
ICANN73 | Virtual Community Forum – GNSO: RrSG Membership Meeting
Monday, March 7, 2022 – 09:00 to 10:00 AST

JULIE BISLAND: Hello, everyone. Welcome to the RrSG membership meeting. Please note, this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior. During this session, questions or comments submitted in chat will only be read aloud if put in the proper form as noted in the chat. Questions and comments will be read aloud during the time set by the chair or moderator of the session. If you would like to ask your question or make your comment verbally, please raise your hand. When called upon, kindly unmute your microphone and take the floor. Please state your name for the record and speak clearly at a reasonable pace. Mute your microphone when you are done speaking.

The session includes automated real-time transcription. Please note the transcript is not official or authoritative. To view the real-time transcription, click on the closed caption button in the Zoom tool bar. With that, I will hand the floor over to Ashley Heineman.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN: Thank you very much. Welcome to ICANN73, which I have been up until now referring to as ICANN74. But no, it is ICANN73 and I believe we are one of the very first meetings to kick things off for the official week. So glad to have you here.

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Just to note in advance, I have a horrible cold. I'm a bit smurfy and probably talking faster than usual which is pretty darn fast to begin with, because I can only breathe out of my mouth. That being said, we have a full agenda. We're going to do things a little differently. That seems to be the reoccurring theme for our ICANN RrSG meetings.

So what we're going to do, we're going to spend a good chunk of time on today is, brainstorming a bit about future work. And we're going to tee things up with some of our own ideas as leadership and hopefully you all will engage. And we will of course be using polling questions because Zoe is so good at getting us ready in advance for those and I think it keeps it much more interactive and fun.

So with that, I will give the normal disclaimer which is, please engage. This is your opportunity to make your voice heard, to ask questions. Love to hear from people. And unless you want to hear me talk very fast in a smurfy voice, please participate. Love to have you engage.

So with that, I have my full slate of leadership here including our subgroup members. Why don't we go ahead? Actually, I have a slide here. So I want to remind you first of our website. I think that is often overlooked and we have a lot of good information there. So please, refer to it. You could find things like our charter, a list of our membership. But also, you can find a number of our communications and policy positions and other such interesting things. So with our first polling question, what do you miss about in-person RrSG membership meetings? Could you please pull up the question?

Okay. Having more substantive discussions, side chats with your table neighbors, seeing everyone's beautiful faces, meeting in the hotel lobby bar afterwards, nothing, or everything. So please, enter your answer. I'm assuming not everything here that you're thinking about is available because I had a whole host of ideas and there just wasn't enough space. We could have used up a little bit more space. But anyway. You should have had enough time to answer. Let's see what the results are.

Everything. Oh, man. I think we're ready. ICANN staff, please pass on this information to your leadership. We are ready, okay. Thank you. Zoe. So this was our first polling question and that's how we will do it. I ask folks who are going to be doing these to please just ask that they be put on the screen and we can go on from there, I think, Zoe.

So I'm going to turn it now to Eric, I believe, who is going to be covering the Registrar Stakeholder Group elections. Please, Eric.

ERIC ROKOBAUER:

Thanks, Ashley. This is Eric Rokobauer for the record and I will do my best to speak at a reasonable pace. So before we jump into the compliance subgroups that Ashley mentioned, just want to share the latest going on with our elections just again to send a congrats to Theo being elected as our GNSO Council representative, taking over for Kristian. We will miss you, Kristian. So thanks again, Theo for stepping up.

But with that said, we wanted to share with the membership with—we're doing ICANN73 but we already need to think about ICANN74 and

75. So if you don't know, ICANN75 is taking place in September which is about a month earlier than usual annually. And so, we need to meet some supported travel deadlines. We need to get in our elected members for GNSO Council.

So with that said, the ExCom, we've decided that it would probably be best that we do all of our necessary 2022 elections in time of that May deadline. So we wanted to bring it to the attention of all of you that we've got a lot of positions actually up for election. You see them on the screen there. So we're talking about the positions held by Owen, Jothan, myself, Benny, Pam, and Theo respectively. You'll notice that Greg and Antonia as our other GNSO Council reps. Their positions are set.

So what we want to do is we're hoping to run our elections next month in April. So hint, you'll see the question that we're going to ask in the polling. So start thinking about that now. But we want to begin the nominations and discussion period by mid-April. And just to note that while all these positions are for election, we the current folks in those positions can run a second term. We're all in our first. But that doesn't mean—it shouldn't discourage anyone from wanting to apply if you're interested. You've heard all of us speak to these positions and how important it can be.

