. student and I'm a member of the next gen. I'm here to tell you about my mother.

Domain names today feed people, companies, and even entire countries. We know full well today that individuals and young people in general seek medical information through Google, for instance, and so they Google with different tasks and different things referred to, with (indiscernible) are. So sometimes I have no answer for my mother when she asks me how to identify on Internet what is a new TLD, what a new gTLD is, the ccTLDs, the marketplace.

And so trying to explain this to her makes me think of how we lack communication for end users. Why do we not have this type of communication for end users in the countryside to help them understand what domain names are?

Thank you.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Thank you.

Who would want to respond to this one?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I think it's about ALAC.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: This is the intent, this has to do with an ALAC connection?

ASHA HEMRAJANI: Maarten, Duncan.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Please.

ASHA HEMRAJANI: No; Duncan from staff.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Duncan, can you take this one?

DUNCAN BURNS: Hi, Duncan Burns, communications with ICANN. So we're trying
                         to do a lot to help simplify and explain what we are doing. We
                         have various info graphics, and I can talk to you afterwards, that
                         try and explain the gTLD system, what they are, some examples.
                         We're doing case studies that we can help share as well. And
                         we're trying to populate the site with that. But you have any
                         ideas, do let us know.

CLEMENT GENTY: Okay.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Okay?

CLEMENT GENTY: Thank you.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Mayors see.

GORAN MARBY: Maarten.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Goran, please.

GORAN MARBY: Your question is very good. It think that coming back to the question that was pointed before as well is that not everybody should be, even if I understand your mother's interest, doesn't need to understand how we actually do things, because most Internet users -- it would be very expensive if 3.7 billion people came to all ICANN meetings, even if it feels like that sometimes.

But you're trying to (indiscernible) after the transition we also tried to change our language and how we talked about things because it's become more and more important to tell people what we do in a bit of more simple terms or easier terms so

people understand what we do so they can also understand what we don't do.

And in that, that's a -- that's a travel, that's a journey, not an end point. You cannot say. But we are constantly looking into how to do that. And one of those things I'm really pleased with is that we stopped, you know, acronym soup that we always used to try to explain going down to the weeds. And the story of ICANN and what we do is actually quite fantastic, together with our partners and the numbers community and the protocols community.

I think we have an obligation to do that, because if we don't get people to understand that, we could be challenged for the wrong reasons.

Good luck with your mother and explaining it. My mother is 85 and she never figured out what I do or why.

Thank you.

CHERINE CHALABY: Hello, I'm just going to reply. This is Cherine Chalaby speaking. Thank you for your question. We understand full well the issue for you. It is significant. You got two to three answers. They might not be enough, so we're going to reach out to you at the end of the session in order to write down your address and try and give you fuller answer.

Thank you.

CLEMENT GENTY: Thank you.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: The next speaker, please. Gentleman on the left.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hi, everyone, this is Louie Zhang from CNNIC. We are the second largest registrar in China, but I'm speaking on behalf of the Chinese registrars. And this is my first time to ICANN, so I still need this draft with me. Sorry.

And there's one issue that I would like to bring to the board's attention. The domain name data escrow issue. During my participation in one of the RSC session I learn that ICANN decide to -- decide in the near future to designate one data escrow provider for European registrars with a subsidized from ICANN due to EU general data protection regulation. But in China, we have to bear the cost of domestic data escrow on our own eventually, which will trigger unfair competition among European registrars and Chinese registrars.

So my questions are what ICANN will do if other countries have similar regulations? Will ICANN designate subsidize the data

escrow providers as well? What procedures ICANN will follow to decide the order of data escrow providers' designation?

Thank you.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Thank you very much for this question and thank you very much for speaking up. Welcome. Always good to see newcomers be prepared to take the microphone.

Akram, could you take this one?

I mean the question, not the gentleman.

[Laughter]

AKRAM ATALLAH: So we are considering doing the same thing we do with Iron Mountain, do that in Europe. Right now there are multiple data escrow providers qualified in Europe, but we want to look at basically doing -- subsidizing that cost in Europe as well. We have a lot of learnings to do as we start this program, and once we do this, we will consider next regions after that.

But we need to understand how we reduce the contract we have with Iron Mountain in Europe, and then launch that in Europe, and then we will consider other regions as well.

Thank you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Okay. So do we have any priority for after the Europe, the next step, which will be? Or do we have a timeline of this plan?

AKRAM ATALLAH: We haven't even started doing the program in Europe. We're just basically assessing it. We will do an RFP, and once we do an RFP, we will see who wins and then when they will actually be active. And as we do this, we will take our learnings and apply them to the other regions where the need is also there.

Thank you.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Thank you very much. I have a feeling this is not the last we heard from you.

Thank you very much. The gentleman on the right.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Thank you. My name is Jimson Olufuye. I run Contemporary Consulting, an I.T. firm based in Abuja, Nigeria. We are a member of AflICTA, African ICT Alliance, and a member of the business constituency of ICANN.

I have three quick feedbacks. Two has to do with BC and one with AfICTA. I have actually provided this feedback when we met with the board, where I felt so that the general public may also be fully aware.

Over the past three years, BC has grown its membership from 2% to 10% across Africa and Asia. And we do appreciate ICANN org for the outreach support, funding support that is also coupled with the BC's funding as well the leadership program from developing countries and also support at U.N. program.

So just to say that this should not stop. We need to enhance it. But we could also save funds through maybe ticketing, the Travelocity mechanism. So we could look at that and save through that so we can support all our very valuable projects.

So now for -- to AfICTA. Well, we made a public response during the CCWG, that is cross-community working group, meeting on IG last year that ICANN need to reach out to U.N. where they have needs for transcription and for remote services. And I'm happy to provide this feedback that ICANN did responded, and the working group of the U.N. really appreciated the work. And this is to say we hope that it's not just one-off engagement but to continue in the spirit of enhanced cooperation.

Thank you.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Thank you very much for your feedback. We try to help where we can within reason, of course.

Anyone wants to add something on this? Thank you very much.

Next question, please.

BAKIAU TAKENTEBWEBWE: Thank you. My name is Bakiau from Kiripati. I'm a newcomer, and I'm very honored to be given the opportunity to attend this ICANN meeting through the Fellowship Program.

I am from a small island developing state, and I am very keen and interested to participate and continue to participate in the engaged activity in ICANN either remotely, if and when possible, or in person.

I want to share with you on behalf of my colleagues from the small island developing states and colleagues from the underserved regions, in particular the Pacific, two of the many challenges that we face in terms of participating in ICANN.

The first challenge is you know our part of the world is mainly of a mass of ocean with countries consisting of many islands (indiscernible). And to travel is based on availability of sea or air transportation, which is costly, and for some areas operate once

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a week or even twice a week. So for some of my colleagues to attend international conferences, it translates to being absent from home for more than two weeks from the start of the travel.

Number two is that, you know, our Internet connectivity in terms of availability, accessibility, speed, cost is an obstacle that prevents us from participating remotely.

[Timer sounds.]

We have many more challenges, but I think these two are important to share for now so you are aware and able to make the necessary provisions in your plans to ensure we continue to participate and engage activity -- in the work of ICANN. Thank you.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Thank you very much. And very welcome here. Glad to see you made it. And, yes, we try to facilitate this as much as we can and within reason.

Is there any addition to this? Lousewies.

LOUSEWIES VAN DER LAAN: Yeah. I'd like to make a general comment about increasing the diversity of the ICANN community. And I think it's relevant also to the comment that Jimson made and Grace before. So within

the Work Stream 2, there is a working group on diversity which is being led very competently by Fiona and by Rafik. And we are looking at many, many aspects of diversity. There is linguistic diversity, geographic diversity, gender diversity, background diversity. And it is the stated ambition of the ICANN community to be as diverse as possible. And I would encourage everyone to get involved in this working group because we need to hear from as diverse a group of people about the challenges to participating in order to be able to overcome those challenges.

And so I think if people like you, people from -- who come from geographies which are difficult to reach, who come from -- who have language challenges, if we can hear from you about how to better increase the diversity, that would be an incredible asset. So you would be very welcome. And, of course, Internet connection is required because most of it is done by email. That's where most of the hard work in ICANN is actually being done. Luckily, you don't need a high-speed connection for that. But that would be great to hear many, many voices there. And the concrete proposals that will come out of that will become part of the way that the community can become more diverse and stay diverse because, of course, we are already very diverse. Thank you very much for your contribution.

BAKIAU TAKENTEBWEBWE: Thank you.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Thank you very much.

[Applause]

We have one question from Brad.

REMOTE INTERVENTION: We have a question from Volker Greimann. Many members of the communities, myself included, have long requested that ICANN engage with data protection officials. I, therefore, applaud the panel that was held this week with data protection officials and experts on this subject. It really highlighted some of the issues of the current ICANN policies with current and incoming data protection regulations and laws.

