

**GNSO
Operations Steering Committee (OSC) GNSO Council Operations Work Team
10 February 2010 at 17:00 UTC**

Note: The following is the output of transcribing from an audio recording of the Operations Steering Committee (OSC) GNSO Council Operations Work Team teleconference on 10 February 2010 at 17:00 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 the meeting, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.

<http://audio.icann.org/gnso/gnso-ops-20100210.mp3>

On page:

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

(transcripts and recordings are found on the calendar page)

Participants on the Call:

Ray Fasset – Registries
Ron Andruff - CBUC
Wolf Ulrich Knoben - ISPC

Staff:

Ken Bour
Julie Hedlund
Rob Hoggarth
Gisella Gruber-White

Apologies:

Avri Doria – NCSG

Coordinator: Excuse me. This is the conference coordinator. At this time the call is being recorded.

Ray Fasset: Okay great. Hey Julie if this is ready, if you could go ahead and do a quick roll of who is all on the call?

Julie Hedlund: Sure I will. Thank you very much Ray. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. On the call today we have Ray Fasset, Ron Andruff from the work team. From staff we have Ken Bour, Robert Hoggarth, Gisella Gruber-White and Julie Hedlund.

Ray Fassett: Okay, so to confirm there right now are two members of the work team on the call?

Julie Hedlund: That's correct Ray.

Ray Fassett: Okay great. As I intimated on our email list earlier, just not long ago, I unfortunately have developed a hard stop conflict in about seven, eight minutes which would leave, in terms of work team participation, Ron Andruff who is also joining remotely from Vancouver which is probably a little difficult for him.

So, Avri gave her regrets as she would likely not be able to join today due to a conflict as well. Tony Holmes has been rather silent over the past couple weeks. I think we need to start pinging him to see - get him back into the loop here. He was a valuable member to our team. But, but to the point, I am going to recommend that we reschedule our call today to next week same time and pick up there. Is there any objection to that? Ron?

Ron Andruff: Not from me Ray. I support that recommendation.

Ray Fassett: All right. Thank you very much. Wolf is not on. I'm a little surprised. Did Wolf give his regrets as well?

Julie Hedlund: This is Julie. I think he did not but he does have a conflict with another call. He was going to be on this call but perhaps seeing that it looked like we might be postponing this call, perhaps he's joined the other one.

Ray Fassett: All right. I have one urgent matter of housekeeping I think we absolutely have to cover here at my neglect here's - Gisella you're on the call right?

Gisella Gruber-White: I'm on the...

Ray Fassett: Glen's not on the call right?

Gisella Gruber-White: Yes.

Ray Fassett: Okay.

Gisella Gruber-White: I'm on the call.

Ray Fassett: We need to nail down, and I'm going to go with Ron's recommendation earlier they put on the list. I think all we needed was one on the work team to kind of come forward and say yes we'd like to have an in-person meeting in Nairobi and one person did. So that's enough for me.

So I think we need now to confirm with Glen that we would like that space that - made available to us on Sunday. I understand it's going to cause conflicts for some on our work team, but I'd like to now take that formal step. Can you notify Glen that we need to do that Gisella?

Gisella Gruber-White: Absolutely.

Ray Fassett: Okay. So now it comes down to what our agenda may be for Nairobi or we can work on that. And I think there are - aren't there new procedures - can anybody inform me real quick, aren't there new procedures with regards to these ICANN public meetings where we have to like announce the myth information ahead of time for ICANN to post or something? Is anybody familiar with this?

Julie Hedlund: Ray this is Julie. For those meetings that are - that go on to the schedule, the agenda of the meeting needs to be posted ahead of time. Gisella you can correct me if I'm wrong, but I know that we do have to submit a meeting sort of notice for each scheduled meeting. And that needs to include the topics that will be discussed.

Ray Fassett: Um-hmm.

Gisella Gruber-White: Yes. That's correct. It needs to go up onto the main meeting schedule which is on the ICANN Web site. So in order to do so, we do need the information ahead of time.

Ray Fassett: And now there are deadlines to this right? Is February 15 for some reason I think I saw an email from Glen. I don't know why that date is sticking in my head for this but is that a - is that right? Is there like a deadline we have to like submit this by?

Gisella Gruber-White: I...

Man: All right.

Gisella Gruber-White: February 15 may be actually for the meeting itself. I will get the deadline for the agenda to...

Ray Fassett: Okay.

Gisella Gruber-White: ...you Ray.

