

Pre-ICANN56 Policy Update Briefing Thursday 16 June 2016 at 10:00 UTC

Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases it is incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages or transcription errors.

David Olive: Welcome to everyone and greetings from Istanbul. My name is David Olive. I'm Senior Vice President for Policy Development Support and we're conducting this webinar from a variety of locations. I'm speaking to from Istanbul and other members of my staff will be joining us from different parts of the globe.

We want to again welcome you and thank you for a webinar we do before each ICANN meeting, and this one in particular, ICANN 56, will be our policy forum. In many ways this is a meeting of important firsts, first ICANN meeting in Helsinki, the first meeting of our new president and CEO, Göran Marby, and the first meeting following this new community-proposed format, a policy forum.

The ICANN 56 session will be a four-day meeting with many sessions and meetings focused on policy and advice development work that is taking place now among our community. The supporting organizations and the advisory committees of ICANN have taken the lead in organizing this particular program. This is the core work of ICANN, community-driven, consensus policy and advice development with the top of level of the Internet's naming system and it also facilitates the use of other unique Internet identifiers.

Our morning sessions will be dedicated to individual and joint sessions of the supporting organizations and advisory council. The afternoon sessions will

feature cross-community meetings exploring a variety of topics, including ongoing policy and advice development efforts.

And we see in the slide some of the cross-community sessions involved, dealing with the new top level domain auction proceeds, framework principles for future cross-community working groups, activity relating to the subsequent procedures of policy development for a round, a new round of the gTLD program, as well as the next generation registration directory services, replacing the current Whois program, rights protection mechanisms across all top level domains, and other.

So to that extent we hope that this new approach will be of interest to all. We know that there'll be a lot of good discussion and allow us to interact and participate. We will also have a group from our fellows and next generation delegates attending as well. In this particular policy forum we will have the announcement of the recipients of this year's Multi Ethos Award.

So no matter if you're a regular ICANN participant or an occasional one or a newcomer, we encourage you to actively be involved. If you're coming physically, that is wonderful, if not, through remote participation to our sessions. And with that I'll turn it over to a focus on our cross-community topics and recognize now Marika Konings to start that discussion. Marika, the floor is yours.

Marika Konings: Thank you very much, David. Hello, everyone. My name is Marika Konings. I'm a senior policy director and team leader for the GNSO and speaking to you from Costa Rica where it's a dry spot at 4 in the morning. Hello everyone.

So I'm first talking to you about new gTLD auction proceeds. So auctions were chosen as the mechanism of last resort to resolve string contention within the new gTLD program. However, most string contentions have been resolved through other means before reaching an auction. Nevertheless, significant funding has been accrued as a result of several auctions. These

proceeds have been reserved and earmarked and currently stand at over \$100 million U.S. dollars.

The Generic Name Supporting Organization, or GNSO, started discussions on possible process to utilize these funds at ICANN 52. As a result of these discussions and a workshop that took place on this topic at ICANN 53, a discussion paper was prepared by staff and published for public comment. The focus of the discussions as well as the discussion paper had been on the framework for disbursement of the funds and of disbursement themselves.

Following receipt of 28 public comments and publication of the updated discussion paper, the GNSO Council chair reached out to all supporting organizations and advisory committees to identify volunteers to participate in the drafting team that was tasked to develop a proposed charter for a cross-community working group which is expected to prepare a proposal for a mechanism to allocate the new gTLD auction proceeds.

So the drafting team, which has volunteers from all ICANN supporting organizations and advisory committees, apart from the ccNSO who opted not to participate at this stage, and a drafting team has been working since February of this year to prepare a draft charter for community review and discussion.

As part of its deliberations it has benefited from the preliminary work of the cross-community working group on cross-community working group principles. I'll show here more about it later in this presentation. During the cross-community discussion in Helsinki, the drafting team expects to present the proposed charter, highlight any areas which it believes may require further discussion and input, and invite the community to flag any questions or comments that you may have.

As part of the drafting team effort, two liaisons from the ICANN board, the chairs of the audit and finance board committee, as well as a staff expert

have been participating in the discussion to ensure that the charter recognizes the legal and fiduciary constraint that exist as a result of ICANN's bylaws and corporate status. So this is something that you will also see reflected in the draft charter.

Furthermore, the draft charter is expected to include a set of principles that the cross-community working group is expected to follow, as well as the mechanism proposed is expected to meet, ensuring a transparency and openness, avoiding conflict of interest, as well as promoting diversity.

So in order to prepare for the session in Helsinki which is scheduled to take place on Tuesday afternoon, we recommend that you review the information that is listed on this slide especially the draft charter when available. The latest draft can be found on the wiki, but it's important to note that the work of the drafting team is still ongoing in order to get it into a form that the drafting team feels it is ready to present and discuss in Helsinki.

What is expected to happen after Helsinki? The drafting team intends to review all the comments and inputs that it will have received during the cross-community session and they will update the proposed cross-community working group charter accordingly. Following that, the drafting team will submit this proposed charter to all ICANN supporting organizations and advisory committees will be requested to consider adopting the charter, following which they would become a chartering organization of the cross-community working group.

Once two or more SOs or ACs have adopted the charter, the cross-community working group will be created and a call for volunteers will go out. It is at this stage the expectation that in addition to members that are appointed are the chartering organization. Anyone interested will be able to participate in the CCWG. So we're hoping of course that any one of you that maybe interested in this effort will sign up at that stage and will come to join us for the cross-community discussion in Helsinki.

