ICANN87 Bali | AGM – GNSO Council Meeting (Part 2 - Admin)
Wednesday, October 21, 2026 – 15:30 to 16:00 WITA

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| TERRI AGNEW | The recording has started, and this is Terri Agnew. Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening, and welcome to the GNSO Council meeting on Wednesday, the 21st of October. This is part two of the admin meeting. Would you please acknowledge your name for roll call when I call it? Ajith Francis, who's the incoming RySG Councilor? |
| AJITH FRANCIS | Present. Thank you, Terri. |
| TERRI AGNEW | You're welcome. Jennifer Chung? Jennifer Chung? |
| JENNIFER CHUNG | Present. Thank you, Terri. |
| TERRI AGNEW | Welcome. Hong-Fu Meng? |
| HONG-FU MENG | Present. Thank you, Terri. |

***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.***

TERRI AGNEW Welcome. Samantha Demetriou?

SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU Present. Thank you, Terri.

TERRI AGNEW Welcome. Ashley Heineman?

ASHLEY HEINEMAN Present, but need to be put into the panelist Zoom.

TERRI AGNEW I'll send you the prompt.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN Thank you.

TERRI AGNEW Volker Greimann?

VOLKER GREIMANN I'm here, yes.

TERRI AGNEW Gaurav Vedi?

GAURAV VEDI Present. Thank you, Terri.

TERRI AGNEW Welcome. Lawrence Olawale-Roberts?

LAWRENCE OLAWALE-ROBERTS Present, Terri. Thank you.

TERRI AGNEW Welcome. Vivek Goyal?

VIVEK GOYAL Present.

TERRI AGNEW Damon Ashcraft?

DAMON ASHCRAFT Present.

TERRI AGNEW Hector Ariel Manoff, who's our incoming IPC Councilor?

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| HECTOR ARIEL MANOFF | Present. |
| TERRI AGNEW | Nitin Walia, our incoming ISPCP Councilor? |
| NITIN WALIA | Present. |
| TERRI AGNEW | Susan Mohr? |
| SUSAN MOHR | Present. Thanks. |
| TERRI AGNEW | Welcome. Juan Manuel Rojas, our incoming NCSG Councilor? |
| JUAN MANUEL ROJAS | Present. Thank you. |
| TERRI AGNEW | Farzaneh Badii? Please don't clap. |
| FARZANEH BADII | Present. |

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| TERRI AGNEW | Peter Akinremi, who's remote, and if needed, a proxy will go to Tapani. So, Peter? |
| TAIWO PETER AKINREMI | Present. Thank you, Terri. |
| TERRI AGNEW | You're welcome. Tapani Tarvainen? |
| TAPANI TARVAINEN | Present. Thank you, Terri. |
| TERRI AGNEW | Most welcome. Benjamin Akinmoyeje? |
| BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE | Present. Thank you, Terri. |
| TERRI AGNEW | Most welcome. Christabel Mebaghandu? |
| CHRISTABEL MEBAGHANDU | Butchered the last name, but [inaudible.] |
| TERRI AGNEW | Is our incoming NCSG Councilor. Sorry. Just in case I rushed that, she's our incoming NCSG Councilor. Okay. Christian Dawson? |

CHRISTIAN DAWSON Present. Thank you, Terri.

TERRI AGNEW Welcome. Alan Woods is our non-voting incoming NCA Councilor.

ALAN WOODS Present, Terri.

TERRI AGNEW Sebastien Ducos? I don't see in the room. Greg Shatan?

GREG SHATAN Present. Thank you, Terri.

TERRI AGNEW Welcome. Antonia Chu? Don't see her as well. May I please remind everyone here to state your name before speaking for the recording purposes? A reminder that we're in a Zoom webinar room. Councilors are panelists and can activate their microphones and participate in the chat once they have set their chat to everyone for all to be able to read the exchanges. A warm welcome to attendees on the call who are silent observers, meaning they do not have access to their microphones, but you can go ahead and use the Zoom chat. Please note that private chats are only possible among panelists in Zoom webinar format. Any message sent by a panelist or standard attendee to another standard attendee will be seen by

the session's host, co-hosts, and panelists. 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 concerning statements of interest. For this portion of the call, our outgoing GNSO chair, Susan Payne, will be helping. Susan, over to you.

SUSAN PAYNE

Thank you very much, Terri. Surprise, guys. I'm still here. I'd like to thank you all and welcome everyone to our second part of the Council meeting for the 21st of October at the ICANN87 meeting. I'm really pleased to be able to welcome the new Councilors. And so here's a quick opportunity for them, if they'd like to say a few words about themselves. I don't know whether we just want to go around the room. I don't want to put people on the spot. So maybe if you want to put your hands up, and then we can do it that way. And that way, if you don't want to speak, you don't have to. So I'll have a quick look in the Zoom room and see if anyone is brave enough to say. Alan, over to you.

ALAN WOODS

Thank you very much. Alan Woods, for the record, for the first time. Just want to say thank you to everybody. I know I have some very large shoes to fill in this role, and I hope to be, as I've said to many people, I've talked to a lot of the SGs about this, I hope to be not just a voice for one house, but a voice for them all. So I really look

forward to working with everybody. And here's to a good two, potentially plus, years. So thank you.

SUSAN PAYNE Welcome. Nitin?

NITIN WALIA Thanks. So I'm Nitin Walia. I'm representing ISPCP, and I will be replacing, you know, taking the seat for Osvaldo. And I'll try my best to fill the gap which is there, being provided by his long, almost four years of service on this Council. And looking forward to work with you all. Thank you.

SUSAN PAYNE Thank you so much. Ajith?

