

IRTP C TRANSCRIPTION
Tuesday 10 January 2012 at 1500 UTC

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<http://audio.icann.org/gnso/gnso-irtp-c-20120110-en.mp3>

on page:

<http://gnso.icann.org/calendar/#jan>

Attendees:

Avri Doria - co-chair
James Bladel –co-chair
Mike O'Connor – CBUC
Barbara Knight – RySG
Philip Corwin – CBUC
Simonetta Batteiger – Registrar SG
Jonathan Tenenbaum – RrSG
Matt Serlin – RrSG
Rob Golding – RrSG
Chris Chaplow – CBUC
Bob Mountain – Registrar SG
Zahid Jamil – CBUC
Kevin Erdman - IPC

ICANN Staff:

Marika Konings
Nathalie Peregrine

Apologies

Paul Diaz- RySG
Erick Iriarte - NCUC

Coordinator: The call is now being recorded.

Nathalie Peregrine: Thank you, (Tim). Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. This is the IRTP-C call on the 10th of January, 2012. On the call today we have Zahid Jamil, James Bladel, Mikey O'Connor, Avri Doria, Barbara Knight, Kevin Erdman, Bob Mountain, Matt Serlin and Jonathan Tennenbaum.

From staff we have Marika Konings and myself, Nathalie Peregrine. We have apologies from Paul Diaz and Erick Iriarte. I would like to remind you all to please state your names before speaking for transcription purposes. Thank you very much and over to you.

James Bladel: Thank you, Nathalie and good morning or afternoon or evening everyone. This is the IRTP-C Working Group call for January 10, 2012. We have our agenda posted on the right hand column of the Adobe chat screen with one minor change and that Avri will be joining us a little late and has asked that we move Item Number 2, the detailed work plan, to the end or nearer to the end of our scheduled session.

So I'd like to begin by asking if anyone - giving anyone the opportunity to raise their hand if they have any changes or updates to their statements of interest or see any immediate changes to those? Going once.

Okay with that as you recall our meeting last Tuesday we left off with a presentation from Bob Mountain and other members of the sub-team that were presenting use cases of domain name transfers that were done under the guise of a change of ownership function or change of control function.

We got about halfway or perhaps 2/5 of the way through that presentation so wanted to a lot about another 30-35 minutes for that and we'll see where we are at the end of that timeframe. So if there are no other objections or items of business that we need to take care of beforehand we'll go ahead and jump to Item Number 3 and I'll turn it over to you, Mr. Mountain.

Bob Mountain: Thank you, James. This is Bob Mountain speaking. Marika, do I have control at this point of the presentation?

Marika Konings: Yes you do. Is there a section where you immediately want to jump to? Is there a page because I can just take you there and then you can take it from there or...

Bob Mountain: Oh I see. Okay yes it is working now. Yes, we're going to jump right away to Slide 57. Okay. So again thanks to the team for all their help in putting these things together. Since the last meeting we went through and did I think a complete job of all the redactions hiding personal information as well as inserting a flow chart for most of these cases.

I think we still have one to go and that'll be done, you know, by today or tomorrow and then we can post the final product presuming that there are no further suggestions, comments or otherwise from the group.

The entire work group - working group has been added to the Dropbox and so you will have the ability to download. It's a fairly large attachments and I think it's 13 megabytes which is why I use Dropbox. So if anyone hasn't looked at it you do have - you should have access to the Dropbox so feel free.

Barbara had a question on the safety of Dropbox. And I personally have not heard of any issues with Dropbox. I don't know if you have to download the application though. I think you can go to the Dropbox Website and access it as well although I generally use the app so - but as far as that question goes, no, Barbara, I'm not aware of any safety issues that I've heard of with the Dropbox software.

James, did you have a comment?

James Bladel: Well just a - not really relevant to the safety but more to the ICANN commitment to transparency. At a certain point I presume it's our plan to perhaps move this over to the wiki or someplace where it's part of the ICANN archive? Just thinking if we wanted to come back to this five years from now would we be able to find it at Dropbox?

Bob Mountain: Yes, I assumed at some point we would archive this is a ICANN official way. I'm just not familiar with what that process is so I would defer to yourself or Marika on that one.

James Bladel: Well we'll burn that bridge when we get there I guess.

Bob Mountain: Okay great, yes, excellent. Okay great well if there are no other comments then we move - so last time we finished Use Cases 1 and 2 which were an example of an intra-registrar transfer with change of an ownership and an intra-registrar with change of ownership. The first one was going from Dynadot to Go Daddy and the second one was staying with Go Daddy but changing ownership.

The next one which was Use Case Number 3 was a domain going from eNom to Blacknight. Again another example of an inter-registrar transfer with change of ownership just with different registrars and obviously a different domain name.

I believe Chris Chaplow, this was your use case am I correct?

Chris Chaplow: That's correct yes.

Bob Mountain: Okay would you mind walking us through this one then?