So with that, I'll hand it over to Mary.

Mary Wong: Thanks very much, Marika. Hello everybody, my name is Mary Wong and I am a senior policy director with ICANN. Today I'm speaking with you from the United States where I'm currently based, although I'm originally from Singapore. And I do recognize from the participant list a number of folks who were kind enough to join me and my APAC colleagues on the APAC webinar just a few hours ago. So welcome.

Speaking of cross-community working groups, it seems that maybe many of us have been living with those for quite a while, but what you may have noticed is that even as the number of cross-community working groups seem to increase because the topics that cut across and affect different parts of the ICANN community seem to also increase, what we don't have at the moment in ICANN is a set of uniformed principles that govern the establishment of these cross-community working groups, the rules of operation, as well as the outcomes and implementation of recommendations that may come from these groups. And as you just heard from Marika, we may be setting up another one, a very important subject on new gTLD auction proceeds sometime this year.

So this effort to develop a framework of principles for future cross-community working groups is a working group that was chartered by the ccNSO and GNSO Councils to do just that. And the latest status update from this group is that the draft framework that they published for public comment earlier this year, you see here on this slide, in February 2016 is being updated. There were quite a few public comments received from various sectors of the ICANN community, community groups, as well as individuals. And this working group hopes to complete the final framework after ICANN 56.

So what this means is that ICANN 56 is likely to be quite an important meeting for this particular effort because this particular cross-community

working group -- and some of you may know that this is sometimes affectionately called CCWG squared since it is the cross-community working group to develop the uniformed principles for future such groups -- but anyway, this cross-community working group will be conducting an open dialogue with the community at ICANN 56 that they hope will help inform the final version of the framework.

As I mentioned earlier, there were quite a few public comments that were received, and a number of these comments touched on what this CCWG thought were key topics and major areas of community concern. You see here in the dark blue center box on the slide that these various topic areas are ensuring diversity in terms of membership and representation in a CCWG, discussing the question of budget and resource allocation for CCWG, bearing in mind, however, that most CCWGs will be more or less somewhat regular, quote, unquote efforts.

In other words, most CCWGs will likely not have the same high profile, deal with the same magnitude of topics or possibly require the same amount of community and staff resources as the two most well know and recent CCWGs, which of course are the CCWG on accountability of ICANN and on the IANA stewardship transition. Nevertheless, there may well be future CCWGs where issues such as budget and resource allocation might be important as well. So this CCWG thought this may be an important topic.

A third topic area that they would like to discuss with the community is the definition of consensus. There were quite a few comments received on this question, and so this is something that the group will try to resolve in its final framework.

Fourthly and finally, the key topic that the CCWG has identified for community discussion at ICANN 56 is the question of implementation of the CCWG's recommendations, including the role of that particular CCWG in seeing those through. There are a number of other comments that has led to potential

changes from the draft framework into a proposed final framework, but in order to focus the community's feedback on these four key topics, this is going to be the focus of the CCWG session at ICANN 56, which is currently scheduled for the Wednesday afternoon in Helsinki local time.

So to prepare for this particular session, and we certainly hope that many of you will be there either in person or remotely, there is the draft principles that were published in February 2016 which will give you a very good idea of the nature of the work, as well as some of the open areas at the time that the CCWG sought comment from. And some of the comments that were received are of course summarized in the report of public comments to that draft framework. So those could be said to be the foundational documents for this particular group as we move into ICANN 56.

The group, however, is hoping that it can release the proposed final framework showing the revisions and the changes it proposes to make from the draft to the final document prior to ICANN 56. It is not quite ready because actually the group is due to meet later today to discuss that very document. So we will certainly post and publish that document when it is ready, and we hope that you will be, like I said, at the Wednesday session in Helsinki with your feedback and with your suggestions for this group as well.

And so following ICANN 56 and further deliberation by this cross-community working group, the final framework should be completed and sent to the chartering organizations -- that would be the ccNSO and GNSO Councils -- for their adoption. And because the idea is to have a set of uniform principles for future such efforts, the other ICANN supporting organizations and advisory committees will also receive the final framework in the hopes that they too will be able to support that uniform set of principles.

And so following all that, the hope is that future CCWGs will apply those principles insofar as they serve as a framework to guide the scope and the operations of that particular group in the future. And I will note here that the

new gTLD auction proceeds charter drafting team that you just heard about from Marika did refer to the draft framework by this particular group in creating their charter.

On that note, I'm going to turn over now to Julie Hedlund who will talk about another effort for which cross-community input is very much welcome at ICANN 56. Julie?

Julie Hedlund: Thank you very much, Mary, and hello everyone. This is Julie Hedlund. I'm based out of the U.S. in the ICANN Washington, D.C. office and I'm here to talk to you a little bit about new gTLD subsequent procedures along with my colleague Steve Chan, who can't be with us this morning but will join us this afternoon.

So what to expect at ICANN 56. At this meeting, there's going to be an open community dialogue session. And that is going to be on Tuesday afternoon. And at that session, we'll discuss the subjects that have been considered to date by this PDP working group, as well as other efforts related to new gTLDs and a selection of topics that are of broad community interest. In addition, on Wednesday morning and afternoon in two sessions, the PDP working group will also hold a working session, and that session also is open to the public, and you are welcome to join to observe and provide input.

Just as an overview, there are community efforts, such as this PDP and various reviews, that are underway to take into consideration the 2012 new gTLD round and seek ways to improve, refine, or develop new policy recommendations for new gTLDs, acknowledging that there is existing new gTLD policy from the GNSO's 2007 final report on the introduction of new gTLDs.

