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KOBE – APAC Space  
Monday, March 11, 2019 – 13:30 to 15:00 JST  
ICANN64 | Kobe, Japan

JOYCE CHEN:

Good afternoon, everyone. I'm Joyce Chen from the ICANN APAC regional office and I'm based in Singapore. Jia-Rong, who is seated right next to me, is my boss and he will give his welcome speech in a little bit but I need to run through the schedule with you first.

First of all, welcome to Kobe, in the [inaudible] greeting. Happy to see all of you. If the remote participants can't hear us, please immediately raise your hand or write it in the chat. We have our remote participation manager, [Ken], who is helping us to manage the remote channel. So, next slide.

So, for today's agenda, we have quite a packed schedule. We have Donna who has kindly come to tell us a little bit more about the Registry Stakeholder Group and to let us know more about them and for us to get to know how the RySG is actually contributing to the ICANN community and the ICANN policy work. We have Leah and Pablo who will give us an introduction on the Nominating Committee.

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So, a very important bunch of people, because a lot of the nominations from them are actually for the ICANN board so we definitely want to hear a lot more from them.

After that, we have Cheryl Langdon-Orr to give us an update on the new generic top-level domain subsequent procedures policy development process. This won't be an introduction to the PDP. This is really just an update for us to know what has happened since the initial reports came out and what were some of the public comments that were given for this PDP.

Then, of course, we have Pam Little who is seated to my left who has very, very kindly volunteered to be our community facilitator for all these different introductions and questions and answers that will take place after each introduction. And of course Pam will also bring us through a discussion on strengthening ICANN's multi-stakeholder model of governance. You heard this morning from our ICANN chair, Cherine Chalaby, who spoke to us about the strategic planning process and the exercise and all the things that are coming out of there in terms of ICANN's future. I'd like for the APAC community here to think about what our role is in ICANN's multi-stakeholder model. What can the APAC community do to contribute to this?

Of course, we have AOB. We have Dr. Ajay Data. Where is he seated? Okay, right. He will give us an update on

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internationalized domain names or IDNs as well as universal acceptance, UA. We have a couple of sessions that are running for this ICANN meeting, so we would like you to also come to those sessions as well. So, this will just be a quick update on these issues.

So, without further ado, I will pass the time on to Jia-Rong to give us his remarks and tell us more about APAC space.

JIA-RONG LOW:

Thank you, Joyce. So, thank you, everyone, for coming. I think this is possibly the record number of people we have ever had in the APAC space.

So, welcome, everyone. So, I'll just talk a little bit about APAC Space and why we have this. Essentially, APAC space is literally a space for us, Asia-Pacific community members to get together.

Now, in my opening speech this morning, I mentioned about the ... When we first started the Asia-Pacific regional office, we had longstanding community members, a lot of them around the table who have told me many times we are very underrepresented here in ICANN. We've come a long way since. Look at this table. Look at this room. But we still have some ways to go.

One of the things we wanted to drive first is we acknowledge that we are a relatively shy community. we have strong views but we are sometimes shy to share them in a very public setting. The whole idea for us when we participate in ICANN is that we must not be shy to speak up, because if we do not speak up at the table, even if we share our views at the corridor, it will not be heard and the idea is for us as one community to get very comfortable being able to share our views. And after some discussions, we realized why not if we had a place where we could share our views amongst friends, amongst a comfortable community who understands each other very well? If we can do that, then in a more global setting where we're discussing other issues, we can actually share those views as well.

This is how APAC Space started and this is what APAC Space is all about and that's why each APAC Space will be led by a community facilitator. So, today Pam has very kindly volunteered to do this and I'm hoping to see more community members take up this role.

So, coming back to the second bullet point here on the slide, APAC Space really is meant to be community led. We do this bi-monthly on a Web conference and also face-to-face at ICANN meetings. As mentioned in the third bullet point, it is meant to be a practice ground for us to facilitate community discussion.

The various topics are on the slide. We tried to focus on very ICANN related topics so that when we participate in the working groups we are able to voice our views. This is not meant to be a replacement for the ongoing work in ICANN, but as mentioned, this is meant to be a practice round for all of us.

Now, a secondary, and to me a very important goal of APAC Space, is for us to feel very comfortable with each other and get to know each other as one community. And today, in this room, we have a lot of newcomers who first joined us. If you are sitting next to a stranger, can you please exchange business cards minimally? Get to know each other. We are amongst friends. Please feel comfortable.

I know probably some of the Japanese community members who are first time with us, I'm guessing you might also be shy. So, those who have been to an APAC Space, please reach out to them and just say hi and give them a big smile.

The other [inaudible] we will be doing, networking, because we have a very full agenda is the APAC social. So, tomorrow evening, we'll have APAC social. At the end, I think we will have a flash announcement on it. Please join us for APAC social because it's actually drinks and we'll get to know each other and we'll facilitate for ... They are connected, yes, Cheryl. And we'll try to facilitate for us to get to know each other better. If you've been to

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one of the APAC socials, I will be coming around and introducing you to people you don't know and break apart those who have been talking to each other for like 20 years. I will get you to talk to somebody else. So, please join us for APAC social tomorrow.

Now, coming back to the last few points at the bottom of this slide, we have a mailing list, so if you want to subscribe to it, go to [subscribe@apacspace.asia](mailto:subscribe@apacspace.asia) and thanks again, Edmon, for offering us the platform to have [discuss@apacspace.asia](mailto:discuss@apacspace.asia) and we also have a community Wiki page.

So, everything that is discussed, we will take notes and we will post it in the community Wiki. We will post the presentations on the community as well. So, if you find it hard to follow, you can always go back to refer to it.

Now, the last thing I will just say before handing the time back to Joyce is, again, speak up. Let's try that. I know many are not comfortable with English as a first language, so I do want to remind the speakers, please, if you can, slow down a little bit when you speak and speak a little bit louder so that everyone can follow you more easily. Thank you very much.

JOYCE CHEN:

Thank you, Jia-Rong. I am also reminded of the fact that at every face-to-face meeting, we usually do a round of introductions

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around the table of the APAC space members. But of course if you look at the room now, it's entirely impossible. So, as Jia-Rong said, please do get to know the people who are next to you if you are new to APAC Space because we can't do it for this session.

So, moving quickly ahead, we have Donna Austin who is the chair of the Registry Stakeholder Group to bring us through an introduction of RySG. Donna, please go ahead.

DONNA AUSTIN:

Thanks very much, Joyce, and thank you for the invitation to join the APAC Space today. My name is Donna Austin. I work for Neustar. Neustar is a registry operator. We have dot-neustar and dot-biz and we also manage some of the ccTLDs, so dot-co and dot-us. But we also provide the backend services for a large number of new gTLD registry operators.

In Barcelona, I stepped into a new role as the chair of the Registry Stakeholder Group, so this is my first meeting in those shoes. So, it's a little bit scary. Have we got the slide? Okay, great. Next slide, please.

