
ICANN70 | Prep Week – Newcomer Introduction to Community Groups
Monday, March 8, 2021 – 12:30 to 14:00 EST

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Thank you for coming and thank you for attending. I want to welcome all of our speakers and attendees today. Welcome to Newcomers Intro to Community Groups.

Siranush, before I get started, did you want to say anything to the group? Siranush, did you want to say anything to our fellows and newcomers before I start?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes. Hello, everyone, and welcome to this session. I hope you will enjoy it. I will be running the presentation for you. Good luck.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Okay. Thank you. Okay. I just need to say a few things. Hello and welcome to Newcomers Intro to Community Groups. My name is Deborah Escalera, and I am the Remote Participation Manager for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and follows the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior.

During this session, questions or comments will only be read aloud if submitted within the Q&A pod. I will read them aloud during the time set by the chair or moderator of this session.

Interpretation for this session will include English, Spanish, and French. Click on “Interpretation ICANN” in Zoom and select the language you

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will listen to during the session. If you wish to speak, please raise your hand in the Zoom. And once the session facilitator calls upon your name, our technical support team will allow you to unmute your microphone.

Please note we are only going to take questions at the end of all of the speakers because this is going to be a rapid-fire session. Each speaker will only have five minutes. I will be timing all of the speakers. And please note, speakers, I will give you a one-minute warning right before your five minutes is up. And I apologize for this rapid-fire session.

Before speaking, ensure you have selected the language you will speak from the Interpretation menu. Please state your name for the record and the language you will speak if speaking a language other than English. When speaking, be sure to mute all other devices and notifications. Speak clearly and at a reasonable pace to allow for accurate interpretation.

All participants in this session may make comments in the chat. Please use the drop-down menu in the chat pod and select Respond to All Panelists and Attendees. This will allow everyone to view your comment. Please note that private chats are only possible among panelists in the Zoom webinar format. Any message sent by a panelists or standard attendee to other standard attendees will also be seen by session hosts, co-hosts, and other panelists.

And with that, let's get started. I will hand it over to Philippe Fouquart of the Generic Names Supporting Organization. Is Philippe with us?

PHILIPPE FOUQUART: Yes, I am. Hi, Deborah.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Wonderful. Welcome, Philippe. You have the floor.

PHILIPPE FOUQUART: Thank you. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening, everyone. I didn't know could speak in French. My apologies. I should have prepared for that. Not that I'm prepared for English, anyway.

So, I'm the chair of the GNSO, the Generic Names Supporting Organization, that's in charge of developing policies for generic TLDs. We are divided into two houses, the Contracted Party House and the Non-Contracted Party House of which you will have, I believe, an introduction from the constituency and SG chairs later on. So, I'll defer to them for those descriptions.

Broadly speaking, as we are in charge of developing policies, we try and we do involve other supporting organizations and advisory committees in our work through what's called working groups that produce the proposed policies that are submitted to an entity that's called the GNSO Council that is in charge of ...

We're the steward, in a way, in charge of making sure that the procedure is duly followed and the conclusions of the working groups that develop those policies are submitted for review to that Council. Once those

policies are voted and agreed on, those are submitted to the Board for approval, and then later on for what's called implementation.

For those to be implemented, we have a concept that's called the picket fence that sort of loosely defines the remit in which those policies can be developed. And in that respect, ICANN is a strange beast in the landscape of Internet technical governance, in a way. And in that respect, what is developed, very generally speaking, within the context of those policies are something that would be implemented in the contracts that the contracted parties have with ICANN.

And that is, in a way, how the policies that we develop within the GNSO are “enforced”—and my apologies, I’m not a native speaker but you see what I mean—to the general Internet.

So with this, I’m trying to focus on the policies themselves because I’m sure that there are other aspects that pertain to the community in general. The SG and C chairs within the GNSO are a better positioned or just as well positioned as I am to talk about that.

So with this, this is a general introduction of GNSO. Not sure I’ve used the five minutes, but happy to give away a few of them. And I’ll certainly be happy to take any questions you might have.

In terms of getting involved, as I believe this is for newcomers, I can only encourage you to attend remote. This has become even easier remotely than it is for face-to-face meetings. In the working group meetings, most of them are open. You’ll get a hang of what's been discussed there and how we proceed with our work, where we are. I would also

encourage you to attend the Council meetings, for example, to work out the various roles of those entities.

So, with this I think I will conclude my introduction, Deborah, and get back to you. And, again, I'll be happy to take questions at the very end. [Thank you.]

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Okay. Thank you so much, Philippe. We appreciate your time.

Okay. Next, we are going to go to Jothan Frakes with Registrar Stakeholder Group. Jothan, the floor is yours.

JOTHAN FRAKES: Hi, Deborah. And welcome to our newcomers. Thank you for the privilege of speaking to you today. So, I am with the ICANN accredited Registrar Stakeholder Group, the RrSG. Next slide, please.

And registrars play a very important role to people. I'll explain where we fit in the whole tapestry of ICANN, but for a registrant or an Internet user, we are the entire face of domain registration and management of domain names. We power much of the e-commerce and digitalization that exists now today.

A registrant search is shown on the slide currently on your screen, and that's typically where somebody starts their journey online with their domain name. The variety of registrars that exists is quite diverse. They are in different cultures, different languages, different regions. They have different business models.

Some offer direct registration to people and organizations. Some are an API-based reseller model. Some have hosting or e-mail services attached. Some are part of a hosting company. There are registrars that are focused on providing brand management to corporate registrants and a diversity of models where, in some cases, the registry and registrar are cross-owned.

So, there is quite a significant diversity within the registrar business models, not all of which include hosting content. Some provide a simple technical service to activate and operate a domain name. Next slide, please. Thank you.

The registrars. And there are quite a lot of “R” words in this. The fastest way that I have been able to explain to a general public is to think in terms of registrants being a customer, registrars being a store, and registries being a manufacturer.

