Board Liaison Report –February 2010 - Vanda Scartezini

BOARD

The ALAC's voted Director sent to the ICANN Board got so many different reactions about the process, not about the merit or the content, that was decided to debate the process related to how relevant documents from SO/AC shall get the board attention, during the may retreat 21/22 may 2010.

Board had two meetings this month:
a) the regular 3 hours meeting February 4th (3AM UTC) with regular agenda including as relevant : amendment of .CAT agreement to allow1&2 characters; redelegation of .in; the budget; the president report; the strategic plan; security management plan for all meetings; Nairobi security actions: Vertical Integration and the Expressions of Interest related to new gTLDs.
Before the meeting all members were demanded to declare any relationship with potential participant of new gTLDs to avoid any conflict of interest with the particular document to be reported during the meeting.
I sent as demanded a note to John Jeffrey explaining that I am advisor – without remuneration - to a company which intend to participate on the EoI. The risk agreement I signed is supposed to start to compensate advisors only after 2 years from the launch of the new TLD.
The paper which deserved all the precaution was a specific economic study about consequences of vertical integration. Some members expressed the document wasn't too valuable. We had a general debate before the paper was presented related to EoI and Vertical integration to take action in Nairobi, allowing F2F debate with the community to conclude.
Continuing the agenda: 3 character restriction and variant management (IDN); chair remuneration; board submission media report; ombudsman report and recommendations, IDN status information.

b) and an special meeting on 19th (3AM UTC) about 1,5 hours related to security actions have been taken by staff in Nairobi - with a full detailed report from Doug: relevant points are:
a. attendance : board / ccNSO/ALAC – at large / GAC /Fellows / RSSAC /SSAC
b. not attending : GNSO chair/ Registry constituency/ IP Constituency /ASO / ARIN
c. Board will be in two different hotels for security reasons. / ICANN team meet on daily basis to check all issues / ICANN has several groups from different parts working on security in Nairobi.
d. ICANN had made investments to improve remote participations/allow each community take its own decision about go-no go/ Allow community to organize their own location but at their expenses, ICANN will send staff to support the meeting.
e. Nothing else related to terrorism was informed to ICANN from all sources. So terrorism threat is low but real.
f. Primary threats are related to street crimes – some political disturbance is possible due the debate about the change of government model. Nairobi is in the same level of 40% of world population;
g. Estimate attendants around 600 – number better than expected, at least for me.
h. Some aspects of regular meeting will need to be reconsidered – constituency day, some breakfasts etc. but the meeting will follow as usual as possible.
i. The remote participation will focus on broader participation. Builds on model that have worked for At-large during the last 2 meetings : Sydney and Seoul
j. We will have almost equal participation: present = on line, demanding a changes of the "sociology" of the meeting. Could be a good experience, but could bring unexpected failures and consequent complains.
k. News:

- Menu of chat only. Or audio streams only, Adobe Connect and Adobe Connect with video
- Increase access for low bandwidth participants
- More hands up support in Marina Del Rey and Nairobi – experiment 24 hours on line.

All these info – and with more details - will be posted formally related to remote participation

Besides the meetings, board have debated by emails : Nairobi meeting and agenda; Meetings in general; Security issues; Investments; Vertical integration, ITU, GNSO Council Approval of STI Review Team Recommendations, and last minute, the ICM (XXX) rules against ICANN. Since I was the Chair of reconsideration Committee at that time, I took some time reading old material to refresh about the issue and exchange some information from that, since this will face the board in Nairobi.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE

PPC meeting took place on Jan 27th – 6PM UTC (1.5 hour meeting) and the next meeting took place at February 10th 6PMUTC, with some operational actions into the direction to have a kind of tutorial related to remote participation, starting in Nairobi to exchange ideas with the attendants. Before Nairobi we will have yet another meeting on February 24th , (2PM UTC) with the following agenda : Workplan for the Public Participation Committee & Update on Plans for Nairobi.

OSC
The group elected Phillip Sheppard as chair of OSC, but neither him or Chuck will attend Nairobi. Probably they will meet remotely. OSC meeting has tentatively been scheduled for Sunday, 7 March from 15:30-16:45 local time in Nairobi.

Here the agenda:

Roll call /Review/edit agenda/ Working Teams/ GNSO Council Operations WT (GCOT)
{ i. Status Report; ii. Tentative Work Schedule; iii. OSC action items (if any)} / Constituency/ Stakeholder Group WT (CSG WT) { i. Status Report; ii. Tentative Work Schedule; iii. OSC action items (if any)} / Communications & Coordination WT (CCT WT) { i. Status Report; ii. Tentative Work Schedule; iii. OSC action items (if any)} / Near Term OSC workload /Other Business.

ALAC

Participation on EXCOMM meetings, exchange emails and papers, chats with some regional colleagues. I was not able to attend all the meetings due to conflict of agendas, and specially LACRALO, but have exchange previous ideas with Matthias and Sylvia.

For security reasons the board is exchanging updated mobiles; I believe would be an interesting idea to follow. We can send our mobiles to Heidi to have an up to date list to keep with us during the meeting.

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