EN

THOMAS SCHNEIDER: All right, so this is session 34 about the High Level Governmental Meeting, the next one that is planned for ICANN63 in Barcelona at the end of next year, so I'm very happy to have Gema with us. Let me just quickly give the floor to Rob to update you where we are with the preparation from the Leadership Team point of view. Thank you.

ROB HOGGARTH: Thank you very much, Thomas. It's only a year away that the next High Level Governmental Meeting is scheduled, as Thomas said, for Barcelona at ICANN63. And about a month and a half ago I think, we began our outreach and preliminary planning with the wonderful hosts that we will have of that meeting, representatives of the Spanish Government, and I wanted to introduce Gema to the group to provide us with an update in terms of where the hosts are in the planning process, maybe to engage some of you in some feedback or reactions to some suggestions and thoughts about potential agenda items, and otherwise begin to think how you can help in terms of providing information about contacts, people to be invited, and

information that will help encourage as many high level Governmental Ministers and other participants that can really make this meeting a tremendous success.

So with that, Gema, if I can share and turn the microphone over to you to give folks a report on the planning and where things are going with that. Thank you.

GEMA CAMPILLOS: Thank you, Rob. Good morning, everyone. In terms of planning, our Ministry of Foreign Affairs is already conducting [inaudible] embassies in the countries where we have embassies, and I think they are also doing that with permanent missions in international organizations as Spain is represented at, in order to identify the relevant Ministries or public parties in your countries and also in countries that are not currently members of the GAC, that should be invited to the High Level Meeting.

I'm already receiving some answers. I would like your assistance in case we find any difficulties or we'll have any doubts to clear out who is the relevant Ministry and Minister or Secretary of the state that we should address that letter for. I'm already thanking you for your help in case we need to resort to it.

In this session, I would like to present to you the ideas that we have to make the agenda of the High Level Meeting, as well as the

format that we suggest to explore in the next High Level Meeting. It is already shown on the screen, this is a set of possible subjects to discuss at the High Level Meetings. They are worded in a very general manner, so the different issues can fit in each of them.

They are put in no particular order for this presentation. I will quickly go through them and I would like your views on these subjects. I would be glad if at the end of this meeting we can get an agreement on these leads of subjects or any other leads that you see fit, because at the end of the day it's going to be our High Level Meetings and I would like that there is a general agreement on the issues that should make up the agenda.

The first one is Law enforcement and privacy considerations in the registration and use of domain names. We've been talking in this meeting about the impact that the new European rules may have in ICANN activities. The PM commission pointed out yesterday that Europe is not the only part in the world with privacy regulations, there are more than a hundred countries with privacy regulations.

And at the same time, it's [indiscernible] in our countries have prosecutors, judges, law enforcement authorities, [inaudible] security teams that are currently using Whois data and it's a useful tool for them. So perhaps it could be like presenting like a conflict or ways to find, to reconcile both these issues. I think it's

a highly politically interesting topic. I present it to you for your consideration.

The second one, handling of public interest concerns in the coordination of Internet critical resources by the ICANN multistakeholder system. It's good to have a focus on substantive issues that we've been discussing throughout the last years, like what happens to geographic names in the DNS, community names for instance, and abuse in the DNS or any other issue that you think are interesting from a public policy perspective on how are they dealt with by the ICANN and the whole system.

The third one it's about jurisdiction and immunity in the ICANN Ecosystem. And I think this is also very interesting from a political, high level perspective. We've also discussed this in several meetings. What happens if ICANN is challenged in the Courts of a country, whatever it is, or should it be in some other way having any kind of immunity against the demands or lawsuits in a particular country and so on.

And the next item is value added of a stronger involvement of Governments in the ICANN environment. It looks at more procedural issues. In contrast with the second item, in this subject we could discuss how GAC fits into the ICANN structure, about its advisory role, we can review how it has been dealt with, perhaps examples, whether or not the GAC should get involved in

accountability mechanisms and in what circumstances, and what is the benefit for Governments of participating in ICANN, what do we get in return for coming here? I think these are questions that maybe we have to answer to our superiors when we're coming here, we have to justify our travels.

And the last one, DNS evolution in the light of cybersecurity, blockchain technologies, and Internet of Things are forward looking subjects. It's to reflect collectively about what would be ICANN's role in the future scenario where perhaps other kinds of identifiers became more important than domain names, especially Internet addresses are still under the remit of ICANN. What relevance ICANN's role would have in the future and maybe it's a very good subject as well for politicians.

