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JULIE BISLAND:

For the recording, this is Julie Bisland. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. Welcome to the DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP-1 working group call taking place on Monday, the 23rd of March, 2026. It looks like we just have one person joining late, Michaela Shapiro, and no apologies.

Statements of Interest must be kept up to date. Does anyone have any updates to share? If so, please raise your hand or speak up now. If assistance is needed updating your SOI, please email the GNSO Secretariat. All members, participants, and alternates will be promoted to panelists. Observers will remain as attendees and will have access to view chat only.

All documentation and information can be found on the DNS Abuse PDP-1 working group wiki space. Recordings will be posted shortly after the end of the call. Please remember to state your name before speaking for the recording. As a reminder, participation in ICANN, including this session, is governed by the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior, the ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy, and the ICANN Community Participant Code of Conduct. Thank you. Over to our chair, Paul McGrady. Please begin, Paul.

PAUL MCGRADY:

Thank you, Julie. Welcome, everybody. I hope those of you that were in Mumbai, your travels were free from incident and everybody got home on time and safely. Just a quick recap on what we covered. In Mumbai, we took care of some housekeeping issues. We had a reminder about

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*Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.*

the consensus playbook. I think that was an especially useful session, especially for those that are new to GNSO processes or come from other parts of the community. There is going to be some adjustment to how we do things, so I think that was a useful thing. We also got to spend some time actually jumping into question number one. I thought that was kind of neat to see how we all worked together on that. That was great.

We have a full agenda today, so we will go ahead and get started. First, we want to talk about the update on the vice chair selection procedure. We kicked around various models, some more complex than others. Ultimately, here is where we landed. We have questions of who can vote. We have members and participants voting, not alternates. The theory behind that, of course, is that alternates participate when a member or a participant cannot. Since this will be an electronic ballot, I think everybody can participate. If for some reason you cannot participate in the vote and would like to appoint your alternate, do let us know.

How many votes? Each member or participant will get one vote, and it will be a ranked choice of all five candidates. That is fairly consistent with how we do things elsewhere in the GNSO. We will use an e-ballot. Then the question of when do we vote? I see Farzaneh's comment. Yes, this is a highly attended PDP, Farzaneh. We are doing great, right?

When can we vote? It will be through an email link with instructions that the GNSO Secretariat will send out after this working group meeting. We have pretty close to four days for the voting window. It is there in red, ending March 27th at 23:59 UTC. Once you cast your vote,

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it cannot be changed, so no typo voting because we won't be able to reverse it.

What other things do you need to think about in this context? First, if the first round of ranked choice votes does not produce an overwhelming majority in favor of a particular single candidate, then we will do a second round of single choice voting. The bottom three candidates will be dropped, and the top two will remain, and then we will have a winner from there. Sometimes we have to do both rounds, so we will do that if necessary.

We do not have a ton of time on our calendar for this particular item, but if there are immediate questions, go ahead and raise your hand and we will see if we can knock out two or three. I do not see any hands up, so that must mean that we all get it. Terrific. Now the fun part. This... oh, we have a hand from Eberhard. Go ahead.

EBERHARD LISSE: Please look in the chat.

PAUL MCGRADY: I will do my best to keep up with chat, but I am one of these guys that struggles to do that while also chairing. If you have something you would like to say, Eberhard, please go ahead.

EBERHARD LISSE: Reg had something to say. She posted to the chat, "I didn't realize ranked choice was a GNSO form of voting."

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PAUL MCGRADY:

We use different forms of voting depending on the circumstance. But yes, we have used ranked choice in the past. Great. Okay. Terrific. Let's get on with the introduction of working group members. This would have been a wonderful thing to do in our very first meeting if we had not all been together and wanted to use our time in Mumbai in person to jump into some substance and other things. It is sometimes nice to start these kinds of PDPs with these kinds of introductions. But that is okay. We will do it now. We are not that far in. We do not have gobs of time, but we would like for each member to state their name, their role in the working group—for example, member, participant, or alternate—and any affiliations.

We say one sentence on backgrounds and expertise, but if you slip into two or three, no one will be terribly upset with you. We would love for you to give us a sentence on why you are here. That may be as simple as being drafted by your group, or having a deep interest in this topic. Instead of running a formal queue where I call out people's names, staff has put together this delightful chart. Everybody is in order, so if we can start with Volker and work our way across to Theo, and then go down to the next slide and so on, without all the interruptions from me trying to run a queue that will just add unnecessary time and delay us. Volker, if you can go ahead and kick us off, I would appreciate it.

VOLKER GREIMANN:

Surprise, you're first. Hello, I'm Volker Greimann. I am head of Compliance and Policy of the Domains Division of Team Internet, which

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was the company formerly known as CentralNic. Many of you will probably know it under that name. I've been working on DNS abuse issues for many years now. Back in the time when we were still only Key Systems, I was the only one dealing with abuse for us. By now, we've bloomed to a team that I lead.

I'm here to make sure that whatever we come up with is implementable but also targeted towards actually achieving measurable impact against DNS abuse. Having seen various efforts fail in the past, I think it's essential that we bring some voices from the actual practice that have seen what works and what doesn't. Thank you.

