# Pre-ICANN55 Policy Update Webinar Thursday 25 February 2016 10:00 UTC

Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases it is incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages or transcription errors. It is posted as an aid to understanding the proceedings at the meeting, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.

David Olive:     Greetings, everyone. And welcome to the Policy Webinar today in advance of our ICANN 55 meeting in Marrakesh. My name is David Olive and I have the pleasure of heading the Policy Development staff and of course General Manager of ICANN's regional headquarter hub in Istanbul where I'm speaking and conducting this webinar for you.

We'd like to say that we have a very - good program and presentation. And I'd like to basically talk about the new meetings A schedule that we have, a little bit about the policy development process at ICANN, our presentation of course will then follow with members of the policy team who are involved in day to day work with you, the community.

Questions and answers, please, if you have questions put that in the chat on the screen, and we'll also have a period at the end. And finally the slides and the recordings - the recording of this session will be made available and we'll provide that link at the end of the session so that you can refer back to the materials that we have presented at our leisure.

With that, I'd like to give you some highlights of the ICANN 55 meeting, this new structure called the Meetings A structure will be in effect. And here we have some of the activities that include various working groups on the weekend before, Monday obviously the welcoming session, the new addition

is we will have a public forum on Monday in the afternoon where we will hear reports from the supporting organizations and advisory committee chairs and others on the activities that they will be engaged at at ICANN 55.

Tuesday known as Constituency Day, will have of course many of the stakeholders and constituency groups meeting and also meeting with the board of directors. And Thursday, of course, there will be the public forum, the second phase of that to also hear more feedback from the community, reactions to the work that has taken place, and of course ICANN public board meeting at the end.

Here we of course have some other notable activities going on at Marrakesh. The Government Advisory Committee is having a high level governmental meeting on Monday. Obviously the IANA Stewardship Transition reports and implementation will be discussed on Monday as well as the Cross Community Working Group on Accountability. And many of you have been involved in those activities. And I thank you for your contributions and your activities.

On Wednesday of course the GAC meets with the ICANN Board. Wednesday is the main session time for councils to meet and so we have the Generic Name Supporting Organization Council and the Country Code Names Supporting Organization meeting on that day.

Thursday of course they will have a meeting of the Cross Community Working Group on Accountability, the next phase. And of course a GNSO wrap up session. Those are the highlights for Marrakesh ICANN 55. And we welcome you all either in person or remotely to be part of that meeting next week in Marrakesh.

On - as for the policy development process it is of course a primary role for us to coordinate the policy development activities relating to the Internet's system of unique identifiers. And we do this through a bottom up open process involving many of you that are on this call. We have various

supporting organizations, the GNSO, the ccNSO, the ASO, and advisory councils, the GAC, the SSAC, the RSAC, At Large, who of course are involved in the process.

The supporting organizations are the main body for managing the policy development activities and the advisory committees, of course have their inputs into those processes as well as providing advice to the board and at times to the ICANN community.

Policy development is done, as I mentioned, in a multistakeholder bottom up open and transparent process. All are encouraged, all are involved and many of you are either involved in some of the working groups or want to be involved in some of the working groups and we welcome you to participate with the work that is ongoing. And you'll learn more about that from the staff.

Of course the policy team is here to assist the community to create those policies, make sure they're implementable and are an effective way of governing our work as coordinators of the unique identifiers. We support you in your engagement and inform you and inform stakeholders about what is happening in webinars such as this and other activities, and we of course manage the process so that it works to the benefit of all.

The tools that you may well know about are the working group model, various teleconferences. We do a lot of work virtually like today. There is a public comment period at various stages, other mechanisms, publications and webinars to keep you informed and to allow you to interact and provide your inputs and comments to our processes.

The group that does this generally is the policy development support staff. We are 29 member subject matter experts and support service experts in five time zones and in nine countries speaking 13 languages to support the work - the very active work of our community in policy and advice and related activities.

With that I'll turn it over to those staff members who are supporting you in the work of various groups. And I'll now turn it over to Marika Konings for the Generic Name Supporting Organization update. Marika, the floor is yours.

Marika Konings: Thank you very much, David. And welcome from the (unintelligible) 6 UTC time zone. My name is Marika Konings. I'm currently based in Costa Rica and a Senior Policy Director and team leader for the Generic Name Supporting Organization also referred to as the GNSO.

In addition to the work that's going on in relation to the IANA stewardship transition, as well as enhancing ICANN's accountability, which David spoke to you about in his introduction, there are also numerous other projects that the GNSO is working on including 13 policy development processes in their various stages.

As it's not possible to cover all these projects in the time we have allocated for the webinar today, our contribution is going to focus on the three policy development processes or PDPs, that have recently kicked off for which volunteers are still welcome or will be sought in the near future.

The first one on that list is the Next Generation gTLD Registration Director Services, or RDS, to replace Whois policy development process. As many of you may know, Whois was created in the 1980s as a collection and publication of domain names registration data service 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 requirement for domain name registration data collection access and accuracy for gTLD registries have undergone some important changes including registration data publication service specification within the 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement, or RAA, the Whois policy and

underlying protocol, the underlying protocol itself has been subject to the debate for nearly 15 years now.

So comprehensive Whois policy reform remains a source of long running discussions related to issues such as the purpose, the accuracy, privacy, anonymity, cost, policing, intellectual property protection, security as well as other topics.

So to address these issues the board launched an initiative back in 2012 which had recently reconfirmed for a board initiated PDP to define the purpose of collecting, maintaining and providing access to gTLD registration data and to consider safeguards for protecting such data. Using the recommendations that have been developed by the expert working group on this topic, as input to and if deemed appropriate as the foundation for a new gTLD policy.

So these ends the final issue report was published in October of last year and the issue report contains a wealth of information on this topic. All relevant background information has been covered or is linked to and provides an overview of the process framework that was developed jointly by the ICANN board and the GNSO Council to deal with the many significant and interdependent policy areas in relation to this topic.

