

**ICANN
Transcription
Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information PDP Charter DT meeting
Thursday 15 August 2013 at 15:00 UTC**

Note: The following is the output of transcribing from an audio recording of Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information PDP Charter DT call on the 2013 at 15:00 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. The audio is also available at:

<http://audio.icann.org/gnso/gnso-transliteration-contact-20130815-en.mp3>

On page: <http://gnso.icann.org/calendar/#aug>

Attendees:

Chris Dillon – NCSG
Amr Elsadr – NCUC
Yoav Keren - RrSG
Rudi Vansnick - NPOC
Vinay Kumar Singh - individual

Apologies: none

ICANN staff:

Julie Hedlund
Mary Wong
Julia Charvolen

Coordinator: Excuse me this is the conference coordinator. Today's conference is being recorded. If anyone needs any assistance during the call, it is star 0.

Thank you. You may begin.

Julia Charvolen: Thank you (Rebecca). Good morning, good afternoon, good evening everyone. Welcome to the Charter Draft Team for the PDP on Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information call On Thursday 15 August 2013.

On the call today we have Chris Dillon, Amr Elsadr, Yoav Keren, and Vinay Kumar Singh and Rudy Vansnick. We have no apologies so far. And from staff we have Julie Hedlund, Mary Wong and myself Julia Charvolen.

May I please remind all participants to please state your names before speaking for transcript purposes. Thank you very much and over to you Julie.

Julie Hedlund: Thank you very much Julia. This is Julie Hedlund and what I'll do is perhaps note for everyone that on our first call last week we had...I apologize there's going to be a loud noise coming in the background, hold on. We have some military jets flying over. Okay they're gone. Sorry about that.

In our last call last week (Chris Dillon) and Rudy Vansnick volunteered to be co-chairs of this drafting team. And I did also announce that on the list as well. And normally at this point I would turn the agenda over to the chairs but before I do that I would like to ask if there are any other volunteers for chair or if there are any objections to (Chris) and (Rudy) taking on these roles.

So this is Julie Hedlund again. I hear no other volunteers. I hear no objections. (Chris) and (Rudy) are you both not having any regrets for volunteering for these roles?

Chris Dillon: Yes I'm having no regrets. I mean, obviously as you've probably seen -- this is (Chris) speaking -- as you've probably seen from the correspondence it's quite difficult to count exactly how it fits into other things going on in ICANN but well much of doing one's best I think.

Julie Hedlund: Thank you (Chris). And (Rudy) are you happy with this role as well?

Rudy Vansnick: Yes I'm happy with having (Chris) as co-chair because he has a lot of experience in this matter and I'm happy to assist him in this role.

Julie Hedlund: Wonderful. Thank you very much (Chris) and (Rudy). Then I would like to go ahead and cede the agenda over to you both. I don't know which of you wants to start but I did note that (Chris) had very helpfully sent an agenda

through to the list which I posted here in the Adobe Connect room. So (Chris) perhaps I'll turn things over to you.

Chris Dillon: Okay thank you very much Julie. This is (Chris) speaking. So at the beginning we have to ask a question whether there has been any changes to statements of interest. That's the technical reasons. That's one thing. And another thing I'd just like to do is if there anybody new to this whether they'd like to give a brief introduction.

Okay. Well in that case as statements of interest don't change all that often and anybody as well can take any time to introduce themselves.

Julie Hedlund: Excuse me I'm sorry (Chris). This is Julie Hedlund. I note that in the Adobe Connect room (Amr Elsadr) has raised his hand. I think he is hoping to speak.

Amr Elsadr: Yes hi, this is (Amr). I just wanted to answer your questions and I am kind of new of this. I've been on the one GNSO working group before. This is my first working group which is actually a charter team and I'm looking forward to working with all of you.

And I also need to apologize I might be a little behind in what's been going on. I've been traveling and pretty offline the last few weeks. I promise to catch up before our next call.

That's about it. Thanks.

Chris Dillon: Thank you very much. Okay well moving further in, the second part of the agenda is really about who else we need to be encouraging to be part of the working group because I'm aware there aren't very many members of this working group at the moment. And so I think it is important to pick up this at this stage.