Ray Fassett: Okay.

Gisella Gruber-White: Okay?

Ray Fassett: Well for us it won't be difficult. I think, you know, obviously the SOI-DOI will be on there. Likely the abstention procedures will be on there. There is this issue of coming up with a permanent procedure for what the Council approved as an interim procedure to Board seat 13. That's a hot one for us too to look at approving.

Julie Hedlund: Ray this is Julie. If I...

((Crosstalk))

Ray Fassett: Yes.

Julie Hedlund: ...just if you could send a message to the list when you get a chance saying that we will have a face to face meeting in Nairobi and copy Glen because I believe she's coordinating these.

Ray Fassett: Yes.

Julie Hedlund: And try to make sure that the time does not conflict with other scheduled meetings. And if you even just put tentative agenda items in that message, that would be enough I think for us to be able to get the information posted.

Ray Fassett: Yes. That's a good suggestion. I will do that today. That's a good idea. So any objection to those three things I just mentioned? We could always add to the agenda later. Of course we'll put any other business in there. So, but that's a good suggestion. That should do it for us for Nairobi.

Julie Hedlund: And Ray this is Julie again. I'm sorry to interrupt but I did get a message from Wolf-Ulrich. He said he was having difficulty getting on this call. He didn't have I think the correct password for...

((Crosstalk))

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Oh I just got in so.

Julie Hedlund: Did you? Okay very good. I wasn't looking at the meeting queue. Thank you.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Thanks.

Ray Fassett: Okay. Hello Wolf. Thanks for joining.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: Hello Ray.

Ray Fassett: Okay. So we have a relatively low participation of work team members today. Although we have held meetings with three or with three, we've decided Wolf I think we're going to go ahead and postpone this meeting to next week mostly because I have to drop off here now it's down...

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: Okay.

Ray Fassett: ...to two minutes.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: Okay. Okay.

Ray Fassett: I have to - okay so we'll postpone to next week. But, no I'm going to stretch it a little bit here. We've decided that we're going to go ahead and have a Nairobi in-person meeting. Okay. And I don't think we have a time block yet for ourselves but I'm going to go ahead and inform Glen that we are - we do want to have a timeslot and then I'll put a brief agenda that has to do with the SOI-DOI documents, the probably something to do with the abstention procedures and the status of those.

And then three would be it has to do with the Board seat 13 interim procedures that the Council approved it - and we want to double back now and look for a permanent procedure and discuss that. So that's where we're at. So I think you're up to speed now Wolf.

((Crosstalk))

Ray Fassett: I have - and I have another point to make here is I have looked through those comments that Ron and (Samantha) have done. There's one...

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: Yes.

Ray Fassett: ...particular issue that I would like to spend a couple of minutes on. And it has to - and I see both sides to this. It's (Samantha)'s point basically that there has to be some allowance for confidentiality. And this is in regards to People's Electronic Statement of Interest form being published publicly.

((Crosstalk))

Wolf-Ulrich Knochen: That...

Ray Fassett: And Ron comes back with well, you know, we really need these stringent rules or, you know, and I think Ron's point if I could just state it in sort of laymen terms is, you know, we've been dealing with this issue for years and now...

Wolf-Ulrich Knochen: Right.

Ray Fassett: ...what we're doing is where we want to go to - we want to swing that pendulum the other direction. But it's just been swung the other way far too long and a frustration to many. I see both sides to that - what (Samantha)'s bringing out and then what Ron's bringing out. I'm kind of leaning towards Ron's direction of the pendulum to be honest.

Wolf-Ulrich Knochen: Hmm.

Ray Fassett: Now real quick, Wolf, what are your com - and Ron I'd like to characterize is that okay for you?

Ron Andruff: No, you have. And if I - I would just put an addendum on that saying that my point of view was let's test it. Let's test it on ourselves and see if we feel uncomfortable reveal, you know, like I haven't done the test myself but...

((Crosstalk))

Ray Fassett: Yes. I hear you.

Ron Andruff: ...it's the idea of saying...

Ray Fassett: Yes.

Ron Andruff: ...if we just run ourselves through the process as we've originally outlined it, and if it does feel a little bit uncomfortable, then maybe we want to, you know, scale it back a little bit. But if in fact we go through it and say, you know, that's wasn't so painful and I'm not embarrassed or uncomfortable having this information public, then, you know, I think that would be as good a test as any.

