

**Pre-Singapore Policy Update Webinar
13 March 2014
First session: 12:00 UTC**

David Olive: Welcome to everyone. My name is David Olive, Vice President for Policy Development Support at ICANN, and it is my pleasure to have this Webinar providing an update on policy activities, advisors and related matters that will be taking place in Singapore.

We are all very pleased to be in that part of the work, our Asia Pacific colleagues as well, and to be in Singapore in particular for our ICANN meeting.

For those of you who may be participating in person, we welcome you there, and those participating remotely, we look forward to serving you and making sure your experience at the ICANN meeting is informative and worthwhile.

Just as some housekeeping notes, quickly, we will be on mute until the question-and-answer period. But of course, please post questions in the Chat and we'll make every effort to answer them for you. And of course the audio and the slide and the Chat will be uploaded and available for you to look at your leisure as we proceed to prepare for our work at ICANN 49 in Singapore.

I would just like to say that there will be another series of questions, and of course the community will be deeply involved with looking at next steps in the ATRT2 recommendations, discuss the initiatives to globalize ICANN, comment on the budget and operational plan for Fiscal Year 2015, and of

course provide input on the strategic planning for 2020 as some of the main themes that will be taking place during the conference.

Also there will be a Meeting Strategy Working Group review of their recommendations. And those of course as well as the strategic panel outcomes are up for public comment and available for your input on the ICANN Web site.

Of course the meeting highlights, our root server advisory committee will be meeting, strategic panels will be meeting, the Cross-Community Working Group and Internet Governance will have a session on Monday. All important is for the community to meet with the Board of Directors on Tuesday, Public Forum and Board Meetings will be on Thursday, and of course we'll also have because we're in the Asia Pacific region, their Showcase Test Day with our ccNSO colleague DNSSEC for beginners as well as new gTLD updates. And so this will be a very active session and conference for us all.

Of course the focus here today is on our policy development activity. And of course policy development at ICANN is mainly focused through the supporting organizations, the Generic Names Supporting Organization, the Country-Code Name Supporting Organization, and the Address Supporting Organization, in consultation obviously with the advisory committees that are listed here.

As we know, a primary role of ICANN is to coordinate policy development related to the global Internet Systems of Unique Identifiers. We have an open and transparent policy development mechanism to promote well informed decisions based on advice from a diversity of views from all our stakeholders. The ICANN community of course works to improve and streamline these mechanisms so as many global stakeholders as possible can participate and have their voice heard.

This bottom-up multi-stakeholder consensus approach results on recommending for the domain name system recommendations that are fair, effective and carefully considered preserving and enhancing the security ability and resiliency of the Internet.

I'd like to also show this info graphic that indicates ultimately various groups and consultations and complexity of our organization.

The goals for this Webinar will update you on current policy work obviously to encourage your participation and input, review the major issues to be discussed in Singapore, talk to you about some of the supporting organization advisory committee engagement activities, answer any questions and solicit feedback, and of course we encourage you to use the Webinar hashtag that appears now on the screen.

The topics covered in this session will be several. Here for the GNSO are a few of them and my colleagues will go over that shortly. Also focusing on some of the issues is the ccNSO, the ASO, the Address Supporting Organization, and our Root Server System Advisory Committee as well. Also, we will look at SSAC, the Government Advisory Committee, and topics for the At-Large Advisory Committee.

With that, I'll turn it over to my colleague Marika Konings to talk about the GNSO policy issues. Marika, the floor is yours.

Marika Konings: Thank you very much David.

Hello everyone and my name is Marika Konings. I'm a Senior Policy Director and team leader for the GNSO based in the ICANN office in Brussels. And I'll be covering a couple of the topics that are on the consideration and review by the GNSO.

We currently have 11 policy development processes or also known as PDPs in various stages of the PDP cycle. And in addition to that, there are seven other non-PDP projects that are covered and some of which are being covered during this update, so some of my colleagues will go into further detail on those.

In addition to discussing and reviewing the status of these projects, the GNSO in Singapore will also meet with some of the other parts of ICANN such as the ICANN Board, the ccNSO as well as the Government Advisory Committee, the GAC, to discuss topics of common interest and ways to enhance and facilitate collaboration.

And in this context, it may be worth mentioning that the GNSO recently established a GAC GNSO consultation group to work with the GAC on early engagement. But today we'll focus on some of the policy projects that are on their consideration.

And for that, I'll turn it over to my colleague Lars who will talk to you first about the Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy.

Lars Hoffman: Thank you Marika.

I'm going to give you a brief update on the Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy PDP as Marika just said. And I will start that off with a small (unintelligible), the group has just published its initial report which is out for public comment and will also be presented to the community during this forthcoming Singapore meeting.

The Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy, IRTP for short, is the 2004 consensus policy provided straightforward process for registrants to transfer domain names in between registrars. And each is related to the IRTP including its Transfer Dispute Policy, the TDRP, are still the number one area of consumer complaints for example, to ICANN and Compliance.

The policy has been under review for a while as one might say. And this Part D is in fact the full and final of those reviews, at least that is what the working group is hoping for.

The working group started its work with six charter questions, and as I said, Board has published its initial report which is out for public comment throughout the ICANN meeting. And in fact, it will extend until the third of April, the week after Singapore.

In the interest of time, I will not go through all of the charter questions and recommendations, but talk you just briefly through the ISP highlighted as well.

In terms of the 12 recommendations that you can find in the initial report, and he concludes more detailed reporting requirements which this dispute provided to be incorporated into the TDRP. The recommendation that a domain name to be returned to the original registrar of record is the TDRP procedure finds that a non-compliant transfer has occurred even if this was followed by one or more compliant transfers.

The group has also been considering to recommend to extend the statute of limitations to launch a TDRP from currently 6 to 12 months.

It's a request (unintelligible) it's initiated; the relevant domain name should be locked against future transfers and (unintelligible) enforcement speakers concluded.

The working group decided not to recommend that the TDRP can be initiated by registrars. The working group actually spent quite a bit of time on that and it's worth reading up on the reasons behind that in the initial report.

The working group is considering to recommend that the TDRP's first level of dispute resolution, the registry level, be eliminated. And the working group

also recommends the dispute options of registrants are made more visible and accessible.