NATALIE HOWATSON:

Hi, everyone. This is Natalie Howatson for the record. I'm one of the four member reps for the RrSG on this PDP. I've been working on DNS abuse at Com Laude, which is a corporate domain name registrar, for the last five years. This is my first PDP working group experience, and I'm excited to contribute to achieve a positive outcome on associated domain checks.

ERIC ROKOBAUER:

Hey, everybody. My name is Eric Rokobauer. No offense to the Erics with a K, but the best one is Eric with a C, just so everyone knows. I am looking forward to working with this group as a member for the RrSG. I work for Squarespace Domains, a retail registrar. I have been there for just over two years, but I've been in the industry for about 15 or 16 years. I worked at other registrars in the past. I started from a support operations perspective, so I've had the experience of working on a

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bunch of abuse issues and training other agents. That's what I'm hoping to bring here, to really help reinforce the variety of processes that registrars use and making sure we recognize that in our discussions. Looking forward to working with everyone. Thanks.

CARLOS BECERRA:

Hey, everybody. This is Carlos Becerra for the record. I am a member. This is my first PDP. I am the Director of Trust and Safety Operations for GoDaddy. Why I am here is that I would like to see any policy developed to be something that is implementable and practical. That is my interest in this PDP.

REG LEVY:

My name is Reg Levy. I'm Associate General Counsel for Tucows, and apparently Paul's favorite person. I am participating in this PDP as a participant. I am extremely interested in DNS abuse and mitigating it, or rather mitigating it above the abuse itself. I'm looking forward to making sure that we come up with something that can be implemented for all business models.

THEO GEURTS:

Hi, my name is Theo Geurts. I work at Realtime Register. My work mainly is around investigating cybercrime and domain name abuse. I've been doing this for a very long time. This isn't my first rodeo. This feels like the millionth PDP or IRT; I've done countless of them. I hope to help everybody out when it comes to the real deal regarding domain name associated checks. Thanks.

DENNIS TAN: Hello, this is Dennis Tan. I'm with Verisign, and I'm one of the RySG members on this PDP. My background is in product management and I moved on to policy because of that expertise. Why I am here on this DNS abuse PDP is that I want to see it through, come up with tangible, implementable solutions, and keep the work within scope and on time.

BRIAN CIMBOLIC: Hi, everyone. My name is Brian Cimbolic. I'm another RySG member. I'm with Public Interest Registry. I'm Chief Legal and Policy Officer, and one of the hats I wear is that I oversee our anti-abuse program.

NEHA NAIR: Hello, all. My name is Neha Vijay Nair. I head the abuse mitigation programs at Radix Registry, and I'm here as a participant for the RySG. This is also my first PDP, and I'm extremely interested in making that concrete step towards reducing abuse operations. Thank you.

CHRIS DISSPAIN: Hello, everyone. This is Chris. I'm Senior Advisor on Policy and Internet Governance to Identity Digital, and I'm also the co-chair, along with Dennis, of the CPH DNS Abuse Working Group. I'm an alternate on this PDP, and my goal is to be involved as little as possible as an alternate if I can be, but I stand ready to step in if need be. Thank you.

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MARC TRACHTENBERG: I'm Marc Trachtenberg. I'm a shareholder at Greenberg Traurig, which is a large law firm, and I'm the chair of its Internet domain name, e-commerce, and social media practice. I represent brand owners of all sizes, registries, and registrars. I have been working to deal with DNS abuse for over 20 years, both for brand owners primarily, but also for registries and registrars. I am participating as a member for the IPC. I'm looking forward to and hoping to get to a result that is practical, implementable, and has a meaningful impact on DNS abuse. Just for Terri, I think Mary Penn is in her car on the phone, so I'm not sure how she will be able to participate and introduce herself.

PAUL MCGRADY: Mary, can you hear us and is it possible for you to speak? If not, we'll move on to Hector.

MARY PENN: Are you able to hear me?

PAUL MCGRADY: Yes.

MARY PENN: Yes, perfect. Got that to work. Hi, Mary Penn. I'm Managing Associate General Counsel for Verizon. I handle a wide variety of intellectual property concerns, heavy on the enforcement. I basically do everything other than patents. I'm representing the IPC with Marc, and I am excited to learn. This is my first PDP, but I have a lot of experience from the

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brand ownership side with respect to DNS abuse. I'm excited to learn and contribute.

PAUL MCGRADY: All right. Thank you. Hector, go ahead, and we'll get back on the usual roll. Hector, are you with us?

JULIE BISLAND: Paul, Hector is not on.

PAUL MCGRADY: All right. Well, let's move on to David Hughes. Is David on?

JULIE BISLAND: I am also not seeing David.

PAUL MCGRADY: Okay. Well, we did pretty good until we got to the IPC guys. All right. Luke, go ahead.

LUKE WOOD: Thanks, everyone. Luke here from Netcraft. I'm the Global Infrastructure Partnership Lead. I've been a part of Netcraft for five and a half years. I started in the operations team, so I have seen a very wide-ranging volume of abusive domain names. This is my first PDP as well. I am looking forward to contributing our experience and knowledge in

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this space and helping to inform the wider discussions. Thanks, everyone.

