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Stephanie Perrin: Great. Well thank you very much. This is Stephanie Perrin for the record. That was a very quick, fast agenda that we threw together because Maryam wanted an agenda basically. But I wanted to talk about how we're doing with the (WANNAPIX). Is Raphael online?

Okay well I guess we're going to have to do without him and he's the one that's been following what's happening with (WANNAPIX) right? Unless you can tell me you're up to date on it.

Maryam Bakoshi: Maryam for the record. No, so it's Raphael who...

Stephanie Perrin: Yes. Well in terms of the membership we do have an announcement ready to go out for the ones that we approved. Is that correct? Do you know how many that is?

Maryam Bakoshi: We've got five approvals and then we're just going to check their - Raphael sent me the list and said (if you needed) to review the ones that needed the extra information?

Stephanie Perrin: Yes.

Maryam Bakoshi: So I don't know if you're going to do that in this meeting so I can complete the process for approvals.

Stephanie Perrin: We could do that, yes.

Man: We received (unintelligible).

Maryam Bakoshi: Yes, so the ones we received before are on there, yes. So the old ones basically are the ones that need review.

Man: Right.

Stephanie Perrin: Right. Okay well we could certainly do that if you think it's worthwhile. I'd like to get those out of the way. The ABRs I reached out to Farell Folly to give us a hand because quite frankly we've got 18 people. They're listing things that they've done.

I don't know about you but I'm betting none of us have detailed information as to what's been going on at the various African conferences. So at least Farell goes to them and can give us, you know, oh yes, that's this meeting here and there's so many people and yes they would have done this.

Man: (Unintelligible)

Stephanie Perrin: No this is that special ABR - Stephanie Perrin again for the record. Do you remember last year we put it in and it was to bring people from underserved

areas to each local meeting. It had to be within the region. And they gave us three countries, a couple of which I'd never heard of frankly.

And we didn't have any members there and people wanted to apply but they couldn't because this is not controlled by us. It's controlled by ICANN. So they - ICANN agreed to let us open it up after we didn't get anybody for the first round. So we do need to get this in quickly. I mean, the deadline for Marrakesh was...

Maryam Bakoshi: It was February 22.

Stephanie Perrin: Yes but given that they're only coming from Africa to Marrakesh it shouldn't be such a big deal, right? I mean, visas are not a problem on the continent, right? Or am I being naïve here?

No, eh? Thato, I bet you can answer that question. How hard is it for people to get a visa from an African country to go to Marrakesh?

Thato Mfikwe: I don't think it's a problem at all, especially if you were travelling with (unintelligible).

Stephanie Perrin: That's kind of what I figured. So I don't want to push it much past the deadline. But I still think they're being unreasonable if they won't let us put it in say the end of this week or something like that, you know - or at the end of, yes, the end of this coming week. So if we could get through this, that'd be great.

But I don't think we should try and do it without Farrel because he's got the local knowledge. And I really think a bunch of North Americans and Europeans and South Americans reviewing African applications isn't right. So we'll do that.

Okay so on the membership apps, I guess that means I have to plug my computer in and pay attention, right? In terms of - maybe just I'll cover this before we start getting into those membership apps again.

The work plan for 2019 priorities, now I've got that on the agenda. I finally got the agenda out. We've got a number of visitors coming to the NCSG meeting tomorrow. But I wanted to talk about what we should be doing as NCSG executive committee and as NCSG because a lot of work goes on in the policy committee, obviously the marshaling out the comments and all the rest of it.

But the actual procedures and policies are the responsibility of the executive committee here. And we really - there's quite a few policies that we haven't done, policies and procedures. So for instance the financial committee procedures, the travel procedures, the - you know, there's a lot.

And we could also take some of the load in terms of working groups and priorities off the policy committee because just handling the volume of the comments is quite a lot, right? So that was what I was proposing to talk about at the NCSG meeting in terms of what I think are priorities.

