

ICANN

Moderator: Chantelle Doerksen
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8:00 am CT

Maryam Bakoshi: Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. This is the 2018 NCPH Intersessional Discussion call on Tuesday, August 22, 2017, at 1200 UTC. On the call today we have Farzaneh Badii, Greg Shatan, Raoul Plommer, Tapani Tarvainen, Wolf-Ulrich Knoblen. We have apologies from Andrew Mack, and Barbara Wanner. And from staff we have Benedetta Rossi, Chantelle Doerksen, Mary Wong, Ozan Sahin, and myself, Maryam Bakoshi.

I would like to remind all participants to please state your name before speaking, for transcription purposes. Thank you very much, and over to you, Benedetta.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much, Maryam. And more importantly, thank you all for joining today's call. Just for the transcript, my name is Benedetta Rossi, Manager for Policy Support and Community Services.

We also have Mary Wong on the call, and she's a policy director for Policy, and special advisor for Strategic Planning. And Mary will also be supporting the Intersessional meeting preparation, in addition to Ozan Sahin, Chantelle Doerksen and Maryam Bakoshi, who I'm sure you're all familiar with.

First of all I'd like to kick-start just by going over the agenda for today's call. It's mainly an organizational call just to kick-start the planning process.

So after the introduction, we'd like to discuss the Intersessional 2018 dates and location. Some words about the delegate list and upcoming deadline. Roles and responsibilities for staff and the community. And then we'd like to hear some of your input regarding what worked and what didn't in previous Intersessional meetings, followed by any other business and upcoming calls.

First of all before starting, staff was delighted to see there was a majority of leaders from the Non-Contracted Party House who were in favor of holding another Intersessional meeting. And we all look forward to supporting this effort throughout the planning process, and to facilitate another productive face-to-face meeting of the Non-Contracted Party House.

As a reminder, staff will be available throughout the process to support this effort. But this is your meeting, so staff will not be interjecting regarding the program agenda or the specialization of the meeting itself. We're just here to ensure you can focus on the substance of the meeting without have to worry about the logistics.

For balance purposes, as you can see from the beginning of this call, we will strive to hold calls with attendees from each constituency and stakeholder group within the Non-Contracted Party House to ensure that all voices are heard, and that all groups are aware of the planning effort and any new developments.

On that note, please kindly let Chantelle or Maryam know if any additional participants from your groups should be added to this group, so they can do necessary - to make sure that they receive the information for upcoming calls.

I just wanted to review a couple of admin items before we jump into more substantive ones. So in preparation for this planning process, staff has set up a planning mailing list that you can use throughout the planning process and during the meeting itself, to discuss items which are relative to the NCPH Intersessional Meeting.

You should have received a welcome email, flagging that your email address was added to this mailing list. But if not, please let Chantelle or Maryam know. And you should also let them know, obviously, if you require any additional participants from your group to be added to the planning mailing list.

The address is ncph-Intersessional2018@icann.org). And I see that Maryam has added the link to the email address. Thank you very much, Maryam. And please feel free to begin using this email address at your earliest convenience, should you have any further comments to share with the planning group. The mailing list is ready to be used, and it's already free to use.

Staff - and we've also created the skeleton of the NCPH Intersessional wiki space for 2018. And this will be, you know, updated and populated as the planning process continues. Staff will also post the transcripts and recordings of all planning calls in this space, as we previously did for previous iterations of this effort.

And any information relative to the Intersessional meeting will then be populated as we - for example, as the agenda gets drafted, we'll start

populating the various drafts on there. And any documents that are relative the Intersessional meeting will be posted on the wiki space.

As we discussed by email in preparation for this call, this year's planning process actually kick-started slightly differently to other years, since the regular time frame for the Intersessional meeting ended up coinciding with the new efforts enforced by the GNSO Council on their pilot strategic session for GNSO councilors, which will tentatively be held in Los Angeles at the end of January 2018.

