
YESIM SAGLAM:

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening to everyone. Welcome to the APRALO ICANN 79 readout, taking place on Tuesday 19th of March 2024 at 06:00 UTC. On our call today, we have Ali Almeshal, Alan Barrett, Amrita Choudhury, Aris Ignacio, Ashrafur Rahman Piaus, Barkha Manral, Bibek Sinwal, Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Dr. Shamsuzzoha, Dr. Vladimer Svanadze, Faheem Soomro, Gunela Astbrink, Holly Raiche, Kapil Goyal, Laxmi Prasad Yadav, Manju Chen, Peter Mmbandu, [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible], Shah Rahman, Shita Lakshmi, Suadi Hassan, Norman Angel, Priyatosh Jana, Iqra Ejaz and Harish Chowdhary.

We have received apologies from Maureen Hilyard.

And from staff's side we have Gisella Gruber, Athena Foo, Siranush Vardanyan and myself, Yesim Saglam present on today's call. And I will be on call management.

Before we get started, just a kind reminder to please state your names before speaking for the transcription purposes, please. And with this, I would like to leave the floor back over to you, Amrita. Thank you very much.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you, Yesim, and welcome everyone. My name is Amrita Chaudhury and I would be moderating today's ICANN 79 readout, especially where we have people from the different communities from

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Asia Pacific who will be sharing their thoughts, their key takeaways from the ICANN 79 meetings.

Today we have a few community members with us and we would want it to be interactive. There would be three rounds of questions to them and if you want to ask questions or even share comments, you could do so during the Q&A part. So we have with us Manju Chen, who is the GNSO counsellor representing the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group. We have Dr. Shamsuzzoha, he is the GAC representative from Bangladesh. We have Russell Deka T Harada, who is representing ccNSO from Papua New Guinea. And we have our own Aris Ignacio, who would be sharing more from the APRALO and the At-Large perspective. So with that I would dive into the questions which we have for our speakers today. And my first question obviously would go to Manju. And it's the same question for all of you. You know, you have attended ICANN 79 in person. So what are your one or two key takeaways? And I would request you to limit to around three minutes, your first intervention so that we have more time later for questions and answers. So Manju, over to you first.

MANJU CHEN:

Thank you, Amrita. Hi, everyone. This is Manju from the NCSG, and I am currently on the GNSO Council. Thank you, Amrita, for the introduction. So I think in terms of GNSO side, there are two main takeaways. And as council, we have been kind of reviewing how we can do better in our role as the PDP manager. So in order to do that, we tried a new thing and during ICANN 79 in San Juan, which we kind of go through the project management tool that was developed by staff. And we review

every project that's still ongoing or some projects are actually in limbo. So we didn't even know about this, but then we had a good overview of all of the projects we should be handling. And we all think it was a good practice that we will keep doing.

And another discussion we had in the council is how do we make the GNSO policy recommendations board ready, which means that, because I think we are all aware that there are some SubPro recommendations that have been non-adopted by the board and in future policies, we want to avoid that because it's a back and forth from the community and the board, and it's a waste of time if it's not implementable. So how to avoid that? And we were discussing how effective communication between the council, between the community council and the board and the working group chair could improve this kind of process.

But of course that's within council. Within GNSO, I think one of the most hot topics was RDRS, the registration data request service. And then that's been implemented for three months. So there are a lot of discussions and a lot of experience sharing from both the requesters [inaudible]. I think in future, we should definitely try to listening to the other side and less naming and shaming. I'll share, I think there are more to share but I'll reserve my time to the next presenter and we can discuss definitely more in the next round. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much Manju for sharing some of the process related aspects which the council has been looking at. And actually the aspects like RDRS which is being looked after by GNSO per se or the other policy

matters. We'll go to Dr. Zoha for his input. But before that, we also have Pranav Bhaskar Tiwari who has been an ICANN 79 fellow who will also speak. And I'm sorry, Pranav, I just missed your name in the first round while I was talking about the speakers. But you are very important for us and obviously you would be sharing your views. But before that, Dr. Zoha, from the GAC perspective, what do you think were your one or two key takeaways from the ICANN 79 meeting?

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA:

Thank you, Amrita. And good morning and good afternoon to everyone joining this meeting. And I think I'm very fortunate to have the business in this very valuable occasion. I think it's a very good session just to share the views, to know the cross-community thoughts from the latest ICANN event. Having said that, in a very brief, I think I can short out two specific points. And that was the interest personally for myself and also for the GAC as a whole. Definitely the first one is about the registration data policy applicable for the gTLDs, which was implemented by the [express] PDP phase one from 2019. But for the last couple of years, GAC has been pursuing to establish a clear timeline for the delivery of registration data policy for urgent requests.

So I think from the government perspective, from personal perspective, and also from GAC perspective as a whole, this is one of the key points. It was a hot discussion in GAC as well. It has been an important topic for us for long. So we reiterated our request to the ICANN board as well, even in the communique of ICANN 79, to establish that process and to clear the ambiguity that was created from the document registration data policy for the gTLDs of 2019. And definitely we want the cross-

community participation in reviewing and settling this issue. This is the first thing.