CHING CHIAO:

Hello, this is Ching. Can you hear me well? This is Ching Chiao. I'm the full member from the BC. Nice talking to everybody through Zoom. This is probably my tenth or eleventh PDP over about 25 years. I have been with registries, registrars, and now with the BC side. My daytime job is with a DNS intelligence company called WhoisXML API. We deal with DNS abuse, ADC publishers, and DGA on a daily basis. The goal for me being part of this group is to find a way to reduce the harm posed on the victims of phishing or DNS abuse. Very happy to be here. Thanks.

PAUL MCGRADY:

Yeah.

CHING CHIAO:

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LAWRENCE OLAWALE-ROBERTS: Hi, this is Lawrence Olawale-Roberts. I happen to be a participant representing the BC on this PDP. In terms of interest, my interest is basically to help see how we can develop policy to ensure that DNS abuse is mitigated in terms of associated domain checks. I am very happy to collaborate with the rest of the community and hope that we are able to ensure bad actors do not continue to have a huge day in their bid to perpetrate crime. Thank you. This also happens to be my second PDP within the ICANN community. Thank you.

VIVEK GOYAL: Hi, this is Vivek Goyal. I'm an alternate and a member of the BC. I am the COO of LdotR. It's an online brand protection company, and we have been working and fighting abuse for the last five years in India, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. My aim is to help build policy that can make an impact on the rising cases of DNS abuse while being practical, implementable, and measurable. Thank you.

NITIN WALIA: Hi, everyone. This is Nitin Walia. I am the ISPCP representative here as a member. I'm Director for Data Ingenious Global Limited and Data Ingenious Technologies. As far as my background is concerned, I bring almost 25 years of ICT experience, specifically in ISP operations as a registrar and as an email service provider. We are also dealing with large infrastructures and managing mission-critical internet services and other aspects. As far as this particular PDP is concerned, this is my second PDP. In this PDP, I am specifically representing ISPs. I'm here to

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contribute to practical, scalable solutions that strengthen the stability, security, and efficiency of the global internet ecosystem. Thank you.

THOMAS RICKERT:

My name is Thomas Rickert. My day job is being a lawyer. I own a law firm in Bonn, Germany. My team and I help intermediaries' abuse teams with responding to abuse reports. Next to that, I am working with the eco Association, an Internet Industry Association with roughly a thousand members. Specifically, I work on the TopDNS project, where we are trying to bridge the gap between different types of intermediaries that so far have been acting more or less in isolation. We are trying to bring together the different types of intermediaries so that they can all live up to their roles and responsibilities.

In this very group, I'm interested in finding pragmatic solutions that are easy to implement and lead to proportionate and lawful results. I think you may hear me remind everyone of ICANN's limited mandate, because I think it's very intriguing for stakeholders to try to make ICANN do things that probably are outside or stretching ICANN's mandate according to its bylaws. ICANN has the superpower that they can, through its compliance department, reach out to contracted parties all around the world, and that sometimes is easier than trying to deal with hosting companies and others to have action taken against illegal content. I think ICANN's success depends on it staying focused. With that said, thank you so much. Anil, over to you.

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ANIL KUMAR JAIN:

Thank you, Thomas. Thank you, Paul, for giving me this opportunity to talk about myself. I am a participant on behalf of the ISPCP. I have participated in three more PDPs before coming to this PDP, starting with IDN ccTLD Working Group 4, where I was vice chair. Other than PDPs in ICANN, I was chair of the UASG from 2023 to 2025. Right now, the UA expert group is discussing most of the recommendations given by the UASG during my tenure.

Regarding why I am interested in DNS abuse, I was Chief Executive Officer of NIXI, which has sponsored ICANN 85. NIXI is responsible for delegating the .in and .Bharat domains, which are ccTLD domains. We were managing more than 175 internet exchanges, which is perhaps the biggest in the world, and we were also delegating IPv4 and IPv6. During my tenure as the CEO, we observed that there are several cases which are harming users from a financial, reputational, and emotional point of view. I started a DNS abuse committee and was national chair of the DNS abuse committee in India. This is a serious issue worldwide, and my heart is there to contribute to DNS abuse mitigation wherever it is possible. That is the reason I am here. Thank you. Over to Shantanu.

SANTANU ACHARYA:

Good day, everyone. My name is Santanu Acharya, and I've joined as an alternate from the ISPCP. This is my first PDP-1, so I'm here to participate, learn, and provide my thoughts. I believe that PDP-1 represents not just discussions but actions, bringing stakeholders together to build consensus and drive meaningful changes. As we move forward, let us continue to prioritize transparency, inclusivity, and

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innovation in everything we do. Professionally, I am a CPA and a lawyer, and I am working with ISPs in India. Thank you.

PAUL MCGRADY:

I don't know if you guys can hear me. We're about to go to Farzaneh. But before we do that, just a reminder that if we all do opening statements, we're not going to get through. We only have a certain amount of time. If we can limit it to something brief, that would be terrific. There will be plenty of time for opening statements as we spend the next months together. Farzaneh, could you go ahead?

