ICANN

Moderator: Maryam Bakoshi
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8:00 am CT

Maryam Bakoshi: Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. This is the Meet the Candidate call on Monday, 30th November, 2015. On the call today we have Rafik Dammak, Grace Githaiga, Milton Mueller, Hago Dafalla, Arun Mohan Sukumar, Farzaneh Badii, Joao Carlos Caribe, Adam Peake, Kathy Kleiman, Tapani Tarvainen. And from staff we have myself, Maryam Bakoshi.

I'd like to remind all participants to please state your name before speaking for transcription purposes. Thank you very much. Over to you Rafik.

Rafik Dammak: Thanks Maryam. It's a strange situation but they have to moderate the call. So today we have this conf call for an opportunity for our members to ask questions to the candidates for the NCUC executive committee election. And we hope to get more people to join the next (minute).

So since we have several candidates we'll try to in the beginning maybe to get really short and brief statements. And then we go to the Q&A session. I'm looking that we have everyone in the call but maybe can start with the candidates from the executive committee elections.

And we start (moderation) so trying to check. Okay let's just start maybe if we say with (unintelligible) order and maybe we can start with Arun first.

Arun Mohan Sukumar: Hi Rafik, can you hear me?

Rafik Dammak: Yes. Can you please speak up more loudly? It's hard to hear you.

Arun Mohan Sukumar: Yes, sorry. I'm just on my - I'm almost nearing the end of my commute, so hope to be at a better connection. But am I audible now? Hello.

Rafik Dammak: Yes, it's okay, yes. Yes.

Arun Mohan Sukumar: Okay, great. Hi everyone. Good evening from Delhi. My name is Arun Sukumar. I'm a candidate for the NCUC executive committee from the Asia-Pacific region. I am a lawyer by training, and I'm currently with a think tank based out of New Delhi, the Observer Research Foundation.

We work on issues relating to Internet governance, so I myself have been following areas relating to IANA Transition for ORF while my colleagues work on issues like data protection, (IPR), all things that are routinely part of NCUC debate.

So I hope to contribute not just as a - I'm a relatively new member to the NCUC and I hope to contribute more to the Non-Commercial Users Constituency more in the coming year, especially after the IANA transition is hopefully over.

And my interest in contesting this position is the fact that the Asia-Pacific region is really - is probably the region with the fastest growing number of users. And increasingly we see more people from the region being part of the

NCUC and other ICANN constituency. So I am hoping to play some kind of a facilitatory (sic) role as an NCUC EC representative if selected to bring together these voices within the constituency. I'll stop there. Thanks.

Rafik Dammak: Thanks Arun. It was brief. So let's go to (unintelligible). I think the next would be Farzaneh?

Farzaneh Badii: Yes, okay. Can you hear me?

Rafik Dammak: Yes Farzaneh, I can hear you.

Farzaneh Badii: Okay great. Hi everyone. My name is Farzaneh Badii, and I have been an NCUC member since (unintelligible). And I am a candidate for a European executive committee. And a little bit about my background, I'm a PhD student in Hamburg University. I live in Germany.

And while I do mostly research on Internet governance and other issues related to the Internet. And I have been an active member, active participant at the (NCWG) on Accountability. And while I'm going to be short, I would like to be a member of the EC because I want to work on - and whatever I say now, it doesn't mean that it hasn't been done or (unintelligible) are not doing it. I'm just saying kind of like (unintelligible).

((Crosstalk))

Farzaneh Badii: Can you hear me? Sorry. Hello? Is that better now?

Rafik Dammak: Yes Farzaneh we can hear you.

Farzaneh Badii: Okay great. So basically I have plans for (unintelligible) outreach for the European members of the NCUC. And also I would like to do some outreach to gain more members from Europe for NCUC. And also I would like to kind of like focus on other initiatives that are not participating at the moment in non-commercial activities to become more active.

And also I have also plans for strengthening women's presence at the Non-Commercial (unintelligible). I would like to reach out to, work on women activities within policy making. And yeah that's it. Thank you.

Rafik Dammak: Okay. Thanks Farzaneh. So please if you are not speaking, please mute your line. Okay. So I think the next would be Joao. Joao can you hear me?

Joao Carlos Caribe: Hello, can you hear me?

Rafik Dammak: Can you hear me?

Joao Carlos Caribe: Yes. Can you hear me?

Rafik Dammak: Yes, Joao.

Joao Carlos Caribe: Joao here. Hello?

Rafik Dammak: Yes, Joao (unintelligible).

Joao Carlos Caribe: All right, it's fine. Let me move around. All right, good morning. It is lunch time in Brazil. Good morning. It's my second term on executive committee of NCUC. And I will share my expertise. My expertise is actually on policy making but is in community management and user outreach and engagement.