I had a good meeting with our two board members yesterday because I have been asking, you know, who the hell wrote that charter, you know, as I - you know, Farzi had advised me memorize the charter. It's your friend. And I said okay, fine, I won't memorize it but I will carry it close to my heart.

And I'm going dear goodness, what did they have in mind when this was written, right? And what Avri had in mind was a whole pile of procedures flowing from that charter. So we haven't written the procedures over the years.

So the least I could do is chop off a couple of them, you know. So that's what I'm proposing for work plan priorities as long as everybody doesn't have any strenuous objections. I think it'll make our lives clearer.

There's been a lot of misunderstanding on the financial committee charter and procedures. And I think we should, you know, move to clarify that. So that was going to be on the agenda.

So having said that, I'm going to dig out my laptop and let's get on those applications. So we can - how soon can we announce the five that we've accepted Maryam?

((Pause))

Maryam Bakoshi: Oh no, so Maryam for the record. (Monica Romero) we're waiting for Robin and Raoul's assessment of that application.

((Pause))

Raoul Plommer: Well just to fill some time the Electronic Frontier Finland is developing its own registration or like membership database. We might want to look into that.

Woman: You know what (unintelligible)?

Raoul Plommer: We would get it for free. And, well, it's world famous (Linux) activist who is doing it so - and Tapani's going over it with that - or going over that with him. So I think that probably won't be done before the end of the year but like - yes, exactly because this is just one thing after another. And we keep losing \$10,000 in between and it's still not working.

Maryam Bakoshi: So we...

Stephanie Perrin: (Unintelligible), you know, pointing a finger or anything like that. I'm just curious.

Maryam Bakoshi: Sorry, Maryam for the record. So we had - I don't know if the company (unintelligible) issue because we've had this same problem with the first guy - what's his name? But it sounds like years ago now. (Martin Distopia). And then (Wapix) now. So it's probably the software itself.

And maybe with the structure of the way NCSG, NCUC and NPOC works it doesn't fit with this software. I think that's - that's what I think personally. I don't know.

Woman: Okay, we need to use the microphones and please state your name for the record because of transcript - it's going to be man/woman and blah blah.

Stephanie Perrin: Stephanie Perrin for the record. Just from the financial aspect of this - and this may be of interest to the financial committee - as you may or may not know, the chair has been covering the costs of this and getting recompensed by ICANN eventually.

And Maryam's great to put it in right away but the problem is if you are not in the United States, there's a double whammy on the currency exchange. So I get hit with a MasterCard currency exchange which is always in their favor, probably a fee, a MasterCard 2% or something on top of everything.

Then I get my bill, and it does not match what ICANN has put in my account because ICANN has taken a preferential rate and so has the bank, right? So far on the first two payments I've lost \$315. And that's not counting the \$17 that it costs every time you do a bank transfer. No.

So I think the sensible thing on the bank account is to have a U.S. account that just stays in the U.S. because of the - because PIR is going to be doing

exactly the same thing. They're going to be transferring money into our account. It was never a problem because Milton has a U.S. account, right?

So there was no money lost. And this is not about me losing money. I mean, eventually I hope I'm going to get repaid for this. But if I don't, there'll be a big stink at every public mic for the next year until we embarrass them into coughing it up I can assure you.

But I mean if we lose that kind of percentage and we don't get it back on the PIR transfer that's not good at all. So either we cough up the money it costs me to open a U.S. account, which is easy. It used to be free. I might even be able to get it free still because I've got enough business at that bank.

And it helps to be a senior. That's why the account we've got is free, you know. So we'll see. But just putting it on the record that this is a real issue, you know. And that'll happen wherever we move the account. So if we moved it to Iceland or (Thailand), same thing. We're going to lose on the currency. Right?

Raoul Plommer: Raoul for the record. So it's not possible for example - like for example if it was - if the account was in Europe, would it not be possible for the ICANN organization to pay via their Europe operation?

Stephanie Perrin: No, they pay everything out of California in U.S. dollars. That's one of the big problems.

