

**ICANN  
Transcription  
Thick Whois PDP Working Group  
Tuesday 20 November 2012 at 15:00 UTC**

Note: The following is the output of transcribing from an audio recording of Thick Whois PDP Working Group on the Tuesday 20 November 2012 at 15:00 UTC. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases it is incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages or transcription errors. It is posted as an aid to understanding the proceedings at the meeting, but should not be treated as an authoritative record. The audio is also available at:

<http://audio.icann.org/gnso/gnso-thick-whois-20121120-en.mp3>

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

Attendees:

Mikey O'Connor – ISPCP  
Wilson Abigaba – RrSG  
Marc Anderson – RySG  
Titi Akinsanmi – At Large  
Roy Balleste – NCUC  
Iliya Bazlyankov – RrSG  
Don Blumenthal – RySG  
Amr Elsadr – NCSG  
Alan Greenberg – At Large  
Volker Greimann – RrSG  
Caroline Hoover – RySG  
Evan Leibovitch – ALAC  
Steve Metalitz – IPC  
Ope Oodusan – At Large  
Susan Prosser – RrSG  
Normann Ritchie – RySG  
Tim Ruiz – RrSG  
Jill Titzer – RrSG  
Joe Waldron – RySG  
Leigha Weinberg – IPC  
Jonathan Zuck – IPC

Apologies:

Jennifer Wolfe – NomCom  
Carlton Samuels – At Large  
Frederic Guillemaut – RrSG

ICANN staff:

Berry Cobb  
Marika Konings  
Glen de Saint Gery  
Julia Charvolen

Julia Charvolen: Oh. Thank you. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. This is the Thick Whois PDP working group call on the Tuesday, 20th of November. On the call today we have Wilson Abigaba, Marc Anderson, Titi Akinsanmi, Roy Balleste, Iliya Bazlyankov, Don Blumenthal, Amr Elsadr, Alan Greenberg, Carolyn Hoover, Steve Metalitz, Mikey O'Connor, Susan Prosser, Tim Ruiz, Jill Titzer, Leigha Weinberg, Jonathan Zuck. We have apologies from Carlton Samuels, Jennifer Wolfe and Frederic Guillemaut. From staff we have Marika Konings, Glen De Saint Gery, and myself, Julia Charvolen.

I would like to remind all participants to please state your name before speaking for transcription purposes. Thank you very much and over to you.

Mikey O'Connor: Thanks, (Julie). I think we'll probably see a few more people join as we get going and maybe somewhere towards the end we can pick up the folks that joined late if - and I'll stumble through the agenda and that might bring a few more people in.

Over on the right you can see the agenda. We're going to take a minute - a little bit longer minute on statements of interest this time. And we're going to revisit an issue leftover from the last call which is the chair selection process. We left the option open for people to volunteer to the list and so we'll sort of do a last call on that. We'll probably spend the bulk of the time working on the work plan and our approach. End up with an idea that Marika and I have got for getting statements from the constituencies and supporting organizations. And then (unintelligible) the last meeting.

So is there anything in that pile that people want to change or is there something that people want to add to the agenda before we get going?

Tim Ruiz: Mikey, this is Tim. Could I get in the queue?

Mikey O'Connor: Sure, go ahead. I - so far you are the queue so jump right ahead.

Tim Ruiz: Sorry I'm not quite in the building yet. I'm trying to get there. The only thing I wanted to mention was just that if that I noticed that the board, you know, had made past resolution regarding some of the Whois review team recommendations last time. And one of them was that the CEO - president and CEO should - you didn't collect information for an issues report to request a - to initial a board request in PDP on the collection of Whois data and the purpose for it, et cetera. So there's some stuff coming down and I thought that - I thought maybe we don't even spend a lot of time on it but just keeping in mind perhaps that what we do might need to feed into or might produce something that could feed into the work that (unintelligible) is going to initiate. So perhaps at some point some communication might want to take place between us and the President and CEO just to make sure if there's any communication that needs to happen that it happens.

Mikey O'Connor: I'm going to stick that in using my standard computer programmer solution - yes - in there right towards the end. That's a good one. Thanks, Tim. Anything else people want to do to modify the agenda? Okay.