And if I maybe quickly do the last slide and then we will open the floor. We have noticed that in the past maybe some meetings tended to be a little bit lengthy with statements from the side of -- not so much a high level of issues, but GAC representatives that were sent to the meeting on behalf of high level officials where they had to read statements and all of that, that made the meeting a little bit long.

So our main objective and challenge for the next High Level Meeting is to try to dynamize it a little bit to make it a bit more agile and interesting. So we thought that maybe we could explore

as a test the possibility of organizing one or two sessions around panels, meaning that on the Chairing table, there would not only be the Minister and the GAC Chair, but as well some other Ministers or very top level officials who could set the scene by presenting their respective views on asubject, keeping the interventions very short.

Those high level officials should be representative of countries with distinct positions so that they can stir up the discussion. And, of course, on the table we would have also someone from ICANN, I think, depending on the subject. And how we propose to select the Ministers that will accompany us on the table would be, if you agree that is a good idea, we could insert these in the invitation letter so that we would not only request a confirmation that they would attend, but also an expression of interest to be part of one of the panels.

And then if we have too many high level officials, the GAC leadership could decide which one of them should be on the table, depending on -- not depending, but trying to have geographic diversity, diversity of views and so on. And if we have fewer than expected, maybe as we did at this when I was at the GAC leadership with kind of [inaudible] countries which we know have an interesting view on the subject and who will be coming

and that will confirmed that they will come to accompany our Minister.

So that is it. I would like to receive your views on all of this. I'm happy to take questions. Thank you. I see Germany.

GERMANY: Yes, thank you for this presentation. I think it's quite interesting reading your proposal on having more panels and I think this might be an interest approach for the future having participated in several of these High Level Meetings for the GAC. I think this could be a way to have more maybe active or exchange between various parties and various high level GAC Representatives.

Coming back to the issues you have shown on your slide, I have rather a question or an observation. If I saw the last bullet point that was about the development of DNS as far as I saw, I wonder, which role do you anticipate in this respect? Do you think that the Governments, or Ministers, or Vice Ministers would have active positions on the development of the DNS? Or is the idea behind receiving information from the community here, what the community is thinking about, the future of the DNS; that means it would be rather reactive for our high level representatives than actively presenting their visions on the future of DNS.

I'm not sure whether Governments have let's say expertise in this respect to introduced to the ICANN community what's the future of the DNS. What I'm missing is, I think some kind of stock taking and perspective of the gTLD rounds. I think it would be a good idea if we have a High Level Meeting to look back what happened with the new gTLD process, what are the expectations that maybe have been met from the Governmental perspective, and what expectations have not been met, and what could be improved from the Governmental perspective.

We in the GAC raised this issue always and constantly since the last two or three years, but it might be an opportunity for high level representatives also to give their positions and show that it's not normal GAC only, normal GAC representatives, if I may call it so, but also our Ministers, our Vice Ministers that have these expectations and evaluations on the gTLD program. Thank you for maybe some additional explanation. Thank you.

GEMA CAMPILLOS: I'm going to take questions and then I will answer them in a row. Is that okay? I think I have Mark from the UK, please.

UK: Yes, thank you, Gema. I'm Mark Carvell, United Kingdom. Thanks very much for talking through the initial planning and

brainstorming that you're undertaking on preparation for the High Level Governmental Meeting. It's very useful, very interesting to hear your ideas. As a former host in 2014 of a High Level Governmental Meeting, we will endeavor to assist you with drawing on our experience and helping the development of your ideas to take the concept forward.

I have a couple of comments. Firstly, of course, we should bear in mind that the whole concept of the High Level Governmental Meeting was a kind of two way thing really. For Ministers and high level officials to get to know ICANN model, to get to know the dynamics of it, how it works and its criticalityand the Internet infrastructure by coming to a meeting and engaging with the ICANN community. And for the ICANN community, it's their opportunity, including the ICANN leadership, it's their opportunity to talk to a gathering of Ministers and high level officials.

So they have something to get out of it, as well of course as the agenda roster of issues for all the Ministers and high level officials to exchange views on. I always recommend involving ICANN as much as possible, and we insisted in London actually that the Chair of the Board and the CEO be present for as much of the day as possible so that they can interact and so on.

So your panel idea, I think is very good. We've tried that in the G7 actually, the G7 ICT Ministerial Meeting in Japan last year, was set out basically like that, with a series of panels and Ministers were invited to sort of prioritize what they would like to speak about and lead on. And so we -- well, as Japanese were the hosts, it was possible then to determine who was going to lead off on particular topics.