So, what I want to take us through today is who we are, the Registry Stakeholder Group, what we do, where our current areas of focus are and go through some of the questions.

We had an outreach session with some of the Asia-Pacific members yesterday, so this slide is familiar to you. But it was a great experience just to get to know a few people and understand some of the issues that we need to think about in engaging more with members from this region. Next slide, please.

So, who are we? The primary role of the Registry Stakeholder Group is to represent the interests of the gTLD registry operators that are currently under contract to ICANN in the ICANN multi-stakeholder community. So, each registry operator has a contractual relationship with ICANN and that's through the registry agreement.

So, to be a member of the Registry Stakeholder Group, you have to have a registry agreement with ICANN. So, if you're a ccTLD, you can't join the Registry Stakeholder Group, unless of course you manage a generic top-level domain as well.

The current membership of the RySG is 80-plus members and that includes the [inaudible] registry group and the geo TLD group, who are associate members.

The membership grew considerably as a result of the 2012 new gTLD program which increased our diversity on a number of levels including geographic and the business models and the type of gTLD that were part of the membership. Next slide, please.



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So, this just shows you the registry operators by region and then a reflection of our membership by region. One of the things that ... I'm Australian but I live in Los Angeles but I understand some of the – not so much the cultural, some of the cultural issues but certainly the time zone challenges for people in the Asia-Pacific region in participating in ICANN generally but also we have that issue within the Registry Stakeholder Group.

We meet twice a month but not at a time that's ... It's not terribly friendly for our folks in the Asia-Pacific region. So, one of the things that I'm looking to address in the new role is how can we engage more with ... We do have Asia-Pacific members. We would like to engage more with the TLD operators in this region and increase our membership. So, we're looking for ways that we can do that. Next slide, please.

So, this is our executive committee. I'm the chair. Samantha Demetriou is the vice chair of policy. And [Sam's] role there is most of you will be familiar with ICANN's public comment processes and a lot of [Sam's] time is coordinating that effort in developing the responses that we provide to documents that ICANN have published for public comment.

Beth Bacon is our vice chair of administration, so that goes more to we are actually in the process of revisiting our charter because we've actually become an incorporated organization, so we're

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making some changes there. Beth is overseeing that process. Then, Jonathan Robinson is our treasurer. Next slide, please.

So, our executive members are elected by the Registry Stakeholder Group members and we have a larger executive committee that includes our three GNSO Councilors. The outgoing chair of the stakeholder groups are Paul Diaz. He'll stay on for twelve months [and form] a broader part of the executive committee. And our Nominating Committee representative who is Jon Nevett.

We also regularly engage with the Registrar Stakeholder Group Executive Committee on areas of common interest. Obviously, [inaudible] contracted parties to ICANN. We have some areas of common interest, so that relationship is important to us.

We're also supported by our full-time secretariat, Sue Schuler, which some of you may know, and we fund that through our membership fees. Next slide, please.

So, what do we do? The stakeholder group advocates to the ICANN staff and board on behalf of registry operators. So, because we have a contractual relationship with ICANN, the relationship we have with GDD and also compliance is really important to us. So, maintaining those relationships is important, but it's not always a comfortable relationship. We often come at things from a different point of view so it's important that we

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maintain that relationship so that we can have that open dialogue and discussion.

So, Registry Stakeholder Group provides avenues and opportunities for participation in policy and technical development and global Internet governance and the leadership and small teams provide representation in contract negotiations, [inaudible] and technical development and compliance issues.

So, on the participation, as a collective, the Registry Stakeholder Group is really important. So, we have some members that are really well-resourced in terms of people that they can follow certain issues on behalf of the stakeholder group and provide regular updates. But we also have ... Particularly smaller registry operators don't have that resource. So, the registry stakeholder group is important in providing that collective to ensure that, from the Registry Stakeholder Group perspective, we have many of the subjects covered so that we're well-informed. So, that's important.

The last one, the interaction with [inaudible] members list are educational opportunities for registry operators and their markets. So, one of the things that is high on my agenda as the new chair is we don't do a lot of education about who we are, what we do, what potential impacts of policy changes might be. So, we're trying to engage more with the GAC so that we have a

better dialogue so that they can ask questions of us, and also there are a number of topics that are discussed within the community that aren't necessarily discussed with the registry stakeholders which had a vested interest in some of the discussions.

So, what we're trying to do is rather than sit back and wait for issues to arise [inaudible] part of the conversation. So, that's something that I'm looking to do certainly in the short term. Next slide, please.

So, where do we fit in the ICANN structure? The Registry Stakeholder Group is part of the Generic Names Supporting Organization and together with the Registrar Stakeholder Group we form the contracted parties house of the GNSO Council.

We elect three members to the council. Our current councilors are Rubens Kuhl from Brazil, Maxim Alzoba from Russia, and Keith Drazek from North America. And our councilors can serve a maximum of two [two-year] terms. And these position are elected by the membership and we do try to have diversity with our membership on the council.

The contracted parties house also appoints one person to the ICANN board and that appointee is currently Becky Burr and we've recently been through a process to reappoint Becky for a

second term and that will start at the end of this year. Next slide, please.

So, these are our current areas of focus. So, the EPDP on gTLD registration data. Obviously, this is a really important issue for us because the regulation has had a direct impact on how we manage and process information. So, we've had, in addition to the three members of the EPDP and the three alternates, we've had a support team of the broader stakeholder group that's assisted in that effort.

At the same time, we've had a technical team that's been working on the development of the registration data access protocol [inaudible] documents and that was a requirement that came out of the temporary specification that ICANN issued that was a [inaudible]. Anyway, I think most people know where that came from. But that protocol was a technical development and that has recently been endorsed and ICANN has sent out legal notices to all of the registry operators stating that profile needs to be in place within 180 days.

The ICANN compliance effort, ICANN compliance audit. So, ICANN compliance has the ability to audit registry operators on I think it's on a semi-regular basis. But this was the first time they had actually done an audit of all of the registry operators and we had some concerns that the scope of the audit was actually outside

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the remit of what was allowable within the registry agreement and we had quite a bit of discussion with ICANN compliance in relation to that. And as a direct result of those conversations, we will have a closed session with ICANN compliance at this meeting and we will actually have a discussion to try to get a common understanding of when compliance does these audits what is allowable within the terms of the registry agreement. So, that's a really important discussion for us.

DNS abuse is a very broad topic but it's one of these areas where we recognize there's lots of concerns in the community, a lot of discussion in the community and we really haven't been part of that discussion, so that's something we want to engage more in.

Then, I mentioned that Sam Demetriou who is our vice chair of policy, a lot of her work is related to working with the stakeholder group to develop comments in response to policy development working group reports and ICANN documents. Next slide, please.