My three questions, therefore, are, one: Will this kind of engagement be continued and supported by ICANN?

Two, will ICANN consider establishing an office dedicated to the protection of private data and review of existing ICANN policies?

And, finally, three, what kind of planning has ICANN undertaken so far with respect to upcoming European general data protection regulation?

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Thank you very much for this very relevant question.

I will give it to Becky.

BECKY BURR: So I think that all of us were very pleased and it was great to have the expertise of the European Data Protection supervisor, the Dutch Data Protection Authority, and the U.N. special rapporteur. All of them have expressed willingness and interest to engage with the community going forward on this important issue. And I think that we will be planning that. I will -- I'll ask Goran if he has any additional suggestions on -- any additional comments on the internal preparation, but I do -- it is my understanding that ICANN is, in fact, doing what all of us are doing, which is going through the compliance checklist to make sure they're ready on -- the organization is ready and in compliance on May 25th -- 28th of 2018.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Yes.

Thank you very much. Before we are heading for a break of 15 minutes, I'm going to toss the microphone to Steve.

Jeff, you are the first one in the next open forum block. Please remember who was there first.

Steve, up to you.

STEVE CROCKER: Thank you, Maarten.

Okay, folks. We're going to take a break in a couple of minutes. But before we do, we're going to honor someone who is leaving the ICANN family after 14 years. We have a slide. Yes.

Glen de Saint Gery -- how bad is that?

[Laughter]

-- secretariat of the Generic Names Supporting Organization is retiring. To say she will be missed, an extreme understatement. She proudly told me that in her 14 years at ICANN she has survived six CEOs, seven GNSO chairs, and three husbands.

[Laughter]

[Applause]

More interesting question is how many of them have survived her.

[Laughter]

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She is the type of person that we all strive to become. She is the consummate professional, yet defined by her calm, her class, and her compassion. For almost a decade and a half, Glen has inspired us with an attitude that redefines the term "positive."

Now we have a short video tribute.

[Music]

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Gorgeous Glen, today the GNSO Council passed the unanimous resolution to rename the GNSO the Glen Names Supporting Organization.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Glen, thank you for everything.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We'll miss you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: And we love you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: So now I only have one question for you. Now when you are leaving ICANN, which community will you now join? I know there will be a competition for that. So welcome back.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Goran Marby is always complaining that we don't have enough acronyms. Two more are hereby created. All time is divided into two parts: During Glen, D.G., and after Glen, A.G. We'll miss you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Of all the things I have been involved in in ICANN over the past 20 years, one that I'm most proud of is interviewing Glen de Saint Gery for the DNSO secretariat position. She has proven my recommendation right over and over again.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: How can ICANN work without Glen? The answer is unknown. I can't guarantee FOR anything.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: And I can't conceive of an ICANN, let alone a GNSO, without Glen.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Happy retirement!

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UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Reason to celebrate!

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Enjoy your retirement! You deserve it!

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I think her overwhelming skill has been her generosity of spirit.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Most people just call her Glen. She has been with ICANN for many years. And those who have worked with her know her for her dedication, her sense of humor, and her joy.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I want to thank Glen for her years of unflagging support at ICANN and the work that she's done for the GNSO community.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hello. I hope you enjoy retirement. Remember, if you have any question about the Internet, just come and ask me.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We will miss you, Glen!

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Glen, you are one of the classiest people I have ever met. And to say you're going to be missed is an understatement.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you, Glen!

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We will always be connected, and I love you dearly.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hi, Glen. Thank you for your example of excellence and how you work and elegance in who you are.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Because you are really beautiful, so take care, enjoy your life.

Je t'aime. (Speaking French).

Je t'aime. Je t'aime. Je t'aime.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I love you, love you, love you, love you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: You are invaluable and incredibly kind and helpful to all of us.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you for all your support and all your caring.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Your support has meant so much to me coming through the Council as chair. I know it's meant so much to other people. Glen, you will be sorely missed. We all love you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We would like to thank you all the work you have done for the GNSO yourself and being a large part of how successful it's been over all of its years. Lastly, I'd like to thank you for bringing Gisella into the ICANN family.   She is just marvelous and takes after you, of course.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you for all your guidance. I have no idea what I will do without you. But I wish you all the very best, and I finally have a baby-sitter for Evelyn. So wishing you all the very best, and I know that you will be looking forward to lots of golf, lots of baby-sitting. And I somehow think it's going to be difficult for you to leave ICANN. But I will still be seeing you and talking to you on a daily basis. So all the very best. I love you.

[Music]

STEVE CROCKER: Will you come up? Glen, will you come to the stage.

[Applause]

[Standing ovation]

So that was the short version.

[Laughter]

If we give you the whole thing, we'd be here another hour. Here it is.

GLEN de SAINT GERY: Thank you, Steve.

STEVE CROCKER: Thank you.

GLEN de SAINT GERY: Thank you very much.

STEVE CROCKER: Is there anything you want to say?

GLEN de SAINT GERY: I'd just like to say to everyone it's from science fiction to reality. When I started at ICANN, little did I ever know that the whole

world would be connected to the Internet and the Internet would become an integral part of our lives. And I so associate myself with the comment that our participant from France made about his mother.

By the way, nobody really understands what I do outside of my ICANN family. So I feel very close to you. Thank you for this wonderful journey. Thank you for all the learning, experiences that I've had, for all the fun, and for all the joy. And they say actually that ICANN is like a life sentence.

[Laughter]

But I've never felt imprisoned by ICANN at all. And I suppose that it's very difficult to really pull yourself away and to drop everything and to drop your life experience over these years. So I will still take an enormous interest in everything that ICANN does. And all I can say is thank you to you all.

[Applause]

Thank you, Steve.

[Applause]

STEVE CROCKER: Well done.

GLEN de SAINT GERY: Thank you so much.

STEVE CROCKER: We're going to take a 15-minute break. And you're all invited to come back. We're going to start again either with you or without you.

[Laughter]

[Break]

BRAD WHITE:	Ladies and Gentlemen, we're going to begin the second part of public forum number 2. Please welcome board member Mike Silber.
MIKE SILBER:	All right. Welcome back from the break, and welcome to the second half of the public forum. Before we start taking additional questions and comments, we're going to take a quick look ahead to ICANN 59. From June 26-29 we'll be in Johannesburg, South Africa, which some of you may know is my hometown. So it will be a pleasure to have you there. To give you more details, allow me to introduce Vika Mpisane, the Chief Executive Officer of the .ZA, or if you prefer .ZA, domain name authority.
VIKA MPISANE:	Good afternoon. Thank you, Mike Silber and Brad and the board. It's nice for once to be the guy really standing behind the board.

[Laughter]

I want to do just a brief talk. We'll be hosting the next ICANN meeting in Sandton, Johannesburg, as the dates will show, from the 26th of June. We really look forward to have you there. Some of you I know -- I bet a lot of people in this community

have been to Johannesburg, so it's not going to be a new experience.

It's the city of gold. The people there -- the province is called Gauteng, which is a place of gold. Not so much that I've seen the gold myself, but they keep on digging there.

It is a place also that where we have the high-speed train called the Gautrain, which is a gold train, which in itself looks gold. It's not made up of gold, though.

And the place that will be in Sandton, which is the fastest growing hub in Johannesburg you will see when you get the mall and that's Mandela Square and the hotels in the surrounding. And then, of course, the people. The people of South Africa with all their nice things to do and the challenges and so forth, they are waiting for you. We are looking forward to really have you there, guys. It's always an honor when you came. It was an honor in Durban in 2013, and I sure hope that this time around again it's going to be an honor. There's a video that we prepared here from the city of Johannesburg that will be played, and I invite you to take a look.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Welcome to the city of Johannesburg, or Jozi, as the capital of South Africa's Gauteng province is fondly called. Leaders of

global industry, architects of enterprise, and people who make opportunity spotting a hobby are drawn by some verdant force to this bustling metropolis of urban energy.

Arriving at Johannesburg's O.R. Tambo, one is greeted by a world class international airport designed to handle 22 million passengers each year. O.R. Tambo is both a passenger and freight hub and is situated in the middle of a substantial commercial and industrial node with easy access to the main arterials and secondary highways of the city. For travelers wanting fast, convenient, and reliable transport from O.R. Tambo, the Gautrain, Johannesburg's famous fast train, provides a speedy link to the business districts in the city.

With a wide range of accommodation available, travelers will have no trouble finding a place that is conveniently located and suits everyone's needs.

In addition to the Gautrain, car hire, shuttle services, private taxis, and an integrated bus system provide a transport network that will get you around the city quickly and on time.

Johannesburg has become a destination of choice for conferences, trade shows, expos and summits. The city's four major conference venues are all capable of handling up to 5,000 conference delegates with state-of-the-art facilities tailored to suit specific needs. Ideal for exhibitors and visitors,

Johannesburg's trade shows are regular features on international conference directories, attracting hundreds of African and international buyers and media.