So Ministers come with a sense of opportunity and a sense that they can lead off some of the discussion and, of course, all of the other officials and high level -- sorry, all the Ministers and high level officials can engage and react, so those on the panel, but also all the others who are going to be sitting in the audience. So I think that's a very good approach.

Just one final comment, I note Germany's point about new gTLD rounds, that's very valid, with another one looming large. And my other point, post transition, the state of play of ICANN post transition; maybe there could be an ICANN and ministerial exchange about how this has evolved since transition and the kind of messages that will go out that the model is basically working, there's always scope for improvement, but here we are in a new era for ICANN and the Internet's infrastructure. I hope those comments at this time are helpful. Thank you.

GEMA CAMPILLOS: Thank you very much, UK. I will answer afterwards. I have Portugal, please.

PORTUGAL: Thank you very much and good morning. I have a couple of questions. The first one is, who is going to send invitation letters? I think it will be your Minister, but still I would like to know.

On the discussion I think that we should avoid written interventions and try to see how to better engage Ministers in the debate because they have to feel part of something and that their presence makes a difference, and so it is linked with what Mark just said about the message we want to convey after the meeting.

So a different format of this meeting is more than welcome. On the themes, I already had the opportunity to comment on them, and thank you for taking them into account. Thank you very much.

GEMA CAMPILLOS: Thank you, Ana. And then Senegal, please.

SENEGAL: Thank you, Senegal speaking. I would like to say that I do not know the terms of reference for this meeting. I don't know if they

have been defined already, but of course, I appreciate Gema's presentation and I appreciate this new format idea. This idea of working in a panel format. We've seen this at the ITU and at other organizations as our British colleague mentioned.

In any event, it is important to first define the objectives so as to think about the topics on the agenda in relation to public policy. We need to strike a balance between topics of our own interest and topics of interest to the high level Representatives. And we need to attract Ministers to raise their interest so that they are willing to travel and attend the meeting.

We could also include a panel on diversity and we could define the different panel formats so that we know how the meeting is going to take place. Will we be having question and answer sessions? Questions after a debate? So it would be important to define this format within the scope of well defined terms of reference that would guide our work prior to ICANN61 so that we can further define in a practical fashion how these panels are going to take place.

I support this idea. I do believe that we could help you bring on board issues so that Ministers are interested in these topics. We have relevant topics such as child protection, digital inclusion, online inclusion, and these topics are related to public policy. They do not fall beyond the scope of the GAC topics of interest,

therefore, we do need to strike a balance so that these panels are interesting. Thank you very much for your attention.

THOMAS SCHNEIDER: Thank you, Senegal. In the interest of time we have decided to devote session 35 to address this topic and to engage in this discussion because we do need to have a clear perspective of our proprietary work prior to ICANN61. Regarding what our colleague from Senegal just said, I would like to say that we do need to focus not only on content but also on content presentation in order to make it attractive to Ministers and high level representatives. And I'm now going to speak in English again.

-- considerations and so on. That may be less attractive than if you say things like fighting crime, and protecting people or whatever; put it in a different language if you know what I mean.

And the other thing, I think what he was also referring to the handling of public interest concerns, maybe there could be some examples that make it clear what that means, but I think this is what was meant by a number of people.

And then what I would skip is things like value added of a strong involvement of Governments because that is not substantial. A Minister doesn't necessarily care about the involvement of Governments. They want to see results. That should be a

discussion throughout all the panels, that in order to achieve goals and to achieve issues, a strong involvement of Government is needed, but I would not necessarily take it as a main point. Thank you.

You may go on with the list. Thank you.

GEMA CAMPILLOS: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, for these remarks. I have two more interventions, Pakistan and Switzerland. Pakistan, please.

PAKISTAN: Thank you very much. Regarding the High Level Governmental Meeting, we have a good experience in ICANN55 MoroccoMeeting. But in this meeting there is one of the key points and the key agenda items that enable the Minister and senior officials to assess the IANA Stewardship Function from the U.S. Government to a community based arrangement. That was a key agenda item of that meeting.

I agree with my colleague that there should be attraction to the Minister. The Minister is basically the political figure and they are appointed for five years and every five years they have different scenarios and they have [inaudible] concrete manifesto. So we include such items which are acceptable for the promotion of oral

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Internet governance. So I support that we may work on the second round of gTLD. This is one of the [inaudible] topics, and another is the DNS evolution in the light of cybersecurity, blockchain technology; this is basically revolution, innovation and the Ministers want these things.

