
OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: ...the recording. We’re not going to wait forever like this.

YEŞİM NAZLAR: Sure. Let’s start the recording. Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to everyone. Welcome to the New Fiscal Year 16 ICANN Community Document Development and Drafting Resource Pilot Program [inaudible]...

...taking place on Tuesday, 13th of December 2016 at 14:00 UTC.

On the call today, on our English channel, we have Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Wolf Ludwig, Alan Greenberg, Sam Dickenson, Emily Taylor, Statish Babu, and [inaudible]...

...presently, we don’t have anyone on the French channel. And we haven’t received any apologies for today’s call.

From staff we have Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, Ariel Liang, Daniel O’Neill, Ozan Şahin, and myself, Yeşim Nazlar.

Our Spanish interpreters today are Veronica and David. And our French interpreters are Camila and Clare.

I’ve just seen that Glenn McKnight has joined us as well.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone to state their names before speaking, not only for the transcript purposes, but also for the

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interpretation purposes as well. And over to you Olivier, thank you very much.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Yeşim. Olivier Crépin-Leblond speaking. And today we're going to be speaking with Dan O'Neill, and also consulting Sam Dickenson and Emily Taylor, regarding the ICANN community document development and drafting resource pilot program, the aptly named DDPP.

So, now that we've done the roll call and the introduction, I guess it's time for us to turn it over to Dan O'Neill. Dan, you have the floor.

DANIEL O'NEILL: It's Dan O'Neill speaking. Olivier, thank you very much for the introduction. We appreciate the opportunity to present today on kind of the status that where we are moving forward with the document development and drafting pilot program. As we have spoken at past ICANN meetings, the focus of this was really going to be on the creating [primer?] documents for some of the drafting opportunities that are issued on a regular basis by ICANN.

But as you're all aware, there tends to be an ebb and flow to these particular, and as we up and running we found that [AUDIO INTERFERENCE]....

...opportunities that were being released had decreased, and we were having some difficulty in identifying opportunities to really get the program started with.

So, as to stuff in Hyderabad, what we've done is we've decided to step back instead of just a singular focus on the PDPs, we wanted to step back and look at creating a [primer?] document, that we thought would be of value to the multistakeholder communities, and [primer] documents that we thought we could involve the communities, such as on this call, to work with and create to push out to all of the communities on timely and critical issues that were confronting the ICANN communities at this time.

So, I am privileged to have my two [riders?] on the call with me today, Samantha Dickenson, who is joining us from Bristol, Australia, and Emily Taylor, who is joining us from Oxford, England. So, we have circulated to you the outline for the four [primer?] documents that we have started on at this time...

YEŞİM NAZLAR:

Dan, if I may? Dan, apologies for interrupting. I'm sorry, this is Yeşim speaking. Could you please speak up? Our interpreters are hardly hearing you.

DAN O'NEILL:

Yes I can, I'm sorry.

YEŞİM NAZLAR: Thank you so much and apologies for interrupting. Please, go ahead.

DANIEL O'NEILL: Not a problem. So, to pick where I left off, I'm joined by our two [riders?] Samantha Dickinson and Emily Taylor. And we have a circulated, as part of the documentation for the call, an outline of the four [primer?] documents that we are going to get ourselves started with. They're under construction now.

So, with that, I would like to turn it over to our guest, Samantha Dickinson first, to talk about the first listed [primer] document, which is focused on the wider internet governance landscape beyond just the activities of ICANN.

So, Sam, can I ask you to pick up and give a brief, maybe three to four minute overview, of that particular [primer]? And then we'll move on from there to second, third, and fourth.

SAM DICKENSON: Okay. Hi, it's Sam Dickenson here. Am I speaking loud enough for the interpreters?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Loud and clear.

SAM DICKENSON: Fantastic. Okay. So, the first primer I was looking at was the concept of looking at the wider internet governance world, with the specific focus on why this matters and where it matters to the ICANN community. So, some of the areas I was planning to include in that planner was looking at the ITU, particularly now that it's looking at the digital object architecture, but not just the digital object architecture, but internet related activities they're doing in their study groups in leading up to the next [planned plenary?].

I'm not sure if you're aware, but there are a new expert group on the [inaudible] begins again in February. So, you may remember [Wicket?] from 2012, well this will review whether or not they need to hold another [Wicket].

We also have, coming up next year, the main body of work for the [inaudible] enhanced cooperation working group, looking at also in the primer, the human rights council discussions on the internet, they now regularly produce an annual resolution that is relevant to the internet. And that intersects with ICANN's work on human rights, particularly in terms of the bylaws.