So following the publication of the final issue report, the GNSO Council adopted the charter for the PDP working group in November of last year. The charter basically followed the process framework as was developed by this board and GNSO Council working group, which basically breaks the PDP down into three distinct phases.

Namely, Phase 1 which focuses on the policy requirements; Phase 2, which focuses on the policy or the functional design or the actual policy development as some have called it; and Phase 3 which is the implementation and coexistence guidance phase.

Following the call for volunteers, which was launched at the start of this year, over 130 members have now signed up for this effort together with nearly 100 observers demonstrating that there is broad interest in this topic.

The working group is still in its early phases of its work but has already identified its leadership team, with Chuck Gomes as its chair, and is currently working on the development of a work plan.

So what are the questions that the PDP working group is expected to answer during this first phase of its work? And as mentioned before, there are three phases as part of the total policy development process. As a starting point the working group is expected to identify the fundamental requirements for gTLD registration without concern for the model that may be delivering such requirements.

As part of this effort it is expected to consider users and purposes as well as associated access, accuracy data elements and privacy requirements. So once the PDP has completed this inventory of fundamental requirements, it needs to ask the question whether a new policy framework and next generation RDS is needed to meet these requirements or whether the current Whois policy framework can meet these requirements in its current form or with possible modifications.

For each of the phases that I've spoken about before, the PDP working group is expected to consider, at a minimum, these different elements that you see here on the slide as part of its deliberation which is the focus of each specific phase. So for example, in Phase 1 the focus is on requirements. And as you can see for Element, uses and purposes, this translates into the question who should have access and why. You can see for each of these elements how that's broken down in Phase 1.

Before handing it over to my colleague, Julie Hedlund, I wanted to briefly show you this graphic which basically depicts the overall process framework that is expected to guide this PDP. As I mentioned before, there are three distinct phases that each focus on a specific aspect of the discussion. So one, the requirements; two, policy; and three, implementation.

So the end of each of these phases the PDP working group is expected to report back to the GNSO Council in the form of a final report based on which the GNSO Council will decide whether sufficient progress has been made to move on to the next phase.

So if you're interested in this topic and would like to contribute to the deliberations you can still sign up to this working group as a member or as an observer by contacting the GNSO secretariat. In addition, input will be sought through public comment as well as informal means to help inform the deliberations throughout the process.

And the working group is also planning a face to face meeting which will be open to non-members to observe during the ICANN meeting in Marrakesh and that session will take place on Wednesday the 9th of March from 1600-1800 local time. And you can find the link to further information on this slide.

And with that I'll hand it over to my colleague, Julie Hedlund.

Julie Hedlund: Thank you, Marika. And this is Julie Hedlund and welcome, everyone, and I will give you a little bit of information about the new gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP. The purpose of this PDP is to determine what, if any, changes may be needed to be made to the existing introduction of new generic topic level domains policy recommendations from August of 2007. These original policy recommendations were adopted by the GNSO Council and ICANN Board and were designed to produce a systemized and ongoing mechanism for applicants to propose new top level domains.

If changes are needed, the PDP working group will determine whether there needs to be clarifying, amending or overriding existing policy principles, recommendations and implementation guidance, whether there needs to be new policy recommendations, or supplementing or developing new implementation guidance.

The current status is that the preliminary issue report and the final issue report were published. The Council initiated the PDP in December of 2015, and also adopted the charter in January of 2016 and the call for volunteers went out also in January. The PDP working group now has at least 80 members and 40 observers. And had its first meeting on the 22nd of February.

The next steps for this PDP working group are that it will confirm is leadership, which is happening at this moment. And then it will develop its work plan, will decide on a schedule of meetings. It will keep its eyes and ears open to see if there are other review efforts underway or already completed that should be considered. And seek input as it progresses.

And I will note, although it did not say so on that slide, that this PDP working group is meeting in Marrakesh. And that meeting will be on Thursday, March 10 from 0800-0900 am local time.

And at this point I'd like to turn things over to my colleagues, Mary Wong, and Lars Hoffman. Thank you.

Mary Wong:     Thank you very much, Julie. Hello everybody. My name is Mary Wong. And with my colleague, Lars Hoffman, who you will be hearing from a little later in this presentation, we support this newest of the three policy development efforts from the GNSO. I'm a senior policy director and based primarily in the United States, although I'm originally from Singapore, so I do spend time in the APAC region as well.

So like I said, this is the third major effort to have been launched by the GNSO recently. And it is not in as advance a stage as the other two that my colleagues Marika and Julie have just talked about. So Lars and I thought it would be helpful, since this is just an effort that's beginning, to first start with where this effort stands and how it got here.

You will probably have gathered from some of the preceding comments that the policy development processes, or PDP, in the GNSO, are normally kicked off by means of an issue report that scopes out the issues, and the GNSO Council, would then vote on whether or not following the issue report a PDP should be formally launched.

So on this slide you can see the process framework starting from the top left where there was a prior issue report requested several years ago but because that was very close to the launch of what we now call the new gTLD program, the recommendation then was to wait for some time after the launch of that program.

So a new issue report was requested and prepared. And one step before the GNSO Council votes is the public comment period that David Olive mentioned earlier on in his presentation. And that would be community input on the preliminary issue report which then goes as a final report to the Council, and as I mentioned, the Council recently voted to initiate this PDP, and it happened as early as last week.

So what is happening right now is that the GNSO Council is currently discussing the scope of the charter for the PDP working group that will be formed. And again, as many of you know the charter is a very important document because it sets out the boundaries and the scope of the working group's work and in some cases it also sets out milestones, deliverables and other processes that are to be followed.

We thought also that it might be helpful for folks who are interested in this effort to have a sense of what we mean by rights protection mechanisms, or RPMs, for short. And this slide shows you the various RPMs that have been identified as being within the scope of this GNSO PDP.