Chris Chaplow: Yes certainly. Just thinking about the title of this without wanting to make things complicated it's actually an example of inter-register transfer via

escrow with change of ownership on behalf of third party so that's quite a mouthful.

It actually is - all went relatively simply compared to the last two we've seen. the only other thing is unfortunately this is only the information on one side of the fence not on - focused on the buyer's side of the fence, not on the seller's side.

If you want to move to the next slide? The process flow. And onto the next one. I guess, yes. Here is the Whois before the transfer took place showing the registrar and the lock status on that client transfer prohibited.

Next slide please. Yes this was - I think for some reason I couldn't get the Whois off eNom so this Whois from Domain Tools and showing the same information.

Just notice in passing the status here is a different - what's the word - phrasing, it's locked. That's a point we might want to just pick up later which adds to the confusion for the non-initiated. Name servers as they were when they started.

Next slide. Yes in this particular case the sale had actually been agreed outside - it had been agreed privately. But the buyer felt more secure financially if it was done through Sedo. So the domain was actually put into Sedo and the Sedo transfer policy (perhaps) transfer system was used.

So we can see in there and a payment was made to Sedo. That's the highlight on the right hand side. And then a little bit later - the date's wrong here. If you can read them so the sale was agreed on about the 12th. The payment was made on the 13th of November. The payment - sorry, December. The payment was received on the 16th. This gives you an idea of the time span.

Sedo instructed the seller to push the domain. So obviously Sedo have got a number of registrar accounts and they had this - an eNom account. The seller had said to the buyer if you've got an eNom account we can push this through really quickly. But the buyer didn't have one so they chose their preferred registrar.

Sedo pushed it through to eNom. So - yes through to the - sorry the buyer pushed it through to the Sedo eNom account. Next slide please. Then we can see at that point the domain had been transferred then to Sedo. And, yes, the status was okay. The expiration is on the same date so a year hadn't been added at this stage. Next slide please.

And clearly all the control is now with Sedo because Sedo has become the registrant now of this domain. Down on the bottom there's a status message, status pending transfer so that's a sort of new status message.

Next slide please. At this point in the buyer's Sedo account we've got the authorization code. There it's highlighted on the bottom - the bottom left hand side. Next slide.

Bob Mountain: Yes, we had a question from Mikey.

Chris Chaplow: Certainly.

Mikey O'Connor: Thanks Chris. This is Mikey for the record. What happens if Sedo goes bankrupt at this exact moment in time? Do they actually own the domain at this point? I'm just curious about this.

Chris Chaplow: Yes, good question. Other than equity law which we're all - which we all understand means that the person who's the name holder or the registrant doesn't necessarily mean in absolute law that is the owner. But in practical - so I can't answer that question in that respect and I don't expect you expected me to answer it anyway.

Mikey O'Connor: Yes, no.

Chris Chaplow: But in practical terms yes we do see that the registrant has changed to Sedo. Which as a buyer I was happy with at the time...

Mikey O'Connor: Right.

Chris Chaplow: ...you know, we think of from the buyer's side.

Mikey O'Connor: Yes.

Chris Chaplow: You know, you're not quite sure what's going to happen but you do trust Sedo more than the seller.

Mikey O'Connor: Yes.

Chris Chaplow: And things seem to be heading in the right direction.

Mikey O'Connor: Right, thanks.

Chris Chaplow: But the question to (part) there. Authorization code given, that's right. Buyer goes to their domain account with the registrar, Blacknight in this case, and puts in the domain, puts in the authorization code and transfer.

Next slide. An important thing in this case is that the registrar - the gaining registrar did ask is this domain for yourself because actually the registration account with Blacknight is actually my company registration account. And the - as I said it's doing it on behalf of a third party.

So I was pleased to see the opportunity to pick that - next box - next slide - which gave me the opportunity to put in the new Whois details at this point

because I was sort of expecting to have to do that at the end of the process and go through that.

Next slide. Yes, actually there was a - it did take a long time here. At this point it did take six days for the domain to be transferred over to Blacknight. I did wonder if it would fail and make it a more interesting one and we'd have to go around again.

But anyway six days which is one day outside the - so I'm not quite sure what the - what today was - the sales team assured me that everything was - seemed to be going all right.

The DNS is still the same DNS at this point. The status has gone to client transfer prohibited which is obviously the lock status which Blacknight do by default. And one year has been added to the expiration date. Next slide please.

Yes the Whois information on the Blacknight Whois is - has been updated. Next slide please. Just to show this - this was what was actually seen on the domain, the dreaded smiling girl. So obviously for this interim period once the - although the DNS was the same still pointing at the old DNS.

The vendor must have closed down a hosting and as I suppose he would do and allow this default page to show. Next slide please. Yes so then now that the domain is in Blacknight account going - change the DNS to the - well (unintelligible) the DNS is wanted and happily within five minutes the Website was changed.