And definitely I think the second thing is the upcoming new gTLD. That is an issue of excitement for all of us. And specifically from the GAC perspective, there are two issues that we look interesting. One is that about the application support program, that it should be diversified and it should be functional, not unlike the previous round, when it was considered not to be very successful. So to make the gTLD, the new gTLD representative from all the regions, and to really support the eligible applicant, we want the application support program to be very comprehensive, including the increment of the amount that is currently standing at 2 million. So we recommend to increase it.

In addition to that, we also, I think it's very important that we need to increase the outreach of the application support program to let the eligible candidates know that they are supposed to get it or who can get it, who cannot get it. So this communication and outreach program is also very important that was discussed. And I really think it's very important for the successful implementation of the next round of gTLDs. So these are the key figures for me, but I will definitely in the question and answer session, I can explain better. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Right. Thank you, Dr. Zoha. And the two issues which you mentioned are also important for At-Large, and application support program is something which we also as a community are looking at very significantly as well as how to diversify it, increase the outreach, and get

the deserving communities to actually benefit from it. I think next we will go to Russell. Russell, I believe this was your first ICANN meeting in person, and since you are representing ccNSO from PNG, what were your key takeaways from this meeting?

RUSSELL DEKA T HARADA: Thank you, Chair, and good afternoon, everyone. And as you said, this is my first time to attend the ICANN meeting and the global community. And my name is Russell Deka T Harada. I'm originally from Japan, but been here at Papua New Guinea 27 years. So I'm a ccGTD manager and administrator of this .pg. We have all these Papua New Guinea people. I present one paper to the ccNSO session, especially ccNSO news update session. And I received many positive feedback because not many Pacific Islander ccNSO, ccTLDs make a presentation to the ICANN previous conferences. And also from PNG, maybe this is the first time to make a presentation. So I'll get very good, positive feedback around the world. And especially I found a new mentor from this PR, Puerto Rico, which is the host organization. And they have a similar experience. The university operated this ccTLD, those same as here in Papua New Guinea. And also they spinned it out from university.

But not only this ccNSO session presentation, but I made a very good relationship around the world, not only Asia Pacific, but also some from Africa, some from Caribbean countries, also US and South America. And the European countries. So we made a very good relationship. I received some offers from Estonia and some like a ccTLD registry systems. And also I met our neighbors country, AUDA, Australia Administration CEO, CTO, and the CCOs. So we established a very good relationship through

this ICANN 79 community forum. I think that's all. We have to do a lot of things because we didn't do nearly 20, 30 years for this ccTLD. So I have a lot of assignment after to attend this meeting almost around, almost other side of the globe. Nearly three days I traveled after finish meeting to my home. So it's been challenged, but I have to do a lot of things. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you, Russell. And that's, it's heartening that at least you went for this meeting and you represented PNG out there because it's also important. And we need to also, the issues in for a ccTLD and PNG may be quite different from many in Asia Pacific, but maybe quite similar to somewhere else. And this networking or sharing of information definitely helps to enrich each other as well as help each other because that's also important. I think that's also a very important takeaway as you said for you. Obviously work has to be done, but when you know what, you know there are best practices somewhere which can help you to leapfrog that definitely helps. So with that, I would move to Aris. Aris, if you could share some of the key, one or two key takeaways from ICANN 79.

ARIS IGNACIO:

Yeah, thank you so much, Amrita. And this is Aris for the record. And it's been a privilege and it's really wonderful to be involved and also participate face-to-face during ICANN 79. So with regards to some of the key takeaways, one of the most important thing that was discussed there and really a hot topic as I may call it, was really the ICANN grant. If

we're going to put it in a problem perspective and actually the ICANN grant is really a global and a very competitive program as they have explained it. And as much as possible, they are encouraging the community to at least submit the proposals so that certain projects should be aligned with the mission of ICANN. And also it should also be identified what type of projects should be proposed in the program so that it is really aligned with what ICANN is really all about.

Another key takeaway, which really struck me, is that we really still need to provide awareness to policy development and our community. Awareness to policy development and other ICANN related activities, especially to the new ones, the fellows and other new entities or members that are trying to get into ICANN so that they would be able to be aware and what are the issues are, and maybe that will encourage them to participate in the discussions. So I think those are my two key takeaways. Thank you so much.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you. Yes, the ICANN grant program was something which was quite, it was discussed in many places. We also had one in the APRALO monthly meetings before the ICANN 79, but that's of interest to many. And obviously creating awareness about the policy development process and engaging new people, especially fellows, is something which needs more work. And from APRALO, we are trying to work on this, but now we will move to Pranav. Pranav, welcome. This was your first ICANN meeting. So we'd like to hear from you, what your key takeaways were as a fellow.

PRANAV BHASKAR TIWARI: Thank you, everyone. I'm Pranav from India, my ICANN 79 fellow, and for the record, speaking on my own behalf. And firstly, I'd like to thank everyone. It was as a non-technical person attending a first ICANN meeting, there was a lot to absorb. And having the [inaudible] community members and the board members helping me out, answering questions and the expectations set by the ICANN was very nice. It's different to preach something, but to practice that all questions will be asked was something very helpful to appreciate the work that ICANN is doing, the wide array of work within a very defined mandate. That's a lot of work. And having our staff members like Siranush, my mentor, Laxmi, and community members like Amrita, yourself, and Shah, helping us out was very, very important for us to find our feet around the community.