And if you've always wanted an opportunity to get more involved, representing the broader registrar membership, getting more involved with ICANN, get a lot of opportunities to meet with the different groups around the community, it's a great opportunity. So if you have

questions, of course we're all available to answer those for this particular position you are more inclined to.

So again, we'll start hopefully the nomination discussion period in April and then begin the voting process by early May. So that way we can meet the May deadline. Of course, if we have questions, we can take those after. I know we only have so much time but let's bring up the polling question if you could, please?

So yes, so are you interested in standing for any of the leadership positions that will be up for election that you see on screen there? You can give yes, no or possibly. But please note that if you do say yes or even possibly, we would love to hear from you. Of course, we want participation here but please find us. We've got some time and we're always available to answer any questions.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN: And don't be afraid because I don't think we can look at the results of who said what.

ERIC ROKOBAUER: Yeah, yeah.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN: It's not like we're going to track you down and hold you to your answer.

ERIC ROKOBAUER: Okay, I think we're all set. [inaudible]. Well, look at that. The majority is not interested. Well, maybe time will change. Of course, we have ICANN73 and so maybe you'll hear more going on during the week. I'm sure most of us are interested in running again but that shouldn't mean that's by default. So of course, if this changes, I see some possibly, so there is hope. Find us and if you have questions, we could hopefully change that to yeses. So that's it for me. I forget who's up next. But I believe we're going to go to our compliance subgroups.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN: In the meantime, I think there was—the follow on to this question is, why don't you want to be engaged? Why don't you want to do this? But anyway, we'll save that for later. But no, it looks like we're going to start off with policy. So I'm going to turn it over to Owen to give us an update on policy, on current future work, and some upcoming as well. So Owen, please.

OWEN SMIGELSKI: Thanks, Ashley. This is Owen Smigelski for the transcript. So for those who don't know, the Registrar Stakeholder Group is active in the various policy initiatives that ICANN has going on. We have a bunch of wonderful awesome dedicated people who participate in the various PDPs. And also what we do is we comment on the items that ICANN bubbles up for public comment. And so, we generally review and comment on things that are applicable to registrars only. Not every single thing because not all of them apply to us.

A couple of things we have going on right now are current policy work in addition to our participation in the policy teams is—there is an upcoming public comment we have for the status report of the UDRP that is under review. And we should have something out within the policy team soon. And then, also the Registrar Stakeholder Group had provided a comment on the EPDP regarding curative rights for IGOs. We had some, I want to say, strong words but we had some words there, some feedback which kind of brought the registrars in and got involved. They are now finalizing their draft final report. So we just received that the other day, so we'll be reviewing and taking a look at that and submitting comment as necessary.

So those are really the only two things that are ongoing. This is an area that kind of comes and goes in terms of volume. We do have some other things that are going to be coming up including the transfer policy review which is coming up. There's going to be a NomCom public comment as well as an update to the GNSO Operating Procedures. Those are things that ICANN is forecasting that will come to over the next a couple months before ICANN74. There's more info. I put a link there to the other upcoming public comments.

That's what we've got ongoing. If anybody's interested, I certainly do encourage you to get involved because this is a Registrar Stakeholder Group thing and it's just not me or other people, it's everyone can contribute. So please, welcome to have more people. Thanks. I think actually we have a poll too, don't we? Poll question. Okay, so for those whether or not you're interested, please do fill it out.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN: I like to do that more often. No, because of this reason. I like that. That should be enough, right, Owen?

OWEN SMIGELSKI: Yeah, I think that's good. Probably, show the results. Okay, good. I do see some people that we can maybe convince or bribe. Please do attend. Zoe sends out the meeting invites when we meet generally once a month. Towards the end of the month and certainly, always happy to have more people. Thanks.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN: Thank you, Owen. And I can tell already what the theme of this is going to be. Come on, guys. Let's get engaged. It's fun. You get to meet people. If we ever get back face-to-face, we get to see each other face-to-face. But no, thank you, Owen for that update. I am moderately satisfied with the results of the polling question. Okay. Now we're going to turn to TechOps. I'm going to turn it over now to Jothan. So Jothan, please go ahead.