Normally w- the statement of interest thing we just pause to see if anybody's got a change. But as you can see on the screen we have a list of the folks in the working group and this is sort of the last call for those of you who - if you roll up and down on that list and you see that there is no entry in the statement of interest column this is sort of last call on that one. Glen I think has been in touch with you and provided you instruction with how to...

Man: (Unintelligible).

Mikey O'Connor: How to prepare a statement of interest. And if you don't get one done within the next 24 to 48 hours we're going to presume that you don't really want to participate and we're going to drop you off the mailing list. So please if you

want to participate we desperately want you in this group. This is not to be exclusionary but we do need those. So take a look at the list and if you see that you haven't completed one yet this is sort of your last chance.

So with that is there anybody that wants to change their statement of interest? Presumably not since they're only a week old but there you go.

Okay the w- the next agenda item is a leftover from the la- from the call last week and - okay. We went through the process of selecting me as your chair but we also left it open that if somebody else wanted to put their name forward or volunteer or volunteer somebody else that we would sort of leave some time on the list for people to do that. We didn't get any posts like that to the list but if anybody wants to volunteer this is the time to do it and if not then what we'll do is give Volker our GNSO liaison an action item to notify the counsel and let the counsel approve or disapprove the decision we've made and then we'll have that wrapped up. So this is the last chance on the - on the chair agenda item. If anybody wants to leap in this is your moment.

Okay we've got a little noise on the line if - Operator, if you could see who's causing it and let us know that would be good. Or just mute it maybe.

Okay I think Marika with that if you could throw the new version of the work plan up in the - in the window there that would be great. You'll note that Marika indeed did improve on my work plan. It w- not unexpectedly. Let's see, do I - I'm going to take command for a minute here and make it a little bigger so that we can read it and highlight the area that we're really working on.

What I did in my first draft is I gave us basically a third of a meeting per topic area to sketch out an outline. And then left the ball in Marika's court to flesh that out a little bit and re- and write a sort of straw man first draft of the issue up for the following meeting. And, you know, it's amazing but I heard the thump as her jaw hit the table all the way from - from Europe to the United

States. And so as a result Marika has revised this a bit and I - I entirely agree it's much more realistic. And spread it out a bit.

I was trying pretty hard to get the whole shebang done by Beijing and I - I think Marika is correct that that's probably unrealistic. And so what you see now is a preliminary schedule that spreads the topics out one per call. They're still numbered because we haven't figured out sequence yet and we've got some questions for you about that. And we've got some other ideas about ways to sort of get this underway in a hurry that will help us.

So what you see now is sort of a preliminary now reviewed and revised version of the work plan. I don't really want to go into a whole lot of detail on the mechanics. What I really want to focus us on is sort of what we're going to be doing. And you can see right at the top is, you know, we're on - are we really on the 20th of November? The year has flown by.

Man: Hm.

Mikey O'Connor: The way you read these status reports of mine is that the little row - the date on the far left there is the date of the end of the w - of the week or the begin- no, I'm sorry. The beginning - it's the end of the week. And so the little ends that say no problem is the result of last week's call. And then the milestones are the things that we're going to try and get done in the week. And so those may m- bump down or up a bit as we go. And so the milestones is really the fence posts that we're going to use to make sure that we sort of proceed along on a predictable orderly way.

And as you ca- as you can also see there's quite a bit to do at the beginning because we're sort of in this information gathering mode. And so we're certainly going to spend some time going out to the supporting organizations and the constituencies to get information from them.

But you can see that we're also looking at - in that box we say review other ICANN activities as defined in the charter and determine how relevant information can be obtained. And that I think is a pretty good container also to put (Tim's) point which is that there is a lot going on in the Whois arena. In fact we had a little conversation about this on the list because there are surveys going on and so on and so forth. And what we want to make sure is that this is coordinated somehow so that what they produce we fold into our results and what we produce they fold into theirs.