I don't know whether anybody has any suggestions. Yoav would you like speak about that?

Yoav Keren: Yes. So first maybe I'll think of a work that I wasn't able to sit in the previous call also. I was on vacation. The work that was done on the charter, on the draft charter, looks good for me to start.

Clearly down the road we need more people here. The very important thing - and I've been I think from the past eight years in ICANN, I've been on almost every or all working groups and different committees that deal with IDNs on some level and this is something that is very relevant to IDNs. So I think we need some more people from what I call the IDN community.

What we need to try to get are some people from I would say applicants for new gTLDs of IDNs and some from those that already operate IDNs either in the second level or the ccTLDs. If we can get a few more people with that experience I think it would be very helpful to have them here.

And I think the one thing that we've had in the past in many cases in other working group that there was not enough participation from I would say regions or countries that their native language is not English or a Latin letter based language. So it is important that we have people from, you know, China or Korea, Japan and also Arabic speaking. If we have at least one represent of course from India in here or think of each of the languages that are going to be in the IDNs, I think it's going to be very valuable.

This is of course some work that the staff needs to do. I can try and help. I can talk with Ching who's also been very involved. Ching is also a GNSO council member like me, but for the registries.

By the way for the others that don't know - for those who don't know me I'm a GNSO council member for the registrars and I'm a CEO of a registrar, the

largest registrar, in Israel and we've been working on (unintelligible) IDNs for many, many years and I'm involved VeriSign under dotcom in Hebrew.

So Ching has also been very involved in the past so I'll try to approach him and see whether he would be available to join the working group. But if not him, maybe he can recommend someone that he is working with. But I'm sure that maybe staff can try and contact other people who might be relevant for this. Thanks.

Chris Dillon: Thank you very much Yoav. And I think Julie would like to say something possibly about the ambiguity of the word working group here.

Julie Hedlund: Yes thank you so much. This is Julie Hedlund.

So for those of you who were not on the first call then -- please let me for those of you who were, I apologize for repeating -- this group that is meeting now is actually just the charter drafting team. So this is a group just to draft the charter, the charter that will go to the GNSO council for approval for the establishment and scope and milestones and so on for the work of the PDP working group.

Once the charter is approved there will be a specific call for participation that staff will put out for the working group. So that is actually a separate body from this drafting team but it may indeed include some of the same people from this drafting team.

But we expect that it will have a larger membership because actually if you look down in the membership section of the charter, so of course the working group is open to all that are interested in participating. We will specifically seek individuals with experience in translation and transliteration of languages and scripts and we may indeed I think Yoav put in some more language here that talks about we do mention people with experience in

internationalized domain names, IDNs, but we may seek people specifically who have experience of course in non (unintelligible) and scripts.

And I also should note that two members of this drafting team that are not on this call but are members of the drafting team do indeed have quite a bit of experience in IDNs as Yoav noted and that is Ching Chiao and Edmon Chung. We didn't have apologies for this call today but they are indeed on the membership and we certainly would encourage them to be members of the working group once the charter has been established.

So just to reiterate, the work of this drafting team is to craft the charter. And from last week staff, Lars and myself produced a very first cut of the charter in which we present here for you today for discussion and revision. Thank you.

Chris Dillon: Thank you very much Julie. This is (Chris) speaking. And I think that then probably takes us into the main part of the agenda which is point three, which is actually looking at the draft that Julie did so promptly for us. So whether anybody would like to raise anything about well the early, early part of the draft perhaps.

Julie would you like to speak about it? No sorry.

Julie Hedlund: Actually this is Julie. It did occur to me that I could give a little bit of explanation for some of the pieces of the charter that may help people understanding how it came together if that's okay (Chris).

Chris Dillon: Yes, yes by all means. Thank you.

Julie Hedlund: So much of the charter is actually boilerplate information meaning that there is a charter template that we use as a basis and much of what goes into the charter simply states the same from charter to charter. It really isn't specific to a charter.

So if you look at Section One, I mean this information is yes specific to this group but the chartering organization in most cases will always be the GNSO council. We've included the workspace, the wiki workspace, URL which is the drafting team workspace at this point but it will migrate and it will be the PDP working group work space.

