
JULIA CHARVOLEN: Good morning, good afternoon and good evening everyone. Welcome to the At-Large ICANN Academy Working Group call on Tuesday, 9th of July 2013 at 1500 UTC. On the call today we have Poncelet Ileleji, Allan Skuce, Ron Sherwood, Tijani Ben Jemaa, Sandra Hoferichter, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Etienne Tshishimbi, Wolf Ludwig and Dev Anand Teelucksingh.

We have apologies from Hong Xue, Siranush Vardanyan, Vanda Scartezini and Jonathan Cohen. And from Staff we have Heidi Ullrich, Gisella Gruber and myself, Julia Charvolen. May I please remind all participants to please state your names before speaking for transcript purposes. Thank you very much and over to you.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Thank you very much Julia. I'm Chairing this call and first of all I'd like to ask everybody participating in this call, if you have any changes or amendments to the published Agenda? For those who are not on the Adobe Chat I'll just read the Agenda. I would first of all like to give you an update on...

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: There is a problem? Julia?

JULIA CHARVOLEN: I think there is a problem with the audio.

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.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yeah, I think so.

JULIA CHARVOLEN: I'm checking now.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Is she on the breach or on the Adobe?

JULIA CHARVOLEN: She's on the Adobe.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Can you hear me?

JULIA CHARVOLEN: We can hear you now.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: I had a problem today again. I'm forever losing the connection tonight. I don't know what's wrong with my Internet connection.

JULIA CHARVOLEN: We can dial out to you if you'd prefer, Sandra?

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: My telephone is not working very well either, I'm afraid. Let's try... [coughs] Apart from that I have some problems with my voice so it's been hard work. Okay. So my question was if there are any amendments or changes to the Agenda? Please raise your hand if you have some changes to propose.

Okay, if this is not the case then I will proceed with #3 of the Agenda: the update on the development on the education platform. From the Beijing meeting you are all aware that Matthew Shears, who's joined us at our Working Group meetings, was contracted to work on the development of an online education platform.

Recently, Matthew Shears was assigned for a new job and had to quit this task with ICANN. We now have two more people with us; Nora Abusita – she is Vice President for Public Responsibility Programs – and Chris Gift – Vice President for Online Community Services. Both are working on the development of the online education platform, based on the work Matthew Shears had already done.

They also told me they are in close contact with Matthew so that we can avoid duplication of discussions and duplication of work. They already made a decision regarding the tool, which is drawing to be chosen for the online education platform, and they chose the Open Source system Moodle. Some of you might remember that Moodle was already proposed by a Member of our Working Group – by Sivasubramanian.

He proposed it at a very early stage, last year, to use Moodle as a possible online tool. And I'm actually very happy that we are choosing a

tool that was... Well, they weren't following our proposal but at least we had the same discussion and we had the same proposal within our Working Group and I think we can put both efforts together now.

I was told that the decision for this tool was in comparison with many other tools which are on the market, and they had to take into consideration issues like bandwidth or the possibility to customize the tool and so on and so forth. I am sure that we will have some more detailed information about the development of the online education platform and the Moodle tool in particular during our ICANN Academy meeting in Durban.

Our meeting is scheduled during lunchtime because it was the only available 90-minute slot, and I hope many of us will have the possibility to bring their food into the room during the meeting.

The online education platform has meant windows of all capacity building provisions within ICANN. It is a so-called debate of all the management. No matter that it serves to elaborate various community leaders or is it going to be a tool for new participants and contributors, or is it for an observer who would just like to get some information?

All groups within ICANN will be able to work upon these online education platforms, these basic windows of the knowledge management group according to their own needs. We all know that some constituencies are running capacity building programs on an inter-constituency basis – some of them will be extended, others will be

edited, and the online education platform will be the brilliant tool to build upon.

So the idea, or the purpose, or the task of ICANN Academy Working Group will be to help implement different capacity building provisions from different stakeholder groups and constituencies with this online education platform. This will be one task of our Working Group. Excuse me, could you please mute yourself? There is somebody speaking in the background.

I'm referring to a proposal Hong Xue made; she made this proposal after the Working Group meeting in Beijing, that we should all draft a matrix of all training programs which are currently conducted by ICANN, to see whether coordination or supplementation is needed. I think this is a very good proposal and I would encourage us to take this into consideration and make, possibly, a Sub-Working Group to work on such a matrix.