And how can you prepare for ICANN 56? First of all, it would be very helpful to review the charter at the link here on the slide and to review the draft work plan to see the preliminary timeline. There are other efforts, as I mentioned,

that are related to new gTLDs. There's the competition consumer trust and consumer choice review team, there's a cross-community working group on the use of country and territory names, review of all rights protection mechanisms, an all gTLDs PDP, efforts in the SSAC, ALAC, et cetera, and the IGO-INGO, and of course the group that I am mentioning here today, the GNSO PDP on new gTLD subsequent procedures.

So what shall we expect? Well we are going to have, as I noted, the cross-community discussion at ICANN 56. And there will, as I mentioned, also be the face-to-face working group meeting, and it is open to observers, as I noted. And then this PDP working group will review the input received from ICANN 56 to determine if there are any dependencies, reach preliminary outcomes, and reach final recommendations.

And I will note that this is actually going to be a fairly comprehensive and thorough process, so while it looks fairly short on the screen here, you can expect quite a bit of deliberation in this working group. And that is because, as you'll see on this slide, that the working group is looking at a total of 38 subjects in their charter and six have been identified as high level overarching subjects. And we do have preliminary discussions on those subjects, and the community input was sought on these.

So when will the other 32 subjects be addressed? The working group is going to divide these subjects into a series of sub teams to conduct preliminary discussions and of course seek more community input. The working group will also conduct preliminary discussions, seek input from the community, integrate work from other efforts, and then reach their conclusions only after all of these considerations.

So at this point I would just encourage you to please join the sessions, the afternoon session on the Tuesday and the morning and afternoon sessions on the Wednesday at ICANN 56. And at this point I'd like to turn things over

to my colleagues Marika Konings and (Lisa) (unintelligible) for the next generation gTLD registration directory service Whois PDP.

Marika Konings: Thank you very much, Julie. This is Marika again. You'll actually hear from (Lisa) in the second round of this webinar this afternoon for most of you, some of you afternoon. So I'll be talking to you about the next generation registration directory services to replace Whois.

As many of you may know, Whois was created in the 1980s as a collection and publication of domain name registration data service developed by Internet operators to be able to identify and contact individuals or entities responsible for the operation of a network resource on the Internet.

Although ICANN's requirements for domain name registration data collection acts as an accuracy for gTLD registries has undergone some important changes, including registration data publication service specification with the 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement, or RAA, the Whois policy and the underlying protocol have been the subject of debate for nearly 15 years. Comprehensive Whois policy reform remains the source of long-running discussions related to issues such as purpose, accuracy, privacy, anonymity, cost, policing, intellectual property protection, security, et cetera.

To address these issues, the ICANN board launched an initiative back in 2012 which it recently reconfirmed for a board-initiated policy development process to define the purpose of collecting, maintaining, and providing access to gTLD registration data and to consider safeguards for protection such data, using the recommendations developed by the expert working group on this topic as an input to and, if deemed appropriate, as the foundation for a new gTLD policy.

So what are the questions that the PDP - the policy development process working group is expected to address during the first phase of this work? At the starting point, it's expected to identify the fundamental requirements for

gTLD registration data without concern for the (unintelligible) that may be delivering such requirements. As part of this effort, it is expected to consider uses and purposes, as well as associated access, accuracy, data elements, and privacy requirements.

Once the PDP has completed this inventory of fundamental requirements, it needs to ask the question whether a new policy framework, a next generation RDS is needed to meet these requirements or whether the current Whois policy framework can meet these requirements either in its current form or with modifications.

So what can you expect for the cross-community session in Helsinki? The working group is in the early stages of its work and has been working on a list of possible requirements for registration directory services by reviewing all the relevant documents and information that has been identified as part of the preparatory work of the working group. This has resulted in a draft list which hasn't been deliberated on but at this time just serves as an inventory of all possible requirements that people have as thought and have been sourced by the different sources of information.

So the session in Helsinki offers you an opportunity to voice your concerns about Whois as well as any possible requirements that you think should be added to this list, which will then be deliberated by the working group in the next stages of its work.

In order to prepare for this session, which is scheduled for Monday afternoon, in addition to reviewing the information that can be found on the links in the previous slide, you're encouraged to review these specific questions, especially the one on topics one through five, so that's users' purpose, data access, data accuracy, data elements and privacy, and think about your possible requirements for these areas.

Working group members will share some examples of possible requirements during the session but the priority for the working group is really for non-working group members to come forward and share your perspectives and ideas.

In addition to the cross-community session, there is also a face-to-face working group meeting scheduled which is taking place on Tuesday morning. During this session, the working group will continue deliberations, including review of the input that was received during the cross-community session. They will continue their deliberations on the list of possible requirements.

Once this list has been finalized and organized, the working group is expected to commence its deliberations on these possible requirements with a view of achieving agreement of what the requirements are for gTLD registration directory services. Based on the outcome of those deliberations, the working group will publish its preliminary conclusions for public comment.

As the working group is expected to address ten different areas, as you saw on the previous slide, this may happen in various stages, and that is something that's still under discussion. And similar to what Julie said, although it may look very quick on this slide, it is expected that the deliberations may take some time as significant thought and consideration will need to go into each of these possible requirements as well they need to achieve consensus on which ones should be recommended as possible requirements for RDS.