Due to this effort, staff asked for input from the NCPH leaders and councilors, since the strategic session for the Council provided the NCPH community an opportunity to hold consecutive meetings, therefore avoiding councilors an additional trip throughout the year between ICANN face-to-face meetings, which can be challenging.

A substantial majority of the NCPH leadership responded in favor of holding the meeting immediately following the GNSO Council strategic session.

And therefore the current dates which are currently penciled in for the Intersessional meeting for 2018 are February 1 and 2, which are a Thursday and a Friday; whereas the GNSO Council will tentatively meet on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday that week. And the meeting location is tentatively set for Los Angeles.

And I see that Wolf-Ulrich posted a question in the chat. I don't believe that the Council meeting dates are finally fixed. I think that that's as far as I was told by the Council support staff, and maybe Mary will have more information about this. I think that they're currently penciled in.

I think that the - both groups, so regarding the Intersessional and the Council dates, were sort of waiting for each other to finalize one set of dates to finalize the other, if that makes sense.

Wolf-Ulrich, I see your hand is up. Please go ahead.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Thanks, Benedetta. Wolf-Ulrich speaking. Well the question was just - because of the question, could it be that both meetings are going to be changed? You know, that ours goes first and then the Council meeting? Is that a possibility or not? That was just my question.

Benedetta Rossi: I'm sorry, Wolf-Ulrich. Your voice was breaking up a little bit. I'm not sure if that was for everybody else. Was your question whether the two dates could be swapped, so for the Intersessional meeting to take place before the Council strategic session? Sorry, was that your question?

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Yes, this was my question.

Benedetta Rossi: I'm not aware of whether that will be possible. Those are the dates, as far as I'm aware, that the Council had brought forward, were the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. But I'm sure that we can liaison with Council support staff if that was the preference for this group.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Okay, thanks.

Benedetta Rossi: Okay. Thank you very much, Wolf-Ulrich. And we're also - I just wanted to flag and thank you Farzaneh for bringing this forward on the mailings or on the email list.

Now we're aware of the concerns expressed about updating a US visa for some travelers, which is also why we're - we've actually started this planning process much earlier than usual for the Intersessional meeting, to ensure that we can secure the necessary meeting space, which might or might not be the ICANN office in LA. That's pending the set-up of the Intersessional meeting, and notably the breakout rooms which your groups might require.

And starting the planning process earlier will also allow us to inform senior staff, whose participation might be requested by the NCPH group, to confirm their availability to attend the Intersessional as required, and obviously allow you more time for the planning process of the overall program planning for the meeting, and begin the travel arrangement process for the approved travelers as soon as possible.

We're aware that some groups are holding elections which might affect the submission of the complete delegate list to the Intersessional meeting. But if possible, once these dates are confirmed, it would be great if you could start submitting your names. It doesn't matter if you don't have full delegate lists, but it would be really good if we could start compiling the list as early as possible, just to ensure that there's enough time for visas.

This will basically allow constituency travel to have - to make travel arrangements with supported travelers prior to Christmas and the New Year break, and avoid potential delays which would ultimately impact the visa process and the per diem process.

And having liaised with them, our constituency travel team, regarding this point, the date - the sort of final cut-off date that the constituency travel team requested, just in preparation for potential February 1 and 2 dates, would be

Monday, October 30, with the exception of groups who are holding elections after that time.

And as far as that impacts the Business Constituency. I'm not sure. I don't think any other groups should be holding elections after this. Okay, yeah, you're right. Sorry, I've forgotten about the NCUC.

Yeah, so Farzaneh, was that for - the results will be posted in early November. Is that correct? It would be good if you could - perfect. That's not too bad. I mean, the bottom line is basically if we can have the bulk of the traveler database finalized in advance, it will just facilitate the process.

And the ICANN meetings team and the constituency travel team are already aware of these penciled in dates and location. And as soon as they're finalized and confirmed by this group, they will begin to set up the invitation letter Websites so delegates can begin to start the visa process.

In terms of the delegate list, this is similar to the previous years. So just as a reminder, each group will be supported for seven delegates per group. And that includes obviously on the screen, the BC, ISPCP, IPC, NCUC, NPOC and NCSG.

