
BRENDA BREWER: Good day, everyone. Welcome to SSR2 Plenary call number 75 on 20 June 2019 at 14:00 UTC. Members joining the call today are Russ, Naveed, and Kerry Ann. From ICANN Org, we have Jennifer, Steve, and Brenda. We have apologies from Denise, Boban, Laurin, Eric, and Jabhera. Today's call is being recorded. Please state your name before speaking for the record, and kindly mute your audio when not speaking. Russ, I'll turn the call over to you. Thank you.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I realize it's not on the agenda, but I wanted to give the team a very quick update on the new tech writer. ICANN staff had provided us with the resumé of [a candidate, the] leadership to go look at it. Looks like a very strong candidate, and so we gave authorization to go ahead and bring that person on board.

Obviously, this isn't happening in time for that person to be in Marrakech. I'm hoping that somebody, maybe Jennifer, can give us a status on where that has gone since the approval, which was given on Monday.

JENNIFER BRYCE: Hi, Russ. As you mentioned, the leadership approved this candidate, so we're moving forward with the contracting process, and as far as I know, that's all going smoothly. I have nothing in addition to report, unfortunately. As that process moves along, we'll keep you all in the

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loop in terms of each step once it's complete, and then expected timeline for having the person join the review team. Thanks.

RUSS HOUSLEY:

Okay. Thank you. We have a very small turnout right now. We just lost Naveed. So that leaves me and Kerry Ann of our review team members.

I don't know if we know what happened with Naveed. Okay. So Kerry Ann, are there recommendation texts that you would like to talk about today?

KERRY ANN BARRETT:

None. I think I just needed a clarification. There was a chain of e-mails going back and forth. I think it started with a suggestion from KC to separate the strategic objectives, so I think it's really just before you guys get to Marrakech, is to kind of decide how that would look. I would need to give the new tech writer clear instructions as to whether or not it would be a separate point, or it would have probably a pop-up box on the side. "This is related to strategic objective whatever" instead of having it in the body of the text.

I refrained from doing what I was supposed to do last night, because I saw what the chain was, and I wanted to be clear if everyone was on the same page to link it. I saw support from I think Matogoro and someone that it should be separated. I think I saw like two support for that thought. So I just wanted probably you think about that before getting there, because I think it would be a point of discussion for the drafting at that point.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Right. I think we do need to [inaudible] recommendations for the [strategic plan,] how we'll present that [inaudible]

JENNIFER BRYCE: Russ, you're coming across very faint, for me certainly anyway.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I have the microphone pegged.

JENNIFER BRYCE: That's much better. I don't know what you did, but it's much better. Thanks.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Okay. I think what's being discussed is how to present it, not whether we want to make sure each of the recommendations is aligned with the strategic objectives. Do you agree?

KERRY ANN BARRETT: Agreed, but I think it's just whether or not – if it forms part of the text, the draft [inaudible] a bit different from a text that just links it as a separate note. So whether it should be incorporated or not is different. It's just to kind of clarify that. That will dictate how it's drafted.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I think for now, let's keep it inline, and then we can have the tech writer do whatever the team decides. Naveed, welcome back. We saw you went away for a little while. Are there any particular recommendations you want to talk about today?

KERRY ANN BARRETT: Russ, could you repeat that?

RUSS HOUSLEY: I asked Naveed if there were any recommendations he wanted to talk about since he came back.

NAVEED BIN RAIS: I have actually not at this point.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Okay. Well, since there's only three of us here and we're the ones who are up to date on our recommendations, the three of us, I'm not sure there's much to do on the call.

NAVEED BIN RAIS: I'm not sure why we have set up this meeting since most of the members are on travel. Even my plane is in a few hours, and it's very difficult to have a meeting that's one day before the travel or something like that. So that may be the reason.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I think you're right. I was just hoping to resolve any problems that anyone had, but a fair amount of the team is not traveling to Marrakech, so I was hoping we would have a better turnout.

NAVEED BIN RAIS: I just wanted to ask if there's any update on the technical writer, because I missed that part if you explained already ...

RUSS HOUSLEY: Sure. I'll be glad to repeat. Staff gave us a resumé on Monday, the leadership approved that person, and we're now waiting for the contract to be put in place, but the person with this timing will not be in Marrakech.

NAVEED BIN RAIS: Okay, so we're not going to have technical writer in Marrakech in person, right? Okay. So, how do we plan this going forward? How do we plan to take the technical writer on board? The next meeting, ICANN meeting is very far, and we need to do something before that, right?

KERRY ANN BARRETT: I totally agree, Russ, with Naveed. In one of my e-mails, I had wondered if we should try to do – probably when you guys are in Marrakech you could discuss – sessions where those of us in the US could try and meet up somewhere that's easy and try and push some of the drafting that way, and those who are in another time zone could start – we could start separate and that way to kind of advance. But I support Naveed in

terms of figuring out a way as the technical writer is onboarded to see how to get our parts done on this end.

RUSS HOUSLEY: We completely agree. As soon as we know the contract is signed –

KERRY ANN BARRETT: Russ, we can't hear you.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I don't know why you can't hear me. Can you now?

NAVEED BIN RAIS: Yeah, your voice was very faint. Now it's better.

KERRY ANN BARRETT: Yeah, we can hear you now.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Okay. Anyway, we agree as soon as the contract is signed, at least the leadership will have a call to figure out when we can arrange something and we'll start the onboarding process by teleconference, and then we'll figure it out from there. But until we have the person under contract, we can't really put a plan in place.

NAVEED BIN RAIS: Russ, do we have the budget to have another face-to-face meeting before Montréal like in July or August or something? Like in the US or something.

RUSS HOUSLEY: We will figure that out.

KERRY ANN BARRETT: Agree.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Yeah.

NAVEED BIN RAIS: Okay.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Alright. I think the objectives for Marrakech are to get as much of the finding text put into the Google doc as we can so the people who are there will just be working on the document, and hopefully finalizing the transfer of recommendations from the topic documents into that recommendations document.

NAVEED BIN RAIS: I'm not really sure why it is still missing, these recommendations, because it's been a long time since we met in Brussels, and it should have been updated by now in this document. So I'm not sure whether

we need to talk to the person who is responsible for adding this text or just remind them via separate e-mail. I don't know how to, because sending it to the group does not really work, it seems.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I agree. It hasn't. I went through over the week and added each of the recommendations and put the penholder's name beside it so that it's right there in the doc starting at people. I don't know what else to do on that front, but I will send some individual e-mails.

NAVEED BIN RAIS: Okay. Sounds good, because I didn't think that this stuff should have taken that much time once that recommendation text was already there in Brussels. After that, it was just refining them and just combining them [if possible and] all that. So that should not have taken that much time, actually.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I agree with you. Herding cats, right?

JENNIFER BRYCE: Russ, you're fading again.

RUSS HOUSLEY: I don't know why that keeps happening.

JENNIFER BRYCE: That's much better.

RUSS HOUSLEY: Okay. Well, I think we're done then. I don't think we have actions to confirm other than I'm going to send those reminder e-mails [inaudible]. Okay. Safe travels for those of you who'll be in Marrakech.

KERRY ANN BARRETT: Thanks, Russ. Bye, guys.

NAVEED BIN RAIS: Thank you.

JENNIFER BRYCE: Bye.

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