FARZANEH BADIEI:

Hi, everybody. My name is Farzaneh Badiei. I'm a member of the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group. I'm here to infuse human rights values and make sure that we do not affect people's access to domain names and their human rights in the course of our work. Thank you.

PAUL MCGRADY:

I don't think Michaela Shapiro's been able to join yet. She indicated she was going to be a bit late, so if she's on later, we'll have a chance then. Benjamin, if you can go ahead?

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE:

Hi, everybody. Good afternoon. My name is Benjamin Akinmoyeje, and I'm a participant on this working group representing the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group. I'm also here to contribute and ensure we bring some of the human rights interests I have to the working

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group to encourage us to mitigate DNS abuse with rights-respecting solutions and policies. Thank you. I'm excited to meet everyone.

EDMUND BRAHENE:

Thank you very much, Paul and the team. For my part, I'm Edmund Brahene from Ghana, representing the NCSG group. I have been actively involved in the IT space, and this is my first PDP, if I should say so, although I've worked in some groups with Avri and company. I think I have a fair understanding of how PDP works. I'm particularly interested in DNS mitigation and abuse because if you look around the world now, it's becoming one of the most serious and topical issues creating a lot of chaos. Being someone into cybersecurity, internet governance, and internal controls, I think I am good to go, hoping for learning as well as contributing meaningfully towards this project. Thank you.

PAUL MCGRADY:

Farell, you're up.

FARELL FOLLY:

Hello. Can you hear me?

PAUL MCGRADY:

Yes.

FARELL FOLLY:

Good morning, everyone. I'm Farell Folly. I'm part of the Not-for-Profit Organizations Constituency within the NCSG. Globally, I represent or will

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be representing the interests of the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group, unless something has changed. My interest in participating in this PDP is to bring back some technical insight and also learn from other peers how we can ensure the security and stability of the DNS in general. Thank you very much. This is my third or fourth PDP, and I'm quite used to the process, but we never know how long a PDP will last until we start it.

PAUL MCGRADY: Yao, are you with us?

JULIE BISLAND: Yao is not on. Thank you, Paul.

PAUL MCGRADY: Okay. Godsway.

GODSWAY KUBI: Hi, everyone. I hope I'm audible. It's great to be here. I'm Godsway Kubi, currently a cyber risk consultant for Deloitte Ghana and also a Data Protection Officer. My work also spans across online trust and safety and DNS security. I'm participating in this PDP as a participant for NPOC. I'm interested in contributing perspectives around effective abuse mitigation while also ensuring that our policy recommendations remain practical.

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I also look for implementation and consistency when it comes to privacy and human rights considerations. I am looking forward to learning from this group and also contributing constructively to the development of a balanced recommendation. This is my first PDP as well. Thank you.

PAUL MCGRADY: Christabel, are you with us?

CHRISTABEL MEBAGHANDU: Yes. Good day, everyone. I'm Christabel Mebaghandu, CTO at the Civil Center for Peace, Justice, and Development. My work at the CCPJD intersects digital transformation and human rights. I'm affiliated with NPOC, part of the NCSG. I'm currently an alternate for this particular PDP. I am especially interested in this PDP owing to its implications for end users, the safety of the internet, and promoting trust in the internet overall. I am extremely happy to be part of this process. Thank you very much.

PAUL MCGRADY: Juliana, are you with us?

JULIE BISLAND: Juliana, you'll have to unmute your mic.

PAUL MCGRADY: Well, maybe we'll come back to her. Bruna, keep going. Thanks.

BRUNA SANTOS: Thanks, Paul. I was about to jump in. Hi, everyone. My name is Bruna Santos. I currently work at WITNESS, which is a human rights organization working on video and calling out human rights abuses across the globe. I focus on AI policy and platform transparency, which is a good part of my experience apart from internet governance spaces and platform governance in the broader sense. I'm a member on behalf of NCUC. My interest in this PDP is to align with my other NCSG colleagues on behalf of human rights concerns and considerations, and also equity in the broader sense. Thanks, Paul.

JULIE BISLAND: Paul, Juliana said she's back.

JULIANA HARSIANTI: Hello. Good day, everyone. It's Juliana, member representing NCUC. My daily work is as a researcher working on human-technology interaction, cybersecurity, data policy, and data protection policy. This is my second PDP within the GNSO. I joined this PDP because DNS abuse is an important topic. I hope I can share my knowledge and have fruitful discussions among the other participants and members. Thank you.

JULIE BISLAND: Paul, we're missing John and Emmanuel.

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PAUL MCGRADY: Gotcha. Okay. Let us move on then to Eberhard.

EBERHARD LISSE: Hi there. I'm Eberhard Lisse. I am the Managing Director of .na, the country code Top-Level Domain for Namibia. I have been running .na since 1991 uninterrupted. I am the chair of the technical working group of the ccNSO, and I volunteered and was selected as a member because of my technical interest in the matter. My interest is mainly to see how this is going to be implemented, not only from the technical side but also from the cost side. I have a day job and a night job from which I am retired; I was an obstetrician and gynecologist until a year and a half ago.