The World Economic Forum is continuing to increase its participation and activities on internet related work. We now have two ex-ICANN CEOs involved in this. And also, the IGF. So, that was kind of my list of main IG areas for that primer. Possibly also looking at the work of the 20, this is [inaudible] having a digital ministers meeting next year, as well, [inaudible] seven.

So, that's the first primer. Do you want me to go straight on to the second? Or do you want to discuss that first?

DANIEL O'NEILL:

Olivier, I'd like to leave that up to you as to whether you would like to discuss each of them individually, or just kind of go through the overview and then kind of have questions at the end.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Yes, thanks very much for this, Dan. It's Olivier Crépin-Leblond speaking. I think we can go through all of them, and then we'll be able to have questions on them afterwards. I'm a little concerned about timing issues, and I gather that some of these, our community is probably more aware of than others.

Certainly this first one, with the number of people that are on the call today that have gone to the IGF. We probably don't need to discuss it in more, not significant either. So, let's go on with the other issues.

SAM DICKENSON:

Okay. The second primer looks at the concept of where domain names will fit in a future internet, particularly in relation to other identifiers that are out there. So, looking at the internet of things. And the concept of where digital object architecture fits in specifically there. Also, looking at apps, mobile apps that don't require users to see or even input any domain names to get to services the way they do in a normal web browser, search engines, how people often use search

engines to find their sites and services rather than typing in the URL, like my mother, she types in Facebook into Google rather than just typing Facebook dot com, and possibly also including a look at this study that looks at consumer awareness of new gTLDs.

So, that's the same [inaudible] going forward to the next [inaudible] new gTLD round. That's the second brief overview of the primer. The third and last primer I was looking at, is looking at geographical names and codes. So, as well as looking at all of the groups in ICANN where country, and geographical names, and codes are being discussed, and their status, I was also going to be looking at how this the question of why the context, looking at the [Wi-Po] geographical indicator discussions.

Plus, I'm not sure how many of you are aware that there is new case being taken to court. The Icelandic government is taking the UK business Iceland [inaudible] to court for using the word Iceland in its name. Also, the other thing I was going to look at in that climate was how ccTLDs are responding to the markets and new gTLDs.

But what is ccTLDs and now, permitting registrations at the second level to compete with new gTLDs. And that's it from me.

DANIEL O'NEILL:

Thank you very much, Sam. Now, the fourth primer is being developed by Emily Taylor. So Emily, if you can pick up and give us an overview of the last primer that we have outlined for this initial [inaudible].

EMILY TAYLOR:

Thank you very much, Dan. And thank you Olivier, for chairing the meeting and for the opportunity to speak. Yes, as Dan said, we’re trying to find subject matter for primers that would get people from a position of knowing nothing about a subject to a sort of the on the starter, you know, being ready to participate in policy discussions.

And one of the areas, the first area that I’m proposing to tackle is WHOIS, and sent through a proposed outline of which I would have very much welcome feedback. As many of you will be aware, WHOIS has proved to be one of the more controversial policy areas within the ICANN community.

And my vision for these primers would be that they would be accessible. So, I would image a series of quite short document. So, rather than trying to tackle absolutely everything to do with WHOIS in one three-page document, to have something that would just start us off, and then we could develop more sophisticated ones as time goes on.

What I think would really be helpful as a way of starting off, is you know, thinking about just getting some basics down like, what WHOIS actually is, what a WHOIS record looks like in the gTLD space, and what it tells you. And then who uses WHOIS and for what purposes? Sort of really covering off the major stakeholders.

Then highlight what policy issues arise from WHOIS, in particular, the accuracy or inaccuracy of records, the classic tensions between security interest, or law enforcement interest on the one hand, and the privacy

of individual record holders on the other. Transparency and the role of privacy and proxy registrations.

And also whether this old protocol is now fit for purpose. And then really to try to understand, or put down, why it is that different stakeholders within the ICANN community take a point of view that they generally do, and what [inaudible] they are, and really to highlight that these are, this is [inaudible] you have several competing and legitimate interests.

There could also be some jumper points, or the future of WHOIS. So, I would really be interested in your feedback on whether this would be useful, and what sources, you know, what sort of areas you would like to see covered to get people really from a point of view of knowing nothing about WHOIS to being able to engage in simple policy discussions about it. So, thanks. I'm happy to take any questions, and I look forward to your comments.