And as a lawyer and a academic, I appreciated the work. While there's a lot of work that ICANN does. Not everyone is aware in my region, having talked to so many folks in the civil side, in academia, in the student community, not everyone is aware of the work of ICANN. And one of the important sessions was where the folks from the Office of the Chief Technical Officer, OCTO, were explaining that they do have an existing program to create more awareness. And that's a mix of online and in-person and a hybrid ecosystem that can be provided. And one of the takeaways was that, for me, was that I need to help them bridge that gap in my region. And wherever that opportunity presents themselves, that was one. And the second one was the grants program, because that's a very nice program that has been initiated beyond the existing grants to support the existing internet identifier system, build global

connectivity, inclusivity, innovation in the internet, global community. And there, again, there'll be need for awareness about this program and nudging our folks in our community to apply for it. If they have questions, they reach out to the org and get those resolved. And also in that process, understanding if there were any concerns, because the program is being launched, the funds will be divested in tranches, so that at every tranche, the program enhances. So that is, again, a role for the community to play to ensure that we help the org make the program better. So these were my two takeaways, and I look forward to engaging more in the community. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you, Pranav, for sharing. To spread more on what ICANN is doing, etc., is important. And you coming proactively to try to facilitate it is great, as well as spreading more on the grants program. And that brings me to my next question for all our speakers. So now that you have said, you have shared your key takeaways, what do you see as the next step in taking these takeaways ahead before ICANN 80 in Rwanda? As in, you have some takeaways, what do you see as the next steps, would be my question. And Maju, may I go to you first again?

MANJU CHEN:

Yes, of course. Thank you, Amrita. So for several next steps, actually, I only talked about how council, mostly council during San Juan, but of course, during San Juan, a lot of GNSO discussions were about other hot topics. For example, SubPro, a lot of other speakers have brought up about this. And one of the most important part of GNSO is doing is we

were having this small team plus on council where we have counselors and we invited experts from all the SO and AC to have this group to look at the SubPro recommendations that haven't been adopted by the board, which we call the non-adopted board recommendations. And we were working on revising these recommendations to create new supplemental recommendations in order to preserve what was suggested, what was recommended in the original policy recommendations, but modify it to a degree that the board will be willing to adopt them.

So this task is almost done before and during ICANN 79. There was supposed to be a session where the group will recommend and talk about this recommendations, but it was canceled because they finished their work even before the session has started. So I definitely look forward in the ICANN 80 that these recommendations will be reviewed by the council by then, and then probably sent to the board by then. And hopefully, who knows if board was super effective, they will probably adopt the recommendations by then.

And one of the things, a lot of people talk about the grant program. Actually, before this grant program, there was a very huge, I don't know if you guys remember, community discussions about how the board handled the recommendations from the Community Working Group on auction proceeds, which was a working group that discussed how do we deal with the money from last round, from the auctions, and how do we do it in a grant format that is beneficial to not only the ICANN community, but community worldwide. And when the board adopted these recommendations, they kind of made a change to one of the recommendations and decided that they're not following the

recommendations. They didn't want to do a bylaw change, which was recommended by the Cross-Community Working Group, CCWG. And there was a very big backlash from the community because the board is single-handedly denied to follow the recommendations.

But of course, after kind of long discussions between back and forth of the community and the board, we saw a willingness of the board to kind of backtrack or more accurately, they kind of have correct their decision on this one. And they're now initiating a bylaw change, which they send to all the community groups, including of course, ALAC, GNSO, and all the stakeholder groups and constituencies to ask us to review these changes. And if possible, they're gonna implement the changes in due time. So this is definitely going fast too, because we were supposed to submit our feedback by the end of April. So I will definitely look forward of all this progress in the future, of course, before ICANN 82.

And another thing I've mentioned, but I think we all kind of expect at least before ICANN 80 is the next CEO, right? Hopefully by then we will know who our next CEO is. And I'll stop here and let the others talk. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you, Manju for sharing the background of the auction proceeds and the other aspects such as the GNSO Council, looking at at least having the revised recommendations being approved by the board, hopefully by at the next meeting or so. And obviously the next year is something which everyone is waiting with bated breath. With that, we move to Dr. Zoha. Dr. Zoha, you've actually spoken about the RDRS, the

need to remove the ambiguity, etc., and establish some kind of a process and also the application support program, how to make it more diversified, functional, also to increase the amount which was actually allotted, etc., and outreach. So how do you see are the next steps before the next policy meeting in Rwanda?