We're at the end, so I'm open to questions. But I do have one question for folks in the room. Can I get a show of hands of registry operators that may be in the room, please? Okay, great. So, just a plug. We would love to see you at the Registry Stakeholder Group meeting that is running all day on Tuesday. And that's an open meeting, so it's not only for registry operators and our members but anybody can come along and listen in to

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those proceedings. So, I welcome people's attendance at that.  
Thanks, Joyce.

JOYCE CHEN: Thank you so much, Donna. And if there are any questions, Pam will help to facilitate us.

PAM LITTLE: Thank you, Donna. Hi, everyone. My name is Pam Little. While you are thinking about any questions, maybe I will just add a couple of comments. Donna Austin is a shining example of our Asia-Pacific leader and she didn't mention – and I'll mention it. She actually served on the council as one of the Registry Stakeholder Group's councilors on the council for the last four years until the end of last year when she was termed out. There's no rest for the wicked. She took over the chair of the RySG at the end of November or beginning of November and she hit the ground running and she was really actively proactively thinking about better ways to engage this community, especially registry operators in the Asia-Pacific region. So, I really applaud her effort for that and she's now here doing the engagement and outreach. So, thank you, Donna.

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So, with that, I would open the floor. I believe we only have five minutes and I've already taken one, so you've only got four. Any questions from the audience? Edmon?

EDMON CHUNG:

Edmon Chung here from dot-asia, just to kick off the room. Just a couple of comments, actually, for those who are running registry. I think joining the registry constituency is one thing, but actually coming to participate, you don't have to be a member.

The other thing that Donna didn't mention is that besides the ICANN policies that the Registry Stakeholder Group spends effort on, there are local stuff that happens that the Registry Stakeholder Group band together and help out as well. I think many people know about the China license situation and a couple years ago, a number of the registry came together and worked together on it. There are different responses to abuse policies and those kinds of things that may not be at the ICANN policy level that the members – or actually, non-members – can come together and try to work together as well. So, it's not just about policy at ICANN. It's about running the registry in your different areas as well. Just to add that.

PAM LITTLE:

Thank you, Edmon. Okay, Jia-Rong?



**JIA-RONG:** Just a quick add. You may be wondering for the newcomers or if you're not a registry operator, how is this relevant for you? What's relevant is the network here. If someone, one of our community members, is part of the Registry Stakeholder Group or is a registry operator, some of the discussions that's ongoing, like the EPDP – like if you have no idea what EPDP is, you can actually ask them because they are much more plugged into the discussions. Then, it's easier way for you to follow some of the discussions that's going on as well. So, I thought that would be useful just to add this, that it's not just a discussion for registries only. Thank you.

**PAM LITTLE:** Thank you for that, Jia-Rong. [inaudible] next.

**UNIDENTIFIED MALE:** I would also like to ask, particularly [inaudible] because you're talking about a registry, because [inaudible] ccTLD [inaudible] very different to the DNS. So, I think maybe we need to put [inaudible] thinking about how we can cover registry in a g and then another one in the cc. So, [inaudible] when the ccTLD goes there and they're [inaudible], it looks very different to what they are doing now.

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PAM LITTLE: Thank you. Donna, would you like to respond to that?

DONNA AUSTIN: Yeah. Thanks, [inaudible]. So, the ccTLDs do a really good ... They organize by region. So does the APTLD. The registries, to my knowledge, don't have something that's similar. There is a brand registry group. There's a geo-TLD group. There's the Domain Name Association which is broader because the representation is potentially registries, registrars and it doesn't matter whether you're a gTLD or a ccTLD or whatever. So, that association is broader.

But we don't ... The Registry Stakeholder Group traditionally has been focused on ICANN related issues and we haven't ... We're not necessarily represented at IGF or things like that.

One of the initiatives in addition to ICANN meetings is the GDD Summit and that's a place for registries and registrars to come together and to discuss some common issues, discuss best practices. Registries and registrars can engage on a business level and that summit, the next summit is actually in Bangkok in May and certainly we would encourage people from the region if they're interested in attending to do so. It's a pretty full three-day agenda and it's more business focused than ICANN policy focused, but there will be some. Sometimes it's hard to distance

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the two. And I think there is an effort to have a reasonable amount of discussion around the DNS abuse topic.

PAM LITTLE: Thank you, Donna. I believe I have Joyce in the queue, then Michael next.

JOYCE CHEN: Thanks, Pam. This is just a gentle administrative reminder. Before you speak, to please say your name. I'm Joyce from ICANN. Where you're from as well. And please speak slower because we do have translation. Thank you.

PAM LITTLE: Michael, over to you.

MICHEAL: Thank you, Pam. In the spirit of diversity ... Sorry. Michael from [inaudible] Consulting. But in the spirit of diversity, I was going to speak in a different language if you don't have your headset on, but Donna, I don't see you with a headset, so I'll just ask it in English.

I think I asked this on a call before on the future of the Registry Stakeholder Group. We've grown so much in these eight years –

no nine, no seven. Seven years. And we thought we might grow again here in 2020 or so, but we'll talk about that next.

But diversity within the Registry Stakeholder Group is not just in terms of region. It's in terms of different categories. Not officially recognized categories, of course, but the different interests are already beginning to collide when it comes to talking about an issue on public comment for how the Registry Stakeholder Group. I'm sure there are others in this room that might be interested to learn how the Registry Stakeholder Group may look at ... It will inevitably grow in the future, how you will approach this issue of diversity in different topics, different opinions.

DONNA AUSTIN:

Thanks, Michael. One of the discussions that we had earlier this week with a group of members that were interested was we were looking to develop guidelines for developing public comment because we come up against this problem particularly as it relates to subsequent procedures where we had some strong differences of opinion and it was really hard to find that. We couldn't find middle ground. So, it's how do we reflect those comments in our responses.

But then the other problem is how do you do that in a way that it's meaningful and it doesn't cancel each other out? Because I think we really ... I don't know that we can necessarily overcome

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that, but at least we're having a conversation about how can we develop comments that add value and can be taken into account by whoever the receiver of the comments are? So, that is a challenge for us. We are discussing it.

But I'd also say that it's probably ... Maybe it's an 80/20 thing. So, most of the value with the Registry Stakeholder Group is engagement with GDD or compliance around issues that really are a problem for us as a whole. And I think that's where the value for the stakeholder group is, having that common voice to go to ICANN and say, "This isn't just a problem for one or two of this. This is a real problem for all of us and we need to address it." So, that's the value.

The diversity. One of the things that we've done, we did it in Puerto Rico and we did it somewhere else. We're trying to showcase that diversity. So, [inaudible] has actually been part of a panel that spoke about innovation in new gTLDs. And because there is quite a bit there but we don't showcase it.