Johannesburg is also Africa's largest inland port and the clearing and forwarding hub of goods to and from the rest of Africa and the world.

Sports and leisure come naturally to a city that boasts some of the best weather in the world year-round. Several inspiring stadiums are home to the province's rugby, soccer, and cricket teams, and the impressive calabash-shaped soccer city has hosted many local and international events. Johannesburg is an inspiring city with local flavor and a cosmopolitan appeal. Visit one of the cultural precincts downtown and take in the creative vibe and experience the urban lifestyle.

When the sun goes down and the lights come on, ease into the evening, with a cocktail at one of the city's many funky night spots and an evening of entertainment Jozi style.

With 55 airlines linking Johannesburg with the rest of South Africa, Africa, and the world, our doors are wide open. Just step in.

VIKA MPISANE:	Ladies and gentlemen, that was it. We look forward to have you in Johannesburg in June. Thank you.
	[Applause]
MIKE SILBER:	Thank you, Vika. And I just wanted to let people know that apparently the -- the hosts have arranged that the first 50 people registered for the Johannesburg meeting will receive a wildebeest, or as you would know, a wildebeest. Everybody else after that gets two.
	[Laughter]
	Then the -- the welcome having been done to the next meeting, I'm going to ask Rinalia to take over the chairing of the session.
RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM:	Thank you, Mike. Rinalia Abdul Rahim speaking. Hello, everyone. Welcome back to the public forum. This is the block that will deal with any subjects of community interest, and I've received a request to allow Mr. Neuman to go first, and I was promised sweets to give you this slot. So please, go ahead.
JEFF NEUMAN:	Thank you. My name is Jeff Neuman, and I'm here on behalf of the working group, the policy development process working

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group on subsequent procedures. It's a long title, but it's basically for discussing issues related to the implementation of the next application window for new gTLDs.

In line with other comments that were said before, our work does, in fact, continue in between ICANN meetings, and in that vein I want to talk about a program on April 25 on the handling of geographic names at the top level to prepare for the face-to-face sessions on the same topic at ICANN 59.

An announcement will follow shortly with this information, but as a preview I just want to call out the following dates. We're asking that by April 7 we are hoping to get expressions of intent on submitting contributions and participating in the April 25 webinar. By April 18 we're asking for the contributions to be submitted in writing so that there's ample time, or at least a week, for those that are participating in the webinar to review the materials. And then on April 25, we'll likely actually have two webinars because as we all know there is no one time to have a webinar where everyone can actually attend.

So I cordially invite everyone, the entire community, to submit contributions and to participate in the webinar. I've been around some sessions where there were groups that weren't sure if they were invited. So specifically, everyone is invited, including the board and the entire community, whether it's a

generic Name Supporting Organization, the Governmental Advisory Committee, the Country Code Name Supporting Organization -- I'm trying not to use acronyms -- and everyone else, the At-Large Advisory Committee to participate. Thank you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you for the invitation. Becky, would you like to comment?

BECKY BURR: Yes, I would actually just like to say it's great to have advance notice and sort of great planning. It really helps get the word out, and I don't think that we've ever had anything quite as -- as deliberately laid out in advance in a meeting like this. So it's actually a great practice, and we should do more of it.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you. Can I have the lady on the right, on my right, please.

FIORELLA BELCIU: Thank you. Fiorella Belciu, first-time fellow speaking in my personal capacity. Originally from Romania but based in Belgium. Most probably the question that I will ask has been tackled before somehow, but I will wear my newcomer's hat and I will go ahead and ask it.

During one of the fellowship sessions that we had, one of the issues that was somehow brought out was the hidden IP addresses, therefore, got me thinking about the dark net or the dark web, as you wish to call it. And I tried to look up in the following days and see if there were some particular recommendations or statements made by ICANN on this matter, but I haven't found anything concrete. So I figured I could bring this up here and ask you if there were any policy recommendations made on the dark net specifically. Thank you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you for the question. Anyone want to respond? Steve. Please.

STEVE CROCKER: Thank you. And thank you for both your participation and your willingness to overcome any hesitation to jumping right in.

The -- it's not uncommon in this forum to think that all of the different topics related to the network have a place here, and indeed we do worry a lot about security, but we're not the primary or sole place for all things related to Internet security. There are other forums where issues of the dark net and what goes on there, how to combat that, et cetera, et cetera, take

place. Very little of it has direct impact on the identifier system, per se. I mean, there's some use of unused addresses and so forth. But those are primarily discussed in other forums. So that's why you don't see a lot of attention to that here. Not that it's an unimportant topic.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you very much.

FIORELLA BELCIU: Thank you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: So I see you back up to the microphone. Please go ahead.

SHIVA UPADHYAY: Hello, my name is Shiva Upadhyay, and first time I'm attending an ICANN meeting as an ICANN fellow. So my suggestion, firstly, I would like to appreciate ICANN supporting the outreach programs in different regions. And my suggestion is for ICANN and GAC -- as per my understanding and what I have learned during my job, is a simple thing where -- I know ICANN is having a limitation like they can't -- they can't -- they are not having any role in governments and in the -- in the nations, how they will design their education programs. But my suggestion is that

ICANN and GAC can mutually discuss and develop some kind of course for the -- for the students from the school level, at least one chapter, because ICANN is a very broad -- broad ICANN and IGF are very big. So I think one chapter will not be able to serve the actual, but at least students will be having an idea what is ICANN, IGF, and the different RIRs, what they do exactly, so that they can in future can use these platform and -- for as a career opportunity and also for awareness.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you for the suggestion. Does anybody want to comment? No. Thank you very much.

Next in line, please.

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much. My name is Sebastien Bachollet. I'm going to speak in French.

At-large members, I would like to go back to the first question that was asked earlier on by our colleague, Saurabh Dubey, from India. He asked a question regarding the complaints, the issues that the community might have.

I don't think we had a full answer on these complaints and issues. We heard our CEO about the new complaints service that

was developed recently. We have an ombudsman. We've had an ombudsman for many years, and this is a good place. When we have complaints and issues, this is a good place to go. And I'd like to say that as a rapporteur on the work that is being done by the ombudsman's services, looking at reinforcing the accountability of ICANN, and I think it's an important topic where do we go when we have a complaint, when we have an issue.

Today, we need to know about all the solutions, all the places to go, and what type of complaints, where do they go, how does it work, how are they taken into account.

Thank you very much.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you, Sebastien. Cherine?

CHERINE CHALABY: Sebastien, thank you for telling us about the ombudsman. This -- you are absolutely right. We assume that the community is aware of all the opportunities to talk about issues and complaints, but we have to be very clear about the role of the ombudsman at ICANN who is absolutely available for everybody. You're absolutely right. Thank you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: And since it's a topic that keeps recurring, I'm going to ask John Jeffrey, general counsel, to also comment.

Please go ahead.

JOHN JEFFREY: And if I understood the question, it was about what is going to be the process with the new complaints officer. Is that correct, Sebastien?

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: I wanted to add that there are two types of offices today, the newly creation of the complaints office that you are responsible for. Not directly but indirectly. And the CEO. But we didn't talk about the ombuds office. I wanted to be sure that the community is aware of all.

But if I have a question to you, what will be -- I am sure that a lot of people in this room would like to know what will be the exact role of the new office of complaints that you are building right now with the newly appointed person?

Thank you, John.

JOHN JEFFREY: Thank you. Very happy to answer. And it is an important difference.

So the ombudsman role is traditional. It's bylaws-mandated. It will remain. And that role is a role that reports to the board. It's an independent office outside of staff that files reports and recommendations to the board which they can act on.

The complaints officer is intended to help improve the organization, and as it was envisioned by Goran from his experience in other organizations, it will be formed to take specific complaints about processes and operations inside of the ICANN organization and to have those complaints come to Goran and the executive team and possibly the board, in some instances, to help change things within the organization that can help us improve it and provide better services to the community and to the whole purpose.

Does that help?

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Yes. Thank you very much, John. I think it's very important what you say. It will help the community to figure out where to go when they have any complaints.

JOHN JEFFREY: And just one part of it which I think you said is how do we file with complaints with it. That's yet to be determined. Krista is just now -- who is sitting down here in the front is just now taking that role, and she'll be developing processes, putting up a Web page, creating a mechanism to file those complaints, which will be transparently posted and dealt with wherever possible on the Web pages and very open to the community.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you. And if the information that's provided is still not clear when it's up on the Web site, please come back to us and we will get the organization to make it even more abundantly clear.

Thank you, John.

JOHN JEFFREY: Yes.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: May I have the young lady on the left, please.