The interaction between a registrant and a registrar. Any given single domain name must exist through a registrar. And a registrant can manage one or more of those through their registrar.

In turn, the registrar speaks through a technical platform to a registry to manage attributes of domain names to check for availability, to help manage the renewals or transfers between registrars. For any given TLD, that TLD exists on one registry. However, there can be multiple registrars in the shared registration system.

There are more than 1,000 ICANN accredited registrars. Quite a variety of companies that exist that help registrants or their customers—

whether you're a person or an organization—manage your domain names. Next slide, please.

So, I explained that we are the entire face of the ICANN experience to registrants and customers of registrars. However, we are part of a larger multistakeholder model as you'll learn today. We are part of the Contracted Party House within the GNSO for generic top-level domains. And the registries represent the Contracted Party House.

So, we do play a role. However, we are part of a larger community that are here helping to work the multistakeholder model of representation.

And we have information—next slide, please—available on registrars at our website at rrsg.org, the Registrar Stakeholder Group website. Thank you for your time. No quiz today.

DEBORAH ESCALERA:

Thank you, Jothan. Much appreciated. And again, I am so sorry that we have to have you on a timer.

Okay, so next we have Lawrence Roberts with the Business Constituency. Lawrence, you have the floor.

LAWRENCE OLAWALE-ROBERTS: Thank you. So, good day, everybody. Again, I'm very happy to be here interacting with the newcomers into the ICANN planet. So, my name is Lawrence Olawale-Roberts, and I happen to be the current vice-chair for finance and operations of the Business Constituency. The BC, as we

are fondly called, is the home of commercial Internet users within ICANN.

And we are very interested not only in participating in this multistakeholder process, but because business users rely heavily on the use of the Internet in today's business world, it is of great concern and of great interest for us to be at the table where issues regarding the stability/scalability [inaudible] use of the Internet is discussed.

Currently, the Business Constituency has a membership spanning all the major ICANN regions. About 70 companies today have direct membership of the Business Constituency. The BC is unique in the sense that businesses, companies, legal firms are the ones that hold membership of the Business Constituency. Yes, we might have individuals sitting at the table discussing, but every discussion revolves around the different entities that make up the membership of the BC. So, membership of the BC is tied to companies and not to individuals.

I would want to also reiterate that the BC normally has two bi-monthly meetings. We usually meet on the second and on the fourth Thursdays of the month. And at these meetings, we discuss virtually every open public comment, policy issues as it affects the interest of business and the wider Internet governance space. We have quite a number of issues that are of interest to us, and it's at these meetings that we get to discuss these different issues.

One of such meetings will be coming up in the days, the BC open meeting. And we want to invite newcomers to come, engage, join us,

and see if the BC happens to be a good fit for your interest and engagement going forward.

The Business Constituency happens to find itself in the Non-Contracted Party House of the GNSO. So, we are situated, our home in ICANN is in the GNSO in the Non-Contracted Parties House. And right in the Non-Contracted Party House, we are part of the Commercial Stakeholder Group. So, we have two houses. We have two stakeholder groups in that part of the house, and the BC happens to be one of the three in the commercial stakeholder constituency.

And so, I would want to yield the floor back this point. Or rather, have us ask questions if you have any with regards to the BC. But before I do, I would want to mention that, indirectly, the BC has indirect membership that spans over 50,000 companies because we have trade associations as part of our membership. These trade associations are organizations that have a lot of companies under them and, indirectly, the BC has a reach of over 1.5 million entities through the different firms that are members of the Business Constituency.

So, we definitely impact, we definitely have a very wide network. And what happens in ICANN is of very vested interest to members of the Business Constituency. Thank you. I yield the floor back to you.

DEBORAH ESCALERA:

Okay. Thank you, Lawrence. I want to remind the speakers to select the language that you're speaking from the Interpretation pod. Next, we had scheduled Bruna Santos from Non-Commercial Stakeholder, but I

don't think she's in the room, yet. So, we are going to go on to Benjamin Akinmoyeje. Benjamin, the floor is yours. Thank you.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Yeah. Thank you, everyone. My name is Benjamin Akinmoyeje, and I'm the EC Member for Africa from the Non-Commercial Users Constituency. NCUC is the home for civil society organizations, public interest groups, and individuals in the ICANN Generic Names Supporting Organization, just as previous speakers have mentioned, the GNSO group.

Our common goal, what we do basically, is to protect and support non-commercial communication and activity on the Internet including personal and political speech, research, and educational communication and expression about hobbies, interests, and ideas that individuals may be interested in.

So, how do we go about doing this? We mobilize civil society actors to participate actively in ICANN. We also elect representatives to go to the GNSO Council where they coordinate the policy development process for the generic top-level domains. We collaborate and interact with all the stakeholders. As you know, ICANN is a multistakeholder process. So, we work with other stakeholders like businesses—you had the BC rep talk briefly—government stakeholders, and others.

And we develop and advocate policy positions with certain members around the world to engage in other Internet governance processes. And we're also actively involved in media conferences around the

world, as well, that have something to do with Internet governance and share our interest.

So, where do we operate? Where do you find us? So, when you come to the GNSO, we are part of the Non-Contracted Party House. They are made of two, but we are the Non-Commercial Users Constituency, NCUC for short. And if I had the opportunity to show you the slides, you would have seen the GNSO Council [and you would have] seen where NCUC belongs. We're just very close to NPOC.

The structure of our leadership involves having a chair. And then we have different reps in the various regions: Africa rep, North America rep, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia Pacific and Euro. I represent the Africa region.

So, how can you participate at the NCUC? The first thing is to write an e-mail to our e-mail contact address which is info@ncuc.org. Once you do that, your membership will be reviewed and then you'll be accepted to the mailing list. Our interactions are very interactive, very dynamic. Everyone is welcome. Just share what is passionate to you.