So that was the process. Thank you. That was the process. It went relatively smoothly. Quite a lot of steps. Wouldn't have liked to have tried that if I didn't have some idea of what I was doing. But yes that's about all to report really. Any other questions?

Bob Mountain: Okay, yes, go ahead James.

James Bladel: Thanks, Bob. James speaking. And thanks, Chris. I think this was a good use case and I think you presented it very well. My question is that compared to some of the use cases we saw last week at any time in this process - although you mentioned that it did take quite a while for some of the steps - but at any time in this process were you unclear on what your next step was or what you were supposed to do next?

Or was that - did you feel like Sedo or either registrar on either end did a good job of kind of handholding from one step to the next? Or just what was your overall experience with that?

Chris Chaplow: I suppose my expectations were more or less as, you know, as it happened. I don't think I was handheld to the extent that if I'd been a complete novice. But then there are help facilities. You know, the Sedo - I have to say the Sedo transfer center is very good. And there was other things in the back of that which - the contract was uploaded there. An invoice for the sale was uploaded. That was something else that was important.

The Sedo process - the escrow process of course is different depending on the registrars, which ones we go from so I have known slightly different processes. So maybe if there was a document, you know, an idiot's guide to - or what was the saying - is it for dummies isn't it - domain transfers for dummies available somewhere that would be a nice addition to the knowledge base for transfers.

But I think my overall comment would be fine for somebody who's got, you know, my level who's got reasonable knowledge but not an expert but a reasonable knowledge. But I think somebody who had no idea would struggle with it. I mean, I suppose I'd take Business Advantage out of that, you know, because I do this for clients who really don't want to just get involved in this nitty gritty themselves.

And part of it is trusting the Sedo brand. Note quite sure what the next steps are going to be but they were heading in the right direction so I was reasonably confident that things were - it did take a little while, I mean, the whole process took about 20 days which was quite a long time. That answer the question?

James Bladel: Great, yes.

Bob Mountain: Thanks, Chris. Mikey, did you have a question?

Mikey O'Connor: Yes, this is Mikey for the transcript. Chris, you mentioned something really interesting a minute ago when you said that the contracts for the sale was uploaded into the documentation of this process. And I'm curious about other processes like this because I don't remember seeing a contract upload documentation step in any of the others.

And for me that's a really interesting, important addition to the process because it goes - in a way it goes back to the question I asked earlier. You know, if Sedo went poof presumably there would at least be a contract that was separate from Sedo that could be used to sort out who owned the domain if the thing went dark in the middle.

So I'm curious about the two that we've already gone through and the two that are coming up. Do any of those have that contract documentation step in them?

Chris Chaplow: Well, Mikey, Chris speaking again. The original deal, if you like, was agreed just by email so the contract on that would have been very, very limited. Then the domain was put by the seller into Sedo so it went with them. And I'm sure we could get examples of Sedo contracts. I'm sure they've got experience in this.

Mikey O'Connor: Oh so this wasn't - sorry to interrupt you, Chris. This wasn't a contract between you and the seller; this was a contract between you and Sedo.

Chris Chaplow: That's right. It's when - it's the...

Mikey O'Connor: Oh, okay.

Chris Chaplow: Yes, the - set the contract, yes, that's automatically generated...

Mikey O'Connor: Yes.

Chris Chaplow: ...virtue of both parties within Sedo. But there is another interesting - to just mention in passing - you're talking about the possibility of Sedo going belly-up. There's another scenario which I think is more likely that I had experience with and that's when a domain had been hijacked. And I spotted a little while ago a domain that's - partly through my experience on this working group a domain that's been hijacked because I knew that the owner would - got it in the sunrise period; it was actually gotten here in Andalucía.

And it did transpire (unintelligible) strange that it's owned by somebody in Panama and when I looked at it it had all the hallmarks of a hijack. That was on Sedo. I contacted Sedo. I contacted all the parties. Sedo locked it. But it did occur to me that had a sale gone through the contracts with Sedo, you know, Sedo are just an agency. So they're not guaranteeing the ownership of the domains.

And it would have been a problem had somebody bought it and then the original owner then waves a hand to say hey you've got my domain. And that would be a mess. And maybe that's something that we want to also think about. I don't know.

Bob Mountain: Simonetta wants to makes some - she's joined us now and wants to make some clarifying statements.

Simonetta Batteiger: Yes. Just on the contract piece so we're all clear on - and who are the parties on these contracts. What we do when a sale gets processed through Sedo a purchase and sales agreement gets put together between the buyer and the seller.

And Sedo is not a party in the sale; Sedo is merely a facilitator. So we're made part of this purchase and sales agreement just in - our little phrase that basically says that both parties agree that we're going to help facilitate this. But the contract itself is between the buyer and the seller it's not showing Sedo as the seller or the buyer along the chain of this contract at all.