Then we had another one. I can't remember where that was, but it spoke to – there's a traditional sort that the success of the registry is based on domains [inaudible] management, and that's not the case because of the different business models that the registry operators have. Success is defined in many different ways. So, that's important that there's education in that regard

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so that we can take away from that traditional sort within the community that it's all about the number of domains that you sell and that's how you are successful. That's not the case. A lot of the smaller registries are really specific about their target market and what the value is they're trying to provide. So, thanks.

PAM LITTLE:

Hi, everybody. In the interest of time, I believe there are still people who would like to ask questions and I'm very sorry, we have to close the queue and move on to the next agenda item. Thank you, Donna, for spending time with us here today, and for those who provided valuable input and comments. Joyce, can I hand it over to you to introduce the next speakers, please?

JOYCE CHEN:

We have Leah Symekher and Pablo Rodriguez, who are part of the 2019 Nominating Committee. I'll pass the time on to you and you have about 15 minutes. Thank you.

PABLO RODRIGUEZ:

Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Pablo Rodriguez and I am a ccNSO Council representative for the Nominating Committee. I will also pass at this moment the microphone to my colleague, so that she can introduce herself and continue with the presentation. Thank you very much.

LEAH SMYKHER:

Twenty years ago, I used to live in Japan, so I am very happy that I have this opportunity to come to Japan again and thank you for the invitation. I'm very happy and thank you very much. Now I'm going to switch to English.

Thank you very much for this invitation, Jia-Rong and Joyce, for making this possible. It's the first time for us to be at APAC Space. We are part of the outreach. We are cochairing the outreach subcommittee for NomCom and this is a very important time for us to be able to connect to the community and share with you who we are, what we're doing, and open positions on the board. Next slide.

This is the Nominating Committee for this year. This is a picture that was taken at our kickoff meeting in Barcelona. Every year, the Nominating Committee has new members joining the team. So, at the AGM, that's where most of the processes are discussed and the team kind of [inaudible] together to see what their goals are and to [inaudible] that they need to fill.

The NomCom is made up of 20 members, 15 voting members and two non-voting members. We are elected by our constituencies to the NomCom. We serve a year with the ability to go into our second year and that's it. Pablo and I are second-year members to the NomCom. Next slide, please.

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Who is the NomCom? I think it's important to understand that. So, as I said, that is the structure of the members that make the NomCom. Our mandate is to select members to the open seats on the ICANN Board of Directors as well as the open seats on the ALAC, the GNSO, ccNSO, as well as the PTI Board.

It's mandated to work on behalf of the interests of the global Internet community. So, even though we are selected by these various constituencies, we are not obligated to vote in accordance to our constituencies. We are in fact very independent and highly committed to the interests of the global Internet community and what we would perceive as maybe gaps that the ICANN board and leadership needs in order to operate effectively and efficiently.

We do work with the mission of ICANN mission and we have bylaws that we abide by. Looking at what we have in front of you on the screen, you can see the distribution of the Nominating Committee, if you're looking from the left side to the right. You see we have the ASO members and we have also [inaudible] how many people are represented from each of the constituencies. So, the ASO, the ccNSO. We have the GNSO. Then we have the At-Large Advisory Committee, the ALAC. So, those are all the 40 members.



Then, we do have the non-voting members as we go further towards your right. We have the GAC, which currently we do not have a representative from the GAC and there hasn't been one for a while. Then we have the Root Server Systems Advisory Committee, the Security and Stability Advisory Committee, and our chair, the chair elect, and associate chair. So, all those are non-voting members. Next.

Each year we have seats to fill, and for this year, 2019, we have ten open seats, but we are working hard to find qualified candidates for. Again, going from the left, the Public Technical Identifiers Board. We have one seat open. That's a three-year term. And as you now, the Public Technical Identifier pretty much fulfills the IANA functions within ICANN and they are an independent board but working within ICANN. This came into being after the IANA transition.

Moving to your left, we have three open seats on the Board of Directors. It's a three-year term. We have the GNSO Council. That's two seats open and that's a two-year term. We have the ALAC Committee, three seats open. This is very geographically focused. We have a need for candidates from the Asia, Australia, and the Pacific Islands region, Africa, and the Latin America and Caribbean Islands. For the ccNSO, we have one seat open and that's a three-year term.

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Now I transition over to Pablo to continue with the rest of the presentation.

PABLO RODRIGUEZ:

Hello, all. Once again, this is Pablo Rodriguez. I would like to point out to you the importance of participating. I would like to thank Jia-Rong and Joyce because you touch on extremely important points. You mentioned that the community, we tend to be shy. And I say we. Why would I say we? Look at North America has each region should have at maximum five representatives. The North American region has five representatives. The European region has four representatives. But look at Asia-Pacific, Africa, and Latin America which is another region. Those three regions have only two representatives. I am completely convinced that we have highly qualified individuals that can aspire to be candidates of the board who are any of the other leadership positions. The reason why we're here is precisely to tell you that you should apply, that you should try, because it is an experience that will help you carry the voice of your entire community.

In order for the multi-stakeholder model to work, we require the representation and the diversity that this community has expressed. So, this is really important to us.

The other slides that I have will talk about positions. You're smart enough and you know what those positions, what the functions

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of the board are and so on and you can read that online. May I have the next slide, please?

What is important here is that you participate, that language can be overcome and [inaudible] and that should not be a barrier to you. So, some of the positions, as my colleague Leah mentioned, was that the ICANN board has three open positions for the board. Those positions for the board will determine what are the best route, the best decisions, in order to make sure, to ensure that ICANN will be successful in its mission.

We also have the advisory committee. As you can see, it also considers and listens to provide advice to ICANN on those policy decisions that can ensure the protection of users and individual Internet users. May I have the next slide, please?

The Generic Names Supporting Organization, as you saw, we have two open positions and those two open positions are two-year-terms. One comes from the house of non-contracted. The other one is the house of contracted councilors. We have this opportunity to bring two of those.

The second one is one three-year term for the ccNSO. This is super important, participation, participation, participation. Do not be afraid. Do not be ashamed of the level of English that you may speak. The important part here is that your voice, your opinions,

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are important and they're needed and we need you to participate. May I have the next slide, please? Next slide.

So, the application period is open. It is currently open and it will close at 23:59 UTC on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. So, once again, you still have time to apply. This application period will close on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 23:59 UTC. So, these are the faces that we're going through, and right now, that yellow face is that candidate outreach. That's why we're here. That's why we're speaking to you, to invite you to participate.

Then, after that, you will find that there are other assessment phases in which we are assessing and considering those applications. May I have the next slide, please?

So, what are we trying to accomplish here? We are trying to increase transparency? And how do we increase transparency? By ensuring that people from all the various regions can participate in all of the processes that can comprise, that form, our community and that's why it's so important that you participate because when you participate, you know that transparency has been kept. Moreover, we are trying to increase the use of professional companies. In this case, we are using three companies. One that is already that we have been using, which is [inaudible]. But we are using two other companies which [Fahid]

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and Associates and [Fahin] and Associates is focusing on African candidates. The other one is focusing on Asia-Pacific candidates.