You'll notice that of the various RPMs on this slide one, the one on the bottom right in the darker orange box, is the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy, or the UDRP for short, which is a very long standing ICANN consensus policy that applies to both the new gTLDs that have been launching recently as well as the so called legacy gTLDs that were in existence prior to this program.

The other RPMs that are on this slide were specifically developed for the new gTLD program. So one of the aims of this PDP will be to review not just each of these RPMs but to look at them in concert and to ultimately see whether in combination they fulfill the purposes and the objectives for which they were originally designed.

At the moment, as I mentioned, the charter discussion is ongoing in the GNSO Council, and one of the questions is how can such a complex task be broken up and undertaken. In this particular respect the final issue report that staff had prepared follows from the options that were first outlined for public comment.

And ultimately from three options that were offered for public comment in the preliminary period, the staff built on the one option that gained the most support from the public comments, looking particularly at the alignment of this work with other ongoing work both in the GNSO and elsewhere in ICANN. Most specifically, the new gTLD subsequent procedures PDP that Julie just spoke about a while ago.

And so the staff recommendation is that the - all the gTLD RPMs should be reviewed but this could be done in two phases with the new gTLD RPMs

going first and the UDRP review coming in the second phase. But, again, noting that ultimately the aim is to develop a cohesive and coherent framework for all rights protection mechanisms.

This slide, which I will not go into, shows you some details of that recommendation and as I mentioned, we await the GNSO Council's determination as to whether or not this ought to be the approach that the working group, which will shortly be chartered, should follow.

The next steps are these. We expect that the Council will vote on the charter at Marrakesh at ICANN 55 following which of course this will mean that the PDP working group will be launched and so a call for volunteers will be issued with the aim to have the first meeting some time towards the end of March or possibly in early April.

One point I wanted to make, which is not on this slide, is that like the other PDP efforts there is a session planned for Marrakesh at which this particular PDP will be discussed along with some of the other related work elsewhere in ICANN on trademark protections, particularly the review of the trademark clearinghouse that was initiated for the new gTLD program.

That session is scheduled for Thursday morning in Marrakesh time. And we look forward to seeing you there and of course to welcoming many of you to this new PDP effort after the charter is approved by the GNSO Council.

On that note I will now hand you off to my colleague, Bart Boswinkel, who will speak about the efforts underway in the Country Code Names Supporting Organization. Bart.

Bart Boswinkel: Thank you, Mary. I hope you can hear me well. I will introduce you to the ccNSO sessions in Marrakesh so this will be a different tone and way of looking how a supporting organization works.

Now to produce my session I want to explain to you a little bit about how the ccNSO is comprised and how it works. The ccNSO is effectively two layers. One is the ccNSO Council and the other one is the ccNSO members. Now the ccNSO members conduct two days of meetings that will end with a Council meeting on Wednesday afternoon, as David already said, but which is - takes about 1.5, 2 hours.

So and what will happen is everything that comes up during the meeting will be discussed at the Council meeting and that's where the decisions are made. But you have to keep this in the back of your mind especially with respect to the CCWG discussions which I'll introduce you.

So zooming in on the CCWG discussion and process, it's one of the major topics in, as you can imagine, during the ccNSO meeting days and Council - and of the Council meeting. The ccNSO, as the GNSO, ALAC, GAC, SSAC, and others, are all chartering organizations. So what does that mean in terms of the ccNSO?

First of all the ccNSO Council is ultimately will take the decision because that's the channel of communication. But what you have to keep in mind that the ccTLD community that means members and nonmembers of the ccNSO, so all ccTLD managers in general, ultimately need to support the CCWG proposal otherwise the Council will not take a decision or not support it. So that is the importance of making that distinction.

Looking at the sessions and how the ccTLD community gets involved and how the ccNSO Council will assess the level of support I want to take you through the sessions in Marrakesh themselves. So there will be a session on Tuesday morning from 10 - or from 1100-1230 which is called Block 1. This is an overview of the IANA stewardship transition process in general. So this is putting context around the CCWG proposal as just submitted. And it will show - and it will, again, highlight the timelines and the different interdependencies.

At that session or during that block, the community will be provided an overview of the CCWG proposal itself and particularly the difference between the third proposal and the final supplemental proposal and there will be a general - yeah, quite some time allocated for Q&A.

On Wednesday, and this shows you the interdependencies between - and the context of the CCWG proposal - on Wednesday afternoon right after lunch there will be a second block. And that will be on the implementation issues around the CWG Stewardship proposal. First of all, general progress, but secondly, and that's probably more importantly, is what the ccNSO itself needs to do to enable the implementation of the CWG Stewardship proposal.

And finally, on Wednesday afternoon, there will be fulsome discussion around the CWG Accountability proposals in particularly seeking out the sense of the community. And this will then feed into the ccNSO Council meeting which is scheduled at 5:00 pm on Wednesday. So these are the sessions and these are open all related to the CWG proposal.

So but this is not the only topics for discussion. As always, and maybe now you understand, the ccNSO meeting always includes topics of interest to the ccTLD community and maybe broader community itself. There will be a marketing session this is where the ccTLDs exchange their views and experiences in marketing their ccTLDs. I've included an example of what will be discussed and presented. There will be a ccTLD new session, so that's on the latest developments within some ccTLDs. Again, this is sharing information on latest local developments.

This could include, for example, a change in policy for registration, transfer of domain names, etcetera. So that's, again to share and discuss potential common threads across the ccTLD community.

Then finally another open session, which might be interest in not just the ccTLDs, are legal issues which the ccTLDs are facing. An example, again is

the intermediary liability of - and the ccTLDs. This is about taking down domain names, etcetera.

Other ongoing working items, because the ccNSO does have some working groups which are very focused or very internal or ccTLD-focused. One of them is probably well know, it's the Strategic and Operational Planning Working Group. They will prepare for - to provide input on the five year ops plan and on the fiscal year '17 ops plan and budget.

