

MEAC-SWG Weekly Call (Call 11)

20 January 2020

11:00-11:45 UTC

Attendees: Baher, Hadia, Chokri, Baha, Magali

Apologies: Rafik

Introduction

Baher mentioned that, last week, actions were suggested under each regional goal/regional focus area. Suggestions from participants were made and it was agreed that the WG would update the document and provide more suggestions for actions.

Baher suggested to develop some targeted outcomes under each regional goal so that, from a strategic perspective, we are clear on what we want to achieve. Baher tried to reflect this on the document as well.

Hadia reminded that we have to agree and finalize the actions items by the 27th of January and finalize the draft strategy document by the 9th of February. It has to be discussed on the 10th of February. It is expected to have the document out for public comments on Monday the 17th of Feb. The doc will be open for public comments for 42 days (until the 27th of March). There is no much time left to work on the actions and the strategy.

1. Strategic focus area: Security

Hadia went through the regional strategic goals, the 2 main goals, 4 actions items related to the goal, targeted outcome from the objectives.

The 1st action item is related to the 1st strategic goal. In order to do that, we will need to know where we stand. What is required/needed in this regard? After the evaluation, the next action item is to conduct technical workshop. Based on the evaluation, we will need to decide on the technical workshop required and also develop new workshops tailored for the region.

3rd action item: related to the 1st strategic goal.

4th action: related to 2nd strategic goal.

No suggestions were made by the participants.

Hadia mentioned that will work on the action items during the following week in order to finalize them and reminded that the action items need to be finalized by the 27th of January. In addition to the 3 targeted outcomes, Hadia suggested to add “having more capable participants in the region that can contribute to the technical development of the DNS in the region”.

With regard to the targeted outcomes, Baher indicated that they are more or less taken from the proposed actions. Baher’s intent was to maintain/include the targeted outcomes under each section and he suggested to leave the actions out of this document because they will be part of the implementation plan. What we aim for is to identify targeted outcomes that we want to attain under each regional goal. Baher mentioned that we can have as many actions as we want/as we could implement under the implementation plan, but we will always be guided by the goals and what we aim to achieve out of those goals. This is what the strategy is about. If we are to maintain the actions and targeted outcomes, they are more or less repetitive. Baher took them from the proposed actions.

Hadia mentioned that, hopefully, this week, we will all be able to contribute to the actions and comment the targeted outcomes as well.

2. Strategic focus area: ICANN's governance

Main objective: improve the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model of governance
For this, 2 strategic goals.

4 actions for these goals: Chokri added a 4th action.

2 targeted outcomes: they reflect what we want to achieve from the regional strategic goals.

Baher hopes we can get more input from the group. He noted the input from Chokri.

Hadia would like the WG to dedicate more time to this document.

3. Strategic focus area: Unique Identifiers system

There are 3 regional strategic goals for the strategic objective.

Zakir added 3 actions.

There are 2 targeted outcomes.

What we would like to see is the adoption of UA.

Regarding the 3rd action item about raising awareness, Baher mentioned that it is one sort of outcome we want to see. When it comes to actions, the actions will have to be more specific: e.g. conducting workshops and in the implementation plan, we will also be more specific about how many workshops we are targeting, etc. One of the other potential actions that, for instance, in UA, we should think about, is to encourage more community members to take part in UA related work. When it comes to IDNs for instance, very soon we will see IDN PDP under CCNSO/GNSO starting off, encouraging community members to take part in these processes. These are examples of more specific and more measurable actions we should target. Baher will reflect that in the document.

Hadia indicated that one of the actions that could be added is to encourage participants from the region to have a more active role with regard to IDNs and UA. That active role could be in relation to policy development or implementation.

Hadia would have asked Zakir if he was on the call the difference between the 3rd and the 2nd action item. The 2nd one only mentions new gTLDs. Hadia thinks that both could be incorporated into one. The 2nd one only adds regional focus. Hadia is not sure what the difference is between the 2nd and 3rd action point. Hadia will put this later as a comment on the doc and Zakir will have to explain the difference between both actions.

4. Strategic focus area: Geopolitics

Strategic objective.

2 strategic goals

To implement those regional strategic goals, 4 actions required. Zakir added 2 actions.

3rd action: mainly involves nongovernmental stakeholders.

4th action added by Chokri.

Hadia suggested to take over the 4th action to the mailing list.

Chokri's comment regarding the 4th action item: tools will help us to identify mechanisms.

Baher would also like to get more clarification on action item about the tools and on who would implement this/these tool(s). He mentioned that we only track legislation that may impact our mission and, even in those efforts, we look at the community/community members to help us. As ICANN org, Baher doesn't think we will be able to track all legislative efforts in each country. Baher suggested as part of the targeted outcomes that we aim to have a process in place to track such efforts.

Baher is not clear about what is meant by the 2nd comment made by Chokri: what kind of guide, what information he would like to see in this guide, what legislations we want to see covered under this guide?

Hadia suggested that, maybe, an action item could be the collaboration between ICANN and community members in identifying regional legislation that could affect ICANN's mission.

Hadia doesn't understand what legislative guide means. She doesn't know what is intended by the 4th action item. Hadia is not sure that ICANN can get involved in the making of the legislation. She suggested to take over this to the mailing list.

5. Strategic focus area related to finances

Hadia mentioned that it was decided not to tackle finances in this strategy.

Conclusion

Hadia mentioned that we will need to dedicate more time on this document as we need to finalize the actions by the 27th of January and finalize the strategy doc by the 9th of February. We need to give more time to the strategy and share our thoughts and suggestions. Hadia thanked everyone who contributed to the doc.

Baher mentioned that a session at ICANN67 in Cancun is planned to get feedback on the draft strategy doc. Those who are there will be able to comment and the others to participate remotely.

Hadia wondered if, according to the timeline, we can make the ME statement about commenting on the strategy. She thinks that, according to the timeline, that might be possible.

Baher mentioned that the session in Cancun will be not named the ME space because the focus will be on the regional strategy. Input from the community is more than welcome. Inputs can be submitted by group members. We need to get some inputs through the public comments. We are looking for inputs from the community so that we can move ahead and finalize our regional strategy.

Hadia mentioned that the more comments we get the better. She suggested that we all try to be involved in this as it is our strategy and it affects all.

To Chokri's question about having 2 sessions, Baher mentioned that this will be very difficult due to the busy schedules of community members. We thought that having 2 sessions will make it challenging for community members to attend both sessions. It was agreed to only have one session and get as much feedback as possible. The regional strategy will be our main focus this time.

Hadia suggested to continue over the mailing list and online document.