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA:

Thank you, Amrita. So I think we need specific development in both of the cases, especially if I'm talking about the urgent request of the disclosure of registration data. I think you remember that the process was established in 2019 through the express PDP, but during the implementation phase, especially the whole thing was the main, the discussion was concerned about the response to the urgent request and the implementation review team, they have set a timeline of three business days that is separate from the traditional addressing of the request for data. But when during the public comment, the GAC and also I think a large part of the community, the objective, because when you're talking about the urgent request, it cannot be actually for days. It is a matter of hours. So definitely it was a big objection, including from the GAC. And we requested to review it. And also I think that ICANN Org [inaudible] review team, they tried to make a compromise that it should not be business day. They should be 24 hours. That was their suggestion, but eventually no consensus was reached on the recommendation of the IRT. And as we see that it has been interrupted, the whole process was interrupted from last August. So it's very important that the process that we started and the document is a very good document, the whole part of the document. And with this final determination and considering the requirement of the respective

community, especially because when you are talking about the urgent request, it's mainly from the government and the law enforcing agencies and based on clear and defined legal requirement to protect the safety and security of the public, of the general mass. So if this can be considered and we can effectively implement that registration data policy for all the gTLDs, I think it will really help all the communities. So it was also included in the communique, but it's also my practical expectation that because we are already in the process. So eventually the process which was almost interrupted for last eight or nine months, that should be expedite, maybe through another round of public comment or community concentration with all of the communities and to have the determination before the starting of next ICANN 80. So this is my expectation and we hope that it will be considered by the board before ICANN 80.

And regarding the application support program, as you also rightly mentioned, I think this is the interest of also the At-Large community as well, because we really want the, it's not only, should not be, definitely the business community, they will be interested in their businesses, but there is a big opportunity for all the communities, even the At-Large community and non-business community to get benefit from the next round. And that's why the successful implementation of the application support program is very important. So it's also included in the IRT, but there are some loopholes that I already mentioned that we should address. And I think because it is also a consensus advice to the board, and just talking about from the GAC perspective, I'm sure that from AFRALO and from At-Large community, from ALAC, definitely I'm sure that there are other recommendations as well, because when we had

the bilateral meeting with ALAC, this was also a common topics of interest between ALAC and GAC as well. So, and from GAC perspective, we've made a clear advice to the board to consider, to make sure that there is a clear implementation plan. It can be from the ICANN Org, the board can ask the ICANN Org to do that one, or there can be a cross-community working group on that issue, that how to do that outreach, how we can reach the underserved areas, how there are eligible entities, but who are not aware of the support, how we can, and it's not only about the financial support, I want to actually mention it, it's also about the non-financial support, about their capacity building, about their readiness, so on and so forth. So all these things should be, at least there should be some progress in terms of designating the responsibility, either to either org, or setting up a cross-community, a consultation group, because I think we are very expeditiously heading to the next round. So my expectation is that there should be some progress before the ICANN 80, including the discussion of the possibility of increment of the monetary support. So in addition to that, I just want to add that, let's see what the board is thinking, and how they reply, because 2 million USD is not sufficient, if we want to make it successful, considering the financial and non-financial support, and there are some long-term commitment. So we hope that there should be a clear and specific reply from the board on this request of the community. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Dr. Zoha. And we go to Russell. Russell, you have been sharing that you've had quite a few key takeaways, and you've

made some new friendships, that people are willing to support in .PNG. So what are your next steps? What is it you're planning until ICANN 80?

RUSSELL DEKAT HARADA:

Thank you. I think before this ICANN 80 in Rwanda in June, I have to do a lot of things, as I mentioned. And also ccNSO Council already approved my travel support, so I will attend. I definitely will attend this ICANN 80 meeting. But before that, one, I have to do this capacity building, especially we as a university, we have to train our young youth, especially our students. So coming this 28th of March, is this UA Day, Universal Access Day, Internet for All. So I already talked to our management, academic staff, to organize this UA Day, to foster our university. We didn't apply this UA Day, some assistance previously, unfortunately. But in case we have to do some awareness for our students, so this capacity building is one. And two, in the coming two weeks time, we'll have our university council meeting. So I have to submit our .pg draft domain name policy, policy final endorsement from our council members. And then after maybe first week of May or June, we'll have a first PNG DNS forum, which we will receive some positive or some negative feedback from our stakeholders, especially ISPs and the government and industries. So we'll move forward before this ICANN 80 meeting. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Russell. There are several concrete agenda points at your end, be it the Universal Acceptance Day on 28th, or even reworking on the policy or having a DNS forum. And APRALO would be

happy to support in any way possible from our end. You have been in touch with Save for it, and we would be very happy. And our ALS is out there to support in any way. So feel free to reach out to us in whatever way we can, we would. So Aris, we move on to you. What are the next steps for you?

ARIS IGNACIO:

Thank you so much, Amrita. I've been talking about the ICANN grant program earlier, and one of the next steps with regards to that one would be, I think the APRALO should be promoting and maybe encouraging the participation of maybe ALS members and even the individual members to apply for the program. And also with regards to that, I think once there would be any applications, I think the APRALO should inform any updates with regards to this, especially about the run of the deadlines. Okay, so also maybe we could have an information, maybe an information program with regards to this on what would be the things that they need to take into consideration in order for them to be able to have a successful application. And also with regards to some of the new ones, I think our leadership team and even also other members should encourage these new members to maybe continue and join us in engaging in a lot of APRALO activities, especially in this policy forum, not only that, in all our monthly calls and also some of the other related activities as well. And also maybe we could encourage them to organize activities that are related to our goals or our aim ICANN base. For example, maybe organization of a UA Day for those places who haven't been organizing a UA Day before. Also maybe awareness with regards to DNS abuse and some other things that are really ICANN related. So I think we really need to, once they organize