So again, if you're interested in this topic, we really invite you to come and join us for the cross-community session here in person or remotely and/or the face-to-face meeting, which indeed is a working group meeting but will be open for observers to attend and participate in. And with that, I'm handing it back to Mary.

Mary Wong: Thank you, Marika. And hello again everyone, this is Mary Wong. And at this stage, it's my privilege to speak to you briefly about the other effort that does require some collaboration and coordination across the community, including with the new gTLD subsequent procedures policy development process that Julie just spoke about a moment ago.

And this is another PDP that was recently launched by the GNSO to conduct a review of all rights protection mechanisms across all gTLDs. And by rights protection mechanisms, or RPMs, we mean those RPMs that were developed to protect trademark rights in the DNS. Again all gTLDs meaning in both legacy gTLDs as well as those were developed for the 2012 new gTLD program round.

As some of you may know, because of the scope of coverage of this PDP, meaning all the RPMs from prior to the current new gTLD round to ones developed for this round, as well as the scope and complexity of having to review all of these RPMs, this policy development process has been divided into two phases. And we are right now starting phase 1.

Phase 1 will focus on the RPMs that were created for the 2012 new gTLD program round. And while I don't have time to go into those in this presentation, many of you will know that this includes the trademark clearinghouse, the associated protection mechanisms that are done through the clearinghouse such as sunrise, registration, as well as the trademark claims notice service. It will also cover the uniform rapid suspension procedure, or URS, and the post delegation dispute resolution procedure, known as the trademark PDDRP.

So even in phase 1 itself, just covering the 2012 new RPMs, that is quite a lot of work. And as I mentioned, the working group has just begun to meet. And so at ICANN 56 what the working group would really like to get from the community is your feedback on several topics.

First on the proposed methodology that they have adopted to deal with the review of all these RPMs in phase 1. Secondly, because the group is now starting its research and data gathering phase, they would like your feedback on possible sources for data as well as possible suggestions for how to approach not just the data gathering but the analyses of the data that they will gather. And thirdly, they would also like to discuss the scope of the many potential topics and issues that can be covered in the review of each RPM in phase 1.

This scope is based on the list of issues, which is already quite lengthy, that is contained in the working group charter. And to prepare for this particular session, the working group's charter is probably a good place to start as well as the work plan of the working group where you can see the timelines both for phase 1 and phase 2.

So what I'll say here is that the date that the working group has tentatively set to complete phase 1, which again is the review of the new gTLD program RPMs in 2012 tentatively, as I mentioned, is the end of 2017. So there's still quite a lot of work to go between now and then.

I've already mentioned what will be reviewed in phase 1, and so what will be covered in phase 2 which will follow phase 1 is the longstanding consensus policy known as the uniform dispute resolution policy, or the UDRP. And at the conclusion of both phases, hopefully there will be overarching themes and a consistent review framework developed as a result for all these RPM, noting that in between the two phases, the working group must publish a preliminary report for public comment.

So as an early stage in the process, as I noted, community feedback from all across the community and not just the GNSO community is going to be very important. And in particular, this is because the PDP will need to be coordinated with other ongoing efforts, some of which are listed here, and those include tracking the work of the competition, consumer trust and

consumer choice review team that is going on now, and specific topics such as the independent review of the trademark clearinghouse, which is also going on now.

And so as part of its coordination efforts, the working group hopes to constantly consult the community as well as collaborate and coordinate with the groups working on these projects in order to complete its work in phase 1 and then phase 2 in a timely fashion.

You see some of the timelines, and I mentioned that they hope to complete phase 1 at the end of 2017, but before that, you can see from the slide that there are several steps and a fair scope of work to be covered. So we hope that you can attend the working group's sessions, first of all an open cross-community session on the Monday afternoon immediately following the RDS discussion, and secondly, a face-to-face open working group meeting on the Thursday morning in Helsinki.

So thanks very much for your attention. And on that note, I will turn you to Bart Boswinkel, my colleague.

Bart Boswinkel: Thank you, Mary. I want to highlight two other cross-constituency sessions. The first one is probably a novelty. It's the - it's a cross-community session that will focus on the operations of ICANN, in particular the goal setting, the key performance indicators, et cetera.

Let me give you some background for this session. Some of you may have heard of the ccNSO strategic and operational planning working group. This group also, say, since 2009 provides input and feedback on ICANN's plans, so the operational plan and budget, and the strategic plan.

Now at its meeting in Marrakesh with Xavier Calvez, ICANN's CFO, they concluded that the focus of their input should start to change - shift. To date, especially with regard - with respect to the operational plan and budget,

they've been focusing on the (unintelligible) collection and the financial data underpinning some of the activities. And now all felt it was time to shift to and start having a discussion at a high level on ICANN's operations itself, because it ultimately applies the financial of ICANN.

So the conclusion was to have a kind of meeting at the Helsinki meeting around the operational planning initially just between the SOP and some of ICANN's global leaders focusing on some topic areas, but this has evolved into a cross-community session on Tuesday afternoon. And the purpose of this session will be first to, say, have a dialogue around some topic areas, mostly the outreach program, the SOP strategy, and, if time permits, ICANN human resources and the policy underpinning this.

But - and secondly, if this is a successful session, try to embed it in or kind of a similar kind of session, try to embed it in the upcoming ICANN planning cycle. So what you will see -- and it's not on this slide -- the chair will be from ICANN staff, so that will be Xavier Calvez, and the moderator facilitator of this session will be Giovanni Seppia, who is currently the chair of the ccNSO SOP working group. I will not touch upon the topics, et cetera.