And typically the house invited the voting NCAs for the Non-Contracted Party House, and the non-voting NCA. In this case it would be Julf Helsingius and Erika Mann, like last year. Of course this is a decision for the group to take during the planning process. I just thought I'd remind you in case you were wondering what was typically done in previous years.

Let's just pause for a moment...

Chantelle Doerksen: Hi, this is Chantelle. Can you hear me?

Mary Wong: Yes, we can hear you, Chantelle. This is Mary.

Chantelle Doerksen: Hi, Mary. Thank you.

Mary Wong: And I see in chat that Benedetta says she's dropped, and she will be dialing back in. So just - let's give her a moment.

While she's doing that, Wolf-Ulrich, you had noted earlier that you wanted a few minutes to talk about ICANN 60, and we know that you do need to drop at some point before the call is scheduled to end. Would you like to address that topic while we wait for Benedetta?

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Oh, yes. Thanks. Thanks, Mary. This is Wolf-Ulrich speaking. It's just a short item, because we also in the stakeholder groups are preparing for ICANN 60. And NCSG, we have several calls, constituency calls, stakeholder group meetings. And you'll recall that we had also some - well in different ways - well meetings or gatherings with the NCSG.

So the question here is - so how would the NCSG - is there an interest here to have a kind of meeting or social gathering or whatever in which form, together with the CSG at ICANN 60. And then we could move forward as well in trying to organize that. So that's my question, yeah?

I see somebody, so (Faz)i she likes the idea. And just to get an idea about that also. Yes, Tapani.

So okay, so then let's do the following. In the next coordination meeting of NCSG, we fix that and we try out towards ICANN. I don't know who is

responsible for all of this - you know, from our side it should be, Chantelle, also to dig into ICANN with regards to the schedule to find a slot. Maybe in the evening we have just a - to find a slot, a social gathering.

So I understand from your side it's more about a social gathering like - or do we have NCSG's side, specifically items to talk about. If that is the case, then we have it more formally. Mary, your hands are up?

Mary Wong: Yes. I was just going to say that once you have the potential date and time - and say it'd probably be helpful to pick one - or actually more than one possible slot. And then we can let Chantelle and Maryam know, or one of them.

Because what's happening in terms of planning for the schedule for ICANN 60 is that all our staff are trying to coordinate the meetings as between the GNSO working group, the Council, and of course each of the stakeholder groups and constituencies, and all that being done in light of the overall block schedule that I understand has been more or less finalized.

So there may be a few slots, but the sooner that you can get some possible dates and times to Chantelle and Maryam, the easier it'll be to schedule it.

And they will probably have the information as to - if you want to have it in the evening, for example, which evenings might be difficult, for example, because I know there are some plans for possibly a gala. And there is certainly a plan for a farewell to Steve Crocker. So there may be two evenings already taken up.

So hopefully that's helpful, and I'll hand it back to you and Benedetta. Thank you.

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben: Thanks. Wolf-Ulrich speaking. So I appreciate that. So we will move forward that from the CSG side and contact with the NCSG. Thanks very much. So back to Benedetta. Thank you.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much, Wolf-Ulrich. And my apologies for dropping earlier. So I think that I cut off right before asking whether you had any thoughts about these - the dates and the location, so that we can - once these are finalized we could move forward with the more substantive portion of the planning process.

I know that some of you have expressed your being in favor, tentatively, for these dates and location by email. But I just wanted to double-check now that we're all together on the call.

Thank you, Farzaneh, just for the transcript of (unintelligible). Farzaneh on the chat is saying that she thought the location and dates were agreed.

It wasn't really finalized. It was sort of, at least from the staff's perspective, we had them penciled in. As I said, we had noted that the majority of the house was in favor, but we just wanted to make sure everyone was comfortable with this before we properly finalized them and moved forward.

Farzaneh, I see your hand is up. Please go ahead.