They will meet - that meeting is closed but they will do a preliminary presentation at the ccNSO meeting itself. And secondly, the ccNSO Guideline Review Committee, which is reviews all current internal guidelines of the ccNSO, will meet again and will present a first set of guidelines to the community and to be approved by Council which then will replace the current guidelines.

Interesting ones are the guideline on how the ccNSO deals with upcoming work items so that's the work plans and triage process; the roles and responsibilities of councilors; and the - and a specific one - guideline on working groups, how to create and establish ccNSO working groups.

And finally, and not the least, there will also be a discussion on the launch of two ccNSO policy development processes, whether they will be combined and/or sequenced is not clear yet but that's for a full discussion with the ccTLDs present. One is on the retirement of ccTLDs. Some time ago one of the ccNSO working groups has established that currently there is no policy on the retirement of ccTLDs. Now with the work of the Framework of Interpretation closed, it's time to address this open policy issue or lack of policy issue for better words. So that's one of the two.

The second one, and this is closely related to the CCWG Accountability proposal itself, it's on the review mechanisms for decisions on delegation, revocation, retirement of ccTLDs. As some of you may well know, the IRP or

the review mechanism as proposed by the CCWG does not apply for these so delegation decisions, decisions on delegation, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs are excluded from the CCWG - excuse me - Accountability proposal and from the C - so with the proposal and with the Work Stream 1 completed the ccNSO Council thought it was time to start developing the policy around it in order to ensure there is no, again, new gap of policy.

And finally, which is not included but just for your information, during this meeting the ccNSO Council will elect a new chair and a - two new vice chairs. That will be done on the Wednesday afternoon.

I'd now like to hand over to Carlos to talk to you about Address Supporting Organization. Carlos, the floor is yours.

Carlos Reyes: Thank you, Bart. Hello, everyone. My name is Carlos Reyes. I'm a Policy Specialist based in the Washington DC office. And part of my work includes supporting the Addressing Supporting Organization.

Just as an overview, the primary policy making group within the ASO is the ASO Address Council, which is 15 members, three from each region. The regional policy forum of each regional Internet registry elects two members. And the executive board of each RIR also appoints one member from its region.

Most importantly, the Address Council oversees and manages global policy development at ICANN. Now what is global policy development? A global policy is a very specific definition and global Internet number resource policies require specific actions or outcomes on the part of the IANA. This is specifically in relation to IP address policy or other Internet number resources.

In order for global policy proposal to be implemented it must be approved, an identical policy must be approved by all five RIRs. And then it goes to the

ASO Address Council for ratification. From there the ICANN board considers it as well.

Some examples of global policies that have gone through the global policy development process within the ASO Address Council, we have the post-exhaustion IPv4 allocation mechanisms. This was in 2012. The most recent global policy actually. And then another notable global policy is the allocation of IPv6 blocks to RIRs.

There are currently no global policy proposals at this time. That being said, there's a lot of regional policy development specifically in the areas of Internet number resource transfer policies related to IPv4 addresses or autonomous system numbers. As well as ongoing IPv6 allocation policy discussions.

The RIRs should also - the RIRs have also been focusing on ongoing operational improvements. This includes independent reviews of their accountability mechanisms and the creation of a governance matrix which oversees the governance framework of all RIRs. It's a very resourceful page and that'll be available in the slides after this webinar.

Along these lines, currently, the APNIC 41 and Africa 2016 meeting - it's actually wrapping up right about now in New Zealand. The Policy Special Interest Group held sessions on APNIC Whois data accuracy as well as other geo-location issues arising from the reviews of scarce IPv4 address blocks.

Looking ahead to the ICANN 55 meeting, the Address Council not formally meet at ICANN 55 however, several members of the Address Council and the NRO Executive Council, which is comprised of the five CEOs of the RIRs, will be in Marrakesh for other activities. Like most of the groups they'll be focusing on CCWG Accountability discussions as well as some usual RIR ICANN coordination work.

And then two new work items for the Address Council, and this includes the selection of board seat 10 and the NRO and GAC are also having a joint workshop on IP Whois.

With this, we'll transition from the supporting organizations to our advisory committees and I'll start off with the Root Server System Advisory Committee. The Root Server System Advisory Committee is composed of 12 board-appointed representatives from the root server operators, three representatives from the root zone management partners, three liaisons and two cochairs currently from the University of Maryland and VeriSign.

The RSAC meets monthly as well as in person at ICANN meetings. After its recent restructure, the RSAC created a caucus, which is a broader body of technical experts, 71 technical experts. And this group carries out the essential work of RSAC. Forty-five percent of these technical experts are not working in root server operations so the group is fairly broad.

In the past two years this body has published a few publications including revisions to one publication. And there are currently two work parties underway. One on root server system naming scheme and the other revising RSAC 002, which is the advisory that the RSAC published in November 2014 on measurements of the root server system. For those interested in applying to the caucus there's a membership committee that evaluates statements of interest and then considers for appointment.

With this I'll hand it over to my colleague, Steve Sheng who will provide an overview of some of the advisories as well as the current work of the RSAC. Steve.

Steve Sheng: Thank you, Carlos. Since ICANN 54 the RSAC has published two advisories and one report. The first advisory concerns the service expectation of root servers. It describes the best practice service provided by root servers and

defines the expectations that an end user might reasonably hold of both the service and the root server operators.

This advisory was completed in - in late 2014 and it was held in tandem to publish with the complementary IRC from the Internet Architecture Board. And this IRC is published numbering 7720, DNS root name service protocol and deployment requirements. So together these advisories replace the earlier IETF RFC 2870 defining the requirements and expectations for root servers.

The second report published is an advisory on measurements of the root server system version 2. RSAC-002 was published, again, in 2014 and '15 timeframe. And since then several root servers have already started publishing the statistics. As root servers implement these statistics, there is clarification needs to be made on these implementation experience. And this revision made this clarifications and the implementation of these measurements will help meet the requirements of RSA-001 in providing measurements on the root server system.