DANIEL O'NEILL:

Olivier, I will turn it back to you, to kind of get us started on questions and answers. But again, what I would like to do is just one comment on kind of the overview here of what we're trying to accomplish. Again, a pilot program in this element of the pilot program is focused on creating documents that will increase that level of understanding, and really kind of be used by different communities for different purposes, as to some of the opportunities that are put forward by ICANN for engagement.

Again, we're kind of looking at different issues here, that we feel like we would like to engage with the community for their feedback, and understand how these documents might be developed to be most useful to your community now that is engaged, as well as your ability to reach out to new and potential new members of the community to help them understand the ICANN process, and how they might be able to engage in the ICANN process.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Well, thank you very much Dan. It's Olivier Crépin-Leblond speaking. And thanks to Emily and to Sam for their presentations. I have several questions, but what I'll do is to open the floor for anyone else that have questions. I've seen that there is some, there are some things in the chat from Satish Babu regarding the four primers.

One thing I did want to ask while people collect their thoughts before putting their hands up, is the naming of the actual program itself. I recall in Helsinki, we had called it the double D and double T, or double D triple T, or something. How many D's, how many T's are there in this?

And let's agree to a nomenclature that is the same across ICANN. I'd like to avoid the CWG, CCWG thing, because the first... I mean, it might be trivial to us, but it actually confuses people, and a number of times I've been asked by people in At-Large, what is the difference between CWG and CCWG? We definitely don't have the question as to, what's the difference between a triple D double T, or double D double T?

DANIEL O’NEILL: Thank you Olivier, and I think that is... Dan O’Neill speaking. I think that is an excellent point. There is no shortage of acronym confusion across the ICANN world, so we don’t wish to add to that at all. We have tried to limit it down. We obviously did start with, you know, DDDPP for Document Drafting... Document Development and Drafting Pilot Program.

What we have tried to do is now limit that down because that was just too much of a mouthful. We’re trying to get it down and I will take your notes to make sure that we are consistent on this, and I’ll work backwards to make sure that it is reflected in all of our documents and communiqué.

We’re trying to go with DDP, Document Development Pilot. So, DDP is what we will go with consistently for this pilot program going forward. So there is no confusion for all of those that wish to engage in it.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, thanks very much for this. Let’s then go to the queue. Alan Greenberg, you have the floor.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much. Three things. Number one, on the name. I like the shortened name, but please, why don’t you use P for Program? ICANN has this determination that if something is a pilot, it has to be in the name. That means if you ever formalize it, you have to change the

name. Just Document Development Program, and by the way, it's a pilot. Just a personal comment.

Number one of the real questions, timeline. What timeline do you expect to see these four documents created in?

DANIEL O'NEILL:

Alan, go ahead and take that first, and then I will turn it over to Emily and Sam who are actually doing the work on each of those. What we have talked about, again, is wanting to get the pilot up and running. So again, what we have identified is particular primer document that we want to try to get out by, at least drafts of them out by the end of the calendar year 2016.

So, for these particular documents, we are looking for that short turnaround. Sam has committed to join two of these, at least getting draft documents by the end of the year, and then Emily will have the WHOIS document out by the end of the year as well.

So, we are trying to get the program, we've been a little slower out of the block than we would have liked, but certainly want to start to ramp up, because we are looking at creating roughly 20 of these over the next coming months, so I really want to get these first ones out of the block by the end of 2016.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Okay, that's more than detailed enough for what I was asking. The answer is soon, and you also addressed my next question of, are you

planning more? And you are. I would like to see the fifth one being new gTLDs. The history of the program, and the prognosis, and the plan going forward.

That and WHOIS are the two major GNSO PDPs that we’re trying to get people involved in, and the learning curve is really steep. So, these documents will be very welcomed, thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much for this, Alan. Olivier Crépin-Leblond speaking. And the next person is Emily Taylor.

EMILY TAYLOR: Hello. I just thought I would respond directly to Alan’s last point. Yes, absolutely. I think one of the next tasks in my entrée on this pilot, would be a similar introduction, very basic to new gTLDs, covering things like, what was the program? How it came about? What the process was, in brief?

What to expect in the future? And the potential for a new round, and the different, you know, points on the spectrum, a way to expect different communities to set. So, thanks. That’s it from me.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks Emily. Olivier Crépin-Leblond speaking. And I’m going to read one of the points that has been made. I note first that Yeşim has her

hand up. So, let’s have Yeşim Nazlar first, and then I’ll read the comment from Satish Babu. Yeşim, you have the floor.