We endeavor to understand in our discussions, and we encourage you to volunteer to contribute to public comments, attend meetings both virtual and physical, also engage NCUC on social media, and then share your knowledge, your experience from whatever background you have. Either you're in the academics or you are civil society, you're just someone with [particular] interests, please feel free.

We are on Twitter @NCUC. Our website is www.ncuc.org, and our e-mail, as I said before, is info@ncuc.org.

In case you're struggling to remember what I said was our interests: privacy, human rights, advocacy for the marginalized. Those things are what is our major interest. So, we welcome you to our team. Feel free to come to our next event.

I yield the floor. Thank you.

DEBORAH ESCALERA:

Okay. Thank you so much, Benjamin. We appreciate your time. Okay. Next, we have Ioana Stupariu with Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns. Ioana, the floor is yours.

IOANA STUPARIU:

Hi, Deborah. Hello, everyone. Good morning or good evening depending on where you are right now. My name is Ioana Stupariu. I'm a vice-chair of NPOC, the Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency. I know there are many acronyms that you've already heard, and you're going to hear many more tonight and in the weeks and months to follow if you are going to be involved in the huge world of ICANN. So, when you think about NPOC, just think about not-for-profits. Right? NGOs, organizations that are actively involved in making the world a better place.

So, about who we are just a bit. We are the Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency, providing a voice in Internet governance for

not-for-profits and NGOs all across the world. Structurally, we are part of the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group, the NCSG, which is part of the Generic Names Supporting Organization. You've just heard about it, the GNSO. And of course, all of it is part of ICANN.

Our mission is basically to represent, within the world of ICANN, the interests of not-for-profits and NGOs. And we do so by participating in working groups, by giving feedback and comments to the policies discussed within ICANN on a diversity of matters from domain name fraud, privacy, cybersecurity, transparent domain registration, continued ownership of domain names.

There are lots of issues that are being discussed within ICANN, and we as part of the NCSG, the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group, we are trying to represent as much as we can, as best as we can, the interests of the not-for-profits as a specific group.

So, in order to become a member of the NPOC, you have to be part of a not-for-profit or a non-governmental organization. So, you can see here a bit of the conditions. You need to be a not-for-profit or an NGO to own a domain name, of course, in order to be able to show interest and to protect your rights regarding your domain name; and, of course, to be interested in learning how the Domain Name System and policy affect your work.

If you are not sure whether you qualify or whether you can become a member, just drop us a line. You have the e-mail there: npoc@npoc.org. Do check our website to see what we've been doing. We have a very nice team. We are more than 100 NGOs and not-for-profits across the globe.

And, of course, we are also participating at conferences, events. We are trying to be active as much as we can in representing the voice of not-for-profits.

We want to hear from you. We want to hear what your concerns are to be able to raise them in the multistakeholder world of ICANN. So, even if you don't want to become a member, write to us so that we can best see what your concerns are when it comes to domain name regulation and to Internet governance, specifically.

So, follow us on Twitter, Facebook. We are all present online since everything's happening online. And if you have any questions, I'll be waiting for them in the Q&A and in the chat. Thank you for listening to us. I hope that you will join us now or in the near future if you are an NGO or not-for-profit.

DEBORAH ESCALERA:

Thank you so much, Ioana. Okay. I'm just checking. I don't think Bruna is in the room yet, so we'll go ahead and move on.

We have Joanna Kulesza and Jonathan Zuck with the At-Large Advisory Committee. You have the floor.

JONATHAN ZUCK:

Hi. My name is Jonathan Zuck, and, together with Joanna Kulesza, I am the vice-chair of the At-Large Advisory Committee. And ICANN is a very interesting organization because, as its name implies, the organization of names and numbers, the great majority of the work done by ICANN

and the people that show up to ICANN meetings is about the distribution of names and numbers and the customers of those names and numbers.

So, there's this kind of transactional component to what ICANN does. It helps manage the provisioning of names and numbers, and it helps protect the interests of those people who register domains or license IP addresses.

The At-Large Advisory Committee and the At-Large community that supports it has been given a broader mandate which is to look into the interests and try and advance the interests of the individual end users on the Internet, which is sort of everyone else. As many domains as there are registered, the number of registrants, people who own domains, is a tiny minority of the number of people that use the Internet and that are focused primarily on whether or not they type in a domain name [and] it gets to the right website; or if they're sent an e-mail that they actually receive it; or that their credit card information is secure online, for example.

So, the huge majority of users of the Internet have no idea that ICANN even exists, and yet many of the policies that are created inside ICANN have an impact, either beneficial or adverse, on the broader individual user community. And so, it's our job within the At-Large community to be vigilant about policies that might have an impact, particularly an adverse impact, on these individual and users.

A couple of things that have come up, for example, are some pretty exciting discussions around the information that is stored about the

people that register domain names. On the one hand, you have concerns over preserving the privacy of those registrants. On the other hand, you have concerns about having sufficient information about them so that if they are engaged in some kind of criminal activity or fraud, etc., that there's some way for law enforcement and others to protect consumers online.

In the case of registering domain names, sometimes there are concerns about whether or not they impede on the sovereignty of countries and communities—things like Amazon.com. What were the implications of that? Those kinds of conversations happen outside of ICANN in addition to inside ICANN because they have an impact on individual end users.

And so, we've become very focused on the pragmatic aspects of ICANN policy and its implication for those individual users. So, that's one thing that distinguishes us. The other thing that distinguishes us is that we're, in fact, a global organization. So, not just having global members, but we actually have an international structure of regional At-Large organizations in each of the five ICANN regions. And then there are members of each of those regional At-Large organizations that are called At-Large structures that are in countries and communities throughout the world.

And so, as we tend to develop policies or positions on what's going on inside of ICANN, we have a virtuous feedback loop that allows us to consult with a much broader number of people from a much wider spectrum of geographic—gender, age, etc.—communities around the world in trying to determine what's in the best interest of those

individual end users and try to effect ICANN policy to best accommodate those interests.

