
KOBE – Joint Meeting ALAC and ccNSO
Sunday, March 10, 2019 – 17:00 to 18:00 JST
ICANN64 | Kobe, Japan

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: ... goal since the beginning, and thanks to you guys, I'm happily retired by now, and I would like to get involved in the more new and the brave worlds of some other areas, but in the interest of time – because there are not many Japanese guys or local guys here except the guy here and me and I'll be hanging around until Tuesday noon or so. If you have any local questions that I can answer, please [inaudible] me or send me e-mail, whatever.

I heard that you have a good invitation and reception tonight with our government, and good luck for you. For those who are not there, or who won't be there, come to the hotel lobby at 6:30; we'll have a bunch of fine, local really good foods, perhaps, but that's just personal invitation.

Of course, for more than 20 seconds that we are not that active in At-Large in Japan with certain reasons why, and I wouldn't tell too much because that's my view. Well, but we need to do a lot. I agree with you guys. And thanks for doing a lot of outreach. End of my story.

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MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you. Thank you. It's really nice to have you back into the fold again. Okay, well, this is going to be a very abridged version of the original schedule that we had planned, and I really thank Katrina for her indulgence in allowing us to curtail it, but we don't want to spend too much time on some of the introductory things, although I've got three slides, or something, and because we do want to let Giovanni have a chance to do his presentation that he has prepared. So, I don't want to go too much further than that.

But, okay, so this is really a very, very brief introduction to how we are organized in At-Large at the moment. I think I referred to this overview, just to say we've got the ALAC decision-makers. I know it's supposed to be bottom-up, but at the top, and the blue section is we've got advisors, the ALAC leadership team and we've also got the RALO chairs, as I mentioned, to bring in the perspective of our members.

Of course, the workers are at the bottom, and they're grouped according to organizational activities, policy, which is Olivier and Jonathan organized that, and we have Daniel who is in charge with co-chairs of the outreach and engagement. So, those, policy and outreach, are our core business, anyway, and that big picture of all the hard workers at the last At-Large Summit, so just to indicate that they are the ones who actually bring their voices to help us make our decisions.

Do I have any more, do I have anything else? Right, okay. There are two key things that we're actually doing this year, and one of course is the implementation of the At-Large review, and as I said there were 16 items, but we only agree with eight. Well, we sort of agreed with eight, but those eight are the ones that we decided probably wouldn't cost ICANN much in regard to getting them implemented, but covering the advice, the ALAC advice, with various individual participation, the sort of things, in those two areas, that are key to what we're doing.

Staff has actually got – there are actually two of those items that are related to staff involvement, and they're taking the lead on that as well. Our leadership, which I'd actually already spent some time on, anyway, looking at our working groups, they said we had too many working groups, so that's why we've only got one policy working group now because they do everything.

Yeah, just looking at the value of our RALO and the work that they do in the regions and of course metrics is probably part of everything. Next.

The second activity that we're going to be really involved in is ATLAS III which is going to be in Montreal. Our whole vision for ATLAS III is to develop leaders, leadership and policy leadership, so we're actually getting more grassroots people leading policy in

the grassroots RALO area. So, we're starting the development now and we'll be working on a whole lot of issues.

There are two key sections, leadership development, which is looking at the choosing of the people who will go to the event, and programming, which is looking at what they will do, going up to Montreal because there's actually going to be work that they have to do, plus the programming of the actual event itself. The final slide. Excuse me?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yes.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Everyone is busy, I believe. So, I'm just giving you one example, and that's the leadership team development and what we had to do, and what we've done over the last couple of months is actually looking at how we're going to choose those 60 people. We have hundreds of people in our memberships and we're saying, okay, we're looking at criteria for leadership. What are the key characteristics that we would expect from our leaders?

And this was developed by the volunteers. So, it's bottom-up. The organizing committee hasn't had anything to do with it. It's come straight for their peers. So, that's just an update and a whiz-through. So, your turn.

KATRINA SATAKI:

Thank you very much, Maureen, and good afternoon everyone. Maybe I should explain a little bit how we came up with what is going to be next. If you remember my last promise or statement during our meeting in Barcelona, it was that next time you will ask the questions. And that's what you did. You asked the questions. We received questions from Maureen, and when we started it wasn't clear to us how to answer those questions, and so we tried to find out what do you actually mean by those questions.