There's a reference to the GNSO council resolution because staff will draft for this drafting team's approval a motion that would go along with the charter to the council and then the council could approve along with the charter. So those things are all fairly standard. And then there's the links to the documents that relate to this work, the final issue report and the final report of the IRD WG.

The part - and actually I skip ahead to the other sections because most of the sections are again as I said boilerplate. So if I move to objectives and goals in Section Two, producing an initial report and final report is actually a process that is dictating in Annex A of the ICANN bylaws and described in the GNSO PDP manual. Any working group has to produce an initial report and a final report.

Deliverables and timeframes those again are referenced in the PDP manual and there are specific timeframes discussed there. So this is just incorporated by reference.

The membership criteria is something that is more specific to this group because we are looking for specific experiences. We can talk about more of that later. But Yoav noted that.

But the group formation dependencies and dissolution is the same for all working groups. The working group roles and functions are essentially the same except for the staff people may change. We called out the staff people here that will be supporting the working group.

Statement of interest again is a procedure dictated in the GNSO council operating procedures and that section is referenced here.

Section Four the rules of engagement comes directly from the working group guidelines and unless this drafting team decides to use a different method for decision making, the default is to use the method as described in the working group guidelines which is copied verbatim here.

Status reporting is the same for all working groups that there are, you know, status reporting is made to the council via a liaison to the council. And the problem issue and escalation and resolution processes is all the same for every working group as is the closure and working group assessment.

So really the heart of the document where it differs from other working groups for this PDP working group is going to be the mission and scope, the background mission and scope section and the membership section, any details that we want to add with respect to the types of experience we're seeking for the membership of the PDP working group.

So I'm sorry if that's a little longwinded but I hope that has caught people up on what goes into the charter and some of the differences from charters with other working groups. Largely charters are the same among working groups except for these couple of sections. Thank you (Chris).

Chris Dillon: Thank you very much indeed. This is (Chris) speaking. That's very clear. So I think well to be thorough if we - or actually I noticed (Rudy)'s wanting to say something. (Rudy) would you like to say that now?

Rudy Vansnick: Yes thank you (Chris). (Rudy) speaking. Well as we changed already on the e-mail the question about the participation especially in who should be part of the working group I was just wondering if we are going to query for legal advice as some of the information is part of what we call privacy data.

Address and the contact details are very often also bound to legal issues. So I was wondering if in the working group that it would be a necessity of having legal advice.

Chris Dillon: This is (Chris) speaking. As I replied in the e-mail I felt that we should answer the question at a later stage because unless we know what is being transliterated and what is being translated the issues don't actually come up. So the reason why I wrote in my email that I didn't think we should do that now was in fact because I was worried that that would be sort of trying to decide other things about the transliterating and the translation which we actually couldn't decide till later.

Rudy Vansnick: (Rudy) speaking. No problem (Chris). I just was wondering, you know, as we have to define the scope and the mission of the working group, that was my initial questioning about participation.

Chris Dillon: Okay. This is (Chris) speaking. I think it's conceivable that it could be relevant but it's probably less something that we now need to do than what they may need to do it when they actually start working on it.

Julie would you like to say something?

Julie Hedlund: Yes. This is Julie Hedlund. So with respect to advice from ICANN legal staff, that is advice is already available to the working groups for any issue that they are addressing. And it is in fact true that many of the policies that working groups address under a PDP can indeed and do have legal considerations and the ICANN legal team stands ready to address those questions as they arise.

To (Chris)'s point I think that it may very well be more of an implementation issue as opposed to a policy issue. And that's one thing that I should point out here. This is a little bit of a tricky thing. So this PDP working group will look at policy.

For instance, it might say yes we think it's desirable to translate contact information to a single common language. And we might say yes we think registrar should do this. But the policy might say well the registrar should do this but then leave the implementation aspect to ICANN. So does this goes into a contract, you know, with the registrars, what exactly is the procedure registrars use, do they have a choice of procedures and so on.

So the PDP working group may not get into the specifics of how something's being done but may say as a policy it needs to be done, and then in the implementation stage there may very well be legal issues as to how that might accomplished and policy and privacy considerations as well.

