
LONDON – GAC Los Angeles Planning
Thursday, June 26, 2014 – 08:00 to 08:30
ICANN – London, England

CHAIR DRYDEN: Good morning, everyone. Let's get started with our agenda planning and prioritization session. We have a few moments before we begin the GAC open forum for the rest of the community at 8:30. So let's make good use of this time.

And, to take us through this session, I'm going to hand over to Tom and Michelle from ACIG, from the secretariat. And we can have some discussion about the various topics underway. All right, Tom, please.

TOM DALE: Thank you, Heather. And good morning, everybody.

The first item we had here was the development of a work plan and timeline. But, before moving to that, can I just say our expectation and understanding as your secretariat is that we are discussing this morning not just planning for the Los Angeles meeting but, of course, planning on how we get there from here. That is to say, there is a significant amount of work that the GAC has identified over the last few days for work that will have to be progressed intersessionally. And we are now available as a resource for the GAC to take that intersessional work forward supporting you in ways that perhaps you haven't had available to you before. But I want to stress that we would like to hear feedback from you this morning, not just about the Los Angeles meeting, the

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agenda, and, you know, how to arrange the seats and all those sorts of important things, but also the items that have to be progressed, basically, from tomorrow all the way to through Los Angeles. Because we have a workload, I think, identified by you over the last few days that is manageable. But any guidance from you on priorities and timing is always helpful.

On the first item, I would just note that we received, you will recall, from the working group on working methods, some further guidance on development of a revised work plan and timeline, including a GAC calendar, to identify not just GAC and ICANN-related events in advance but also those external to ICANN the GAC but which impact upon the members and our work. So we -- we have, I think, guidance from the working group and the GAC to develop within the next three weeks a significantly revised and more detailed work plan and calendar. So that's one specific commitment. I'll just pause there and see if there are any further feedback or comments people have over work plan and calendar. No.

Just go away and do it. Okay. Good.

The next item that is noted is the identification of potential topics for the Los Angeles meeting. We would like just to alert you briefly to perhaps a more structured way of allocating time, which is really in your hands. I'll ask Michelle to explain how we might do that.

MICHELLE SCOTT-TUCKER: You'll see on the screen my incredibly sophisticated spreadsheet. Each slot equals half an hour. So, for instance, the session with two slots will

run for one hour. That's not in any order of how we do it on the day. It's just a matter of allocating the right amount of time.

So you can see -- and I'll base that on the time that we've spent on it for this current meeting. So you can see that for communicate drafting, there's four hours allocated to that or eight slots.

If we use exactly the same amount of time we've had for this meeting, we've had a total of 52 slots.

So you can see by that, I've provided a preliminary list of topics that might be on the meeting for the next time. I want you to have a look and see if there's anything missing from there or any you might want to take out for the next meeting.

And you can see we've got a few hours left over. So far, I've allocated 43 slots and we have a couple of hours left over. So if you want to add something in or allocate more hours to something, now would be a good time to say because in the lead up to the meeting, two or three weeks out, as you know, the timing is all set by then and it becomes much more difficult to set things in.

So I hope you understand my very complicated slot system. If you've got any queries, let me know. But if you could let us know if that list is about right or if there's anything else you'd like to add, we'd love to hear from you.

TOM DALE:

Australia, you have a comment, I think?

AUSTRALIA: Thank you, Chair. Thanks to Michelle. I think this is -- My initial reaction is this is a really useful thing for us to see at this stage, so early in advance of the Los Angeles meeting.

Is this something that will be shared with the GAC, through the mailing list?

I'm looking through and just comparing to my notes. I'm sure I'll be able to react shortly.

The one initial reaction is to -- is to the IANA transition, IANA -- ICANN accountability track of work, and some thinking about where we'll be in Los Angeles on those two issues.

If I'm correct, we will have established who, from the GAC, will be representing the GAC in those processes, and those processes will be under way. And again, as I understand it, we'll be -- the representatives in those processes will be regularly feeding back to the GAC and the GAC will be providing comment.

I see you've already got two slots there, but -- yeah, so that's one hour.

So depending on the complexity of those issues, maybe that's an area we may need more time.

But that's just an initial reaction. And again, as I say, I think this is -- to see this at this stage is incredibly useful.

Thank you.

TOM DALE: The U.K., please.

UNITED KINGDOM: Yes, good morning, and thank you, Thomas and Michelle. Yes, it's very helpful, indeed. I fully agree with that.

Just an immediate reaction on specific items, I guess new gTLDs and responses that might need to expand to more than one slot.

And the other thing may be -- which I can't quite see, is a vision, I expect, for some consideration of the ICANN strategic planning and the -- we've heard a lot here about the Ilves report, but there are the other ones as well.

So maybe that will have to be taken into account, opportunities for us to react and engage on the next steps for those strategic plans.

Thanks.

TOM DALE: United States, please.

UNITED STATES: Good morning, and thank you very much.

I, too, appreciate the breakdown. I think it's really helpful to see.

I also think it reinforces the need to establish priorities because that's an enormously long list with very little time.