Farzaneh Badii: Thank you, Benedetta. Farzaneh Badii speaking. I just want to note that NCUC - some of the NCUC members were not okay with holding the meeting in the US. And I had (to encourage the) majority of the leaders say that it was okay to hold it in the US, then it's a done deal.

So I don't think I have any other influence on the decision. I just wanted to relay what the NCUC - some of the NCUC members think about holding the event in the US. And if we could wrap it up today and actually agree on the location or finalize the location and date, so that I can just inform the NCUC members that we went with this decision to hold it in the US.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much, Farzaneh. Obviously I'm very cognizant of the fact that some of the NCUC members weren't in favor. And we hope that, I guess, the - if everybody else is in favor, that the pros will outweigh the cons in the end, and by doing this obviously will facilitate the travel for councilors, not having to travel twice.

And more importantly, I know that a lot of you have sort of flagged, even in previous iterations of this meeting, the importance of actually moving with ICANN senior staff as well. And obviously having it in Los Angeles will make it much more easier - much easier, sorry, to actually accommodate this.

The meeting in Iceland last year didn't make it very easy to have participation by senior staff, which seemed to (unintelligible) items that came out even from the poll that we took after the meeting.

Farzaneh, I see your hand is up. Please go ahead.

Farzaneh Badii: I'm sorry, Benedetta. I made the amateurish mistake of keeping it up. I don't have any further comments.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much. I see that Tapani and Raoul are noting that LA seems okay, and that Joan was also okay with it, and that the date seems good.
Okay.

Yeah, and obviously this is not set in stone for future Intersessional meetings. And as Tapani's saying, you know, maybe the next one could be outside of the US.

I mean the new meeting strategy, even for additional meetings -- there aren't just the ICANN face-to-face meetings -- we are trying to - I mean the strategy is to try and hold them where ICANN offices are, just because it just makes it more cost-effective and easier to organize, since we'll have the equipment very close. If it's not actually held in the office, it'll be very close to the office.

And we tend to have better rates, obviously, for neighboring hotels and meeting spaces. And that'll allow a little bit more flexibility when it comes to the actual travel. And if you decide that you'd like to hold a reception, that'll be easier to achieve.

Okay, well if nobody is against these dates, I guess that we can go ahead and confirm them. You know, from our end, we'll make sure that we kick-start the internal process to actually identify the venue, see if it can be held in the ICANN office, or if it should be held in a different location close to the office. And we'll keep you posted of any development on that front.

Okay, so we've actually already gone through the delegate list, so a reminder then. The deadline for the submission of the travelers is October 30. Obviously if you have elections, as we discussed earlier, please try to submit them - submit your traveler names as soon as possible once you have them, just to make sure that we don't have any issues with visas. That's the key.

And please don't wait to have a complete delegate list. If you even have two names, please send them to your secretary, post to Chantelle or Maryam, and

we can start compiling them and submitting them to constituency travel as we have them. That'll just make everything easier.

In terms of roles and responsibilities throughout the process, I'm saying this mainly for those of you who are new to this. Obviously staff is here to support all of the logistics and coordination for this meeting.

And we'll be liaising with other ICANN departments as necessary -- so the meetings team, constituency travel team, and others as required, whereas community leaders taking part in the planning process will be able to focus on the actual program planning, and the facilitation of the Intersessional meeting discussion, including identifying the topics for discussion.

It'll be great if you can start brainstorming regarding potential topics for discussion during the two-day meeting, so that obviously the earlier that you've done, the more prep work can be conducted in preparation for the meeting, which I think was one of the items that was flagged by participants in the last two meetings, noting that this was potentially something that could be improved.

I note that also that Farzaneh had shared on the - via email that some of her feedback at least was that attendees for the meeting should be included in the planning process much earlier.

So again, that goes hand-in-hand with the submission obviously of the delegate list. So if and when you know who's going to be on - a delegate, please let us know, and obviously they'll be able to join the planning calls as you see fit, to make sure that everyone is aware of what's going on and what the topics are for the actual meeting.

Tapani, I see that your hand is up, so I'll just pause and turn it over to you.