You might have noticed that I mentioned twice on this summary that the working group is considering to recommend. This because the group wants to make sure that these preliminary recommendations are the best way forward, and so the group explicitly seeks community input on these issues before it finalizes its recommendation. You'll find that these issues are also clearly marked and highlighted in the initial report.

Community input on all of these and all other relevant issues can be submitted as usual through the public comment forum. And of course also, you're encouraged to join the group's face-to-face meeting in Singapore if you're going where the group is meeting on Wednesday the 26th at a convenient 10:30 am.

And finally, a few abbreviated URLs that you can go to find more information on the group's work, the public forum and the initial report itself.

Thank you very much, and I think I'm passing on the baton to Julie.

Julie Hedlund: Thank you very much Lars. This is Julie Hedlund and I'll speak to you briefly on translation and transliteration of contact information, the policy development process.

And why is this important? It's important because the continued internationalization of the domain system and the need to allow for standardized query of international registration data and the assurance of its functionality.

There are ongoing reforms of the gTLD Directory Services. For instance, there is an Expert Working Group that's looking at this very issue, and makes

need to establish GNSO policy on translation and transliteration of contact information more pressing.

We have some recent developments. We have started a PDP working group in December of 2013 and that group has sent a request to the supporting organizations and advisory committees and the stakeholder groups and constituencies for input on several issue questions; questions related to the issues in the PDP. The deadline is 31 March.

ICANN also has commissioned a Feasibility Study on the translation and transliteration of contact information, and that will help to inform the working group's recommendations and the outcome of the Expert Working Group and other relevant efforts will be monitored by this PDP working group.

How to get involved and what are the next steps? The working group will start to review community feedback and work on draft recommendations. It is open to all members and new members are welcome, and the contact information is there on the slide.

You can also join the working group for its face-to-face meeting in Singapore which will be Monday the 24th of March at 7:30 am local Singapore time in the Sophia Room.

Just some quick background information; the working group is looking at two principle charter questions, whether it's desirable to translate contact information to a single common language or transliterate contact information into a single common script.

And then the other question is who should decide who should bear the burden of this translation and transliteration. Here for your reference with some short URLs are the working group charter, the Wiki Page, and the PDP Issue Report.

And now I would like to turn things over to Mary Wong and thank you very much.

Mary Wong: Thank you Julie.

Hello everybody, my name is Mary Wong. I'm a Senior Policy Director with the Policy Team. And although I'm based primarily in the United States, my home town is Singapore and I'm actually talking to you from the Singapore office. And together with the rest of my colleagues in Singapore, I look forward to welcoming all of you to Singapore or back to Singapore as the case may be whether face-to-face or remotely.

So I'm going to take you through a couple of PDPs and working groups that are going on at the GNSO starting with this one which is quite a mouthful; the Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues PDP. So let me give you a bit of information and background about that.

This PDP was started really by the ICANN Board. Many of you would have heard of and many of you are very familiar with the Registrar Accreditation Agreement or the RAA, the newest form which was approved by the ICANN Board of June last year.

As part of the negotiations for the RAA, the community was very involved in identifying certain topics including certain high priority topics, most of which were dealt with in the negotiations and in one form or another, were provisioned for in the 2013 RAA.

The single issue outstanding that was identified, however, was the use of privacy and proxy services for the registration of domain names. And in short, this really means that when someone registers a domain name, his or her contact details are not fully displaced in the Global Data Directory Service that is searchable so that you as a member of the public or as law

enforcement, or as anyone else, could normally find who is behind a particular domain name.

A privacy service and a proxy service in different ways shield either some or all of that sort of information.

Another piece of background is that ICANN has previously committed to creating an accreditation program for providers of these services. Until that happens however, the 2013 RAA has a specification that is supposed to work on a temporary basis to end either on the 1st of January 2017, or when ICANN launches the accreditation program, whichever is earlier. So that's the background.

And recently, the GNSO Council approved a charter for a PDP Working Group to address policy issues concerning that sort of accreditation. And there's a number of questions in the charter for the working group that I don't have the ability or the time to go into right now, but they range from fairly high level questions such as whether or not a distinction needs to be made between the two types of services for accreditation purposes to the types of users that should be using the services to termination and so forth.

The working group has begun its work and it has started to address these substantive issues as per the charter. And what it would really like is input from the community.

Recently the working group reached out to the other supporting organizations, advisory committees, as well as the stakeholder groups in the GNSO, to seek feedback and suggestions on the substantive issues in the charter.

The working group will conduct a face-to-face meeting in Singapore which is open to the community, and it really would like to encourage you and anyone who is interested to attend that meeting either in person or face-to-face to

engage with the working group on some of those questions. And there will be a link in the next slide or two to show you what the space is where you can find the questions.

The aim of all this is that the working group would like to produce an initial report for public comment by the first part of 2015. If you recall that I said that the current specification is really something that goes through January 2017 unless ICANN starts the accreditation program earlier. So there is a timeline for this and that's why community input is going to be critical to the working group.

Like I said, here are some links to some further information. The face-to-face meeting that I just mentioned is scheduled for Thursday, the 27th of March from 9:00 am in the morning local Singapore time for a 90-minute spell. And here's some of the background information finally with the working group work space where you can find the charter and all the questions that the working group is grappling with and they're seeking your guidance and input.

So that's where we are with this particular PDP working group. And there was another working group that some of you who have been engaged with us for a while will recall, completed its work. And this is one piece of that work that is continuing or that takes it in a particular specific direction as directed by the GNSO Council.

And that can send access by international government organizations, also known as IGOs, and international non-governmental organizations also known as INGOs. The earlier working group that I mentioned, discussed protections for IGOs and INGOs in particularly the new gTLD program, but also in the legacy gTLD, and made a number of consensus recommendations that were adopted by the GNSO.

And one of those consensus recommendations was for the GNSO to request an issue report. And I will explain what that is and what it's about in a minute.

But it's important to remember right now that the reason for requesting an issue report is that under the rules of the GNSO, in order to do a policy development process or a PDP was as this one or the one that my colleague Lars was talking about which is IRTPD, or that Julie was talking about with respect to translation and transliteration, and all the other PDPs we'll be mentioning today, a proceeding step that's required if the issue report that really scopes out what the issue is about, possible steps, issues and so forth.