Once again, we are doing everything in our power to ensure that we consider aspiring candidates, talented, highly motivated individuals that can be willing to participate. May I have the next slide, please? This is how you can contact us. Thank you very much.

PAM LITTLE:

Thank you, both Leah and Pablo, for your very detailed introduction of the NomCom. I hope our Asia-Pacific community members all have a better understanding about what you do. But I think the most important thing here is the vacations you have to fill immediately and the application closes on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March. I actually have a queue forming, but because of the time constraint, I'm going to limit the question to two, if possible. I already have one person. Heather, are you ready to ask your question?

HEATHER FOREST:

Thank you, Pam. I'm going to hold my question until our general discussion time at the end. Thank you.

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PAM LITTLE: Okay. Thank you, Heather. I also have Michael. Then, I will come to you, [inaudible]. So, we have two questions. Michael?

MICHAEL FLEMMING: I will ask this question in English. Can we go back to the map, please? I want to ask a very elementary question, actually. The map where it shows the regions and the ... Oh, stop. Okay.

This may be a very elementary question. I just was wondering why. North America, Europe, and Africa, widely known as specific continents, but Latin America and the Caribbean Islands are grouped together into one. Asia, Australia, Pacific are all grouped into one. A rather large area with a lot more people. So, I guess these two areas, why were they grouped in this type of manner? Geographically speaking, this isn't the same as the others were grouped.

[DONNA AUSTIN]: Okay. I don't know if that's a question for the NomCom because I think it was an ICANN decision and we are just working with that in terms of candidates.

MICHAEL FLEMMING: Okay, thank you.

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PAM LITTLE:

Michael, thank you for the question. It is quite a large question. But these are the ICANN-specific unique way of geographic designation of the five regions and it is different to other designation methods. That's the bigger question and maybe that will be a different, separate topic. And yes, I do agree with you. The APAC region is quite large and probably 50% of the Internet users in this region. So, is this appropriate? I think that is a bigger conversation. Sorry, and thank you for hurrying you up. I now have got [inaudible] next. Oh, Edmon, you want to respond to that question? Thank you. Just very briefly, please.

EDMON CHUNG:

Edmon Chung from dot-asia here. Just quickly, you can look back at the bit of the history from the Montreal ICANN meeting. That's when this was decided. There was a review process to look at it. I think some adjustment, very minor adjustments. No changes but I think some were allowed to switch. Right? No? But anyway, look at the Montreal one and it was based on the UN groupings and I think there are three things it was based on and integration of that. But you can look back at that. I think Cheryl wants to add to it.

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UNIDENTIFIED MALE: My question is [inaudible]. In here, I see there is two [inaudible]. Can you tell me which two? I know one is [inaudible]. Who is the other one?

[DONNA AUSTIN]: I believe it's Chris Disspain. Yeah, it's Chris Disspain. He's from Australia.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Chris is [inaudible]?

[DONNA AUSTIN]: No, Australia. Chris is Australian.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You know he lives in UK now.

[DONNA AUSTIN]: I think we need to recognize the bylaws actually allow the person who holds the position to choose whether his place of birth or citizenship or domicile. So, I don't think that is something we can change. It's in the bylaw that allows flexibility. But that's a bigger conversation. If you recall, the GNSO review, the one that was done four years ago, actually made a very important recommendation which says geographic diversity is not proxy for



cultural diversity. So, I think you are touching upon what's the right metrics to actually have this diversity metrics and how do we actually achieve diversity. Is it only solely based on geographic region destination?

That, I think, would also be a question for our NomCom colleagues, that when you select candidates, do you ... [inaudible] the bylaws only require you to look at geographic diversity, but there are other diversity like cultural and maybe gender. These are all language used in our bylaws but I believe only geographic diversity is used as a calculation or index. But I don't know in your process whether you have other methods to look at the candidates and say, hey, this person in the [inaudible] actually would represent the most diversity among other candidates.

I know we are stressed for time, but maybe that's a separate conversation. We also have a general discussion on the evolving ICANN's governance model. So, that might be ... If we have time, we can talk a bit more about this, if folks will be okay with that. So, with that, I will move on to our third topic which is the update from Cheryl on the SubPro. Over to you, Cheryl.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you very much. Cheryl Langdon-Orr for the record. And it's more than just Cheryl. It's Cheryl & Co. It's Cheryl and Michael

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Flemming. Michael and I will share this and he may very well speak in something that isn't Australian English, so you may wish to prepare yourselves for that unless you are multi-lingual which I am most certainly not. If we can have the next slide, please, and the one after that.

I just wanted to very briefly, before we jump into the current status and hopefully those of you who do find my accent difficult to follow can start to read if you are able to do so easily in English. And I will filibuster for just a small moment or two while you do.

What is Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process Working Group? They're all words, but what on earth do they mean, especially for even not necessarily the newbies but the newbies in particular?

It's all to do with the opportunity to expand the top-level domain name space. So, new gTLDs. New generic top-level domains. The last time we had a round, and in fact we haven't actually finished that round yet – but the last time we had a round, there was quite a [inaudible] for those of you who were around at that time between the development of the policy advice on how it should go and the development of things called the Applicant Guidebook. Then the next step was the implementation of what was to happen during these application and deliberation phases

of potential new gTLDs. It was a huge number of years. I don't want to go into the sad and sorry story.

But, at the end of that process, it was an ideal opportunity to look at what worked, what didn't work, what perhaps happened in implementation that could benefit by being codified into the policy and the guidelines.

So, where there was a review of the round, there was a number of observations and things that were recommended that needed to be looked at and a GNSO Working Group was formed. GNSO working groups are open and inclusive and they'll let anybody in, even me. To that end, they'll not only let you in, they'll let you co-lead it. So, there is no reason why you cannot join us in these sorts of work activities. And we have a fairly large number of people working with us on this.

But our role was to carve up these very many questions, these many observations about the round before, and then work as a community with the diversity of all the voices that were in that community to see is this something that needed to be changed, could be changed to do better? Are there principles we might want to look at and that things like greater predictability, for example, was something we heard from applicants and the community, would be a very good thing. So, that's what this whole SubPro work is all about.

We're a couple of years down the track on that now and we've put out several initial reports. To begin with, we broke up into four ... There's a huge number of things we were asked to look at. We broke all of those tasks into four lumps and distributed those. We took out the matters of geographic names at the top level. And as you'll see at the end of that slide, we actually made that into a fifth work track.

But our current status, several years down the track, is as follows. Our initial report went out the third of July 2018 and we appreciate the huge amount of effort for all of those who contributed to the public comment on that. It was a 300-page report with more than 100 questions. Just to put it into context. It was just incredibly large. And that's only one of our initial reports we've put out.

