Summary of the ccNSO strategic planning workshop
23 June 2009

Background and introduction
At the Sydney ccNSO meeting the Strategic and Operational Planning Working Group (SOP WG) organised a workshop on strategic planning to identify issues and topics which ccTLD's considered of strategic importance from a global perspective. The session was structured around the following questions:

- What will be the most important drivers of change in the DNS and the Internet generally over the next five years?
- What are the most important political factors that will affect the ccNSO's activity over the next five years?
- What are the most important things for the ccNSO to be working on in the next three years?
- What should ICANN as an organization be working on?

The questions were discussed by a panel and by the representatives of the ccTLD present in Sydney. The panellist were
Chris Disspain (.AU)
Sabine Dolderer (.DE)
Byron Holland (.CA)
Vika Mpisane (.ZA)
Youn Eum Lee (.KR)
Oscar Robles (.MX)

The session was chaired by Lesley Cowley (.UK) and moderated by Patrick Sharry. Patrick prepared the summary of the raised topics and issues as well. A full transcript of the session is available at:
http://syd.icann.org/files/meetings/sydney2009/transcript-ccnso-members-23jun09-en.txt.

Summary of topics and Issues
What will be the most important drivers of change in the DNS and the Internet generally over the next five years?

- Increasing volume of DNS queries, "traffic growth", but possibly not at as fast a rate as in the recent past
- Increasing number of devices (including tethered devices) that will require an IP address (although other protocols may be used in some situations)
- Increase in bandwidth
- Increase in Internet use, especially from China and India
- DNSSEC will increase DNS traffic as packets are bigger
- DNSSEC will change the way that registries need to operate as "invalid" requests will need to be dealt with
- IPv6
- Security
- A reorganization of the landscape brought about through the introduction of IDNs and new TLDs (especially city name TLDs)

- More regulation that might lead to more filtering
- The introduction of a new service that will cause a step change usage (like Web, video streaming, movies in recent years)
- Increased dependency on the infrastructure of the Internet (eg for financial transactions)
- Increased security risks as the number and variety of devices increases
- Increased threats driven by the increased importance of the DNS
- Most people don't make a distinction between the Internet and the DNS, so any issue related to the Internet could be seen as involving the ccTLD
- Demand for enhanced resilience
- Demand for enhanced robustness

What are the most important political factors that will affect the ccNSO's activity over the next five years?
- Increasingly, the DNS is being seen as critical infrastructure
- Increased focus from governments on security, possibly including attempts to "governmentalize" the management of the Internet
- Issues such as spam, even though they are not in ICANN's remit, are of concern to politicians
- Governments are waking up and paying more attention to DNS issues
- Financial services are also waking up to the importance of the Internet for their businesses
- In some countries, there are new laws (eg on filtering) that demonstrate how the governments are moving into this space
- Some governments (eg UK) are also expecting operators (eg ISPs) to take more responsibility for their operations
- Being seen to be taking responsibility is one way of reducing the risk of the government stepping in; a perceived lack of responsibility will force governments to act
- Increased government interest may lead to (hostile) redelegations in some places
- The resolution of the JPA negotiations will have an impact on how governments view the control of the DNS within their country
- Small group of governments at IGF that want the Internet to be government run
- With the introduction of IDNs and new TLDs , and also the rise of city TLDs, we may need to redefine what a ccTLD is

What are the most important things for the ccNSO to be working on in the next three years?
- Budget – What does the community really want? What are our priorities? What are those things worth to us?
- What are the roles and responsibilities of the cc community and the rest of ICANN in a post JPA environment?
- How do ccTLDs measure their impact on the social environment?
- Security – How do we work together to improve it?

- Demonstrating the ability to run the ccTLD in a secure and robust way – measures for success in this area
- IDNs
- New TLDs and their relationships with ccTLDs
- What is the definition of a ccTLD in a world with IDNs and new TLDs?
- Helping ICANN make the IANA function more secure
- The relationship between ICANN and governments, especially in the IGF arena
- User protection and content authentication
- The post-September 30 environment (which may or may not be a post JPA world)

What should ICANN as an organization be working on?
- Effectiveness and efficiency of the operation
- Improving accountability and transparency
- Better prioritisation
- Improved relationships between elements of ICANN
- IDNs
- Improving the community model
- Clarity of purpose
- Leadership to build trust