
GISELLA GRUBER: Okay, recording started. Aziz, you have the floor.

AZIZ HILALI: Aziz speaking. Thank you very much Gisella. Welcome to everybody, to this webinar organized for the African community, AFRALO, on transition of US government stewardship of the IANA function, and about accountability of ICANN.

As you know, we had the announcement of the US government who just said the IANA function to the global community, and we decided to convene all of the stakeholders at the global level, to develop a proposal for this transition, to know how the stakeholders consider the function that ICANN could have in this new situation.

I have to remind you that at the ICANN and ALAC level, there was working group and coordination working group that had been implemented. First the transition working group on stewardship of the IANA function. And our AFRALO president and vice-president is the vice-president of this working group, and he is in charge of the call for proposal to receive formal answers through a process that has [inaudible] afforded by individuals and institutions.

So institution organizations can do some proposals about the number, naming, and parameter of protocol function. AFRALO is also present in the working group called CWG. And the mission of this working group is to discuss about the transition, and to follow the discussions that are

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.

taken place in other forums and in other working group like RIR, CITF, etc.

So today we are going to work on this webinar in another format. It will be different from other webinars. In front of you, you have a speaker. There won't be any presentation. We have decided with Tijani that the intervention will give some inputs to the participants and to debate so as to give the floor to everybody, and for us to have a discussion with everybody.

So the idea is to have an interactive webinar with the participants. And we would like everybody to ask their questions, and I'd like to thank everybody. First I would like to thank Tijani, who was the organizer of this webinar. Seun, who accepted to take the floor about naming functions. I want also to thank the person will take the floor speaking about numbering functions, and then we will hear about protocol functions, and Mohamed El Bashir, and Mary, and I don't know who else, will speak about the working group that is in charge of receiving all of the proposals of the stakeholders.

And we will end with Tijani, who will speak about accountability, and then Fatimata who will speak about the next steps and timeline. So now I'm going to give the floor to... I forgot to say that Fatimata also was very important for this project, and I want to thank her also. So maybe Tijani can be moderator of this webinar, and if you have no questions, I'm going to give the floor to Tijani. Tijani, you have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you Aziz. Tijani speaking. I'd like to stress on what Aziz just said. We don't want to make a presentation, we want an interactive webinar, a discussion around this figure you have in front of you, that show you this transition process, and the ICANN accountability. So, what I want to say is that you are going to ask questions about those functions, about the mechanisms and the working group, and the person who knows about that will answer your questions.

So, I'm going to present you this graph. It is very simple. The idea was to make it simple so you can follow it, so you can follow the transition process. It is not an easy process. Some people are understanding it very well, but other people don't understand and don't know what it is about. So this is why we wanted to organize this webinar, with simple ideas and simple diagrams.

So now I'm going to speak about the transition. As Aziz told us, the US government said that they wanted to meet the stewardship on the IANA function. Those are three functions. There is a naming function, the domain name, etc. There is another function that is a numbering function about number and IP addresses, and the third function is the protocol function, protocol parameters function.

This you can see on the diagram. So how this transition is going to take place. After the announcement of the US government, we have created the first group, which was the coordination group. [CROSSTALK]

...proposal, to make a proposal for this transition, for the transition of US government. The US government is going to receive this proposal, so we need to have a plan. The ICG group is a working group. The CWG

group has to present a proposal to the US government. Then, this group is going to compile the proposal for the three functions. For the naming function, there is a working group, name cross-community working group, that is working on the naming function of IANA.

This group has the mission to propose, to elaborate a transition plan for the naming function of IANA. And the second function is the numbering function. As you know, there are five RIRs based on the regions of ICANN. Europe, Africa, America, Caribbean, and Latin America. In each region, there is a regional Internet registry that takes care of all of that. And that have constituted a group called IANA stewardship proposal.

That is the group, the group which will have to make common proposal on the regional registries for the transition of the numbering function. So, there is a CWG that is the cross-community working group, which works on the naming function of IANA. And for the numbering function, we have another group to prepare the proposal with the five registries, regional registries for the numbering function of IANA.

And the third function is the protocol function, protocol parameters function, the IETF, the Internet engineering taskforce. That is to say the taskforce of Internet engineering, is in charge of this protocol. And they have created a group named IANA plan working group, and this IANA plan working group is going to develop a stewardship plan or proposal for protocol parameters registry functions of IANA.

So those three parties are going to propose, each one of them, a proposal about the function they are taking care of. And those proposals are going to be presented to the ICG, the coordination group,

that you can see in black on the diagram. So, this is the process and how it has been organized, and how it is growing and developing itself.

Now I'm going to give you the floor, and you are going to be able to ask questions. If the question is about the numbering question, you will, we will hear the person, and if we are speaking about naming functions, Seun is going to answer. Seun is a member of the CWG. Mohamed is a member of the CRISP. And for the IETF, we have no member, so we have [inaudible] who are going to speak about this process.