JOTHAN FRAKES: Hi, everybody and good morning. I'm Jothan and I have the privilege of serving as your Vice Chair of TechOps. Our group meets—it's largely technical but our group meets to cover and discuss a variety of different things related to the technologies around our wonderful business. We talk a lot about what's going on inside of the IETF REGEXT group,

registration extensions. We do a lot to talk about the other data streams. There's a lot of PDPs that are underway that have impacts on the registration business such as RDAP did various outputs of the EPDPs, the SSAD Transfer Policy Review is currently under scope.

And we're talking a lot about future work and flowing new future work in. And I've got a link to a poll here, which I will find that link and paste into the chat. But we're looking for new topics. If you all remember the GDD Summits, we would take and have a half day where a lot of the technology folks would get together and talk and go through some of the issues, whether technical-specific or affecting technology and engineering.

And we, this particular ICANN meeting, have a face-to-face—well, hybrid face-to-face rather face-to-face if you turn on your video on Zoom meeting where you will get a chance to see and listen to what we do in the group. So we'll have updates on a variety of these topics. We're always looking for new topics, so you can bring a topic. If your technology team is facing something that they'd like to raise as a topic, we can raise that. The group typically flows these future work inputs into the IETF process to form standards or provides feedback or responses to other parties so that we can help to evolve standards and make our industry work a lot better.

I think that's it for me and my smurfy shirt but I do want to say I've got a couple of poll items here. So I wonder if you could kick off the poll, Zoe or whoever has the magic. So first question is, do you have staff to

perform technical, operational or other engineering duties? And you can pick your choices there.

I noticed Reg had probably a more likely response. You can substitute pizza with whatever. Okay. So let's take a look and see what people responded with. Look at that. Everybody's got tech team excellent. All right. And then the second and follow-up question to that is, do those staff participate in the CPH TechOps? So if you could bring up the next poll question, please? So do your staff participate? All right, assuming everybody got a chance to click. Let's take a look at what the results are on this one.

It's interesting to note that we tied on the very first and very last of those questions. And I think they're not mutually exclusive to be candid. It's been my experience. Anyway, that's a quick update from the TechOps group and we look forward to seeing you. We have a session on the ICANN agenda. I hope you will join us. You can see a little bit about what we're doing. We won't cover details as technical as we do because the group is closed to the Contracted Party House, registries and registrars typically. But this is an open session, so we'll be in a bit more of a fishbowl. And we'll probably talk at more high levels about some of the topics we'll be discussing, so thank you.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN:

Thank you, everybody. I hope you all are collecting all of your questions and comments. There will be a test at the end as well, just kidding. But I'm just realizing we're not offering up opportunities to ask questions. So perhaps after each of these sessions, subgroup presentations will

ask for—actually, we have been asking for questions but feel free, please, to ask questions.

Next up, has come full circle almost. Eric, you are back up for an update on compliance. Please, go ahead.

ERIC ROKOBAUER:

Thanks, Ashley. Hey, everybody. It's Eric again. So compliance subgroup that I co-chair with Reg. First, a couple of updates, a big one actually, exciting. Essie is stepping in replacing me as the new co-chair of the subgroup. So I'm assuming Essie maybe on but if not, just want to say congrats and thank you for joining up and doing this for us. I'm looking forward to seeing what you and Reg do as our leaders. I won't be going far, still participate and be involved but it's good to see some new faces in there. So thanks again, Essie.

So our subgroup for those that don't know, primarily we spend our time working on, surprise, compliance. Working a lot with the ICANN compliance team and their leaders, Jamie Hedlund and his folks. Normally, our subgroup meets monthly just to have the opportunity to discuss and ask each other questions that maybe we're seeing with our respective organizations working on the ICANN compliance tickets if you received them.

And usually, we'll compile these questions or comments and we get to work together with ICANN compliance and discuss those. Maybe it's just reviewing specific scenarios with tickets. We don't specifically go into a

registrar suspected ticket. But we try and focus broadly on certain issues we may see with the types of tickets we all work.

And ICANN compliance has been fantastic in having that collaboration to be able to have the discussion and maybe there is chances that we can make improvements in the process for both teams, our own teams and ICANN compliance. So we will routinely have them join our meetings, which in fact, next week is our next closed subgroup meeting. Closed being it's just for registrar members with ICANN compliance. So we have an agenda to go over and talk the latest points.

And so, from a compliance subgroup, that's for the most part, as long as I've been involved, that's really been the focus of this group when it was designed, is to really work with ICANN compliance directly. And as Ashley pointed out in the beginning, looking for ideas for future work. And Reg and I have been thinking, we have an opportunity as the compliance subgroup to—maybe we can educate more and work with others other than ICANN compliance team.