At this stage, I would like to ask for your feedback. I'm skipping #4 from our Agenda and going directly to #5. I will come back later to #4. I'd like to discuss with you now how our Working Group is organizing themselves in order to provide input to the online education platform, to work on the curriculum for the pilot leadership training program, and to discuss enrichment of the participants and trainers.

But these are various tasks and I'd like to start... Or I'd like to ask the question first: what do you think about a drafting of the matrix that combines all the training programs funded and conducted by ICANN?

Are there any comments or questions? Tijani, you raised your hand. You have the floor please.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you Sandra. I think that the online platform would be one of the tools that the Academy would use. The Academy should be the framework for the whole learning efforts of ICANN, using any kind of tool, including the online platform. So the online platform is an important tool because it gives a lot of possibilities. And sure, we will use it very often, but it's not the only one that we'll use. This is the comment I wanted to make. Thank you.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER:

Thank you Tijani. Yes, I agree with you, you are right. It will be a tool and a very often-used tool. From the discussions I heard from various people, including Fadi Chehadé, when I met him during the EuroDIG in Lisbon, Fadi was pretty much on the same page and we agreed that this online education platform will be the basis to the blank window that all the ICANN Academy and all the framework can be built upon.

It means not that it is the other way around; that your online education platform will work for the ICANN Academy – no; it's going to be the blank sheet for so-called "windows". I think we call it the "windows", the authorizing system was a good synonym for this.

And we agreed on this pretty much and we all said that now is the time where all the various groups have to fill in or add onto their capacity

building programs in this moduled and structured way that we have discussed within this Working Group so far, which you all know the sort of [permit? 12:57]. So, yes, it is a tool, but it's going to be the blank sheet, the white paper for all the knowledge management. Any further comments or questions?

So my question would be: would you agree that we should start to craft a matrix, reaching out to the various constituencies within ICANN? I don't want to set up another survey. I don't think we should follow people with surveys. I think drafting such a matrix can only be done on a very individual basis.

Those representatives who are participating in the ICANN Academy group, who are not from the At-Large community but are from another constituency, should or could go to their constituency directly, collect the relevant information and put it in a matrix on which we agree beforehand. Good idea? Or do we have any other proposals?

So at least, I would ask if you agree, please select the "agree" button so that I can see if there is consensus on this point. There, I've seen Allan and Wolf agree. What do the others think? Do you think we should proceed with this? Dev agrees as well. Tijani does. Okay.

I see there is no unanimous consensus but I would say there is rough consensus to go forward with this idea and propose this... Yeah, to create a Sub-Working Group and propose this at our meeting in Durban. I hope we have some more people participating. Then we can form a

Sub-Working Group and organize and agree on such a blank sheet for a matrix. [coughs] I'm sorry. Okay.

I think once we have drafted a matrix, this will be the most valuable input to the online education platform because then we could also ask constituency members what they think is necessary and what the online education platform should implement and which serve their [appropriateness? 16:50]. I think this can be done in one go.

Okay. Questions or comments at this point? Also from those who are not on the Adobe Connect; who are on the phone only? Poncelet, you raised your hand. Poncelet, you have the floor. [pause] Poncelet, we can't hear you.

PONCELET ILELEJI: Can you hear me now?

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Yes, we can.

PONCELET ILELEJI: Okay. I just wanted to get clarity on the online platform; when you said you were going to engage the community to give feedback on what is... I mean, how is the group going to engage the community? This may be a question you already have. That was my question. Thank you.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Thank you Poncelet. I understand the question was how the community will be asked together to give feedback on the development of the online education platform. Did I understand rightly?

PONCELET ILELEJI: Yes, yes.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Okay. We have already had a meeting of the ICANN Academy group with Matthew Shears in Beijing on the concept of the online education platform, which was at a very early stage at that time.

Now that the project is more mature and we already know which tools we are going to use, then possibly we'll get a demonstration during Durban, given by Chris Gift, on how Moodle works and what the possibilities are, we will get a better idea on how the community can contribute to the development of this online education platform.

Furthermore, I think it's not the point of contributing technically wise, I think the most crucial point of contribution is content; to gather feedback on the content. The proposal that we formulate or create a Sub-Working Group allows us to reach out to all the different constituencies and figure out with them, on a bi-lateral basis.