If there are questions about the ICG, Mohamed and Mary will answer your question. And I remind you that this is a presentation, it is not a presentation webinar, it is a discuss webinar, a debate webinar. So we wanted to use this diagram to have this diagram in front of us, so people can see how this is working, and we have no timing. We have no deadline for each function or for each work.

We're going to speak about that at the end of our webinar. But there is another process, and this is the ICANN accountability process. What we have translated in AFRALO by [inaudible] of ICANN, ICANN accountability. So, it is very important, and why did we process with the transition. Well, the US government said that it will accept the plan that we will present with the condition that there will be mechanism of accountability implemented and proposed for ICANN.

So now, ICANN has a role to plan with the IANA function, but once the IANA function will list the IANA function, how are we going to work? So [CROSSTALK] transition plan to see how we are going to work, and how

the accountability will be, how that will be controlled. This is the accountability.

We need some accountability in ICANN. We need to have accountability process that will be proposed with the new transition. Now, if you have questions about that, I can answer your questions, because I am member of the CCWG, that is to say the working group which will present, or propose, which will deliver proposals that will enhance ICANN's accountability towards all stakeholders.

That is to say the CCWG. Okay, I'm finished. Aziz, you have the floor. Yes, Aziz.

AZIZ HILALI:

Aziz speaking. If you have finished it's okay because you had 10 minutes to speak, and there are a lot of questions. Okay.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Tijani speaking. There are some hands. Aziz, do you have something else to say?

AZIZ HILALI:

Yes, I have asked for the floor. There is [Jerry?] asking that, saying that she can answer the question about IETF. There is a question of Yaovi, of Barrack, and Seun, so in this order. So maybe Yaovi, we can begin with Yaovi's question? No I'm the first, says Aziz. Okay.

Aziz speaking. Okay, Yaovi's question is, would like to know, I would like to know about the work done by the At-Large that are working group, to which group the [inaudible] was sent. You are not on Adobe Connect, Tijani. Yes, I am on Adobe Connect. Okay, so I am going to ask Claire or the interpreter to translate Yaovi's question.

Okay. Just wait a minute.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Tijani is reading the question. I would like to know about the work done at the At-Large working group, to which group the result was sent.

Tijani speaking. Yaovi is asking a question about something that I didn't mention here. That is a group, an audit working group, which discussed the transition issues to help the other working group to meet the criteria, all of the criteria. So...

INTERPRETER:

I'm sorry, but there is a strong noise on Tijani's line.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Okay, so we propose that to the CWG, so they can present our point of view to the rest.

AZIZ HILALI:

Aziz speaking. There is another question from Barrack Otieno. And there is a question from Fatimata.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Tijani speaking. I'm trying to follow the questions. Aziz, please. I can't see the question. Barrack's question first. At what point, will the outputs of the different working groups be synchronized? Or will be this be presented as separate reports to the NTIA? It's a very good question. Thank you Barrack.

To answer this question, I'm going to give the floor to Mohammed or to Mary, because they are from the ITG, so they can answer this question. Who is going to take the floor? Who is going to speak, Mary or Mohamed?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR:

Mohamed here. Can you please repeat the question?

CLAIRE:

I'm sorry Mohamed. Did you say something? This is Claire the interpreter.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR:

Can you please repeat...?

CLAIRE:

Yes, I'm going to repeat the question.

I'm repeating the question. At what point will the outputs of the different working groups be synchronized? Or will this be presented as separate reports to the NTIA? Did you hear the question?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR:

Yes. [Inaudible]. This is Mohamed for the transcript. If I can respond back? Currently the ICG is waiting for the final proposal that needs to be submitted the three operational communities affected by the IANA functions, are the domain names, and the numbering, and the protocols parameters community. And the plan, which is new policy objective, currently there is no transparency in that bit, and there is, we can see that there is huge work that has been done by the communities to finalize which part of the process can be submitted.

So after receiving the final proposals, the ICG will review the proposals. And to do initial check before that proposal, comply with the RC requirements, and has already aligned with NTIA parameters. And then the next step is ICG will re-check the gap and try to find [inaudible] between these three proposals. And some of with an unified proposal, which will be put for public comment initially before submitting it to NTIA finally, hopefully in June, through ICANN Board which will be a channel for submitting the proposal to the US government, NTIA.

So this is what ICG will do, try to come up with unified proposals. There is a very important document that has been published recently by ICG, and I would like to see, at least have a chance to read it. It describes the processes that ICG will conduct to reach that unified proposals. It's called [concert?] building document. So, this is already now published

and I encourage you to read it, but the steps I have outlined are the steps ICG will come up with an unified proposal. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you Mohamed. The question was about the proposal and the synchronization of the proposal. Can you speak about that please Mohamed? About synchronization, synchronizing of the proposal.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Mohamed Bashir for the transcript records. Yes, it's very important to ensure that the final proposal, unified proposal, is a result of the three community submissions. So that's really important. So the task of ICG is difficult, because we have to review the proposals, and then come up with a final proposal, which would complement the others.