And so, we've kind of come up with two different teams. You see there the GDS and ALAC. Maybe there's an opportunity again to work with them and find again opportunities for education. The GDS was one I thought about as they've worked really hard to build documentation to publish on the ICANN websites for registrants. So maybe there's something we can team up there and make an improvement when it's appropriate to submit tickets to ICANN compliance or the registrars. Submit to registrars first. We want to hear about the issues before ICANN compliance. We're always there for our customers and we want

to hear about their issues. So again, ideas that we're thinking about and we have the polling questions that I'll ask to see what you all think about it.

In addition to reaching out to those groups, we're also—the registrar website that Ashley hinted at as well, we gave a link in the beginning. There's a lot of great resources there and so maybe the compliance subgroup could do something there too. Maybe there's something we can give a best practices guide similar to the abuse subgroup. Maybe there's something we can do about handling ICANN compliance tickets in some facet.

So that is what we have. So I think hopefully I gave a good enough summary of our future work. Sorry, that's the second question. The first question we're interested to hear is if those on this call actually handle ICANN compliance tickets or someone else in the organization? So if we could get that first question up, please? Thank you. So again, do you directly handle your registrars' ICANN compliance tickets or is there someone else in your organization? And this time I will answer. And that's good, let's go. Please show the answers.

Wow. That's probably the most even one we've seen today so far. Interesting, cool. That's great. And now, the second question I was alluding to. Future work, what do you think should be the subgroup's first approach? Can I get the second question up, please? All right. So who should the compliance subgroup approach first for future work? Should be the two teams I referenced one at a time or should we just go

all in and talk to everybody at the same time? I see Jothan. That could have been a good one too. Neither.

Okay, let's see the answers, please. And briefly saw that. I don't know if we can pull that back up. Awesome, great. Majority GDS. So I don't know if there's anyone on the GDS team on this call. This might have been a surprise to see us reference you, but we're interested. So you'll hopefully be hearing from the compliance subgroup. It won't be me. Maybe Essie or Reg. Thanks, Andy. Thought I saw your name. Awesome, all right. Well, thank you all for the compliance update.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN:

Thank you very much, Eric. Glad to see Andy's on the call. I was frantically looking to see if there's somebody from GDS there. I'm glad you're here. Okay, so next up we have the newest formalized subgroup. It has been around for a while but is now officially a subgroup and our newest subgroup chair, Catherine Merdinger was very kind to put herself forward. Well, she was nominated and thankfully accepted the nomination, so thank you very much, Catherine. I'll turn it over to you now for an update on current and future work.

CATHERINE MERDINGER:

I've actually said that the youngest and hottest subgroup is here. We like to party. Let's go, guys. Everyone is welcome to join. That's my first thing. It's lots of fun. No, it's not. But it's thankless, so it's also great. So the first thing to say is, you guys have all seen in your inboxes, we circulated the amendment to the PIR RRAs. They're in review now. We

got an extension because of this hellish week. The RRA Amendment Team is looking at it and will have proposed comments to you guys hopefully next week. But we encourage everyone to do their own reviews as well.

And so, that's where our polling questions are going to get at because we do this—we review these RRAs for big ticket things but it's really important for your individual registrars that if there's something in there that maybe doesn't apply to Name.com or isn't an issue for the registrars that happened to be on the review team, it's really important that you raise that because we can help support you or maybe get that changed.

So we set some goals for this year as the formalized group. We'd like to increase record keeping and tracking because we have found pushback from registries saying "You agreed to it in our last RRA amendment, now you're pushing back for this TLD. What's with the disconnect?" So we're hoping to basically make sure we're taking a position and kind of sticking with it.

We'd like to work with RySG on possible improvements to the process. One of those is that ICANN has said 21 days is like the magic period of time their RrSG has to review these RRAs, and is that enough time? Is that too much time? It's not too much time. It's not too much time. I'll tell you that. And so then, other ways to improve the process like, oh, you're just changing an RSP provider or you're just changing your address. We can do that in three days instead and improvements like that.