that, we really need to support them. Yes, and maybe for them to be able to build a harmonious relationship. And we can also build our harmonious relationship with each other. So I think those can be the next steps with regards to this one related to the day plans. So thank you so much.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you, Aris. And you could also have shared that, incidentally, we have our monthly call on Thursday. And we would, Aris is arranging for some of the fellows to come and share their perspective, their experiences out there. Because we want, as Aris mentioned, at APRALO we want to engage the young people. And so he's working on it. And if you are in our mailing list, you would get information. And if you are in our WhatsApp groups, you would get that information. It's open to everyone, our WhatsApp group. Because we found in our region that works more. So in case you're interested, do join our monthly call at 6:00 UTC on Thursday. And with that, we move to Pranav. Pranav, what are your next steps before ICANN 80?

PRANAV BHASKAR TIWARI:

Thank you, Chair. Pranav, for the record. I think a lot has, we have learned a lot at ICANN-79. And as I shared before, OCTO does have some courses and both in-person, online, and hybrid modes that they offer it. And what I intend to do, at least before ICANN 80, is work with my institution where I teach. I have hosted many courses on internet governance overarchingly. But ICANN's mandate is, internet governance

is there, but it's a little wider as well from a technical aspect. And I would want the students to appreciate that as well.

So my goal would be to have one course and work with the OCTO to define what would be the different aspects of that course. What courses within the ICANN's mandate that are existing would be a good fit and deploy it. And that one course, once it is ready for law students and public policy students, then I think others can also localize that course and use it in their region. So that would be a good use case for others to work on. And I'm sure OCTO does already have, must have engaged with law students in the past. So there's always already be something to build on from. And that's one thing that I definitely want to achieve before ICANN 80.

And Russell mentioned that he's working on a UA Day in his university. And that's a good part of such readouts where we get to know what are others working on. And I am aware that we have so many folks in the UA leadership from India. And I'm certain that there'll be events in India. So what I would be looking forward to is ensuring that students in my network do apply for that and attend those sessions, get to know about it. And both these efforts will definitely ensure that the student community learns more about ICANN. They join our community, they understand it and possibly we'll have more diverse applications in the next round of ICANN, I think 81 by then.

And the second aspect on the grants program as the speaker before me also talked about is nurturing more awareness so that more people apply, more people collaborate. It's not just for one organization to apply. It can be from across regions, from across countries, from across

groups of expertise. It doesn't have to be just technical people or policy people, but them working collaboratively to ensure that our mission is achieved. So creating awareness and ensuring that they are applying and also continuing that discussion to understand that where are any of the challenges that they face or where can we do better and share that feedback back to the org. So I think that would be the next steps for me. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you Pranav. And they are great steps. You have Samiran from the GSE in India so he can definitely help you on it. We from APRALO are always there to help you, especially when you're talking about creating this learning course. There have been some comments in this book in the chat wherein people have supported it. Holly has been also supporting it. And Barkha just now shared about the UA Day in India. I think there's something which is being held by Nixie which can be attended online offline. So you can look at it, but even ICANN org as such would have more such events and people can go and look at it because sometimes discussions may go to a different level, but you may have to start from the ABCs for people. And yes, as in the grants program, one thing that you have shared is very relevant that the grant program seeks to support programs which have a global impact. And that can only as in, it is in my opinion that if you have a global project, it helps or at least a sub-regional project, etc. And for that, the collaborations would definitely help getting the affiliations, etc., because the requirements would be a bit more stringent. So yes, that definitely is something which needs to be considered. And great that you have been thinking about it.

We have a last round of questions for all the panelists and which is in your, everything that you have shared, how do you see the end individual end users, because we are from APRALO, playing a role in your next steps. But before that, I see a question which Shah had raised in the chat and which was asking Dr. Zoha as to what was the loophole in the IRT that you all had found? And what was your suggestion on behalf as a GAC representative? So if you could share a bit on that, Dr. Zoha.

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA:

Thank you, Amrita. Thank you, Mr. Shah for your question. I think just to clarify the background, in a very brief manner and our suggestion that in the registration data policy that was developed in 2009, in phase of implementation, it provided a separate guideline for the response to urgent reasonable disclosure request, those requests for which evidence is supplied to show an immediate need for disclosure. So it was the main effect of the implementation review team. They developed a narrow criteria for the urgent request and initially proposed up to three business days to response to such emergency data requests. But I think the GAC and also the last part of the community, the objective to the IRT's proposed timeline, because this is basically totally different from the requirement of urgent request. Finally, we have clear legal evidence for the public sector security.

So what I mean, ICANN Org implementation project team, they carefully reviewed all the public comment and concluded that there was a sufficient justification to revisit the policy language and to require a 24 hour response time for urgent request. But regrettably, that consensus

was not reached on IRT proposal and the latest status, the three business days with two possible extension, I think it was not the proposal of not meeting the GAC or the At-Large community expectation. And that's the thing that we actually installed, the whole thing is from last eight or nine months.