And Marika, as Tim was talking about that one of the things that we might want to do is run back through the staff side and see if there's some mechanism that's being thought about to just keep all these different Whois activities in sync with each other. And if I - I would be happy and maybe Volker would too - I'll sort of volunteer Volker for this - maybe the two of us could participate in some sort of coordinating gang if it turns out that that's something useful. I don't want to volunteer for a whole lot of work on that but at the same time I really don't want to wind up at the end of this discovering that we accidentally missed something that was relevant to what we do. And so you might want to take that back to the policy staff group and just see if there's some mechanism that people are thinking about to keep this stuff lined up.

But something that we've been thinking about - mostly Marika and me - is that this project has a lot of information that proceeds it and we need a way to collect all that information. And so we're thinking that we might use the (wiki) a little bit more aggressively than normal and set up essentially a page for each of the issues on the (wiki) and then encourage all of you to post information, opinions, excerpts from prior ar- prior works that you think are relevant as sort of a very quick way to build up a body of information upon which we can have these discussions that we need to have. I think if we spend the calls pulling information together we lose an opportunity. And if - if people could sort of go through the list of topics and say oh, okay, here's

some things that I'm very interested in - oh, we've got a little something going on. There we go. Thanks, Operator.

The - if we can each individually - especially where there are things about which you have strong opinions I think that's the kind of information that we really want to get into the (wiki) as far in advance of the call as we can so that the conversation on the call is well informed about what's been going on, who feels strongly about one or the other, and so on.

Oh, (Mark Anderson's) got something in the chat saying I'm not sure what all the other - who his working groups are, how many are there? Can we get a list? There's - (Mark), there's a fair amount of documentation in that in the charter. But the trick is that this is a little bit of a moving target and so the CEO of ICANN and the board just announced something yesterday that if somebody was really energetic maybe they could pound a li- and Marika is ahead of me on that. And here's some links in the chat, good deal. So i-, you know, I think a few links into the chat and maybe a link to the one that was announced yesterday would be a helpful thing as well.

But I think, (Mark) your point is pretty much in line with mine which is that we just want to make sure that we're coordinating well with these other activities and I think that's the gist of what Tim was saying as well. Normally in a working group situation the working group is working on a topic by itself and so we don't have to pay quite as much attention. And so I think it's a point well taken that we do need to pay attention on that.

And I think it's also useful back to the (wiki) idea to cross post into the relevant topic areas, excerpts either from the charters of those efforts or links to them. I, you know, I think the more we can pound into the (wiki) the better. I - the w- concern I've got about using the lists is that the lists may tend to get fairly complicated and hard to follow if we post this stuff to the list. And so I'm going to encourage people to do one of two things: if you are comfortable using a (wiki) Marika has volunteered to get us all authenticated so that we

can post to the list or to - I'm sorry, to the (wiki). But if you are uncomfortable with the (wiki) environment send you posts to Marika and she will be the scribe that will get your material into the (wiki) for you.

But don't post it to the list at least right away. As some of you know sometimes these lists get very busy and given that many of us on this particular working are functioning not in our native language I'm trying to keep list traffic a little bit lower on this especially during this information gathering phase. I mean you can see just in what's building up in the chat now that if each of those were a post to the email list pretty soon your inbox would be full and you wouldn't know which things to pay attention to.

So that's the thought is to go to the (wiki) as our focal point especially at the beginning when we're trying to gather information. And then on the calls what we'll try to do is zero in on the issues that are raised in the (wiki) and see if we can figure out ways to resolve them. And also use perhaps the list to focus on that kind of activity.

Is there anybody that is uncomfortable with either the work plan or the approach that we've described so far? That's sort of my - that's all I've really got to say about agenda item 3. So now I'll turn it over to you all and let you comment a bit.

Steve, go ahead.

Steve Metalitz: Thanks, this is Steve Metalitz. I'm a little confused by what you've just - when you're talking about the (wiki) are you talking about material on the different topics or are you talking about material on what's the other - who is related groups are doing?

Mikey O'Connor: Yes to both but primarily the topics. What we'll do is in the (wiki) we'll set up a page per topic and then let people post useful information about each topic on that page. And to the extent that other groups that are running in parallel

or a little bit before or a little bit behind us are doing things that are relevant to a given topic I'm hoping that people will pick that up and cross post that as well. Does that clear it up a little bit?