And the last publication RSAC had is a workshop report. The RSAC conducted its first workshop in September 2015 discussing issues related to the evolution accountability and continuity of the root server system. And the workshop report document these consensus points.

Currently as Carlos mentioned, there are three work in progress. The first one is a technical study concerning the naming of root servers. As you know, in 1995 a renaming was done to all root servers from their individual names to rootservers.net so each particular root server has the domain name, you know, a.root-server.net all the way through m.root-server.net. And this scheme has worked fairly well.

Twenty years has passed. The RSAC would like to consider to know, you know, whether to continue this scheme or if changes should be made to this

naming scheme. So tasked a caucus work party to study this issue. The scope includes document the technical history of the names and consider, you know, the alternatives to the current naming scheme, in particular, whether to move the root servers from the root-servers.net zone directly into the root zone.

With any changes, you know, in the system there will be many impacts. So the RSAC tasked the caucus to consider the impact, you know, particularly on the priming responses and also perform a risk analysis. And finally, make a recommendation to root server operators, root zone management partners and ICANN on whether changes should be made. And if a change what the options should be.

The second work party, as already mentioned, is working on a third version of the advisory on management of root server system. The background here is while working on the second update of RSAC-002, a number of more substantial issues came to light. So the RSAC wants to form a formal work party to look into these issues in detail.

There are seven listed here from discussing the zone size metrics, the load time, clarify the ambiguity of the response code volume metrics, the traffic volume, the feasibility of measuring the public - publication time metrics and a few other technical metrics. And finally, to consider whether to include any additional metrics in the other updates to this document. So this work is just started. It had its first meeting yesterday. And will expect to continue to June or July timeframe.

The final piece of work is a history of the root server system. The RSAC in collaboration with root server operators is producing a report to inform the community on the current root server system and its history. The report contains both a chronological history of the system from its origin to its current structure, the origin in 1984, '85 timeframe to its current structure divided into historical periods informed by major events.

And second is a description from each root server operator their history in operating the root servers. The report is currently in review by the RSAC caucus and is to be published in April or May timeframe. For any of these work if you're interested please consider joining the RSAC caucus and volunteer yourself to these work parties.

Looking ahead at ICANN 55, the RSAC will participate in the How it Works tutorials giving two tutorials on how the root server system works. It will hold two working sessions and a series of joint meetings including with the Office of CTO and the Board of Directors. Its public session is on Wednesday from 1400-1530 local time. And we invite you to join this public session.

Moving ahead I also support the Security and Stability Advisory Committee and I'll start the update here. The RSAC has - had a productive trimester or quarter since ICANN 54 publishing two advisories and three comments. And there are two more reports in the pipeline so by Marrakesh probably seven will be published.

These - the advisories focus on the use of shared global domain name space and registrant protection. The comments related to ICANN's detailed e-marketplace health index, the CCWG Accountability proposal and also a response from the ITU on establishing new certification authorities.

In this presentation we will only cover two of those advisories or comments. I want to briefly touch on SAC-77 which is the SSAC comment on gTLD market health index proposal. As you recall, ICANN has opened a public comment defining a set of key performance indicators for healthy gTLD marketplace. And the RSAC provides some feedback.

The overall feedback is ICANN is approaching the KPI problem backwards by starting with data that is already easily available. The correct approach

should be defining what those criterias be and then what matrix should inform those performance indicators. And then, you know, to collect data.

Some specific recommendations that the SSAC made is first ICANN should collect and disseminate information about known categories of domain name registration abuse for fraudulent purposes rather than just focusing on the phishing metrics that is in the ICANN KPI.

The second is the RSAC support ICANN's proposal to report the number of security breaches and recommends adding types of breach, number of similar breaches and the number of affected users in this KPI.

In the case of the overall gTLD marketplace health, the SSAC recommend ICANN should consider integrating external source of information on DNS SEC in new gTLDs, you know, showing signed domains per TLD and by registrar. Currently those, you know, the top level - the new gTLD top levels is fine but how many of the second level domains are signed. So those information will provide light into the adoption of DNS SEC.

And finally, ICANN should include the frequency and impact of TLD registries or registrars going out of business or merging with other businesses. This comment will be - is expected to be considered as part of the overall public comment process on this issue.

Next I'll hand over to my colleague, Andrew, to talk about another SSAC advisory. Andrew.

Andrew McConachie: Thanks, Steve. My name is - let's see - yeah, my name is Andrew McConachie. And I'm a technical and policy specialist located in Washington DC. And I'll be talking to you about SAC-078, the SSAC advisory on uses of the shared global domain name space.

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The purpose of this advisory is to raise awareness within the ICANN community and the ICANN board of multiple uses of the domain name space. The DNS name resolution coexists with other name resolution systems that also use domain names. And these names depend on the ability of DNS name resolution protocols and interface conventions but they have a need to be treated in a special way.

To make it a bit more clear with some examples, the top example here, facebookcorewwwi.onion has no real meaning within the DNS, it only has meaning within the context of the Tor network so it's an identifier - it's an end point identifier in the Tor network but it is not in DNS even though it looks like a DNS name.

The second example, mycomputer.local is an identifier which has meaning within the context of multicast DNS but is not in the DNS even though it looks like a DNS name. So these names exist in the domain name space but use resolution methods other than the DNS.

And lastly, there are many discussions and ongoing work in different venues to more fully define exactly what a name space is and how to avoid potential side effects with these other names.

Thank you. And with that I'll turn it over to my colleague, Julie Hedlund.

Julie Hedlund:     Thank you, Andrew. And I am Julie Hedlund and I also support the SSAC in addition to the GNSO out of the Washington DC office. Just briefly there will be SSAC activities at ICANN 55. There is a session on DNS SEC for everybody, a beginner's guide, that will be on Sunday the 6th of March from 4:45-6:15 pm. There will be the DNS SEC workshop on the 9th of March from nine o'clock am to 3:15 pm. And the SSAC public meeting on the 10th of March from 8:00 to 9:00 am, all local time.