So, that's sort of what distinguishes the At-Large from the rest of the ICANN Community. I've added the URL, atlarge.icann.org, as domain name that you can go to and find out more.

But without further ado, and hopefully I haven't used up all the time, I'd love Joanna Kulesza to give you a little bit more information about the ALAC and the At-Large community. Joanna.

JOANNA KULESZA:

Thank you very much, Jonathan. We are indeed almost out of time, and I'm just going to toss in one more piece of information. You covered the landscape perfectly. What the At-Large does, as Jonathan emphasized, is it works in regions.

So, for the newcomers among us, if there's something that you feel particularly passionate about as an Internet end user in your region—both in terms of the way that it impacts ICANN policies, but also when it comes to building capacity to teaching or learning together with your fellow end users in your region as we, for example, will be right now in EURALO looking into the policies that will likely impact ICANN platforms, security, privacy, and the way that data travels online—feel free to reach out to us and we will be happy to put you together, connect you locally with like-minded individuals and we will work together trying to shape ICANN policies to the benefit of all Internet end users.

I'm going to stop here. I'm pretty sure, Deborah, that we are out of time.
Thank you for having us.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Okay. Thank you, Joanna and Jonathan, for your time. We really appreciate it.

Okay. We're going to move on to Rod Rasmussen with the Security and Stability Advisory Committee. Rod, the floor is yours. Thank you.

ROD RASMUSSEN: Hello. There we go. I've been promoted. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening, everybody who's on the call. Thanks for taking part.

I am Rod Rasmussen. I am the Chair of the Security and Stability Advisory Committee, and we are a small group that looks at the SSR—security, stability, and resiliency—issues and gives advice to the ICANN Board and community on various issues that may be affecting those things.

So, that is the 30-second version. So, I'll give you slightly more information about us here. We have, as you can see there, 33 members. Officially, they're appointed by the ICANN Board. Practically, though, we have an internal membership committee that takes a look at applications from different individuals from around the world who have a background in various aspects of Internet security operations, the technical foundations of the Internet.

And we review those applications, have a review of the qualifications. And then the entire membership weighs in on nominated members. And then those are sent over to the Board for approval. That's the way the process actually works. The Board doesn't send us members. We send members to the Board for their approval.

So, we are actually in the process of that. We moved to kind of an annual batching process, and right now if you have a background in that area and have a wide amount of experience, in-depth knowledge and [it would] be something of interest, you can find the SSAC information on the ICANN website and send in an application.

Typically, we're looking for folks who have a fair amount of experience and deep technical knowledge in particular areas and have experience in leadership or academia and the like that would have a way to impact the work that we do.

And the work that we do, as I mentioned before, is advise the ICANN Board and community, but that's through a series of publications. And those publications are put out as basically reports on a subject area; 114 of those over our history.

And as you can see in that list there, we cover a lot of different areas; everything from addressing, routing, and the whole underpinnings of the infrastructure of the domain to various things that are occurring across the Internet where those things, the identifiers, are involved or could be attacked or made to be untrustworthy.

So, those are the things that we try to provide advice on and keep up to date on [point] attacks and new things. Thanks. I was just going say “next slide.” Thank you.

So, the way we work is that we create what we call, internally, work parties. Those are our own internal members. Usually, one of our members serves as the chair of the word party. And then anywhere from, say, 8 to 15 members depending on the topic area will contribute to that review and have meetings and discuss the various topics.

Some of our staff members may do some actual research for us, or even ICANN employees for some projects. And then we will bring it all together and then review that and then present that to the entire SSAC who will then look at that and provide inputs. They may provide ...

At the end of the day, we come out with a final report. Some members may not agree with parts of that, and so we'll publish a descent or an alternative view for what was published and the rest of the SSAC had approved. And then that gets put forward typically to the Board, as most of our advice goes to the Board. But not always.

We will send advice off to other folks, but the Board actually has to look at that and take that advice on and either accept it and do something with it or decide to pass on that. But there is a formal process there. And that can get dropped, then, into the policy development process or just technical updates to what ICANN does, etc.

And I think I have one more slide, and one half of a minute. And we have a few publications that will be talking about at the upcoming ICANN

meeting. I looked at the Subsequent Procedures Final Draft. That's one of our latest ones, a private use TLD reserving a string for private networks to use. It's an interesting technical thing that, if you are in the IETF kind of bent, you might want to take a look at. And then we have more work we've done in the EPDP which we're participating in.

There is the information there in Outreach as to where you can find information about us. And I'm out of time, so I thank you for your time and I'll pass it along.

DEBORAH ESCALERA:

Thank you, Rod. We appreciate your participation. Okay. Next, we have Lars Liman with the Root Server System Advisory Committee. Lars, the floor is yours.

LARS-JOHAN LIMAN:

Thank you. My name is Lars-Johan Liman. I'm one of the old timers in the Root Server System Advisory Committee, or the RSSAC. And the RSSAC is also one of these advisory committees. We advise the Board, but we have a very narrow scope. So, our scope is that we advise the Board on matters relating to the operation, administration, security, and integrity of the Internet's Root Server System.

And the root server system is the system of DNS servers that actually responds to queries from the general Internet public regarding the root zone. And the root servers are able to give referrals to the clients on the network who refer them to the various servers for the various top-level domains. And they do so equally for all types of top-level domains.

There's no difference between different types of top-level domains. From a technical standpoint, they're all equal.

Now RSSAC does not involve itself in the operational matters of the root server operations, so it's a body to produce advice regarding the entire system to the Board and other parts of the Internet community. Next slide, please.

RSSAC is composed of representatives from the root server operators. This is a group of 12 organizations that operate a set of, together, more than 1,000 servers spread across the entire globe. And each appointed representative also has an alternate. And that's 24 members there.