AFFIFA ABBAS: Hello. I am Affifa Abbas from Dhaka, Bangladesh, a first-time fellow and a newcomer and this is my first time ICANN meeting ever. Currently, I'm working as a security analyst in a telecom

operator in Dhaka, Bangladesh. So my questions are very simple. I'm not going to ask any complicated questions. So out of curiosity, I just want to ask three questions as a newcomer.

So as a newcomer, I've been following many sessions during this week and I found myself interested in RSSAC and SSAC, as a security analyst, so my first question would be why SSAC meetings are closed.

My second question is, in my local community, there are brilliant people working on security sector that might prove themself as a good resource to contribute in SSAC community, so I just wanted to know, is there any entry point for them to enter and to work with the SSAC?

And my third question is: In Bangladesh people hardly know about ICANN and this is really also disappointing that I hardly see anyone from my Bangladesh government to proactively come and participate in GAC, so does ICANN have any plan to conduct any outreach session in Dhaka, Bangladesh, so that they can step in and participate, as I know that there are a few talented peoples who are out there who can live into the expectations of ICANN.

Thank you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you, Ms. Abbas, for the questions.

For the first two questions, I will throw it to our SSAC liaison, Ram Mohan. Please.

RAM MOHAN: Thank you very much, and I'm so pleased that from Bangladesh we have you coming and that you're also so interested and focused on security. That's actually a really wonderful thing. I want to, you know, underline that-that. That's really excellent.

Two questions.

The first is why are SSAC meetings closed.

There are actually a couple of different things that the Security and Stability Advisory Committee does.   There are open meetings that the SSAC does. In fact, I believe it was sometime yesterday, and that's a public meeting with invited comments from the community, et cetera.

The SSAC itself, from its origin, is a small group of international experts in security matters, and one of the issues when you're working with security issues is that sometimes people who bring security matters to your attention are concerned about what will happen to the information that they provide because it may be that there is a vulnerability they're speaking about or it may be

that there is a particular issue that if the release of that information or the analysis of that information is not done in a deliberate and controlled manner, the harm from that might far exceed the actual problem itself.

So for the most part, that is the primary reason why the SSAC, in its deliberations, they -- it tends to be private.

Having said that, all of the reports, all of the current work that the SSAC is doing, the SSAC publishes that. The SSAC says, "Here are the areas of focus. Here is what we're working on," invites the community to suggest new topics for it to focus on as well.

So the work plan is public. The actual deliberations are private by design for that reason.

The other question on participation, it's really wonderful that you want to promote that. The -- if you'd please go to the ssac.icann.org page, you will find that there is -- there is the -- a way to contact the committee, and all that has to be done is to send an email to the director of support there, Julie Hedlund, and she will be able to provide information on how to apply.

It's an open rolling process for applications into the SSAC, and there is a group that evaluates people who come in and apply. It's -- it would be really wonderful to have more people come in

and I'm always available if you'd like to speak as well further about it. Thank you so much.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: So there are other responses to your questions. I'm going to ask our RSSAC liaison to also comment.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Hello. Thank you for the question. Just wanted to clarify, RSSAC is a bit different from SSAC in that regard and all of the actual technical work of RSSAC is done in RSSAC caucus which is basically an open membership. Everything is open, accessible. If you wanted to be part of the work, you can actually apply to become an RSSAC caucus member. The only -- the RSSAC meetings, which is only the RSSAC members but not open to the public, that's only administrative work, so we don't do any work related to the RSSAC publications or documents and we keep those closed mainly for efficiency reasons but we never do actual technical work in those deliberations.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you. That was my colleague, Kaveh Ranjbar, since the name listed was Cherine Chalaby, for the record.

The answer regarding the outreach question, first my colleague, Akinori from Japan.

AKINORI MAEMURA: Thank you. Thank you very much. Akinori Maemura for the record.

Thank you very much for your comment and I'm really happy to help you here and then thank you for your courage to come up to the microphone.

And then security and -- you know, network engineering and security thing is not only done by ICANN but we have a lot of colleagues, fellow organizations, who collectively, you know, run the Internet.

For example, I know that Bangladesh has a really active node, network operators group, BD node, and they're so keen to do and maybe help you, so please try to contact him -- contact them for your -- then you will have very good resource of the information.

And another point is the APNIC, one of the Internet -- regional Internet registries, has a very big -- good activity for the security and some other network operational things, and that's another source you can rely on. Thank you very much.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Okay. Thank you, Akinori.

And finally, a response from ICANN organization.

Sally?

SALLY COSTERTON: Thank you, Rinalia. Sally Costerton, head of stakeholder engagement. Thank you for your question. It's a very good one. I'm happy to tell you that by happy coincidence -- I like to say I planned it but by happy coincidence the head of our India engagement team is a Bangladeshi national and Bangla is his first language, so he's particularly keen to help you and others in your country, in Bangladesh.

And in our technical community, as Akinori is saying, we have a real role for Samiran. Samiran is here. He's the guy in question. And I know he's already active, but he is very committed to working with you and others to make sure that we -- we help join the dots for you, bringing your GAC rep, your other I.T. ecosystem system partners together, to deepen and strengthen Bangladesh's contribution at ICANN.

So if that -- please keep talking to us about that. It's important that we do it. Thank you.

AFFIFA ABBAS: Thank you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you, Sally, and thank you for the question.

Please go ahead.

STEVE DelBIANCO: Thank you. Steve DelBianco of Netchoice. I wanted to remind you all that it was three years ago this week that the U.S. government announced that it intended to transition the IANA contract to the global multistakeholder community, and for me and many in this room and many of you on that table, those three years were consumed by that transition. Many of us spent time on Capitol Hill describing and then defending the transition against its critics in Washington. Some of those critics and attackers overstated ICANN's role in free expression, and many intentionally tried to mischaracterize ICANN and the people in this room as if we were the United Nations.

Imagine that.

And last September, we finished the transition, just barely, and just a few weeks before that election surprise that all of us watched from Hyderabad, if you'll recall.

So I think it is worth noting and recognizing how much was at stake -- more than we even thought -- and then how much we actually accomplished.

And if you'll allow me to just add a personal note, I am deeply and forever grateful to the expressions of concern that this ICANN family has shown to me in the past year since my personal loss. What I had never fully appreciated until that experience is the degree to which this passionate community can be incredibly compassionate, and I thank you all from the bottom of my broken heart. Thank you.

[Applause]

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you, Steve.

We have an online question, Brad?

BRAD WHITE: Yes, Rinalia. Thank you. Before I read the question, I want to make one quick announcement for the people who submitted online queries. We're getting a lot coming in. We're not going to be able to handle all of them in the course of this session. They will be addressed. We will not let them go into a black hole. They may not be taken up during this particular session.

And also, to the people in the room who are submitting online questions or questions at the engagement@icann.org, we're not taking those. Because that would be unfair to the people in the queue. We will answer them, but not during the session.

Now, to the question. It's a long comment by followed by a couple questions.

From Manuel Haces from .MX.

"On behalf of Mexico the entity that manages the ccTLD .MX, I'd like to make a firm and respectful statement that we are not pleased with Board Resolution 2016.11.08.15 that allows the opening of two-character country code as a second-level domain under new gTLDs.

"We expressed several concerns during the proper public comment periods which we feel were not taken into consideration. I would like to point out several.

"One: The resolution increases complexity on registration as national identification shall be done within the ccTLD and not below an N gTLD, creating registries under a registry. The proper identification of national space for DNS corresponds to ccTLD space. On that behalf, we firmly opposed opening national spaces below N gTLDs.

"Two: The measures to avoid confusion don't offer any deterrent to precisely avoid confusion. They are not measures to avoid confusion. They're solely priority sunrise offerings to the ccTLD or to the government that will imply that both parties protecting the two character potentially on every N gTLD.

Money wise, this is unsustainable. If the national policy is to use the ccTLD for national identification, it is not fair to neither the ccTLD CCLTD, neither the government to be preoccupied with protecting national space or at second level below the N gTLDs.

"Three: On our comments we specifically had concerns to assure that the N gTLDs registry operator communities with both parties, government and ccTLD --

[TIMER SOUNDS]

-- and that it will be needed actual written approval from both parties." I'm going to skip ahead of the -- because the dinger has gone, I'm going to skip ahead the other points and go directly to the questions.

"So my questions are: What are the future of this resolution? Are there any possibilities of rolling back the decision? In case not, how is the Board going to make sure our concerns are properly taken into consideration and that no further opening of

the ccTLD below the N gTLD can proceed further, if the concerns are not dutifully resolved?"

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you for the question.

Any responses? Steve?

STEVE CROCKER: Thank you for your question. This, obviously, is a contentious area. We've had multiple inputs on it. A lot of interaction with the GAC. It continues to be under discussion, and we'll take a great deal more discussion. I don't want to say what the outcome will be or who is going to end up being happy or unhappy about this. But we recognize that it's a sensitive and contentious area.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: And, of course, we'll be responding to the GAC communique as well.