These also may come up under the other working group that I mentioned in my e-mail to the list. There is a working group that's looking at establishing a protocol and model for internationalizing domain name registration data. That group will take a look at what this PDP working group is doing and come up with an overall structure. And that group may indeed be grappling also with issues of what information should be internationalized and how it should be treated.

So one thing I'll just say -- and I know Yoav has his hand up so I'll stop shortly -- but you have to be a little bit careful that the scope of this particular effort is focused just on these two questions, these two issues identified here because there are other efforts. There's also the expert working group that have an initial report on that relates to this and this is just one small piece of the puzzle, so to speak. Thank you very much (Chris).

Chris Dillon: Thank you very much. Before I let or before we ask (Ulad) to speak I noticed in the chat room that (Vinay) and (Mary) have made various points.

But I think they may have been answered by what Julie just said. Anyway (Ulad) would you like to raise a point?

(Ulad): Yes and I'm trying so which was sorry Julie just a verification question first, which of the other working group that works on internationalizing the contact data?

Julie Hedlund: Thank you (Ulad). So there is another working group that will be started up after this one. It's I think the call for volunteers has gone out. I'd have to consult with my colleague Steve Sheng to find out the status of that group. And fortunately he's out of the office at the moment.

But there is another working group that's tasked with determining the requirements for internationalize registration data and producing a data model for IRD.

And that relates to the board's action plan in its 9th of November 2012 resolution that directed staff to task the working group to determine the appropriate IRD registration data requirements and evaluate recommendations from SSAC Regina.

So to produce a data model that takes into consideration the work of this particular working group on transliteration and translation of contact information and then also looks at protocols underdevelopment in the IETS Web-based accessible Internet registration data working group and evaluates, you know, possible solutions.

So that group will be taking things obviously a step much further than this working group and will and indeed use the work of this PDP as part of the model that it will produce.

Chris Dillon: Thank you very much. (Ulad) would you like to speak?

(Ulad): Yes I must say that it looks to me it's a little un-effective to run multiple PDPs and multiple working groups on an issue that can be discussed, you know, at

once because my view -- and this is what I'm missing here -- maybe it's in the charter of the other working group -- is what is it what is going to happen to Whois okay is a big question?

Is it going to stay only in Latin letters or are we going to add internationalization data, internationalized data okay? That's the first question.

Now if we decide to do that it brings up some questions, you know, how is this done? Are we asking - do we want both? Is it enough to have one?

And if it's one that is not, you know, is in a different script than English than Latin then comes up this question that we're trying to answer here which is, you know, can you translate or transliterate, yes you can. But can you translate them and who should bear the burden if you need to translate. Sorry transliterate or translate?

So I'm - my feeling is that the charter of this group and, you know, you have the headline of this working group which is, you know, so, you know, it looks like it is governing more than what is currently in the mission and the scope.

I don't know and I'm, you know, I'm not sure if we don't need to add here a little more about that because the big question is, you know, what are the solutions for that? What do we want to, you know, what do we want to do in that case of from the Whois, you know?

Whether it's not only is it desirable to - by the way here I'm trying also to understand something because this question whether it's desirable to translate contact information to a single common language this is what is happening right now.

So I'm - I don't know when - I don't remember who and when this thing was written this way but what would - you know, whoever wrote this what was the motivation because this is what is happening right now in all gTLDs.

Everything is being transliterated into one language or one script actually so the question is do we add others? This is the first questions. And I don't know be happy to hear what others think about it.

Chris Dillon: Thank you (Ulad) this is (Chris) speaking. I think our responsibility is only some parts of what you were just talking about.

So we have a responsibility to say whether this, you know, whether this should be non-Roman in addition to the Roman script and also in that, you know, presuming that there may be non-Roman scripts whether that's non-Roman script should be translated or transliterated.

What isn't completely clear is that there may be a situation where it's desirable perhaps to translate some parts of the information and transliterate other parts.

There isn't actually anything saying that we can't do that, actually decide that we want to translate some bits and transliterate other bits.

And so I haven't raised that as a problem. But that, you know, you can certainly imagine some solutions would be translating some bits and transliterating other bits of the contact information.