Steve Metalitz: Yes that's helpful. I guess I have - just have two observations. One is I - I agree with you that we want to move this quickly and of course the revised work plan calls for a slower process. So I guess we should just be open to the possibility- I'm also concerned that I know that discussion tends to expand to fill the space allotted to it.

Mikey O'Connor: Yes.

Steve Metalitz: So let's just be open to the possibility that we might be - on some of the topics. Not - obviously not all of them. On some topic we might be able to do more than one per week and if we can let's take advantage of that. And maybe the (wiki) will be helpful there because you'll see how much, you know, i- if everyone is in agreement with what's posted there or there doesn't seem to be disagreement maybe we can move more quickly on those. That would...

Mikey O'Connor: Absolutely. Absolutely right and one of the things that we were thinking - Marika and I - was that - we've sort of left the sequence question open for now. I think a couple of things might happen. One is like you say Steve, we may see that there's essentially agreement that's emerging on the (wiki) and that that gives us a chance to move through a topic a little bit more quickly.

Another thought that we had was that somewhere down the line - maybe a week, maybe two weeks from now - we do just sort of a preliminary survey of the group to see where people are at in terms of, you know, is this particular topic consistent with the notion of (Thick) Whois or is (Thick) Whois going to present an issue just to get a sense of where the group is at in terms of where they agree and where they disagree? And I think both of those together may give us the opportunity to move this a bit faster. And wherever I

can see that I certainly will do that because work does tend to expand to fill the available time. And if we can keep a little bit of pressure on - to move this along I think it's useful for everybody if - I think Marika was correct in saying we probably can't get through this whole thing in five weeks and so somewhere between these two is probably where we'll wind up. And we'll certainly keep an eye on that.

Steve Metalitz: Okay. My second point - now this is Steve again - is related - to do with these other groups. And I think it may be useful to bear in mind that some of this work that's happening has to do with the successor to the Whois protocol. The - for example the re- the survey group that I'm on - Don is on, (Susan's) on, there may be others on this call that are on it too - it's focused on trying to identify requirements for the successor to what we have now in terms of Whois protocol and data sets and so forth. But what this group is working on really is the question of whether the existing Whois framework - the (Thick) Whois framework that exists now in most of the registry - gTLD registry should be applied to all gTLD registries.

So I think while it's important to bear in mind that there's working going on to have a new domain name data registration system that will be different from the existing Whois protocol that's not really the question we're asked to focus on here I don't believe. And both in terms of the survey group and in terms of some of the things in the board resolution. Some of the things in the - a lot of the things in the board resolution do deal with the existing system. But some of them also look to - toward defining or moving toward the new system. And I think the latter group is probably of somewhat less relevance to us because our question that's been given to us is should the existing (Thick) Whois system be required in all gTLD registries? So - and that may be a useful way of at least, you know, filtering some of the stuff that's going on in other groups that may not be directly relevant to what we're doing.

Mikey O'Connor: Yes. And, you know, as you were talking Steve, one of the things that I may do is keep an eye on the (wiki) from a scope standpoint because I think I

mentioned this on the last call. One of the things that this particular working group is bound to is a very narrow scope. There are a lot of issues that are outside of our purview. And so I think it's fine for folks to post stuff to the (wiki) because I think more is better. But I may go through periodically and sort of comb things into piles and say well at least Mikey's preliminary judgment on this particular thing is that this is outside the scope and here's why. And then, you know, clearly if I get it wrong you're more than welcome to correct me on that.

But one of the nice things about this particular working group is that the scope boundary at least in my mind is very clear and there are a whole lot of things that aren't in scope and we - at least in the drafting team we were very much in agreement about keeping this one narrow and not sliding into a bunch of issues that are much broader and much p- quite a bit outside the scope of this one.

Good comments. Anything else from folks? That was a useful refinement.

Okay well I think I'll leave this topic then with - I wonder maybe f- I - Marika what do you think of this idea? What if I took just a minute to sort of step people through how they post to the (wiki)? I could do that on my screen. Do you think that's a useful thing? Just take five minutes to sort of...

Marika Konings: Yes, that's...

Mikey O'Connor: ...show how that works?