And Thomas Schneider wants to respond. Go ahead.

THOMAS SCHNEIDER: Thank you, Rinalia. Just to say that, as has been referred to, we've had repeated intense discussions in the GAC about this

issue. And it's obvious that this is an issue of great concern to a large -- very large number of countries. And, as we've stated in the communique, we do hope that we can get together the concerned governments with the registries and try and find a solution that is acceptable for everybody. Thank you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you, Thomas.

The gentleman on my right. That's you, Phil. No, it's you, Phil.

PHILIP CORWIN: Okay. Thanks. Philip Corwin. I wear many hats in this organization. Speaking in an individual capacity right now.

I note that the subject I'm about to address was the -- quite a bit of evidence or concern in two separate GNSO meetings I was in this morning. A clearly defined relationship between the Board and the GAC and the post-transition ICANN was a critical factor defining that for business sector support for the transition. Now, I was not at the Board/GAC discussion the other day, because I was locked in a different room. But I have read one press report. And I have read the GAC communique this morning.

On the subject that was just addressed, two-character domains, their release, the GAC advice was for the board to engage in

separate discussions, either on a bilateral basis or collectively with a small group of governments from within the GAC, on this subject.

And I would hope that the Board would not act on that advice, would not take that process advice.

This is the reason: The Board should certainly engage with the GAC as a whole when the GAC has strong collective feelings or even full consensus on the underlying subject matter. But for the GAC to advise the Board to engage in separate discussions with individual governments makes no more sense than the Board advising the GAC that it should engage with separate discussions with individual board members.

These are two collective bodies. There's one GAC, not 190 GACs. And that's what the relationship should be, in my opinion. And I hope the Board will consider the precedential effect of taking that GAC advice and how that might play out in the future if you act in the manner they requested. Thank you very much.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you, Phil. I believe we're clear on what is consensus advice and what is not. Mr. Thomas Schneider.

THOMAS SCHNEIDER: Thank you. Hello, Phil.

PHIL CORWIN: Hi Thomas.

THOMAS SCHNEIDER: Just to make this very clear, this advice is consensus advice that the whole GAC has agreed upon. And maybe it's useful to hear that the Board said that it had accepted previous advice. There's a feeling with very many -- with a large majority of those who responded of countries that they feel that the Board has said it had accepted, but actually in substance, it has not. If the Board had publicly said it had not accepted the advice, what would happen in such a case, that the Board would need to talk to the GAC -- and that does not just include the GAC chair, but it includes other members of the GAC as well -- to try to find the so-called mutually acceptable solution. And I don't think it's any -- there's anything intransparent or bypassing or bad about the Board engaging with the GAC or parts of the GAC in a responsive way, a responsible way, an accountable way, to try and find a mutually acceptable solution for everybody. So this is just my remark on this one. Thank you.

PHILIP CORWIN: I appreciate that response. But I will tell you that -- again, I have no problem personally with the Board and the GAC engaging with one another collectively.

But the GNSO -- and I'm not projecting what it will say -- will be, as usual, preparing a response to this GAC advice. And there was significant concern about the consensus advice, if that's what it was, to engage in discussions with discrete government representatives. Thank you very much.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you, Phil.

Chris, did you want to respond? Okay. The gentleman on my left.

PIERRE GERMEAU: Thank you very much. My name is Pierre Germeau, and I work for SportAccord, which is the umbrella organization of the International Sports Federation. SportAccord is also the community-based applicant for the .SPORT TLD.

One of the agenda items of the board meeting later this afternoon is the final declaration of an independent review panel.

This IRP panel against ICANN has been initiated by an applicant who had lost a community-based objections proceeding. In fact, the sports community had won all the three objection proceedings regarding .SPORT -- two community objections and one string confusion objection. This applicant belongs to a group made famous for media, and the extension managed by that group have constantly been on the top of the list of the most abused TLDs.

I'm talking here about the list of disparate identities such as SpamHaus or SURBL and even by the ICANN staff at the occasion of the report that's been discussed yesterday in this room.

The ICDR panelist recently issued a resolution in that case that was heavily disappointing to our community, especially because one key piece of evidence has not been submitted to the panel.

And this piece of evidence was a report from the ICANN ombudsman that has been -- that is dated from August 25, 2014. SportAccord wrote to ICANN to raise this concern.

That being said, the ICDR panel issued clear guidance to the ICANN board allowing ICANN to move forward quickly in that case.

The sports community has been waiting for five years. We faced many unexpected challenges in the ICANN process. And I would

like to insist here that this case should be resolved without further delay.

[TIMER SOUNDS]

And to tell you that the sports TLD operated by the sports community must move forward to the delegation process. Thank you very much.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you. And we do sympathize.

Chris?

CHRIS DISSPAIN: Thank you very much. It wouldn't be appropriate to enter into a dialogue about a matter that is subject to our accountability mechanisms. But we've heard you and thank you for coming to the microphone and delivering your message.

PIERRE GERMEAU: Thank you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you. I think there's another online question. Brad?

REMOTE INTERVENTION: We have a query from Desiree Boxberger with gTLD Help, LLC.

"The .REGISTRY LLC versus ICANN IRP declaration was issued July 29, 20160. ICANN has passed five board resolutions without any further action since the IRP declaration. When will the Board address the harms caused to .REGISTRY, LLC, relating to the .INC, .LLC, and .LLP community applications? Why such a long delay, eight months, in addressing this matter? And do you intend to take any further actions in this matter? Thank you."

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you. This one goes to the chair of the Board Governance Committee, Chris Disspain.

CHRIS DISSPAIN: That will be me again.

Thank you very much for the question. I don't know if you were listening earlier when we talked about the current independent review in respect to various aspects of the panel decisions.

But this particular matter in respect to these strings is caught up in that and delayed because of that. There are a number of strings that either have reconsideration requests pending or decisions following IRP recommendations pending. And the BGC and the Board has decided that it would be not appropriate

to deal with those particular reconsideration requests or IRP recommendations until such time as the independent review has been completed.

That review is under way. It has been happening for a little while. We don't have an actual date for completion yet.

As soon as it's completed, we will consider the findings. And we will then get on with dealing with the outstanding reconsideration requests and IRP recommendations. Thanks.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you, Chris.

Can I have the gentleman on my right, please.

JAMIE BAXTER: Thank you. Jamie Baxter. I'm with the community application for .GAY. I want to parse from a comment I made earlier in the week in the subsequent rounds discussion related to a couple of things.

So I have a couple of comments, and then it will come eventually to a question.

There's been incredible work going on in the reports and the subsequent round work to make sure that the next time we do gTLDs, that it looks perhaps a little bit different.

And all that work is incredibly appreciated.

There's been also a lot of data that's come out of that. One of the data points identifies the various types of applications. What dawned on me is that there hasn't necessarily been a breakdown of those data points in the community applications, per se. Because what I think we would find is that there's a wide variety of types of communities that applied that also take varying lengths of time to create because of funding, because of stakeholder engagement. And I think there's a lot to be learned from that.

And the reason it's important is, because of all the great work that's gone into creating a new mobilizer for the next round, when we're ready to start, we have to have stepped back and considered did we give enough time for people to actually engage? Did they actually have enough time to communicate with their communities or their populations or whatever it might be, especially since one of the goals behind all of this is to create diversity. If we haven't thought about those folks, at the point that this great mobilizer or vehicle is ready to go, there's going to be so much excitement to get it started, that there may not be enough time for some potential applicants to get involved.

And so it brings me to my question about the effort that's being put into marketing the new program, even though it's not designed, and what that looks like.

And so it brings me to my question about the effort that's being put into marketing the new program, even though it's not designed and what that looks like.

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RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: So I'm going to request Akram Atallah to come and take a shot at this one.

Akram.

AKRAM ATALLAH: I'm sorry; could you repeat the question?

[Laughter]

JAMIE BAXTER: So the question is what -- I realize in the first round there was a budget to marketing the new gTLD program. If I remember, it was about $135,000 globally.

Now that we're creating this new vehicle through policy development and there's going to be a lot of interest in new

applicants, what is happening -- and I assume that this is some involvement with ICANN -- to make sure that people know that it's going to happen, even though we don't have a date yet, so that they can start preparing? Because what I'm trying to identify is that some groups will take longer to prepare.

AKRAM ATALLAH: Sure. Thank you.

So the way it happened last time was through the community process of developing the guidebook, that we also identified a need for awareness. And we -- we did a -- an awareness campaign. We will probably do the same, if the community agrees that this is something that we should be doing as we prepare for the opening of the next window.

Thank you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you, Akram. And thank you, Jamie, for the question.

Brad, another online question?

BRAD WHITE: Yes. We have a question from Jean Guillaume from France.

REMOTE INTERVENTION: More and more French trademarks want to request their dot brand new gTLD. 2020 is very far away. Can't ICANN create a faster path for these very specific applications?