(Ulad): Sure but the first thing you said is correct me if I'm wrong is not really written right now. We're not - we don't have it in the charter that we are drafting which is do we need something else than only the Roman?

I think this is the first question that should be there. This is what I believe. And you said that also but it's not here.

Chris Dillon: Okay. So I think Julie wants to have a word about that.

Julie Hedlund: Thank you (Chris) and thank you (Ulad). So I understand and it's interesting, very interesting to me how you have pointed this out (Ulad). So these were two issues identified by the Internationalized Registration Data Working Group.

And these were two issues that they were unable to resolve in their joint working group unable to find consensus on.

And there - they do in their full report note that yes as you note and perhaps it's not - it needs to be more explicit here and we certainly can add it in, but in the IRD working groups report they do note that yes currently, you know, the default is ASCII.

You know, there is a common language. There is a common script. Everybody uses ASCII. It's just what happens if we want to present the contact information in something other than ASCII and something in a different script, in a different language, well in a different script and a different language. The language that perhaps uses a different script for example.

I'm certainly happy to pull in some language from the IRD Working Group Report and from the final issue report that makes that all a little more clear in the charter.

But so that was - that certainly was considered and was discussed as part of both the IRD Working Group and the final issue report.

And I admit it's not clear here. And so anyway I don't know if that's helpful to you (Ulad)?

(Ulad): Yes it is helpful. I now understand, you know, what was, you know, what was the motivation of fighting this.

You know, so what they're asking is whether for example if I'm if, you know, maybe I would like to have an option that all Whois data in the world is somehow transliterated or translated into Chinese and Japanese and Korean and Arabic and Hebrew and Russian and other scripts.

And if someone from Russia logs in to a registrar and looks at a Whois of any domain name they can get all the information in Russian.

So that's what they - understand now that this is what they were asking. I think this is my - this is just a first, you know, a quick personal opinion.

I think that's crazy. You know, it's going to be so hard to implement it and the costs are going to be so high I don't know whoever is going to do that.

So but correct me if I'm wrong, there was no group till now saying hey we need to have in the Whois okay in the Whois database additional languages.

You know, no one really finalized that. And I think this working group should specifically discuss that and come to the GNSO counsel with, you know, with some consensus hopefully on whether we need to do something about that or not?

And, you know, then I think that's really, really, you know, the basic thing because we can stay with the Whois as is. You know, there's other groups talking about different ways of having that data of the Whois in structure but not about the data itself.

So we're talking about the data itself should it be in other languages? I personally think that yes it should be but I don't think it can be in all languages.

There are different ways to get that information. And I think it's for example it would be valuable if the domain name registered for Chinese or, you know, Chinese entity or maybe in a Chinese IDN, I don't know maybe in that specific case would also contact (that in) Chinese but then doesn't make sense that this would be also translate it for me. It doesn't make any sense to Russian and Hebrew and Arabic.

But the basic decision whether that should happen or not or discussion to my view was not finalized in any other ICANN group. But I'm not sure if there is a charter for anyone else to discuss that.

And since this group is called the translator and transliteration of contact, the next working group, not this one, the one - the next working group, the one that we're working on next charter is going to be called, you know, translation and transliteration of contact data I think that should be the first major question.

And I don't see anything that is holding us from doing that as a part of the charter but correct me if I'm wrong.

Chris Dillon: Okay thank you for that. (Rudy)'s been waiting for a while so please (Rudy).

Rudy Vansnick: Thank you (Chris). Yes (Ulad) what you just have been mentioning is indeed critical. And I think that's the reason why this working group is created because the report and the previous working group didn't reach - on the outcome of it.

And I'm almost convinced that the outcome of this working group will not be an easy thing especially when we say that contact data should be related to the location where the registrant is located.

That means it should be in that language of that country, in fact in the official language of the country.

And that makes it already difficult as we know that the Whois was not conceived in such a way that it could get all these different languages being registered.

The other point is that the question about the Whois data in itself if it's in a language no one can other than the natives of that language can understand it will create another issue.

And probably the Whois data would be in that case extended into parts, the official local ones and the translated one.

But that's again I think the task of the working group to get the solution for that problem.