NICK WENBAN-SMITH: I guess it's me next. It's Nick Wenban-Smith. I am the General Counsel for .uk, appointed by the ccNSO as a member here. My participation is largely predicated by the fact that I chair the ccNSO's DNS Abuse Standing Committee. Thanks.

DIEGO LUNA: Hello, everyone. My name is Diego Luna. I am also part of the DNS Abuse Standing Committee. I am part of the legal counsel for .co. I'm also in charge of the public policy update in DNS abuse right now for .co.

JULIE BISLAND: Paul, we're missing Bruce.

EBERHARD LISSE: Bruce Tonkin is known to everybody. He used to be on the ICANN Board and has worked at .au for many years. Just to give a short statement for him.

STEINAR GRØTTERØD: Hi, this is Steinar Grøtterød. I'm the At-Large member. I have long experience within this ecosystem as an ISP, ICANN-accredited registrar, registry operator, and also working for a company offering services for registries and registrars to stay in compliance with their DNS abuse requirements in the contract with ICANN. My goal is to see that the At-Large and the end users have a say in the outcome of this PDP. Thank you.

KATHLEEN SCOGGIN: Hi, everyone. I'm Kathleen Scoggin. I'm the other member from the ALAC. This is my first PDP, but professionally I work on the whole cyber scams ecosystem, particularly scam compounds from the human trafficking angle. I am looking forward to bringing that perspective and working with all of you. Thanks.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Hello, everyone. My name is Claire Craig. I am one of the co-vice chairs of the At-Large Advisory Committee. This is my first PDP. I'm usually involved in operation, finance, and budget on the ALAC, and this is going to give me an opportunity to get more involved on the policy side of things. Thank you.

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**EUNICE PEREZ:** Hello. My name is Eunice Alejandra Perez Coello. I am participating in the working group as an alternate from the At-Large community, representing the perspective of the end users. I am a university professor and an electronic engineer specializing in communication and information security. We are particularly interested in how DNS abuse affects users and trust in the internet ecosystem. This is my first PDP, and I am interested in actively participating, learning from the group, and contributing where I can support the process. Thank you.

**MARTINA BARBERO:** Hi, everyone. This is Martina Barbero. I'm a member from the GAC. I work for the European Commission, where I've been the alternate for the European Commission in the GAC for the last three years. I've also been the co-lead on DNS abuse together with Japan and the US in the last couple of years. This is my first PDP, and I sincerely look forward to contributing to making sure that ICANN policies are adequate for addressing this increasingly worrisome phenomenon, which is DNS abuse for governments. Thank you very much.

**GABRIEL ANDREWS:** Hi, all. This is Gabriel Andrews. I'm the other of the two GAC members. My background is in law enforcement and cybercrime investigations in the US. Recognizing that the GAC has shown a high level of interest in DNS abuse topics, one of my primary goals is to make sure its members stay aware of these ongoing discussions and that their voices can be part of it. Thank you.

**WOLFGANG HOLZAPFEL:** Hi, everyone. This is Wolfgang Holzapfel from the German government and GAC alternate and PSWG member. I'm in this PDP as a participant. It's my first PDP, and of course, the goal is mitigating DNS abuse. Thanks.

**NAOUM MENGOU DIS:** Hello, everyone. I'm Naoum Mengoudis from the Hellenic Police. I work for the Online Child Protection Department of our Cybercrime Directorate. In ICANN, I represent the law enforcement community of the European Union. I'm interested in this PDP because it directly affects our investigations.

**PAUL MCGRADY:** Rod, we're ready for you.

**ROD RASMUSSEN:** Hi, I'm Rod Rasmussen, member from the SSAC. I'm a former SSAC chair and participate in a lot of industry groups like the Anti-Phishing Working Group and M3AAWG, dealing primarily in abuse and DNS abuse. I started and ran a cybersecurity company that dealt with millions of incidents over the years, primarily phishing, and probably helped get millions of domain names suspended for those kinds of abuses. I am looking forward to seeing how we can put some things together to make it a lot harder for these large campaigns to utilize and abuse the Domain Name System at scale. I think we can do a good job of that, and I look forward to helping. Thanks.

MATTHEW THOMAS: My name is Matthew Thomas. I work at Verisign as a fellow in the Cyber Strategy and Applied Research group. I am the second member from the SSAC. This is my first PDP, and I'm looking forward to contributing my knowledge and experience with DNS abuse. Thanks.

PAUL MCGRADY: We will go on to the RSSAC participant.

ERUM WELLING: It's spelled RSSAC. Thank you. Can you hear me okay?

PAUL MCGRADY: Yes.

ERUM WELLING: Great, thank you. Erum Welling, RSSAC representative to the group. I come from a vast technology and policy background in cybersecurity and have certifications in it. I work in various spaces related to the global internet and its technologies and the abuse of those technologies. This is very relevant to areas I'm interested in, and hopefully I can contribute because DNS abuse obviously impacts more than the ICANN community; it impacts the entire world. I'm very eager to get started. I heard somebody say we've tried things in the past, so I would love to hear what we've tried so we don't repeat those same ideas and see where we can go in the future. Thank you so much.