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Okay. So that's a question that keeps coming up. Anyone wants to respond to that one?

Cherine, go ahead.

CHERINE CHALABY: Thank you, Rinalia.

This question, as Rinalia said, keep on coming up and there is continuous demand on the Board to make some form of decision, put a line in the sand, either to the completion of the current reviews or to say when a special round will start or when will -- another round will start and in what sequence. But I think the Board has all along said this is -- this is really going to be a -- a community decision and not a top-down decision.

I know it is very frustrating for a lot of businesses who wants to plan ahead, who wants to get some certainty, but I think we're not yet in a position to -- to make any -- any sensible announcement.

As you know, the reviews are -- coming to an end at some point in time, and we are encouraging the various reviews to be completed as soon as possible. And as soon as this happens, we will listen to the community and we will be able at that time, then, to make some form of announcement. But until then, we've chosen not to exert a top-down date by the Board.

So I know this is frustrating, but I think this is the most -- most prudent way from our point of view.

Thank you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you, Cherine.

And no matter how many people ask the question, the answer will be the same. So may I have the gentleman on the left, please.

SOEREN LAURSEN: Thank you. My name is Soeren Laursen. I'm chair of LGBT Denmark, the national organization for gays, lesbians, bisexual and transgender persons being founded in 1948. LGBT Denmark is one of the oldest LGBT organizations in the world, and we were one of the first LGBT organizations to have consultative status with the United Nations.

I am happy to be able to attend an event like this where it is possible to address the board of the international caretaker of our Internet. This is institutionalized openness. This is democracy in action. This is exactly the kind of characteristics we want in the governance of the internet, which is of such a fundamental and essential part of our everyday life; of yours, of mine, of the hundreds of millions of people who live rich lives in inclusive communities and for the hundreds of millions of people with less fortunate lives living in non-inclusive communities.

I am not, however, amused by the reason I have to address you, which is a case of unequal treatment.

I sent you a letter the other day elaborating on the topics. Authoritative sources, including the Council of Europe and a highly esteemed Yale law professor, have provided a thorough analysis of the evaluation process of the .GAY application and found that the process is flawed; that this application has been subject to other terms and conditions than other similar applications; that it has been subject to other terms and conditions than those stated in the bylaws.

Such unequal treatment is unacceptable and undermines the values enshrined in the bylaws. If we accept unequal treatment, all of this is a travesty.

I have intendedly avoided any speculation about the reason for this unequal treatment, as it can be only exactly that, speculations. I just recognize unequal treatment, and we ought to be able to agree that it is something --

[Timer Sounds]

 -- we don't want, but it is your responsibility to see to the enforcement of the bylaws.

The evaluation process of the .GAY application has been lengthy because of an unfair trial. The consequences are loss of money, loss of time, loss of opportunity.

Board, please help making a fair and swift evaluation of.GAY application, and first of all ensure that the values and the rules written down in the bylaws are brought into action.

 Thank you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you very much. Mike Silber will respond to you.

MIKE SILBER: Thank you. And thank you for the comment.

I just wanted to refer back to what Chris had indicated, is that there have been concerns raised about the community

evaluation process, and J.J. answered before on that. So we're undertaking a complete review.

At the same time, I can't just accept statements about unfairness and deviation in process at face value.

I think that the community evaluation process has, in a number of applications, led to consequences that were not necessarily intended through the policy process, but I loss don't think that this particular application has been singled out for mistreatment. And I'd be more than happy to engage on that, but I think it's worthwhile just drawing a line in the sand to say this is not the only application. There hasn't been intentional discrimination relating to this application, and we've been very conscious of that because it's very easy for a marginalized group to be discriminated against and to feel that they are discriminated against. So we're very alive to the concerns, but I'm not sure that I'm willing to concede that this is a stand-alone in the various community priority evaluations that are being reviewed at the moment.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you for the question.

I believe you're the first person from this country to come forward to the mic, and we loved seeing you.

So we'll now have the pleasure to handing over the facilitation role to my colleague, Kaveh Ranjbar.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much, and we have about 30 minutes remaining in the session, so I will pass to Brad for a video.

REMOTE INTERVENTION: Yes, we have a question -- first of all, I would like to advise everyone to get their headsets because this question is going to be asked in Spanish. It's from our Venezuelan hub. It's being asked by Pierina Acevedo.

REMOTE HUB: Good morning. I'm Pierina Acevedo. I am in Venezuela. I bring greetings to all of you there. It is a pleasure for us to join you at this meeting.

This is my question. I know that some ISPs are part of the state, especially in Venezuela. What is ICANN doing to provide us end users with the right of connectivity to the Internet?

Thank you.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Lito?

LITO IBARRA: Okay. Thank you for your question. It is not within the remit of ICANN to get in -- to play a role in that regard with respect to the rights to connectivity in a specific country. Of course we are deeply committed to making sure that Internet is used as a development tool, and we want to continue using it in most of the countries, but it is not within ICANN's mission to interact in that field, going beyond our remit as established by our bylaws.

So in that regard, every government, every community in every country has to come up with its own policies and strategies.

Thank you.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much, Lito.

I would like to announce the queue is closed because we won't have more time, but as Brad mentioned, there are multiple ways to send these questions and continue.

Please, gentleman on the right.

ELLIOT NOSS: Thank you, Elliot Noss from Tucows. We have spoken a couple of times this week and I have been very happy to see privacy as something that was on the agenda to a greater extent than has

been the case in previous meetings. There have been -- I've made a couple. Volker earlier also noted the need for ICANN to staff a privacy office.

I want to highlight the nature of this problem. Without ICANN staffing a privacy office to look at these issues from a global perspective, things on the ground become extremely difficult. Privacy legislation is national in its nature.

Inside of ICANN, it is the registrant who is the person who is affected by this legislation.

Most registrars have registrants from multiple countries. Many registrars have registrants from all over the world. Yet when ICANN is talking about a waiver program, that applies to the jurisdiction of the registrar.

As a Canadian registrar, I am not entitled to a waiver for the nearly 5 million registrations that we have currently from Europeans. That problem is writ large when you look across hundreds of countries and hundreds of millions of registrants.

So will you immediately, given the impending deadlines coming up, commit to creating a privacy office with a privacy officer to look at these problems through the global lens?

[Timer Sounds]

[Applause]

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much. As you know, we have a compliance officer, and we are adding a consumer safeguard person. That's not an answer to your question, I know. And we are aware of all these sensitivities and issues. We are studying the issue, and we will definitely get back to you on that.

Thank you.

Please.

SEBASTIEN DUCOS: Hi, Sebastien Ducos, geo TLD group. Elliot and I should have prepared a duet. I should be closer. Elliot and I should have prepared a duet. I have exactly the same topic, or related topic.

I thank ICANN for having organized so many meetings that were in relation to data privacy this time. As GeoTLD Group, we raised the awareness on this a year ago, with our first issues appearing from -- to our members from the Netherlands. It's taken a year to get this meeting organized, to have these relationship with the DPAs. It's -- We have barely another year to get ready for the whole program. So I ask now until the next year at every single

ICANN meeting, at least, please do invite the DPAs. Please ensure they are here. Please ensure the conversation is here.

We are having a GDD meeting in two months. I've already spoken with Cyrus briefly. Let's put that on the agenda. Let's talk about it and have this solution.

I'm also a back-end registry provider, NeuStar. I know how long it takes us technicians to go and implement these things, these solutions.

Don't come to us with a solution in a year's time. We won't have time to implement it by May.

We need to know early what we need to do, and we ask the community, we ask ICANN to help us facilitate this.

Thomas Rickert, who has been facilitating other big endeavors in this community, particularly in the last two years has offered his help. I'm offering his -- my help to him. We just would like to see ICANN responding with the same type of answers. Thank you.

[Applause]

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much for the comments. I'll pass to Becky.

BECKY BURR: Thanks. I appreciate and have heard both the combination of frustration about getting real traction on the issue and anxiety about ensuring that there is adequate compliance on the compliance state.

I hope that -- you may have heard me say earlier today that the data protection authorities who were here and others have -- are very much engaged and committed. We are actively looking at this, all of the -- I think there's going to have to be a plan in the community and with the board and with org to put it together. It may well be that a privacy officer is either required or appropriate. All of those things are on the table.

We need a bit more time to think about what all of the options are, but we definitely understand that this is a very pressing issue.

SEBASTIEN DUCOS: So we all need a bit more time, not just on this side. On this side, too. Let's all work together to give ourselves as much time as possible.

BECKY BURR: Correct.

