
UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Welcome to the Board Candidate Evaluation Committee conference call this Friday 20 December 2013 at 19:00 UTC. Participants on the call are Murray Mcercher, Veronica Cretu, Fatimata Seye Sylla, Roberto Gaetano, Siranush Vardanyan, Mohamed El Bashier, Carlos Aguirre. We have apologies from Andrew Mack. On staff we have Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, Matt Ashtiani and Susie Johnson.

May I please remind to please state your full name before speaking for recording purposes. Over to you, Roberto.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Thank you. So I would like to ask staff to put the agenda on the screen if possible. Basically this is the first call that we make after the Buenos Aires meeting. I have periodically sent to the list updates on what was happening, so there's no need to repeat where we are. The purpose of this call is to discuss and approve the format of the letter that we are going to send out to the person who has to give the references. That is up to the urgent item because the [call for] reference is not to be made immediately after when the expressions of interest have been sent in. That's the first point on the agenda.

The second point that we take a little bit more time is to discuss how we are going to proceed with this [calling] and with the votes. Maybe for this I will ask for the help of Matt or somebody to describe what has been prepared in [inaudible]. I will [inaudible] the subject, and then we can do it to the pages.

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.

So is there any other thing that anybody feels we need to discuss during this call? Murray, I see your hand up. You have the floor.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Murray, you may be muted. It's *7 to unmute.

MURRAY MCKERCHER: Sorry, how is that?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: That's perfect. Thank you.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Much better.

MURRAY MCKERCHER: My apologies. Too many buttons. Someone had sent me some feedback about the e-mail that went out and I just wanted to pass along that they were a little confused about the process from the e-mail. I'm not sure why, because I didn't go through it all in detail myself, but I just wanted to pass that along and perhaps we can have a look at that. That's all.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Murray, I'm not sure I understand. What process? Do I need to describe the next step of the next thing this committee has to do or what else?

MURRAY MCKERCHER: No, sorry. The e-mail that went I guess out saying that the expressions of interest were open and the process that happens for those who are wishing to express interest, the feedback I received was there was some unclarity in that, either the e-mail or the process. I didn't get exact feedback, but I can find out more and pass that along. Is that clear?

ROBERTO GAETANO: Yes. If I need to explain that now during the call, I'll do that in a couple of minutes, but then if you forward me the e-mail maybe I can reply directly to the person that has raised the question.

MURRAY MCKERCHER: Okay. That's probably best. I'll [inaudible]

ROBERTO GAETANO: Okay. But just to make sure that we at least – the committee – are all on the same page, the expressions of interest have to be submitted by a [inaudible] on the link that was in the candidate [inaudible]. And once the request – once the expression of interest has been submitted, myself and ICANN staff will get a notification and we will send to the person that had been given as a reference in the form. We will send an e-mail with the request for references basically to fill in the form that you see now on the screen.

These people have until – well, sometimes in the beginning of January, I think it's in the form the deadline. Exactly at 23:59 UTC on Monday the 13th of January. At the same, we will have access starting the 28th I believe to [inaudible] that have been submitted before the deadline of

the 26th and we will start the evaluation process. So we will basically score the candidates in a way that will be explained as a second item in the agenda, as the next item in the agenda. As a result, we will take votes to determine which candidates are going to be short-listed and which candidates are not going to be short-listed. A list of the short-listed candidates – I think the deadline is the 28th of January but I might be wrong – will be passed to the ALAC and then the ball is in their hands for doing the voting. Is that sufficiently clear? I assume it is. Or the person who doesn't find it clear is muted.

Having said that, you have in front of you the confidential applicant reference form. You don't probably have a lot of time to read it before the call, but basically there is a description of the process, what is going to happen, what we are requesting referee to do and a series of questions. The questions are basically the same questions that the NomCom is asking to the referees, plus the additional question that is related to specific ALAC selection criteria – ALAC requirements – which is question number five.

So I'm not expecting to have a long discussion on this. In any case, I think over the weekend we can expect further comments if you have any. But then on Monday at the latest, this has to be finalized because it's going to be sent out as soon as the expressions have been finished coming in.

Are there any questions or comments on this form? I hear a lot of people typing.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Roberto, Carlos has his hand raised.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Sorry. Thank you. I didn't know this. Carlos, please go ahead.

CARLOS AGUIRRE: Thank you. Just a comment. We have a short time to analyze the [inaudible] form. But I can see very similar others in the past references, in the past. I think it's good. I have no question, no comments about that. Thank you.

ROBERTO GAETEANO: Okay, thank you, Carlos. For those of you who are not on the Adobe, there was a comment from Veronica suggesting to add a question related to any potential conflict of interest that the candidate might have, knowing that the person providing the reference might not be aware of all the conflict of interests. It is nevertheless useful to add this question. So maybe staff can make a little note about this and we will introduce [inaudible] this question.