From our GAC perspective, or even from my personal experience perspective, I think I knew have, because that is also mentioning the direct communication between the law enforcing agency or the requester as well, the particular focal point of contact. And you have legal and evidence of urgent request, then the matter should vary between six hours to 24 hours based on the context and the amount or the type of data to be provided. So clearly our solution is that the timeline should be between six hours to 24 hours based on the context and under a predefined metrics. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Dr. Zoha for this. So my question is, you have shared your key takeaways, all of you, the panelists. And so how do you see the individual end users playing a role in those next steps? Because our idea is also to kind of try and see how APRALO At-Large or the end user interest can also be woven into the entire thing. So perhaps I will start with Pranav, I will reverse the order and we will end with Manju. So Pranav, over to you.

PRANAV BHASKAR TIWARI:

Thank you, Chair, Pranav for the record. I think what I'm trying to achieve with the implementation of a learning course with the student

community, and I am just taking a very small subset of the student community that is just law students and students of public policy. I think that would be a good use case. And again, others can localize it, utilize it, deploy it. And that will help us get more community members, get more interest into the work of ICANN and get more innovative ideas. And also potentially universities applying for our grants once they get to know about the different work that ICANN does. So I think that's where end users benefit from it. All of them would be end users to say the least and would be getting to know more about our work.

And secondly, with the grants program, there is direct benefit for the users. That is the very aim of our grants program to make it more accessible, inclusive, interoperable for everyone to access the global internet and benefit the community At-Large. So again, ensuring that there is wide participation is crucial and everyone in the community has a role to play there because our networks, just like the internet is different, but interconnected. And once we start working together to help ensure that everyone is participating, I think that is when we can have achieve real impact. And I look forward to collaborating because I've received so many ideas and support from the community already in the chat. And I did get that as well during ICANN 79. So I look forward to leveraging all those contacts and ideas and implement my takeaways for the benefit of everyone. Thanks.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you, Pranav. And that's important. How do you accelerate the capacity building outreach, a wider participation in these discourses? And another important statement which you mentioned is very crucial,

which is everyone has a role to play in different forms to help in this. So Aris, you have been speaking on the end user interest, but what is the key role? Do you think, apart from what you said, if there is anything else you think is significant?

ARIS IGNACIO:

Thank you so much, Amrita. This is again, Aris for the record. I would like to thank Pranav. As he answered a lot of things for me already, but just to add to what he had mentioned, individual end users really plays a major role actually in our endeavors to make it a success. So I think a lot of our individual end users, especially if they want to participate in policy development, it's really crucial for us to be able to contribute, especially if they are going to contribute in the different working groups that we have. And these different working groups really is creating policies that can be suggested to At-Large, and maybe those certain policies can make an impact towards how ICANN is working on things also.

Also, it would be good if those, a lot of these individual end users, I think one of the few steps that these people can do would be join, not only join, but even organize. It's like what I mentioned earlier, organize activities on the ground. These certain activities, especially with regards to DNS abuse, and there are a lot of DNS abuse forums that have been happening around, maybe participate on those and not only those, and not only that, but also maybe they can organize something which is more on a local level.

And another thing would be UA, UA days. And just like what I mentioned earlier, there are still a lot of communities out there, especially countries that doesn't have a UA day. And it would be good if these certain communities would be proposing for them to be able to organize a UA day within their local communities as well. So also, just like as a starter, it would also be good for these individual end users to join us, okay? Maybe this Thursday's APRALO call, I think that's a good start also, just for them to be able to know the inner workings of APRALO as a start, and moving towards going into a larger scheme, which is ALAC, and more importantly, going towards ICANN in general. So I think this could be some of the few steps that we can look for. So Amrita, thank you so much.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thanks, Aris. And these are important, while end users or individual people come to know of what ICANN does, what is being discussed, share their perspectives from their localized cases, as well as take it back and share it in their regions, their countries and to the governments. They could be ambassadors of ICANN. And that's how the ALSes of APRALO or the individuals could also help in policy formulation, even in their countries, and ensuring that regulations today help in enforcing the open internet, which we all advocate for, which at times gets into an issue in many countries when the regulations are being formed. I would now move to Russell. As in Russell, how do you see the end user community playing a role in whatever you are trying to achieve as the next step?

RUSSELL DEKAT HARADA: Yeah, thank you, Amrita. And as you know, in PNG, no one knows about the DNS, DNS abuse. Not many people are aware of these things. So first of all, we have to do the awareness. What is the DNS? What is we are doing with the ccTLDs? What is the importance of these ccTLD laws? And many people are still confusing. Our university are hosting all of the service, like a banking service our university are hosting. This is not right. We are just regulating the names, but not hosting a service. And we are not controlling this banking system or banking website. So we have to do more awareness. And also in this country, PNG, most of people are living in the rural areas. Nearly 80% of people are living in rural areas, which not reach to the 4G network, still 3G or even 2G network. They can't access to the Facebook. They can't access to some website. So our government already stated the universal access of internet, but it takes very long time. Some telecom already mentioned that it's impossible because there are not many population density of this area and they can't build a tower. So we have to do both ways on top of this, like a top-down approach and also bottom-up approach because we are the university and our students come across all of the nation, not only city students, but also some rural students. So key factor is this capacity building to the students. So I definitely make some awareness through the students. Some young youth, not our old age, but some young youth can participate many program, which ICANN and some regional community are organizing. So that is my main task and my main assignment. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Thank you, Russell. And we would be happy from APRALO and At-Large to actually support, especially capacity building on DNS abuse, etc., or

DNSSEC. We do have programs with the GSEs, which run and we'll be happy to collaborate on that or help wherever required separately. So we move to Dr. Zoha and you did mention that in many places, what the APRALO or end users can help, but anything else which you feel, in the next steps, which we were talking about, especially establishing the RDRS policy or the applicant support, you think that as end users can play a significant role or the APRALO.