KAVEH RANJBAR:	Understood. Thank you very much.
	I will go back to Brad for an online question.
	Before that -- because as I announced, we closed the queue. That's for your convenience because I don't think we will get time. So please send your questions to engage@icann.org -- or engagement.
	Brad.
REMOTE INTERVENTION:	I have a question from Awal who is an ICANN fellow. When will we see an ICANN meeting without any closed sessions?
KAVEH RANJBAR:	Any takers, or should I? Okay. Ah, we have Thomas.
THOMAS SCHNEIDER:	Sorry, I have to say this. The GAC, the governments, don't have any closed sessions anymore since last year Marrakech. Thank you.
	[Applause]
KAVEH RANJBAR:	Okay. I think we will leave it at that.

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Please.

ALASTAIR STRACHAN: Good afternoon. Alastair Strachan here as a first-time Fellow and first-time ICANN attendee. The Fellowship scheme is something I wish to express my gratitude towards ICANN for and also emphasize the importance of the scheme.

I'm here with 58 incredibly passionate, talented people who would not have the opportunity to attend without the Fellowship.

[Applause]

We've been told many times there are no stupid questions. And whilst I've challenged that statement quite a few times, I wish to thank the community as a whole being so welcome for being so welcoming to newcomers trying to navigate the labyrinth that is ICANN and the never-ending string of acronyms. So thank you.

[Applause]

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much. I will pass to Chris.

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CHRIS DISSPAIN: Thank you. Speaking entirely personally, although I suspect this feeling is -- much of the board has the same feeling. I just want to say that I think the Fellowship Program is one of the most amazing things that ICANN does. I'm personally incredibly proud to be part of an organization that does it. I think the people who are Fellows and come to these meetings are an extraordinary bunch of people. So I would like to say thank you very much to you for being here at ICANN.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: And, yes, there is no stupid question.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much.

I want to add actually the biggest step from my point of view, my perspective, is when you come up and when newcomers and Fellows come up and ask questions, that's the biggest step to engage. And that's a very good start. So I'm very happy to see that, the newcomers.

With that, I will go to the next question. Please.

OLEKSANDR TSARUK: Hello. My name is Oleksandr. I'm from Ukraine. I am also participant in the Fellowship Program and would say thank you,

ICANN. Firstly, I'm first time asking the question to my board, first time in my life. And I would like to think that you communicate with the public so openly and everyone can come and ask you a question.

I participated in ICANN since ICANN50 and have some ideas to share how to make the change of thoughts and engagement more efficient.

There is good programs of engaging young persons in Fellowship Program and Next Gen Program. But there is a group of people which remain sitting in the Internet and watching after what the people also do. They have awesome ideas. ICANN could engage persons with I.T. background by organizing hackathons on each meeting. And definitely it should be, like, a part of social responsibility program. You should invest your expertise to the constituency because we have -- see that the current leadership pay more attention to the cybersecurity issues and the resilience of the Internet.

There is -- we have billions of Internet users with good ideas. They could probably build startup which could offer the better and faster and more safer Internet for everyone. And it could become a new technology. Maybe some new protocols could be designed in such hackathons.

And the second issue is Open Data Initiative. You should pay more attention in this because probably some guys --

[Timer sounds.]

-- could design the bot which will find the solutions for some problems. So open data initiative is the second issue. Thank you.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much.

I think to give a quick comment on that, Sally might be the best person from ICANN org to give you an answer.

SALLY COSTERTON: Thank you. Thank you. So for the question about the hackathons, we did do this, in fact, in Hyderabad. And I know that Ram has been very enthusiastic, Ram Mohan, about this process of bringing in Internet users.

I think he was saying, in other words, there were -- how many were there, Ram? 200?

RAM MOHAN: That's right.

SALLY COSTERTON: And they were mostly under 20 years old, which I think kind of hits two of your target groups.

To the question about how do we have outreach or where is the place for I.T. entrepreneurs, why the tech participants, if that's a better word, so people who are in the technology space but not necessarily in the DNS space already, this is a good question. And it was asked this morning actually in another meeting, and we didn't have the chance to answer it.

Through our business -- for us in engagement, that would sit under our business engagement, our business outreach and potentially our academic outreach, if we have people who are studying engineering or marketing or this sort of thing in universities. So I think we don't -- we see it through different lenses.

But you make an excellent point. Not everybody -- clearly not everybody we need to engage already knows about the domain name system.

So we have to strike that balance between going out and finding, if you'd like, our close relations, who we would like to bring in towards us, without going so far out that we are out of ICANN's mission and scope. Thank you.

OLEKSANDR TSARUK: Thank you. But ICANN has developed a good communication online system. So you could get the people online from different parts of the world each meeting. Thank you.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much.

I know you've been waiting a lot, but I have to take one online because we have a ton of questions online.

Brad.

REMOTE INTERVENTION: From Paul Foody: Toward the end of ICANN58's Public Forum Number 1 on Monday, someone at the mic said there had been 300,000 participants at ICANN57 in Hyderabad. Although the host of the public forum attempted to correct him, saying he believed 300,000 was the number of remote participants, the rest of the board remained silent.

Since according to the ICANN57 "By the Numbers" report, the remote participation section lists the total unique participants at just 4,898. Was the board's failure to immediately correct the 300,000 figure a deliberate misrepresentation on the board's part of ICANN's level of public involvement or proof that the

board has no idea of the extent to which ICANN's public outreach initiatives have failed?

Question 2: Following the earlier remote question regarding ICANN's attitude to end users and the answer that ICANN serves the global public interest, is ICANN willing to give members of the public access to ICANN assets, specifically video and audio recordings of its public meetings, such as this one, in order that the public might be better informed as to ICANN's activities? If so, how can I go about requesting such assets?

KAVEH RANJBAR: I will give you to Ram.

RAM MOHAN: Kaveh, thank you.

I was at the ICANN57 meeting in Hyderabad, as were many of you. And I think we can all recognize that the community member who said 300,000 misspoke. Perhaps he meant over 3,000, which would be accurate.

Now, I think our board member who responded, I thought was actually quite diplomatic in saying that if it was -- if 300,000 was a valid number, then the way to account for that would have been if there had been that many people online.

I thought that was actually quite a diplomatic answer that didn't embarrass somebody from our community.

So I actually find it quite -- I don't know what the right word for it is -- undiplomatic, shall we say, to say that this is a deliberate misrepresentation, when I think it was really an attempt to be quite polite and to ensure that we don't embarrass members of our community who are speaking for their first time.

Thank you.

[Applause]

MIKE SILBER: If I can just take a few seconds from Ram, from what's left on Ram's clock to say that the vast majority of ICANN's so-called assets are available on the meeting archives pages. And you are able to get recordings, videos, transcripts from historical meetings going back many years. And, in fact, for most meetings, I'd encourage you instead of corresponding and requesting, simply visit the meetings archives pages and you'll be able to find the vast majority of that material yourself.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Excellent. Thank you, Ram. And thank you, Mike.

So please.

CAROLINA MATAMOROS FERRO: Greetings. Carolina Matamoros. I'm a Next Gen from Colombia. I'm based in Berlin. We have all seen how the Internet have come to (indiscernible). Even us, Next Gens, yes, we also saw that happen. We also heard the weird noise we had to go through to enter the Internet. And it's evolution.

So at the beginning, you would say that the first challenge or the most challenging thing that we had to face was to make the system a system, to put it in place. It was much more an infrastructure and kind of outreach process.

Then it began to change, and the challenge became to actually be able to get to the people, to the communities, to be able to reach every individual and to connect all of them. Even here at the beginning of the ICANN meeting, we had the very successful rates that are hearing their mark. They are almost done. Actually I was -- I think that was the way it was referred to.

So with the evolution of the technology and all -- how the information has changed, the Internet has grown exponentially. And with it, it has also grown in the amount of fake information that is in there. And I think -- and it's maybe just a personal belief -- right now that may be the most challenging thing we may have in front of ourselves. Because before the Internet was a source of information, right now we could say that it is a

source of "the" information. A lot of confusion is going out, out of there.

So I'm wondering from the base of the basic users, the end users, Clement's mother, for example, what can -- what is ICANN doing to defend them so they can actually reach the information and have an open and clear Internet?

KAVEH RANJBAR: So basically you're talking about the content, correct? Okay. I think I will give it to Cherine.

CHERINE CHALABY: Thank you. I have the same problem with my children, trust me. I -- ICANN's mission is really -- and I think it's been mentioned before, so this is not going to come to you as a surprise, but our mission is very narrow in relation to the coordination of the naming and addressing system of the Internet. We, unfortunately, don't deal with access to the Internet or the content of the Internet. So it's not something within -- within our remit. So it's -- it's not a good answer, it's not what you want to hear, but it is a limitation on our mission, unfortunately.

CAROLINA MATAMOROS FERRO: I know that's the mission, I'm aware of it. But I also am aware of your commitment with the stability of the net and your willingness to keep it open. So we can also be seeing this as a structural issue. Like how do you frame a library? A library you know where history books are and you know where novels are. You can actually build and make the structure so that the content is more clear. I know it's based on content but the current amount of information is actually demanding that maybe the structure of -- or in itself has to be evaluated. So I'm just reaching the question out because maybe something has to be done about it and the director board and ICANN must think about that.