And so for this particular issue about IGOs and INGOs, at the moment in terms of protections for their names and their acronyms, they cannot fully use the existing mechanisms.

Now many of you will know that those existing mechanisms include the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy also known as a UDRP, which is a long standing dispute resolution policy dating from 1999, and which applies to disputes concerning second-level domain names in both the existing as well as the new gTLDs delegated under the new gTLD program which is ongoing.

There is also something called the URS or the Uniform Rapid Suspension System. That's new and developed just for the new gTLD program also concerning disputes about second-level domains relating to trademarks or names and other words.

The reason why IGOs and INGOs currently cannot fully utilize either of these two policies is that they include the fact that IGOs are immune from national jurisdiction due to their status as IGOs. And another reason is that for both IGOs and INGOs, to use either the UDRP or the URS, they need to be trademark owners because those two policies were designed for trademark protections in mind.

So with these limitations then, the issue report was requested by the GNSO Council, in order for the GNSO Council to decide after receiving public

comment and input whether or not indeed it would be a good idea to launch a PDP to explore whether, and if so how, either or both of these processes might be amended to allow access and use by IGOs and INGOs.

We recently, like just on the 10th of March, published the preliminary issue report for public comment. The public comment period is open initially until at least the 14th of April which is two weeks after the end of the ICANN Singapore meeting.

Following the close of public comments, ICANN Staff will then prepare a final issue report. And that final issue report will take onboard and include a report of all the public input that was received one way or the other. And the final report will be submitted to the GNSO Council which will then take a vote on whether or not to initiate the PDP that I've just talked about.

So this process will be ongoing and the Council will be asked to consider the final issue report probably sometime in May or June since the public comment period goes for a fairly long period up to then.

So as was the other issues that we're talking about today, we really encourage public comment and feedback. And in this case, the preliminary issue report can be found at this link. And so whether it's an individual or it's a representative of a particular group whether that group is an ICANN stakeholder constituency group or another association or some other group, if this is an issue on which you have use, please participate by sending in a public comment to the forum which is also linked there.

So that was the second of the two topics that I was asked to talk to you about today. Those two were policy development processes which are for working groups to develop policy recommendations for the GNSO community to consider and the Council to vote on.

The last and third topic that I will speak to you about today is on cross-community working groups. And in this particular instance, we'll be talking about a drafting team rather than a working group.

And before I talk about why this particular topic is important, I'd just like to highlight the distinction in that before a working group is chartered by the GNSO, the very word charter implies that there is a document of sorts that lays out the task at hand, and perhaps as in the case of the Privacy and Proxy Services PDP, actually sets out a series of questions that will guide the working group and that the working group may wish to answer in developing those policy recommendations.

Those charters are more often than not drafted by drafting teams, and this is the case here in that we are talking now about a drafting team that's drafting a charter for cross-community working groups.

And the background is this. that whether you are a new member of the community or a veteran, I think you will agree that there is a recognized need that there ought to be a cohering framework that will allow all the ICANN supporting organizations and advisory committees - and they were listed by David at the beginning of this Webinar - they will allow them to collaborate effectively and work together on issues on common interest.

Not all policy issues are going to be of interest to all the SOs and ACs, but increasingly as many of you will attest, we are seeing a number of cross-cutting issues that two or more SOs and ACs wish to collaborate on.

The difficulty of course is that each SO and AC has its own rules and procedures as well as its own scope of mission. And so it may be very difficult for them to come together either for procedural reasons or really in terms of really how to deal with output and formation of the working group and so forth.

That's not to say that this hasn't been done before. There have a number of cross-community working groups, a few of which are listed here including the groups that collaborated. And so in 2012, the GNSO took the initiative to create an initial framework of principles that could be applied across different SOs and ACs to enable the sort of coherent effective collaboration desired.

It solicited feedback from the other SOs and ACs on that initial framework, and the ccNSO, the Country Code Names Supporting Organization that you'll hear a little bit more about later in this Webinar, provided very detail feedback that suggested certain clarifications might be needed, by also certain additions might be considered.

But as a result, a drafting team was formed after the Buenos Aires meeting that was a couple of months ago, co-chaired by the GNSO and the ccNSO. And the idea for this drafting team is to create a charter for a new working group

And that working group would not just be a GNSO or a ccNSO working group, but it would comprise members from all the SOs and ACs who are interested, who will then take forward the initial work that was done by the GNSO in 2012 as well as the ccNSO feedback with the objective that you see here on this slide. That there will be a general framework of at least fairly high level principles perhaps for how you would form a cross-community working group, the process of chartering it, how it would operate, how it would make decisions, and so forth. Because that at the moment, we don't have at ICANN.

For some further information on how to get involved, here are the slides with links, and as with the other groups that we talked to you about today, there will also be a meeting in Singapore currently scheduled for Thursday, 27th of March.

I should say that for all of these meetings, the schedule is already up on the ICANN Singapore Meetings Web site. But do check the schedule even right before the meeting because things do get moved around a little bit. But in any case, we hope to get input from you on all these efforts and to see you involved.

And so on that note, I'm going to hand it off to my colleague Berry who will talk to you about yet another working group in the GNSO. Berry?

Berry Cobb: Great, thank you Mary. Sounds like you have a lot on your plate.

So basically I'll be talking with you about a new effort that's getting started called Data & Metrics for Policy Making Working Group. Essentially, you know, this effort was originally titled The Uniformity of Reporting, and it stems from a recommendation that was made by a previous non-PDP working group that was titled Registration Abuse Policies, which also included some subsequent interactions with ICANN Contractual Compliance.

During that time in 2009 and 2012, that working group had recognized that there was an absence of data that would have been useful in their deliberations.

So this effort is important because it allows the community to explore standard methods in data and metrics gathering. And that may better inform the fact-based policy development and decision-making.

It's also for review and how the community can collaborate with contracted parties and other service providers of metrics and different types of reporting so that it may compliment any policy development processes as working groups advance forward.

Working group deliberations and research may identify critical success factors and/or key performance indicators of recommendations produced by

these working group efforts that can also better measure consensus policy implementation.

And note that this current effort is a non-PDP (unintelligible) changes to existing consensus policy will not be recommended by this group.