AJITH FRANCIS Thank you very much. As Alan and Nitin have stated, I'm very much looking forward to working on the Council and with everybody. And also thank you very much to Susan for the exceptional work that you've done as chair, and also looking very much forward to working with the new incoming chair. Thank you very much.

SUSAN PAYNE Thank you very much. Anyone else? Hector, yeah.

HECTOR ARIEL MANOFF — I'm Hector Manoff from Argentina. I am representing the IPC. I am really happy and honored to be here to work for a better Internet in general. Thank you very much.

SUSAN PAYNE — Okay. No pressure, but if any of our other incoming Councilors want to speak, then just quickly indicate to me either in the room or in the chat. If not, we will... Ah, lovely. Christabel.

CHRISTABEL MEBAGHANDU — It's Christabel Mebaghandu from the NCSG, I'm Nigerian, and I hope to work with everyone in a very collaborative and productive manner such that we can speak with one voice as a Council. Thank you.

SUSAN PAYNE — Thank you very much. All right. Anyone else? If not, we can move on. Okay. All right. I think I'm still here for just this first order of business so that we can go through the election of the next Council chair. Now that Vivek has officially withdrawn, and we thank him again for that and appreciate his approach to this, we now have just one candidate. So Samantha Demetriou is the sole candidate for chair, so we will proceed by a vote by acclamation. And per the operating procedures, the GNSO chair is elected by a 60% vote of each house. And so the choices are Samantha Demetriou as one choice, and the other choice is none of the above. So we'll ask for a confirmation of both of those. I think, Terri, are you running the

actual vote? I think just to say that I know this sounds bizarre, but as part of the operating procedures, that none of the above option is something that we are sort of required under our operating procedures to do. So it seems bizarre, but that is what's required. I'm going to hand over to Terri, I think, who will administer the vote.

TERRI AGNEW Okay, here we go. Exciting times. GNSO chair vote. Would anyone like to abstain from this vote, please say aye. Hearing and seeing no one, all in favor of none of the above, please say aye. Hearing and seeing no one, all in favor of Samantha Demetriou for GNSO chair, including those remote, so that would be Peter, please applaud. The votes are tallied, and the new GNSO chair for the 2026-2027 term, congratulations to Sam. Now over to you.

SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU Thank you very much, Terri, and thank you to everyone. Thank you for the applause. Thank you for the trust in taking on this important role. I'm very, very excited to work with everyone. We're going to work hard, but we're going to have fun. We have a little bit of business before we can wrap this meeting up, and that is I need my posse. I need my backup. We have not yet received any nominations for the role of vice chairs. They were not submitted before today's meeting. And so each house has to nominate a vice chair to help me out with this important job. As a reminder, the vice chair cannot come from the same stakeholder group as the chair, and as a reminder to everyone, I represent the Registries

Stakeholder Group. So I'm going to open the floor here. If either house is ready to nominate a vice chair today, I'll pause and see if anyone wants to come to the mic.

ASHLEY HEINEMAN: Well, this is awkward. Can I nominate myself?

VOLKER GREIMANN: I nominate Ashley for CPH.

SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU: Perfect. Thank you, Volker. And if the NCPH is prepared to nominate someone at today's meeting, we can do that. If the NCPH needs a bit more time, we also have the option to do that. I think it would be preferable if we could have the vice chairs in place by the next Council meeting, which is taking place in November. So I believe we can accept the nomination via email. Correct, Terri?

TERRI AGNEW: Yes.

SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU: Okay. So I would just ask that when the person is identified, when the NCPH has had a chance to put someone forward, please just email the Council list, and we'll look forward to hearing the nomination. Oh, sorry, Lawrence, I see your hand.

LAWRENCE OLAWALE-ROBERTS: Thank you, and congratulations again, Sam, and to Ashley. I believe that the Non-Contracted Party House, especially for the CSG, will be interested in putting Vivek into the seat of vice chair. But because this isn't just a decision for the CSG, we will wait for the concurrence of the NCSG in this regard. Just wanted to put that out there. Thank you.

SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU: Thank you, Lawrence. And we'll look forward to the outcome of the NCPH's process and discussion on that. Okay. Great. We have one item left on our agenda today, and that is, does anyone have any other business?

SUSAN PAYNE: I do.

SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU: Yep. We got Susan, and then over to you, Farz.

SUSAN PAYNE: Hi. Thanks, Sam. So first, congratulations to you, and congratulations to Ashley for her nomination. My announcement is, unfortunately, that this is going to be my last ICANN meeting. Due to changes at the company that I work for, I'll be stepping down from the GNSO Council role. But I just want to say how much I've been just the—a pure honor and privilege to be on this Council

and to work with all of you over the last year. So thank you very much, and I look forward to dinner.

SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU Pretty devastating note to start out on as chair, but thank you, Susan. We will miss you a great deal. You've been an amazing contributor, and it's been a pleasure to get to know you personally, so thank you very much. Farzaneh?

FARZANEH BADII Thank you. So we attempted to discuss with our counterpart at CSG about if they had a vice chair in mind, and we were not told until now. We have to go back to NCSG, and we have to discuss with NCSG and see if we want to put forward another candidate, and then we have to go through a process of deciding whether to have an election and all that jazz, so it might take a bit of time.

SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU Understood. Appreciate that, Farzaneh. Okay. Does anyone else want to get in the queue for any other business? Okay. Then I am delighted to officially draw this meeting to a close. Do we want to make any announcements about the evening?

SUSAN PAYNE Yeah. We can talk about that first.

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| SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU | Oh, first we're going to stop the recording. Okay. Terri, over to you. |
| TERRI AGNEW | Thank you. Lisa, if you could please stop the recording. |
| ZOOM | Recording stopped. |
| TERRI AGNEW | All right. GNSO Council dinner tonight for Councilors, incoming, outgoing, very exciting stuff. If you've not- |

**[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]**