I have two expertise on (graduate) activities and community management to put more engagement. I plan to address the (unintelligible) that is here on this conference call, to join to work group on user engagement just to make this a push for NCUC. I think the NCUC needs more communication, more accountability on other activities, not the (unintelligible) accountability that was (unintelligible), but something about what you are doing, what you plan to do, what's the next...

My focus is on communication and user engagement, mainly on my region, Latin American/Caribbean. That's my - that's it. That's all. On my first term I just did less than I wanted. I plan to work more engaging on this time. Thank you.

Rafik Dammak: Thank you Joao. So I see that - okay trying to see again we are still going by the political order of the candidates, not of the regions. So I think we can come back to Hago, who's just I think joined us.

Maryam Bakoshi: Rafik?

Rafik Dammak: Yes.

Maryam Bakoshi: Grace - I'm sorry to interrupt - Grace is on the audio bridge.

Rafik Dammak: Okay. So we have Grace and Hago. So yeah we can start with Grace and then we can Hago for that. So Grace, can you hear me?

Grace Githaiga: Hi Rafik. Can you hear me?

Rafik Dammak: Yes Grace, yes.

Grace Githaiga: Hello?

Rafik Dammak: Yes.

Grace Githaiga: Can you hear me?

Rafik Dammak: Yes we can hear you, yes.

Grace Githaiga: Can you hear me?

Rafik Dammak: Yes.

Grace Githaiga: Oh okay, I'm really struggling to - I'm really struggling to hear because it's not very clear. So yes my name is Grace Githaiga. I am (unintelligible). But I am also (unintelligible). But I'm also (unintelligible) the network. And this is a role that considers (unintelligible) activity.

So my background, I trained as a journalist before I (unintelligible). I took (unintelligible). And I have been (unintelligible) where this is my fifth year.

In terms of NCUC as you know I am (unintelligible). And, you know, this is motivated by the fact that (unintelligible), which is ensuring that you have (unintelligible) NCUC (unintelligible) basically (unintelligible) that there are more people from my constituency which is Africans (unintelligible).

And (unintelligible) also ensure that (unintelligible) issues that are of importance to NCUC. We also have people who are interested from our constituency (unintelligible). Thank you.

Rafik Dammak: Thank you Grace. So we will go now with Hago. Hago can you hear me?

Hago Dafalla: (Unintelligible)

Rafik Dammak: Yes. Yes, please, you can go ahead.

Hago Dafalla: Hi Rafik. My name is (Hago Dafalla) from Sudan. I have (unintelligible). We have (unintelligible) in Sudan. And (unintelligible) and other institutes, for example from (unintelligible) At that time I have member of (unintelligible) that we have obtained (unintelligible) 2001. (Unintelligible) 2001. And also attend our other meeting in November (unintelligible) Cairo (unintelligible).

Also (unintelligible) 2010 (unintelligible). Also we have (unintelligible) interest in the non-commercial user (unintelligible) at that time for 2010 (unintelligible). Also (unintelligible) members of (unintelligible) working group. Also (unintelligible) for 2011 and 2012.

Also I have (unintelligible). Also I (unintelligible) 2015. At this member meeting, I hope to be (unintelligible) selected by the (unintelligible) EC member (unintelligible) more and more (unintelligible). Thanks. Hello?

Rafik Dammak: Thanks Hago. So...

Hago Dafalla: You hear me?

Rafik Dammak: Yes. So the next will be I think Rao.

Rao Naveed Bin Rais: Hello. Hello, can you hear me?

Rafik Dammak: Yes we can hear you.

Rao Naveed Bin Rais: (Unintelligible) there?

Rafik Dammak: Yes (unintelligible).

Rao Naveed Bin Rais: Because I can't hear very well. Sorry for being late but I (unintelligible) was not available for this slot, but somehow I wanted to join (unintelligible) in order to have any questions if somebody had.

So my name is Naveed. I have been with NCUC for the last one and a half year or something like that. My first introduction to NCUC was when I attended my first ICANN meeting as an ICANN fellow in London last year in 2002 in London.

Shortly after that I became a member of NCUC and (unintelligible) the attention and I saw the voice of end user being heard in one way or the other. You can be more heard in the community. So since then I have attended four meetings and all as ICANN fellow. So I am perhaps the only one, but got four out of the last five meetings, so...

And I was as well as three times ICANN (coach) for the newcomers and this is one of the reasons that I encourage so many new fellows that I was (coaching) and other fellows that have been through the membership of NCUC and can be obvious in the last one year or one year or so we have more and more fellows signing into this community.

So about myself, I'm basically working as associate professor in the (unintelligible) department in a local university Islamabad. And for my area of specialization is networking, mainly in addressing and communication architecture, along with security. So I'm quite a technical guy.

So my motivation here was to have some kind of technical touch to the NCUC community and find ways where the technical feedback can be more useful in the policy making process that would be easier. So this is one of my motivations, to be (unintelligible) for the (unintelligible).