Recent developments, as you can see by the green flags presented here is from auto races, and this is a signal that this effort is just beginning. The GNSO Council approved the working group's charter at its meeting in January of 2014.

Since then, two calls for volunteers were conducted resulting in quite a large response of membership. We are now over 25 persons with a wide ranging diversity mostly outside of the United States. Many of the current members are new to working groups and we're excited that their interest is as great as it is and look forward to their participation and helping them to learn what working groups are about.

Additionally though, we have started some introductions within the working group, and we have uncovered that we actually have a very strong bench of experienced and expertise in data and metrics gathering, so we're very excited about that.

We basically had two working group meetings so far mostly focusing around introductions, start-up procedures and newcomer training.

Real briefly, some of the tasks that the working group will explore, this is certainly is a non-exhaustive list but these are some of the primary tasks that will be occurring.

First and foremost, the working group will start looking at base lining current practices and capabilities of reporting that's available for use by working groups. And then we'll kind of move over to evaluating previous PDP and

non-PDP efforts and how those metrics, if any, could have enhanced the working group process. So kind of a lessons learned kind of exercise.

Then we'll take a review and suggest any possible modifications or existing templates which provide inputs and produce outputs of working group efforts such as charters, issue reports, initial and final reports.

And lastly, we'll also research external data sources that may also benefit the policy process such as abuse statistics like malware, (botnets), those kinds of aspects that are related to the registration of domain names as well as any other DNS industry related data, and most importantly I think, define a framework in how that data may be accessed and/or requested within working groups.

As with the previous efforts, we'll have a session which will be basically our face-to-face working group session in Singapore. It's scheduled for Thursday at 0800 hours as well as Mary mentioned, you can check out more details on the Singapore Meeting site.

And some of our next steps, so essentially like I said, we're just getting started. We'll continue our working group sessions on a regular basis after the Singapore meeting. And our initial milestones are to create an initial report with recommendations, conduct a public comment against that initial report, and of course we'll brief the GNSO Council as necessary.

So with that, I'm going to turn it over to Marika and she'll take care of some other activities within the GNSO.

Marika Konings: Thank you very much Berry. And I hope that this overview has provided everyone with a good insight into what the GNSO as well as some of its respective working group will be discussing and reviewing in Singapore.

And maybe just as a reminder as well, most of these initiatives are open to anyone interested. So if you have an interest in a specific project, we would encourage you to, you know, look at the GNSO Web site and find out some more information about it or come to the face-to-face meetings that many of these groups are organizing in Singapore. And hopefully volunteer your time and efforts to those initiatives.

As very briefly, before wrapping the GNSO part, just covering in one slide a couple of projects that some of you may be wondering about where they're at.

First of all, the Whois study. A couple of the Whois studies were commissioned by the GNSO Council back in 2010/2011 and a lot of work has been ongoing on those. But we're now nearing completion with the last two studies; the final reports are about to be published, both of them expected in time for the Singapore meeting.

So the moment has come now for the GNSO to review and reevaluate and, you know, what came out of those studies. A lot of that information is already being actively used by some of the efforts and working groups that are looking at these issues such as the Privacy and Proxy Services, the group that Mary spoke about before as well as the Expert Working Group that will also be meeting in Singapore.

So GNSO will then look at, you know, what that feedback has provided and whether or not any further steps need to be taken in relation to the studies as well as the conclusions of those.

Policy Implementation is another topic that's been on discussion for a little while now. It has a large interest across the community and in this topic and in this specific group is really focusing on policy implementation issues from the perspective of the GNSO although they factor into the policy development

phase of GNSO work as well as implementation phase of GNSO recommendations.

So that group will also be meeting in Singapore in a face-to-face meeting on Wednesday the 26th of March. They've spent a lot of time working on developing, working definitions and working principles that are expected to underpin their deliberations on the charter questions.

So again, if you're interested in the topic, you know, please feel free to come along to the meeting or have a look at their discussions on the mailing list which are publicly archived as are all GNSO working groups.

Looking over the domain name subject to UDRP proceedings is a PDP that has recently concluded at least from the GNSO perspective where the recommendations were adopted by the GNSO Council and then as well by the ICANN Board basically putting some mechanisms in place that clarify and standardize the way in which the locking of a domain name is conducted when a domain name is subject to UDRP proceedings.

So following that part of the implementation, the review team has been formed which is working with ICANN Staff on developing and finalizing the implementation plan, and they're actually currently reviewing a proposed implementation plan and language which will encompass some changes to the UDRP rules to reflect the recommendations made by this working group.

And the Thick Whois PDP, although it is similar scenario there, those recommendations are requiring a Thick Whois for all gTLD registries who were adopted by the ICANN Board in February of this year. So those have now moved into the implementation phase as well as Staff has started working on this.

And one of the recommendations from the GNSO Council was that a legal review should be conducted to study any of the implications of the transfer to

Thin to Thick that would need to be considered as part of the implementation process. And the implementation review team has also been formed, so once get to the stage that we are able to start working on an implementation plan, that group will be called upon and work with ICANN Staff on that.

Last but not least, the purpose gTLD registration data, just as briefly mentioned already, the Expert Working Group that is also looking at this issue. So this PDP is actually basically on hold until the Expert Working Group finalizes its work and then this PDP will move into the next stage looking at, you know, purpose of collecting and maintaining gTLD registration data as well as solutions to improve accuracy and access to gTLD registration data.

So that's something basically, you know, keep your eyes open for that. But we expect that probably won't start until, as I understand, in London when the (ELBG) is expected to finalize its recommendations. But if you're interested in the topic, there's several meetings in Singapore that will discuss this topic, so you're encouraged to attend those sessions.

So with that, I conclude the GNSO part of this. As I said before, there will be time at the end of the meeting to ask any questions you may have. But in the meantime, please feel free to type any questions you have in the Chat and we'll do our best to answer those.

And with that, I'll hand it over to my colleague Bart Boswinkel.

Bart Boswinkel: Thank you Marika.

Good day everybody. So my name is Bart Boswinkel as you can see on the screen. I'm the ccNSO Senior Policy Advisor, and I'll run you through some of the major topics for discussion at the Singapore Meeting for the ccNSO. So I'll not go into details of all the working groups, etcetera.