These all - all these sessions will of course have remote access. In addition the SSAC will be meeting with the community including the At Large Advisory Committee, the ICANN Board, and the GNSO Council. And here are some links to additional information on the SSAC.

And now I'd like to turn things over to my colleague, Olof Nordling, for the GAC update. Thank you.

Olof Nordling:     Thank you so much, Julie. And we crossed the Atlantic. Hell to you all from Olof Nordling in Brussels. And a few words about Governmental Advisory Committee, or as abbreviated, GAC, which is a growing committee much thanks to our colleagues of the government engagement team. And now counting no less than actually 161 governments as members and 35 intergovernmental organizations as observers.

And the GAC well they are always busy intercessionally but they're really at their busiest during ICANN meetings and they start on Saturday and continue all the way until Thursday noon time. And the role of the GAC is to contribute with the public policy aspects for ICANN's work through providing advice to the ICANN board.

So what are they up to in Marrakesh then? Well first and foremost it's the matter of IANA stewardship transition and ICANN accountability and in particular the final report from the Cross Community Working Group on Accountability where GAC, as a chartering organization, needs to come up with its final position. And this has the highest priority of all matters for the GAC in Marrakesh. The GAC will devote a maximum of time to straighten out the remaining question marks as it were from the committee's perspective.

There are also remaining issues with the new gTLD program. For example, and perhaps foremost, the implementation of the safeguard advice that GAC has already provided to the board where there are also a few question marks to straight out together with the board.

There will also be a report from the intercessional work by the GAC working groups on geographic names, human rights and international law, public safety and public safety working group will also meet as Carlos mentioned, with the NRO, and underserved regions.

Many of these intercessional activities have been oriented towards planning for future gTLD rounds and of course by necessity also chiming in to the work that's ongoing within the GNSO in that regard.

They will - the GAC will also meet with the other - the supporting organizations and advisory committees and as tradition has it of course also with the board.

That's not all. Every second year the GAC organizes together with the host country, a high level governmental meeting. Last time that happened was in London in 2014 hosted by the UK. And now it's that time again on Monday the 7 March and David already mentioned that. It's a full day meeting in four sessions. And it's hosted by Morocco and chaired by the Moroccan minister, Elalamy with the GAC chair as vice chair for the proceedings.

There will also be internal activities like the review of GAC operating principles and also the preparations for the next ICANN meeting which will be the first short so-called B meeting. E

And it deserves to be mentioned that all GAC sessions from Saturday to Thursday are open and also the high level governmental meeting on Monday. And the only exception to that is the communiqué drafting session on Wednesday afternoon which is closed. But for the rest you can attend it and follow it by your physical presence or by the remote participation tools that are available.

And you can enjoy the proceedings with simultaneously interpretation in all six UN languages plus Portuguese. So very, very welcome to the GAC meeting group which is called Cristal. That's all from me. So let's cross the Atlantic again and over to Heidi Ulrich to tell you a little about ALAC and At Large. Take it away, Heidi.

Heidi Ulrich:	Thank you very much, Olof. Hello. I'm Heidi Ulrich, I'm the Senior Director for At Large and I'm based in Los Angeles. And today I'll be joined by my colleague, Ariel Liang and Silvia Vivanco.

I'm very happy 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 the ICANN meetings in Dublin and Marrakesh, as well as provide a preview of At Large activities that are being planned to take place at ICANN 55.

But first for those who may not be familiar with the organization of the At Large community I would like to take just a few moments to review its structure. At the base of the At Large community are the At Large Structures, or ALSs, now numbering 197. ALSs are organizations that work closely with local end users throughout the world on ICANN related policy issues. They provide input to ALAC policy advice statements and are active in outreach activities.

Moving next are the five regional At Large organizations, the RALOs. They serve as the umbrella organizations for the ALSs in a particular region. They are - the RALOs serve an important point in ensuring among other activities two-way information exchange between ALSs and the ALAC.

Moving to the ALAC, the actual advisory committee, this is the 15-member body within ICANN that represents the interest of Internet end users, they develop policy advice statements in response to public comments, and frequently send policy advice statements directly to the board.

A total of 10 members are selected by the RALOs and the remaining five are appointed by the Nominating Committee. And beginning in 2010, the ALAC and the RALO chairs elected one director to the ICANN board. And that is currently Rinalia Abdul Rahim.

And now I'd like to hand it over to my colleague, Ariel Liang, who will talk to you about the ALAC policy advice activities since ICANN 54. Ariel.

Ariel Liang: Thank you, Heidi. This is Ariel Liang, policy analyst supporting the At Large community. And I'm based in ICANN's Washington DC office. Since the end of ICANN 54 the ALAC submitted seven policy advice statements and I will highlight a few.

Since the ALAC commented on three public comment proceedings related to the new gTLD program. Regarding the gTLD marketplace health index proposal, the ALAC suggested to add metrics to track how active domain names are and ask registrars to help contribute data about the sellers.

The ALAC also pointed out the proposed index is restricted to markets purchasing, sell and resell of new gTLDs and does not reflect the wider DNS health including the stability of the name system and end users perception of it.

Regarding the preliminary issue report on the PDP to review all rights protection mechanisms the ALAC is concerned that the RPMs seem to focus on protecting the intellectual property rights of corporations as their structures and costs create barriers for end users. The ALAC suggested the PDP working group to consider and address those barriers as well as to review the acceptability to trademark clearinghouse for individuals, private trademark holders and trademark agents in developing countries.

Second, the ALAC submitted three statements on the topic of Whois and two of them are about registration data access protocol. The ALAC holds the position that contracted parties must include mandatory features and provisions that support authorization framework and differentiated access to registration data. In addition regarding the implementation of GNSO thick Whois consensus policy requiring consistent labeling and display of RDDS outputs the ALAC is concerned that the current proposal seems to include no target date except for Phase 1 of the implementation and ICANN will soon enter the sixth year of this work.