Chris Dillon: Thank you (Rudy). Julie is wanting to speak. But before she does I would just like to say -- this is (Chris) speaking by the way -- very briefly that there is as far as I am aware there is no proposal.

So if for example if - imagine if for if we are Chinese for a minute. There is no proposal to translate or transliterate from Chinese into Russian, Arabic, and Japanese and all the rest.

The only thing that I've seen is a proposal to transliterate or translate into English and that's just to tidy that one up. Julie would you like to speak?

Julie Hedlund: Yes thank you. Just briefly to point people to what I've put in the chat room and as I mentioned earlier there is a task - sorry.

Staff have been tasked by the board to also be - start a working group that will specifically look at the developing a data model for how internationalized

registration data is handled in a registration data directory service such as Whois.

So this particular workgroup is looking at just one piece. And that is the transliteration and translation of contact information and the two issues that we have here on the page. And these come directly from the IRDWG's final report and then also from the final issue report.

So the council voted in June to initiate the PDP on these specific issues. So we are limited in the scope for this PDP working group.

The scope is limited by the issues that the council has addressed.

And also the board has directed that this piece this working group's work will fold into the larger development of the data model for how internationalized data registration data will be handled in a service such as Whois.

So that effort (Ulad) definitely will happen. It will not be done by this particular working group. But the work of this working group which I think is going to be quite difficult as people have noted here will become a piece of that larger effort. Thank you.

Chris Dillon: Thank you very much Julie. Okay this is (Chris) speaking. So that means that we still have some amount of time to come back to other areas of the report. If anybody would like - Julie do you want to pick up something else?

Julie Hedlund: Sorry about that. No thank you.

Chris Dillon: No that's fine. No problem. Okay so it's I mean that certainly is a very important question and one I had myself identified.

So is just really looking through sections well two and three largely conceivably one if there's anything else we want to pick up today.

The only other comment I would like to make is its as I did in an email to the list that it's very good to see five models on Page 4 in Section 2.

Because, you know, certainly the two of the reports large - largely detailed four models. And then there was a fifth model just mentioned on the final page of the final issue report. So it's good to see all of those five possible models trotted out.

Okay well I'll just double check to see that I have no other comments. I don't think I do. Okay in which case it leaves us with any other business.

I should have asked at the beginning of the meeting whether there was any other business people wanted to raise?

No in which case it looks as if we are in serious danger of ending early today. The date of the next meeting of course is the same time next Thursday. So heavens it's 4 o'clock in London. I think it's 3 o'clock UTC.

And yes, you know, just encourage as has been the case this week for people to continue the discussion on the mailing list. And oh yes Julie would you like to say something?

Julie Hedlund: Oh just to confirm that I will indeed make some edits to the charter to add some additional explanation that clarifies the two issues.

And in particular the point that (Ulad) made where yes we are already translating and transliterating to a single script.

So I'm going to pull in something that makes that clearer. And so you'll see another version a little later today and that we can use for the discussion on next week's call as well.

Chris Dillon: Okay. Thank you very much. As I said, you know, I'd really like to encourage people to revisit the document in the likes of what we said today and continue the discussion on the mailing list.

And also just like to say how interesting the discussion was today. Thank you very much indeed.

Okay in that case I'm intending to end and say goodbye. Julie would you like to say something?

Julie Hedlund: I keep forgetting to put my hand down but I will say...

Chris Dillon: That's all right.

((Crosstalk))

Julie Hedlund: ...everyone. And I'm glad to see so many people on the call despite the fact that it's a holiday for some of you. I do appreciate you spending the time so thanks to all of you.

Chris Dillon: Likewise. Thank you all very much. Until next week...

(Ulad): (Ulad) speaking. Yes (Ulad) speaking just to thank (Chris) for doing a marvelous job for us co-chairing and chairing this meeting so thanks a lot (Chris).

Chris Dillon: That's...

((Crosstalk))

(Ulad): I hope...

Chris Dillon: ...to kind of you.

(Ulad): I will be more active next week as it was bank holiday today and I had to catch up on a lot of backlogs so see you next week all.

Chris Dillon: Indeed. Goodbye.

Julie Hedlund: Thank you everyone. Bye-bye.

Man: Bye.

Chris Dillon: Bye-bye.

END