This could with individual face-to-face meetings and also possibly discussions on [VR mailing? 20:29] or online using the Wiki space – that we are reaching out to them, that the Working Group is reaching out to the communities asking: "Okay, what are your needs? How do you want

to have it implemented? What do you think could be helpful for you to be included on the online education platform?” And we will then be able to collect all the information and see where things are duplicating.

I expect that various groups will have similar content. For a newcomer you will always have to start from scratch. So this knowledge will only be provided once and all groups will be able to get access to this very basic knowledge which they can then offer – and then on the second step in a more specific way – to their specific groups.

I think we will understand it better and know more of how we can contribute once we have seen the demonstration of the Moodle tool. Does that answer your question or do you have another comment or question to make, Poncelet?

PONCELET ILELEJI:

I think yes, in a way it has answered my question, but I... Because I was in Beijing when the consultant then was explaining in more detail what was going to happen with this online platform, but I wanted some clarity on what... Is the community going to be involved in any way in the modules that are going to come up within the online platform?

Are they going to recommend modules or will that be left to the consultant working with this Academy to do that? I just wanted to know if that also was going to happen.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Poncelet, as far as I understood, we had a call last week, they will be happy and they are very much looking forward to working with the community. And I think the ICANN Academy Working Group is the perfect binding element between Staff, who is doing the development and executive work, and the community, who is going to build on the separate...

I think the modules, the content, will come from the community. And from the Staff side it will be implemented according to the needs of the community. That's the way I understand it and that's the way I think it perfectly makes sense. And we have to think, in the Working Group, of how we organize – among each other – to be very effective and to get the best result.

Are there any other questions? Poncelet, you still have your hand up. Is that an old hand or do you want to add something? Okay, I see your green tick. Okay, are there any other comments or questions? I must apologize, I was not able to follow the chat so I would kindly ask Heidi, Gisella or Julia to point out to me whether there were any questions I missed and that should be answered, if there were any?

If this is not the case and there are no further comments...?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Sandra, Marilyn would like to comment, please.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Yes. Marilyn, you have the floor please. [pause] We cannot hear you Marilyn.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Marilyn, it's "*7" to unmute, and at the same time we're asking Adigo to unmute your line if you are indeed muted. I believe she's dropped actually. They're dialing her back now. In fact, she's saying that she's muted. We'll see if we can get Adigo to sort this out. Apologies.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: No problem. Okay, at this point, before we have Marilyn back on this call, I would like to encourage you to think about, until the meeting in Durban, how we can organize Sub-Working Group in the best manner. Hong's proposal is already on the Agenda; to craft this matrix and to reach out on a personal basis to all the constituencies, but there are... I'm sure there are more ideas of how we can organize ourselves in the best manner.

On the second note... I'm just reading... Marilyn says she is "dropping off now". That means she has to leave now?

HEIDI ULLRICH: We're going to be dialing her on her cellphone, so she should be joining us again shortly, I hope. And Tijani had his hand raised. Tijani, did you have a question? You still have your hand raised, Tijani?

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Tijani, you have the floor please.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Do you hear me now?

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Yes, we hear you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: I said that one of the Sub-Working Groups or the new organization of the group, we need to have someone or some people thinking about the finalization of the ICANN Academy project as its own framework.

Because we spoke earlier about the pilot project, we are now asking about the online platform, etc., but we don't speak about the whole project; how we see it, how it will be finished, how it will be operational. This is something that we have to think about and we have to go ahead in implementing it. Thank you.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Thank you for your comments Tijani. Yes, you are right but I see we are currently discussing the whole ICANN Academy project, because as we are talking about a module we are now talking about the different modules, the different little bricks that build the whole system and then builds the whole house.

We now have the additional component of the online education platform, which paves the ground and which gives us an excellent tool to work upon, and we can now start on putting our bricks – our existing ones and the ones which are going to be implemented soon – upon this basis.

One of these bricks will be the pilot leadership program, and I will come back later to this pilot leadership program because I've seen that Marilyn has now joined and I would like to give the floor to Marilyn at this stage.

MARILYN CADE:

No, no. Thank you Sandra. Let me just say how much I appreciate all we're doing and I'll come back... I'll be on for the next serious period so don't worry, and thank you for recognizing that I'd be added back on. But thank you.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER:

Okay, thank you Marilyn. Any other comments or questions? Okay. If this is not the case then I would like to give you a short update on the pilot leadership program, which is one of our modules to be developed, which is the module that the ICANN Academy Working Group identified as a missing module. This was confirmed after we evaluated the results of the survey that was conducted by this Working Group.