Tapani Tarvainen: Yes, just wanted to point out that NCSG elections are going on right now. We'll have the results by September 4. And I will not be the chair at the time of the Intersessional. I don't know who will be.

But I expect to have some new people in this planning group pretty much immediately after the election. I think my successor and possibly some of the new councilors, I will ask each one of them if some of them want to be participating in this planning. And then so whenever we have the next call, chances are there will be somebody new from NCSG.

Benedetta Rossi: Great. Thank you very much for flagging this, Tapani.

And also obviously regarding the actually program planning, you may use the mailing list if you have potential topics to brainstorm. And staff will aggregate them in preparation for the next call.

Since this is just the introductory call for the planning of the upcoming meeting, we wanted to actually see if you had any input about what worked and what didn't on previous Intersessional meetings, just so we can bear that in mind in preparation for the upcoming meeting.

Does anybody have any thoughts about what you would like to see improved, or what you actually really liked about the previous meeting?

Yes, thank you, Wolf-Ulrich. You saw that we had some responses from attendees, but we didn't actually get many responses. We just thought we'd ask if you had any further thoughts. And I see that Steve DelBianco has also joined us. Welcome, Steve. Steve, your hand is up. Please go ahead.

Steve DelBianco: Yeah, thank you. Apologies for being delayed at joining the call. We had back-to-school dramas here at my house today. I know it feels like summer in the north, but back to school.

You asked about what worked and didn't work. I'll offer two thoughts. I thought it was the best Intersessional we'd ever had before, primarily because of the preparation, staff-assisted preparation, because we went in with subjects, topics, and presentations that were done by members of commercial and non-commercial, and jointly.

And I thought that that forced a consensus and raised the level of discussion. So the joint presentations, with advanced preparation, would have been a highlight.

I thought that a disappointment was that having it in Iceland meant that we were nowhere near ICANN senior management. And the telephone connection with Goran, frankly doesn't work. It was good to have Jamie there, but I think it's going to be essential to be somewhere close, that certain aspects of ICANN senior management can participate in person. I think that's the only way it works better. Thank you.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much, Steve, for providing input. Just to recap, we just went through the actual potential meeting dates and location. And everybody was in favor of holding the meeting in Los Angeles on February 1 and 2.

Exactly - we're taking into account also what you just mentioned, which was the need for potential participation of ICANN senior management, and I'm with you that it wasn't possible in Iceland. I'm glad that you brought that up.

Farzaneh, please go ahead.

Woman: Benedetta, if I'm not mistaken, a couple of days before the Intersessional, the GNSO councilors are going to have a strategic meeting, if that's what it's called. I don't know.

But I thought that perhaps we could be more involved, kind of like bridge the gap between the two groups, and see what they're going - what they want to bring, because these councilors afterwards are going to come to the Intersessional meeting.

So what these councilors are going to discuss, and what they want to bring to the Intersessional to discuss with the wider range of group without making it a Council-oriented meeting - so in our planning, I think it would be good to know what this other group's doing in their planning, if that's starting.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much, Farzaneh. Mary, please go ahead.

Mary Wong: Thanks very much, Benedetta. And thanks very much, Farzaneh. This is Mary from staff.

So by way of background, the Council's strategic planning session, as I think it's called, this is the first time that they're going to be doing it in this fashion. Wolf-Ulrich and others may remember that it used to have a planning meeting for the new Council the day immediately following the AGM at the end of the year.

So this is a similar concept. But because they have a little bit more time, my expectation as staff support is that they will probably have a fuller agenda. Having it be the first time that they're doing it, they're recognizing that it is

supposed to be a session where the new Council then has to work closer together. Again, my expectation as staff support is that the program will likely be something that the entire Council will discuss.

So the suggestion that we would have at this point from the staff side is for each group to let your councilors know what issues you think you may wish to discuss or have discussed by the Council.