Marika Konings: Yes - this is Marika - I think that's a good idea. I just want to know that we are in the process of making sure everyone has the right permissions for the - (wiki) so you can actually add that information. So I hope everyone doesn't go off maybe after this call and try to do that because we might need a little bit to ha- get that set up as we need to wait for our tech support to implement that. And in the meantime I will as well create pages for each of the entries. But I

think it will be useful to show people the basics so people hopefully feel comfortable in doing that later on.

Mikey O'Connor: Cool. All right, so I'm going to share my screen and show you what - I'm not going to do it on our (wiki) because I'm not sure whether I'm authenticated but I'll show you how it works so that you can see what you have to do and if it doesn't - if it doesn't behave the way what you see happening right now that means give me or Marika a shout and we'll see what's broken.

Let me just - I have to click a bunch of stuff in order for this to work. Just hang on a minute.

Okay so here I am on community.icann.org. All right, let's just click to the homepage of that and see what happens. So when I go to the homepage of community.icann.org this is what I see. And I'm not sure whether that's cus- that may be customized to me but for purposes of this it's close enough. And where you're going to go to get to our page is the GNSO tab and then you're going to look down and you go where is it? Where is it? (Thick) Whois. Ta da. There's the (Thick) Whois PDP. And there's our homepage. And at this point those pages that we talked about by topic aren't here yet but when you come to the page in a day or two it will be clear where those are because we'll staple those in right after this call.

Now I'm going to go to one that I maintain because I don't want to fumble around and have my authentication not work. So - not that, not that, there. So now if I try to edit something I can't because I haven't logged in to the (wiki) space yet. So let's say I wanted to change this page. Well there's no button for me to do that. The first thing that I absolutely have to do is login to this little workspace. And in order to do that I have to enter my credentials. So there they are. So I login.

Now I get a bunch of news but see now I have extra buttons. I can do things that I couldn't do before and the one that you're going to want to do the most

is on any page in the wiki once you're logged in you can edit that page. Let me see if I can make this just a little bit bigger so you can get it a little better. That's pretty hard to read.

All right so if I wanted to edit this page I would hit Edit. And there'd be a pause and then up would come this little editor, which is the same stuff that's on the page but now you can change it. So I could change working group to working pickle and add other stuff to the page like that.

Another thing I could do is let's say that I wanted to put a link in so I want to do a link to my farm page. So here - here is a link to my Web page about our farm. And then it's just like any other html thing. If you say click here it'll go there. Then you can highlight the word here and then you can click this link button and type in a link. And you have all kinds of links in this thing.

I'm going to do a Web link and so I'm going to do the link to our blog and insert it. And now if you roll down and save, which I'm not going to do for this page, your stuff would be in there. And there are all kinds of other things that you can do. But that's essentially the - I'll go ahead and save it, you know, this is the DSSA group page doesn't get a huge amount of traffic. So there it is; there's the stuff that I changed. You know, I immortalized the working pickle.

And if we go and click on this link there's a, you know, it goes to our Web page, etcetera. So the thing that I would encourage you to do is tend towards words rather than links. In other words in many cases you're going to - you're going to be referring to either very large documents or the work of complex working groups and you can help us a lot by editing, you know, extracting the relevant bits. And then put the link in so that people can go to the source document and get a little bit of context.

Evan, go ahead.

Evan Leibovitch: Hi there, Mikey. Thanks. The reason I've got my hand up here is simply because I've chaired a couple of ALAC working groups that have worked off the wiki and it's been my experience that you're simply not going to get everybody involved with the wiki that's comfortable with doing this.

Mikey O'Connor: Right.

Evan Leibovitch: One thing that you might want to do is also point out to the fact that every wiki page has a comment section on the bottom. And it may be easier for people just to come in and add comments that can then be incorporated by people that are more familiar with the mechanics as opposed to editing the core document.

I'm just saying it might be - you're not going to get everybody comfortable with editing wikis so that might be an option for people that have a - that might be uncomfortable with that to just leave a comment that then the maintainers of the page can then incorporate into the main doc. Thanks.

Mikey O'Connor: Thanks, Evan. I think that's a great thought. And I'm just demonstrating how the comment stuff works because it is a really easy way to add to the bottom of the page, in fact have conversations about stuff and that's another beauty. That's why I did a comment and a reply so either of those is fine. I'm, of course, volunteering Marika to do a lot of work so since her hand is up I better go to her next and then Alan. Marika.