PAUL MCGRADY: Staff, you're up.

FEODORA HAMZA: Hi, everyone. This is Feodora from ICANN Org. I'm the staff lead for supporting the PDP, and I look forward to working with you all. I hand over to John.

JOHN EMERY: Thank you, Feodora. I'm second on this PDP, working with GNSO. Happy to work with all of you on this important topic.

STEVE CHAN: Hi, everyone, this is Steve Chan. I lead the GNSO support team, but in this PDP, I take my marching orders from Feodora and John. Surprisingly, this is not my first PDP. Thanks.

JULIE BISLAND: Hi, everyone. Julie Bisland, happy to help you in any way I can. I'm here at your service.

TERRI AGNEW: Hi, everyone. Terri Agnew. Julie and I will be operation support. When you send an email to the GNSO Secretariat, we're the gals that you're talking to who will try to help you when needed. Back to you.

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PAUL MCGRADY: Thanks, Terri. All right, thanks, everybody. The last group is the leadership composition. I'm Paul McGrady. I am a long-term participant in the IPC, but most recently rolled off Council after representing the Non-Contracted Parties House for four years following a NomCom appointment. We have an open vice chair and have talked about how we're going to fill that role. We have a Council liaison, and I think she's on today. Jennifer, are you on?

JENNIFER CHUNG: Yes, I am. Thanks, Paul. I'm going to be short. I'm your Council liaison. I am your conduit between the working group and GNSO Council. I am the Council vice chair, and I'm on here because I unfortunately led the small team on this and then the charter drafting team. Council thought I should continue my responsibilities and serve you all. Thanks.

PAUL MCGRADY: Thanks, Jennifer. We're glad you're here. We are weirdly staying on track, so this is great. The next thing we're going to do is an update on the review of the work plan, ultimately with the goal of getting this finalized. We have already had some discussions about the number of meetings everybody is prepared to have in a particular week, their length, and a commitment to not spend a lot of time on these calls pontificating or repeating ourselves, as well as a commitment to work in the interstitial meetings.

One of the things I am going to do, and I'll admit I'm using an AI to help, is that I will be periodically sending an analysis of our email strings so we can see participation levels and what we're talking about. The

participation levels are interesting because we have a robust email list, but there is a concentration of specific people participating. I would love to see the pie chart look much more colorful. On the topics we're discussing, right now we are spending a lot of time on early PDP things like leadership roles, logistics, and scheduling. Policy discussion only accounts for about 15%, but as we evolve, I think that policy slice will go up.

One thing we can do to make our email list more efficient is to reduce simple acknowledgments like "received with thanks." I know we like to be polite, but everybody on the working group gets those emails. Maybe those would be a good opportunity to just write specifically to the person who sent it. I'll run that diagnostic from time to time to see how healthy we are. Staff is looking for tools to evolve us because emails are quite unwieldy. Let's look at the draft timeline milestones. Eberhard, I see your hand. I'm going to get a couple of slides in and then take your cue.

ICANN 85 was our kickoff. We have early inputs from the SOs and ACs and are gathering those to look over. We are going to be confirming this project plan along with meeting dates. Once those are locked in, they stay locked in. I asked everybody to take a look at any Monday that would be problematic due to a holiday. If we have enough Monday problems, we will find a new day for our call. If we have a reasonable amount, we will reschedule those calls. If rescheduling to a Tuesday also raises a holiday problem, please note that.

The purpose of having an alternate is for when you cannot make it, so I don't know that we're going to get 100% attendance for anyone. The

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timeframe on that homework assignment expires tomorrow at 11:59 UTC, so please get those in. Then we will be locked in. So speak now or forever hold your peace. We will confirm the project plan, and the next major milestone is February 27th. We will have public comment after the initial report is done, finalize it, and submit the final report. Council will then consider it and vote, followed by the Board. After we hand it off to Council, we are off the hook.

On the proposed project plan, we have overview and discussion of policy topics, understanding the charter, and developing an initial approach. We will be developing definitions and terminology throughout this process. We have inputs from other SOs and ACs underway. We will have three overarching topics: initiating associated domain name checks, demonstrating compliance, and impact assessments. We will do impact assessments on a rolling basis so we don't realize later that we have done something fundamentally flawed regarding human rights. We will hold these stable and then do a robust wordsmithing exercise at the end.

We will get into initial report drafting and populate the stable drafts. We will discuss and improve the findings and interim recommendations. These are the timeframes we are stuck with; these are bylaw-required things. It can be disheartening to be told the fastest you can get something done isn't fast enough, but these timeframes are out of our control. What is in our control are the things in green, such as deliberations and drafting the initial report. If we don't need 20 weeks, we don't have to take 20 weeks. We may be able to shave some time off there. We can also speed things up after the final report depending on public comment. I know Farzaneh will remind me that quality matters

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and speed isn't everything, and that is true. But we don't have to be slow for its own sake either. We will move with all deliberate haste and will not cut corners, but we also won't waste time. Reg, please go ahead.