So we would be looking for the gaps, what is missing in some proposals, and what is, let's say, what is completed or at least many small explained, documented in other proposals, which could be useful in this kind of unified or simple proposal, with trying to ensure that we have following the principles and the requirements that outline by NTIA in a separate announcement.

There are certain principles that need to be available in the final proposal. For example, one of them, the multistakeholder model is critical that no one company, or government, replace the current model, if there is a [inaudible]. So, the work for the ICG will be, I would say, difficult, but doable, and it would be put back for the community to comment on pieces the ICG put together the final proposal.

So the ICG, I would say, would look at the three proposals, and see how they can fit together, what are the gaps, and what are additions that could be [inaudible] by the different proposals, or the ICG could provide some input as well. That one proposal with explanations of how we reached that the proposal with full confidence. I [inaudible] about how we're going to reach to that final proposal. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you very much Mohamed. I urge you to sure to give short answers please. And then I'm going to ask those who have questions to ask, to ask their question, not to write down the question in the chatroom, to ask directly their question. Mohamed El Bashir is the vice-chair of the ICG, I remind you. We also have Mary Uduma, Mary Uduma is from Nigeria. Aziz, you said that you had a question. Aziz, you have the floor.

AZIZ HILALI: I didn't ask my question. Fatimata also wanted to ask a question. I'm going to try to join my question and Fatimata's question. Fatimata is asking what is at stake with each function. And I would like to do a proposal. I would like to ask Seun to take the floor to speak about this third function, to take the floor, take 10 minutes, and to tell us what are the challenges [CROSSTALK] about the ICG.

I'd like to have some clarification about those three functions. So if Seun can speak about the naming function, if Mwendwa can speak about the numbering function, and then we will speak about the general frame. Can they have the floor? Yes.

Aziz, you are transforming our webinar into a presentation webinar.

Aziz speaking. I am a participant. I would like to understand those three functions. Fatimata, do you have a question?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: This is Fatimata speaking. I think Aziz has very well presented our question. And I have a question regarding all three functions, but I would like to know what the challenges are, particularly at the level of each of these functions. [CROSSTALK]...would allow us...

SEUN OJEDEJI: Can you hear me?

INTERPRETER: ...I cannot translate.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: ...but I would like to know what the risks are if we do not work together. That's my question regarding all three functions. So, maybe someone can give me a complete answer.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Tijani speaking. Thank you very much. Since you're insisting on hearing everyone's presentation, I think Seun may be concerned about the cross-community working group, which is in charge of preparing a

proposal on the transition of the naming functions. Now Seun, you have the floor.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Okay, thank you Tijani. This is Seun for the transcript records. I think perhaps it's, the question [inaudible] where Barrack was also asking the question about what are the concerns [inaudible] separate [inaudible] functions. I think that one of the challenges that is currently experienced within the CWG, there is really no, there is no specific direction on that at the moment.

However, some of you have noticed that the current proposal of the CWG, which is, which was, which actually reflects, having a significant [inaudible] replacements for the NTIA oversight role. However, we acquired a lot of comments in regards to that particular proposal. Just for the sake of information, I'm going to try to post that on the chat. So basically at the moment, the working group has not really decided, or determined, what is the actual view of what is going to be [inaudible] separation, in terms of external oversight on ICANN, or [inaudible]... there is quite a lot of teams from what are going to be internal, and there has also been a lot of [inaudible]...

However, we're going to be having a very intensive meeting over this weekend. And I should also mention there is currently service, which has been administered to all of the members of the CWG, including participants, to try to determine their views, [inaudible] that were presented, some of the [inaudible] that were presented in the proposal that was put out for public comments.

But that will be the multistakeholder review team, the MLT, in the proposal, also the customer [inaudible]. So, in response, in direct response to Barrack, for the CWG, which is the naming function, there is no clear decision about that yet. It is still very much under discussion. However, in terms of direction, it is already, since we are already clear for the particular, I mean the other functions, the numbering and the proposal.

But I hope before the end of this week, perhaps at the, during the weekend meeting that we're having there maybe something more concrete to report. I should also note, yeah, I think I should pause at this moment and allow other members of our community to speak. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much Seun. This is Tijani speaking. Are there any questions for Seun before we give the floor to Mwendwa? Are there any questions regarding the naming functions, and [inaudible]? My question regards the fact that we hear lots of discussion on different aspects. But [CROSSTALK]...

SUEN OJEDEJI:

The audio, can [CROSSTALK]...

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

...among the members of the CWG. And I know there are two trends at this time. Is the question being discussed at this point? [Inaudible].

As we wait for Suen to join us again, we're going to hear about the CRISP and the work of this group. So Mwendwa, you have the floor.

MWENDWA KIUVA: Okay, thank you very much. Mwendwa speaking. Can you hear me?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, I can hear you. Go ahead.