During these discussions we realized that we have probably a different approach to the way we look into ICANN's documents, like ICANN budget and operating and strategic plans. So, those are completely different approaches, and that's why we decided to share these projects, and that's why we are having this presentation now.

Giovanni Seppia who is the chair of our strategic and operational planning committee, he will tell you more about the committee. Unfortunately, we had to cut short this session and presentation about the ccNSO. So what we are, what we do will be given in Montreal, but now I think just in order to save time I will give the floor to Giovanni. Giovanni, please, the floor is yours.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA:

Thank you, Katrina, and thank you for the opportunity to explain what the SOPC does. So, the strategic and operation plan working group was created in Cairo, almost 10 years ago. We became a standing committee of the ccNSO in November 2017. Our goal is to make sure that the CC community, the country code top level domain managers, they do get involved in the ICANN strategic operational planning and budgetary processes, and everything started really a bit more than 10 years ago when ICANN started to consult more proactively the various communities about the strategic plans and operation plans.

Some of you may remember the very first meeting when ICANN was conducting these, let's say, cross-constituency consultations during ICANN meetings about the different strategic planning and operational planning and budget, what are the community wishes, what we would like to see as priorities, and so at that time the ccNSO decided to create this working group which became, a few years ago, a committee.

According to the charter, which have a charter. The charter has been reviewed recently in November 2017. The views expressed by the strategic and operating plan committee are not necessarily the view of the Country Code Name Supporting Organization or the views of the ccTLD community, but let's say that we have a very good and broad representation of different country code top-level domain managers. So, there is quite a

consensus whenever we express our opinion on an ICANN strategic plan or operating plan.

The membership is open to any country code top-level domain manager, meaning members and nonmembers of the ccNSO. Next slide, please.

This is the current membership, and on the last people, the last members on the right column, are the new members who have started their membership at this meeting. Next slide, please.

So, over the past decade, we expressed a different kind of comments. I thought about how to summarize this, considering the short timeframe available, and so the very first comments were about the fact that the very first ICANN strategic and operating plans were missing KPIs, were missing the indicators; how ICANN was measuring the access of an activity, how ICANN was measuring the achievements – their achievements not only from a financial perspective, but also from an operational perspective.

The very first, also, ICANN strategic and operating plan were missing sections about the risk assessment, contingency planning. They were not having real priorities. Financial figures were, at some point, substantive, but otherwise were just thrown in the narrative without being associated to specific projects, or specific activities.

The ICANN mission and values were differently interpreted in the sense that, at some point, we saw that there was a trend in ICANN to broaden the mission, the concept of the mission, as expressed in the bylaws. At some other points, it was more narrow and sticking to the bylaws.

Also, one point that we have highlighted as, let's say, most of the ICANN community is not a native English speaker and, because of that, sometimes the narrative of the plan is not as accessible as it should be to non-native speakers. This is an important element that we have been highlighting even recently. Next slide, please.

So, what we have learned, because it was not just the process of providing input, but also learning ourselves, and what we have learned is, first of all, that the ICANN finance department that is in charge of producing the strategic and operating plan is compiling the narrative, compiling the plans on the basis of the input they receive from the various departments, and that is why the quantity and quality of the information vary considerably.

Over the past decade, we witnessed very big improvements in certain priorities, introducing KPIs, having a better project management structure with dashboards that are now available to the entire ICANN community on the ICANN website. All of these things, they were not there 10 years ago, so the ICANN finance

department and all of the ICANN Org has made really great progress against what we were pointing out 10 years ago.

There are still a lot of areas which need improvement. One, where we have been focusing recently, is for instance the capacity of ICANN to anticipate certain situations or community needs, like GDPR. GDPR is something that is not really out of the blue. Everybody knew about GDPR in Europe, and if you are having some stuff in Europe you may think that the staff should be aware of GDPR.

Also, another element that is quite important is that we are trying to, let's say, cooperate with ICANN staff to engage the community more in the various public comment periods, and this is quite important so that there are fresh comments submitted at each public comment round and not by the same people, the same organizations. This is something that we have been stressing recently. Next slide, please.

So, if we look at the operating plan, how it looked 10 years ago, more or less, this is how the operating plan and budget, the table of contents looked for the fiscal year 2010, the ICANN operating plan and budget. On the left part of your slide you can see the webpage of the public comment period, how it looked like in 2009 when there was the opening of the public comment for the fiscal year 10 operating plan and budget.