Third, the ALAC commented on the proposed implementation of GNSO PDP recommendations on Inter Registrar Transfer Policy Part D, and stressed the need for clear and accessible information on the transfer process and the dispute resolution mechanism for non-compliant transfer on ICANN Website. To read the published ALAC policy advice statements please click the link on the slide.

Next I would like to share exciting news with all of you. Yesterday the brand new Website of the At Large community was released and you may click on the link on the slide to visit the new atlarge.icann.org.

Over the past year the At Large community and ICANN staff have provided dedicated efforts to create a more engaging site that goes to make the site a one stop shop for finding policy advice, news and events, regional activities and ways to get involved. We hope you find the new atlarge.icann.org with a fresh look and easy access to information of the At Large community.

Now I'll turn the floor to Heidi for a brief view on At Large work on the IANA stewardship transition and enhancing ICANN accountability process as well as highlights for ICANN 55. Heidi.

Heidi Ulrich:     Thank you very much, Ariel. The ALAC and RALO leaders will be focusing on three main topics during the ICANN 55 meeting. The first is that of the

CCWG. The work of the ALAC on the CCWG has been informed through weekly and sometimes more frequent calls of the At Large ad hoc working group on IANA transition and accountability as well as the work of the five At Large members of the CCWG.

In December the ALAC submitted a statement on the draft proposal of Work Stream 1 recommendations. And they are now reviewing all aspects of the final CCWG proposal. In preparation for their face to face discussions in Marrakesh the ALAC is holding four hours of teleconferences this week on the CCWG proposal, the next being in just a few hours - in one hour.

Like most ACs and SOs, the ALAC will be spending considerable time on the CCWG issues. In fact, the ALAC has nearly 10 hours of their face to face time scheduled to discuss the final CCWG proposal over Saturday, 5 of March and Sunday, 6 of March. And currently the ALAC expects to vote on the ratification of the CCWG proposal on Sunday. Depending on the results of the discussion, the ALAC may prepare an accompanying statement which would identify possible issues.

The second key topic for Marrakesh are the At Large structure and criteria expectations work. And since mid-last year, members of the At Large community have been reviewing At Large structure criteria which is what is needed to become an At Large structure, as well as expectations, what is expected of an At Large structure once it joins the At Large community.

In Marrakesh the ALAC and regional leaders will continue the progress - the process of reassessing both the criteria and expectations of becoming and remaining an At Large structure. The ALAC will be discussing this topic on Saturday the 5th of March between 10:00 and 11:00.

One of the aims of this work is to ensure that ALSs are more fully engaged and can contribute effectively to the work of the At Large community which leads to the third key topic in Marrakesh, which is the At Large review. And

again this - the look at the criteria and expectations comes at an opportune time as the At Large review is just starting. And this organizational review is focusing on the RALOs and At Large structures.

The At Large Review Working Party will discuss the timeline and objectives of the review as well as tasks that may support the independent examiner. The At Large Review Working Party is scheduled to meet on Saturday the 6th of March between 1730 and 1830.

And some outreach and engagement activities of At Large at ICANN 55, very exciting activities here, the first is the AFRALO Marrakesh NGO program. And this will be bringing five representatives from African nongovernmental organizations to Marrakesh and they will be participating in a series of capacity building sessions for beginners. These sessions take place in the mornings on - between Saturday the 5th of March through the 10th of March. And the full program is available on the wiki located on the slide.

The second series of outreach and engagement events relate more to outreach. And this will be bringing (16) university students from (Rabat) who will be participating in a series of At Large events on Monday and Tuesday. And in addition to participating in At Large and ICANN events these students will join selected members of At Large in an outreach event at the University Cadi Ayyad of Marrakesh on Tuesday the 8th of March between 1500 and 1700.

And the activity includes an open discussion on the outreach and engagement in the ICANN mechanism model with the university students both from the Marrakesh university and that with the University of (Rabat) students.

I would now like to hand the floor over to my colleague, Silvia Vivanco, who will be providing an update on the activities of the Regional At Large Organizations during ICANN 55. Silvia.

Silvia Vivanco:     Thank you, Heidi. I am Silvia Vivanco, Manager At Large Regional Affairs. And I would talk about the RALO meetings in Marrakesh. AFRALO will hold the AFRALO African joint meeting on 8 March from 11:00-12:30 on the theme enhancing ICANN accountability the CCWG final proposal.

APRALO members will meet on 6 March from 8:00 to 9:00 am. The agenda includes among other issues, the review of activities undertaken during the (unintelligible) and APRALO under the APRALO (unintelligible) framework.

NARALO monthly meeting will take place on 8 March from 11:00-12:00. And this meeting will review this year's accomplishments, challenges and upcoming projects.

On 9 March the five RALOs will hold their regional secretariat meeting. RALO leaders will meet as customary to discuss issues where RALO's collective input and action is required. The main topics include a discussion of the document development pilot program and a discussion of the At Large work on the public interest.

And now I would like to invite you to the tribute to Fadi Chehadé AFRALO showcase connecting the next billion. This event will take place on Monday 7 March at 1900-2100 local time in the Orion tent. This will be a special tribute to Fadi Chehadé including addresses by ICANN senior staff, board members, At Large members and a number of local dignitaries.

We will see a brief presentation of AFRALO ALSs and local entertainment and refreshments will be available. Please come and join us at this special tribute to Fadi and to learn more about AFRALO and its activities.

And now I'll turn it over to my colleague, Mary Wong.

Mary Wong:     Thank you very much, Silvia. Hello, everybody. This is Mary Wong again. And it's my pleasure to kick off the next section of this webinar on some cross community efforts that are being supported by members of the policy staff. The first one of these is an ongoing cross community working group that has been hard at work for the last couple years trying to develop a uniform framework of principles to frame the chartering initiation, operations and follow ups for future cross community working groups. So this is kind of a mouthful and so affectionately this group has been known including by its cochairs as CWG2.