Another point is by the speaker about the [indiscernible] and the policy statement. When the Minister comes, definitely he or she has a set of things that they want to deliver within their own community and the global community as well. I think in Morocco [inaudible] is a very good model in GAC meetings, we had a session from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in Morocco and every Minister gave his statement and I think this model is very -- for the next High Level Meeting. And the seating arrangement in Morocco is also acceptable, there is one Minister and one GAC member. Every country has two positions. Thank you.

GEMA CAMPILLOS: Thank you. Switzerland.

SWITZERLAND: Hello. Good morning. First of all, thank you very much for this presentation and thank you for taking the burden of organizing this High Level Meeting in Barcelona in one years' time.

I think that the topics and also the panel approach go in the right direction. On the topics, I would like to say that I think it's important that we try to avoid any presentation of information, lengthy PowerPoint presentations of many, many processes, issues, and so on and so forth. Also, that we avoid as much as possible discussing process and that we really go for substance. And also, I'm repeating the direction of what Thomas said before, that we give the titles of the topics the right spin and I we use passwords, things that make it attractive for our Supervisors, our political Supervisors.

As a matter more of preparation and in order to avoid all these more lengthy informational parts of presentation, I think that an annotated agenda sent with a lot of time, like four weeks at least or six weeks before the meeting, and complimented with a good briefing of the topics prepared by ICANN staff, together with the host country, would certainly help in order to arrive at the discussion with knowing which are the policy questions that we will be discussing and the topics on the agenda. And also having more or less of a level playing field as to the information required for taking part on the discussion.

I think that what Mark said before of integrating the ICANN CEO and the ICANN Chairman of the Board and some Board members is really key. And I would like to disagree to a certain extent on

what was mentioned by Thomas before, I think that the fourth point on the proposed agenda is important to the extent that the participation of the Government in the ICANN environment is a subject that comes time and again to our discussions.

And perhaps with a link to a couple of substantial points, I think it's nevertheless important to hear a pitch also from ICANN, the leadership of ICANN, which really convinces our Ministers that it's really important to be here and it's important to devote resources, paying for the travel, also providing that ICANN is worthwhile being in the job description of the GAC members and those who help the GAC members. And also that we need, of course, very professional support, which to this moment was delivered by our hybrid Secretariat model.

So I think it's really an opportunity for ICANN, the organization, and the Board as representative of the wider ICANN community to convince our Ministers that it is worthwhile devoting substantial resources to this organization. Thank you.

GEMA CAMPILLOS: Thank you, Switzerland. And Colombia is raising their hand. Or not? It's not Colombia? No, it's the Dominican Republic.

DOMINCAN REPUBLIC: The Dominican Republic representative speaking. Thank you, Gema, I'm going to speak in Spanish. Thank you very much for this proposal. Thank you for suggesting a new structure for these High Level Meetings. If I may, I would like to suggest the following. I'm looking at the fourth item on the screen and I'm thinking about the value of attending these meetings for our Ministers. So somehow we could include or contemplate the possibility of our Ministers engaging upon reflection and thinking about the significance of strengthening their involvement within ICANN and within the Internet Ecosystem, but also hand in hand with the different opportunities and challenges and our digital economy development goals. So this next gTLD round would also be linked to that topic.

And I'm thinking from a regional perspective, from the America, so from the perspective of Latin America and the Caribbean, so I'm thinking about the different opportunities and challenges so that we can better engage with our economies against the backdrop of the digital economy situation. Maybe this is not related to your proposed agenda, but it may be relevant to our Governments and Ministers.

GEMA CAMPILLOS: Nigeria? Or who are you?

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NIGERIA: That's correct. Nigeria, thank you very much. Thank you for the initial, preliminary work done. I want to agree totally with the representative from Switzerland, especially on this item four. You may wish to rephrase it if the Chair is not comfortable with how it's phrased, but it is really very important for it to be there, not only to indicate the importance or the need for us to keep coming to these meetings three times a year, but also even for the particular High Level Governmental Meeting, the Ministers when they come here want to be able to show that it was time well spent. And when they go back to their respective countries, I'm sure they will want to be able to show that there was an impact for them attending the particular event.

I do recall that the High Level Government Meeting held in London, there was an imminent issue at the time with, you know, NETmondial and all that issue that was around the Internet [inaudible] space at the time, so it was a very important meeting and it was indeed well attended. And all the Ministers that came were happy that they participated. And the same with the Marrakechmeeting as well, which was at the time of the transition. So it is important for the ICANN organization to take advantage of this upcoming High Level Governmental Meeting to bring up issues.