YEŞİM NAZLAR: Thank you Olivier. Actually, I was going to read out what Satish has just written. [Inaudible]...

Satish Babu is asking, “What is the role of RALOs in this program? [Inaudible]” Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Dan?

DANIEL O’NEILL: Dan O’Neill speaking. Again, what we are trying to do with the primer document is obviously create something that is going to be educational, valuable, useful, in many different areas for each of the stakeholder communities. These primer documents will be delivered out to all of the communities, with the understanding that they can utilize them and engage with them however is best for them.

As a part of this process, we wanted to set up an opportunity where we were working with the stakeholder communities, just as Alan has sort of jumped out in front very early, to understand what are those subject matters that would be most valuable.

So to have that engagement and feedback from the communities is critically important. And then, not only, you know, understanding what

issues are important, but also during the development process, we have a Wiki page that we will be posting the development of these documents, and the document. So what we would like to do is be able to, you know, utilize the Wiki page as well as working with ICANN staff, to continue to have phone calls, such as this, to engage with different communities and get their feedback on their development of these drafts.

So that we can understand your particular points [AUDIO INTERFERENCE] and develop a draft to reflect that.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much for this, Dan. It's Olivier speaking. And I'm just having a little conversation in the background regarding the emails that the invitation to this call were sent to. We might have to check if email to DDPP at ICANN dot org works, because I'm noticing that no one from the working group itself, and we want to associate the working group...

No one from the working group itself is actually on the call, which is a little strange. Can we ask staff to check that? Glenn McKnight, you're next.

GLENN MCKNIGHT: Sorry, my mic was muted. Glenn McKnight for the record. A couple of things, Dan. I'm concerned about metrics, and particularly this is like a product launch, and you must have a marketing strategy to take the

products that are producing, and [inaudible] so if you could give me the lifecycle, and what you expect from us being participants as RALO leaders that they do with this product, how does it generate results?

And I guess, what you expect from us.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Dan?

DANIEL O’NEILL: Well, thank you very much for that Glenn. I agree, what we wanted to do, was... Clearly, once we have the Wiki page up and being utilized, you know, to really focus on that. So, I will work with both Rob Hoggarth, of ICANN policy development, as well as Ozan, with his staff, to create, you know, a focus on the Wiki page, but more broadly on the program itself.

What we do want to do, is you know, utilize calls like this to be able to engage with the different communities. So, if you think it would be more helpful to kind of formalize that, put together, you know, a kind of document that kind of announces the program for you to utilize in terms of reaching out.

But as part of our interview process in developing the pilot, we found that the different communities were really kind of looking to utilize this for different purposes. So, we want to be careful not to kind of pigeonhole and allow each of the communities to utilize these primer

documents in a way that is most useful for each of the individual communities.

So, you know, we certainly want to make it available to you, but in terms of how you wish to utilize it, you know, we want to leave that to you, and I think that might be part of this ongoing process to understand how we might want to shape these primer documents going forward to accomplish these objectives.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this Dan. I see that there are a number of people in the queue. Let me first start with Silvia Vivanco.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Thank you Olivier. Dan, this is Silvia. Just very quickly about the Wiki page. You can see on the screen, we have within the RALOs [inaudible] Wiki space, we created a [inaudible] space for this particular [inaudible] for the At-Large community. So we have that working space for us, where I posted your primers outline, and now you’re mentioning that there is another Wiki page.

Actually, I am not aware of that yet, at this moment. But what I want to understand is, you know, in the At-Large community, we have our own Wiki pages, where we work, our work spaces, where we post information, comments, etc. So, I just want to make sure that I understand what is going to be our working experience, work space, for us as a community to work on this project.

And if there is another Wiki page, which is broader, maybe it's for informational purposes, so I think I would like to define which one is the working space. Thank you.

DANIEL O'NEILL:

Dan O'Neill speaking, just briefly. Yes, you know, working with ICANN's policy development, we did create a Wiki page just for the DDP, Document Development Program. So, what I will need to do is, you know, make sure that we are one, clear on exactly the address and the location for that, which will be for you to utilize that.