So unless there's anything else, I think we can go into the polling questions. So we're trying to get a gauge on both—well, we know who's on the RRA Review Team if you'd like to join, e-mail Zoe. But are people reviewing them or having their attorneys or other people on their teams review them in addition to that. So can we get polling question? I think it's eight. Oh, I think I meant to mention on the first question if you're on the RRA Review Team something but now I don't remember what I was going to say about that, so yeah. Is that enough time? I don't know. Yeah, that's what I'm saying, Jeff.

So let's see the answers. Is that enough time? I don't know. It seems like. That's great. Every RRA is reviewed internally. I hope that's not just the members of the RRA Review Team counting their review as internal. So that's great, great to know. And then, should we go into the next one? Is three weeks enough time to review the RRA? Is that enough time to answer the question? I don't know what the right amount is. I already knew what the questions were, so I cheated, right?

Yes, when we talk about a batch, I was thinking when Donuts did its batch, that's a batch. When GoDaddy did its batch, that's a batch. But Donuts and GoDaddy don't make itself a batch. So yeah, it sounds like most of the time, yes. But if it's big stuff, if it's lots of changes, then no. So maybe one of the things we can talk about with ICANN and the RrSG is getting some time or setting better expectations of, know that when you submit just find and replace GoDaddy, Neustar. Not a big deal. But if it's going to be more major than that, we can—Neustar to GoDaddy. My bad. We might need more time. So thank you all for your participation.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN:

Thank you very much, Catherine. And hindsight is always 20/20, but I will say that what we have periodically seen is, hey, we can't do that. And then found out that three subsequent amendments had the exact same [inaudible]. Now we're putting a lot of focus on making sure that we review, that we have as many eyes as possible because what's important to one person may not be as important to another person or company, whatever. So it's really important and particularly want to always make sure that everybody is reviewing these independently as well, because at the end of the day it's your company and your business and you can't rely on us, even though we are doing our best.

And thank you all to those on the review team, this has been an insane amount of work this year. And it could potentially go down this path, particularly if there is another round. So thank you all for all your work, and looking forward to—There's so much this group can be doing. So glad Catherine is there at the helm to see this group through. Okay, so thank you, Catherine.

Next, what do we have? All right, DNS abuse. This is not really getting that much attention within ICANN—just kidding. So this is something that everybody generally seems interested in, not just in our group, but throughout the community. So another very active group. And we have two co-chairs, we have Luc and Reg. And we're also working as CPH. So I will turn it over to them. Not sure how they decided to split this up, but let them give the update. Please go ahead.

LUC SEUFER:

Hi, I'm Luc from EuroDNS and I'm also part of the merry gang that is co-chaired with Reg. So I am a co-chair of the DNS abuse group of the RrSG, not the small group that was formed by the GNSO. So for those that know, we've produced and published several white papers in collaboration with other groups within ICANN. And more than the papers themselves, we've tried to create bridges with the relevant member of the other group and we try to continue meeting with them on a regular basis.

The goal here being to address the issue pragmatically, the issue of DNS abuse, big one, rather than hand out with policy that will ultimately satisfy no one. So that's our goal and we encourage you to join the subgroup to also participate in those meetings.

I'm also part of the compromise versus malicious small group, which is under the aegis of the DNS Abuse Institute. It's ongoing, it has bi-weekly meetings, and the goal right now is to produce an informational document on compromise versus malicious domain name registration. It won't be a binding guide to best practice, it will be just an informational document, like I said. But it could be seen as best practice by the public, so it would be better to have the registrar point of view reflected in the document.

So we encourage all our registrar to join. It's not very technical, even me, a dumb lawyer, can understand what we say. So it's more like an exchange hub of common sense ideas from registrar having experience in abuse handling.

Now the EU study or so-called study which for me is more akin to a leaflet propaganda that was dropped by the IP interest than an actual study, as it doesn't offer a credible solution, mainly due to the fact that it has a catch all definition of abuse. But this being said, it also highlights certain real issues and advanced ideas that could be interesting to reply to as a group. So we are still not decided whether we are going to reply or not, we will see.

One of the issue is the identity verification. We are thinking about drafting a white paper on identity verification based on the experience we have with ccTLDs to show that it puts the burden on legitimate registrants and doesn't actually reduce the DNS abuse as criminals will have access to stolen identities and continue doing their bad things with stolen identities.

Another issue that transpired from this study is the lack of registrar DNS abuse data. So that's why we have the poll question. The first one, can you put up the poll? Because we all have access or we all keep abuse handling data in our system, I know as an example, but us internally, we have, if you give me a domain name I can give you the whole history and if there have been abuse handling or abuse reporting towards this domain name. But finding every case of abuse may require some work. That's why we have this question. So is it feasible to provide a new statistic and handling at your registrar? Can we get the results, Zoe, or do I need to do something? Okay, possibly.