We have, however, gathered all of the comments and organized them into almost bite-sized but perhaps choking-sized lumps of work and subgroups A, B, and C were gathered and they have literally gone through every single comment received. Can I say that again even more slowly and clearly for the sake of accountability here? Every single comment received. That's not just what came in from XYZ company. It's everything XYZ company said on everything they said it about. It was quite a body of work. So, all diligence is being done on all of the worthy input and we are now having triaged, look for themes, look for trends

out, finds out the community just [inaudible] disregards that as an idea they don't like at all. Oh, this seems to be general agreement that something should be done. Taking it back to the full plenary. So, it works A, B, and C [inaudible]. We're now going back to the full plenary. We're looking at the themes and we will discuss what recommendations may or may not come out.

Why am I telling you this now? Because it means it might be a good time if you're interested in this topic to perhaps get engaged, because we are still going to be doing work in the full working group.

I think we move to the next slide now, the only thing I was going to mention was geographic work track five is it is somewhat unique inasmuch as we took it to an interesting experiment, and I think a successful one. Because of the nature of geographic names at the top level and how deeply important it is to many groups in ICANN, that subteam is actually run by four co-chairs – one from two of the support organizations out of ICANN. That is the GNSO (the Generic Names Supporting Organization) and the ccnSO (the Country Code Names Support Organization) and two of the advisory committee, the At-Large Advisory Committee (known as the ALAC) and the Government Advisory Committee (often called the GAC).

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You will get a thrill-packed and exciting report out of all of us after we finish our deliberations and what we want to do is try and encourage APAC to be more engaged. Next slide, and Michael is going to take over from here.

MICHAEL FLEMMING:

At this point in time, we are running out of time. So, this is the timeline available. But please refer to the slides [inaudible]. And if you go to the next slide, here we are listing up the potential challenges. First is about what is consensus. This does not only mean it's agreed, but that working group, at the time of its decision-making, have consensus or not, that's also including. And existing GNSO policy will continue if the consensus was not reached.

I will be just giving you the highlighted overview. One of the challenges is that if consensus cannot be reached, then what should we do? That's a major point.

Next is dependencies. There are things that we couldn't cover 100% yet. One is competition, consumer trust, consumer choice review. Regarding these details, recommendations were made to PDP. It's requested and we are still working how to do with this.

Next is the Rights Protection Mechanisms. These dependencies, we need to discuss. This is an issue taken up by a separate policy

development group and we assume that we need to work on this but four years have passed, and during the four years, there are changes made as well.

Next is the name collision analysis project. The effort appears to be on hold, but we need to address name collision, but we haven't been able to put enough efforts. And IDN variant TLD implementation. Please [inaudible] for a moment. Let me skip.

In our working group, what we understand is that if there are issues that we cannot find a solution, then whether or not we should ask the different PDP to handle, like EPDP (the emergency policy development process) that [inaudible] possible for one issue or challenge. And that's the question. I'm going to skip this. Next slide.

Our final report, what it will look like. In the GNSO committee or council, in the third quarter, whether this is going to be adopted and if it's not adopted, what's going to happen will be voted. There are real ways and there are real steps that we can take.

GCO [inaudible], what are we going to do with that is what is being discussed right now. So, GC, when will the next round begin is the next question. And when does this GC task begin?

In our policy creation, this is one of the greatest issues, and therefore with regard to that, informal GCO should be conducted.

And GC task, when will it start and when will it end? Also, when will the next round begin is the question that many of you might raise. But this is for the future. So, looking at the timeline, please consider for yourselves. Thank you.

[inaudible] the rest of this presentation. I will pass the time onto Pam, but before that, Cheryl, do you have anything else? Okay. So, Pam, please.

PAM LITTLE:

Thank you, Cheryl, and Michael. Are there any questions for Cheryl or Michael? I hope you haven't been talked out of joining any potential PDP because the process is quite long and the issues are quite complex, as you can see. Rights protection, IDN, name collision. Anyway, I'll open the floor if there are any questions. Edmon, over to you.

EDMON CHUNG:

Edmon Chung from dot-asia. I'll use this as my practice ground because I'm going to try to do this at the open mic as well. So, there's one point that you pointed out on the IDN variant TLDs. I want to note that I'm actually quite shocked with the staff suggestion, recommendation right now. Right now, what is being proposed is that IDN variant TLDs will be applied as a separate



application completely which means the whole IDN variant concept is broken apart.

One of the things that I want to let everyone understand is that, let's say, for example, dot-hsbc wants to apply for the Chinese top-level domain. That means they have to apply three times. That's over a half-a-million dollars just for the application of the TLD. That doesn't make sense at all and throws back all the work that IDN variant TLDs have been doing in the last 15 years. I hope this community will care about this.

The other thing is that they are asking for separate registry agreement to be signed for each variant which is completely ridiculous, in my mind. It should be maybe an addendum to the registry agreement, but that's what is being proposed by staff paper as I understand and I hope this community is aware and would help tell ICANN and also the SubPro that that's not the right policy going forward. Adding variance should be part of the same application and also there should be just one registry agreement for one TLD application and not multiple. I'm using this as a practice ground for what I wanted to say.

PAM LITTLE:

Thank you, Edmon. So, if you share Edmon's concern about the IDN process, maybe get in touch with Edmon or put your public comment in. I believe there might be another round of public

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comments. Maybe not. Get in touch with Edmon. Do we have time for another question? Any other question for the SubPro presentation? Okay, Cheryl.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: I'm not going to question our own presentation, but I did want to – because a lot of what went through in all of these things ... These challenges are things that are external to SubPro. Now, SubPro work is affected by the things listed in front of you. It is not the work of us and I think that's important.

But if you have an extraordinarily challenging thing, particularly in my very biased view, as Edmon is raising, that affects our region above all others, then do let us know because subsequent procedures may very well in their deliberations take that into additional consideration.

So, it's challenges and dependencies. But what Edmon is describing is not a product of our work, but that does not mean that your concerns and your influence cannot be brought to bear in our work. So, all is not lost but you do need ... Like the NomCom can only appoint from the puddle of people that put in their expressions of interests, we can really only recommend based on consensus input and community input – obviously deeply held and often divided views.

The other thing is please don't be scared to join PDP, policy development processes. It sounds like a lot. And in some ways, it is. But it is also a network. You don't have to be in everything and do everything.

And look around you. There are friendly faces that you'll see in this very rare APAC Space that you can meet up again and you can back channel in the Adobe Connect room. Michael, what on earth are they saying about ... Why did they say that? And Michael will answer you. You can even ask me something. I may answer you. You never know. So, don't be put off, even if you are very new. Bring your voice. Bring your concerns. Thank you.