And then we have a number of liaisons both outgoing—for instance, to the ICANN Board and the NomCom—and also incoming from various other places—for instance, SSAC that you just heard from, and also from the Internet Architecture Board which is an organization outside the ICANN structures.

This is a rather small group. We don't have a lot of work capacity, and we are very narrow in our expertise. So, we need a little help and we get that from another body that is associated with the RSSAC which is the RSSAC Caucus. The Caucus is a body of subject matter experts, and people can apply to be a member of the Caucus. And RSSAC will mostly just approve these applications. I've never heard of anyone being rejected, actually. And this is a group of almost 80 people that have expertise in various subjects, and they help us to have a wider set of expertise and also add capacity to the work. So, they help us to produce the documents that we need to produce. Next slide, please.

The root server system is a fairly stable thing. It predates ICANN by more than 15 years, so it was already in good operation when ICANN was formed. And it has a traditional relationship with ICANN, which we now see that we probably need to change for the future. The Internet has evolved over the past 30-35 years and we need to evolve the relationship between the root server operators and ICANN and some other organizations and bodies in the stakeholder system.

And in order to do that, RSSAC has produced a document called RSSAC037 which is a fundamental discussion platform for evolving these relationships. And that work is ongoing in a different working group called the Root Server System Governance Working Group which is comprised by members from the root server operators and also other stakeholders in the general Internet community. So, it's a sizable group of people, and they are now working with this document as a starting point to come up with new structures to handle the root server system and its relation to ICANN.

I think I'll just stop there and say thank you.

DEBORAH ESCALERA:

Okay. Thank you very much. We appreciate your time.

Now, we don't have a representative from the Country Code Names Supporting Organization, but this is a link to their web page. So, we suggest that you go to their website and take a look at their website and take a look at the materials that they have available for you.

And with that, since we didn't have anybody from the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group, please do the same. You can get there from the icann.org website and take a look at their website as well.

With that, I'm going to hand it over to Susan Payne with the Intellectual Property Constituency group. Susan.

SUSAN PAYNE:

Thank you very much. Next slide, please. So, my name is Susan Payne. I'm the secretary of the Intellectual Property Constituency, or the IPC. Sorry, could we go to the next slide? Thank you.

So, within the ICANN structure, the IPC is one of the constituencies within the GNSO. And for administrative purposes, we're grouped together with the BC, the Business Constituency, and with the ISPs together to form what's called the Commercial Stakeholder Group. The role of the IPC is to reflect intellectual property concerns as they interact with the Domain Name System.

So it's, in this context, primarily focused on trademarks but also on copyright and related rates. Whilst these concerns obviously do reflect the interests of IP owners, there is also a consumer protection element to this since IP infringements often operate to mislead members of the public into believing that they're dealing with the genuine organization or acquiring genuine goods or services.

And additionally, a number of the frauds that we see and other abuses that we see perpetrated over the Internet, such as phishing scams and

CEO frauds, often do so using a brand or a domain name that's very similar to the genuine domain name as a hook to catch the unwary.

So, in terms of the IPC's membership, it consists of organizations, companies, and individuals who can demonstrate a commitment to advocacy for and development of IP rights and to the protection of them. And so, we have members who are major international IP organizations such as INTA, the International Trademark Association, or COA who is the Coalition for Online Accountability. And so, some of those international IP organizations themselves have thousands of members.

But in addition to that, we also have members who are smaller local, state, or national IP organizations; and also a number of companies, law firms, and indeed individuals who have been able to demonstrate the appropriate experience and interest in IP protection. So, a number of our members are companies, brand owners in particular, and then law firms their lawyers who work for them.

At the moment, we do not have a category of membership for students—IP lawyers, IP students, or law students—but we are in the process of amending our bylaws, and so we do hope that, assuming that amendment goes through the ICANN process, we will hopefully be able to have a process for allowing student membership in the future. Next slide, please.

So, in terms of what the IPC does and its main concerns, members of the IPC participate in working groups across many different aspects of the multistakeholder activities within ICANN. So, this could include

things like groups on ICANN's accountability, work that's going on to enhance the multistakeholder model, and to prioritize ICANNs workload.

People will feed in comments and assist with ICANN's strategic planning. We've had members who have participated in the working groups that were looking at how to deal with new gTLD auction proceeds and what's the best way to handle the distribution of those funds.

But, obviously, as I say, we do engage across the whole range of ICANN's activities. But obviously, unsurprisingly, the areas of particular concern to the IPC and its members, and the ones where members have been particularly engaged, are the ones that touch directly on the protection of IP and the interest of brand owners.

So, for example, current sort of top issues for the IPC and its members relate to things like the access of domain name registration data, what was formerly termed WHOIS. I think Jonathan's mentioned this. This data used to be publicly available so that you could always see the details of what had been recorded as the registrant of a domain name. And in the aftermath of the adoption of GDPR in the European Union, that WHOIS information has been largely redacted.

Obviously, there are these privacy issues that Jonathan mentioned, but where there are legitimate concerns about IP infringement and consumer fraud being perpetrated, having access to that information is incredibly important for the investigation and enforcement efforts. So,

that is something where the IPC and its members have been very engaged.

Another area that, unsurprisingly, is of particular importance is the review of Rights Protection Mechanisms within the DNS. So, the policy recommendations relating to RPMs, or Rights Protection Mechanisms, that were introduced to the new gTLDs has recently been finalized, and those recommendations are now being submitted to the ICANN Board.

But the next phase of work on this will be a review of the UDRP which is the long-standing 20-year-old dispute procedure that applies to all gTLDs and some ccTLDs. And so, as I say, it's been incredibly long running. It's never been formally reviewed by ICANN before. And, obviously, this is particularly important to the IPC and its members.

The third area that we're particularly focused on is DNS abuse, and I've already touched on this around the notion of frauds and another abuses of the DNS that have [been] perpetrated which sometimes will be using a brand or an IP as the hook to capture the unwary.