So what Mikey was referring to in terms of like having some kind of an agreement between the two parties, that is like the legally binding purchase and sales agreement, that's what we have in there. And we're not - Sedo as an entity is not a party - not the buyer and not the seller in this agreement.

What this does of course not always work as designed. So in the case that was described by Chris right now when someone is entering a domain in our marketplace and basically while you enter it you have to state that you are the legal owner of this domain name; that it's - you can - you're allowed to sell it. There is - it's not infringing on anyone's rights and all these things.

If someone just blatantly ignores all these steps and puts the domain in anyway there's - we can't always catch this. We have some mechanisms in place to try and catch these cases but they don't always work. If someone really wants to do something malicious they'll find ways to do it. But the actual purchase and sales agreement that we put together for any participant in our marketplace is always between the buyer and the seller.

Bob Mountain: Okay, thanks Simonetta. I had my hand up I guess during that conversation. This is - we've moved a little bit past that. But someone had mentioned the idiot's guide to domain transfer; one of the things that Simonetta and I both

commented when we were working on our use cases was the fact that we're both, you know, aftermarket professionals and yet we found it confusing and hard and it took a bit of work that we can only imagine what it would be like for someone who wasn't, you know, familiar with the aftermarket to go through these things. It's definitely a challenge for a mere mortal.

So any other comments on Chris's use case though before we move on? Okay so the next use case was an example of a intra-registrar transfer change of ownership using - actually in this case it's not really escrow it's more like just being facilitated by Afternic.

I've actually asked Rebecca Clifford who works in our domain transfer team to walk us through this one. And so, Rebecca, you just want to take us through these slides?

Rebecca Clifford: Sure. So there was an agreement to purchase the domain commercialrefrigeration.com. And similar to Sedo's process we have the contract between the buyer and the seller and Afternic is just working as a facilitator to help assist with the transfer.

When the domain enters - once we receive funds here at Afternic we then reach out to our seller and ask them to assist us in pushing the domain over to Afternic's holding account at the current registrar. In this particular case it was Domain Discover.

So once the seller goes ahead and pushes the domain over to our account we've already reached out to our buyer to see if they're willing to either - if they either have an account at Domain Discover or if they're willing to create one to facilitate and move the domain over to them at a faster process rather than doing the transfer from one registrar to another.

In this particular case our buyer did create an account at Domain Discover so what we did is once we received the domain in our holding account we asked

the buyer to provide us with a username for their Domain Discover account. And we initiated a push from our holding account to the buyer's.

On this particular slide with the Whois you can see that the registrar is Domain Discover. You can see when the domain is expiring. And when you're pushing from one account to another within the same registrar typically the lock status doesn't matter; it can be locked or unlocked.

We go to the next slide. This slide demonstrates the domain in our Domain Discover holding account and shows when it's expiring and shows that it's an active domain.

We go to the next slide. This is a slide of the Whois information showing that the domain has been moved over to Afternic's Domain Discover holding account. And you can see that Afternic is listed as the administrative contact and the registrant.

If we go to the next slide this is just the process. Each registrar is obviously a little different in how you can move domains. With Domain Discover they have an easy move domain option that you can click on and select the domains that you'd like to push within - between one account to another.

And on the next slide we show the domains that are currently in that Domain Discover holding account. And you can see there in yellow commercialrefrigeration.com. Domain Discover just asks you for the username of the new account that you'd like to push the domain to.

You can select the arrow there and then move it over to the selected domains category. We go onto the next slide you'll see that there's an option to continue forward and it's just another safety to make sure that your pushing the correct domain over to the correct account.

Next slide. This is just a confirmation. Again it's another precaution just to make sure that you are moving the correct domain because you have pushed it it's pretty automatic and the domain will move over instantly so this just confirms that you're moving the correct domain to the correct Domain Discover account. And when you click Continue the domain at that point will automatically move over to the new buyer's account.

And then in our particular holding account we'll receive a confirmation saying that one domain was updated and that it was moved over. It does show the domain as being unlocked here which it can be locked or unlocked to move it over.

And then the - this slide is showing the domain is now active in the buyer's account and it shows that active status and the expiration date as well. And then lastly we show the domain...

Bob Mountain: We redacted them to them.

Rebecca Clifford: Yes we took out the administrative contact but it had updated to the new buyer on our end. And it still has the expiration date of the domain and I believe there was another slide that showed when the domain was last updated which is this final slide here. And it shows that it was updated that same day and the time in which we pushed it over.

Bob Mountain: Okay great thanks Rebecca. Anybody have any questions on this use case? No? Is everybody still there?

James Bladel: Yes.

Bob Mountain: Okay just got awfully quite. All right thanks Rebecca. This is Bob speaking again. All right so if there are no questions on that one we will move to Use Case Number 5. The example here is a intra-register transfer. It should be

inter-registrar transfer from register.com to Network Solutions without a change of ownership.

This one was done by Jonathan Tennenbaum so, Jonathan, would you mind walking us through this one?