So I would now suggest, for instance, the one critical issue is this issue of the GDPR that everybody has been talking about, it's an opportunity for ICANN to make a presentation and to be able to, you know, show to the Ministers that are here the impact that the new regulation is going to have on theWest, the impact it's going to have on Law Enforcement, and so on and so forth. To be able to show the value that ICANN brings, you know, to the Internet space so that when GAC reps go back and give reports on meetings attended and [inaudible], the Ministers are able to make such cases to their respective administrations and ensure that Internet governance issues are not easily tampered with.

So it is very important that such topical issues are tabled and well represented with information. And vice versa, also we should be able to show that advice and information given by GAC, you know, to ICANN, is taking onboard and taken with seriousness, so they should be able to also show that in the course of such a High level Governmental Meeting. Thank you.

GEMA CAMPILLOS: Thank you very much to all who have participated. I'm going to go through the questions as quickly as I can. About Germany, if the last -- well, first of all, as you can see, there are five points here. In Morocco there were four sessions, so we can rule out one

subject or we can turn the fifth subject into the topic for the lunch, for instance. So we can also consider doing this.

In regards to the fifth subject, DNS evolution in the future, I think all our Ministers have some kind of, at least thought of what the Internet is heading to, so I think blockchain technology, Internet of Things are things that they are already hearing a lot about them, so I think that they will have some kind of idea of it. And they can also have some thought on how the DNS kind of evolves in the future, how relevant it will be in the future scenario of automated cost, [inaubile] or whatever. And what role ICANN can play in that future environment.

So it's not only reactive, but it's also active. I think it can be an exchange of views between Governments and ICANN top officials as to how they look at the future. Maybe these issues, they are the least controversial of the ones that are suggested because it's not such a hot topic as geographic names, for instance. But I think it's attractive [inaudible] for Ministers.

And what else? About the new gTLD round, many of you have expressed that it would be good to have a session to take stock of what the new gTLD round has been, the expectations were met or were not met, and kind of making a review of them. I think that fits into the second subject and we can change the title of it to perhaps allude more precisely to the new gTLD round and to

name a few of the controversial topics in this respect to make it more clear what we expect Ministers to talk about.

And about involving ICANN senior officials, as the UK and some other country has said, we completely agree with the idea. We think that as it was made in London and in Morocco, the ICANN Chair and CEO and other Directors of ICANN should attend and even be in the table or in the audience, and there should be an interaction, we should have an interaction between ICANN and the Governments. This meeting is going to be open. Anyone can come. And as the UK says, it's an opportunity for Governments to be in direct contact with ICANN, make questions to them, and have an exchange of views on different topics and how Governments can contribute to the multistakeholder model.

About the post transition with IANA and ICANN some of you have mentioned, we can also try to fit it in. I think it's linked to the second subject. It is also linked to the fourth one. We'll try to think over it and try to fit it in if it's possible.

Aabout Senegal, I'm not sure that I rightly understood what you said, that maybe for us to prepare our bosses to come here, it should be good to have an idea of how the meeting is going to develop so that you can brief your Minister in terms of this is going

to be handled like this, very short interventions, questions and answers, or rather there could be room for statements. If that's what you said, I think it's a very good idea because our Ministers would like to know in advance what they will have to do here and how best to prepare for it.

And how to link issues of interest for Ministers like digital inclusion and development of digital economy as the Dominican Republic has said, that's a challenge because ICANN doesn't cover everything. But I think if we manage to word the titles in a generic way, there could be room for Ministers in the intervention to grab their attention to the linkages between ICANN's activities and all those far reaching goals.

In terms of diversity that Senegal has also mentioned, I guess you reffered to diversity here on the table. And if you refer to diversity as a subject [inaudible], I think it's a very interesting subject, diversity in ICANN. Also very interesting for countries that are not in the northern hemisphere and we'll try as well to fit it in in some place.

And the Chair's suggestion to present the titles in a more catchy way for the Ministers is a very intelligent suggestion. Okay.

And about the [inaudible] agenda, we have taken note of it, I think it's also a very wise suggestion. We'll endeavor to prepare it with the hope of the GAC leadership and GAC support staff.

And I think I've covered, more or less, all your suggestions, so thank you very much for your support and we'll provide a new list, I don't know if we'll send it to you for informational review on the letter that your Ministers will receive. Okay, thank you very much.

THOMAS SCHNEIDER: Thank you. We really have to stop here because there's a Commonwealth meeting taking place now. So that is not the end of the discussion. We still have a little bit of time to prepare this meeting in Barcelona. Thank you for this very good exchange, and again, thanks to Gema and the Spanish Government for taking on that responsibility.

So this is the lunch break and we will resume as usual, I think, at 1:30. Okay.

[Lunch break]