The second one is I've been working in NCUC and NCSG since last one year to come up with some ways to help newcomers getting integrated into the system more quickly than what we have right now. So I would want more on this. We want this highly diverse and very strong membership base to use them as a work force and to become volunteers to do more and more and more work.

So they have to be encouraged and be part of the last group we have possible. Then we had the membership survey that was a great thing to do, but I didn't see any follow-up of that. I would want to continue doing work in that direction to see what can we do with the amazing data that we already have as part of that membership survey.

The last thing on my agenda - this was (unintelligible) kind of agenda - but the last thing on my agenda is to come up with some kind of regional bonding between NCUC members and which I still see missing in the community. We have a global community, NCUC community, but if you talk about regions because if attended it, I'll be representing the Asia-Pacific region. So I would want more Asia-Pacific contribution to be NCUC community. And that can be done if we have a strong board members in the regional members.

And we should come up with some database or something like that with any other expertise and the interest. And we try to match them to see how can we best use the potential that we could have. Locally I'm working on Internet

governance kind of stuff. I'm a board member of (PK&R), which is Pakistan (unintelligible). I am working as a board member there.

I'm working with ICANN (fellow) as a security expert on (GNS) operations for the Middle East region. And I'm also working with (ITF) so have been to a couple of (ITF) meetings as well. So that's what all I'm about. I'm happy if somebody has any questions. Thanks.

Rafik Dammak: Thanks (Unintelligible). Now we go to Milton. Sorry Milton, you had to wait on that. Milton?

Milton Mueller: Hello.

Rafik Dammak: Yes, we can hear you.

Milton Mueller: Here I am. Okay good. So my name is Milton Mueller, and I am an academic. I'm a professor as Georgia Institute of Technology in the U.S. I'm in the School of Public Policy. I have been participating in telecommunications and Internet policy for the last 30 years and was one of the original organizers of NCUC.

I served as the chair for a couple of times. Basically I'm interested in being on the executive committee because I think the NCUC has a lot of organizational work that it needs to get done. And we need people with long-term perspective on how we have evolved and where we're going.

We need to rewrite our bylaws. We need to incorporate. We need to do a lot of legal and organizational things like that. And that's basically my agenda in getting involved.

I think to be frank there's not going to be a lot of new members from North America because in North America there are so many competing avenues for people to participate in Internet policy. It's much more difficult to draw people in. But we can expect to make some progress with some of the public interest groups that are not as active as they could be.

For example we have recently gotten the Electronic Frontiers Foundation involved and certain organizations like Wikimedia and have expressed interest in NCUC. So I think there's some potential for bringing in some large organizations that are interested in Internet governance but not yet involved.

So I think the best thing we should be doing now is for you to ask any questions that you have of the candidates. So I'm eager to get to that.

Rafik Dammak: Okay. Thanks Milton. So just to check if I didn't miss any candidates. Okay so I guess I can speak now. So I guess most of you know me as a few weeks ago I was the chair of NCSG. And before that I used to be also the Non-Comm representative for NCUC and also the GNSO counsellor for NCSG 14 years.

The challenge for NCUC I think it's much more harder than (NCSG) for some few reasons. I think if I can summarize it in few words is that NCSG (unintelligible) that need to be strengthened and to work and to move up to the next stage.

And I do agree with some of what was said by like Milton about the work that we need to do like incorporation but also updating the bylaws. All this stuff are needed. They are not necessarily the most exciting but it's the work that must be done within the next year.

And from that also we can build up with some foundation to do more work at
NCUC. And I think also we need to do more in term of members'
engagement. I start to do that with NCSG but I think at NCUC that's more the
space. We can do more members engagement and supporting the members to
get involved in policy process. And I do see NCSG as supporting the NCSG
work regarding policy.

So also I do think that we need to do more about the communication, about
our activity and also within NCUC to get more people aware what's
happening in term of process, in term of policies and why we should get
involved within some of them and how we can do that.

So that's what I see that must be done. And if elected chair I think I have to
count on strong and active executive committee members. So it's a group of
people that they have to set the strategy for the coming next year and to see
how we can improve the operation of NTC and to face the - some challenges
that are coming with the context like as possible ICANN reform because the
IANNA stewardship transition. And also we have several policy process that's
going to start soon so. But I'm not going to keep talking more than that.

And I guess we can move onto the next - I'd say to the next part of the call
which is about Q&A session. So please if you have any questions, feel free to
do so and we can try to move with a different candidate so to respond to them.
So who wants to ask the first question? Yes don't be shy. So who wants to ask
first? Right away I think one candidate joins that. If I'm mistaken it's (Mijal)
can you hear me? Yes he cannot hear me it sounds is the case. So but I don't
think that everyone stated in particular to the top three priorities but I guess
we can - it can be a question so. Okay so maybe just yes we can start with this
question kind of warming up. So who wants to start first? Just really quickly

so what are your top three priorities? Oh okay Arun Sukumar yes please go ahead.

Arun Sukumar: Hi Rafik can you hear me?