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA:

Thank you, Amrita. In addition to the RDRS, what I'm referring that for the, we even for the communique, I'm just reading out the text that all the consensus of the board, just to highlight the fact, to act expeditiously to establish a clear process and a timeline for the delivery of a policy on urgent request for domain administration data to respond to the vital public safety interest. Related to such request, such a process must ensure appropriate participation of the community. So here we have two different aspects. One is that what you have, when you're talking about urgent data request, so definitely this is for the interest of the public, that is the At-Large community, the people who are actually involved, the end users. And the second thing is that, when we specifically, in addition to the RDRS and in addition to the recommendation that was made in the registration data policy in 2019, for this urgent data request, a separate policy is required to be formed. And definitely I think the end users, especially the At-Large community has a very big role in developing and shaping such policy because solely it can only be supported. When we are talking about the urgent request, it can only be justified because of the public interest. It means the interest of the At-Large community or the public as a whole. So that is

very important. This is one aspect. Another aspect that I'm just mentioning from my personal experience, a few months back, our local communities who are not under our jurisdiction, we aren't the telecom regulator. So we normally don't try directly to regulate the domain community. The people who are providing the hosting and the register services, they came to us and they wanted to have a legal compliance within our umbrella because what is happening that when some concern of public safety or something is happening that is hampering the public safety, normally the law enforcing agencies or the intelligence agency, they directly go to those guys who are in this business and because they are not very much aware about the registration data request type of things, they normally shut down the whole IP address. And what happens because in that particular IP address is not only that particular domain, there are other domain and other services are also hosted. So a lot of people, the At-Large community is actually, they cannot access other services as well who is actually hosted in that particular IP address. So if we can establish a very clearly and defined policy, how those requests that is for the safety of the public will be met. I think from both perspectives, that it is that they can also ship this policy in addition to that, if this policy is successful, they'd also be benefited from uninterrupted services and some concern of public safety is happening. So this is the thing that I see the role of the end users.

The other aspect is the application support program and the new round of gTLDs. So in both cases, I think there is a big opportunity as well and a lot of sensitivity, especially regarding the domain name that is culturally and regionally sensitive. So definitely as an At-Large community, we

need to keep an eye, we need to communicate, especially the, both the government and also the end users. Because we need to actually monitor and follow the whole process, what is happening, what are the applications that is being supported, if there is any nationally or culturally sensitive issues or not, that we need to collaborate and we can comprehensively actually communicate those concerns to the ICANN so that our concerns are, we know that our experience, I don't want to mention the specific domain name that happened in the last round, but if the end users, they are keen and they keep an eye on the progress of the next round, especially when the application is opening and there is a good collaboration between the government community and the At-Large community, I think the thing that is happening in the past, it will not repeat in the future. So I think it's very crucial for the role of the end user in the next round of the tutorial as well. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you, Dr. Zoha for this. And thanks [inaudible] for sharing about the ICANN Learn course on universal acceptance, the introduction, which anyone who is new could go through. And now we move on to Manju. Manju, is there anything, there are many things which have been worked on, but how do you see the end user community playing a role in any of the next steps?

MANJU CHEN:

Thank you, Amrita. So I think I want to reflect on Aris's suggestions on how end users or community and like At-Large community want to participate or they should participate more in the policy development

process. So in terms of policy development process and ICANN, I know At-Large and ALAC is not the same thing, but in the current practice of policy development process, how we form the working group, it is based on the policy development process 3.0, where we mostly use the representation model, which means that you have to be appointed by your supporting organization or advisory committee to be a member of a working group. So if you want to be a member of the working group, you really have to belong in a stakeholder group or constituencies or supporting organization or an advisory committee. In terms At-Large, of course, you will have to be a member At-Large and you will have to be appointed by ALAC to the working group.

There are two active working groups right now, gTLD working groups right now. One is transfer policy and there are two ALAC representatives on this working group. The other one is IDN. IDN has a different working group model. It is a hybrid model, which means that aside from the representatives from stakeholder groups or SOAC, you can still sign up as a member, sign up as a participant of the working group. You don't have to belong to any kind of SOAC or stakeholder groups to sign up as a participant. And you can freely express your opinion during the working group discussions, deliberations, but you will not be eligible to vote when there is a consensus decision-making process going on.

But of course, there are a lot of different ways to participate in policy discussions. For example, you can sign up as an observer. You can observe the policy discussions. And when the policy recommendation report is ready and open for public comments, you can always submit your own public comments as an individual. And because every public comment is reviewed by the working group and the ICANN staff, it is

actually, although it might feel as not, but it is actually a very active or engaging way to participate in policy discussions.