You can see that it was quite skinny, not so many pages, and also the main difference was that the plan was submitted, translated in various languages. That, I must say, was something that was an action that ICANN was doing, trying to reach out to as many communities as possible in different languages.

If you go to the next slide, please, this is how the fiscal year, yes, the fiscal year '20 operating plan and budget looks like, and the public comment period just closed. On your left is the public comment period webpage. As you can see, it's not one document anymore. It's quite a considerable set of documents. The quantity of information is really impressive. As impressive, is the table contents of the basic operating plan and budget document.

Quantity does not always mean quality, but we acknowledged, even in our last public comment, that we made at the SOPC, that even the quality has improved considerably. What is missing here is probably an effort to have the plan, even with some highlights in other languages, but I think that there's great improvement, and this is something that we have witnessed, we have contributed, and we are pleased to commend ICANN for it.

Next slide, please.

So, the most recent comments that we have made are in the next slide. It's about the two or three comments that we have submitted. The first one is on the two-year planning process. The

second one is about the fiscal year '20 operating plan and budget, and the third comment is about the strategic plan 2021-2025. What we have highlighted, apart from commending ICANN for the progress, is for the two-year planning, what is the need at ICANN, deciding to have a two-year planning process. There were some questions that ICANN was asking to all the community. If I can get the next slide, please.

Yes, so, about the two-year planning process, what we have highlighted is that we believe that the two-year planning process will not increase the transparency of the process. There is already a very good level of transparency of the process, but we also think that the two-year planning process may help at some point to collect more input from the community and will also enable the ICANN finance department to make much proper assessment of the comments they receive and how to incorporate the comments in the process.

For the fiscal year '20 operating plan and budget and the five-year operating plan update, we have made some specific comments on some of the objectives and goals. At the same time, we have also highlighted some areas like the need for ICANN to prioritize the actions. This is quite important.

And the same for the strategic plan for 2021-2025. There, the main comment has been how ICANN has come up to have those

priorities and how ICANN has come to have those objectives because their plan says that there were other objectives that were somehow turned down, and they were not taken up by the board exercises, so we would like to have it, for the sake of transparency, a bit more background about how ICANN has decided to have those goals, those priorities. And, again, what has been the methodology to have consensus on those goals and priorities.

I think this is it. I'm happy to answer any questions. As I said, we have been working on those plans for many years. It's quite important that all the community participate in the plan because, at the end, those plans are the basis of ICANN activities for the future. So, I'm happy to take any comments or questions at this stage. Thank you.

KATRINA SATAKI:

So, thank you very much, Giovanni. Are there any questions? I think it might be the first time we have no questions.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Can I just ask? So, what are your priorities when it comes to what you're planning to do, what ccNSO has got for priorities for this year?

KATRINA SATAKI:

The priorities of the ccNSO? Well, it's our PDP process, so we are currently working on the PDP and the retirement of ccTLDs. We are planning to start planning to start a new PDP on IDN ccTLDs. We also would like to propose changes to the ICANN bylaws to make sure that the definition of ccTLDs matches the reality and to make sure that we can start. We do not ... Well, we can efficiently and effectively start IANA function review – not to be stopped by some certain requirement that unfortunately we cannot meet at the moment.

If we talk about the planning [along those] ICANN documents, then the plan of course and the priorities are to keep an eye on all these documents and to help ICANN to make sure that these documents are solid, the budget is, let's say, in line with the requirements, in line with all the plans, and does not give some [bigger sort of error to] make sure that ICANN can function in a sustainable manner, yet reach all the goals, and make sure that the work is done.

But, for that, yes, we need to prioritize things. So, we need KPIs, key performance indicators, that could tell us whether we're doing well or not, and we also need to keep an eye on everything that's going on.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Maureen. I'm quite intrigued or interested in seeing recommendations to have a prudent and eventually restrictive approach when it comes to possible new engagements. There have been some discussions in ICANN, looking at addressing schemes for IoT, Internet of Things. I don't know whether you have discussed any of this internally in the ccNSO and whether this would be seen as a possible new engagement, and whether that would be restricted or not.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA: Thank you. It's a good question. So, over the past year, indeed, we had a different sort of trends within ICANN. Sometimes, that depended on the CEO. Some CEOs, they wanted to get involved in as much as possible at the worldwide level, and even the planetary level. So, it was galactic engagement. And this is something that was included in the plans. So, because at some point there were some situations, some sort of failures, we have been—as an [SOPC]—always recommending to ICANN that whenever they get into having something like the Internet of Things, or whatever, it's like sort of to a child, think twice before speaking or think twice before making a step forward.