So we submitted a request for the second time to the Finance Committee, asking if we could have such a leadership program as a pilot

program at the next AGM at Buenos Aires. I remember, and those of you who are already part of this Working Group will remember, that we tried to organize such a pilot program for the AGM in Toronto, but this was not possible due to the short timeline and some other reasons.

But now I think the time has matured and we probably will have this pilot leadership training in Buenos Aires. It is not officially confirmed yet because the FY 14 budget will be approved in Durban or shortly thereafter, but as far as I am informed, it is still in the budget and will be in [town? 32:36] at the same time as the financial year's overall budget will be confirmed.

Nevertheless, in order to avoid getting in such a time pressure as we did in Toronto, we should start working on the curriculum and thinking about how we reach out to trainers, to participants, [inaudible 33:03], who are participants, to clarify all these questions already in Durban.

And I think we can build upon the curriculum which was developed for Toronto. We have to rework this, we have to review it and ask ourselves if this is what we want to have for the leadership program, etc. And we will also then have to discuss how we are reaching out to the participants, who are we defining as participants, and also to trainers.

At this stage we also have to work, or collaborate very closely, with ICANN Staff, because in terms of the budget, which will be handled by ICANN Staff, we have to find the best solutions to get hold of it and hopefully, once we have it, we will go into the third phase of reviewing this pilot after Buenos Aires.

Are there any questions or ideas regarding this item?

MARILYN CADE: Sandra, it's Marilyn.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Yes, please?

MARILYN CADE: I think this is a fantastic move forward. I just think if we could work with the ICANN Staff to have a synergistic approach; so there are relationships with the online training, and then a better understanding of who would fit into a pilot. But if we could figure this out as a, sort of, journey, I think this could be fantastic.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Thank you very much Marilyn. An idea indeed – and this was discussed with Nora and Chris already – is that we try to implement moduled storage that can be of use to the leadership training program. So it's not possible that the online education platform is fully operable until Autumn; this will not happen.

But some first modules can be implemented at that stage and can prepare participants, prior to the face-to-face meeting at the AGM, which they have to complete or which they are working on or which depends very much on the usability and the possibility of Moodle

[inaudible 36:20]. It would also be a first possibility, or first chance, to prove how the online education platform is working and how it can be implemented in the best manner in any face-to-face education program.

I think this is going to be a learning process, and at this stage a very important learning process where all the other following modules, which are implemented or created, will learn from. Any questions in the chat or any questions with your hands raised?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Sandra, it's Olivier.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Yes, Olivier. You have the floor please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you and sorry, my computer just ran out of battery so I can't put my hand up anymore. I fully support what Marilyn has said and I'm very pleased with the answer you've provided us with. I think it's great that we have synchronization and I'm certainly pleased to see that there's now an understanding to get all of this moving forward.

This pilot program will be the first step and the first test of – if it is a pilot – the first test of the work that this Committee has been doing for already quite a long time. And that is now being joined with the efforts of Staff. Thank you.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Thank you Olivier. You raised a very important point – it will be a test page not for the whole system but a test page for one module, and it will be implemented later for all the other modules and we will learn from that. Any other questions or comments? Also, those who are not in the Adobe Chat and cannot raise their hands...?

If this is not the case, I would come back to the last Agenda item, which is actually Agenda #4: to gather your feedback for the Durban Agenda. I just want to provide you with the link to our Agenda for Durban... Just a moment. Okay, I have just pasted the link to our Agenda for the Durban meeting. I invite you to visit that page and give me your feedback and your ideas whether you think we should edit or change something.

This is the proposal ICANN made, which includes – for those who cannot read the Adobe Chat, I'll read it out – first, a presentation of the statutes of the online education platform and how the Working Group can [inaudible 39:44] and how it could be used for the pilot leadership training program in Buenos Aires. That was actually what we discussed today and the way I have taken our phone call is as approval to proceed that way.

Second, to discuss and agree on the target audience for the pilot leadership program and how to reach out. We've briefly discussed this during this call as well and I expect more comments on this once we have our face-to-face meeting.