And obviously, going forward, develop how best to kind of link the work and information that's available there to your RALO pages, so that there is no loss of information, or everybody is current on exactly what is being done. So I will take that as an action item going forward, to make sure that we kind of clarify that and that we're working together on that.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Okay, Dan. This is Silvia. Thank you very much. That will be very useful. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Thank you Dan, thank you Silvia. Next is Alan Greenberg.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much. In terms of marketing, I don’t think you’re going to have a problem. If you do a half decent job, and ICANN doesn’t bury these, I think there is going to be a lot of demand. One of the critical things, I think, is who you get involved in commenting on the drafts, because there is a fair number of people in the community who have, I think, good perspectives of these issues, and can take a very balanced opinion, or balanced position.

So, I think it’s going to be important who you get involved to make sure that the documents will reflect what will be useful in the community. So, that’s number one. Number two, are you planning on doing translations of these? Which is absolutely critical for us.

DANIEL O’NEILL: Alan, it’s Dan O’Neill again. Again, through the interview process, we absolutely got the feedback from ALAC as well as other communities, about the importance of translations, and the answer to that is, yeah, obviously we want to, you know, increase the value and increase the distribution of these primer documents as much as possible.

So, we will be utilizing ICANN translation services to translate these documents, with the hopes of doing that at the same time for each of the documents, so that we can get them out in all of the different languages, or at least as many as make sense as quickly as possible.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much for this question and for this answer. I see no further hands at the moment, but there is still a comment from Satish Babu in the chat, an earlier comment, where he mentions, “While these four primers will indeed be useful, I would like to know if we would be taking up a few hands-on PDP pilots after these are done, or while they are being doing?”

For some of the RALOs, like APRALO, the primary interest in PDP is on account of their inability to participate effectively in ICANN’s policy development process.” I am not quite sure what Satish meant by PDP pilots. There are policy development processes going on in the generic name supporting organization all the time. There are lots of them.

I can’t imagine there would be a pilot on these. But perhaps, Satish, if you could explain slightly further in the chat, then I’ll read your comments in the chat.

I don’t know if there is any response to what you’ve mentioned so far, but I do, myself, have several points to make on the different projects which have been now proposed to us. First, the wider internet governance landscape, and I think that one of the things we need to do is to stop using acronyms. And the first error here is in the title, wider IG landscape.

It really is wider internet governance landscape, and a non-exhaustive list of things to mention. As the cross community working group on internet governance co-chair, I’m well-versed with this topic, and I think

that the topics which have been chosen here are absolutely fine. But I do remind you, as in remind you that drafters of this document, that whilst the At-Large community is extensively involved in the internet governance forum, and in fact, many of us have either, well, have come back from Guadalajara, most of us having paid their own travels, we are well aware of these different points, whilst there is somehow a completely different view in some parts of the generic name supporting organization.

Indeed, they believe that ICANN has nothing to do with this. So, I would urge you to be very clear in your, in drafting that topic, and to get the GNSO Council [inaudible]. They might learn a thing or two. Second, domain names in the future internet, including alternative identifiers. Again, big discussion at the Internet Governance Forum, and the discussion I've had so far with some ICANN people was that IOT has nothing to do with ICANN, and certainly DOA even less.

So, you'll have a hard time to convince some people in that part of the world. Thirdly, geographic names and code, yes, that indeed, is directly related to ICANN. And I think that this would be very, very useful indeed for our community. Indeed, some parts of our community have been more affected than others.

And in LACRALO, there has been some extensive discussions in the prior round of new gTLDs. You will, of course, remember the dot Amazon and dot Pasadena names which had received much attention, and indeed they were some comments from the At-Large community that were filed in the process.

And finally, outline introduction to WHOIS. I wonder why we are talking about something that we can pretty soon consider as the past? Why are we not having an introduction to registration directory services? Our community has been involved in the development of RDS, as it's called. We have had several webinars in the past on WHOIS, but WHOIS really should be considered as the past, and RDS is the one that, I think, our community will probably be more interested.

Certainly, there is less known about RDS than WHOIS. These are my comments, and I look forward to your feedback. Thank you.

DANIEL O'NEILL:

Olivier, this Dan O'Neill speaking. Thank you very much for the comments. Very helpful. What I would ask is, Sam and Emily if you could take just Olivier's individual questions on each of the primers that he raised, and address those, and then we'll try to pull it together at the end. But if we can start with Sam, and Olivier's questions on your primers, that would be helpful.

SAM DICKENSON:

Hi. It's Sam Dickenson here. Thanks, Olivier, for your comments. In terms of using acronyms, I totally agree with you. The only reason IG appeared in that little bit of text was it was in an email to Dan, he just copied and pasted. If you've ever read anything of mine, whenever I introduce an acronym, I always sort out first. So please, don't be concerned about that.