Ray Fassett: Yes. I agree. I think that is a good idea. I will do that by the time of our next call.

Man: Um-hmm.

Ray Fassett: I would ask that Wolf do that and I would ask that if anybody - we make that an action Julie before...

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: Right. No exactly. Why don't we do that?

Ray Fassett: Yes. Yes, make...

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: Yes.

Ray Fassett: ...that an action item as a follow to our call. Attach this document again to it Julie and then state as an action item everybody is to complete what is it Section 3.3...

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: Hmm.

Ray Fassett: ...that basically it? Complete (disdastful) is one, two, three, four, five, five steps right?

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: Yes.

Ray Fassett: Okay. So everybody should take a stab at completing those five steps and then share on our next call what our experiences were in doing that.

And then I have a related issue to this too that I want Ron to think about and Wolf and others, you know, there are people that contact ICANN privately with their concerns or their questions or their issues. And how does that fall into all this?

You know, ICANN doesn't end, you know, how does it, you know, how does - I'm just curious on this one. How does that fall in? People contact ICANN privately.

Ron Andruff: No but that - Chair, this is Ron speaking. It's not - it's not that. It's more about when we're have - we're sitting in meetings or sitting in public rooms. And Wolf brought up a comment earlier today about how will this actually function in a public meeting.

The idea here is simply to say that when people are speaking about ICANN or raising their issue towards ICANN in public environments, then they need to be able to clarify or at least to be clarified somewhere in which capacity they're speaking.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: Um-hmm.

Ron Andruff: You know, so often you'll have people go up to the microphone, you know, as an example myself, I'm Ron Andruff from R&A Partners, a member of the business constituency, however today I'm speaking in my personal capacity...

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Yes.

Ron Andruff: ...or I'm speaking on behalf of my company, or I'm speaking on behalf of the BC.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Hmm.

Ron Andruff: You see those are the - this is...

((Crosstalk))

Ray Fassett: So in a public environment. That's what this is about. So the scope of this is relative to a public environment.

Ron Andruff: Exactly. Now on the, you know, we have those - the GNSO briefing meeting that takes place on the Saturday or the Sunday before the ICANN meeting gets underway. Same story there, there's a lot of different people speaking in the microphones. Some are counselors, some are just members of constituencies, some are not members of any constituency but they happen to be involved with ICANN for some way or another.

In those cases, it's the same thing. We're asking them just to, you know, so the Chairperson starts the meeting by saying anyone, you know, we trust everyone's statement of interest or declarations of interest are up to date and please, if there's been any change to your declaration or statements let us know before your - you speak.

So it's really something about just putting people on the hot seat to make sure that they're not trying to obfuscate, you know, the position they're coming from but rather they're being very candid about it.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Hmm. Ones the Wolf speaking. So I would agree to that. For me it was only the question so well how it is going to function. It's just that - so it means

it should be manageable and should be done - said and really briefly so that anybody come - understand, you know, what - where the original of the person is who is speaking, yes.

Ron Andruff: Right.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: So that's all about. So I would like to formalize that but some point should be resaid at that moment. That's all, yes.

Man: Yes.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Is that complete? So I would agree (unintelligible).

Ron Andruff: And that's really the def - it becomes part and parcel of every, you know, every time - there's going to be some training and development activities I believe as we've been talking over this time about how we develop leadership within the organization as a whole.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Yes.

Ron Andruff: And so part and parcel with that will be when you Chair a meeting, this, you know, this is how you will start the meeting. You'll take a roll call. You'll do this and that. And then you'll also ask for SOI-DOI statements or updates.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Okay.

Ron Andruff: And that way - it's just - what we're doing is we're just holding people accountable to...

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Oh.

Ron Andruff: ...you know, make - to make - we're making a moment in the meeting where we say, you know, you have an opportunity here to tell us...

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Yes.

Ron Andruff: ...for whom you're speaking. And if no - and if someone doesn't declare themselves, and it comes out after the fact that well just a second here, you know, you were advocating this position but you didn't declare your interest in this. This is where the rubber hits the road. This is where the embarrassment should be kicking and we should be able to hold people accountable.

And that's why I'm an advocate for making a stronger statement than a weaker statement because while it's true people might be uncomfortable putting - it may be true people are uncomfortable putting too much data in there. On the other hand, this is a very open and transparent process called ICANN and we have to live by those rules. Everyone has...