PAM LITTLE:

Thank you, Cheryl. Yes, I definitely echo that. This is the space we hope people can share their knowledge, share their experience, and also share their resources and information. Yes. This is going to be a very big program, the new gTLD program next round or future rounds. So, definitely follow the work. It's going to be after the EPDP I guess taking up a lot of our community resources and energy and effort.

Is there any other question? No more questions. We actually have something we need to pause, so I'm going to hand that over. Afterwards, okay. So, I'll hand it over to Jia-Rong. Jia-Rong, please?

JIA-RONG LOW:

Thank you. I announced Leah this morning that we have to do this minute of silence thing. So, this is what we're going to do.

On 11<sup>th</sup> March 2011 exactly on this day 2011 at 2:46 local time, a 9.1 earthquake struck in the Pacific Ocean off the northeast coast of Japan's Honshu Island. The earthquake now known as the Great East Japan Earthquake triggered a massive tsunami with waves that rose to heights of up to 40 meters and traveled up to 10 kilometers inland.

This was the most powerful earthquake ever recorded in Japan and the fourth most powerful earthquake in the world. An estimated 20,000 people were dead or missing and close to 500,000 people were forced to evacuate. A nuclear powerplant meltdown created a nuclear emergency. The direct economic loss from the earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear disaster is estimated at \$360 billion.

In remembrance of the lives lost and affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, we will now observe a moment of silence.

Thank you. Can I just ask for one minute to give to [inaudible] to elaborate a little bit about the earthquake, please? Thank you.

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[ISUMI]:

Thank you. My name is [Izumi] [inaudible]. I was a former ALAC APRALO member about ten years ago. Thank you, all of you, for sharing your moment of silence to the victims and their families. I won't be too long.

After the great earthquake in the [inaudible] areas, we had so much difficulties. But of course in this region we have so many big disasters. Just to count a few, Taiwan had an earthquake in 1999, [inaudible] Sri Lanka, India in over 14 countries in 2004 killed more than 200,000. [inaudible] in 2000 in China, [inaudible] 2011. Typhoon and earthquake in Philippines in 2012 and 2013. [inaudible] earthquakes 2013, 2015. And Nepal in 2015. [inaudible] Bangladesh in India and Solomon Island and so on and so forth.

But these days in almost every corner of the village, I often visit there, people are feeling and facing these disasters and are very much dependent on the communications be it Internet or smartphone or anything [inaudible].

So, in Japan after this earthquake thing and some of the reviews, we started a small team of people called DART or Disaster Assistance Response Team. And two years ago we started to dispatch a small number of people to areas like [Mamoto] or [Grasiki] to flood areas to set up with the local government

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information sharing crisis management thing or the Wifi routers or even printers in the volunteer centers.

So, [inaudible] before mostly ICANN's business is securing the identifiers, the domain name [inaudible] in these circumstances will become critical. Also, with the servers and information resources over that if you're in charge. So, let us prepare all together. That is my one-minute message. Thank you very much.

PAM LITTLE:

Thank you, [Izumi]. Two people in the queue. I cut them off and I'm sorry. Now we'll go back to the discussion. Or you have a question about the SubPro? It's the lady next to Save. Sorry, I don't know your name. Over to you. Please announce your name first.

AFIFA ABBAS:

My name is Afifa but my question was to the NomCom team, if I'm allowed to.

PAM LITTLE:

Alright. Sure. Go for it.

AFIFA ABBAS:

Okay. This is Afifa Abbas from Bangladesh, a coach for fellow this time. In 2017 when I was a fellow, I was approached by one of the

NomCom team members to apply for a leadership position. So, the guy was from Puerto Rico. I can't remember his name. So, he was encouraging me and some other female fellows to apply for the leadership position and later I figured out that he was also following up with me over e-mails.

So, I just told him one thing, that since I'm the newcomer, I just got to know about ICANN, totally newly – I didn't have any experience. So maybe I may not apply now. But from NomCom, you usually encourage even newcomers to apply for the leadership positions.

So, my question was how a newcomer being from a total new background, just the first meeting, how can that person possibly contribute to the leadership role? And is there any particular minimum criteria to apply for the leadership position?

PABLO RODRIGUEZ:

Thank you very much for the question and I'm very happy to hear that it was somebody from Puerto Rico. That is also my country. But the idea is that you should identify, you should not disqualify yourself because you're a newcomer. And there are a number of skills that you already bring with yourself. Chances are that you may be a lawyer, chances are that you may be someone in the technical community, chances are that you're someone who has

corporate governance. You may be an outsider to ICANN but you already have a number of skillsets.

If you are one of those talented individuals, committed individuals, you should consider what community do you think that you can contribute the most and apply to that. Continue to get involved in the community. Continue to participate in the community and you will continue to mature and grow in that community and you will find your way. So, absolutely, do not hold back.

LEAH SYMEKHER:

If I may add, please feel free to visit our website, [nomcom.icann.org](http://nomcom.icann.org). We have done a pretty good job of laying out all the criteria and requirements. We have put a lot of effort given that this is our second year on the NomCom. Last year and this year we interviewed the board to find out where are the gaps, skills that they need. We also interviewed all the other chairs and chairs of the other constituencies as well. Based on that, we do put together job criteria. We also take our own time to look at the overall community as a whole, the ICANN community, as well as the global Internet needs and look for skills that you think would be – that are missing, that are gaps on the board of the leadership team and look for that as well when we are looking for candidates and interviewing them, too.



Our outreach efforts, as outreach co-chairs, have been both internal, not just to subcommittee itself but also the NomCom delegates. We focus on getting qualified internal candidates within ICANN but as well as outside of ICANN. That has been a pretty big effort for us as well.

So, feel free to go to our website. There's a very good video that's part of outreach whereby we interviewed board members and they give a pretty good summary. It's a 20-minute video. It's long but it gives a pretty good understanding of the requirements of the board. So, that will make you a soft judgment of whether you should apply or should not. It is important to look at the requirements so that you fit the requirements. Thanks.

PAM LITTLE:

Okay. Thank you. I hope that's helpful. Alan?

[ALAN]:

This is [Alan] from [inaudible] [NIC]. I just took this question to Cheryl or Michael. Initially I was [inaudible] on the subsequent new gTLD applications and during the initial discussions there was one suggestion or maybe two options for the subsequent round. It either could be one round of another round and round of the round and so on and so forth.

The other option is that we just [inaudible] kick off a date and then we'll take applications [inaudible] a never-ending process.

So, I have been [not] following the subsequent discussion for quite some time. I'm just wondering, what is the current status on this proposal and what are the kinds of thinking on that?