Yeah, the points in all of those primers that I'm thinking about is to contextualize. So, yes, hopefully, it will, the one on internet governance will explain why these issues, or get across these concepts of why these issues of internet governance do matter to the ICANN community, the same in the domain name in future internet. Whether or not that people believe that the internet of things, or digital object architecture topics for ICANN to discuss, they are issues that are being discussed in the wider context, and may have an effect on how the domain name system operates going forward.

So, for example, within the ITU space, if UA takes off, it's very much being pushed as an alternative to the use of IP addresses and domain names for labeling internet of things objects. Were you trying to say something Olivier?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: I'm not saying anything, I'm listening.

SAM DICKENSON: Okay. I just had a little beep in the background. I thought it was maybe somebody trying to talk. Yup, GA names, yup. Yeah, I was going to look at some of the older issues like dot Amazon. But the reasons for discussing things like [Wi-Po] was to give context to wide issues like dot Amazon, and issues like dot wine, come about. And that the... Sometimes very fraught debate within the ICANN community is a reflection of much more fraught debates within the larger UN [Wi-Po] discussions.

I think that's all I need to respond. But yes, I've written down the comments you've made, so I'll consider that in my drafting. So, I'll hand over to Emily.

EMILY TAYLOR:

Thanks a lot Sam. And thank you Olivier for those comments. Yes, on one of the issues that I was hoping for feedback from this group about was where to pitch the, what the primer on naming [inaudible], registration directory or WHOIS.

I mean, my feeling is that what we've got at the moment is WHOIS, and that that is a record that affects about 150 million gTLDs, and so whatever the future, and there is definitely active work that ought to be described, perhaps, in separate series of primers, is the direction of travel, where we're headed for, to the extent that is designed and agreed.

And what the legacy issues are likely to be, and what the transition is likely to look at, look like, sorry, excuse my cough. So, I'm very happy to call this registration directory services, and [inaudible] you feel will be the most understandable to people in the community.

I totally take your underlining substantive point that this is an area which is [inaudible] mutating, but it's not completely clear to me that we've got to fully formed successor, or that has been implemented yet. And I would like to hear your views about where we start people.

I mean, do you start with what exists at the moment? And slag the [inaudible], or do you start with the registration directory services as it's likely to be? I'm happy to do either by the way.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much for this, Emily. Olivier Crépin-Leblond speaking. And just to respond quickly to your point, I think that WHOIS is really reaching the end of its lifetime, and registration directory services is set to take over in the future.

Certainly, I can't imagine anyone looking at improving WHOIS in of itself, based on the limits that the protocol has, that the fields have. Well, Alan might correct me, but I can't remember any recent work that was done to improve WHOIS. It's all been folded into RDS.

But Alan Greenberg has his hand up, perhaps he can explain further.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. I wasn't going to answer that question, but I will. Yes, there is actually, WHOIS work that has been going on, if you look at all of the work to handle IDNs and things like that. Now, much of it concludes that we're going to have to make some changes, but it still has been under the [inaudible], the name of WHOIS.

Two things. On internet governance, yes, there are people in ICANN who say it shouldn't be any of our business. They may, under the new bylaws, claim that we should be out of that field completely. If you look at the fact that there were 10 Board members, and untold executives, at

the last IGF a week ago, someone in ICANN who has, holds the purse strings, certainly thinks that it's important for us. So, the fact that some people don't, is that maybe they just need an education.

On the name of WHOIS, RDS, I'll point out that I believe that the official name is RDDS, Registration Data Directory Services, which has been shortened to RDS in some cases. ICANN tends to be politically correct and once a new name is invented, we go back and erase the existence of the old name, and pretend it never existed.

I think any document probably has to reference both in the title, and certainly early in the document. They are the same thing. WHOIS is a RDS or a RDDS, maybe a particularly poor one, but it certainly is one of the flavors and it was the name that it was used, it's the word that people still, if you're not up on the current PDP and the current nomenclature in ICANN, it's the name you recognized.

So I don't think you can toss the name aside, but yes, we certainly can't ignore the fact that it is being rebranded at the same time. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks Alan. And I take your point. It's Olivier speaking. I take your point regarding the naming of WHOIS, or RDDS, or RDS. That's a very good point. And by the way, my comment was not meant to belittle the topic itself, and I certainly find the topic to be particularly important, and the contents of that paper, inaccuracies, security versus privacy, transparency, and [inaudible] as being something very positive in being addressed in a professional paper.