Marika Konings: Yeah, this is Marika. If I can make one suggestion as well if people do edit the wiki and, you know, provide information there it will be helpful as well if people can just, you know, put their names, you know, "information provided by," so we can always go back and, you know, ask for further information or clarification because although we can track in the wiki who has edited it it means going back looking at different pages which changes were made.

So it would be a lot easier to, you know, put in your name. And maybe one suggestion might be is that I, you know, make a little table so basically that it has in the first column, you know, information provided by and then, you know, relevant sections and then for example like the link to the information so it makes it a bit more structured and, you know, that might be a suggestion of trying to do that to make sure that we can go back to the people that added certain information and ask questions if needed.

Mikey O'Connor: Yeah, which happens automatically in the comments. And I think - let's just see - I think, yeah, the page history is another thing for those of you who have never used a wiki before there are historical - essentially the page comes in layers and, you know, so you can see who made each set of changes. But it's not as obvious as you might think so it is a good idea to just document yourself as you do it.

Meanwhile I'm going to go back to the prior version. Alan, go ahead.

Alan Greenberg: Yeah, thank you. I just want to, I guess, say something related to what Evan and Marika said but in another way. If you do it at the wiki, although you can laboriously so back and find out who changed what in excruciating detail it's a real pain in the butt to do. And the normal mode is that you have a situation where whoever made the last changes rules. You know...

Mikey O'Connor: Right.

Alan Greenberg: ...those of you who are familiar with Wikipedia know on occasion you'll find two experts who disagree with each other and continually undo the other one's changes because they don't like them or put in what they think the reality is.

So with everyone having editing capabilities you can have a situation where changes are made and no one really realizes what it's saying because it changed, you know, even though you may have been notified it's change

without everyone agreeing to the change. So the comments really are the way to go and then one person take custody of making the changes within the document. Certainly in my experience that's the case. Thank you.

Mikey O'Connor: That's a - I'm fine with that; that seems like a reasonable approach. Evan, go ahead.

Evan Leibovitch: Sorry. Alan just reminded me of one other thing that you occasionally run into. It probably doesn't happen very often but it's disastrous when it does and that is when two people are editing the page at exactly the same time.

Mikey O'Connor: Oh yeah, all the more reason to stay in the comments. so maybe that's our convention is if you've got goodies to put on the page put them in the comments and then Marika or I or maybe a few other designated editor-type people will tend to pull them up into the thing and organize them. That works fine for me.

And, Marika, if you know how to delete comments send me an email because I didn't realize that these comments are a one-way street and so I've gotten - I've now got my main DSSA polluted with a couple of stupid comments on it. I'm used to a different blogging platform where I could delete those but who knew?

Alan Greenberg: Mikey, it's Alan. The comments can be deleted by someone with suitable privileges but most people don't have those.

Mikey O'Connor: Ah-ha, oh good, okay. Well I'll scurry around and find that person and...

Alan Greenberg: I think it's probably Marika.

Mikey O'Connor: Yeah, I'm not sure she's got rights to the DSSA page though.

Alan Greenberg: Maybe not.

Mikey O'Connor: Okay, Evan, is that a new hand or an old one? Sounds like maybe an old one. It's an old one. Okay I think that's enough on how we're going to work. We're getting towards quarter to the hour so I'm going to quit sharing all this screen stuff.

The next topic is sort of the request for comments or information or background knowledge from the other parts of the organizations, constituencies, stakeholder groups, etcetera. And Marika and I have been talking a bit about that and thought that probably the way to go on this would be to put together essentially a fill-in-the-blanks kind of template that we could review as a group on the next call and make sure that it's okay.

And then use that - circulate that template to the leaders of the respective groups and let them reply. So I think at this stage the main question for you all is does that seem like a reasonable approach or have you run into troubles doing that that we should be aware of?

This course correction stuff on the wiki was really helpful. So if people have thoughts about sort of fill-in-the-blank stuff it would - this would be a good time to give us the course corrections on that. Otherwise Marika and I will come up with a draft of the essentially questionnaire.