Jonathan Tennenbaum: Sure. Yes and, you know, this one's probably one of the more simple ones in that there is no change of ownership. So we probably touched on a lot of the pieces of the process but, you know, obviously it's, you know, I'd be glad to go through it.

So now how do I move the slides along? Okay.

Bob Mountain: Actually this is Bob. I'll do that for you, Jonathan. Just say next slide when you're ready for me to move on.

Jonathan Tennenbaum: Okay great. And so here's the process flow. And, Bob, I appreciate you putting this together. This is definitely, you know, helpful. The - and I'll just kind of run through it and, you know, briefly.

The - basically in this case it's the - even though it says seller and buyer they're effectively the same person moving the domain name from one registrar to another.

And in this case the basically the steps are that the registrant unlocks the name as the losing registrar, requests the auth code from the losing registrar then goes to the gaining registry, creates an account, initiates the transfer, enters the auth code, basically chooses how long they want their registration for, enters payment information and gets the confirmation. Confirms that the transfer on their end from the gaining registrar and then basically the transfer is complete. It's a relatively simple process.

Next slide please. And again this is kind of just sort of the - just the bullet points of the same process flow. This is the pre transfer Whois info. The key piece there just that the sponsoring registrar in that case is the losing registrar where the domain is starting.

Next slide. Now as I said the unlocking of the domain name. In this the case registrant goes onto their account management tool with the losing registrar which in this case is register.com so they basically go into the interface. And they click to unlock the domain name.

Next slide. And then once that's done and they've disabled the domain lock they'll request the auth code. Next slide. And then once they do that - once they've requested the auth code they'll go to the gaining registrar, in this case it's Network Solutions and this is just the homepage where they'll look to - there's the transfer tools right there where they'll look to initiate the transfer.

Next slide. They'll input the domain name that they're looking to transfer. Next slide. And then there's the - we have the steps available there which, you know, to provide some assistance to the registrant in transferring the domain name and then making sure that it's eligible and everything else.

Next slide. Then they'll be requested to input the auth code which they had previously requested. And, you know, I probably should have done a few more of the - I mean, you guys really got under the hood. And I apologize if I kind of, I mean, you know, could have thrown in a few more slides, for example, when they got the auth code and that kind of thing. And so, you know, this is a little bit more of sort of a broad strokes of the process.

But anyway at that point they input the auth code that pops up and they plug it in. Next slide. And then at that point it's up to them to determine and how long they want to register the domain name with the gaining registrar. In this case, you know, they can pick, you know, the different options up to the 10 years.

Next slide. This is just a little bit of just some additional info related to the account creation just mentioning that it's either the individual or the company and the administer is either the registrant themselves if it's an individual or the representative of the business.

Then they go through the account creation process, name, address and all that stuff, the login info, security question. Next slide. Actually next slide. And then most importantly then they plug in their payment info, you know, which is a process similar to I'm sure everyone's gone through one way or another.

Plug in the info then they get a order confirmation. Sorry, one more, Bob. And then they get their order confirmation. And then at that point they get a confirmation email. Let's jump ahead. So again this is just a little bit more color to the process, just the beginning registrar must then email the administrative contact to prove the - and confirm the transfer.

So once the registrant gets that confirmation email they click on the link to approve the transfer. And then this is just the - the next slide is that confirmation email that they receive with the click through. And then they get to the confirmation page and confirm the transfer.

And then when we look at the final slide here, the post-transfer Whois info the sponsoring registrar now is Network Solutions, the gaining registrant in this case. And that is - what made this a little - not even tricky but the billing organization and stuff like that is still register.com so when you look at the pre and post. But the sponsoring transfer is obviously, as everyone knows, is the key field in this instance and that it displays the gaining registrar. So at that point that's the process so.

Bob Mountain: Okay great. This is Bob. Thanks very much, Jonathan. Does anyone have any questions, comments or otherwise on Use Case Number 5? Okay great.

Jonathan Tennenbaum: Sweet.

Bob Mountain: Well I guess - yes, go ahead, sorry.

Jonathan Tennenbaum: Oh no, no, no I said sweet when there were no questions.

Bob Mountain: Oh okay.

Jonathan Tennenbaum: I was off...

((Crosstalk))

Bob Mountain: So I guess the open items on the use case document would be we have some title descriptions to change on Use Case Number 3. On Use Case Number 5 one more flow chart to do. And then we'll wrap that up. So I should be able to get those wrapped up by the end of the day today or tomorrow latest.

Marika, I'll put those up on the Dropbox and then, you know, for archival or posting wherever the appropriate place is.

Marika Konings: Okay.

James Bladel: Bob, this is James.

Bob Mountain: Yes, go ahead, James.

James Bladel: Simonetta and I were just pointing out that I think there's still some - a few slides that have some information that folks may not want in the permanent record.

Bob Mountain: Oh right okay I didn't see the chat.