Rafik Dammak: Yes.

Arun Sukumar: Great. (Matthew) I don't have - I can't list three but I certainly have some the specific reasons. I have a couple in my one minute of course spreading the word about the IANNA transition proposals that are finally out. For instance now the CCWG on accountability the committee working group on accountability is to infer to some if potentially final proposals in December and the final consolidation proposal is going to be populated sometime early next year. So I think it will be a good start to get some of the active members in civil society in a specific - in the specific to get to know more about the IANNA transition. So I'm hoping to work with the NCC as well as with my organization who are - who to break down the proposal and get it out more.

That's - and the second is to get a conversation going about some of the more active discussions in NCUC. There are a lot of people who are - who invest so much of their time and because of NCUC who are express in that field on issues like IPR's access. And there are a lot of things that are going on in Asia Pacific, especially in India but somehow there is no connection between the NCUC and the civil society members. I'm hoping to bridge that if I get to part of the ECE. That's it for me.

Milton: I had my hand up so I may as well just go ahead. But my - it is okay Rafik?

Rafik Dammak: Yes Milton go ahead.

Milton: Okay. I was going to answer (Kathy's) question. I think it's a - that's a good question. So in the past years we have tried to prioritize policymaking at the stakeholder group level. Originally our plan was to have an integrated stakeholder group rather than a constituency. But I think in many ways the NCUC could play a stronger role in policy development and could file its own positions if there is a delay or some kind of disagreement at the stakeholder group level. Obviously it's better when we can to file comments and policy positions at the stakeholder group level but when necessary we should be able to do that at the NCUC level.

                 So I think that's one of the things they have to do with the bylaws revision is to figure out do we need our own policy committee. Is that too much bureaucracy? Can we come up with more informal mechanisms? Typically the executive committee which we're running for does not lead policy development. It is more of an administrative entity. But again we do have some of the intellectual leaders within regions that are on the NCUC's executive committee. So they - we should find a way for us to develop policy as well. That's all.

Rafik Dammak: Thank you Milton. I see that however QNL. Joao and (Dan).

Kathy Kleiman: Rafik this is Kathy. I was wondering if anyone else wanted to respond to that question. I appreciate (Milton's) answer on that.

Rafik Dammak: Okay (Kathy). Okay. So I see that Joao and (Farsi) also they - I think they want to respond. I'm not sure to which question but let's see. Yes Joao. Please go ahead.

Joao: Hey Rafik. Thank you all. I'd just like to answer the question for the (Gios). And (Gios) I sorry for not speak your name very well. Everybody's don't

speak mine too. First I told the (unintelligible) living project to either engagement and communication. I don't expect to reinvent the wheel. Just on the project you can define how to engage and how to capacity these new users. First focus will be on tele program. The second focus would be online and capacity building. I starting here at Brazil with (Henata) on project (Cali) governance that's been governanced (unintelligible). That will be - come a source of information about the internet governance and information about how to start and how to join, how to know about internet governance.

And the other way you need to work together the new business on the main (unintelligible) in the group, the engagement on the Web site, how to find the information they need. They will have a lot of work to do in these next two years on capacity building on format information, on accountability for NCUC. Just to, for example, it can just put on Web site what's hot, what topics and connection information about these topics in the minutes and you begin to understand it's not just for express ones. That's the just the beginning of the ideas. I expect this good some ideas of everybody all on this years.

Rafik Dammak: Thanks Joao. (Farsi)?

Joao Caribe: Well I would say like to say something then so.

(Farsi):   Yes hi sorry. Okay. So (Matthew) why are these like three priorities? But anyway I'm going to answer your question. So the first one is I would like to kind of help with letting people NCUC members and non-NCUC members of what ECE's executive committee is and how important that is and how it can help them to engage with NCUC because I think our governance structure at the moment, the NCUC governance structure then we are working on it but still we are - we do not clearly send that message that what exactly we do and how we do it. So I would like to help with that. And the other thing that I

would like to do is to work on the technical community to join the non-commercial group because I think it's very important to use their expertise as well. And also as I said and you were not here on the I think we need more women in non-commercial stakeholder group.

And as to (Kathy's) question, I think (Kathy) the important - it's very important to understand people's background first and then kind of guide them to how they can engage with policymaking in ICANN based on their expertise and background because so many people have valuable skills but they don't know how to engage with working groups and how to engage with policy development. So what I would like to do with the help of others is to kind of look at our current members and see how we can kind of guide them through certain engage.

And (Giose's) asking to recruit more owners breach the knowledge gap. Oh okay knowledge gap. So I would say we can have more meetings for them if they're interesting and we can have like introductions to introduce them to the process and how they can get involved. We also do this where we - Rafik already with the sellers we go to fellow meetings and we tell them what we do and we also have one to one meetings with them if they are interested on how to get engaged. Thank you.

Rafik Dammak: Thanks (Farsi). Let me see maybe in the queue and I think I will speak after that. Naveed?