The session will be on Tuesday afternoon from 17:00 to 18:30 in veranda three or veranda two, so that's the room where the ccNSO will meet. And secondly, the - Xavier Calvez will invite and use his contacts within the community to invite those who are interested, as well as the chair of the SOP working group, will start inviting people to attend this, and in particular those with an interest in ICANN's operational planning and budgeting processes but also in the strategic planning effort. So that's the operational aspect discussion on Tuesday afternoon.

A second cross-community session, which has been organized under the auspices of the ccNSO, is what is now known as the Country and Other Geographic Names forum. Again, the background is there is a cross-

community working group chartered by the GNSO and the ccNSO who's focusing on the use of country and territory names at TLDs.

And one of the goals is to address whether it's feasible to develop a, what is called a harmonized framework to be used. As most of you will know, there are around four or five different policies within use currently to assign names as either - as sTLDs.

All of these have in common that one way or the other the country and territory names but also other geographic names a part of it. So there is - it affects a lot of communities with different interests in geographic names, in particular in country and territory names.

As the working group is now focusing on three letter codes, they already see the issues and the different interests servicing. And it's not just, as most of you would expect between the ccTLDs and the gTLDs. But even within, probably within the ccTLD community, there is a lot of divergence and there is a lot of divergence with other groups as well.

So the thought was, try to bring together all those with an interest in the use of country and territory names and geographic names and have a discussion on the different aspects to inform the discussions of the CCWD going forward. Again, the format will be - there will be a brief instruction on some of the issues the working group has encountered, as well as an over view of the current set of policies that are applicable probably to country and territory names. And will be a GNSO and a ccNSO moderator in order to facility the discussion and the dialogue between those who want to attend this session.

The session is on Wednesday afternoon, 29th of June, quarter past 3:00 till 1645, and I believe it's in Hall A. But please check because I've seen some changes already on the schedule with respect to this session.

Yes, this is the end of the cross community sessions. We will start updating you with the other type of sessions that will be conducted. So I'd like to hand over to my colleague, Carlos Reyes, who will start off with the other supporting organizations.

Carlos, the floor is yours.

Carlos Reyes: Thank you very much, Bart. Hello, everyone. My name is Carlos Reyes. And I'm based out of the Washington D.C. office.

Over the past few minutes you've received briefings on cross community work taking place at ICANN 56, which is a new feature of this particular meeting format. And we're now transitioning to updates from the SONAC groups. And we begin with the under supporting organization, which is the community that represents the interests of the members within ICANN.

And within the ASO, we have the ASO Address Counsel. Just as a quick overview, there are 15 members from three of the regions that are represented by the regional Internet registries. The ASO Address Counsel oversees and manages the global policy development process. So much like the other counsels here at ICANN, this is group oversees any policy development work that takes place.

Now, at ICANN, the ASO has a very narrow (unintelligible) and that's to focus only on global policies as they relate to Internet member resource issues. And global Internet member resource policies are policies that require a specific action or outcome on part of the IANA. And all five RIRs must approve the same global policy proposal, which is then submitted to the Address Counsel for ratification. And then the board takes action from there.

Some examples of global policies in the past were the post exhaustion IPD4 allocation mechanism and allocation of IPD6 blocks. There are currently no global policy proposals. That being said, there's been a lot of regional policy

development work. Three RIR meetings have taken place since ICANN 56 in LACNIC region, RIPE, and ARIN.

And both - excuse me - all these regions have been focusing largely on transfer policies, both within the regions and intraregional transfer policies related to IPD4 and automated system numbers.

But some broader updates from the numbering community. The service level agreement between ICANN and the RIRs was approved. There were six drafts of this SLA, and as you all know, the SLA is a contractual agreement between ICANN and the RIRs for the delivery of numbering services, IANA numbering services. So that was approved and it's expected to be signed by the RIRs at ICANN 56.

In other news, the ASO Address Counsel has made progress with their selection of board seat ten. The announcement is expected soon. And this candidate - excuse me - this nominee will be replacing Kuo-Wei Wu at ICANN 57.

And with this, we go back to my colleague, Bart Boswinkel for an update from the ccNSO. Bart?

Bart Boswinkel: Thank you, Carlos. I'll just have a - excuse me. A few items I want to draw your attention to happening during the morning sessions within the ccNSO. The first, and probably most important one is, a discussion with the ccTLDs person on the launch of one or two PDPs around the review mechanism or decisions on delegation and transfer revocation, retirement or ccTLDs and the related and interdependent issues around retirement of ccTLDs.

The discussion is needed to allow the counsel to take a decision at a meeting, whether or not to combine the two or not. And this will have a major impact probably on the workload of the ccTLD community, especially on the part of the volunteers of course. And in order to raise awareness around this,

but also to put it in the context of the ongoing work on the implementation and the upcoming work on work 31 of the accountability discussion is needed.

It is clear that these two PDPs or these two issues need to be addressed rather sooner than later. But it's more a matter of managing the process as well as possible under the current circumstances. So the discussion will be on the scope of the PDP one or two and the initial timeline, when the community wants to have real understanding of the underlying issues. Discussion is heading towards the regional issue report available by (unintelligible) meeting.

But again, as I said, this is one of the major topics of decision ccNSO meetings. And not just with the ccTLDs communities present, it will be also on the agenda of the ccNSO (unintelligible) meeting, which is on Tuesday afternoon right before the cross community session on the operational side.