MWENDWA KIUVA: Okay, thank you. [Inaudible]... that is AfriNIC, [inaudible] ARIN, and the RIPE [inaudible]... [CROSSTALK]...

All this community [CROSSTALK]... there is some background noise, heh? [Inaudible] background noise.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Close the door.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Please, on the English channel, if you are not speaking, mute your phones.

MWENDWA KIUVA: Okay, thank you. I will continue. Mwendwa speaking. So each community gives feedback on what they want it to be on the numbering functions. AfriNIC chose to have [inaudible]... AfriNIC chose to have a

certain level [inaudible] and affirmation of commitment with the IANA [inaudible]. The LACNIC team chose to have a [inaudible] affirmation of commitment, and [inaudible] numbering council [inaudible].

ARIN chose to have an essay list and an affirmation of commitment. And RIPE they chose to have a [inaudible]. This is where the [inaudible]... on trying to build a consensus, and finding a common ground on how to approach the issues. At the end of the day, we agreed to go with a [inaudible] service level argument between the original Internet registries and the IANA operator.

And we also agreed to form a review team. The review team will be constituted by the regional Internet registries to review the functions of IANA [better] after a given period of time, next in three years or five years. Now the CRISP also agreed that all of the intellectual property that are held by NTIA or ICANN, to be transferred to a relevant Board [inaudible]...

And the final thing that the [inaudible] community agree on was for ICANN to remain...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello, are you still there? Can you hear me? Can anyone hear me on the English channel?

MARY UDUMA: I can hear you, but [CROSSTALK]...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Great, thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, hello. I can hear you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, good.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Go on please.

SUEN OJEDEJI: Okay. This is Seun for the transcript record. I just read Fatimata's question now. The challenges of making the period proposal for each functions together, I guess. [Inaudible] she's trying to imply. I think at the moment, I think the IETF and the numbers proposal seems like it could easily be linked. I mean, it could easily be linked together.

[Inaudible] the [inaudible]... I think one of the challenges that we experience in the name is that if what, if we see the [inaudible] proposal that we have at the moment, it's what finally achieves consensus from the community, then it will mean that it will be a total, structural difference from what the other communities are [inaudible] and their definition for the transition.

So I think one of the challenges that we are, that is happening right now is, perhaps we, no interaction. The level of interaction between all the communities, the three communities, with the goal of trying to have something that is a solution that is applicable [inaudible], is one of the, what I think, is a challenge. And the other challenge is also going to be the fact that ICG will only be acting on the way [inaudible], I mean, there won't be editing, changing proposals.

So any change that it should do, should go back to the community. So they say that there is a possibility that if the CWG perhaps continue with the current proposal here, which is out for public comment, they will see that there will need to, there may be situations where ICG will actually go back to the community to ask for [inaudible] of possible, other possible things, which will definitely [inaudible].

And the third thing I'm think is also a challenge is because we have limited time. Our proposal, the proposal submitted by [inaudible], and [inaudible] proposal at the moment I will say is not yet even close to [inaudible] ready, it's not close to done. Having so, there is going to be a lot of [inaudible] work, and there is also a likelihood of not doing a very effective and effective judgment on each of the scenarios due to time constraints.

So the things I think we will have as a possible factors, that is [inaudible] will experience as we proceed. Timing is very short, and at the moment, the main proposal, if [inaudible] reach consensus is going to be very, very different from what other communities have proposed on their own solutions.

So at this point, if I may, I could then [inaudible] and allow for more questions, or more [inaudible] questions on what I had to say. I hope I have answered your question Fatimata. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much Seun. This is Tijani speaking. [Inaudible] raising his hand, so I'm going to give him the floor. But before that, I'd like to say that the greatest challenge lies within the protocol portion. As you have to reach consensus within a community, which has really very little time to do so. And it is a very broad community, might I add. So, I think that [inaudible] not only for protocol functions, but for the other functions as well.

Now Aziz, you have the floor now. I'm sorry, Adebunmi Akinbo has the floor first. Go ahead.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Adebunmi Akinbo, hello?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:

Yes, hello. Is this Adebunmi Akinbo speaking? Hello?

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Yeah, hello?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:

Go ahead please.

SUEN OJEDEJI: This is not Adebummi. This is Seun for the transcript record.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He's muted. Someone please let him know that he is muted. He's unmute your telephone if he wants to take the floor.

I think he should be able to speak as I am told that he was unmuted. So, if we're not able to hear Akinbo and if he cannot speak, I'm going to ask him to type his question on the chat so that we can go on.

So, we have [inaudible], who is still the CEO of AfriNIC, if I am not wrong. I hope I'm not mistaken in any event. [CROSSTALK] his domain of interest, maybe Otunte can take the floor and tell us a bit more?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello? Can you hear me?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:: I can hear you [inaudible], please go ahead.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Thank you. I'm sorry for calling in late. I was stuck in the traffic. I had one slide that I was supposed to present with Tijani, but I guess he has already presented that. And from what I've followed since I joined the call, I think the content of that slide has been widely covered.