(Gerna): (Unintelligible) - (Gerna) for the record - just one suggestion. Maybe while (NCC) is still managing the resources from NCSG, maybe we can do it from Milton's account or try to figure out a way around it. I don't know, maybe for a while be a good way of avoiding that.

Stephanie Perrin: Well I would certainly vote for that. Whether Milton will agree to do it is another question because there's been a lot of criticism and if I were him I wouldn't do it, you know. So just - he doesn't need the headache, right?

Juan Manuel Rojas: Juan for the record. I was checking the application that Maryam mentioned just a minute before. I can check that it has - it says by Robin and Raoul too. And I think that they have another - it's already it says from (unintelligible). It's not from the front page in the application but if you can view or approve it you can do the vote. Even Robin has no comment but both note.

Another one has need more info. There is not enough information and (unintelligible). This is application for (Monica Romero) or something like that. So that's it. Oh no, I'm sorry, I was checking (Jose Vaonet). That is the same for the applications. Right. Right, right, right, it's okay, it's okay. I was checking the wrong - it's, right, it has no vote. But we need to enter each one application to check. That's a problem I think. It's Juan for the record.

Stephanie Perrin: Okay which one is the - which are the new ones?

Maryam Bakoshi: Maryam for the record. (Robert Ford), the last application is the new one.

Stephanie Perrin: Ah, so that's it, the only one.

Maryam Bakoshi: Yes.

Raoul Plommer: Yes about that one, (Robert Ford)'s application, it says it's a not-for-profit organization that represents government private sector PPP engagement. That's already said enough.

Robin Gross: This is Robin for the record. Yes, you just took the words right out of my mouth. This looks like they're not eligible because they mix the government and business, so...

Stephanie Perrin: Yes, absolutely. I wonder if we need to explain this more - Stephanie Perrin for the record - on our Web site because not-for-profits come in various categories. There's not-for-profits that are business, you know. (ABWG) for instance, it's a 508, you know, not-for-profit. That's in U.S. terms, 508.

Raoul Plommer: Raoul. I don't know if we - like for example - because I don't know. Do we have like a clause saying that if they're funded by the government it's like they couldn't be accepted? Like for example, Electronic Frontier Finland does not take any grants or any money from government.

Stephanie Perrin: Stephanie Perrin. The answer to that is no. So for instance, the Danish Human Rights Institute is a member. They are funded by government but they're independent from government. So, you know, that's a pretty good example of an institute that we're proud to have as members. We don't worry about their mission and motive.

But it's much harder in jurisdictions where we don't have members and when we don't come with references to tell what we're dealing with. So for instance we don't have any Indian members on our committee right now. I would not know a 508 in India if it was coming at us and that's where we start having difficulties, right?

I mean, Robin has been here for a long time. Tell us about some of the problems we've had, you know.

Robin Gross: Yes I think we just kind of have to use our judgment and really try to, you know, like you've said, talk to our members in that community who can have a better sense of, you know, where's this really coming from and asking questions.

And so, you know, when it comes to the Danish human rights, we have our - we can use our own discretion there and say this is appropriate. But then

maybe this other one that looks like it's a combination of business and government, you know, I'm initially against it.

That's not to say they can't change my mind, but it looks to me, you know, just upon the initial reading of who they say they are and they represent that it's a concern for me. So we have a little bit of flexibility there.

Yes and over the years - in response to your other question - we have had a lot of technically nonprofit organizations but, you know, like the Recording Industry Association of America for example. That's a nonprofit organization of industry - set up of industry orgs.

And so we've gotten not them but organizations like that who thought they might be eligible simply because they're a not-for-profit. But that's not the only question. You have to actually advance noncommercial interests, not industry interests. And so it has been a big problem over the years. And that's why it is really important that we pay very close attention to that issue when we go through these applications.

Juan Manuel Rojas: This is Juan for the record. The only thing that I don't like this part of - of course this has relations with government. It's like the mailing that - the mail address that is put there is Dot (Afinik) dot net, right? Like okay, it's doing ccTLDs, the relationship. It's a ccTLD or what because there is no any link to this original technology alliance or maybe it's addressed by (Afinik), right?