Okay. As I said, I'm not expecting big issues about this, also because we are not starting from scratch. It is basically [inaudible] over from the previous experiences.

So [inaudible] we can close this point on the agenda. I'm going to give, as I said, another couple of days also because we have people that are not on this call and so didn't have the chance to provide comments.

So let's go to the next point. That is the review of the BCEC workspace. So basically what we have done is this. The approach is this. When we get the person of interest, they are in the system. What we are going to do is to do an evaluation we split in different parts and we are going to evaluate every part. For instance, there's a part related to the knowledge of the ICANN processes. There's a part that is addressing, for instance, what they are going to be able to contribute to ICANN and to ALAC and so on.

So there are 4, 5, or 6 blocks that we are going to split this in blocks and we're going to give, first of all, a score from one to five, one being the lowest and five being the highest, to each of the blocks. And also we are going to give the possibility of making comments and I'm encouraging everybody to put as many comments as you want because I believe that at one point in time the comments are going to be important when we have a [inaudible] and we need to decide whether the candidates are going to be part of the list or not. I think that going through the comments can be a useful exercise also for keeping in mind exactly what is the profile of the candidates and what are the impressions about the profile of the candidates.

Plus we'll have the possibility also to put comments – it will remain obviously completely confidential and [inaudible] inside our group. And these comments can be also [inaudible] and I doubt whether this statement is correct or maybe this has to be verified, all these kinds of things that may be useful for an evaluation.

I would like to ask Matt or I don't know who in staff can bring on the screen the page and maybe walk us through a little bit more details on

what I have said now, and then I will open the floor for questions and comments.

MATT ASHTIANI: So were you saying that you wanted me to go over the workspace that was created?

ROBERTO GAETANO: Yes, exactly. Can you do that?

MATT ASHTIANI: Sure. Give me one second. Let me just share my screen. I'm actually going to have to log into a new browser, so if you just give me a few seconds.

HEIDI ULLRICH: So Matt is going to be sharing his screen and then we can go briefly over what we reviewed, some of the aspects that this members only site has. But for the time being, we don't have any technical support staff with us, so any technical questions will need to be referred to them.

ROBETO GAETANO: Yes, I understand this. I think that the [inaudible] to familiarize us [inaudible] with the type of evaluation that we are going to do. In fact, what is more important is the process and I think that this is a question for [inaudible]. I can answer them myself.

In the meantime, is there any comment about the general approach that we are using, that is instead of having one overall score to have separate scores on different sections. I personally believe that this will allow us to be more [granular] and a little bit more accurate in our evaluation. In the meantime, I see in the chat that Fatimata said that her line is cut off, so I don't know if you need to call her back.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Hi, Roberto. Yes, we're working on dialing her out. Apologies for the delay.

MATT ASHTIANI: And I'm ready to go over the workspace, if you want, Roberto. I'm not sure if you want to wait for Fatimata to return.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Maybe yes. I see people that are typing. I would like to see if there's any disagreement with this approach that we are taking. Fatimata confirms that we can continue.

MATT ASHTIANI: Okay. So this is the BCEC 2014 Candidate Evaluation Workspace. Just a couple notes about this workspace. It's private, so only members of staff and the BCEC can actually see it. And in order to see it, to even search for it, you will have to be logged in. You cannot be logged in as anonymous and find this page.

So the way it was set up with David Pragnell from IT was we have the candidate EOI application. He listed four EOIs. Again, these are just fakes. They're just so we can see. If we click on the first one, which is EOI 1, we have all of the other sections of the EOI.

I'm going to skip to section B so you can see everything. This section is just contact information. This is one of the fake EOIs I filled out. I was John Doe. This contains all the information that was listed in the EOI and filled out by every person. You can see here's a few more sections. This has everything broken down.

So we're going to list all of the EOIs this way for anything that is submitted. There's one other section, which is the member voting section. Under here, there's a completed example and an in progress example. I'll start with the in progress. If you have your speakers on, can you mute them?

David has informed me that, Roberto, you requested to get rid of Section A because it just is the person's e-mail address, so they shouldn't be voting on that. So what everyone will be able to see is you can come in here and [inaudible], just voting on how someone [inaudible]. Once that's completed, the finalized survey, [as everyone can see], will be aggregated normally. This is just one of the surveys that David voted on. You'll be able to see when it's completed how people voted and the overall percentages for each section. I hope that's helpful. If there's any questions about this, of course I'll be happy to answer them.

ROBERTO GAETANO:

There's a request that Matt share the link in the chat of this page. I would like to say that your comments are welcome. Need to finalize obviously this before the deadline for the submission of the candidate list.