REG LEVY: Thank you. Reg Levy from Tucows, RrSG. I'm concerned about the use of LLM technologies. My understanding is that ICANN did not allow them for meeting purposes, so I'm curious as to why they are allowable for email listing.

PAUL MCGRADY: Help me understand your question better. Is the objection that I ran the chart or the emails through one to give us a basic understanding of where we are sitting? If that's the problem, I'll say that is not an ICANN-sanctioned thing. If anybody objects to getting that data on the main mailing list, I'm happy to take a side list of volunteers to keep track of that with me. Is that the concern?

REG LEVY: My concern is my data being used to train LLM technologies without my consent.

PAUL MCGRADY: It is public information on a public list that anyone can access. But if you have a concern, we will figure out how to do that. It is not an official ICANN anything, but it is a good exercise to see how we're spending our

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time. Maybe we have to do it the old-fashioned way in a spreadsheet and train the humans instead. Bruna?

BRUNA SANTOS:

Thanks, Paul. I'm adding a plus one on that. Although it is publicly available, it is a completely different thing to have data available publicly versus prompting it on one of those systems. I'm putting my hand up to help you with the analysis if you need it. I have a question regarding the work plan. Given the possibility of the Oman meeting being canceled, I noticed that this PDP relies on face-to-face meetings. If Oman moves to fully online, would we be able to convene the PDP in a face-to-face gathering? That seems to be a core moment for finalizing the report.

PAUL MCGRADY:

That is a great question. I don't know the answer. I would have to talk to staff about that because it would be an expense. It is contingent on what happens with Oman. If we keep that meeting in person, we'll spend time together. We are also working to have several in-real-life sessions in Seville to accelerate the work. We will take that back. To Reg, I did the analysis in my own instance, so it is not training any LLMs. I don't know if that makes you feel better. If we have to do it by hand, we will. The purpose is to encourage participation and ensure voices aren't drowned out by a small group. Lawrence, go ahead.

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LAWRENCE OLAWALE-ROBERTS: Thank you, Paul, for running us through the work plan. If staff can go back to the breakdown in the spreadsheet... right after March 2026, we are looking at an initial report in February 2027. The breakdown showed actions around 95 days. In previous PDPs, we have used sub-tracks where different issues were dealt with on different fronts. Are we able to collapse time and deal with issues using a sub-track model rather than waiting for one work to conclude before moving to the next milestone? We could have different tracks going on simultaneously to get the outcomes we want and save time.

PAUL MCGRADY: Thanks, Lawrence. We will discuss that with staff. I see a note from Bruna that they are worried sub-tracks will hinder transparency. SubPro used sub-tracks, but I acknowledge that adds a layer of concern. Staff and I will discuss it. We have the collaboration slide up now; this is the place to congeal these ideas over the next several days. Brian, go ahead.

BRIAN CIMBOLIC: Thanks, Paul. I have one suggestion and one question. The suggestion is regarding meeting in Seville. It would be great to have a sense of when those meetings would be so people can book travel. If we are meeting the day before the actual meeting begins, it would be good to know sooner rather than later. For the question, regarding the slide with the orange and green colors, what would be the minimum number of days required if we all agreed on the policy right now? It looks like we are past the prior timelines that could push this out further.

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PAUL MCGRADY: There is a certain set of minimum things that happen beforehand. If we take days, we have about 200 days to work with. If we find a way to shorten those, that is how we shorten the timeline. Feodora, go ahead.

EBERHARD LISSE: I needed to find the buttons. I happen to sit on the meetings planning group. Is there a particular day or time during the ICANN week in Seville that we would like to have our face-to-face? I can bring it to that group, or Paul could be joined to that group so he can bring his input.

PAUL MCGRADY: Thanks, Eberhard. We have had discussions with staff about calendar times and maybe we can nail those down soon. If we need your help on that project team, it is good to know you are a resource. Feodora, please go ahead.

FEODORA HAMZA: Thank you, Paul. Just to give more context, the table is an illustration of mandatory steps for the PDP. When it says minimum, it really is the minimum, but usually, it is around 40 days. Public comment can be extended if requested. Many of the red steps have taken place, and we are at deliberation. We noted an average of 140 days, but it is topic-specific. For this PDP, we currently have around 230 days allocated. The group can decide if this should be shortened. It's important to note that these are calendar days, not meeting days. Ten days would only be about two meetings. The group will rely on asynchronous work.

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PAUL MCGRADY: Any other questions? Steve, go ahead.

STEVE CHAN: Thanks, Paul. This is Steve Chan from staff. Regarding meeting prior to Seville, there is no early face-to-face envisioned on day zero or day minus one. We plan to allocate adequate time during the course of the meeting, envisioning something like three to four meetings during the meeting. Hopefully, that helps with planning.

PAUL MCGRADY: That is helpful. If it's during regular meeting days, everybody can communicate that back to their groups. Anil?

ANIL KUMAR JAIN: Thank you, Paul. I am able to follow the scheduling and timelines explained. I think we should be able to complete this job on time. In the IDN ccTLD Working Group 4, we utilized a thing called a stress test. Once we formalize draft recommendations, we invite questions to see if the policy document can answer them. If not, the PDP sees it again to make it more robust. Both stress tests I have experienced were wonderful. Are we planning to have a stress test in this PDP?