So there is no very clear but we have no - any entity that just is an alliance, right? So it's not clear for me in this case. It says that is not a profit but it's not very clear who is this works.

Stephanie Perrin: I suppose we could go ahead and ask this person for more information. But quite frankly I don't see on his LinkedIn even a whiff of noncommercial interests exactly. You know, it's ICT for development all the way, you know,

which is fine. Nothing wrong with it, but it's not us, you know. So, I mean, I would tend to just vote no and save ourselves a headache, yes. Great.

Okay so we've cleared away today's applications. We're done, right? Oh man, I love progress. And of course in switching over to LinkedIn I lost the interface, right? Okay, there we go, back.

Okay so if that's that for these, maybe we could ask Thato to leave and start going through those ABRs. We could at least get ourselves down to a short list. How does that sound?

Man: So what other - you said there was quite a big list of 2019 priorities. Is that list somewhere? Like the second last item?

Stephanie Perrin: Oh, no, I think - Stephanie Perrin for the record - that's a short list procedures, procedures, procedures. That's going to keep us busy, trust me. There's the financial procedures. There's the - I think we need travel procedures. Let me tell you what I'm concerned about for the travel procedures.

We currently have no control whatsoever on people traveling on our dime. If they decide to only come for two days of a meeting and go back again but use the travel slot, I don't know. It's between them and Joseph, right, constituency travel.

And on occasion we've had staff alert leadership to the fact that somebody is only coming for a day or two. And, you know, periodically people decide to fly home suddenly, you know, at great expense in a predictable situation. They're not willing to give up their travel slot.

Now we are about to face cuts. And we are going to be judged on how responsible and accountable we are for our budget that we have. And it's not really our budget. It's - but the slots, it's a very peculiar position to be in in my

view because, you know, when you work in an organization, if you have a travel budget you're accountable for the people that you send.

And you make darn sure they show up and you make darn sure you're getting product in exchange for that. But we don't have any of those. We don't even know. We just know okay so-and-so gets the slot. So somehow we need to be able to say to someone if you're not going to come to the whole week's meeting you don't get to go. Yes?

Raoul Plommer: Raoul for the record. I totally agree. Everyone who comes here could be replaced by someone else who's going to do 100%.

Robin Gross: This is Robin for the record. I actually am not convinced we don't have some control over that because I know when I was chair of NCSG I set the policy that the six counsellors would get the slots. But that's because we set that policy. It seems to me we are perfectly free to change that policy.

Now I don't know what's happened internally at ICANN since then. I mean, it was quite a few years ago. Maybe our hands have been tied a little bit more than they were at that time, I don't know. But we should find out and I think we - you know, this shouldn't be too hard. This shouldn't be a difficult problem.

Bruna Martins dos Santos: This is Bruna for the record again. Apologies for interfering one more time but yesterday at the (NCCC) meeting we did a little discussion on this and how we could be doing like actually a better follow up on who is traveling and to where and when and how, especially because last year we had an applicant like from - one NCG member who used one of her slots, the funding, to go to Barcelona but ended up going to the ITU meeting afterwards.

So in the end the ticket was a little bit more expensive and the - I mean, the difference was rather little but then it's problematic for us to be paying for

members to go to the ITU in the end without being informed about that. So this is the second part about it.

And we would like - are wondering whether or not we should be asking for itineraries or I don't know what or how. But in the end we were not sure about doing something (force led) or even changing travel policy because we have one. But we're open for that as well so maybe it's a joint discussion that we can still do and NCC is interested in that, so...

Stephanie Perrin: Yes. This is Stephanie and I agree with Robin. We may not have to write a whole new encyclopedia here. We may have sufficient power. But I think having it all streamlined in one place and making sure that everybody knows and getting it on the Web site and being crystal clear because I mean I was at GNSO council when the whole sort of brouhaha about the fellows erupted.