What you see now, if you access to the link, is still a little bit a work in progress in the sense that it is open to changes and maybe to simplification if it's over-complicated. But in general, the important thing is that we agree on the general structure and that we understand where we need to act in order to do the votes and the comments.

I [inaudible] providing as many comments as you feel adequate, because the comments then are the ones that are going to allow us more than [inaudible] to make an informed decision.

Any comments on this? Is there any question that you have? Is there any parts that have to be better explained? I see a comment from Carlos. Yes, of course, you will have time to go through the [inaudible] and the application and provide more comments when you access it. Matt has given the link, so you will be able to link to the page and to browse it. I'm just asking for general comments about how we are operating.

Yes. Veronica has a comment in the chat saying obviously she would like to play a little bit with the application before comments. That's the purpose. I wanted to have this call. I was to present the thing and give you a little bit of time for playing with it.

I see Heidi asking for the floor. Heidi, go ahead please.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Thank you, Roberto. I'm just wondering two things. Now that we have two EOIs and we're expecting more in the next several days, should staff just go ahead and put those EOIs onto this wiki page or would you like us to hold off on that?

Secondly, perhaps when the BCEC is ready to start using this page and start scoring the candidates, would you like to have a member from the tech support staff on the call just to walk everyone through it so everyone is clear on how to use the system?

ROBERTO GAETANO:

Well, first of all, I think it's better if we put the EOIs in line after the deadline, just so that people who are going to play with the system – we need to concentrate on the mechanics of the system and make sure that we understand what is happening probably before we have live data, unless this is technically a problem. In that case, the EOI is online. That's the first thing.

The second thing is that I'm not planning to have another teleconference in the next days because we are approaching Christmas and it's going to be a nightmare having a teleconference. I think that the important thing is that everybody understands the basics of the application and that will be concentrating on this.

But I see a comment from Siranush who states that it would be better to have the EOIs posted by the time they are coming or having more time to the [inaudible]. We are talking about in fact basically six days

difference including Christmas. Can I have just a quick show of hands? If you prefer to have the EOIs online immediately, can you say so on the phone line or say yes in the Adobe, agree in the Adobe?

Okay. So I have three yes. Can those who prefer to have everything at the deadline vote no on the Adobe, disagree on the Adobe or say so in the call? Forget it. Everybody says – so there's consensus on having the EOIs available as soon as they arrive. So that answers the question, Heidi.

MOHAMED EL BASHIER: I would like to comment for the record.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Mohamed, go ahead.

MOHAMED EL BASHIER: I think it's important for the technical team and [inaudible] ensure that only the people of the committee and [inaudible] only all have access to those pages. That's very important for the confidentiality and the process before voting. I think technically [inaudible] ensure that only the people on the working group are able to access this information only.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Yes, Mohamed. I completely agree, and that has been a concern of mine and that's why I have even asked to have the nondisclosure

commitment to confidentiality signed by everybody. So I'm very much aware of the need for confidentiality, and staff is aware. Your comment is welcome and reinforces the opinion that we need to be absolutely sure that we don't have [inaudible].

So the agreement from Murray about the need for confidentiality, and Heidi is suggesting to have a call at the beginning of next year. First call in the new year. Yes, definitely. We are going to have very definitely a call in the beginning of next year. A Doodle call will be sent out. Any other comments? Hearing none, I think that I can go to the last point in the agenda and describe [inaudible].

So the next steps are as follows. The 26th of December is the deadline for submission of the expressions of interest at 23 hours, 59 minutes UTC we should all be expressions of interest so we will know how many candidates we have and that will give us an idea about the complexity of the tasks.

The next deadline is the 28th. By the 28th we have to validate the list and publish the names of the candidates. As everybody [inaudible], then the list of candidates is going to be public. Then we have a little bit of time to start looking at the candidate [inaudible]. We are going to have one call just to make sure. I would [perceive] that by mail in the list if we need to have some technical explanations, if somebody has difficulties or if there's any need for some technical explanation, we can organize a specific call. Otherwise, I think that the first call will be to have the first round of opinions. In the meantime, I will set a deadline for the first round of votes and then we can have a first idea on whether there is agreement or not on who has to be short-listed or not. And then from

there on, we will [see]. I'll remind you that the deadline I think is the 28th of January for giving the short list to ALAC for their voting. So that is the list.

In the meantime, I have seen things in the chat that I have not really followed. Carlos, you can put a reminder by e-mail when we have an update. Yes, please, Heidi, can you mark this as an action item? I have basic agreement on Carlos's suggestion.

A note to the BCE. Murray, I'm not sure I understand your comment. I also feel a note to BCEC when EOI is posted is a very good idea. What do you mean? When an EOI arrives there should trigger a notification to the BCEC or is it something different that you want?

MURRAY MCKERCHER:

Yes. I just was agreeing that the fact that staff would send a note to the BCE – I'm assuming that's the BCE list – is useful so that we can go in and have a look at that.