James Bladel: I think it's Use Case 3 and Use Case 5. So I don't know maybe we can enlist staff's help on that or if you still have control over it where you can just black out those fields.

Bob Mountain: Yes, I can absolutely do that. You want to just - I mean, it might be easiest if you just want to pop me a note offline - just give me the slide numbers and I'll take care of that before I upload it.

James Bladel: Sure I'll take a look.

Bob Mountain: Okay great. Thank you. All right so I'll just turn it back over to James or Marika.

James Bladel: Okay thanks, Bob. And thanks to Chris and Rebecca and Jonathan. Did I miss anyone? Okay. Really appreciate you putting together all of these use cases and this presentation. I think it was very informative. And I hope that once we get it uploaded we'll be referring back to that over the lifespan of this PDP.

And I hope that all of us now have a better flavor for all of the different ways that change of control currently affected in gTLDs. I think the right answer is it's kind of all over the map. But I think that was a really great exercise and I really appreciate you putting all that together, the ones who worked on that over the holidays.

Okay so can we then circle back to agenda item Number 2 which was if you recall our last meeting - and previous meetings when we set up a work plan we had a block of Tuesdays where we were just kind of allotting that we would do a more fine grained work plan once we got to those points.

And we have arrived at such a point in our work plan. And Avri has very graciously put together a draft detailed work plan for this meeting and running through March 6.

So if we could - I see Marika now has that up in the Adobe chat room. If we could then perhaps spend a few minutes discussing what she has listed here and if we spot any significant omissions or perhaps something that we need to spend a little bit more or a little bit less time on.

I'll go ahead and kick us off here with just the observation that we received very little in the way of public comment and constituency or stakeholder group statements. So, you know, whatever time we have allotted for review of those may not be as burdensome as we originally planned.

But perhaps at this point, Avri, if you don't mind could you perhaps walk us through beginning at January 10 what your thoughts would be for the detailed work plans?

Avri Doria: Sure, thanks. And just to say that this is a first stab in the dark and I'm not even taking any bets on whether I picked the right thing but just something to throw stones at. So...

James Bladel: Understood. Thanks.

((Crosstalk))

Avri Doria: Excuse me?

James Bladel: Oh I just said understood and thanks for getting us started.

Avri Doria: Okay. So basically - okay so really starting at the next meeting was the review of the public comments. And, yes, I did basically allow for I guess it was one, two, three weeks of comments from public to - and so starting the review of the public comments next week I understand that there aren't many.

Then the following meeting would have been to finish that if there was any open conversation. And in the review of the public comments I wasn't thinking that we were just reading them but depending on how deep they go it was actually discussing and actually thinking about how one would approach them, does that change our, you know, overall work ideas at all? Does that change any of those, you know, diagrams and maps that Mikey has been putting together, etcetera. So that was all part of that.

Then - but basically so if that was a one week possibly extending into a second. But certainly it didn't look like it would be more than hour to an hour and a half worth of discussion.

Then beginning with the stakeholder group constituency at this point we don't know that there's more than one. For example I don't know whether my stakeholder group or any of the constituencies within it is going too. I know I've been bugging them and I assume the rest of you have been talking to yours whether it's, you know, the commercial side of non contracted or, you know, whether the registrars themselves plan to make any comment. We've heard from the registries. So that's - we don't know.

At this point though on the assumption that again there wasn't going to be a lot it allots somewhere around an hour to an hour and a half. It looks like a lot when you say it's a week but basically we're talking about an hour to an hour and a half, maybe slightly longer. And going into then a discussion of any AC/SO comments we get.

Again I don't know whether a At Large, ALAC is going to. I know I've spoken to them a bit about whether they were going to but I don't know. And so basically it comes down to then basically a three-week period - three-hour period where we're reviewing the various other three kinds of comments.

Understanding that at some point they may need reviews. If anything substantive comes in from ccNSO, At Large or who knows, GAC, although

I'm not holding my breath, you know, those would need responses. They might need further clarification. So okay so then that was that.

At that point we're at the end of January. I put in a marker that we should stop then having looked at the comments, having our initial mine map of the issues and then basically look at well what do we need to do in Costa Rica? Are we just having a face to face meeting with a program? Do we have open issues that we want to have a more public meeting that we discuss those with, etcetera so that block then.

And then look at - and this is where I took a stab in the dark and this reflects my prejudices in the world as opposed to perhaps James's so definitely a point for contention. I tend to - if we've got easy tasks and hard tasks I tend to want to put the hard tasks first and leave the so-called low hanging fruit for later because really the analogy to a tree because fruit is not going to drop and rot so therefore we really don't have to pick it right away.

And I think us getting the hard - and it looks like Issue A is the harder, more encompassing one. At least if I look at the mind map it certainly had a greater degree of issues to be discussed. So basically at that point we've gone through our comments, now we start and look at Issue A. We spend a little bit of time at the end of January after we've talked about our program for C.