((Crosstalk))

Ray Fassett: I mean I'm going to share with you just a - what I - it's really kind of been annoying me lately and I don't mind us being recorded. But, you know, ever since the ICANN signing of the Affirmation of Commitments, any time somebody has a position that happens to be - then they want to present that position now. It just seems to me, and it could be just me. But the first thing - it doesn't represent the public interest, doesn't represent it, whatever it may be.

You know, it has ICANN is done what they needed to represent the public interest. When really, it's sort of a guise of, you know, whatever there - that person's interest really is, you know.

Ron Andruff: Yes, yes, yes, putting up a smokescreen...

((Crosstalk))

Ray Fassett: Yes. Putting up a smoke...

Ron Andruff: ...putting up a smokescreen.

Ray Fassett: And this is now happening so over and over it's starting to become nauseous to me to be honest with you. So, this is I think to Ron's point. I mean, you know, you don't just say because, you know, I - it has to do with the public interest as if you're representing the public interest in your view.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Right. Right.

Ray Fassett: What you're not disclosing is that you are, you know, you are under hire by somebody who want, you know, wants you to present that opinion - position for their gain. Whatever it is, but as - but - is everybody else seen this now? It seems like anything now that ICANN wants to move or do on or make an action on, somebody brings up the public interest.

Ray Andruff: Yes. Well yes, I have a (unintelligible) everything as well Ray. You're not alone.

Ray Fassett: Okay. So, you know, I think I part that's what this - I mean there's nothing back to point to to say, well, you know, look Mr. (Smith), we know, you know, I mean who you're affiliated with. And is this really about the serving the public interest or not? And without a statement out there of what your affiliations are or what your motivations are, I think it's causing harm. I think it's causing confusion and bogging things down to be honest with you.

I mean ICANN is constantly being accused that it can't get things done. It's always bogged down, can't - and I think we, you know, this is part of that in a small way but part of that or am I completely off line.

Ron Andruff: No you're - I agree with you Chair.

Ray Fassett: Okay. So anyway, I'm at a hard stop now. I've stretched it a little bit.

Wolf-Ulrich Knochen: Hmm.

Ray Fassett: I'm going to ask that we end the recording, adjourn the call. Now with that said, there's nothing to prevent the - you guys on this call now to go ahead and spend another 15, 20 minutes and just talk about things relevant to our subject matter. So I will...

Ron Andruuff: Well I would, Chair if I may? This is Ron. I would suggest that we postpone only because it's - I think we - the more minds we can bring around something, it's always a healthier way to approach this than if it's just Wolf-Ulrich and I on the call, I'm not sure how much ground we'll be able to cover today. So from my point of view...

((Crosstalk))

Wolf-Ulrich Knochen: In addition, yes, the call in (Pabalo) which I will join right now, so.

Ray Fassett: Okay. I'm not in disagreement. Then one last thing I have for Ken Bour. Are you all set now with your call to action so to speak of continuing on with (Samantha) on the abstentions issue? And I take Ken your comments to mean that (Samantha) has answered in lieu of (Dan), right?

Ken Bour: Yes. I believe that's correct. And yes, I feel properly instructed. Thank you for your note. The ball's in my court and I'll get you guys something as soon as we can.

Ray Fassett: Okay. And the idea here is to still get it in front of the OSC in time for - to be in front of the Council as part of Nairobi, right?

Ken Bour: Yes. Well, if we're going to send a motion into the Council, then it needs to be to them eight days ahead of time.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: Yes.

Ray Fassett: All right. So let's just keep working on that, okay?

Ken Bour: Yes sir.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: That means...

Ray Fassett: Okay that's me. Got to run guys. Let's please end the recording and adjourn the meeting.

Julie Hedlund: Thank you very much Ray.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: Okay. Bye.

Ray Fassett: Thank you very much everybody.

Ron Andruff: Thank you...

((Crosstalk))

Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen: Bye-bye.

Julie Hedlund: Bye-bye.

Ray Fassett: Um-hmm. Bye-bye.

Gisella Gruber-White: Thank you everyone. Bye-bye.

Ron Andruff: Bye for now.

Gisella Gruber-White: Thank you (Ed).

Coordinator: Thank you very much. I'll go ahead and get the list out and stop the recordings, okay?

Gisella Gruber-White: Lovely. Take care. Enjoy the rest of your day.

Coordinator: You too. Thank you very much.

Gisella Gruber-White: Bye-bye.

Coordinator: Bye-bye.

Gisella Gruber-White: Okay. Bye-bye.

END