CHERINE CHALABY: Thank you. I don't think I can say more, but point taken. Thank you very much. Thank you.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much for the question. We have another online, Brad?

REMOTE INTERVENTION: From Adiel Sidique from Pakistan a former next-gen ambassador and first-time fellow, but speaking in his personal capacity. "The ICANN board relocated ICANN 57 to Hyderabad for good reasons,

but during the conference people of a certain nationality were taken to police stations for reasons unknown. And might I add, these people were from the privileged group of next-gen ambassadors and fellows. So my request of the board is, either ask the host for the treatment of people beforehand or do not allow meetings at no-so-neutral locations. Thank you."

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much. Goran.

GORAN MARBY: The meetings' location, as you know, is something that is widely discussed and many times and the community has decided upon how we actually conduct those where we do, where we travel around the world. During this meeting and the meeting in Hyderabad, many people have asked me and other parts of the staff that should we take in more things into account. And I -- that is actually a discussion that belongs within the community because we do this to support the multistakeholder model and all discussions about how to move things is actually in your hands. And that's important to realize.

With that said, we see over the world, many countries right now who looks into different Visa rules, prohibits people from entering countries. One of the things we've done -- we cannot

do anything about that underlying problem unless we mention, as you know, we added support and more resources for handling our Visa applications to be better to do that. There is a world that's changing, not always in a good place. And I would encourage the community to continue that discussion. Thank you.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much, Chair. Gentleman.

SIVASUBRAMANIAN MUTHUSAMY: My name is Sivasubramanian. My company, Nameshop, based in India, has applied for a top-level domain name with a change request to the string .INTERNET. Nameshop is also one of the three applicants for applicant support. Over the past five years, I've sought the attention of the CEO and board to the evaluation and reconsideration of the TLD application.

Here in Copenhagen, Nameshop met with the GDD to discuss the public interest commitment component of the application for .INTERNET, and a document outlining the commitments has been handed over for the attention of the board and CEO.

I particularly wish to request the attention by the board and CEO to the commitment operate .INTERNET in a responsible manner in tune with DNS industry's best practices with possible

innovations so as to be of value to the DNS and to the Internet. Thank you.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much. I think this is another one for Akram.

CHRIS DISSPAIN: It was the mention of GDD, Akram.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Magic word.

AKRAM ATALLAH: Thank you very much for the question. As we've discussed multiple times, we don't have the ability to grant a different string that has not been applied for originally and we will -- we will continue to -- to discuss to reach something that's agreeable to the applicant and resolve this issue for them. Thank you.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much. We have five minutes left. Five minutes left. A lot of online questions, and one in room. I will go get one online, get back to you, and if possible another online. So let's try to be fast and efficient. Brad.

REMOTE INTERVENTION: From Sze Ming, program manager at the Sinar Project. "In the open data initiative session someone mentioned about open data by default, and as our cybersecurity community is always concerned about privacy issues, I want to ask how ICANN can take a balance in between open data by default and privacy by default? What are the efforts of ICANN to facilitate or monitor the privacy while being open and transparent?"

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much. I think the best person would be -- Goran.

GORAN MARBY: Thank you very much. It's a very good question. And that is something that we always look into. With the -- we discussed this, the -- the appetite for more data is very natural, and that's something that's been discussed during this meeting and actually since I started. And the open data initiative is right now where we go through -- we actually do data mining in the fact that we're trying to find out which data we have. Before we publish that data, one of the things that we actually look into is if it's -- you know against privacy regulation, for instance. Most of the data we have that we are storing have very little value when it comes to privacy. But it's something we look into it.

It is, as was said a couple of times, a longer ambition how we're going to make sure that we stand up to the quality when it comes to transparency for all of data. And during a letter I sent just a couple of days ago to an answer to a letter which you can probably see on the web already now, we try to go through what kind of data we have and how we're going to dispute it. That is also an invitation to many of you to help us also to tell us when and where you need data. I think this is going to be a very -- it's very hard to put a specific point to this one more than the awareness that you raise to us. Thank you.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much. And last question on the floor.

DIRK KRISCHENOWSKI: Dirk Krischenowski from . BERLIN. I believe following that privacy discussion the whole week there's no way back, we will see a much stricter handling of private data and probably much closer WHOIS in the future in many countries in the world. But I believe we are not alone, so ICANN and the community and the TLDs, and there are out there a lot of good examples already in Euro, for instance, the European .EU managed by EURid, they have closed the WHOIS mainly. And there are other examples like .NL, .AMSTERDAM, .THECATALONS, .FRL, and I think this is a really crystaling point where CC -- the ccTLD world and the gTLD

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world comes together and having similar interests and maybe similar contracts with ICANN and similar obligations -- obligations. Did ICANN thought about of stronger engaging the gTLD space with a ccTLD space on this matter?

[Applause]

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you for the question. I will pass to Becky, but I just want to add that the main value I see, I mean on a meta level, the greatest thing I observe as a mostly technical person is there is a lot of room for deliberation here, and I see a lot of value in that. So getting to a solution is obviously another thing which Becky will talk about.

BECKY BURR: So actually I think that's exactly right. There are great examples of how ccTLDs around the world, including EU-based ccTLDs have dealt and are dealing with them. There is variation from time to time, but I think Kaveh is exactly right, the community needs to come together and understand collectively the requirements for this and then we proceed from that. So those -- those examples are out there, they are very informative, they are part of the contribution, but we have to -- we have to expeditiously have the baseline requirements conversation.

DIRK KRISCHENOWSKI: Okay. Thank you.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much, and we have one final online one before we go to the closing.

REMOTE INTERVENTION: This question is in Spanish, so people may want to grab their headsets. My colleague, Alexandra Dans, will read the question.

Good afternoon. I'm Alexis (saying name) from Venezuela. I'm a fellow, and this is my first participation in person at an ICANN meeting. When I arrived in Denmark I heard the CEO of ICANN saying the following: We are witnessing something that did not exist in the past. This is the Internet. Although now I believe it is very difficult to predict the future, I can say that being here at ICANN 58 today has been the best learning experience about the future that I have had. Thank you for connecting me with this reality of the Internet.

During our participation, we heard about the changes that ICANN is going to implement.   It's going to adopt a documentation system, some improvements to the Web site, and also messaging technologies. Don't you think that ICANN

should also implement improvements and enhancements to broaden and diversify the participation of the Internet users so that this will be more effective, verifiable, and outcome-based? Thank you.

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much. And I guess Goran from ICANN org.

GORAN MARBY: Thank you. Unfortunately, my Spanish is not useful. We talked about diversity and effectiveness of that many times over the last couple of days, and there's little thing to add to it. But just a little bit more thing. We're in the process right now internally and also including the board where we try to -- we've gone from a fairly fast expansion period where we actually went from something that was fairly U.S.-based into something that is more global and internationalized. This is based on the ICANN strategy, what is done by the community. And that is the benchmark we are using for that.

We now are going into a period where we're trying to be more understanding of the local needs, and to figure out a name we call it a demand-driven engagement. And demand-driven engagement is really about -- is our mission to be more understanding of different regions and parts of the world. One

example of that is the engagement we do in Africa. Another one is what we're doing also from Singapore. And it's really about to understand the different parts of the world have different needs. But in the end, we also have to engage with you as a community because you're the ones who are going to tell us how we're going to engage. There are, for instance, in Africa we work very much with governments. In other parts of the world we work more with the civil society.

Will we ever be able to mesh that in an effective way? No, we will not because we're not a company. We don't do this for profit. The only thing we can do that is if see -- we have more participation. And to end that, I'm really proud, and I think the board shares that, I don't think we ever had so many newcomers coming up to the microphone as we had for the last couple of days. Also in the open session we did with the executive team. And I would really thank them, really from my heart, for having the bravery to come up to this sometimes little bit scary environment to ask those questions because you help us. And I think that is the only thing we can say of good effectiveness outreach you're actually here.

[Timer sounds]

So with that I applaud you.

[Applause]

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KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much. Without further adieu, I will give you Mr. Cherine, our vice chair of the board.

CHERINE CHALABY: Thank you, everyone. I think we've reached the end of this session, and thank you, Goran, for these -- for these words about welcoming the newcomers and the fellows. It's really been very heartening to see as many coming -- coming to the microphone and participating and engaging in this meeting.

So I would also like to thank -- to thank the board facilitators, the -- and everyone that worked to make this -- this session successful. And all of the participants and all of those that contributed to this session.

So now we're going to take a break. The board meeting will start at 5:00. I do invite you to stay in the room, and you can watch the board voting and deliberating on a few resolutions. So thank you very much, and we'll take a break now. Thank you.

[Applause]

STEVE CROCKER: We're going to start at 5:00. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]