And sort of say okay how do we want to structure the work of A? And perhaps that calls for another update to the work plan. I don't know. If we're submitting any documents and then the following week submitting any documents for Costa Rica they need to get out then so that's the last week for that. We may not have documents, you know, but so that's why I said if any.

And then it's basically an undifferentiated, you know, four hours of - three to four hours of Item A with going back and looking at issues reports in terms of

those to make sure that we've got that fresh in our minds. That should just be a quick review and then getting in the discussion as we've rated it.

Now of course this could be Issue B or this could be Issue C. A different approach, the low hanging fruit approach would be to say we'll see. We should be able to get that completely knocked off in two, three hours so why don't we take C first, make sure that we've just dealt with that and everything implied and then move on? And those are, you know, options for the group.

As I say I went with my prejudice of start with hard and leave the ones that look like easy later. And in fact what you may find is that you've just evolved a decision to the B - the C so you get the end of it and say so yes we're going to use that, you know, standard IANA identifier, right? Yes, okay sure, yes, that's the presumption we've made. And the decision is already done.

Anyway that's the first stab at it. You know, no pride of ownership in having sent it out that way so please throw rocks at it. Thanks.

James Bladel: Okay thanks, Avri. I went ahead and put myself in the queue just to kind of add to I think a lot of what you said. I think this was an excellent start and I think that we're probably not going to - it's probably going to survive mostly intact.

I just wanted to point out that yes I tend to agree that we should do the hard ones first and come back and do the easy questions particularly in this case where we found that there may be a dependency in Issue B that we didn't notice.

I think the caution is that we did that with the previous iteration, IRTP-B, and we spent so much time on the one hard question that we really felt like we didn't do some of the smaller questions justice.

So I think if we do have an opportunity to knock Item C out once we review the constituency statements and the comments I think that we should probably not miss that opportunity because circling back at the 11th hour it just feels rushed. I don't know, that's just my opinion.

I think the one thing that we may want to add just off the cuff here is that if we don't use all of our review time for public comments and constituency statements we might want to then move the discussion from Item A, add another session for that or maybe half a session including some brief review of the approach mine map that Mikey put together that we all worked on.

So just so we can kind of have that as a touch stone that we can go back to and say yes is what we agreed on initially how we would approach this. And that would kind of set the stage for tackling issue A.

I noticed that January 31 is listed twice here so...

Avri Doria: Oh cool.

James Bladel: ...but they have different things. So we may have an extra week that we don't really have.

Avri Doria: Okay.

James Bladel: And otherwise throw it open to - well I see Marika has got a question and then we'll throw it open to the queue. Go ahead, Marika.

Marika Konings: Yes, this is Marika. I just wanted to give an update on the statements possibly by other ACs and SOs because I did reach out to the different staff members that are supporting the different groups that we send a notice to.

And just for your information then the ccNSO actually had a bit of delay in getting that out to their members so they actually sent out the notice today to

their members and have given everyone two weeks to respond. They have actually ccTLDs just to directly respond to the working group or, you know, via staff. So there we will have to wait probably two weeks to see if we get anything or not.

From the SSAC I've understand that the notice was also sent to the SSAC mailing list but no further feedback was received as of this moment. So at this stage I think it's unlikely that we'll get any further there.

I'm still waiting to hear from my colleagues that are supporting the GAC and the ALAC whether there is anything we should be looking forward to or not. So hopefully I'll have an update on that at the next call. And I guess that could feed then as well into the work plan if further comments are received or not.

James Bladel: Okay thanks. Yes the ccNSO in particular is important that we get some kind of - some kind of feedback from them if they're able to offer it. So we should definitely leave the door open for SOs and ACs as long as they need it within reason. If they need an extra week or two we can add them to the end of our review.

You know, other than some of that just minor feedback on my part removing the duplicate for 31st and perhaps sharing one of the sessions with the - before we dive into Issue A just a review of the approach anyone else see any significant changes they'd like to offer for this particular work plan or should we call it - pencil it in and say this is how we're going to spend the next month and a half?

Of course there's still opportunities to chime in on the list if you want to take a little bit more time to digest thing. But overall I think Avri has done a fantastic job here and it's - basically it's airtight.

Okay thanks everyone. We've got about five more minutes.

Avri Doria: Okay just the last point.

James Bladel: Oh I'm sorry.

Avri Doria: Okay I've made the changes. I'll send out an updated copy of it. And of course this is just a working thing but thanks. And I can't believe I didn't notice we had two 31s of January.

James Bladel: It must have been like that on the original.

Avri Doria: Oh yes, no, I didn't add a row as far as I know so.

James Bladel: Okay. Bob, you're up.

Bob Mountain: This is Bob. I know it seems like it's far away but one thing if it would be possible to book the time for the face to face meeting and, you know, give us much advance notice on that as possible it's - that's a very - and I think it is for everybody; they'll have lots of meetings. So if we could block that out (unintelligible).