Mainly, I wanted to highlight the way this transition is being handled from different sides.

And they're putting a little differences of the fact that the transition of the IANA functions is being managed through three key operational communities. And those operational communities have been selected, or identified because those are the community who ICANN serve directly.

So we have the name community, the number community, and the protocols community basically who receive their service from IANA. So the ICG right now is accepting proposals from those three operational communities, so to be able to present a consolidated or assembled proposals to the NTIA. And future cross-community have setup their own process of collecting community input and building their proposal.

And at this point, I know that all of the three communities have reached a point of public inputs through their first draft of proposal. The cross-community working group from the ICANN side has looked at the domain name draft. The CRISP team is looking at the draft, following the original consultation that each area had. And the [inaudible] has the IANA plan working group that's looking into that.

So hopefully we are expecting those three communities to submit their proposals to the ICG on the 15th of January, which is sometime next week. And staff [inaudible] proposal [inaudible] by the ICG proposal some defined criteria, including the completeness of their proposal, the address of the different key element of the [inaudible] etc.

So if there is anything that the ICG will need, which will go back to this community and ask them to clarify or provide [inaudible] information. What is important at this point, and especially in the context of this At-Large webinar is to highlight the fact that the community At-Large is really actively encouraged to contribute, and the comments of the different draft proposals that have been discussed right now. It is the moment to do it through your different community, and there is nothing that presents someone to be active of the three communities.

You have interest in domain name, and of number, and also into the standard and issue protocol parameters, you can participate. But what is important is to have our voice heard. And basically from the [inaudible] country, I think this is key for us to be present, because this IANA function has been a matter of discussion in the past few years in our region.

So we are expecting to have those proposals on the ICG table in the coming weeks, and after that, the ICG, of course, is going to continue to engage the community on its own work, and that will provide additional channel of opportunities to comment. [Inaudible] already be closed to [inaudible] proposal, that will try to, the different community proposal together.

So I will not take much at this point, but I will be happy to answer any questions that may come relative to ones of the ICG proceeding, and related to the area process. Specifically, I will recognize a few of my colleagues from the ICG and from the CRISP team on the call as well. So I'm very happy to provide any further clarification. I guess I said all the points Tijani.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much. This is Tijani speaking. [Inaudible] is a member of the ICG, of the coordination group. And he knows this transition process very well, and he can speak on a number of subjects ranging from AfriNIC to the transition. And [inaudible] of course, he participated very actively in the process. Thank you very much [inaudible].

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You're welcome.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: I think Etienne would like to take the floor. I think maybe we should hear Mary first, because she is raising her hand, and she has been for a while, and we haven't heard from her from her yet. Mary, you have the floor.

MARY UDUMA: Thank you. Can you hear me?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, I can hear you.

MARY UDUMA: Okay. All right. My colleagues [inaudible] made clear how, where the transition has grown and the challenges we had. I think maybe

[inaudible] a different operating communities, have different, each of them has [inaudible] different, and relationship that is not overlapping the other.

[Inaudible] we can see from maybe IETF from there. But the naming community is a big challenge. A very, very big one, because of the ccNSO. For the GNSO and registries for ccTLDs, find their [inaudible] that ICANN, follow the ICANN rules, [inaudible] that they [inaudible] any proposals, comments from them will fit [inaudible] where the policy comes from.

The policy comes from the ICANN. ICANN Board determines the policy that the registry [inaudible] will follow. [Inaudible]... the policy and its relationship with IANA is quite different from that of the [inaudible]. So that's where the [inaudible] is. So the proposal that was able to, that will be acceptable to cc, you know, cc's have sovereignty on [inaudible]. So that's where the [plan] is. How would governments of different countries accept proposals that have been proposed?

How will they accept an opening of the proposal from the [inaudible] on the naming site? So that is a strong challenging aspect of this transition, of this process. So, and for Africa, I really challenged by the attitude of the African region, in terms of contributing to what is going on, working with cc's and not even responding at all.

I can understand from [inaudible] their own cc's within their country, but those have [inaudible] and the cannot [inaudible] the cc's and members for the [inaudible]... So ccNSO cannot even speak for every ccTLD. So, the [inaudible] is how the cc [inaudible], the ccTLDs of

different countries participate in this process, and what mechanisms would be acceptable to each government of the country, of the sovereignty of the country's [inaudible].

IANA normally follows the local and national laws, delegation or re-delegation and even [inaudible]... So, that is a point of strong challenge for us, especially the cc's. And the African region is [inaudible], we have our cc's managed by our governments. So how would I our governments [inaudible] is going on. So a challenge, a big challenge, and we need to [inaudible] our cc's within the region to come up and contribute and say, what this, each thing about and different region.