Emily Taylor, your hand is still up.

EMILY TAYLOR: That's just me forgetting to put my hand done. I'll do that.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: That's okay, Emily. Olivier Crépin-Leblond speaking. There is an answer from Satish Babu in the chat to my earlier question. Now his first comment was while, the [inaudible] primers will indeed be useful, I'd like to know if it would be taken up a few hands on PDP pilots after these are done, or while these were being done. For some RALOs, the primary interest in PDP is on account of their inability to participate effectively in ICANN's policy development process.

Satish has added, "I was under the impression that DDPP, DDP, would provide pen holding to RALOs and community members in contributing to policy." So, that's what he meant in his comment. Dan, any comment on this? And indeed, I believe many RALOs did think that as well.

There would be help in drafting comments and policy discussions. Dan O'Neill.

DANIEL O'NEILL: Thank you Olivier. This is Dan O'Neill speaking. In response, yes, the focus of the DDPP program, this element of the DDPP program, certainly is going to continue to be on assistance and explanation and analysis of

PDP opportunities for all of the community. Again, what we found is there is just an ebb and flow to the release of these particular PDPs, and at this time, we wanted to start this process and we weren't able to identify particular PDPs that made sense for us to do the primers with.

So, going forward, we still see, you know, primer documents directly tied to PDP opportunities as being the primary focus for the program. So, while these particular primers go away from the [inaudible] being tied to PDP drafting opportunities, going forward the notion is that, that will be the focus of the program.

And then obviously, it has been helpful throughout this call to understand some of the issues outside of just PDPs that we may want to also build into some of the primers, if we have other periods when there is a lull in particular opportunities. But we have heard on this call, some other areas that we might want to address, that will be helpful to the communities, but the main focus will continue to be directly linked to PDPs and assisting communities with an understanding and analysis of those particular opportunities.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks Dan. Olivier speaking. There is also another note from Glenn McKnight in the chat, mentioning that there is no point if Glenn and Gordon, I believe he mentions Gordon Chilcot, are the only ones in NARALO involved in the primers. They need to be well designed for the learner experience and resulting in tangible content.

That’s just a comment. I’m not sure whether there is a follow-up to this, Glenn. I gather, and this is just me just interpreting what I’m reading, the primers are very welcome, but we might need to expand on a working group, and finding maybe some other people to read the primers once they’re drafted, so as to find out whether they’re understandable by people who are beginners, rather than us who, I guess, have been seasoned participants for a while.

I note that Glenn McKnight has his hand up. He probably is on voice now. Glenn?

GLENN MCKNIGHT:

Yeah, Glenn for the record. Let me clarify. Gordon and I are volunteering for this project. I assume, and this is getting back to expectations, that we are empowered, we’re fundamentally facilitators for community. We go back essentially, what we want is not me and him being the policy people, but everyone in the community empowered to actually take that material, and understand a process and procedure, so they can actually feel that they’re part of the process.

So, that’s [inaudible]... If the document, if these primers are just crazy, if they’re inoperative of what documents are already there, these are detailing in what we need to do to be able to produce the policies, then we failed.

So, I guess what I’m trying to say is that we need more clear definition of what you expect from us, so that when Gordon and I go back, and

we'll do monthly updates on what we're doing and what we're choosing to excite people within our community. So, do you understand now?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks Glenn, that's excellent. Dan, over to you.

DANIEL O'NEILL: Dan O'Neill speaking. Glenn, thank you for the comment. Again, I guess what I would like to do is fall back on the term of what we got [inaudible] pilot. The notion is that, you know, these primer documents, will be able to, again, assist each of the communities in a manner that's most helpful to them, in terms of a further understanding of the PDP opportunities, and I guess what we are looking to do, through the creation of these documents, obviously outside the PDP process, we start to focus on particular PDPs is to work with you and with other communities to understand the manner in which we are producing them, providing background, providing analysis of the issues, the impact on particular communities.

Whether the formats that we have created is the most valuable format for your utilization of engaging in one that particular PDP, as well as, as you stated, the ability to bring new people from ALAC into the process. So, you know, we're starting looking to create a primer document that is going to be useful across all of the communities, and what we really need to understand through this process is, you know, is that realistic?