You know, presumably at the end of the questionnaire we'll leave a space where if we, the working group, have missed something, a topic or an issue that people want to comment on there'll be a place where they can do that. But the thought is to structure the information coming in a bit so that, again, it makes it easier to put it into the buckets of these issues that we're working on.

And I didn't expect this to be wildly controversial but if there's anything that bothers people about this this would be a good time to bring it up.

Okay the - Tim's point was right after that. And in a way I think we've sort of touched on that except, Marika, are you comfortable with taking that action to go off and sort of touch bases with all these other groups with the caveats that Steve raised, which is, you know, mostly we're working on a very narrow thing so we don't want to be involved; we just want to make sure that if they're doing something that touches on our work we're aware of it. And if we do something that touches on theirs that they are.

Are you comfortable taking an action item to sort of sort all that out?

Marika Konings: Yeah, this is Marika. I'm happy to check back with the different colleagues supporting the different initiatives on, you know, their perspectives on how they think this might impact our discussions. But I think as has already occurred as well of course other people involved in those to her projects, you know, should feel free as well to share information that they think is relevant or may have an impact.

In relation to the Board initiative, you know, that's very new as well for, you know, from a staff perspective. So I think, you know, we probably need a bit more time to understand how that's going to evolve and how that may or may not impact, you know, our work or other Whois activities that are ongoing.

But I'll definitely make sure to, you know, keep a close eye on what's happening there and make sure, as well, that people are aware of the work that we're doing here as that, of course, may have an impact as well on other initiatives vice-versa so I'll definitely take an action item on that.

Mikey O'Connor: I guess I would be shocked if one or two or three of us weren't on that one. But I think one of the things to keep an eye on is the - as the group gets formed just to check and see if there's overlap because if there is then I think we've got a convenient way.

You know, I think that each of us who are on some of these other things like Don and Steve and so on are on the questionnaire project, you know, sort of take it upon yourselves to keep an eye out. And if you see things that are going on in those other groups at a minimum kind of post the goodies to the comments in the wiki but also kind of let us know so that we don't leave this whole burden on Marika. I don't think that's fair. But I'll still leave the action item with Marika to sort of coordinate all that.

Tim, go ahead.

Tim Ruiz: Yeah, the - my - and I just kind of clarify too because I agree with Steve, I didn't - and I don't intend to imply that maybe, you know, that somehow our work might change. But it's just that at least from what I understood, you know, kind of in the overview sense what they're going to be - the president and CEO is going to be working on is the purpose and provision of GTL director services.

And certainly, you know, what we're going to be looking at is, you know, the purpose or the reasons why, you know, those services might need to provide something like thick directory services with all gTLDs. And I fully think we ought to continue down that path and come to this - come to that conclusion if we can.

But I just think that that's - as we do that work there might be - what we do might be able to feed back into what's going to be done by this board group. And, you know, it's something else to save time or effort on their part, you know, by having information that we can feed back into it. So that's kind of more...

Mikey O'Connor: Yeah, that's...

((Crosstalk))

Mikey O'Connor: ...absolutely right. Tim...

((Crosstalk))

Tim Ruiz: You know, we're going to spend a lot of time on some things that they might find valuable and we should be able to share that.

Mikey O'Connor: Absolutely. Operator, Tim is cutting in and out is that an artifact of his line? Because a kind of key sentence - sorry I cut you off there, Tim, but kind of a key sentence got chopped in half that's why I interrupted you.

Tim Ruiz: Oh sorry, I'm on a mobile phone right now so that might be the problem.

Mikey O'Connor: Oh, okay. Well I think I got the gist of it and agree wholeheartedly that we may produce - presumably we will produce information sooner than the board group; they're just getting started and hopefully we're going to start producing a lot of material within weeks. And so absolutely for sure we should make sure that that gets fed back into that group.

Okay, Alan, go ahead.

Alan Greenberg: Yeah, thank you. I guess I just wanted to caution that although there is overlap probably in both directions the timeframes are quite different. The board group, which is, quote, a high level group and I'm not quite sure who's, you know, whether that's going to be external people, internal people or whatever, is going to have to come to some conclusions before they even trigger the issue report to be written.