And that - you know, that didn't come from us. It came from contracted parties because it's their money that is paying for this. And the thought that - yes, well that's the way they view it. Yes, we won't go there.

The thought that people were coming repeatedly for like six or eight times and never doing any work just drove them bonkers, you know. So, I mean, I think really there's some pressure on us to show some metrics for our travel. And I had a chat with Xavier today after he had spoken to council. Sadly we were, you know, I just caught him at the doorway.

I don't know what he said to Council but we're going to be looking at much more accountability for this and possibly cuts. And he said absolutely if you guys came up with, you know, metrics and, you know, how you measure your people for what you've got from travel slots, it would be very highly regarded, very well viewed, very constructive.

So I think we need to deliver that because otherwise there are plenty of people who would just cut us back. We didn't used to get funding,

remember? This is not like - ICANN didn't start out paying our way. We had to fundraise ourselves to get our people here. You talk about that, not me.

Robin Gross: When I joined the council, I subsequently learned there is no travel support for meetings and so I must be on my own to get here and participate. So on the one hand we didn't have people clamoring to come to the meetings then because there was no travel support.

So only the people who really wanted to work were the only ones who would, you know, bother to show up or put in the time. But now that there's travel support, it does tend to invite more people, some of whom are not going to work as hard as others, so...

Stephanie Perrin: Now in terms of the other procedures we know we have to have procedures for the finance committee. And we have a draft so, you know, soon as - sorry? I don't know who drafted - Thato you drafted that?

Thato Mfikwe: It was more - sorry, Thato Mfikwe - it was more of a collective effort of the members of the finance committee and also community members. But the final draft operational procedure I (unintelligible) to incorporate different comments from the finance committee and also from the community.

Robin Gross: I've got a question on that. Do these procedures include how to handle the budget requests that we put in every year? Because that's, you know, kind of one of the issues where we're wondering sometimes what happened after the fact when budget requests went in. So I think it's important we make sure that's all laid out in there as well.

Thato Mfikwe: In regards to budget requests why do we have (unintelligible). We try to develop a template that would simplify the process of (NPR)s themselves. But the NPOC procedures, it's not (unintelligible).

But I just wanted to also mention that maybe before I leave I just needed to ask a few questions or (unintelligible) before you need me to leave or I have just a few questions.

Stephanie Perrin: Sure. Go ahead.

Thato Mfikwe: Okay, thanks. Thato Mfikwe again. So I wanted to find out now in regards to a bank account that's going to be set up for NCSG, I wanted to understand how will the finance committee be able to track a report and monitor the finances of the account itself in terms of how it operates because one of the things that I believe - because it's more of a common practice that whenever you have a treasurer within a committee, that treasurer becomes a part of the executive committee.

So I just wanted to find out how the EC is planning to make sure that a finance committee is able to participate within the executive committee so that way it would (unintelligible) it would have the sense of the direction in terms of where NCSG is going. Thanks.

Robin Gross: This is Robin. Yes I think this really all kind of comes back to the same issue of the need for the operating procedures because without that, you know, the finance committee members might have one idea. The executive committee has another idea.

And until it's all nailed down in a document somewhere that's published and so everybody has the same expectations about how the process is going to work and what the priorities are, you know, we're kind of - we're left in a little bit of a lurch.

So this is something that we need to include in those procedures. But I don't think we have anything right now because we don't have any - you know, nobody's - well, I guess there's a draft now that's been produced. But until that point there hasn't been anything, so...

And that's what we need because that's how - you know, that'll be the engine for how things move forward is getting those procedures through.

Raoul Plommer: It's Raoul. Yes so if I understood correctly, it's a little difficult to sort of be accountable - or as a treasurer if you don't actually have access to the account. So I don't know if we lose a lot of money for it being in the States and only certain people having access to it.

I guess - I don't know. Well, we'll at least need two people who have access to the account. And they would have to sort of - I don't know - give their signature or something that the figures are correct. But I don't know if that answers your question at all.