For me, another contribution. One of the contributions I made was that any candidates that are going to be put in place, are the oversight should have, should allow each [inaudible] to have [inaudible]. Not [inaudible] for order, but every cc will have [inaudible]. And what do I mean? If there is any change, if there is any delegation or re-delegation, it should be published. [Inaudible] I think there are [inaudible] people comment [inaudible]. And this is [inaudible] of something that other [inaudible] are taking part in.

So that is [inaudible], how would Africa contribute? How is African [inaudible]... How can African cc's participate in this process? This is a challenge. The other two challenges, one, is the fact that the cc's cannot go [inaudible]. Second, is that the African region, they are not participating. I am asking, how do we participate? Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you very much Mary. You spoke about ccTLD. I thought you were going to speak about ICG, but I know that...

MARY UDUMA: Go on please.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: But the question was about naming function and numbering function. Now I see Seun. Seun, you have the floor.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Yeah, thank you Tijani. This is Seun for the record. Just to also [inaudible] the comment of Mary [inaudible] of participation from our region. I think it's something that, I also note that [inaudible] participation from our region. However, I think we still need a lot of participation from our region.

When I'm [inaudible] or one of them, [inaudible] show interest, but it becomes quite challenging for them to respond or write on the mailing list. So, perhaps one could also base on what are the things we can do a part from with [inaudible] to actually encourage ourselves to improve our confidence in writing and responding and contributing to the discussions in the different communities.

So that's a question that we really need to answer [inaudible] and to find an answer to. I would just like to also mention the point of perhaps of, [inaudible] discussion for the naming function. I would like to ask about mention about this, [inaudible] that the naming proposal, but this

was the one that was prepared by the CWG. Like I said previously, one of the challenges that we have with that proposal at the moment is that it's most likely going to be [inaudible] consensus to the [inaudible] right now.

So if you have comments, for those who are very interested in comments like Mary, please post comments about a particular proposal, and [inaudible]... comments. So if you have a comment regarding, and you think you would like to share, [inaudible] if the main work of the CWG is going to happen this weekend. As well, we are going to see if we can actually reach consensus on a particular solution, even if it's most likely going to the substance that is significantly different from what I've just [inaudible] from the current proposal that we have.

So you're also invited to join that [inaudible] because it's open to every member, any participants in the CWG. And it's also going to [inaudible]. So, if there are any questions [inaudible], so I want to take much of our time, but I would suggest we might as well [inaudible]... If there is a need to clarify something, I think there is a lot to some people [inaudible]... not mentioning. I can then make a more informed contribution. Thank you very much.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much Seun. Tijani speaking. Thank you for this clarification. I remind you that we are, we have only 10 minutes left, and we didn't speak about protocol functions. We have here a person who is going to speak about that. I'm going to give him the floor. Jari, you have the floor.

JARI ARKKO:

Thank you. And I'm really happy to be here. I realize I have just a little bit of time, so I'll be brief. Gisella, I have some slides. I have two pictures, but this will be quick. So basically this will explain about the protocol function, and the protocol numbers aspect of, and the, it's basically a division of roles between three different organizations.

One organization is the IETF, which is responsible for the policy decisions. And the IANA or ICANN is responsible for running the registry. So they do not make policy decisions on database and show them on the website. And finally, we have some oversight from our IAD, our architecture board that the overall system is working well.

And I know that lots of people have had a focus on accountability around the IANA transition. I just want to touch on that just a little bit. And if you can bring up the slides, on slide three you'll see the picture that I think explains this well. So there are basically two categories of that things that can happen, demand as to hand the accountability in different ways.

The first class of things that the IETF policy functions on [inaudible]. And we have mechanisms for that happening, up and running for a couple of decades. We have appeals, we have a recall a Board member, we can select new Board members and so forth. The other class of that thing could happen is that something goes badly between IETF and IANA or IETF and ICANN.

Now, things have been going extremely well, and we're very happy with the IANA service that we get from ICANN. Can you scroll to... Actually I

can do that myself. So slide three. So here we see IAD on providing oversight to the operator that is basically running between IETF and IANA. And so as I was explaining, there could be problems between IETF and ICANN that affects ICANN.

And these are subject to regular processes that we have in [inaudible] organizations. And starting from daily operations, we bring up issues that we might see to, all the way to discontinue the contracts, if it ever came that, and I don't think it ever will because again, it has been going quite well.

And this is kind of simplistic one, but it has worked very well for us, for 15 years. We do yearly improvements. As an example, we did an audit that anybody in the world can check, if policies have been followed or not. And really there has been no USG involvement in this, and from our perspective, the US oversight stewardship has been that they let the organizations do this on their own, and grow out to do the task, like oversight, like having agreements, like having processes.

So from our perspective, this model kind of works quite well today, and the transition is more about recognizing this model than about anything else. And then, as someone briefly mentioned, the status of our work on the transition proposal. We actually today we approved our proposal from the IETF working [inaudible] mentioned earlier. And now the next steps include working with the ICG and other communities to ensure that we have a good overall answer.