So we're looking at quite different timelines. And I think we have to work on the assumption that what we're doing is going to stay relevant for a while and come to closure on it and although pay attention to what's going on in the other directions, and vice versa, not get derailed by it. Thank you.

Mikey O'Connor: Oh yeah, absolutely. I'm an anti-derailing force. Okay anything else on that new 4.5 coordination and collaboration stuff? All right the last item on the agenda is the setting up of the next meeting. We reran the Doodle poll. This time is still a preferred time. However Marika and I talked a little bit about this and came up with the idea that maybe once a month what we would do in order to avoid the conflict with - a direct conflict on the ALAC where the ALAC meets at exactly the same time as this group does - that maybe once a month we would jump out to - I think it's the later of the afternoon in the US - I think it's...

Marika Konings: Twenty-hundred UTC.

Mikey O'Connor: Yeah, 20 UTC so that the ALAC folks could participate. The trouble with that idea is that the first ALAC meeting that we would do that for is the next call next week. And the trouble with that is that we then lose the staff because they're all at a staff retreat. So I'm going to beg forgiveness rather than ask permission of the ALAC folks and say that this time we will not do that; that we'll meet at this same time, the 1500 UTC, this first call. And apologize profusely to the ALAC folks because you won't be able to make it.

But I hate to be harsh about this but when I'm faced with the choice between having staff and having ALAC I have to go with the staff so sorry, guys. But that's our plan. And why don't we try that for a while and see how it works. And if it doesn't work we'll revisit it. But unless there are shrieks of outrage that's the way we'll go.

Alan, you get to shriek, go ahead.

Alan Greenberg: No I'm not shrieking. I appreciate the effort to try to avoid the overlap to the extent we can. And with regard to this coming meeting I understand the position. My personal one would be - prefer to take a week off and skip this meeting. Given that's not amenable - the group is not amenable to that try not to make any real decisions where we may have some input into it.

Mikey O'Connor: I think that probably, you know, if we go back to the work plan we're still in sort of getting the engine running mode. I think that next week we will probably be looking at the wiki and seeing how much information we collected, how that went, etcetera. I can't imagine we're going to be making choices yet.

And certainly as people know the way that this works is no matter what the decision is that's made on a given call first it arrives at consensus on the call and there's - I can't imagine that we'll get there that quick. Then there's a week where the consensus decision is posted to the list for people to react to who were not able to make the call.

And then that same decision is revisited the following call; that's the protocol I'm going to use so that we don't - oop, that's pretty cool - so that we don't lose people that way. Evan, go ahead.

Evan Leibovitch: Hi, Mikey, I guess the only thing I'd ask for next week is that while I may not be - we may not be able to participate in the chat I can certainly have multiple Adobe Connect rooms open so at least if you could maybe pay a little bit more attention than usual to making sure that what's being discussed is described in the chat and the Adobe Connect; that would be very helpful.

Mikey O'Connor: Oh that's good to know. We'll try that. I am not the absolute greatest at watching the chat so maybe Marika and some of the others on the call can assist me with that and, you know, it's always good to have somebody sort of consciously keeping an eye on the chat and bugging the person who's running the meeting. I did that a lot to Fadi last week because he was not paying attention to chat at all. But, you know, we'll do that for sure.

Marika is typing. Oh okay and she's saying we'll make sure to communicate as soon as possible those dates where the meetings will take place at a later time. Yeah, what goes around comes around. Okay I think with that - Evan, is that an old hand or a new one?

Evan Leibovitch: Sorry, that's the same one. I'll take it down.

Mikey O'Connor: Same one, okay. I think with that then we're done unless there's anything else that's come up for people we'll call it a day. Please do jump in and start posting your favorite excerpts and links as comments - do it as comments. I think that's a great idea. Don't go right into the page. Marika and I will take on the page editing function because that way we don't get into the revision wars that gets tense and uninviting.

And then for those of you who don't have statements of interest completed yet please do do that because we're not doing this to exclude people; we're actually doing it to make it easier to include people. And so it's just part of the process there.

So this is sort of last call for statements of interest and so please go out and fill those out. I think that's it. The queue is clear. It's three minutes to the hour. We'll call it a day. Julie, can you wrap up the recording and we'll meet again in a week. Thanks all.

END