And then, finally, subsequent procedures. This was the policy development process that was looking at policy for subsequent rounds of new gTLDs to be released. And, again, IPC members were very engaged in this effort, particularly to ensure that brand owner interests were being reflected in any new policy being developed.

And in addition, a number of IPC members are companies who either have applied in the past for their brand as a gTLD or have an interest and intent to do so in the future, or they're the lawyers and other

advisors who perhaps work with such companies and therefore have an interest in ensuring that any policy developed through that process was reflective of brand interests and areas of importance.

So, if you would like to know more about the IPC, please come to our website. You can find a lot of information there, including details of myself and all of the leadership. And please feel free to reach out to any of us for more information. And you can also join us at our meeting on Tuesday the 23rd of March if you'd like to hear more about our activities. Thanks.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Thank you, Susan. We appreciate your time.

Okay. We're going to move on to Wolf Knoblen with the Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers. Wolf, the floor is yours. Thank you.

WOLF-ULRICH KNOBEN: Hi, Deborah. Can you hear me? I do have a problem with my PC, but I'm coming from a mobile phone. Can you hear me?

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Yes, we can hear you.

WOLF-ULRICH KNOBEN: And can you run these for me, these two slides, because I can't.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Did you submit slides? I don't have a slide from you, other than this one.

WOLF-ULRICH KNOBEN: Just the next one. Yes? Next one.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: I don't have any slides from you, Wolf. Did you submit slides?

WOLF-ULRICH KNOBEN: Oh, yes, I did. Oh, I'm sorry about that. So, okay. Doesn't matter. And then I'm just talking about that. So, I thought it was sent out. Okay.

My name is Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen. And you see here a group [within another] acronym, and that is even also hard to distinguish from the group in terms of acronyms which was represented by Susan just a moment before that because she represented the IPC. And I'm representing ISPCP, which is called the Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers which is, by the way, a fully different group in terms of the business they are doing in the IPC.

So, we are more related to the technique and the networks, the telecommunication networks, and the services which are run on those networks. So, that is where also our members are coming from like some of the others are saying, so in our membership, we have two levels of memberships. The one is a group of members, an association, for

example. The others are direct companies representing the business of ISPs and telecommunication providers.

For example, that means the big companies like telcos. For example, French telecom or the telecoms from Africa—we have as members here, and they're running big networks, backbone networks. And they're providing a bunch of services on that including Internet services.

And then we have, also, groups representing service providers who are not directly running an infrastructure, but they provide access to the Internet through various means. And they provide, in conjunction with that access, also services related to those accesses to the end users.

So, what does it mean? In the list of our members, we have around 80 members representing on the one hand big companies, also smaller companies and telcos. I'll give you an example. For example, in Japan you have the NTT on our list. Then we have, also, AT&T as a member. Then we have, ETNO, a European group of telecom network operators. And then we have a lot of ISP associations. For example, in Europe it's called EuroISPA. It's the association for the different national Internet Service Provider Associations.

We are gaining members more and more, also, in Africa. For example, we have from Kenya the TESPOK. Then from other countries like Malawi and South Africa and also in Uganda, ISP providers. So, it's a bunch, and these companies are representing in parts of running the networks and bringing to the customers telecom services, Internet services of a high level of performance.

[inaudible] our constituency is also representing a broad range of these different interests in those groups. For example, if we are running a service, many of those companies, they have the direct contact to their customers. And very often the customer, if the customer is running a business with domain name systems, he often, though, doesn't know where to refer to in case there is a problem. So, they may refer to the ISP provider, but the problem might not lie on the ISP side but on the DNS side. That is why we are there and also in the development of the different policies and the different services who are provided through the DNS [so that] they could get an influence and also get information what we have to expect in running our services.

Which topics are of major interest to our group? We have done a lot of work within the Universal Acceptance Steering Group which is also available on the web. It's running its own website. And that means that all addresses, all domain names, and all e-mail addresses should be given a chance to be resolved in an equal way, globally, through all types of resolvers. And that is sometimes a problem which arises, and that is what we are trying to solve and to give advice through that group in forms of advice with regards to the technology to be used and with regards to the procedures which are to be used on the different resolvers.

Another item, what we are following closely, is the new identifier technologies and their impact on the network. You may have heard to some extent of DoH, DNS over HTTPS, which is a technology which is to be developed, and other technologies to identify the technologies in the pipe and under investigation which are of interest to us.

Last not least, IP addressing. That means ... Well, the transformation from DNS to the IP addressing is of interest to us because [this has also an] impact on the technology. And last not least, security of our networks is of utmost interest to us, and so we are following closely what is done on that side within ICANN. So, sometimes we have exchange [with] our technical partners from the SSAC who also presented their committee here just before.

So, that is what we are doing, what we are interested in. But we have also a website available. And maybe, Deborah, you could provide that address also to the participants—the ispcp.info—so you can see what we are doing. Thank you very much for your attention.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Okay. Thank you, Wolf. Much appreciated. And sorry about the slides. I don't see those in my inbox.

WOLF-ULRICH KNOBEN: I can send you again so that [inaudible].

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Okay. And I will update the deck, and this deck will be on the website meeting page.

WOLF-ULRICH KNOBEN: Okay.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: So, thank you so much. We're going to move on to Registries Stakeholder Group, and we have Samantha Demetriou. Samantha, the floor is yours.

SAM DEMETRIOU: Thanks so much, Deborah. Hi, everyone. I am the chair of the Registries Stakeholder Group. And, on behalf of that group, I'd like to welcome all the newcomers and fellows. And thank you, guys, for your interest in ICANN.

So, the role of the Registries Stakeholder Group is to represent the interests of gTLD, generic top-level domain, registry operators within the ICANN community. We're part of the Generic Names Supporting Organizations like so many of the other groups you've heard from today. And along with the Registrar Stakeholder Group, we make up the Contracted Party House within the GNSO.