Is a primer document that is created valuable for exactly what ALAC is wishing to do, as well as what all of the other communities are wishing to do? Or, do we need to rethink that, that that objective may be too broad?

So, those are some of the challenges that we wish to try to answer in this pilot, so that we are creating the most useful document as possible for each of the communities.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks. Olivier speaking. We've got two minutes left on the call. Alan Greenberg, you're next.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. I just wanted to say, I think this program, the one you've reverted to because of the availability of resources without specific requests, I think is the best thing I've heard out of ICANN in ages, just to address the kind of problem that not only At-Large has, but certainly many parts of the GNSO, the GAC, that is, you bring new people in and the learning curve is so steep, the history is so deep, that it is almost impossible for new people to get involved in it.

You're addressing, in these four, and hopefully with the gTLD one, the critical areas that people are just... They're sinking in the water right now, and we cannot get new people involved. It's not only At-Large, it's also many parts of the GNSO, and certainly any of the more general areas of ICANN.

As I've said before, if these documents are half-decent, and I'm not being derogatory, I'm just saying, if they do a reasonable job and are not buried, I think they're going to be one of the better resources we have to getting new people involved in our processes, and we, much larger than At-Large.

So just a vote of thanks.

DANIEL O'NEILL:

Dan O'Neill speaking. Thank you very much for that. You know, we actually think this is going to be a valuable resource as well. I am very pleased that we got two excellent writers to produce these, and I think, you know, their background with ICANN, their background with these issues, coupled with the feedback that we were able to get from you and other communities, will absolutely produce a valuable document.

And then I am committed to working with ICANN staff to ensure that, you know, one, they have pushed out all the key [inaudible] in a manner that everybody receives them, and that they are not buried.

So, hopefully, if we all kind of take up our different tasks here, we can make this a truly valuable contribution.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Thanks very much, Dan. Olivier Crépin-Leblond speaking. And as we're reaching the end of our allocated hour, I just have one more question for you. Four documents, what's your timeline for these to be completed?

DANIEL O'NEILL: Well, I guess if I could just turn it over to Sam and Emily to get their take, but again, what we are looking at is we had a rough deadline of trying to get three drafts out by the end of this calendar year, with the fourth following soon in January. But, if I can turn to Sam first and then Emily for more specifics on timing.

SAM DICKENSON: Hi. It's Sam. Sorry, I was just dealing with an insect. Yeah. I will get two drafts out by the end of the year, but I mean, I suppose it very much depends on the feedback. I don't know how much, I hadn't even spoken to [Jan?] about this. I don't know what the review cycle timing will be like.

But to give you some... I was definitely going to do the internet governance overview before the end of the year, and I'm not sure if ALAC has any ideas of whether they prefer the second or third primer to be also done by the end of the year. I'm flexible. So, if you prefer one over the other, I can get that done, otherwise we'll make the choice separately.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you. Alan Greenberg.

ALAN GREENBERG: Yeah, some of the same people are probably going to be commenting on all of them, so staggering is probably a better move than dumping them all out at the same time. I would allow a good, close to a month or so for comments. People are really busy, and not going to be able to jump on this the moment they get released and turn them around in a week.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, that's great. Thanks Alan. That's the ALAC chair speaking, I gather. So, he's able to speak on behalf of our community. [LAUGHTER] ...be our preference.

So, with all of this, it's two minutes past the top of the hour. I know several of us have to be on another call, immediately now. I would like to thank Dan O'Neill, and Sam Dickenson, and Emily Taylor for being on this call, and for proposing these papers to us.

I think that the response, I guess, here sums up. Let's do it, rather than just do it, which I know is trademarked. But yeah, let's do it, and looking forward to see some of the first results on these papers.

Do keep in mind, though, the comments from Satish, which I think were also shared by other RALOs as well. We really are looking at perhaps some help in drafting some of our own comments as well. I know that might come as something later in the future.

Let's have those issue papers first. Let's see how they come out, and let's see how we can benefit from these. And with this, any other comments, Dan, with your team?

DANIEL O'NEILL:

I don't have any other comments at this point, Olivier. Thank you very much, and absolutely Satish's comments will be kept in mind. That is the focus of the program, so I expect we're going to have, the bulk of our work will focus on particular PDPs, and be able to assist the RALOs in development and response to that.

So, thank you very much for the opportunity, and we're exciting to get started.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Well, thanks Dan. And we're looking forward to hear from you sooner rather than later. In the meantime, thank you everyone for being on the call. This call is now adjourned. Goodbye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]