Stephanie Perrin: Let me go over - Stephanie Perrin for the record - what happens in NCUC with the money that Milton as treasurer manages. So he has the money in an account. The executive committee of the NCUC has entertained requests for years now from anybody. This is not just NCUC. It's also NPOC.

And the request goes in, is granted not by the finance committee because you have to separate spending authority and oversight authority. The spending authority comes from the policy side of the house. And in that case, that's run by the executive committee.

So the executive committee approves a request for funding. So let's take for example I have been funded to attend the meeting of the International Working Group for Data Protection and Telecommunications. And under the terms of that deal, I write a report on the meeting.

And I've been busy participating there so that they understand what's going on at ICANN in terms of privacy. And I have to say if I do say so myself it's been a tremendous success. All the data commissioners know about ICANN. And that's been a good thing.

But so I put in a request with my estimate to the executive committee. They approve it. Milton doesn't agree to anything until he gets a formal notification from the executive committee equivalent to a signature. It's like an e-mail that says we've authorized Perrin here for 1500 bucks to go to wherever to attend this meeting.

Then I come with my receipts afterwards and I give them to Milton. And if they're within that authorization, he transfers the money into my account. And it works smoothly. And that - what would be added in the case of the finance committee would be oversight.

This is my version of what we should be doing with the finance committee. They should be the third party sort of overseer to make sure that everything's running smoothly. So in government, for instance in the Canadian government, our system is like that.

We have spending authority. People have signing authority to authorize expenditure of funds. Then somebody has purchasing authority to actually go out and do that. And in this case I was - you know, I had the authorization to go and purchase the tickets and all this, once I got it.

And then there is the finance department that has oversight on whether that was done appropriately. That's where I see the finance committee. It's a three-legged stool, right?

So in that respect they don't actually control the funds, the bank account. The spending authority guy does and sends it over. The finance committee oversees this.

In terms of transparency, which I must say I've been trying to dig that out of Milton and he doesn't do it. I love him dearly but he's not so transparent. But I am perfectly happy if we wind up with me getting a U.S. account so that we

don't get diddled on the money here, we either give access to the account information or formally table a monthly statement of what's going on. That's easy enough to do. I can do all that electronically no problem.

Thato Mfikwe: This is Thato Mfikwe. So I wanted to ask (unintelligible) the issue of online access to the account. Is it something that could be organized?

And then number two, we're talking about - right now you just described the procedure the NCUC is using whenever it comes to spending or providing stuff like that.

But now when we look at the charter of NCSG and it talks about the finance committee's responsibility in terms of approval the spending, do you think that is something that can still hold or the charter still needs to be amended? Because the finance committee in terms of its abilities, it's guided by the NCSG charter.

But whenever we try and do or follow the stipulations, it seems like there is some sort of misunderstanding or seems like we are doing something wrong and (unintelligible). And we try and (unintelligible) like look at the charter. And then if needs amendment then let's just open up the discussion and see how we can best approve or improve on the current (unintelligible).

Stephanie Perrin: This is Stephanie again. In my view the charter puts far too many responsibilities on the finance committee because you need the separation of powers in order for everything - like you really want finance committee to do the oversight and to be able to come in and say, "Hey, what are you doing? You know, you guys approved this and you just spent," you know, whatever, "three quarters of our money on IGF," or something like that.

That or for instance you allow somebody to go on a trip and add on another leg of the trip and that wasn't authorized. That's the oversight role that I see the finance committee in. But they can't be the treasurer and the spending

authority and the authorizing authority all in one. And it's all rolled up in one there.

And that's - I didn't want to tackle Avri on, you know, hello, did you ever work in an organization where these things were all - I mean, I used to work in procurement so I think I know this stuff. And I worked in management so I just - this wouldn't make it in a proper financial procedure.

So I think we do need to amend the charter or find a way to put it in the procedures without amending the charter. That would be preferable because it'd be a whole lot faster. But - yes, yes.