We have this recommendation both for engagement in new areas, but also we believe that ICANN should really stick to the mission as it's stated in the bylaws, but also a similar

recommendation for the use of funding, which is quite important because in the past we have been [waved] at ICANN literally to say you're estimates for funding are too optimistic; we are from the ccTLD community, we know how registration trends are going, so don't be too optimistic. Then, one year later, we're told, "You were right." And I say, yeah, it's not anticipated [inaudible] we are in the business, so we know.

So, I think it's a recommendation to be prudent at different levels, and this is because I think ... Also, I do believe, and also the SOPC believes that when you are focusing on your mission and you are delivering well on your mission, at some point, if you have resources you may look at other areas, but in the priorities really to look at the core of what ICANN should deliver.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Madam Chair, if I'm allowed another unrelated question to this one. We've heard earlier, from previous participants that came into the room, that there might be up to 20,000, maybe even ... Well, it's a high number, anyway, 20,000 applications for new ccTLDs in the next future round, whenever that might take place. Has the ccNSO discussed this, internally, and wondered what that might mean for country codes and for overall stability and future of ICANN?

KATRINA SATAKI: Well, we haven't discussed the numbers of potential applications for new gTLDs, and we have it that some ccTLDs have been applying for the geographic top-level domains. They act also as registries for those top-level domains. The short answer is no, and I think let's stick to that answer because our time is running out.

SEBASTIAN BACHOLETTE: Maybe it's better if it's Olivier who says that because he signs MoU with CENTR and I think it's important to say that here because it was between the two ICANN meetings. Mr. Chair of EURALO, please.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Sebastian. Yes, I just wanted to announce that EURALO has signed with the CENTR an MoU for collaboration, pretty much in line with what other RALOs have signed in their own space, and in their own geographic area, and we are sending Sebastian Bacholette to the next CENTR AGM in, oh, it's just less than in a week's time. Straight from Osaka. Or, yeah, straight from Osaka, fly over to [Balto], so thank you. And we're very excited about this collaboration. Thank you.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA: Yes, you mentioned now that they're doing some PDPs, some policies, and I understand that there are policies inside ccNSO

that are very close, like a retiring ccNSO, or something like that, but when you're talking about the IDNs, that's something that affects us as a civil society, as users. Have you thought at some time to look at ALAC or any other group in these PDPs?

KATRINA SATAKI: Well, it's a normal process that other groups are invited to participate in the PDPs. The short answer is yes.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Okay, we must be close to time, but we do have another item, yes?

KATRINA SATAKI: : Yes, thank you. Thank you very much. So, as you know, our two groups have agreed to exchange liaisons. So, Barack is doing a very solid job as your liaison to the ccNSO Council. Until now – well, actually until after this meeting, our liaison to ALAC was Wafa Dahmani. Unfortunately ... Well, I won't say unfortunately because, for her, she is moving forward. She is moving to the ASO counsel and for her that's a big step forward, and we're very happy for her, and congratulate her.

For us, of course, we must say unfortunately we have lost our liaison, but we are very happy to tell you that we've got another

fantastic liaison, the liaison from the ccNSO counsel to ALAC. Let me introduce you to Segun Akano. Please treat him kindly. Yeah. So, thank you very much. Thank you, Segun, for agreeing to do that. I'm sure that it will help us to collaborate even closer and set up interesting agendas for both parties. So, thank you very much. With that, back to Maureen.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Are there any more questions? Going, going. Well, thank you very much for coming, Katrina.

KATRINA SATAKI: Thank you very much for having us. See you in Montreal.

MAUREEN HILYARD: See you in Montreal. Thank you. Thank you, everyone. We're all going to get ready to move out.

KATRINA SATAKI: Montreal, we are not meeting in Marrakesh, yeah?

MAUREEN HILYARD: Yes.

GISELLA GRUBER: For those attending the session, we're going to leave just through the front door, if you just want to stand outside the front door, just to kind of stretch your legs, and then we'll be walking straight through to the main hall, one level down, to go down to the meeting room, which is right at the back, the last meeting room there is. Thanks, and in my heels, it takes five minutes. I think we should all take five minutes, no more. Thank you.

A reminder for those who would like to take their tent cards with them, otherwise we will try and pick them up. Thank you.

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