Okay, so let's the visibility. And now the second question of the poll, would you be comfortable disclosing these figures, like the number of

domain names that we can afterwards compare with what the [inaudible] and see how many domain names are involved compared to URLs? And, of course, it would remain, if you choose, it's totally anonymous so we would not mention registrar, it's just a number as a whole.

Okay, so the majority would be ready, that's good. I think that we could have something to put out there and have a contra narrative when we are presented with these reports with a huge number of abuse cases.

And Reg is asking for those who said no, if it's because of the anonymization. Okay, so I guess we won't have an answer right now. But if you want to type it in the chat you can. Okay, that's all for me, Ashley.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN

Thank you very much, Luc. Great job. To add a little bit of flavor here, I think what we're looking and hoping to do is to continue to try and be part of the narrative because we don't want our perspectives to be lost where we're hearing a lot from one side. And we just want to make sure that some of the more operational perspective is taken into account. I hate to always be reactionary, but that seems to be how we've been handling it. And I think we don't necessarily need to do everything ourselves. I think other options that we have here included within what Luc just proposed is having [inaudible] do some of these things. So rest assured that not all of this would have to rely solely on our shoulders, but I think it's important that when, particularly as we're seeing more and more governments get involved, that all of the information is out

there to be making the right decisions. And that's my concern right now, is that a lot of information is not readily available, so we want to make sure that that changes. So thank you very much, Luc and Reg.

I'm not [inaudible] next, Zoe, what do we have? We have a demo, okay. Who should I turn this over to, Zoe? Or should I do it?

LUC SEUFER: [inaudible].

ASHLEY HEINEMAN Okay, Luc.

LUC SEUFER: Okay, so normally you should see at one point a demo popping up on your screen. So that's the first version, the alpha version of the DNS triage tool. The UI will be fixed because it needs to be user friendlier, but the functionalities that you will see are already here and we should not, in theory, not add any more functionalities to it. The point of the tool, as a reminder, is to help our members educate the public and reporters so that when they receive—So in the chat many example of the members saying that they've received complaints about spam or phishing that, of course, we can take action upon, but also would be best dealt with by the hosting provider or the mail service provider.

So this is why we have this tool here. And for if you enter here, www.icann.org, the tool will strip the www and it will give the hosting provider, email address, and details. It's nothing magical, it's just

WHOIS [inaudible] but it will help the general public find the point of contact that they need here.

And here you can see the registrant and the registrar details. And it's also working with IDNs. And like I said, it's defending URLs, it's protected by the reCAPTCHA, which you can see on the bottom right. So we should not be hit by too many requests, or by bot, let's say. And, Zoe, if you can try with another domain name so that we can see in real time how it works.

Here you go, you can see that you have the hosting provider for the role, you can see also the email service provider, here it will be all the same. But that's what happened when you do everything yourself. And you can see the registrar and the registrant. So yes, the point won't be to just not acknowledge and not reply to the report you may get or the complaint you may get, but at least to help educate when we receive a complaint that should be addressed to the hosting provider. You can just point out to the tool and they will be able to look up the details for themselves.

We do a question and answer at the end, yeah? Okay, that's all from me.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN

Thank you very much, Luc. I'm looking forward to seeing how this ultimately looks once it's made a little bit more user friendly. But I'm very hopeful that this will be a useful tool for people. And we just need to make sure that people are aware of it once it is available. But I see we

have our first question. The prize goes to Kristian, the very first. Please go ahead.

KRISTIAN ØRMEN:

Thank you. We have a comment in the chat from Andee Hill. Hello all, I just want to bring to attention to a blog ICANN just published sharing that we are enabling Sec 3.7.5.1 of the RAA to offer relief for registrants in Ukraine, and then a link for that, which is available in the chat. Thank you.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN

Thank you very much, Kristian. Yes, that is making the rounds already. So very good news for those who are unable to pay for their registrations or get them renewed. So that is good news. It looks like the link isn't working. Okay, it'll get sorted. Any actual questions now? I was so excited we were getting a question. That was close, so close. But still very useful information. Okay. If not, we can move on to the next slide. And thank you, Luc.

