



Welcome to Los Angeles and thank you for making the considerable time commitment to participate in the fifth Intersessional Meeting of the GNSO Non-Contracted Party House!

This two-day meeting is bringing together over 40 community leaders. It is a healthy mix of veterans and several new participants who will be enjoying their first ICANN meeting experience. I hope you will find it a productive couple of days.

One of the purposes of the meeting is to create the opportunity—outside of the pressures and schedule strains of an ICANN public meeting—to discuss longer-range substantial community issues, build relationships and collaborate with each other on strategic and operational issues that impact your collective communities. I look forward to your active dialogue and a productive exchange of information and ideas.

This “intersessional” meeting concept started as a byproduct of several different meeting requests made by various communities that could not be granted individually and has evolved over time. It builds on successful 2013, 2015, 2016 and 2017 efforts and continues to be a learning experience for us all.

With many different meeting expectations and viewpoints, creating a program agenda has been no small task and we appreciate the goodwill and creative contributions made by several planning volunteers (including Barbara Wanner, Farzaneh Badii, Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen, Steve DelBianco, Renata Aquino Riberio, Joan Kerr, Kiran Malancharuvil, Tony Holmes and Brian Winterfeldt) to make this gathering a productive experience for all.

I hope you will be able to join the group at our evening reception on Friday at 6 p.m. at the Doubletree Westside Hotel on the Terrace for further conversation and networking with your fellow delegates and guests. We have included an invitation for this event in your welcome package.

I encourage you to take full advantage of the discussions, networking and learning while you are here. Please have a productive meeting and I look forward to seeing you on Thursday morning!

Best,

David Olive
Senior Vice President,
Policy Development Support
ICANN