MICHAEL FLEMMING:

Okay. I'll take a whack at this one. To just put very simply, while there's no final answer on any of these of course, we are leaning in the direction ... Sorry, there is much agreement and not much – what's the word? What's the opposite of agreement? Disagreement. Thank you. Not much disagreement with it. But to do at least a subsequent round initially at this point and then we're talking about two to three rounds I think we're talking about this current time and then seeing from there whether or not we can look at that rolling window or not. I'll let Cheryl add on that because she definitely will want to do that.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

I will, thank you. The majority thinking is that there will be another round and then whether there is – once we have trigger points to say we've got a certain point through that, we have not completed our deliberation as to the nature of first come, first serve, rolling rounds. We've got different opportunities. We've got

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very good concepts of carving up under classifications. There's all sorts of things that, at this stage, have not come out as recommendations. So, it would be very presumptuous of me to say "and then what will happen" but what I can say is that another round, regardless of what may follow, will be the way it's partitioned up. But I look forward to your response to our final report.

PAM LITTLE:

Thank you, everyone. So, with that, I'm sorry, we have to move on to the community discussion we are supposed to have. So, with your permission, if everyone can stay for five more minutes if you can. We were hoping to have some substantive discussion on this topic. We don't have time now. But I just wanted to bring to your attention that this is a very important topic at ICANN 64 and in the next few months going forward. You heard Cherine say in the opening ceremony and there was another strategic planning session this morning.

So, this one is going to be one of the ICANN's five-year strategic plan focus areas about evolving ICANN's governance model. So, you can see these were the slides that Theresa Swineheart used when she did a presentation today to [inaudible] community last month or a couple of months ago. I can't remember.

Basically, if we can go to the next slide, I think it will be easier. This was the question that the board put forward to the community. I will just read it out very quickly. How should ICANN's multi-stakeholder model of governance and policy development process evolved to balance the increasing need for inclusivity, accountability, and transparency with the imperative of getting our work done and our policies developed in a more effective and timely manner, and with efficient utilization of ICANN's resources. This is a very huge question and there are a lot of other sub-questions.

So, I was hoping if we could go to the ... We don't have time to discuss, but go to the next slide. And please all think about this topic while you are here and in the next few months. Maybe we can think as a community here how we can maybe have another webinar to discuss this topic.

So, how do we balance efficiency and inclusiveness? Obviously, there might be some tension. There might be some tradeoff. Some people might say they are not mutually exclusive. What should diverse representation look like or diverse participation within a working group or a structure look like?

Also, think about challenges. We, the community here, APAC Space community member space, are stakeholders in this ecosystem and how should the governments really model evolve

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to address them? Because we do have a stake in this or the outcome of this discussion and we want to make sure our voice gets heard.

So, folks, please do think about this very important topic during the week. And we have other sessions for this topic at this meeting. If we can go to the next slide. I believe that's going to be Thursday there will be a particular dedicated session on this topic, so please come along and there will be a Q&A with ICANN Org.

Also, whatever we discuss today, the SubPro, the NomCom, and RySG, the folks that work on the ground here this week. So, please get in touch with people. You don't know how to get in touch with them, maybe get in touch with ICANN staff. They will help you to get in touch with these people.

With that, I'm sorry, I have already one person who wants to ask a general question so I will hand over to Heather.

HEATHER FOREST:

Thank you, Pam. If we could go back to the previous slide with the questions, I have a question for all of us in the room that I think cuts across each of these three points and indeed each of the three themes that were identified on a previous slide. I would like us all, now that I'm in a room of folks who share my region, to

think about a question that I posed to the GNSO Council in Barcelona and will continue to pose to our community, which is how do we participate effectively in APAC in light of the time zone difference between us and North America and Europe?

This is an issue that cuts across all of the things that we've discussed today. The folks of the NomCom talking about leadership positions. How do we effectively recruit people to these positions from region that are not lining up to our traditional time zones in ICANN?

For the folks in Subsequent Procedures PDP, how do we effectively engage from APAC in a policy development process where many of the calls happen, if not most of the calls happen, between midnight and 6:00 AM our time in this region? I would like us all throughout this week as we are together to think about this most critical aspect to our effective participation. How do we overcome time differences? Thank you.

PAM LITTLE:

Thank you very much, Heather, for that comment and that question. It is a very important topic but I don't have an answer. I should also add, for those who don't know Heather who just spoke, Heather Forest, she was the chair of the GNSO Council last year but was on the council for a full four years.

And when she was leaving the council, she left us with a note also posing this very important question. I remember vividly what you said, Heather, because it resonates with me. I am also in Sydney, you're in Hobart, so we're in the same time zone. You said there's no choice. You either get up and join those calls at midnight or whatever odd hours or the work will just pass without you.

So, this is a dilemma we face for folks here. I mean, there are other barriers. Obviously, cultural, language, knowledge. They're all commonly known barriers. But this one we don't know how to solve.

For us, sometimes is it really worth our while to force our body to get up at 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning to do those calls? But how do we make this more equitable in terms of participation and create an environment where people really are participating on equal footing? When I say on equal footing, it means have the same amount of information or access but also have – maybe sharing the plan a little bit because I'm sure if I have a call at 9:00 in the morning and having a call at midnight, my level of awareness or performance will be quite different.

So, that's something for us to all think about. Some people have suggested a rotation of meetings. But some people feel like that also may not work for certain groups. So, that's something we all need to look at and think about.

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I have another question. That's Pablo next.

**PABLO RODRIGUEZ:** Rather than a question, I have a response. This is Pablo Rodriguez from NomCom. Just to respond to Heather's comment, NomCom not only is contracting companies to identify talented individuals from the Asia-Pacific region but we will also make an effort – not an effort but we'll make it a point to accommodate any individual that applies to go through the process where we'll make it a point to have their interviews in their time zones and we will accommodate accordingly. Thank you.

**PAM LITTLE:** Thank you, Pablo. Okay. With that, we will close today's session. Thank you so much for coming to the APAC Space session. I will hand it over to Joyce or Jia-Rong. Joyce?

**JOYCE CHEN:** Thanks so much, Pam, and thank you all for your very [inaudible] discussion. We actually had IDN and UA as or AOB but unfortunately we've run out of time and Ajay has very graciously agreed not to go through it.

I just want to do the very last slide of the IDN portion to let you know, one of the upcoming sessions in the coming week. We have



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just put down a list. You can go into our presentation and download it and find out more or you can also go to the schedule. Is that the last slide?

Then we have an IGF secretariat session that is taking place on 12<sup>th</sup> of March.

Now, in terms of announcements, can I just have your attention just very quickly? Tomorrow, we will have an APAC social, an APRALO networking event. It is a joint event and I do hope that you will join us for food and drinks. It's tomorrow at 6:30 at [inaudible] which is at Kobe [inaudible] Hotel at the basement. Please do join us. During that time, we will also introduce some of our APAC community leaders to you so that you can get to know them as well.

After this session, we are going to move very quickly as a group to go and take a group photo. Can the photographer please identify yourself? Okay. So, we've lost a lot of people. Let's just move very quickly. We'll go down now and we'll take a group photo. Let's go.

Thank you, everyone. Also, thank you to the remote participations.

**[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]**