And the IETF community view, while we were developing this, was that the transition needs to stay within the current operational model that

we found. So no change to organizations, no new organizations. And I think this is a good match to what the RIR's are doing now as well.

And just to answer quickly Fatimata's question from earlier, what are the challenges for us? I think the challenge has been trying to avoid even doing too much new things, because we have the running code, this thing runs and has to show to operate well despite occasional problems here and there. So trying to avoid something new has been our main issue. And I think we've succeeded doing that, at least so far, and looking forward discussions on this of course.

And I think I'll finish there. And if there are any questions, I'll be happy to take them, either in person here or on chat.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you very much Jari for your presentation. Are there any questions for Jari? Okay, no hands raised. Okay.

So Jari, your presentation was very interesting. Can you send us the slides?

JARI ARKKO: I think the organizers are already working on putting that on the website. If they are not there already. Yes, they will be available. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much Jari. Tijani speaking. Okay. So now according to our agenda, and as nobody ask any questions about accountability, I'm going to speak about this concept of accountability. As you said, the US government wanted to have accountability mechanisms, and receive those mechanisms with the proposal.

The working group, the CCWG and the cross-community group on accountability of ICANN was created, and this group has been working for a few weeks. And we are still at the steps, at the stage of rethinking and trying to find some elements with which to work and find some accountability mechanisms that will, which will allow us to reach a consensus along the stakeholder group of the ICANN.

Now, we are trying to see how we can design accountability. And ICANN must be accountable to who must be accountable. What are the different accountability items that we need to take into account? That those are the questions that we are asking us.

And we need to know what is accountability. Well it is, if we take NetMundial's definition, it's checks and balances. That is to say, balance that we can reach the mechanism of checks and balances, and mechanisms of review and correction. So, those are mechanisms according to NetMundial's definitions.

Now we can give some examples. This is the building of balance groups of stakeholders, so as to design the policy. And this is the case of the GNSO Council. And also, we want to give some advice before the decision, before a decision is taken.

This is the role of the advising committee of ICANN, of ICANN as ALAC, etc. Those are examples of the current system. Other examples about review function, the review undertaken for the ICANN [inaudible], and the review of the accountability and transparency of ICANN made the IETF. So those are the review items.

And about... What is made by the independent reviewing group. We have to consider their reserve. These are the ICANN statutes, and those are examples of those mechanisms. We also spoke about independence. We consider that, we need to consider the independence of the person, and now I'm going to speak about the different aspects of the accountability concepts.

It is the fact of accept and apply our old rules and processes, and reach some performance levels and security levels, and also apply and respect the different rules and the laws of the countries in which we are working. And also for me, just for me because there is a discussion around that, work for the public interest. There has been some discussion about that because people think that the definition of public interest can change from a country to another.

So we need to find a common definition of the public interest. Now ICANN must be accountable, but to who? Normally to all the stakeholders, to all the stakeholders. Without any exceptions. And the affected parties by ICANN decision directly or indirectly, and the parties that affect ICANN directly or not. So this was a summary of this accountability issue. That is not easy to summarize, we need to reach a consensus. We need to reach a consensus for each idea and each concept around accountability.

So for some people we need to analyze all of the current mechanisms of accountability. So we are doing that. We are analyzing what we think as something that is lacking into ICANN process of accountability. So as when the transition process will take place, ICANN will have a good accountability process, and that will allow us to be accountable to the community.

We depend on the work of the CWG, and we depend on the work of the naming functions working group, because there are proposing structures with announcements. So we need to see which kind of structure we will have if we are going to create a new structure or not, this will be, this is very important because accountability is different if we have another organization, if we are going to use an internal system of ICANN or not.

So I don't want to give you too much details, but what I wanted to give you is the idea of the work we are doing, and where, well what is our aim? We have to trust, one that is end to, before the transition because accountability is linked to the IANA function, and with the stewardship of the IANA function, but there are also accountability function which have nothing to do with IANA stewardship.

So, there are some parts that is urgent, that needs to be finished with the transition, with the proposal, the transition proposal, and then there is another part about ICANN accountability that will take some more time, and that is not as urgent as the first one. Mary, you have the floor. Mary you have the floor.

MARY UDUMA:

Thank you. I just want to ask a question for the accountability group. [Inaudible] urgency in the process beyond that [inaudible]. Considering the fact that [inaudible] 2015, is there, do you have the sense of urgency as we have in ICG? Do you have the same time constraints? Are you going to finish your work [inaudible] enough [inaudible] ICG to submit these proposals? With the understanding with the US government is that they ask accountability proposal, or [inaudible] proposal is submitted and approved before you can transition.

Is there a sense of urgency in that? Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Tijani speaking. Yes, thank you very much Mary. Part of our work must be done and finished before the transition, but not on the 15th of January, that's for sure. We have good reason to think about that because our work is going to, our work has begun later. We have a face to face meeting on the 21st of January in Frankfurt. And then I think we won't be late with, we will try to find something at the end of January, we will have something.