Two other major topics are the progress around the implementation of the CWD Stewardship Proposal. And next step, as some of you will be aware, the CSC and NDR (unintelligible) needs to be - members need to be appointed by the 15th of August. But I think the broader community is also aware that some additional work needs to take place after the appointment of the CSC and the NDR (unintelligible) especially with respect to internal procedures of the SOs and ACs. And these two sections on the implementation side are focused on what the ccNSO need to do in addition and that's probably of interest to the broader community as well.

The ccNSO counsel just launched a survey to understand the expectations of the ccTLD community around the transparency and accountability of the ccNSO counsel. And the results of this survey will be presented at the session in Helsinki on Wednesday morning, I believe it is. So if you're interested in these sessions, please check the ccNSO meeting's agenda. And the sessions are on Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:30 to 3:00 p.m.

So Marika, I may hand over to you again.

Marika Konings: Thank you very much, Bart. So hi, everyone. I'm about to get into briefly think about what the GNSO is doing in addition to leading and participating and the cross community sessions that have been discussions previously in this presentation.

So the GNSO has also (unintelligible) all our activities. And from the GNSO perspective, the policy format provides a strip down meeting with a stronger emphasis on policy with the aim of undertaking significant work for the coming months, 12 months within the GNSO.

As such, significant time has been made available on the schedule for the different policy developments as process working groups to be able to meet face-to-face and progress on their work. This includes all the topics that have been discussed earlier in this presentation that are the subjects of a policy development process, as well as the IGO, INGO curative rights policy development process working group.

In addition, a number of implementation review teams are also expected to meet face-to-face. And these include the (unintelligible) IRTs, as well as the IGO, INGO Protection IRT Implementation Review Team.

Furthermore, there are bilateral meetings planned with individual board members, as well as the Governmental Advisory Committee. And PNSO sessions on Monday where topics such as the GNSO review and INS rendition implementation issues are expected to be discussed covered by GSO council meeting and GNSO wrap-up session on Thursday.

And for the GNSO council meeting topics such as the GNSO liaison to the governmental advisory committee, post transition entities and procedures, as well as possible modification to the (unintelligible) conflicts with local law procedure are expected to be discussed. All these meetings are open to

anyone interested, so we hope to see a many of you there in person or remotely to participate in the GNSO session.

And with that, I hand it over to Heidi.

Heidi Ullrich: Thank you very much, Marika. Hello, everyone. My name is Heidi Ullrich. I'm senior director for At Large. I'm delighted to give you a brief update on the activities of the At Large Advisory Committee, or the ALAC, and the at large community that have taken place between ICANN meetings in Marrakech and Helsinki. I will also be providing a preview of At Large activities that are due or planned to take place at the ICANN 56 meeting.

So first, events that have taken place since ICANN 55 related to policy between ICANN 55 and ICANN 56. The ALAC submitted five policy advice statements in response to public comments. These statements include the statements on the draft framework and principles for cross community working groups, the final report recommendation that the geographic regions review working group to draft, ICANN fiscal year operating plan and budget, and the five year operating plan update, as well as the draft of the new ICANN bylaws.

In addition, the ALAC also responded to the request for feedback from (unintelligible) PDP working groups. These were the next generation RDS (unintelligible) and the new GTLD subsequent procedures. The ALAC also submitted a proposal for multiyear planning of At Large face-to-face meetings, which was recently approved.

Other policy activities include holding several capacity building webinars of substantive issues of interest to the At Large community and also the wider ICANN community. These webinars are part of an ongoing series and are open to us.

More information on ALAC policy advice (unintelligible) may be found at the link on the slide. Related to process, the key activity has been the At Large review, which has started with the group item selected as the independent examiner.

The At Large review is focusing on the At Large structure or a ALSs and reaching At Large organizations, or the (unintelligible). And I'll speak a bit more about that review during my review of At Large activity in (unintelligible).

ALAC is also updated its rules and procedures, specifically the sections about selection and election related matters. And this is in advance of the anticipated start of the selection process for the director to the board selected by At Large.

Moving to activities during ICANN 56. The ALAC and regional leaders will focus on several main topics during ICANN 56 related to policy and process. ALAC would discuss the next steps within the new ICANN bylaws, including developing the internal processes that will be needed.

And ALAC will also review the status of their working groups, of which there are currently 20. They'll provide an update on the ALS criteria and expectations (unintelligible), which is running in parallel with the At Large review. Given its focus on At Large structures and discuss implementation of their approved fiscal year 17 question request, in addition to a number of other items.

As noted earlier, another main topic is the At Large review. And in Helsinki, the At Large review working party will review timelines and reference documents reduced by the members of ITEMS, the independent examiner. Also ITEMS will be conducting interviews throughout the meeting in Helsinki with At Large and other community members.

Regarding at teach and engagement, similar to the Marrakech meeting, they'll be several interesting sessions to increase awareness and knowledge of the activities of At Large in Helsinki. Excuse me.

The first is a subcommittee at reach and engagement is we're going to have some sessions with the NextGen students. That's what's taking place Monday the 27th of June between 10:45 and 12:00, as well as a policy discussion including the ALAC with the fellows also on Monday between 1330 and 1500. The aims of these sessions is for these groups to increase their understanding of ALAC and At Large.

In addition, a joint (unintelligible) society networking event will be taking place on Tuesday evening, 28 June, between 1830 and 1930. It will be held in the same room as the personal ATEO reception. It is open to members of EURALO and your service society engagement contact group, as well as anyone interested in learning more about these groups.