Our members must be operators of generic top-level domain names or gTLDs that have a contract with ICANN that's known as a registry agreement. So, some examples of these are .com, .org, .email, .berlin, and a number of the .Brands that are out there.

We also recently, in the last few years, opened up our membership to allow for association members, and those are associations that represent groups of registry operators. Right now we have members from .Brands and members who represent geographically-based gTLDs.

In total, we have 82 member companies that span all five of ICANN's geographic regions, and we represent approximately 700 of the more than 1,200 gTLDs that are in existence. We've been part of ICANN since it's very early days, and last year we actually celebrated our 20th anniversary as a stakeholder group.

We are interested in a number of policy topics, really anything that impacts the technical operations of registries and of the Domain Name System more broadly. Most recently, that has included the introduction of new gTLDs and the operability of all domain names across all gTLDs including Internationalized Domain Names, or domain names that use a non-English, non-Latin script like Chinese, Japanese, Russian, Cyrillic, etc.

We're also interested in combating and mitigating DNS abuse, the access and privacy issues around domain name registration data, and also, more generally, the effectiveness and efficiency of ICANN's multistakeholder model.

While our membership is limited to those who have a contract with ICANN to operate a gTLD registry, we are always interested in meeting new members of the ICANN community and working with the newcomers. So, for anyone who is interested in learning more about the Registries Stakeholder Group, we have an open general meeting of our membership on Tuesday March 23rd. That's going to take place at 17:30 UTC, and everyone's welcome to come and listen and hear about the topics that we're dealing with.

We also have a number of other sessions on the agenda that are all open to the broader community and that touch on the different items that we're working on. So, thanks again for the time, and I'm happy to answer any questions.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Okay. Thank you so much. We're going to move on to our final speaker, Pua Hunter, and she is with the Governmental Advisory Committee, GAC. Pua.

PUA HUNTER: Thank you, Deborah. Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening. And welcome to each one of you, our future contributors and potential leaders within ICANN. Special greetings and acknowledgement to Siranush and Deborah for organizing and facilitating this essential session for newcomers and NextGen participants.

My introduction to ICANN was through the Fellowship Program, and I have learned so much and made many friends worldwide. And for that, I am grateful for the opportunity and always happy to give back to ICANN.

My name is Pua Hunter, and I am a member of the Governmental Advisory Committee, commonly known as the GAC. And I represent the government of the Cook Islands, a small country in the Pacific.

My one slide and limited time does not justify the work of the ICANN, but I hope it can at least provide for a way you can explore further if you have an interest in the work of the GAC.

The GAC serves as the voice of governments and International Governmental Organizations in ICANN's multistakeholder structure. Members of the GAC are representatives from national governments, multinational governmental organizations, and our treaty organizations, or public authorities.

And its key role is to provide advice to ICANN on issues that are within ICANN's scope. And this regular advice is provided based on discussions with the ICANN Board, the ICANN supporting organizations, ICANN advisory committees, and other groups within ICANN. And the discussions are those related to issues of public policy, especially concerning interactions between ICANN's activities or policies and national laws or international agreements.

And the GAC is not a decision-making body. The GAC, with the support of the GAC's ICANN support staff, continues to look at improving its current processes. For the ICANN70 virtual meeting, the GAC is exploring potential proposals for developing a GAC Consensus Advice.

The issues currently proposed are subsequent rounds on new gTLDs, WHOIS and data protection, DNS abuse, and intergovernmental organization protections. I imagine you will hear and learn more about these topics throughout your engagement in this ICANN70 meeting, as well as future ICANN meetings.

We have active GAC members who volunteer their time to assist with the work of ICANN. They contribute to the cross-community working groups and serve on community representative groups. And because they are active, the GAC leadership with the support of the whole GAC have no hesitation in endorsing their nomination to serve on key ICANN leadership positions or for ICANN recognition awards.

Today there are 178 governments as members and 36 intergovernmental organizations as observers. And GAC membership is open to all national governments and distinct economies. There are no membership fees or charges. Details relating to applying for membership can be found on the website.

The GAC leadership is comprised of a chair and up to five vice-chairs. Today, the chair is Manal Ismail from Egypt, and four vice-chair are Mr. Jorge Cancio from Switzerland, Ms. Luisa Paez from Canada, Mr. Jacques Rodrigue from Burkina Faso, and myself from Cook Islands. Every year the leadership goes through a nomination process to elect new leadership. And you can also find the details of the leadership on our GAC website.

The GAC currently has nine working groups. Details about the working groups can also be found on the URL stated in this slide. These are the Underserved Regions Working Group, the Human Rights and International Law Working Group, Public Safety Working Group, and others.

And this year, the GAC will be examining each of the working groups to determine if the groups remain fit for purpose, given current GAC priorities and expectations.

And for more information regarding the GAC, please visit the URL in the slide or contact the GAC support staff at gac-staff@icann.org. Thank you for your attention. I'm happy to take any questions.

DEBORAH ESCALERA:

Thank you. I love the flower in your hair, by the way. Very beautiful.

Okay. We're going to open it up to questions. I saw that there were some questions that were answered, but we want to open it up to everybody that may have some questions for our panelists that weren't asked and answered prior. If there are any questions, please let us know. Now is the time now.

I want to thank everybody for your participation today, for joining this session, and for our panelists and for our participants. Do we have any questions? We did pretty good on time. Maybe we can extend the time for our panelists during the next meeting. I know it was pretty difficult to get your point across in the five minutes that were provided, but I really do appreciate your participation today. Any questions at all?

FIRUZ AZIMOV:

Hello.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Yes?

FIRUZ AZIMOV: Hello. My name is Firuz Azimov, and I have a question regarding getting involved with several communities. Is it possible to—I have interest to several communities but not fully decided to which one to attend. Is it possible to getting involved in several communities? And, how to say, and know which one best suits for me? Thank you.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Siranush, do you want to answer that question for your fellow?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Hi, Firuz. Thank you for your question. I think the best way to identify your sector of interest, or several sectors, is to discuss with your mentor and find out more about specific communities. And if there is anything you are particularly interested in, you can share it with me or your mentor, and we will identify the best person to connect and explain for you more on this. Thank you.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Okay. Thank you, Siranush. Are there any other questions?