PAUL MCGRADY: We are not opposed to those thoughts. It hasn't been explicitly stated, but as you can see on the work plan slide, there is a link. I encourage you to go into that document and put in that idea and how it would work.

ANIL KUMAR JAIN:                   Okay. Thank you, Paul.

PAUL MCGRADY:                   Terrific. We have a deadline to get this done by April 6th, so if everyone can give feedback over the next couple of days, that would be terrific. We will move quickly to finalize it and get it back to everyone at the next meeting. Reg, go ahead.

REG LEVY:                           The work plan is the copy of "DNS Abuse PDP Project\_Plan (1)"?

PAUL MCGRADY:                   It is the link at the bottom of the slide.

REG LEVY:                           Is that the link you want us to approve?

PAUL MCGRADY:                   We are not at approval yet, just comments and suggestions.

REG LEVY:                           I'm looking at the link posted by John Emery. The title is "Copy of DNS Abuse PDP-1 Project\_Plan (1)". I just want to make sure that is the work plan we are reviewing.

PAUL MCGRADY: Yes, that is the spreadsheet. Perfect. My branding might be off calling it Excel; it's a Google thing. Yao, go ahead.

YAO SOSSOU: Hello, everybody. Sorry I was late. We said we were going to decide about the leadership structure and the vice chair. Have we tackled that subject? I just got the link for the planning document and will comment on it. I think we should tackle the vice chair before we move on.

PAUL MCGRADY: Yes, we talked about that earlier. We will do ranked choice voting via an email link. The electronic ballot closes March 27th at 23:59 UTC.

YAO SOSSOU: Thank you, Paul.

PAUL MCGRADY: We have thirteen minutes left. We'll do a recap and then we'll run out of time. These initial meetings are important. In Mumbai, we discussed Charter Question Number 1. Reg threw something concrete at us to consider. Ultimately, PDP recommendations won't be contract texts, but it is useful to look at what a draft chunk of contract might look like. If you want to make suggestions that way or provide high-level comments, that's great. There has been some feedback on that language via email and staff has been collecting it. Eberhard, go ahead.

EBERHARD LISSE: I checked, but I can't find the link for the vote. I suppose this will be sent again?

PAUL MCGRADY: Yes, there is no link yet. It will be sent by email shortly after this call. A reminder on our deliberations: we have to stay within scope. We will be focusing on recommendations rather than specific implementation solutions. As I said in Mumbai, the goal is to build consensus as we go. I like the approach of discussing a charter question, getting strawman text, and evolving that into stable text between phone calls. It is a good way to ensure definitions don't drift. It is going to be iterative and collaborative.

For this to work, we need everyone to participate between calls. There will be collaboration documents linked in the wiki. Don't be shy about providing feedback. Whichever staff member did the friendly reminder GIF, that's probably the most annoying thing I've ever seen. Things that are out of scope: compromised domain names are specifically out of scope. Associated domain name checks across registrars are not in scope. We are talking about each individual registrar's obligations. We are also not talking about mitigation actions at this point. That may come later, but right now we have a narrow-scoped PDP. Ching, go ahead.

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CHING CHIAO: Thank you, Paul, for taking the time to elaborate on the approach. In the beginning, I was worried that we focused too much on contractual language, but what you explained is a very good way forward. We should still look at the early inputs. It's very clear now.

PAUL MCGRADY: Thank you, Ching. That leaves us with six minutes. I want to be realistic about what we can accomplish in term of looking at Charter Question Number 1 again. I don't want to get us started and then have to cut people off. If anyone has closing questions or comments, we have a few minutes. Yao, go ahead.

YAO SOSSOU: Regarding the timing, I think I have a time zone issue. In my time zone, the session was supposed to start at 2:00 PM, but when I joined, you guys had already been working for over an hour. If staff could send the meeting details again, I can check my calendar.

PAUL MCGRADY: Feodora says meetings are currently scheduled for Mondays at 12:30 UTC. Hopefully, you can reconcile that. We should figure that out because we want to lock in these calendar appointments well in advance. Ching, you've got a minute.

CHING CHIAO: Regarding early inputs, when we submitted from the BC side, we followed the narrow focus of the PDP. Would there be a short time to

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have those types of inputs? Those inputs are still relevant even if they aren't strictly within the scope of this PDP.

PAUL MCGRADY:

Feodora is going to respond to that, then I'll take two minutes for next steps.

FEODORA HAMZA:

The early input request deadline was last week. As required by GNSO operating procedures, there will be a meeting where we discuss this. We need to go through what was provided and put it in a format to share with the group. It will definitely be discussed in the following meeting or the one after.

PAUL MCGRADY:

All right, next steps. Look for your email for the vice chair ballot. Use the link to review the draft work plan and put feedback in by March 30th at the latest. Staff will share notes and action items. The working group will continue to review the draft language on Charter Question Number 1 in the collaboration tool. Let's be active. Great call, everybody. We will talk again in a week. Thank you all.

**[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]**