Naveed: So I just wanted to comment on the (Ed) question. So this is one of the main things that I've been discussing to - from emails and through my statement as well. So what I suggested a while ago and which I want to push again is to - for NCUC to go for some call for mentors who can support the newcomers to get involved because we have so many great people with so much experience.

So we can try to have some mentors base or some similar kind of thing. I mean we can debate what it is or what their job should be. But an approachable point for some newcomer to get answers, the relevant answers of what they look for. So I support what (Farsi) said a while ago. So this is kind of part of that.

And to develop again I will come back to my point to develop a membership base on the BAP side proposed along with the interest of the individuals, their sense and their interest, their expertise, so that along with perhaps the email address if they want to publish it so that a newcomer can see whom to contact when he - that person gets into NCUC. And also I mean I - for the past one and a half years that I am with NCUC I had to go each time to the Web site to get to know what - who the NCUC members are. I want this information to be more public. I want more visibility from the ECE executive committee members so that they are more visible to the community and they are more acceptable or in a way. Acceptable might not be a right word here but they are more open to have comments or for to get questions from the newcomers. Thanks.

Rafik Dammak: Yes thanks Naveed. Maybe just to comment quickly your - what you said. I think any information are already public in NCUC and NCUC would try that I guess. There is need to kind of to revamp the Web site for more visibility. I think in term of priority is really the executive committee is more about the operational work and administrative work for NCUC, so in term of planning like for the meetings and so on. So it needs to support other member's involvement. So we have to do a lot of member's engagement, to work in membership management like application review and so on. And this is something that is also in what's happening in NCUC about the membership management. So this is the - what we can kind of condition. Our Web site we can will update to in term of more communication and we have to do more. In

the other hand as we said that we need to work in the bylaws and also like to get maybe NCUC incorporated and then also to work more in terms of budget so we can support more activities. And one of the idea is also to wield more partnership with other organization and also maybe organizational members so we can do specific initiatives.

So all this is we can start for - iOS think for the next year. And I - so it's quite important to get quite an active and dynamic executive committee that do a lot of work because I here that there are a lot of expectations from the members. For example, if we set up a mentorship program we have to get in mind that it will be managed by volunteers. So we are a volunteers based organization and so it's quite important to see how we can manage the workload and so we expand the pool of volunteers. So we cannot count in the few members and ask them more and more for things to do. So we have to find out how we can expand the pool of volunteers. And so that's why the work in how to get the new commerce it's something challenging. I think everyone noticed that. And so there are several action we can do.

One of the idea I discussed with several members to get a newcomer handbook which is really about how to give practical advices and tips and things for new member and how to get involved with NCUC, how to attend an ICANN meeting, how to participate in working group. And so we can also do more one to one support so by conference call or by email discussion and to give clear advice on how to can - how to participate because there is - I think there is a gap between when we say please join a working group and how to join and how to participate really in working group. And I think it's challenging for a new member. Okay I'm not sure. I see like (Farsi), (Nazid) and Milton. I'm not sure if they are old or new hands. (Farsi) you wanted to ask something? Okay Milton?

Milton: Yes unfortunately I'm going to have to work in about five minutes. So I
                 wanted to respond to the question where the member chat by (Ed Morris) and
                 that was the Westlake report and NPOC. So for those of you who are
                 unfamiliar with this issue, it is like a Empire Strikes Back scenario in which
                 certain evil staff members are trying to revise the idea of constituencies and
                 hardwiring council seats to constituencies which sets in motion all kinds of
                 structural and organizational instabilities in the GNSO. And we have opposed
                 for a long time the idea of having a bunch of constituencies that really are - we
                 think it's much more representative and open and welcoming to outsiders and
                 new members if we have a single integrated stakeholder group for non-
                 commercial interests and then have, you know, special interest groups or issue
                 oriented coalitions within the NCSG at any given moment.

                 So my view is that our goal should remain to have an integrated stakeholder
                 group. Of course in the meantime the board has saddled us with a constituency
                 structure in which we have two constituencies which continually confuses
                 new members as to which one they should join and makes the process of
                 developing policy positions more complicated. So the question is how do we
                 deal with this? I think we have to accept the fact that NPOC exists but we
                 have to make sure that there is no expansion of constituencies into mapping
                 them on the council seat. We have to coordinate with NPOC as much as
                 possible and see if we can reconcile our policy positions whenever possible.
                 And I think long term we have to continue to push for an integrated
                 stakeholder group.

Rafik Dammak: Thanks Milton. Arun?

Arun Sukumar: Thanks Rafik. I just wanted to respond to (Ed's) question on Westlake from
                 what happened after the report was submitted. Now there was a lot of
                 criticism about the methodology of the report but I thought it was - especially

after the report came out I think the NCUC did a good job coordinating its views among active members. So we had the meeting in Buenos Aires on the Westlake report and I remember NPOC as well as the Westlake - as well as the authors of the report were NCUC members were quite vocal in expressing their opposition to some parts of the report that seemed, you know, they didn't arbitrarily for all intents.