Yes, and maybe we can delegate that. I mean, that's what I meant when I said I didn't have time to go through it because I'd already gone through this couple of months ago on one of the finance committee meetings and I think made comments.

But it needs - that's what I mean by it needs a wholesale sort of reworking so that we can have these split powers and be accountable, you know?

Thato Mfikwe: Thank you. Thato Mfikwe. Agree with you 100% because when you're looking at accounting policies, segregation of duties is something that is really important. Then we have someone who is really - is able to approve. And there's someone separate do the spending itself.

So I think we need to really wait to write amending the charter (unintelligible) effort and especially between the EC and the finance committee. And obviously the community, they can make comments on that but I think many people that need to agree in terms of the position or the (unintelligible) of the charter itself is the finance committee and the executive committee.

Stephanie Perrin: I think that's probably true. But the NCSG executive committee I think ought to go out to the two ECs of the NCUC and the NPOC to make sure that we

get their views on this and then go to the membership. Heaven helps us, you know. I don't know. Yes.

But we should have our act together before we go out to the membership, you know. That's why I thought we're not ready to do that. We need to do some major work and figure out the delegation and all the rest of it.

But, you know, cheer up. I think we're getting there, you know? It'll take a bit of time. That's why -q I mean, as far as I'm concerned I have now nine months left in my term. Sorry?

Woman: First term.

Stephanie Perrin: Right. Yes, right. Yes, right. It better get a lot easier. I want to get at least one or two procedures done. I think the travel is necessary right now because of this - well, we'll find out from (Yurin) what he's going to announce this week. But we have to show some real rigor in our process that we don't have right now.

And then the finance procedures, even if we have to make a charter change to do what we want to do, we could at least have our procedures for what we can still do done. We can do that and then add further procedures subsequent to the charter change. You follow? But let's get some work done, you know, so that we're a little further ahead.

Thato Mfikwe: Thato Mfikwe again. Sorry for that. A really minor point. It was just basically to request the members to attend NCSG finance committee (unintelligible) because we'll be looking into (unintelligible) in terms of the draft of (personal) procedure in terms of how to harmonize it and so that it's (unintelligible).

And then secondly there's also an issue of the fundraising that is raised by the charter itself. There's different ways of fundraising but we need to

determine the best way that can work for us. And that was all the things.

Thanks.

Stephanie Perrin: Stephanie again for the record. And one of the reasons that it is not recommended - and I mean not recommended by ICANN Legal or anybody else. It's not their job to give us legal advice.

But the reason why we don't exist as entities per se is for liability reasons. And unfortunately if we do serious corporate fundraising they are not going to give us - we're unlikely to get money as an unaffiliated - you know, an unconstituted, unincorporated organization, right?

It's easy enough for PIR to give us money because PIR has been established through original funding that came along with the establishment of ICANN and ISOC and all those other organizations.

They get their funding from ISOC and they - and, you know, it's mutual. ISOC gets money from PIR from the sale of their domain names. And I don't understand the exact process myself so don't quote me on that. But they can give an entity that has been established under ICANN rules money easy enough. It's part of their mission statement.

But if we were to go to say - I don't know - Hewlett or MasterCard then we should have an entity. But then that exposes us to liability. And if you were in the council session we're having trouble with losses right here among the members. And it certainly puts a chill through my veins. You're not going to get leaders to step forward if they could be sued, right?

Especially remember we are advancing the interests of civil society on free speech and privacy. And that can expose you to threats and liability. So that's I think - in my view that's a very strong reason not to create an entity, besides the fact that it costs money and then you're looking at tax filings and all the rest of it.

It becomes complex. Easy for business associations. But even the business - we were just at the newcomers. And how many members does the business association have, business committee? Seventy-five I think you said? That's not very many, you know. We've got hundreds.

Now we could collect a membership fee without being an entity, but nobody wants to do membership fees. It would certainly find out who's got skin in the game. I mean, I paid \$65 to join ISOC Canada. That's a fair bit of money in my view. Call me a cheapskate, you know.