And certainly for this planning group, for the NCPH meeting that's going to take place immediately after that, is as a planning group - and given that we're looking at program planning by this group, it probably will also be helpful to get suggestions to the Council as well. And again as with everything else, earlier rather than later. Thanks, Farzaneh.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much, Mary. And thank you, Farzaneh, for bringing this up.

Great. Well that was actually the last item that we had for discussion. We still have some time today, so by all means if you would like to start brainstorming on what potential - if you have any ideas on what potential topics you foresee might be useful for you to present during the Intersessional meeting, this would be a great moment to bring them forward.

Another question for the team to think about is whether you would like to have the NCA delegates join the delegates list for the Intersessional meeting. And if so, staff can start reaching out to them, just confirming the dates and seeing if they're available to join.

And equally if you already have any thoughts about potential ICANN senior staff that you would like to see join the NCPH during any of the plenaries,

please let us know so that we can, again, reach out to them and just confirm the dates, and see if they are available during those dates.

I see that Steve on the chat has noted that he thinks it would make sense to include the NCA. Thank you very much, Steve, for noting that.

And is anybody opposed to including the NCAs? Otherwise we can take it as an action item to reach out to them after this call. Steve, please go ahead.

Steve DelBianco: Yeah, thank you. It's Steve DelBianco. One helpful presence in Iceland were the board of directors' members from the organizational effectiveness committee.

And they have particular focus on the organizational reviews, such as the GNSO review that ICANN conducts once every five years. We're actually right around the corner from that review. And if you recall from Iceland, we were keenly interested in what the scope of that review would be; the terms of reference that are put out.

And I realize that the commercial and non-commercial may have different views about how well the current split house structure works. But we did seem united at the idea that we'd like the organizational effectiveness committee to look to the GNSO to help to define the terms of reference for the organizational review itself. And there seemed to be willingness to do that.

So I would like to do two suggestions. One is that we have that among the topics, is the organization review that's coming up next year. And then that to the extent that - any board members or senior staff that support the organizational effectiveness committee try to be present at the meeting, if possible.

And I would ask that staff, who's probably made some progress developing the standards, the operational standards for organizational reviews, be able to circulate those standards in advance of the meeting. That isn't something that's as visible on the Website as it probably will be one day when it's complete. But even interim, operational standards would help to seed the discussion.

I wouldn't say we would need them until probably January. That would be soon enough. But if staff would take a to-do item for that, we'd appreciate seeing what the latest operational standards are for the organizational reviews. Thank you.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much, Steve. I see that Mary's hand is up. Please go ahead, Mary.

Mary Wong: Thanks, Benedetta. And thanks, Steve, for that suggestion. We definitely noted it as a potential agenda item and as an action item for us to contact senior staff and the others you mentioned.

So I just wanted to add a couple of notes here for folks' information. I think that at ICANN 60, more cross-community sessions that have been approved is the organizational standard for specific reviews. So in terms of timeliness, Steve, as you noted, and circulating whatever the draft standards in that form by January, that seems to be very timely.

The other point that I wanted to note is that I believe there may be changes in the Board commitments again, because of the AGM that will be taking place at ICANN 60.

So from the staff side, we will also take as an action item to monitor who may be appointed to the OEC, and if they're going to be available either in person in Los Angeles, or potentially by phone if that will work. But of course that depends on the scheduling from this committee, too.

So just two notes, and hopefully that's helpful. Thanks, Benedetta.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much, Mary.

Steve DelBianco: Mary, it's Steve...

((Crosstalk))

Steve DelBianco: ...in the chat. You mentioned the specific reviews. And, Mary, I'm pretty sure that specific reviews are the former Affirmation of Commitment Reviews that were brought into the by-laws. But I'm not sure if it includes the organizational reviews that have been in the by-laws since the beginning.

Benedetta Rossi: Great. So that's another action item for us on staff and we'll double-check on that one and report back to the group. Thank you very much for bringing that up, Steve.

Does anybody else have any further comments regarding potential topics or potential either staff members, who should be invited to the Intersessional meeting so far? I know that it's really early in the process, but if you already have something in mind, as Steve just mentioned, it just helps in the planning effort.