All right, so we are at AOB and open questions. So like I said, I hope all of y'all have been watching this and taking notes and making questions. Do you have ideas for what we should be working on for the next year? If you don't have something very specific topically, what is it you think we should be focusing on? Are there things that we're not covering that perhaps doesn't even have a home in one of these subgroups? It could be all of the above. I encourage you to please ask questions.

Another thing that we are working on but did not report on here is we're going to activate our outreach efforts, trying to get more people engaged in the Registrar Stakeholder Group ensuring that we have good regional representation, which is something that we're suffering a bit from. So with that, I will hopefully get things going and ask another [poll question.] Can we please pull it up?

What would be the most annoying thing about meeting face to face again? I honestly can't personally think of anything, but these are some of the ideas other folks have put forward. So, having to socialize every night in spite of jet lag. Oh yeah, I forgot about that. Eating tasteless and or expensive food throughout the day. Three, having to walk to the opposite end of the conference center for [inaudible] and the positive in that you're finally getting some exercise from all that food you've been eating throughout the day. Four, sitting for hours in a windowless conference room. Sometimes the case, not always. But more often than not, yes. And then last, not being able to wear your pajamas. I'm not sure there's a prohibition against wearing pajamas, but I suppose folks might be reluctant. So anyway, please answer as you see fit.

Okay. All right. I think that's enough time, Zoe. The windowless conference room. All right. Sounds good. There's somewhat of an otherwise even spread there. So I will take any of these to go face to face. Times two. All right, now I am turning to you all. Questions, comments, thoughts? Volunteers to take over one of the existing slots, even though you can also rest assured that it looks like most folks are going to stick around, if not all of them. Making it easy for you. Wow. All right, Keiron, go ahead.

KEIRON TOBIN:

Thank you, someone has to go first. Yeah, I just wondered in terms of if we'd had any kind of responses sent out to the smaller registrars. Obviously I know we were trying to get them into more groups and stuff like that. I was looking at essentially getting someone to kind of reach out to them and try to pull them into the ICANN kind of things. So I just wondered if we'd had any traction on that. And kind of if anyone could give a quick update on that status. Thank you.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN

I will give the first here, not sure if we have anybody particularly monitoring it, Zoe might be close on hand. No, we have not done any specific engagement based on size. We have in the past reached out to registrars from other regions, we've done stock taking of other regions because that's where we seem to be failing the most. [inaudible] our biggest issue right now is honestly making sure we have representation from the other regions, and that includes [inaudible]. But what we are planning to do is to work more closely with Andee to reach out to areas. I think what we're hoping to do once we're face to face is to really ramp things up. But we are a bit behind in terms of actually taking concrete actions beyond the idea taking phase on these issues. And it looks like Kristian has some more input from the chat. So I hope that answers your question Keiron. Please, go ahead.

KRISTIAN ØRMEN:

Thank you. We have a question from Jothan Frakes. We, as registrars, have pivoted from where vertical integration was statistically insignificant with respect to domains under management to where it is the opposite. Do we need to consider structural change to segment vertical integration, registrars and registries, pure registrars, in order to have representation, attraction to smaller registrar?

ASHLEY HEINEMAN

Thank you, Jothan. as I'm sure you know, we have not had those conversations with an ExCom. Issues around vertical integration have been periodically raised in terms of how to deal with it. I think one example is in the context of dealing with the RRA amendments because often [inaudible] in that context is with the vertical integration where registrars on the review team are also the registry involved. And we've had to do some recusals because of that. Sorry, if I'm using acronyms it's usually because I'm going, I don't remember what the acronym stands for. So I apologize on the acronyms.

So we are recognizing, another area that we've recognized an issue that would need to be dealt with is membership fees. Do we need to reconsider how we do our membership fees based on vertical integration, but integration in general as we see consolidation within our industry? So these are all questions I think we need to sort out. I don't know that we need to sort them all at once. Perhaps once we actually have cases in which we need to really address them. I would hate to put in place new rules just for the sake of new rules. But let's continue having these conversations and if we get critical mass on an

issue of concern, we can address them. So I hope that answers your question, Jothan.

Okay, please Jothan, go ahead. But just note we do have Greg to give us an another update on something, but please go ahead.