But, you know, are we going to start charging people that kind of money? And do we have a waiver process? It's something that we need to talk about before we get much further. That would bring us some money because we've got how many members?

Man: Eight hundred?

Maryam Bakoshi: More than - well on record about 800-plus.

Stephanie Perrin: Now how many of them would pay, I don't know.

Man: Four.

Stephanie Perrin: Four? Yes. Right.

Raoul Plommer: Well we just decided - or at least we had the discussion and are likely to decide that NPOC will create this entity for itself. And it'll be a supporting organization of NPOC and that would insulate the ICANN NPOC from the supporting foundation.

Well you're right that it would expose the board members of that said entity to lawsuits because it's a legal entity. But I think depending on the rules, we're

going to make the rules or the charter like as simple as possible so it will actually be very hard to sue us for anything.

It's only going to be set that basically the organization is set up to support our work in ICANN as NPOC. So that's I think really going to be a walk in the park.

Thato Mfikwe: Thato Mfikwe if I may come in again. In regards to incorporation of NCSG, based on since I actually came onto the finance committee trying to understand what is the position of NCSG executive committee, the past committee and the current committee.

And I foresee a risk when we have a structure that is not like a formal structure that is (unintelligible) something like that because what I'm seeing that sometimes we might have members or we might have leaders that have authority, be it maybe at community level or maybe at NCSG or (unintelligible) level who might necessarily want to make rules as they go and just because we are not necessarily this particular structure but this (unintelligible).

Once we are able to (unintelligible) ourselves then it's much easier to (unintelligible) process in terms of how to operate. And then there's much easier coordination as opposed to just an argument that this is how we will operate and accountability is very limited.

But now we are able to submit financial reports for instance and it opens up access to funds from stakeholders at the same time. So I think it's a measurement of what are the pros and cons of registering or not registering NCSG. Thanks.

Joan Kerr: I just - Joan for the record. I just want to say we're not incorporating NPOC. NPOC remains a constituency. This is a separate entity just for clarification. It's not NPOC as it stands in NCSG. And I agree that - or not agree that - I

think liabilities if it's a stakeholder group within ICANN brings a lot of issues along with it, including support from ICANN and its other support systems.

So I think it has to be looked at very carefully if it's NCSG that you're proposing. And I wasn't here for the other. I think that's a bit of a dangerous realm to - it's much more liability driven if you take that route. That's - just want to say that.

Stephanie Perrin: I agree. I think the route you're choosing could work. You could start a supporting foundation to fund work related to the DNS. You don't even need to name the (unintelligible). In fact I wouldn't just to keep distance.

But yes, that you can do and you're totally distinct from your operations because you could be sued for somebody harassing someone, you know, very easily. And the next thing you know you're broke, you know.

Joan Kerr: But also you need the - for lack of a better term - the protection of ICANN. And this is a constituency or stakeholder group in NCSG's case where we're doing the work of NPOC. It's not, you know - so we're here to do that work, not to do the sort of peripheral work outside of the mandate if that makes sense.

Stephanie Perrin: No, I didn't follow you. Run through that again.

Joan Kerr: Yes, I was just thinking off the top of my head. I'm just saying that it just puts us at risk if you have an incorporated body within the ICANN system I guess is what I'm saying.

Raoul Plommer: Raoul for the record. So Stephanie you don't seem to want to create an organization for like a legal entity for NCSG. I think that's fine. We're not pushing for it so maybe we can move on.

Stephanie Perrin: Okay, good. Let's get to our applications for the ABRs then and get at least some of the decisions made on that, okay? Thank you Thato. Maryam, did everybody get copies of them? Yes. You sent - did I send them around?

Maryam Bakoshi: Yes, you did.

Stephanie Perrin: There you go. I'd be lost without Maryam. And in fact I have been lost for much of the last couple of weeks. Okay now I think we should close the record here because we're going to be talking about personal information. Can we do that?

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