So a brief overview, I'll touch upon something that will impact probably some of the work of the other SOs and ACs so that a cross-community working group on the use of country and territory names. Something that's not directly policy related, but is probably something where you can see how policy related work is handed over to, say, more other activities. And finally, more time on the ccNSO and how the CCs deal with the Internet Governance discussion during the ccNSO meetings in Singapore, and a little bit of other topics.

So the first topic I wanted to inform you about is in fact the invite the other SOs and ACs will receive in particular (Unintelligible) GNSO and the GAC to participate in a cross-community working group to a develop a framework on how to use country names and territory names across the different policies that already have been developed or are being developed such as the IDN PDP, ccTLD PDP.

So what is the framework is a review of the status of the representations of country and territory names in the relevant and different policies. And secondly, if feasible, this working group would soon come up with an advice and develop a harmonized definition of framework on country and territory names.

This working group is the next phase of what was called the Study Group on the use of country and territory names which was started by the ccNSO sometime ago in 2010. And with participation of ALAC and GNSO and an observer of the GAC - and participation in this case means liaisons from these different groups in order to keep it open; so not full members but liaisons.

And so the recommendations of this working group were two-fold. First of all, create such a true working group, cross-community working group to develop the harmonized definition of framework. And secondly and as soon as the working group is created, is send a letter to the board that the ccNSO Council

should send a letter of the Board to extend the current rule in the African Guidebook regarding the use of country and territory names as TLDs.

So that is what you can expect at the Singapore meeting. The invitations to participate in the working group will go out this week to the other SOs and ACs.

So the next topic I want to touch upon and discuss with you is on the Universal Acceptance of IDN TLDs. The current status is as you may recall, especially the old hands on the call, is that the joint - there is a joint ccNSO and GNSO IDN working group.

Just recently, it produced its final report on the Universal Acceptance of IDN TLDs. And this was submitted to the ICANN Board of Directors by the ccNSO and GNSO Council.

In parallel and the meantime say during this submission process, ICANN has relaunched its Universal Acceptance project, again focusing particularly on new TLDs. So not just IDN TLDs but new gTLDs in general, and not just new gTLDs, also IDN ccTLDs.

So what will happen, on Monday there will be a panel discussion on Universal Acceptance. And this is part of the recommendations or an implementation of the recommendations of this joint working group.

The panel discussion will focus on the collaboration/coordination across communities, and not meaning the ICANN communities, but in particular between the ICANN community so both the user and the new TLDs and the technical community, so the application providers. Because that's currently that was identified as one of the main problems.

And at the same time, and that's the specific focus of this panel discussion, is assist in designing the role and develop a plan to move forward on this topic

so defining the role of ICANN and in particular ICANN Staff. So what role should ICANN play in creating this collaborative and coordinated effort to resolve some of the issues pertaining to new TLDs?

So as I said, a third topic I wanted to touch upon is how the ccNSO and ccTLD community are dealing with all the discussions around Internet Governance.

The ccNSO Council just created a group in order to inform the ccTLD community At-Large around development in these different areas. In Buenos Aires, it was already identified as an issue that some CCs do not have the capacity to keep track of the developments of the various Internet Governance for and tracks like for instance (One Net), (Netmodel), etcetera.

So the purpose of this new group is to summarize issues and provide information to the ccTLD communities and liaise with other relevant groups. So this group just started and it will use its work page on the ccNSO Web site as a starting point and it will try to create a kind of central repository or a central point of entrance and look for what is happening in the different areas and in the different foray. So it may be of interest to others as well.

Now focusing on the Internet Governance discussions of the ccNSO in Singapore, the ccNSO meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday will include at least three sessions on Internet Governance. First of all is an overview of the discussions in the Asia Pacific regions, so what is happening both locally and regionally.

Secondly, there will be a session on trying to understand say ICANN's role in Internet Governance. As many of you will know, we have the different strategy panels, ICANN's five-year strategic plan, and the Globalization Advisory Committee all touching upon the Internet Governance discussion. So this panel was organized to provide the CC community with a bit of an overview and oversight of what is happening in these areas.

And finally, the traditional panel discussion on Wednesday afternoon on the globalization of the IANA function. This is, as many of you will know, part of this discussion on Internet Governance and by its very nature, will impact the ccTLDs.

In this case, the panel discussion, we've invited panelists from other users of the IANA function in particular the (RERs) and the IATF and IB, and we've also invited the new CEO ISOC to sit on the panel and some other people. So it promises to be an interesting exchange of views on the globalization of the IANA function.

Finally, some other topics that will be discussed at the Singapore meeting, part of in say parallel with the globalization of the IANA function, the framework of interpretation also dealing with delegation and redelegations of ccTLD, and therefore impacting the IANA function has almost finished its glossary. The glossary is to harmonize the terminology used, and they hope to complete this part of their work in Singapore. It will also be a main topic of the ccNSO GAC Meeting on Tuesday afternoon.

And the final point I want to raise is there is an incident contact repository working group. This working group deals with trying to set up a central point for contact details of ccTLDs in case of major incidence may affect the DNS. For example, say and this was a result of say what is called the (Config Incident), they will present the results of their survey. One of the outcomes of it was the difference between the proceed added value and the funding of this model. And this will have some repercussions on the proposals, and so they will propose next steps to the community present in Singapore.

For further information on ccNSO you can find [here](#). And I just now want to hand over to my colleague Barbara who will talk on the next topic. Thank you.

Barbara Roseman: Thank you Bart. I'm going to discuss the ASO updates for this trimester for between our meetings.

The ASO Address Council for 2014 has been fully constituted now. And the way that they chose things is two members are selected from the region by the membership, and one member from each region by their directors.

The ASO will not be meeting formally at ICANN 49, but there will be several ASO AC members attending. And many of the (inner-road) executive committee members will be in Singapore.

The ASO Address Council is expecting to conduct a face-to-face meeting at our ICANN 50 in London.

They are going to have at this meeting, an open meeting with the ICANN Board and other meetings during the week. They are scheduling meetings with At-Large and possibly with the Government Advisory Committee.

Some basic news that's being going on since the last meeting is that they participated in the Statement from the I* Leaders Coordination Meeting. And they made an announcement about 2-byte Autonomous System Numbers and how that pool is nearing depletion. And this has already been addressed through the various organizations by adopting a 4-byte AS number system.