And thank you very much, Wolf-Ulrich. I see that you've flagged the process on the Board seat election. That's a great topic which seems to be a recurring

one on the Intersessional meeting. So that's great. We'll add that to the list of potential agenda items. Thank you very much.

And yes, as Mary was saying in the chat, we're recording it with the colleagues who are supporting the organizational reviews, like the GNSO review, and from the MSSSI department. And some of them are based in LA, as Mary wrote.

Thank you very much for joining, Wolf-Ulrich.

And I see that Greg noted that maybe we can make progress on the Board seat 14 process in advance of the Intersessional. And Tapani is in agreement.

And obviously, I mean, the earlier you can start finalizing agenda items - if the agenda is finalized in advance of the actual meeting, some of the planning - the final planning calls could actually be used to try and populate the - go a little bit further rather than just having identified the topics, but actually trying to start a little bit of prep work for the agenda items, which I think - what Greg had noted last year as something that he wanted to see as an improvement in the process.

And I don't think that we somewhat managed to achieve that last year, just because of time constraints.

As we started earlier this year, hopefully we'll be able to do that more and include more attendees, more of the actual delegates, in the planning process.

Otherwise, while you're thinking about other potential items for discussion, I just wanted to ask for the next call, would you like to start meeting bi-weekly or weekly moving forward? I don't think that we typically held calls every

week. And if so, we can - staff will set up a Doodle just to identify a recurring time, since the Doodle was only for today's call, so we won't be able to take that into account for standing calls.

I'll just pause here. I see that Greg has his hand up. Please go ahead, Greg.

Greg Shatan: Thanks. Greg Shatan for the record. First to respond to the question you just raised, I think bi-weekly is good for now.

Second, I'd also like to put in a hearty support for advance preparation, and as Steve DelBianco mentioned a bit earlier, preparation in terms of substantive work, not just the logistics. And, you know, topics are great. Even better is some sort of advance progress on the topics, so that the conversation can kind of be advanced a bit before the - or maybe more than a bit before the Intersessional.

I think also the Intersessionals, I think, have been most successful when people have been most engaged and kind of able, capable, willing to commit as much as, you know, any group of delegates can commit to outcomes. If it just becomes a chat without any possibility of even, you know, bringing back outcomes to respective groups, that doesn't work nearly as well.

I think we've had some that have felt very much like we've made progress within the Intersessional; others that have felt like we didn't get much traction. I prefer the ones where we have progress personally.

So I think we need to look both at trying to do substantive work in advance of the Intersessional, which - and trying to be decisional at the Intersessional.

And, of course, doing the prep work in advance helps, since you'll then have some ability to get your views from your constituencies and stakeholder groups in advance, and be more prepared to be - to say - well obviously it's hard to be decisional in a bottom-up system where there's no advance prep on top.

It's obviously we want to be improvisational as well. And if something is hot at the moment, we're not going to have a deadline. But by and large, the more we can do to be - to be in kind of a momentum, as opposed to an inertia, stage, would be better. Thank you.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much from the feedback, Greg. And we'll definitely take that into account toward the planning process.

I'll just pause for a moment, just to see if anybody else has anything further that they'd like to add about anything that we discussed today about the location, the dates, the program. And you have a deadline.

Otherwise, what we will do is after this call, staff will circulate some of the notes for the - in preparation for the next meeting. And we'll circulate a Doodle poll so that we can identify a standing call to hold bi-weekly meetings, and we'll move forward.

And I guess quite early in the process we can probably start in two weeks' time, if everyone's comfortable with that, and then kick off some bi-weekly calls, if that works for everybody.

Okay, I don't hear - I don't see any hands up and I don't hear anybody else jumping in the queue to add any further comments. So I will give you back ten minutes of your time today following a very productive call, where we've

actually finalized - I think this is considered an Intersessional meeting record, where we finalized the meeting dates and the location on the first call.

So thank you all very much for joining, and for the very productive call. I look forward to speaking to you in two weeks' time.

END