And there were - during the public comments following the report I think (Ed) submitted his comment and the NCUC I think had a - the NPSU of course had adopted a comment. I think the important point - the important takeaway that I would have is among civil society members are not actively NCUC who don't know what the NCUC or the NCSG view on this is especially in, you know, the report as controversial as Westlake. So it's important to get - to spread the word out there. That's all.

Rafik Dammak: Thanks Arun. Okay so I think we can have - now we just are one hour before. So I think we can have - can extend to 30 minutes. So regarding the question about the Westlake report and so on I think we are supporting the NCA. Okay. Not yet (Farsi). Not yet. So yes. I think we are supporting that. I - we have to leave with NPOC they exist and we have to cooperate with them and to find (unintelligible).

I think NCUC can work more maybe - I mean while we are still doing a lot of policy at the NCUC level we can have maybe some occasion if you want to express a specific position or also to support an existing position. We can do so. So I don't think it's mutually exclusive. And I don't think the Westlake report I think we need to have in mind that at the end it's more how the OEC, the operational. Okay the let's say the board structure is handling the GNSO review. I think it's really depending on what they would decide. So I won't worry about the Westlake report for now but I will see how so we see that this

board committee will - what will decide and what it will - its plan for the next year so. Okay yes (Farsi). (Unintelligible)?

(Farsi):   Yes. Yes I'm here. I just wanted to kind of - well my answer is going to be similar to what Arun and you said. I think what we need to do is to kind of talk to NPOC more and try to - also I think it's important for our members to understand the dynamics of this kind of like what NCSP is and what we are doing and what sort of problems are there and also ask them to contribute to resolving the issues and that might arise and what Westlake reports it. So I would say that we need to work on this issue further. And I think we need to work with NPOC on this.

Rafik Dammak: Thanks (Farsi). So we have (Peter) who joined lately - late. It's - there was some confusion about the time zone here.

Maryam: Hi everyone this is Maryam. I'm sorry Rafik we're dialing not to Rafik if you visitation to rejoin quickly. Thank you very much.

Rafik Dammak: Sure. Okay hello?

Maryam: Hi Rafik. We can hear you.

Rafik Dammak: Yes I can hear you. Sorry the line was disconnected. Okay so I was asking if (Peter) can speak. (Peter) can you speak or I mean if you cannot, you can write your statement in the Adobe Connect chat. Oh can you hear me? Hello. Okay can you hear me? Hello.

Maryam: Hi Rafik we can hear you.

Rafik Dammak: Okay so we cannot hear (Peter). So he should write his statement I guess in Adobe Connect. Yes (Farsi).

(Farsi): So I'm just going to answer (Ed's) question. (Ed) this is a very good question that if I get elected then we need to talk about. The answer is that what I think the priority is who is active in what and if they are really actively contributing to policymaking we need to have some kind of like threshold of how they (either) have inactive, if they have contributed, how much of the meetings they attended and also how much they are contributing, like writing statements and all that to part of the policy making.

So I think for each ICANN -- and this is just a suggestion -- for each meeting they -- I think EC members also have to kind of provide a rationale of why they should be funded. I don't know if this is happening now but I think for the future meetings they should just - other members they should provide a reason of why they should get funded to go to ICANN's (team).

(Rafik): Thanks, Farsi. Okay. I guess…

((Crosstalk))

(Rafik): Thanks for the response. Please mute all the lines.

Maryam: We're trying to assess where that's coming from. Please, may I ask all participants please mute your line if you're not speaking. Thank you very much.

(Rafik): Thank you. So I think to respond to that question. So I think the flaw that we have for the EC which is three slots and also the funding that we have, that's the travel policy from NCUC funding. So I guess this is one of maybe an item

the EC needs to discuss about because of the end, we are managing this process here.

We don't have that much funding, and we are not getting so many travel slots from ICANN. So we need to be wise and also to weigh the decision we make. So I guess the question here is how we can define an active member in working group. So we encourage many members to get involved with, but then we need maybe to find a way how we can assess and evaluate their activities and also what kind of expectation we can have from them. So can they like issue a tool to provide the briefings, reporting to NCUC and so on.

So I think this is an area to explore. It's not easy to manage security any way and that's why we need also to think how we can expand the pool of maybe the funding and travel (slot) so we can make things easy to be - not more easy but it to be more easier than before.

Okay. So hello. Yes?

(Peter):   Hello. I'm (Peter).

(Rafik):   Oh, yes, (Peter).

(Peter):   Sorry. I tried to dial in. I'm so sorry to join so lately because of the wrong calendar time. That's my fault.

(Rafik):   No problem.

(Peter):   I want to take just the one question that is from (Ed). I think the question - sorry. Can you hear me?

(Rafik):   Yes, go ahead. Yes.