The one piece of news that I would like to highlight about this work, and it is on the slide, in the bottom middle dark blue box that matters have superseded this particular section in that the CWG2 has published a draft framework for public comment. And you can find that on the public comments section of the ICANN Website.

The public comment period is open throughout the ICANN 55 period. And will end after that. There will also be an open community session during ICANN 55 at which the CWG will present the principles and recommendations in this draft framework for community discussion and feedback.

As many of you on this webinar are veterans of other cross community working groups, including possibly some of the more recent high profile ones, we hope that you will take an interest in this proposal from this group.

Much of the principles and recommendations have been based on the recent experiences of the stewardship and accountability cross community working groups.

But in particular there are a number of observations and indeed open questions in this draft document that would benefit greatly from your input and comment so that this cross community working group can take all that input after the close of the public comment period and come up with a final

framework that it will submit to its chartering organizations which are the ccNSO and GNSO Councils for their adoption and also of course to the other supporting organizations and advisory committees hopefully for their agreement as well so that as a community we can move forward with a uniform and consistent approach for the next set of cross community working groups that are probably going to be coming down the pike at us.

So we look forward to your comments and to your participation. And on that note I will hand you over to Lars Hoffman for an update on another cross community effort. Lars.

Lars Hoffman: Thank you, Mary. The Cross Community Working Group on the Use of Country and Territory Names as Top Level Domains was chartered by the ccNSO and GNSO to assess two character code, three character code and also full name TLDs and as they relate to, as the name suggests, the use of country and territory names.

The group preliminarily agreed to maintain the status quo with regard to two letter codes and so they remain explicitly reserved for the ccTLDs for the time being. The CWG will meet of course face to face in Marrakesh on Monday the 10th of March at 10:30 local time. And that will be in fact the first time that the group discusses issues related to three character codes based on the forthcoming straw man proposal.

The meeting is open to everybody. And if against the odds you can't make it, be sure to look out for the group's initial report that is envisaged to be published in time for ICANN 56.

And with that I'm passing it on from Colorado to Costa Rica and Marika, you're up.

Marika Konings: Thank you very much, Lars. So I think lastly we're looking at the GAC GNSO Consultation Group which was created as a joint initiative by the

Governmental Advisory Committee and the Generic Names Supporting
Organization to explore and find ways to facilitate the early engagement of
the GAC and GNSO policy development activities.

So as part of that work the group basically organized itself in two different
work streams, the first one focusing on how to enhance the day to day
ongoing cooperation and communication between these two groups; and
secondly looking at what are the mechanisms or opportunities and possible
innovations that could be considered in relation to early engagement of the
GAC and GNSO policy development activities.

So today a number of improvements have already been implemented. One of
which is the GNSO liaison to the GAC pilot project, so the GNSO now has an
appointed liaison to the GAC which serves in the function of providing regular
updates and being in a position to answer any questions the GAC may have
in relation to GNSO policy development activities.

The group also developed what is called a quick look mechanism which
serves as a mechanism for the GAC to provide inputs to a GNSO PDP at the
very early stages of it, basically it allows the GAC to raise a flag and indicate
whether they believe a certain topic has potential public policy implications
which is basically an indication of whether the GAC is expected to provide
further input on that topic throughout the process.

So what is this group working on currently? It's actually reviewing the
functioning of the GNSO liaison to the GAC. As mentioned, this was created
as a pilot project and the group is now reviewing whether this should become
a permanent feature of the arrangements between the GAC and the GNSO. It
has already reviewed the functioning of the quick look mechanism to date
and is likely to recommend a couple of tweaks to the way the current process
is run. And is looking at the remaining stages of the policy development
process to identify whether there are further opportunities that should be

explored that would facilitate the participation of the GAC and GNSO policy development activities.

So an update on the status of these activities is expected to be provided to the GAC and GNSO joint session that is happening in Marrakesh on Sunday afternoon between four and five o'clock in the afternoon local time. So if you're interested to hear more about where things stand and the expected next steps are of course warmly invited to attend that meeting.

And with that I think I'm handing it back to Carlos.

Carlos Reyes:    Thank you very much, Marika. And thanks to the entire policy development support team for your briefings. At this point we will begin our question and answer session. Please press star 1 to join the queue. I'll give everyone some time if you have any questions for any of our colleagues supporting the SO or AC groups. But in the meantime we did receive a few questions ahead of time. And we'll walk through two of them here.

One question was, what is the next step after the release of the revised new gTLD program implementation review report? I can - there was a public comment proceeding that closed a few weeks ago. And the staff summary report has been produced and this is now going to inform the Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team and their work. And then there are several areas that ICANN staff has identified that might benefit from further work. There's a link in the slides which will be available after the webinar, for more information.

We also received a question on how ICANN engages and participates with civil societies in local Internet development. There is a civil society engagement strategy at ICANN, some of our colleagues in other departments are coordinating on this. And there is a work session dedicated to this strategy scheduled for ICANN 55.

Operator, are there any questions? Okay, no questions. Well in the interest of time we'll go ahead and conclude our webinar. I'll hand it back to David Olive, our Senior Vice President for Policy Development Support. As always, you may submit questions in the chat. Our team is very responsive. And the slides and recordings and transcripts will be available as well.

And with that we'll hand it back to David.

David Olive: Carlos, thank you very much. And I want to thank all our participants on this webinar for allowing us to share the vast amount of information and subject matter topics that are being discussed by you, the community, in the three supporting organizations and four advisory committees of ICANN plus a lot of other activities including the transition work that many of you have been diligently providing your support, input and participation.

With that, we will have the slides available to you. You saw the links in the chat. And we'll be happy to make sure that those are made available to you. And we will also look forward to having you either participate directly in Marrakesh or via remotely in which case we're available to continue to provide information and answer your questions.

With that I would like to thank you for your involvement in our webinar today. Look forward to continuing our work with you. And with that I wish you a good evening, good afternoon or good morning wherever you may be around the world. Thank you very much and safe travels to Marrakesh if you're going. Bye-bye.

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