And moving to the regional activity during 56. There's a lot of activity. And the Regional At-Large Organization, RALO, will have several meetings, either formal or informal. EURALO will be holding its general assembly on Tuesday the 28th of June between 8:00 and 10:00. This is a non-face-to-face general assembly with many people joining EURALO by remote participation. The agenda includes a review of the EURALO annual report from 2015 and '16, a briefing by the EURALO bylaws task force and launch of the EURALO ALS engagement task force.

As noted earlier, EURALO jointly with the civil society engagement group will host a networking event on Tuesday. AFRALO will be holding their traditional joint AFRALO African meeting on Wednesday the 29th of June between 1330 and 1500. The theme is on the IANA transition and ICANN accountability. And they will be discussing a statement and then submitting it to the board.

NARALO, the North American Regional At-Large Organization, will be having their monthly meeting on Wednesday the 29th of June between 1330 and 1500. This meeting will be focusing on discussions such as their outreach strategy, activities and preparations for the NARALO face-to-face general assembly to be held in fiscal year '17.

And finally, and the RALO secretary consisting of the leaders from all the RALOs will be meet on Tuesday between 1330 and 1500. And the issues to be discussed include (unintelligible) to recommendation, that's the second At Large summit. The At Large review and other issues where RALO discussions and agreement are required.

And I would like to now hand the floor over to my colleague, Olof Nordling, who will be providing an update on the activities of the GAC. Olof?

Olof Nordling: Thank you very much, Heidi. And hello, everybody, from Brussels. My name is Olof Nordling, and I'm responsible for ICANN support to the Governmental Advisory Committee or GAC as it's abbreviated.

The Governmental Advisory Committee with its 168 governments currently as members and 35 intergovernmental organizations, as observers. We're certain to have a very busy time in Helsinki because they're usually, with the classical ICANN meeting format, they have five long days. Sometimes very long days of work. Now, it's four quite short days.

So the GAC agenda is jam packed from Monday to Thursday. And some of the session topics just to take a few samples, will be addressing the two character labels and country names a second level domain. This is remaining as from the new detail D around. And actually an ongoing dialogue with the global domains division of ICANN on implementation of mitigation of confusion steps for the application of such names on the second level.

Furthermore, another topic is GAC Advice effectiveness. How has it worked really, the GAC advice, has it been taken into account? This is going to be discussed by a joint working group between the board and the GAC. And these two sessions will occur on Monday.

Privacy and proxy services. There is a recently concluded policy development process from the GNSO where the GAC has some views on certain details and whether that can be resolved on implementation or calls for something else is a matter for discussion.

IGO acronyms protection is also remaining (unintelligible) from the new GTFD round. And our temporary protections in place from that round. But there are some position (unintelligible) one could say in the position between the GNSO and the GAC regarding how this would translate into something more permanent.

And these are just samples. Of course, there is a lot more. The full schedule is available - a more detailed schedule is available on the GAC website with the address as indicated on the slide.

And I should mention also, that all these sessions are open. And you heard right. (Unintelligible) all GAC sessions are open.

And with that, I would like to turn the page and make a giant leap to Los Angeles and hand over to the smooth voice of (Karen Paksaid). Take it away, (Karen).

(Karen Paksaid): Hello, everybody. My name is (Karen Paksaid) or (unintelligible), and I'm part of the GAC Support Committee Based out of L.A.

So to continue on the GAC schedule for ICANN 56. In Helsinki they got clearance to participate actively in many of the afternoon cross community sessions with all the other ICANN speak holders. And the GAC is also

leading one of the cross community sessions, specifically, the one on workload scheduling and managing Thursday afternoon.

So perhaps a few words on that (unintelligible) session. It will be moderated by the GAC chair and it follows up on the (unintelligible) where the GAC flag is a large number of activities across ICANN taking place in parallel that require community input.

So the idea is to discuss how to balance the different community priorities and try to maximize community participation or the possibility of community participation and PDPs. So the session would try to collect input and ideas from the whole community on prioritizing and organizing the activities, the ones that are of interest to the broad community. For example, with, you know, some early ideas that we've heard or things like year-long planning or prioritization exercises, et cetera.

Now, in Helsinki, the GAC's six working groups will all meet. On Monday the grouping work on geographic names will meet early in the morning and the working group on underserved regions will meet a GAC session on capacity building with graceful assistance from the ICANN, the GEC and GE team.

On Tuesday the GAC public safety working group will meet. Wednesday the working group on human rights, the GAC working group on human rights and international law will meet. And the working group on GAC up rating principles will hold a GAC session as well. And finally, the NomCom relations working group will meet Thursday.

The GAC will also meet with other SO-ACs as well as with the competition (unintelligible) trust and (unintelligible) choice review team. Importantly, for the first time the GAC community will be finalized on Thursday instead of the traditional Wednesday evening. And the format is evolving to articulate in more detail of rationale for GAC Advice.

As Olof said, the GAC meetings are now completely open so that anybody who wishes to attend can do so, so welcome. Now, I would like to hand it over to Steve Sheng for the RCAC update. Thank you.

(Steve Sheng): Thank you, (Karen). My name is Steve Sheng. I support the Routes System Advisory Committee, as well as the Security and Stability Advisory Committee with my colleagues. Today I will give a brief update of the work of both committees. First the RSSAC. The RSSAC consists of representatives of the organization responsible for operating the 13 name servers, as well as liaison for (unintelligible) management partners and other key parties.