But it won't be the final draft. It will be something that will help to go on for the transition proposal. But the output, the results, of the, of our group will be delivered before September, don't worry. Before September, it will be finished. Are there any other questions? Are there any other questions?

MARY UDUMA: The other question. Can I continue? Can I continue? [Inaudible] between the CCWG and the accountability aspects, CWG. Are there linkages, are there a [inaudible] process, [inaudible]... on the accountability [inaudible] CCWG or CCWG or the CWG. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay. Mary what are the relation between CWG and CCWG? Well those relation, we have very good relation between the chairs of those two groups. And the CWG is asking us to give them a first draft of our work, a first result of our work. But we weren't able to do it because we haven't finished. So we can't present a draft on the 15th of January. This is the date we are speaking with the CWG.

We have discussion with them. We want to have [inaudible] of our work with their work, but we are just beginning our work. We are at the beginning of our work, and for now, we have no deliverables to give them. So we have, we are going to give the CWG our opinion as soon as we can, but not now.

I see that Aziz is asking for the floor, and Adebumi Akinbo is raising his hand. We are, we don't have any more time. So Adebumi, are you there? Do you want to have the floor?

ADEBUMI AKINBO: Yes. Adebumi Akinbo for the transcript. I'll be quick about it. [Inaudible] some information concerning the [inaudible] accountability of [inaudible]. And many of [inaudible] question concerning the other [inaudible] accountability between the CWG and CCWG. I think

[inaudible] correctly. In a nutshell, I would like to say [inaudible] concerning the [inaudible].

CCWG is also looking at the [inaudible] this is concerning the IANA transition, and not just the [inaudible] accountability of IANA functions and ICANN accountability are not just the [inaudible], but [inaudible] that could actually be a clog in the wheel of progress for ICANN should be addressed.

Those are the things ICANN detracts [inaudible] detracts, but by the time we finish at the end of September, every issue that needs to be addressed will have been addressed. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much. Tijani speaking. Thank you Adebunmi. Now we give the floor to Aziz. Aziz, you have the floor.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you Tijani. I just wanted to tell you that we have no more time. We are reaching the end of our meeting. I wanted to ask a question as Mary question about synchronization, synchronization of the three groups. I thought I had understood that they are something that I didn't understand. I'd like to know why they didn't join the two functions in one group about naming function and numbering function?

For me, those two problems are linked, and I also like to know how this process will finish after the ICG will have finish its work, and we have send a conclusion. What are we going to be? What will be done with all of that? Fatimata is going to speak about that maybe, so I'm sorry.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I can't answer your question Aziz. I'm sorry but I cannot. It's Fatimata now. We hear you. Fatimata, you're raising your hand. What are you going to speak of? The next steps on the timeline?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: This is Fatimata speaking. Actually I see on the chat that Yaovi is both sending information about a webinar that has been organized as to the next steps on the timeline. We've already mentioned the deadline, and we don't have much time left in the call. But the first item is to inform everyone to bring you up to date with regards to functions. For us, as Africans, to be able to participate and contribute by giving our viewpoint.

I think after all that has been discussed, we can quickly discuss the two proposals that have been submitted. And discuss what our reactions are before we submit our comments. So next week is our deadline and there is a webinar, so I think this should be done over the weekend. I think over the weekend, we should all consider the two proposals that have already been published, and consider them within the timeline we have.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Tijani speaking. Thank you Fatimata. I think it is a very wise idea to schedule a meeting for next week. I think that's the best we can do.

-
- AZIZ HILALI: Aziz speaking. Tijani, excuse me, but I suggest we have a Doodle poll to schedule this meeting.
- TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Tijani speaking. Right so the action item for staff is to send out a Doodle poll, to discuss the possible time for a webinar where we will discuss the naming proposal, and the proposals that have been published in general, so that we that our community can provide their views regarding the proposal.
- AZIZ HILALI: Between the 12th and the 13th, those should be the potential dates, says Aziz.
- TIJANI BEN JEMAA: But we'll see, says Tijani.
- FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Fatimata speaking. We'll see there is more participants on which date.
- TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Tijani speaking. Better not have it the 14th because the deadline is the 15th, the 12th and 13th says Aziz. Tijani says exactly. That being said, I thank you all for having participated today. And we have taken too much of your time already, and we thank you for having stayed this long.
-

I would like to thank the speakers for attending the webinar, as participants as well. I know there is to be a webinar next week, and I hope the results regarding what we have been working on will be good. Thank you very much.

AZIZ HILALI:

Aziz speaking. And please do not forget our AFRALO monthly meeting tomorrow. Can we please remind everyone to attend their meeting?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Tijani speaking. Yes, tomorrow is our monthly meeting at 18:30 UTC. Thank you all and goodbye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]