

# UA Tech WG Meeting

31 January 2022

## Attendees

Sarmad Hussain

Jim DeLahunt

Marc Blanchet

Benjamin Akinmoyeje

Vadim Mikhaylov

Satish Babu

Rajiv Kumar

## Agenda

1. Welcome and roll-call
2. Drafting the ICANN Community Experts for consultation (20-25 people)
3. Reviewing the suggested questions by Jim for managers about supply&demand paradox
4. Reviewing other items in the [T5 – UA challenges and survey \[docs.google.com\]](#)
5. What's next? (Creating different layers of UASG0026)
6. AOB

## Meeting Notes

Satish gave an overview of the agenda items and asked everyone if any agenda item needs to be changed or not. Everyone agreed that agenda items are correct.

### **1. Drafting the ICANN Community Experts for consultation (20-25 people)**

Satish mentioned that in previous meetings the structure of the survey was under discussion, and it was decided that we should start with our own community experts for consultation. So, in the last meeting we came up with a proposal of a list created from past and present members of the UASG community. List will include board members and ambassadors so that it has a cross section of community in the group. Satish asked Sarmad how this group is constituted.

Sarmad mentioned that the group contains all the UASG leadership members from past and present, team members, local initiative chairs and UA

ambassadors. Satish copied the list of members at the end of the document named “UA Tech WG – Notes for T5 FY22”. Satish gave an overview of the document and asked if we have missed any members or subgroups.

Jim asked two questions. First question was about the potential size of the group. Second question was about the relevance of past leadership members as useful informants.

For the 1<sup>st</sup> one, Satish answered that the size of the group depends on the methodology of the survey we are adapting. If we are going for a survey form approach i.e., form to be shared with everyone, then size does not matter. But if we are adopting a face-to-face approach then it would be difficult to manage a large group.

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> question, Satish answered that we will have to apply techniques or filters for people of the past leadership because such people have hands-on experience of UA, and their opinions will be effective. He gave an example of Ram M. who is not involved in UA on a day-to-day basis but can share a good insight on it due to his experience.

Marc commented that the group should have some developers too, as at the end the developers will be doing the work. So, their input matters too. Satish explained that in the step-by-step approach of the survey, developers will be covered as well. He agreed that their input matters in this. He shared the criteria of the people to be involved in this.

Satish asked about the approach of consultation. He shared that the current approach is to have 20-25 people on a Zoom call and someone from the board members can moderate the meeting. A list of questions can be prepared beforehand to discuss. But as the list has more than 25 members, a two-step approach is needed for this. Satish shared that the current proposal is to share a Google form for survey in the first round and then in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round a face-to-face approach will be adopted. Marc mentioned that not everyone will attend so the list will be reduced.

Jim agreed to Marc’s comment. Jim also mentioned to document what kind of outcome is expected from that consultation. He asked to come up with some filters to narrow down the information which will be gathered from that activity, e.g., will they come up with an insight or a work product that will be useful for the UASG process?

Sarmad suggested having the call at two different time zones, so that more people can join. As having a single call can be difficult for everyone to attend. Satish mentioned the outcome of the two sessions might be contradictory or indicate different positions. Yet, we could still go with this approach, and we need planning and a good moderator for the call.

Satish clarified that the survey questions will not be asked directly in the first place to the community experts. But a high-level consultation will be done about the obstacles holding back the UA. We would like to hear from them on some success stories, on what is important and worked well, what has not worked, why has not worked. We can still get their insight on the survey questions though. Satish shared that let's make a list of questions to get the discussion started and let the group drive the session. We can share an initial set of questions with the participants beforehand so they can make some points in their minds before coming for the session.

Satish shared that in the last meeting it was discussed either it should be taken to the coordination team or not. Sarmad shared that lets first make a draft and then share it with the coordination team.

Satish mentioned that although there is progress in UA adoption, a gap still exists. He pointed out that the purpose of the survey is analyzing what can be done as a community to promote UA adoption.

Jim shared his context as: UASG has a variety of different activities, but no shared understanding of the high-level context. The purpose of this activity is to gain a common understanding of the forces that resist and support the UA. The benefit of this activity is that future UASG activities are targeted to the most important obstacles, take advantage of the strongest supports, and are coordinated with each other. Jim also referred to his Unicode presentation that the group reviewed last time.

Sarmad admired the progress and said we are certainly moving in the right direction. He shared that many libraries in multiple languages support UA now and others' adoption are in the pipeline. But this data is not yet published. It is only in the reports. While 2000 website study showed no progress, the quarterly study we conduct for MX records, the data demonstrated a positive direction.

Satish appreciated the remarks and shared that some points are moving slow. We need to focus on the deployment on tools. Satish shared an overview of what has

been decided. With the data we can first summarize the context, and then ask the initial set of questions.

Sarmad asked about the set questions to be asked to the Coordination team and to Community experts that either both sets will be same or different. Satish mentioned that questions will be shared with the Coordination team. Our consultation with Community experts will not be through just Tech Group but general UASG Team. Eventually the target is Community experts.

So, we will have only one set of questions and ask for clearance from the Coordination team. Sarmad gave a title for the document as “High-Level Consultation on UA challenges and Opportunities”

Satish mentioned that we need to finalize this document before the next meeting because this document has all the basis now. Satish asked Sarmad when the data would be ready. Sarmad shared that data is ready and needs a little formatting and some part of it will also be published soon.

Satish shared that he would prepare a set of questions until the next meeting. The document will have first context, then data and questions in the end. Satish shared that he would work on the document to share with everyone.

**Next meeting:** Monday 14 February 2022 UTC 1400-1500

### Action items

No.	Action Item	Owner
1	Finalize the questions and document (5 or 6 questions)	Satish
2	Prepare the data for UA evaluation	Sarmad