And I think some things may just have to -- we're going to have to anticipate now some things perhaps falling off the list. I don't know whether colleagues share my concern, but this has been a very intense

week, and I think we have found that 30 minutes for some discussions have simply -- it's been insufficient, and we've found ourselves just sort of racing, I think, through a very packed agenda. And I have to commend the chair, the vice chairs and the secretariat for keeping us sort of to a very tight schedule, but I think we need a little more flexibility. And perhaps sending this out, we can seek to do some kind of a ranking where we are prepared to be more flexible and allocate more time to the higher priority issues.

So I'd have to concur with Australia. I think transition and accountability are very near term, very high properties.

I also think that wrapping up, yes, we do wish to wrap up the new gTLD safeguards issue. But I'm not entirely sure 30 minutes is sufficient, if, in fact, we are exchanging views with the staff or the Board or the NGPC. I don't know how we put a close to that.

So it's just a suggestion that we might need to readjust as we establish priorities.

But thank you very much for doing this. I think it's very illuminating.

TOM DALE: Thank you.

I think, Denmark wanted to make an intervention.

DENMARK: Thank you.

We agree that the IANA transition and the accountability is some of the important issues, and that probably will take some time during the meeting.

Only one thing, and I know that it will be an add-on to the list, which is what we shortly discussed earlier, and it's also in our communique. That is the AoC and the review program, the fourth part, which is on consumer protection and other things, which might be relevant to have a status, at least a status on the meeting.

Thank you.

TOM DALE:

Thank you very much.

Just responding to a couple of points there. The need for flexibility is very much to the front of our minds because apart from anything else, other things will happen outside the GAC between now and October.

The Board will -- and its committees will meet and make resolutions and consider issues that the GAC will undoubtedly have some interest in. Other bodies, other international and regional bodies, will consider issues, other matters will come up. And one of our jobs, I think, is to ensure you are kept aware of those developments and that we can adjust provisional agendas as they -- as they fall into place over the next month or so.

The other point I would stress is that we made an attempt in the short time available to us in preparation for this meeting to provide you with some concise briefings on some of the more complex issues. Clearly, as

we're now working for you on a full-time basis, we would be providing you with that detailed briefing on all of the issues, and certainly on the more complex ones, both well in advance of the meeting and on all of the major agenda items; that that's our job.

So that should help a little in the overall management. But, yes, I think as the United States said, it all does come back to some hard decisions about time management. Those decisions can start to be informed now, and through your comments here and after the meeting.

And one last point I should make is that while in the northern hemisphere you enjoy your summer holidays and go to some interesting places apart from work, mostly during the month of August, we will continue to work hard through the Australian winter. And I'm not saying that to make you feel sorry for us, but, rather, to emphasize that we do want to try and keep some continuity with all of the GAC members.

So if you could perhaps give some consideration to the issues before you get on a train or a plane or head for the beach so that we can ensure that we have the views of both the northern and southern hemisphere GAC members in the lead up to Los Angeles. Thank you.

I think the United States wanted to say something.

UNITED STATES:

Thank you for that, Tom. I also wanted to put a question to the room at large.

Is there any support for a GAC lunch or a GAC cocktail at some point so that we can permit new members and older members to get to know one another better? I think that's the other constraint I felt this week. I don't know if other people as well. No time to actually sit and talk to one another. And I do think it's important that we build in that time.

It's already challenging that we don't get to engage informally with the rest of the community, but at least with ourselves, I think it would be a useful experiment to see if we can build in some GAC social time.

Thank you.

TOM DALE: Lebanon. Thank you.

LEBANON: I think it's a good idea.

TOM DALE: And New Zealand.

NEW ZEALAND: Thank you. I'd just like to pick up on several of the points that have been made. Agreeing that, yes, there are issues that come up that we will need to address both intersessionally and while we're at the meeting in L.A. I agree with the U.S.'s point that it would be good to meet with other GAC members in a more informal manner. And also, it may make your job more difficult, but if we could build into the schedule some time to see what the other communities are doing or

perhaps have further meetings with GAC members, that would be appreciated.

Thank you.

TOM DALE:

Thank you.

Thailand, I think. Yes.

THAILAND:

Thank you, Chair. I think on the issue on WHOIS that I intervention a few days ago, there is one subject on translation, transliterations, which the initial report on PDP have to submit in L.A. And as the nature of the work is very detailed and complex, and even if it's under the WHOIS, I would like to consider we should have a slot under that to explain what it is. And we need to do the work before to be sure that everybody understand what it's about.

Thank you.

TOM DALE:

Thank you, Thailand.

Before responding to some other requests to speak, I should note that the WHOIS work is a significant -- including the transliteration issue, which I know that you have raised before, for us the WHOIS work is a significant intersessional task, and the GAC indicated over the last few days a number of options that it wants ICANN, at all levels, to consider.

So we will have to be working closely with ICANN staff on ensuring that all of the issues of particular relevance to the GAC are dealt with and that the intersessional part of that WHOIS development work is addressed by us and in support of whatever you want the GAC to do.