Third, agree on the trainers for the pilot leadership training program and discuss the curriculum for the pilot. And the last point is “next steps”. Under “next steps” I would see that we would agree on milestones, on timelines, on how to proceed until Buenos Aires, which we now all consider as the first test phase for both: the online education platform and for the first [implementable? 40:54] in the ICANN Academy framework.

Any comments or amendments or changes to this proposed Agenda? Okay, I think this is not the case. I take this as approved, then? And I have no other points on today’s Agenda. Oh, Poncelet, you raised your hand? Poncelet, you have the floor please.

PONCELET ILELEJI:

Yes, I just wanted to say that with the Agenda in Durban coming up, for the trainers, when we agree on trainers – is there going to be...? Have you [speak to your? 42:05] or is all of this stuff is going to be discussed in the Durban meeting? Thank you.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER:

Thank you Poncelet. Yes, I think we will start but probably not finish the discussion on trainers. This is something I would also like to discuss with the Working Group, on how we proceed in reaching out to trainers. There was a very big discussion about who should train last year when preparing or planning the pilot for the Toronto meeting.

And I think this is a very sensitive issue and we should at least, in Durban, agree on a procedure on how we elect, select or reach out to trainers. This is something that must be done in close consideration with ICANN Staff because we have to keep a budget line.

And this was the issue in the Toronto pilot; that the pretty tight budget did not allow to invite many participants and many trainers, but we had somehow combined those functions, which means that an experienced ICANN leader can participate and vote as a trainer and as a participant.

On another note, some training or some lectures can also be given by ICANN Staff who are already planning on going to Buenos Aires. So the community was not very happy about having too many Staff Members giving lectures. I expect and hope that we will discuss this in Durban attentively and wisely.

I want all of you right now to think about a possible solution of how we can reach out, select and elect trainers to give a lecture during the pilot in Buenos Aires. You raised a very important point. This is a very sensitive issue, Poncelet. Did I answer your question?

MARILYN CADE: Sandra?

PONCELET ILELEJI: Yes, thank you Sandra.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Marilyn, you are next please.

MARILYN CADE: Thank you. I just wanted to enforce – I don't know if [inaudible 44:48] or not – I'm interpreting what you said, that I'm going to be in support of points that Sandra made – while I have a huge amount of respect for ICANN Staff, I will often not that many of the ICANN Staff are very new to ICANN, while the leadership of the community know the community they come from.

So I think we actually need to divide a set of principles about qualifications, experience, expertise and contacts into different communities that can support who [goes? 45:39] in a longer-term support, who are invited instructors. And we also need to make sure that we're not just recycling those who trained in other settings.

So if we could come up with a set of principles, even though we have a pilot, we move beyond that, we ask for ICANN funding and bring in experts and expertise. And I do want to be careful about this, and I'm just going to say – someone who is respected by their community may be the most effective trainer.

So we need to come up with principles so it's not just driven by personality, it's not driven by [inaudible 46:28], it's not driven by [treasure? 46:29], but it's driven by principles in the long run. Pilots are different and we learn from pilots. Thank you Sandra.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Thank you Marilyn and thank you... Yes?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: It's Olivier. Put me in the queue please.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Yes, I will. I'd just like to reply to Marilyn that I like the idea of setting up a set of principles. I think this is a very neutral way to reach out to trainers and to avoid any personality issues among Staff and community, whatever. Olivier, you have the floor please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you Sandra. It was just to add that 100% support Marilyn's statement just now. 100%. Thank you.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Thank you Olivier. So we are on the same page? To set up principles for the selection/election of trainers. Yes, please?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Is that an Action Item?

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: No, I think that is something we will keep in mind for the Agenda, it will be an edit for the Agenda for Durban.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Okay, thank you.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Any other questions? Comments? Any Other Business that you'd like to raise at this point, which was not discussed during this call? I also invite those who've just stepped into the call, who are not on the Adobe Chat. Okay. So if this is not the case then I don't want to stretch out our time too much. I know we are all rather busy.

I thank you very much for participating in this short notice call and I'm very much looking forward to meeting you in Durban and hoping very much for work to be lively and to have some intensive discussions during our working lunch on Monday. Thank you very much and bye bye.

PONCELET ILELEJI: Okay, bye bye.

UM: Bye bye everybody. See you all in Durban, safe travels.

[END OF TRANSCRIPT]