I'd also like to give you a brief update on the Root Server System Advisory Committee. They will be meeting in Singapore. They expect to approve their new operational procedures during the meeting. And this is in fact the first time that the RSSAC will be meeting at an ICANN meeting since the very first ICANN meeting which we also held in Singapore.

They have several meetings planned throughout the week with At-Large and the Security and Stability Advisory Committee, and other meetings are open to be arranged if that's desired.

And I would like to pass this off now to Steve Sheng.

Steve Sheng: Thank you Barbara.

I'm going to talk about some reasons for SSAC reports, SSAC 64 and SSAC 65 published since the Buenos Aires meeting. The goal is to give a brief overview and invite you to the discussion in Singapore.

So in SSAC 64, the Advisory on DNS Search List Processing; so what is search list? A search list is a feature that allows a user to enter a partial name or a shortened name in application, for example, in a browser, with the operating system expanding the name through entries in a list we call a search list.

So as illustrated with a graph on the right, a search list of some domain One Dot Com, for example in some domain Two Dot Com, when a user types system in her browser's address box, the system would try System Dot Some Domain One Dot Com or Some Domain Two Dot Com, and system in some order in a DNS resolution.

Why is this a problem? Because this feature is loosely specified in ROCs in 10-34, 10-35 and 15-35. However as the Internet grows, the applications, for example browsers and mail clients and DNS resolve libraries, process such lists differently. This leads to some security and stability concerns namely some of these behaviors present security and privacy issues for (N Systems) in terms of unintended query leakage.

It can also lead to performance problems for the Internet in which the SSAC 45, you know, highlighted. Finally, it might cost collision with names permissioned under the new gTLDs, newly delegated top-level domains.

So with this as the background, in SSAC 64, the SSAC examines how current operating systems and applications process such list, and highlights the security and stability implications with some of these behaviors. And finally, it proposes a straw man to improve the search list processing.

This report will be discussed in Singapore and we welcome your participation there.

The next advisory is on denial service attacks leveraging the DNS infrastructure, SSAC 65.

A very brief background is contemporary attacks use the DNS to reflect and amplify the attack traffic to sometimes achieve an attack data bit rate exceeding 300 gigabytes per second, well exceeding the victims network capability.

Underlying many of these attack factors is called a (Packed) level source address forgery or spoofing. In which the attacker generates and transmits a UDP package proportioned to be for a victim's IP address, so it spoofs the victim's IP addresses. And uses the query response protocols and most commonly, for example the DNS, to reflect and amplify responses to achieve an attack data transfer rate exceeding the victim's network capability causing the victim to deny, you know, legitimate requests from legitimate users.

And DNS is especially suitable for such an attack because it's UDP based, and also because of the asymmetric nature of the query and response size where you have a relatively small query and a large response size.

Why this is important, there has been several very high profile attacks, you know, been shown lately with (spin-house) attacks. Essentially the critical basic controls for network access and DNS security has not been as widely implemented as necessary to maintain a growing and resilient Internet.

Coupled with that, with the increasing high-speed Internet connections, you know, with cable and with even files increasing connection speeds, and the growing power of the end machines, this enables, you know, it's really large scale and highly disruptive, distributed denial service attacks using the unsecured infrastructure.

(Unintelligible) of course, several of these resolved critical design and deployment issues that enable these attacks, and recommends ICANN and operators of the Internet infrastructure and manufacturers to take a specific actions. So this report will also be discussed in Singapore.

Next, I'm going to invite my colleague Julie to talk about some of the other SSAC ongoing activities and highlights for Singapore.

Julie Hedlund: Thank you very much Steve. This is Julie Hedlund and we do have some other SSAC work in progress.

We have an identifier abuse metrics work party - a suffix list work party. We have a work party that is conducting outreach to law enforcement representatives and we'll be meeting with these representatives in Singapore.

We have the SSAC workshop that will be - that we are preparing for the 2014 Internet Governance Forum and a link to the previously published SSAC reports are also there for you, and then some related events in Singapore.

The SSAC public meeting will be held on Thursday the 27th of March at 8:00 am Local Time. There is - there are two DNSSEC sessions: DNSSEC for Everybody: A Beginner's Guide.

That's Monday the 24th, 5:00 pm Local Time and DNNSEC Workshop Wednesday the 26th at 8:30 am Local Time. And we hope you can join you - you can join us. Thank you. And now I'd like to turn things over to my colleague, Olof Nordling.

Olof Nordling: ...is doing his job. But now we're going to talk about the Governmental Advisory Committee, most commonly known as the GAC and a few words about that.

Let's start with what they are. The Governmental Advisory Committee have a - oh I was just checking the technology over here. That consists of 131 and counting governments as members and 30 intergovernmental organizations as observers, and we expect to welcome a few new ones in Singapore.

They meet regularly at all ICANN meetings face-to-face and conduct work in between the meeting intercessionally remotely in Working Groups and conference calls.

And their mission is to provide advice to the ICANN Board on public policy matters or to be more precise on public policy aspect on whatever issue may arise.

So what's going on with the GAC in Singapore? Well until recently, the last few years actually, the GAC has been very much focused on a new gTLD program and produced numerous advice pieces on that.

There are still a few remaining and the GAC has clearly the objective to conclude on those in Singapore. And those consist of Board reactions and the briefings as a consequence of the advice produced in Buenos Aires, and also a few odds and ends like the Red Cross/Red Crescent national names protection issues.

But that will then - the ambition is also to take a more proactive stance and look into the future rounds and provide advice for example on geographical names for future rounds.

So that's work underway and there are plenty of other topics to address - box manage and framework of interpretation groups' outcomes and results and that, you know, will be a discussion with the ccNSO.

There's also a briefing and potential considerations of what's happening with the WHOIS Review Team outcome implementation, as well as the future as predicted or drafted by the Expert Working Group and privacy and proxy services closely related to that topic.

Then one of the big teams is - for the whole meeting and certainly for the GAC is ATRT II outcomes, the recommendations manual which address GAC matters and in parallel there's been a Working Group looking at changes in working methods and improvements, and also in parallel consultations with the GNSO which are ongoing to improve cooperation between the two entities.