The RSSAC meets monthly via teleconferences and also in person at ICANN meetings. Notable to RSSAC, it consists of a caucus, which is a body of technical experts that produce the actual advisories. Today with 74 technical experts, the caucus has published several advisories.

I wish to highlight one advisory, RSSAC 002. That's published in ICANN 55. That is measurement of the roots of resistance. The caucus recently finished the third revision of the advisory. It provided overview of some of the measurements on (unintelligible) service for the root zone, which the root server operators all have committed to keeping and publishing.

This is an important effort because having comparable data across the system and making it public is an important part of the evolving commitment to the transparency by the root server operators. To date, ten out of the 13 operators have already published or have been publishing these statistics. And the other three are collecting and committed to publish in short order.

The current work of RSSAC includes a work party study that root server system name schemes, as well as a document describing the history of the root server system. These two works expected to finish in the third quarter of this year.

Next, a brief update of the Security and Stability Advisory Committee. Since ICANN 55, the SSAC has published two documents. In SSAC 82 is a response to the request from the GNSO PDP working group on (unintelligible) detail these subsequent procedures. Their request is to SSAC and other SOACs is to, in assistance in (unintelligible) a catalog of existing advice or statements for their consideration.

In the SSAC response, it lists and highlights several SSAC reports and advisories that consider the topics related to new retail (unintelligible) with focus on the domain collision issue, which was an important issue in the last few years.

The SSAC stands ready to provide further feedback and review the reports from this group. Similar to SSAC 82, SSAC 81 is a request from the GNSO PDP on Next Generation detail the RDF. The SSAC similar to SSAC 82, the SSAC provides its list of advisories in the past on the topic.

In addition to these, the SSAC also provides several points of advice. One is, it's important to have the terminology correct. So that who is data, who is protocol, and the registration data directory service. Not to mix those up in discussions. And second, it's important to agree on a problem in a formation stage. Agree on the requirements, the policy requirements. And only then, you know, moving to possible, you know, solution stage. And the SSAC highlight in particular, the RDAC, which is the replacement protocol develop in the ITF to replace the who is protocol.

Looking ahead to ICANN 56, the SSAC in corporation with ISAC will be hosting another DNSAC workshop. Registries, registrars, you know, ISPs, the operators, who plan to deploy DNSX services will benefit from these presentations and we - the SSAC welcomes your participation. It's a Monday the 27th of June from 9:15 to 1:30 p.m.

So that concludes a brief update of the SSAC and RSSAC. This information is also online and we invite you to read those as well. With that, I hand over to my colleague, Benedetta, to moderate the question and answer session.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much, Steve. My name is Benedetta Rossi. Policy and Community Engagement (unintelligible). As Steve noted, I'll be handling the question and answer session followed by a couple of updates.

If you'd like to ask a question, please press Star one and record your name. Operator, do we have any questions?

Coordinator: No questions at this time. Thank you.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much. If you'd like to ask any questions following the webinar or would like to stay updated with the policy development support team, please use the team email address, which is policy (unintelligible) at ICANN.org. Emails to follow-up on Twitter using the handles that are shown on the slide.

If you're new to policy development process, or would like to join a (unintelligible) working group, you'll be interested in the two new comer sessions, which are how (unintelligible) PD P working group. Communication tools classroom, which is led by staff. Talking about the working group tools and to ask questions. And our working group new comer webinar, which is community led. And it focuses on helping new comers familiarize themselves with the policy development process and to better understand how to engage (unintelligible) working group setting. The next sessions will take place in July and the dates are to be confirmed.

(Unintelligible) ICANN 56. Also, please don't forget to download the ICANN 56 mobile application to access the meeting information on the go,

personalize your meeting schedule and connect with fellow attendees and post feedback on the sessions you attend.

To help attendants prepare for the Helsinki meeting, a (unintelligible) ICANN 56 policy forum report will be posted as of early next week on the ICANN 56 meeting page. The report will provide attendees further information on the cross community sessions and updates on the various SOs and ACs.

After the meeting, we will release a post ICANN 56 report, which will include results and outcomes of the meeting. And this will be posted in July. I'll turn it over to David Olive for his closing remarks. Over to you, David. Thank you.

David Olive: Thank you very much, Benedetta and will my policy colleagues for providing an informative session and to thank you for attending. We try to change our format from our regular traditional programming to try to show, again, the cross community working group discussions, provide you with some background information on those topics, as well as resources that you can go to the learn more about it or to prepare for those sessions, in addition to a regular update from the supporting organizations and advisories counsels.

Again, with the ICANN 56 policy forum format, we try to indeed focus the attention on the topics and issues most relevant to the groups that are creating policy or advisories within ICANN. So we thank you for attending this webinar. We hope that the policy forum report, that's another new addition of information for you to guide you, as well as application that we talked about. Please download that for the latest updates and it will also include the URL to other materials that can be of importance to you.

And finally, we hope to have a feedback session as the last day on Thursday that will talk about the new format, comments, what worked, what didn't work, what people prefer to have done. This is a new experiment in the formation and evolution of ICANN meetings. And we hope it will be a good one and a good step forward for you, the community, to participate be it remotely or in

person and to help us in this important task of consensus building and policy and advisory work at ICANN.

Again, for your convenience, the recordings and the slides will be available at the space noted on the slide. There you can download and review at your convenience. And we look forward to seeing all of you in person or remotely in Helsinki.

With that, I would like to thank you. Wish everyone a good evening, good afternoon or good morning whenever you may be. We thank you for your time and attention. Goodbye.

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