We have about 10 minutes left if there are any other questions for our panelists. Philippe? You can unmute, Philippe, and ask your question.

PHILIPPE FOUQUART: Hello, Deborah. I'm going to speak English if you will let me. I just wanted to add something to the prior question, Firuz's question, which was a good question about talking to your mentor. I would also suggest that you also go to the agenda and note all the sessions to which you can participate because they are open. You can listen. It would be the same thing in a face-to-face meeting.

All these sessions that are noted as "open" you can participate to. And you can have a first-hand idea and figure out which subject would interest you according to each group or each work group to see which politics is being elaborated. And you could therefore decide which is your interest.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Thank you, Philippe. Very good comment. Is there anyone else?

NONOFO RAMOTSABABA: Good day, and thank you for the presentations. I've learned a lot today. I wanted to get this clear. Earlier on, I heard something. I'm not sure if it was in this session or the previous one I attended. I heard that, as an example, as a registry—I'm working for BOCRA, a telecommunication regulatory authority and [help them to be] a registry for the .bw domain.

So, I heard something like if you are—to give as an example—if I'm working for a registry it means I [can't] be a member of a registry—hold on a minute, I don't know, okay—registry supporting group or something. So, I wanted to get this clear.

SAM DEMETRIOU: Deborah, do you want me to take that since it [inaudible]?

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Yes, Samantha, please. Thank you.

SAM DEMETRIOU: Okay. Thanks so much. So, that's a great question about the difference between generic top-level domains, or gTLDs, and then the country code specific top-level domains, or ccTLDs. All of the two-character, two-letter ones like Jothan put in the chat there—.bw, for example—those are country code top-level domains and they correspond to specific countries per the International Standards Organization's list.

The ccTLD operators have their own supporting organization. It's known as the ccNSO, or the Country Code Names Supporting Organization. We unfortunately didn't get a chance to hear from them today, but they are an active group within the ICANN community. And I'm sure the folks who were facilitating the call today can provide you with the information to learn more about the ccNSO.

All of the generic top-level domains, the ones that are not specific to individual countries, those are the ones who are represented within the Generic Names Supporting Organization, and specifically within the Registries Stakeholder Group which is a subgroup of the GNSO.

So, I hope that helps to clarify.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Thank you, Samantha. I appreciate that. Ann, you had a question.

ANN VROOM: Yes. Thank you very much. This has been a wonderful series of overviews of your organization. Just to clarify in my mind with regard to registrants and registrars. Is, for example, GoDaddy a registrar entity?

JOTHAN FRAKES: I'll take that one. So, GoDaddy is a registrar entity. However, GoDaddy also is a registry entity.

ANN VROOM: That makes sense. You mean for themselves. And then they're sort of a registrar for those of us who get our domain names, our URLs, from GoDaddy.

JOTHAN FRAKES: Well, so, yes. So, GoDaddy would be a place that a person seeking to register a domain name could go, type in a name, and register that name. In addition to that, they recently acquired a registry company that operates .biz and other TLDs. So, they also operate a backend for registries as well.

ANN VROOM: Yes. And I'm sorry. I forgot to state my name. My name's Ann Vroom, and I live in Washington, D.C. So, thank you.

JOTHAN FRAKES: Thanks for the question, Ann. I hope I answered it well.

ANN VROOM: Yes, you did. Thank you.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Thank you, Ann. And thank you, Jothan, for answering that question. Are there any other questions? We have about five minutes left.

Okay. We have we have Aloysius. I'm not sure if that's how you say your name. Please speak.

MIKE ARBROUET: This is Mike. I don't know if you called me out or somebody else. I want to make sure I'm not taking anybody's else's spot. Can you hear me?

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Yes, I can hear you. Please proceed.

MIKE ARBROUET: Okay, yes. This is probably a quick question. A quick Google search would probably help me, but I'd like to get it maybe with [the most] details from you guys. Where do we cross the line between policies from ARIN and policies emanated from ICANN? So, what basically would be a

brief overview between a policy that ICANN would establish versus one for my ARIN?

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Carlos, do you want to take that one? Is there someone on the panel who can answer that?

JOTHAN FRAKES: I can take that one even though it's not my remit. There are two N's in ICANN, names and numbers. This is related to the numbers in the IP addresses. ARIN is the one of the five number registries. Am I correct in that that's what you're referencing?

MIKE ARBROUET: Yes.

JOTHAN FRAKES: Okay. So, in general, ICANN may have more general policies and then a regional would have the specific policies within the numbers that they manage that might include, if its regional for example, some regional considerations. So, you would layer what ARIN's got as policies upon what ICANN might have policies. I hope that helps your question. I know it's very, very high level, but I hope that gives you the context that you need.

MIKE ARBROUET: That is correct. And by the way, that was Mike. I'm a first-time fellow.
Mike Arbrouet [inaudible].

JOTHAN FRAKES: Welcome. Glad you're here.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Thank you, Jothan. And thank you, Mike for the question.

Okay. We have about two minutes left on the clock. Aloysius, did you have a question? You need to unmute your microphone. I see that you have a hand up.

We have about one more minute. If there are no more questions, I want to remind you that if you continue to have questions, you can always use the Engagement at icann.org for any follow up questions or any information about ICANN that you may have.

Again, I will post this deck on the ICANN meetings website. I will update it with any additional slides or any additional links or information that we need to add to it.

And I want to thank everybody for participating today, particularly our panelists. Thank you for your participation today, everybody who attended today. On behalf of the Public Responsibilities Support Team, thank you today for joining us.

With that, I will say goodbye and see you. Enjoy your experience at ICANN70. Thank you so much, everybody.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]