(Peter):   Sorry. Can you hear me?

(Rafik):   Yes, we can hear you.

(Peter):   Sorry. Can you hear me?

Maryam: Hi, (Peter). Yes, we can hear you.

(Peter):   Sorry. Can you hear me guys?

Maryam: Yes, we can hear you, (Peter). Can you hear me?

(Peter):   Okay. Yes, I can hear you. I'm so sorry to join so lately. So sorry for that. I want to take just the question from (Ed). I think he's talking about the travel funds, the allocation of travel funds. Since I joined NCUC and served on the EC, I think that's one of our issues. And just the one week ago I made the NCUC and served on the ED. I think that's one of our issues.

I made the NCUC documentation. And one item that I intended in the documentation is our allocation of the travel funds including both the ICANN travel slots and NCUC travel slots. I just tried to do that for our clear records. We have our travel policy from ICANN and NCUC travel policy.

I would like to suggest we try to keep clear criteria for the two policies, especially the travel slots from ICANN. We have only three and sometimes we see members for the travel slots from ICANN and sometimes we see members - we transfer the slot to our active NCUC member. And so I'm going

to suggest we keep clear records. And maybe everyone can have their advice according to the record.

And for the NCUC policy, a travel policy, I think we have one criteria from the EC members. That is we try to give the travel slots to those members who are doing policy work and who are keeping around NCUC. So that's my (transference) and we found this issue.

So I expect we can use the documentation, maybe future and to keep records for our allocation. Thank you for that question. Can you hear me as for the answers or statements?

Maryam: I think that, yes, we heard you loud and clear. Thank you very much for that.

(Rafik):   Okay. Thanks (Peter). I think we heard you. Yes.

(Peter):   Okay. So if I can speak for two more minutes, I would like to take the question from (Kathy) and from - I cannot see the question now. I think one question from (Kathy) and one question from (Matthew).

For the question of (Kathy), I would like to state that NCUC will do the policy work. It's our main job. We have to make our voices expressed and heard in ICANN community. So the policy work, especially the common work, is our main job. I think that EC members is our first priority to support and coordinate our support for the NCUC policy work. We will try to do our best to support our members. Besides - I mean in addition I think the EC members we will try to have some guidance and positive coordination for the policy work. So that's my answer.

For (Matthew's) question, I think in terms of our priorities, if I have only my true priorities for the coming term. I mean if it is possible for me to talk about the future team, I think one of my first priorities to recruit more Chinese members to NCUC - we have 700 million users in China but only 4 or 5 people in NCUC. So for the entire area, I would bring the work to make some promotion for Chinese people to get to know NCUC.

As you can see, I have put the link in our most famous video Website. But unfortunately, there are only very few people are going to watch it. So I was trying to get some support from our Chinese communities.

One thing I would like to mention is that I heard about something from Adam Peake. So he's responsible for our outreach work in Asia. So I spoke to him in Dublin. I need his support to get some outreach event in China. So I'm going to - if it's possible, I'm going to get in touch with him and try to make some program to make more contribution to our outreach work.

My second priority for a future term is to help and coordinate our members to rewrite our NCUC bylaws. Of course, I'm not a lawyer and I don't have some legal background, so what I can do is try to coordinate and make some guys coming together to going forward for our NCUC bylaws rewriting work.

As far as I know, we have only one meeting that is led by (Aron). So I want to make more meetings to keep the work going on. So that's my - these are my two priorities for a possible future term.

(Rafik):   Thanks (Peter). Thank you for your statement. I think it's clear. Maybe just clarification, I saw that (Arun) is already leading the ad hoc team for the bylaws. It's important that an executive committee member join. Also, if I can...

(Peter):   Yes. I joined the team...

(Rafik):   (Peter), let me speak, please.

(Peter):   Okay.

(Rafik):   And also just to answer to comments you said something. It's quite important to know that executive member represent the whole region. So it's not just about the one country, but if someone is elected for one region, it's going to try to represent the whole region and try to outreach as much as country as possible, not just one country. So I think it's quite important thing to have in mind.

                  We have now less than five minutes remaining in the call. And I think it's kind of time maybe to roll up. Maybe if we can have last words from the candidate. If you want to say in a few words why NCUC members should vote for you. So who wants to do that? So who wants to volunteer to start and say something that led NCUC member to vote for him or her?

(Peter):   Sorry, (Rafik). I'm sorry I didn't take the question.

(Rafik):   Which question, (Peter)?

(Peter):   The question you just mentioned: Which member would like to take what?

(Rafik):   Okay, (Peter). I'm trying to roll up the call. And I'm just saying that candidates can have the opportunity to say a few words, to explain why NCUC members should vote for them. And I think (Aron) wanted to start first, and so you will have also the chance to say a few words to convince members to vote for you.

(Peter):   Okay.

(Rafik):   So let's start with (Aron). Yes, (Aron), please go ahead.