Furthermore preparations for the London meeting where there will be a high level ministerial meeting at - in conjunction with the London meeting hosted by the United Kingdom.

So not to mention all the big themes like strategy and Internet governance, which will be topics for briefings and discussions to and by the GAC in Singapore.

So they really have a full agenda in Singapore starting on a Saturday afternoon and concluding on Thursday midday. And most sessions are open and they always meet at the same room, which in this case is called Collyer with all reservation for the spelling.

And they also have interpretation in the five languages including - and plus Portuguese so you're welcome to listen in in very many ways. Most sessions are open.

There are two exceptions on that but with that I conclude on the GAC and hand over to Heidi Ulrich.

Heidi Ulrich: Thank you Olof. Hi everyone. My name is Heidi Ulrich. I'm the Director for At-Large and I'm very happy to be able to provide you a brief update of the At-Large Advisory Committee or the ALAC and the At-Large community that have taken place between the ICANN meetings in Buenos Aires and Singapore, and provide you a preview of At-Large activities that are being planned to take place at the meeting in Singapore.

So I've divided my discussion between policy, process and activities and meetings in Singapore. So first up our policy hot topics in Singapore. The ALAC produced 16 policy advice statements in response to public comments between the ICANN meeting in Buenos Aires in early March.

Two of those statements that they highlighted are - the first one is ALAC's statement on ICANN's draft vision, mission and focus areas for a five-year strategic plan and the ALAC supports the ICANN vision as stipulated in this report and generally supports the process.

However the ALAC stated it prefers the issues of trust and security be stressed in all focus areas of the report. And also to reach the required internationalization of ICANN, the ALAC believes that the IANA function should be internationalized as well.

The second statement highlighted is the ATRT II final report. And again the ALAC supports the recommendations within the report but they would advise the Board or they have advised the Board to place equal emphasis on recommendations and observations, as well as to take measures to improve future reviews by ensuring that the - there's a sufficient time accorded to the reviews.

Secondly, the ALAC will be shortly issuing a public comment on the concept of public advisory boards or PABs. The ALAC joins other members of the ICANN community in supporting the PAB model as an effective, implementable and necessary solution to many of the trust issues that have been raised related to the new gTLDs.

The ALAC is of the view that PABs are able to address what are perceived to be substantial public interest efficiencies in the current implementation of ICANN's gTLD expansion.

And after the public comment period is complete the ALAC will analyze the results and in collaboration with other community members determine the subsequent action.

So they're going to be focusing and very open to hearing the views of community members on this topic. Three hot topics that they would like to focus on are first the gTLD expansion and the public interest, and they're going to be focusing on whether the rollout of the new gTLDs will have a negative impact risk.

The second one is ICANN's plans to bolster and defend the multi-stakeholder model in advance of the meeting in Brazil and the ITE funnel pot. And then as the ALAC and NCSG initiated the CWG and MMS governance, members of which are looking forward to participating actively in the meeting member zone, the ALAC will be seeking information on ICANN's plans as well as seeking the input of various groups in Singapore to inform their message.

And the final hot topic for policy is problems with string similarity in new gTLDs, specifically here the resolution process and public confusion. And the ALAC had issued policy advice on this topic previously and will be open to discussing the topic with interested parties.

So moving on to process hot topics in Singapore, a key activity will be the election of the Seat 15 for the Board. This is - this person will be selected by the 15 members of the ALAC or their proxies and the five ARALO Chairs.

The vote rule - the second vote - the second round of voting will be taking place face-to-face in Singapore. And the current five candidates will be narrowed down to three by the Singapore meeting, and the winner is expected to be announced on Thursday in Singapore.

Secondly, preparations for the second At-Large summit continues. This summer it will be taking place in June at the ICANN 50th meeting and there are going to be several meetings planning, continuing their work on ensuring that the ALS representatives are able to effectively participate in the summit.

And part of that is the Beginner's Guide for At-Large Structures, the sixth in a series of guides that are written in a plain language, enabling the At-Large community and the At-Large representatives to understand how to better engage within the At-Large community.

So moving on to At-Large activities in Singapore, the ALAC and At-Large will be holding 24 sessions. They're going to be meeting with the Board, the ccNSO leadership, the GAC leadership, the NCSG, the ASO and for the first time with the RSAC as well.

They will also be holding a roundtable - a public roundtable entitled Registration Directory Service: Now and the Future. The first panel will be on privacy proxy issues, while the second will be on the Expert Working Group on WHOIS and both panels have a series of excellent speakers.

This meeting will be held on Monday the 24th between 15:00 and 17:00. There is also going to be a public workshop on the tour and alternative naming mechanisms.

That is going to be - speakers include Patrick Falstrom, Chair of the SSAC, Garth Bruen, Chair of NARALO and Dave Piscitello, Vice President, Security and ICT Coordination.

This meeting is scheduled for 15 - well I see on the - it's just in the 16:00 so I apologize for giving the wrong time for the other one. And also as I mentioned before they'll be holding several meetings on - planning for the summit.

And finally they'll be holding their APRALO Showcase. In addition to speakers including Fadi Chehade and Steve Crocker and other senior ICANN community leaders, the event will also feature two local traditional dance performances including a mask changing dance and a line dance, and also an ICANN quiz with prizes as well as a review of APRALO At-Large structures.

And the Showcase will be taking place again this time on Wednesday rather than Monday between 18:00 and 20:00 in the Stamford Ballroom Foyer, and you're all very warmly invited to participate in this event.

And this concludes the At-Large update and I hand it over to my colleague Rob.

Rob: I'd like to chat with you all today and give you a brief update to some of the information that I reported to you back in Buenos Aires. If you recall at that time I explained to you that we were establishing a new team of Staff members to focus on particular areas where we thought that ICANN Staff could improve its overall efforts to work with the community.

And we've identified a number of particular areas for some of our initial work here over the last couple of months that we think is going to enable us to make a difference, and to really help all of you maximize the time and commitment that you make to the work here at ICANN.

As you see on the slide before you right now essentially the spirit that we're trying to reinforce throughout all of ICANN Staff, community and others is that the most important asset that ICANN has is all of you and the work and the commitment that you bring to our work.