JOTHAN FRAKES:

Yeah, absolutely. I put the context into the chat, but that was asked of me to ask that question. And really it came twice from two different smaller registrars as I'm doing outreach to say, hey, join the RrSG, the response is typically, well, you know, these are all the big companies that are both registry and registrar, I don't know if it's for me. And I think we want to maybe think of that as far as our membership stuff. So that was the context. Thank you.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN

We can certainly add that as a consideration, particularly in our outreach group. That's some good feedback for that. Thank you. Okay, well, I almost forgot, Greg, one of our lovely councilors, has something wanted to mention about the SSAD. So please, Greg, if you're still there, hopefully we have enough time for you, if we still have Greg. I think we may have lost him, Zoe.

ZOE BONYTHON:

Yeah, you're right. We did, sorry. He was here before.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN

Okay, well, with that we've got five minutes. Five minutes for any last remaining questions or points. Happy to take them. Otherwise, Pam, please go ahead.

PAM LITTLE:

Hi, Ashley. Hi, everyone, it's Pam Little here. Given we have a few minutes, can I just remind folks that the 2022 NomCom application round would end on the 11th. It coincides with the end of ICANN73. There are three ICANN Board Member positions, one PTI board member, two ALAC from North America or European regions, and one for GNSO Council, and one for ccNSO Council.

If you or folks you know who might be interested, please help spread the word or encourage folks to complete their applications. A Few people have started the applications, but have not completed it. So please just encourage everyone to apply. If you don't apply, you won't get in. But at least if you apply, there will be a chance to be considered. Thank you.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN

Thank you very much, Pam. Pam is our rep to the NomCom, for those of you who don't know. Very important information, please consider applying. Sarah, please, go ahead.

SARAH WYLD: Thank you. Hi, this is Sarah Wyld. Sorry, it's not on the topic that Pam brought up. But you were asking for an update on the ODA, so I thought maybe I could help with that. But we could come back to that.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN Sure, I think that something specific to what's going on in council, I don't totally recall unless Zoe does. Why don't we see what Pavel has to say and then we'll come back to you, okay, Sarah?

SARAH WYLD: Anytime.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN Okay. Thank you very much. Pavel, please go ahead.

PAVEL BLOTSKY: Hello, my name is Pavel Blotsky, Internet Invest registrar from Ukraine. I'm currently sitting 20 kilometers from Russian troops. We have massive disruptions of network and our registrant cannot renew their domains. We ask you to help ICANN to implement policy to extend the renewal of domain names for our registrants. Maybe many of your companies have registrants from Ukraine, so please consider this possibility. We would suggest to prolong redemption periods for registrars or something similar.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN

Thank you very much, Pavel. ICANN just released a mention about this with respect to renewals. And I know that a number of individual registrars are doing things as well. So we appreciate the extreme situation that you and your country are going through, and our sincere condolences to what is happening. I would like to turn it over to Volker, I see your hand is up.

VOLKER GREIMANN:

Yes, I think that's a very important topic. I mean, we've seen ICANN waive fees for, for example natural disasters. And I think this is much worse than that, what we've seen in the past. So maybe this is something that we should address in our sessions with ICANN and also on the floor, so to speak, in our sessions or meetings with the RrSG and ask them if they would consider waiving fees for a certain time for registrants that are based in the UA based on the data that they have on file or the data that we give them in case of thin registries.

Our registrar has automatically renewed domain names for the next couple of months just because we know that registrants have other things to worry about and we don't want to punish them on top of that. And I would encourage other registrars to do the same. And also talk to our colleagues and ICANN to see what can be done as well. I mean, every bit helps, and I think this is important. Thank you.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN

Thank you very much, Volker. Michele, please.

MICHELE NEYLON:

Yeah, thanks. Pavel, thanks for joining the call. I think the notice that ICANN has issues today will allow registrars the flexibility to do what you're suggesting. And I think most of the larger registrars have already put something in place. But I would suggest, if you're aware of any specific issues, to let us know. Maybe there's something that some of us could do, but we would need to know more detail. And Andee, Mukesh, and the other ICANN staff are the best people for you to speak to because they will know who to talk to. Plus, some of them will have access to people who can help you in your own language. I can only help you with an Irish accent. I can help you with other accents as well, but there are people working for ICANN who speak Russian. Thanks.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN

Thank you, Michele. I am so sorry that we're out of time and need to end. But you will see some information in the chat, Pavel. And also, feel free to get in touch with me if you would need assistance with contacts. And we'll see what we can do to make sure things run as smoothly as possible under these circumstances. So with that, thank you all very much for joining us today. And please enjoy the rest of ICANN73. And our thoughts and prayers to you, Pavel, and to Ukraine. Thank you all.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]