ROBERTO GAETANO:

Yes. Maybe rather than having staff doing this, I was kind of figuring out maybe we can ask the question to technical people whether this can be done via the system automatically, a sort of notification that will not [inaudible] staff to react while eating the turkey to send messages around. Heidi, can you...?

HEIDI ULLRICH: I'm going to get a response just in a minute. I'm just asking tech support now. Just a moment please. I think you can, but I'm just double checking.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Well we don't need to give an answer during the call, but I think that we should mark that as an action item. Any other comment or question?

MURRAY MCKERCHER: Roberto, it's Murray, if I could have a moment.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Yes, go ahead.

MURRAY MCKERCHER: I did notice on the workspace there is an area for making comments. So if you log in and you need to make comments, I'm assuming those comments get spread around to everyone who uses the workspace and that that may be useful if people are used to using that function of the workspace.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Thank you for the comment. Matt, you have your hand up.

MATT ASHTIANI: Murray, I just want to clarify. Are you wondering if every time a comment is made every member of the BCEC will be notified of that comment?

MURRAY MCKERCHER: No. [inaudible]. I was only commenting that those comments would be available when someone logs in to look at the workspace.

MATT ASHTIANI: That is correct.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Okay. Any other comments, questions, suggestions?

CARLOS AGUIRRE: Yes. I lost my Internet access, so I'm connected by phone. Thank you.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Okay, Carlos. I was just about to close the call if there were no other comments or suggestions. Please feel free to jump in if you have any comments. In the meantime, I'll give the floor now to who has raised their hand.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Roberto, this is Fatimata.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Yes, go ahead.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Regarding the notification on updates in the wiki, I know that in the wiki space there was an option that you could use to see notifications. Maybe Matt can tell us if this is available on ours and that will answer the question.

MATT ASHTIANI: I'm sorry, Fatimata, can you please repeat your question? You were breaking up a little bit.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: I'm talking about the automatic notifications. When it updates, it [inaudible] in the wiki. [inaudible] will have that possibility just to have this option to receive any of the [inaudible]. I wonder if this is available on this one.

MATT ASHTIANI: Sure. That is possible. You'll have to be subscribed to the workspace. But before you do that, I just want to let you know one thing. When you're subscribed to the workspace, you'll be notified of any changes, but you'll be notified on everything. So if you know at the bottom of the wiki page when you're editing it there's an option for "send notification", I always uncheck that – or at least I hope I do. That way people don't have to see all of the secretariat work that will go on.

If you're subscribed, you'll get a notification if I end up adding a period to a sentence. It may be something where you subscribe to a page – one page only, perhaps the vote. Because if you do it for the whole space, I think it could potentially get overwhelming. You can end up receiving hundreds and hundreds of e-mails.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: And that's not something you'd like to have.

ROBERTO GAETANO: I believe that it is extremely useful to have a notification when a new EOI comes in, since we want to be notified as early as possible. I personally believe that we can live with the fact that we go and we log in and we see the comments, then we log in the workspace.

In any case, if any of us in the working group believes that there is something extremely urgent or extremely important in terms of comments for whatever reason, I think that the best way will be to send a message to the list and say, "Hey, guys, I have updated that page," or "I have a very important comment that has to be read right away," or whatever rather than rely on an automatic mechanism that will flood our inbox.

So unless there's a strong disagreement, I would propose to go ahead with this sort of approach, inviting people who feel that they have made important comments to notify by e-mail.

Fatimata, what is not desirable?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: I was [inaudible] to Heidi. We don't want to be overwhelmed by any o comment on the wiki. I think the suggestion you just made makes sense. [inaudible] each other by notifying the other members if we find that something is very interesting to share. Thank you.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Okay. So we have seven minutes left, but there's nothing that obliges us to use all the time until the last second. So if there are no other comments on any point on the agenda or any other things you want to point out, I will be inclined to close the call and relieve everybody a couple of minutes earlier. Any other comments? I'll wait until everybody has typed.

Also, from my part, I have the holidays. Keep an eye on your mailbox. Be sure to be sober when you do the evaluation. I know that during the holiday season, you have a different state of mind. It looks fun. It looks like a joke to say this, but it is actually not, in the sense that we have to do the evaluation and be fair to everybody. At the moment that we do the evaluation, we shouldn't be in a situation in which we are particularly depressed or particularly excited.

So have a good holidays and also good work in evaluating the EOIs and the candidates. This is really an important task for the future of ALAC and ICANN. This said, goodbye and happy holidays to everybody. Bye!

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Happy holidays, bye-bye.

MATT ASHTIANI: Bye, everyone. Happy holidays. Have a good day. Happy new year!

[END OF TRANSCRIPT]