What we've tried to do over the last several months is really focus our initial efforts on identifying those areas where we can have the quickest impact, where we've been told there are major problem areas or where there's been some specific formal advice to effect improvements.

And just in a couple of moments today I'm going to briefly highlight for you a few of those initiatives. We've got - I've got six bullets on the slide before you.

One of the major areas that we've taken over literally in just the last four or five weeks is the day-to-day management of the public comment forums. This was a duty for another department and is really an area that's important from an overall community effectiveness regime where it's important for you all to see some improvements, to make sure that we're having a central location to put all of the public comment information, the various opportunities that are created from different ICANN teams to get feedback from all of you.

And so that's an area of responsibility that we have taken over. Right now we just have a small team. There's three of us: me, Carlos Reyes and Benedetta Rossi.

And so we're really trying to pick that low hanging fruit where we can really devote some of our efforts and make a difference. Something related to the public comment forums that we're going to be looking to all - a lot of you for input on is taking more of a lead on all of the community input and feedback mechanisms that we're currently working through at ICANN.

You know, the public comments are just one of those forums. We have a variety of other vehicles that exist, whether they're ICANN public meetings

like we're preparing for today, whether those are community Webinars, whether those are correspondence to the Board or to Fadi Chehade as the CEO of the organization.

There are a number of different avenues and channels of communication. And one of the things we've been told by many of you and by other members of the community is that it's really important that we make more of an effort to coordinate those efforts to make sure that there's a comprehensive plan behind not only asking for community input for providing feedback on the general work of ICANN, but have mechanisms that explain what has happened, what has the Board done, what's the rationale for decisions, what's creating various activities at ICANN and it's very important that we look at that in a comprehensive way.

Another area that we thought was quite important and that several people have approached us on is managing the work of our volunteer recognition. If we accept that the firm principal that volunteer efforts and the work that's provided is important, then it's also important for us to acknowledge that work, to make sure that we're tracking the contributions of various members of the community and that people see that there is a value in contributing to ICANN's work.

And so recognizing the efforts of many of the critical players and many of the unsung heroes at ICANN is an important element of what our team wants to be able to help with.

A real critical area that a number of you have identified and that we have seen as an overall policy change that can provide tremendous benefits is administrative support to the community in the form of secretariat support, in the form of tools and capabilities.

It's something that we have done a lot of development work in several communities but haven't done in a comprehensive way across our support of all the SOs and ACs, and so this is an area that we're going to be looking at.

In a sense the, you know, we as a policy team - I hope you've gotten the impression during this Webinar that on an individual basis within each of the SOs and ACs we've got a team of 24 dedicated people who really want to make the work that you produce here at ICANN result in products that are achieved through consensus work that are conceived through a lot of great efforts and collaboration.

But we are really working to focus on a more comprehensive way to ensure that not only is the work effective within each SO and AC, but that cross community work goes well as well.

And you heard earlier Mary Wong talking about the efforts of the team to develop some Cross Community Working Group expertise and processes that can help that work work better.

Another major area that a number of you have been involved in over the past several weeks is the community special budget request. And that's a - an accountability of our team to help in that effort to work with ICANN senior management, the Board Finance Committee and others to understand the needs of the community and where in a programmed way ICANN Staff can collaborate and work on developing programs and capabilities that make your work better.

And then finally an area that we've been able to focus on is across Staff or across department efforts internally to help our global stakeholder engagement teammates help you with some outreach initiatives.

And an example of that that some of you are familiar with is the community regional outreach pilot program, an effort to provide resources for individual

communities and communities in concert to reach out and be able to not only tell stories about your communities but actually reach out and bring in new members, talk more about the work of ICANN, talk more about the work of your communities.

So we're really excited about some of those initial steps that we have taken, but we're very interested in continuing to work with all of you. And I hope we'll have several opportunities in Singapore to continue to talk about areas where the Staff really can provide some additional value where we see there are areas of common interest, where we can develop programs that are going to be more efficient and effective for the work that you do.

And I'm hopeful that we'll be able to continue to build this effort, do a good job at coordination and that you'll all continue to see results over the next year, year and a half's time.

So I look forward to the opportunity connecting with many of you in Singapore, and for now I think I'll pass the baton back to my engagement teammate, Carlos Reyes, to check on your questions and pick up any other comments you might have. Carlos let me pass it back to you.

Carlos Reyes: Thank you Rob. Hello everyone. And as Rob said my name is Carlos Reyes. We will now transition to our question and answer session. Please feel free to ask your questions in the chat room.

I'll be happy to read those. Or raise your hand in the Adobe Connect room if you'd like to have your name added to the queue. We have a few minutes here for questions.

And as Nathalie has indicated in the chat the audio lines are currently being opened. As a reminder we will provide the recordings and transcripts from both sessions on - they'll be posted on our meetings - excuse me, Presentations page on the ICANN Web site.

Any questions? All right. Thank you everyone. Please feel free to continue interacting with our team on the chat for the next few minutes as we conclude our Webinar.

But for now we'll go ahead and transition back to David Olive, Vice President for Policy Development.

David Olive: Thank you Carlos and thank you everyone. Just briefly we saw in the chat some questions about the SSAC report as well as the At-Large commentary - also the role of the GAC and privacy and some questions about how you can get access to the slides and the audio as well as how to stay updated.

And again I'd point out to all of you to subscribe to our Policy Monthly. That's a great way to keep informed about the latest developments within the Supporting Organization and Advisory Committee, and it's also available in the languages listed here.

Again the policy team is 24 subject matter experts and secretariat professionals to help the work and facilitate the activities of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committee in their role of the policy development, policy advisory or policy related work.

And we thank you for your cooperation and our ability to serve you and serve you well. Just finally before everyone leaves, I am of course in our headquarter hub in Istanbul while I - where I manage the policy development team based throughout the world.

And in a recent meeting some of them got together to remind me and make me feel at home by donning some traditional hats and headdresses from Istanbul.

And so I think everyone for that and to show that while we do a lot of serious and substantive work with all of you, we do have a side of us that can step back and talk about the various groups and have some fun as well.

So we thank you very much for the time and attention, and we'd like to welcome all of you to Singapore soon either in person or remotely. Again I would like to wish everyone a good evening, good afternoon or good morning wherever you may be. Thank you so much.

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