James Bladel: Absolutely, totally, emphatically agree. Maybe we should - Marika if you can come to the next call or perhaps even on the list and let us know what our available days and times are. I think we want to stay away from the weekend prior which is the GNSO session. I think we want to stay away from Tuesdays which is when everybody's with their constituencies and stakeholder groups.

But if you can give us some options, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday that would be fantastic. Marika, did you want to...

Marika Konings: Yes, this is Marika. To some extent the (unintelligible) as well whether the working groups (unintelligible) a face to face meeting and just the working group itself or whether it's going to be an outreach meeting. Because if -

there's much more flexibility if it's just a working group meeting because we're just trying to find some time, you know, that works for the members of the group and also, you know, attempt to (unintelligible) morning sessions, breakfast meeting so that would (unintelligible) the rest of the meeting as we started.

But if it would be more of a workshop, an open session, then the typical days for having those are either Wednesday morning or Thursday morning provided that there's no big change to the schedule because usually I have certain sessions with which we cannot alter (unintelligible) the people we're trying to target or other workshop. Typically Wednesday mornings and I guess Thursday mornings are the normal times that work best so.

James Bladel: Okay thanks Marika. Let's maybe put that out onto the list. I mean, personally I have an opinion that - with our aggressive and compressed work schedule that we are going to need both a face to face meeting and possibly a outreach session where we at least if the folks in the community have strong feelings on this an opportunity to (unintelligible).

Although that may not be all that interesting or valuable until we have something on paper like for example for Prague. So, you know, maybe we can just put that out on the list and see what the members - especially those who are not able to attend - might think.

But, you know, even if that outreach session is saying to the community hey we're here, here's our group, here's our charter that we're looking at, here's what we're trying to tackle and here's some of the feedback we've received thus far I think that there's probably, you know, at the minimum setting aside an hour to do that is probably a good investment in I think future feedback.

Simonetta, go ahead.

Simonetta Batteiger: I think what would be really nice to get at this meeting is basically just a collection of issues that people have with the process. It doesn't - it can't give you a solution or anything but it gives you a flavor and a feel for what are people thinking.

And just basically the collection of problems is not something that people like to put in a written statement to another work group but it might be something really helpful for us to have if we just ask the question in an in-person meeting in Costa Rica.

James Bladel: I agree, Simonetta. I think that we've seen where people may be reluctant to - or maybe not had the time to submit a formal statement. I have no problem with stepping up to a microphone and, you know, let's say sharing (unintelligible). Marika, go ahead.

Marika Konings: Yes, this is Marika. You know, in that context (unintelligible) been more effective to actually go out to some of those key groups that we want to hear from; one of them might be the ccNSO, the other one might be the registrars, and actually request time on their schedule to come and talk to them.

Because we often see that in trying to, you know, to get people to these workshops because there are many competing issues going on and they don't always know whether they (unintelligible) on the agenda or what to expect (unintelligible) follow them.

So (unintelligible) do some real specific targeted outreach to make sure those people come to our meeting or otherwise maybe consider going to those meetings, you know, to those groups (unintelligible) want to hear from and maybe, you know, put it on their agenda and try to get (unintelligible) in that way.

James Bladel: Okay, thanks Marika. Avri and then we'll probably close off the discussion (unintelligible). So, Avri, go ahead.

Avri Doria: Just quickly I really do want to endorse the idea of trying to meet with the ccNSO. And that's probably a decision that if we're going to make it we should make it now because I expect that now is probably a good time to ask for a chunk of their time. Thanks.

James Bladel: Excellent, so meeting with them specifically in a closed session...

Avri Doria: Yes.

((Crosstalk))

Avri Doria: Basically there's specific information that we say we want from the ccNSO and - or at least we wanted to have a specific discussion about some of the processes and procedures they use. So in that one particular case it seems like we could already make a decision within this group that, yes, that seems like a good thing to do.

And perhaps we want to request a time to meet with them in their technical workday. And of course I don't know if that's the same day as constituency day. I don't think it is. But, you know, to try and get a session in there. And if we did want to do that I would think the earlier we ask them the better.

James Bladel: Okay sounds good. So it sounds like we're talking about three separate sessions here or possibly the opportunity to combine which is the public outreach (unintelligible) session, working group - a face to face working group session and then a specific session where we draft and direct some particular questions to the ccNSO.

And I think maybe, Marika, you and I can work offline to see if there's some opportunities where we can compress or bundle some of those functions together so that we don't take more than our fair share of the slice of the calendar in Costa Rica.

Okay well thanks everyone. I did want to close it off here. I think it was a very good session. And I look forward to next week. And (unintelligible) be traveling I think so (unintelligible) will be traveling. So the call will be led by Avri. And I'm (unintelligible). So thanks everyone and have a great afternoon or evening.

((Crosstalk))

Nathalie Peregrine: Thank you, (Tim). You may now stop the recordings.

END