(Arun):   Thanks, (Rafik). I think this is an exciting time to be in the NCUC because of all that's going on at ICANN I think the end user is increasingly going to be larger. There is a (considerancy) that needs to be built around the interests of the end user. And I think NCUC is that (considerancy).

                And I would like to believe that some of the more important concerns in users from developing countries will be represented more. My interest in standing for the executive committee from the (unintelligible) region is to lend some support to those concerns from developing countries. I think, as (Peter) said, there are a lot of users, not just from China but from other countries in the region. And I think they share some (unintelligible).

                The other, of course, is to consolidate some of the voices in the NCUC from the active members which we have a small but a very dedicated group. They should be more active in working on issues like bylaws and the policy committee that (Kathy) was talking about.

                So my pitch would be to bring those voices together as part of the team within the executive committee and move forward as we start (unintelligible).

                Thanks.

(Rafik):   Thanks, (Arun).

Farzaneh: Yes. So I'm just going to be very brief. So you should vote for me because I'm going to bring (team) members to NCUC, and I'm going to raise more awareness and advise NCUC within its members. I'm going to help to make NCUC and EC more transparent and to reach our goal which is engage with ICANN policy making and make a difference.

(Rafik):   Let's go with (Joao). Are you on call?

(Joao):   All right. No. I'm on the call. I see they're on chat, on the speaking. That's all for now. Thank you for our attention.

(Rafik):   Okay. That's quite gracious. (Naveed)?

(Naveed):   I just want to say that I would again appreciate if on EC you have more regional collaboration among the members that we already have. I'd like to see how can we better issues in the region in a collective manner, and being in a region with so many diverse countries, so many under-privileged communities and societies, how can we bring them up onboard to represent really the voice of users which we claim to be (unintelligible). So I would want to do that.

             Thanks.

(Rafik):   Thanks, (Naveed). I think (Mickael), he did his statement in Adobe (challenge). Thanks, (Mikhail). (Peter)?

(Peter):   Hello. Thank you, (Rafik). I just would like to clarify for my comments for recruiting Chinese members. I agree with you that it is not just China, it is not just one country. I mean many countries from Asia, from the region, so that's my clarification.

My last words for support for working on the NC that I want to bring more proactive support and coordination for the whole EC and NCUC. And we would like to run the NCUC as a (big head) for the community. So that's my word. Thank you.

(Rafik): Okay. Thanks, (Peter). Is (Grace) still on the call? Hello? Or they already left?

Maryam: No, (Grace) is still on the call. Yes and (Hago) as well.

(Rafik): Okay. So maybe you can go with (Grace). (Grace), do you want to maybe say something -- why we should work for you?

(Grace): Actually I don't know where you are, you know. I got disconnected at some point. I'm just really connected. So I don't know where you are. Hello?

Maryam: (Rafik), can you hear (Grace)?

(Grace): Hello.

Maryam: Hi, (Grace). Can you hear me?

(Grace): I can hear you.

Maryam: Okay. Hi, (Grace). It's Maryam. So where we are at is he's asking candidates why NCUC members need to vote for them. Is that clear?

(Grace): Okay. And can they hear me all around?

Maryam: Yes, they can hear you.

(Grace): Oh, okay. So I can answer. I'll just answer with one sentence.

Maryam: Yes, please.

(Grace): Oh, yes. I'd like to say when I was acting to be given another chance; I really want to finish what I started in terms of getting more African voices into these spaces. I must say that we have clearly more Africans and (unintelligible) into NCUC. Some of that has actually called for logging them offline and asking them to participate in this working group or a different city.

And this is to really support their engagement, even in physical meetings, so that we've had different people participating because of their expertise and like I said you can (unintelligible) to ensure that we have the right support that is continuing in these meetings and physical meetings that connect our working group.

Can I ask a question? How long is this going to run? Because I had committed myself to (unintelligible).

Maryam: The meeting is going to end in a few minutes. This is the last (day). Thank you, (Grace).

(Rafik): Yes. We are planning to close the meeting. Thanks (Grace). Yes, (Hago)?

(Hago): My name is (Hago unintelligible).

Maryam: This is Maryam speaking. (Hago) is still on the call.

(Rafik):   Okay. I think he had some problems. Anyway - okay. (Hago), can you speak? I think we are quite really running late on this call and the (unintelligible) are leaving. Well, I guess I can say the last words, at least.

What I can say, how I have been in the NCUC for sometimes. I know about the challenge. I know it won't be, but you can come to me. I think I got some experience in how to do things. I think we can overcome the challenge in active and supportive in executive committee. So that's what's important. So just voting for one member but really we're voting for the six members who can form an active dynamic executive committee which can deliver (unintelligible).

Thank you, guys. I guess it's time really now to adjourn the call. Thanks for - sorry that it took more time than expected and planned. Anyway, have a nice day and have a nice week. And see you soon.

Maryam: Thank you very much, everyone. We will now stop the recording. Thanks very much.

END