But I would definitely, so the GAC representative has talked a lot about the emergency request. It is an issue actually in ICANN where we find that when an advisory committee participate in working groups and they participate in consensus call, so they were exactly like fully participating in policy discussions. But when they didn't get what they want, they come back later with an advice because they have the right to do so to reassert what they want despite what was reached by consensus during the working group, what we call in layman's way, they have a second kick of the can or a second bite of the apple, which I don't think actually is a healthy phenomenon of a multi-stakeholder consensus-based policy making process. So I think we should definitely be wary about this kind of tendency that has been happening in ICANN, including the emergency request discussions. But that's my two cents. I'm not speaking on behalf of GNSO Council or NCSG. And that will be all. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you, Manju. And thank you for sharing how individual users, newcomers, etc., can participate in policy development processes as observers, etc., and how things happen and how certain things which are agreed upon may again need a relook from some communities because that's how the multi-stakeholder model is. There are interests, there are concerns coming from different places. I think what our panelists had to share has been shared unless they want to share something more. And please feel free to share, dear panelists, anything

you want to share. And also for people who are there in the call, in case you have any questions for the panelists, you could key it into the chat or raise your hands. Or if you want to make any comments, for example, if there are people here in this call who have attended ICANN 79, in case you want to share your key takeaways or comments, please feel free to do so. I do see Cheryl here in the call. Perhaps I'll call her out first because she's the easiest person to call out to speak in case she has to share anything or anyone else. Please feel free, it's your call. Cheryl, over to you.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Thank you, Amrita. I'm always happy to speak, you know that, I'll talk under wet concrete. Okay, that being said, there's a couple of perhaps lesser noticed and certainly lesser attended things that went on in ICANN 79 that I'd like to draw this group's attention to. But before we get onto that, I just want to pick up on a thread or two that Manju brought to you as well. Just to remind you that, of course, in addition to those formalized processes in terms of import into the policy development process of the GNSO, noting that the ccNSO has an entirely different model and of course the ASOs do as well. We have a benefit in the At-Large community, which of course is our weekly cross consolidated policy working groups, the CPWG meetings. And those meetings are attended by all of those appointees that go into any of these working groups and processes. Not all of them are policy working groups, there's any number of things that people are given a role, a representative role to serve on, continuous improvement comes to mind at the moment. And those representatives to attend those weekly meetings, and that's an opportunity for any member of the At-Large

community to influence the thinking and the discussions and the outcomes that those representatives will then carry back into those fields. So there is an additional opportunity in the At-Large community that you need to all be aware of.

And the other thing is, Manju, I beg to differ, as I often do, we had advisory committees, and the Government Advisory Committee specifically, less involved in consensus-built policy development over many, many years, and all that happened is exactly the same advice and even bigger roadblocks occurred with little or no understanding of the background and the discourse that went on to get those results. Those advices, those roadblockages still occurred because they came in at the end, and that I think was even perhaps even more frustrating for those of us who were more deeply entrenched in the policy development process. So all of this is a working process, and in fact, think about it, continuous improvement might come up with a new thing that works even better.

That being said, let me talk to you briefly about strategic planning and one particular aspect of operations and review processes that was covered in a couple of sessions at the ICANN 79 meeting. We understand that it's not the most exciting thing for everybody to get thrilled about strategic planning processes and five-year plans and modifying minor bits of five-year plans annually, but it really is an important thing, and one that ICANN org goes to great lengths to allow community input into. It is an extraordinary process. Yes, it seems a little bit cumbersome, runs over up to 18 months at times, but it's really built to allow a great deal of community input, and I was a little disappointed to see how few of the community from across the

community, not just our region and across all parts of ICANN, not just the Atlantic community, how few actually attended those very important strategic planning sessions where that last personal aspects of input goes in before the machine of developing the strategic plan kicks off. So opportunity lost, but not lost totally.

The other thing is in the reviews process, there's a public comment out at the moment, sorry, not actually a true public comment, a call for a response from the ACs and the SOs due to a letter written by Theresa Swinehart to the chairs of the ACs and SOs, and that's calling for an opinion on whether or not, due to all sorts of resourcing and other issues, the by-law mandated accountability and transparency review team cycle number four, ATRT4, should be postponed because the board has committed now to take the next steps on the pilot holistic review.

I'm not gonna go into the background of it, but the long and the short is it is, we have two very different approaches in community and the At-Large, and ALAC's operations finance and budget working group has drafted up a considered and deeply discussed and deliberated public comment. And perhaps we could pop the link into chat for anyone who would like to have a read of that and perhaps make some last-minute comment on it as it's closing very soon. That's it for me, thanks, Amrita.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you, Cheryl. Those were important aspects which were necessary for everyone to hopefully get to know. Is there anyone else who wants to share anything? Any comments, queries? I guess there are none. So,

we can give back 15 minutes of time back to everyone, but thank you everyone for being here in this call to the APRALO Policy Forum. And this entire session was curated by Shah from the Policy Forum. Thank you everyone for being here in the call. We do have our monthly call on Thursday, which is going to be 21st, 06:00 UTC. Do join in. We will have fellows joining, sharing their perspective on how they found ICANN 79. And Shah, thank you for arranging this session. And with that, we end the session 14 minutes in advance. Thank you so much.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]