So I think we'll certainly note that that is an important component of it for public-policy purposes, but there are other issues on WHOIS that will require quite a bit of work as well.

So in our mind it is of significant priority for intersessional work, so thank you.

European Commission. Thank you.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION: Thank you very much. I very much appreciate the discussion a little bit about outreach and the way that actually everybody can participate in this thing.

Talking about cocktails, I think there are too many cocktails in this place anyway, so I'm not really favoring more cocktails to be able to reach out to one another here. But I do think there is very much room, actually, seeing that we start working in a more coherent manner; that there are discussions between different groups so that everybody is able to participate.

I mean, I'm, again, just referring to the WINE and VIN issue that I have to -- unfortunately have to say that we have had to take on board very specific, very essential interests for the European Union, and this is the stage where we are now. So that's just a point of it.

Next time it will be somebody else. Africa. I've had .AFRICA and we have other coming up. I mean, I'm pretty sure.

So it's important that we start actually having a possibility to speak out, all of us, and not only do it in cocktails.

Thank you.

TOM DALE:

Thank you. Did Australia have your hand up before?

Thank you.

AUSTRALIA:

Thank you. Sorry for taking the microphone again.

To follow on from a couple of the points raised before, I agree, I think particularly for newer members and like for members that have been in the GAC a long time but they are new representatives, and so on, I think some -- I agree, I like the idea of some sort of informal thing.

One thing the GAC has done in the past is have, on the Saturday morning, a induction capacity building. I think in Costa Rica we did it, and I think on another meeting we've done it where we get together, we talk about issues on the agenda, someone explains roughly what they are.

I think in past we've had GAC leads do those discussions, so explain particularly complicated issues in a neutral way to newer members, and so on.

That may be something worth revisiting. I know it extends the agenda again, and we start earlier, and so on, but it's potentially something useful to look to.

In terms of issues that may need additional priority, I'm just reflecting on the ccNSO entry there. And I think the FOI Working Group which was deferred from this meeting, I think we heard from our ccNSO colleagues that they're intending to ask the GAC to endorse their report in Los Angeles. That's one area where we might anticipate needing a more substantive discussion.

And lastly, in terms of WHOIS, I agree with Tom, and thank you for reflecting our earlier discussions, Tom, that this is obviously a substantive piece of work and we're going to be need to be relatively well prepared in Los Angeles, particularly if we have a community discussion on that. And I'm wondering on a mechanism that we might be able to focus our intersessional work. Whether a working group, for example, might be useful. I'm not sure in this case because it may be that every single GAC member may have an interest and the working group will, in fact, be the whole GAC. But it's something potentially something we could reflect on some way to sharpen our focus and ensure that we turn up in Los Angeles really well prepared on this particular issue.

CHAIR DRYDEN: Thank you. Before wrapping up, Sweden, you have some comments.

SWEDEN: Thank you, Chair. I won't be long.

Regarding social activities, I know the Swedish predecessor of mine arranged a football match. Unfortunately, I'm totally inept at doing any football related activities so I'm not suggesting that. But maybe we could consider doing something a little bit more playful in order to interact in a nonthreatening situation and a more playful way, such as perhaps have an arranged city tour. We rarely have a -- I mean, which doesn't need to take very long if we prearrange it, and everybody can choose to participate if it suits their, you know, traveling schedule and so forth, and could be on the Saturday morning or something like that.

It's something to consider, and it wouldn't be a cocktail.

And I also have one question about the GAC open forum. Now we're doing it for the first time. Not really now, but five minutes ago we should have started. And the question is whether we should have it on every meeting or not.

We haven't really discussed that, but for the meantime, I think it's good to plan for having it in Los Angeles as well.

Thank you.

CHAIR DRYDEN:

Thank you, Sweden.

I see there is a positive reaction to your suggestion to look at city tours and this kind of activity. So let's take a serious look at that.

I am wanting to wrap up.

United States, did you want to react?

UNITED STATES: I wanted to concur with Sweden's suggestion, and to perhaps also suggest that if we continue to do these sessions, we should -- the GAC 101 things, maybe on a Sunday would be better than on the final day.

So it's at the outset.

Thank you.

CHAIR DRYDEN: Thank you, yes. We will look at how things go today and think about the schedule for the next time based on our experience here.

So at this point, I would just remind you that we are going to set up agenda setting teleconferences, so the first one will take place about a month after these meetings conclude. And then we will set up another teleconference for, I hope, at least six weeks before Los Angeles -- yes, Los Angeles, to get better clarity and further develop our agenda intersessionally. So I would like to remind you that Tom and Michelle are here and available to you. And if you have further thoughts on the topics, and so on, don't hesitate to contact them.

Okay. All right.

So we need to hand the room over to have the GAC open forum. So with this, I think we have concluded our GAC's meetings with this last planning session, and it's really -- it's really nice to have this planning session this morning. This has been something I've been wanting to find a slot for a very long time, and we did it this week. And thank you, Tom, for taking us through that discussion.

Great. All right.

So thank you, everyone, and I will now hand the room over to have the GAC open forum.

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