Transcription ICANN Beijing Meeting

Non For-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency (NPOC) meeting

Tuesday 9 April 2013 at 09:00 local time

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Man: Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. That's what I was saying when I arrived in Beijing by the way. So welcome to the open constituency day meeting of the NPOC in Beijing, ICANN 46.

And we will start the recording I guess and maybe starting with you could we have some introductionS please.

Lara Pace: Hi, good morning, my name is Lara Pace, I work for the COMNET Foundation. We're the secretariats of the commonwealth IGF and the commonwealth cybercrime initiative. Good morning.

(Ying Sing Lee):   Good morning, I'm (Ying Sing Lee) from (Konec), one of the sponsors for this ICANN Beijing meeting and an observer today, thank you.

Vanda Scartezini: I'm Vanda Scartezini, I'm from Brazil and I'm a member of the nomination committee this year.

Adam Peake: Adam Peake and I'm a member of the nominating committee this year, thank you.

Olof Nordling: Olof Nordling, ICANN staff and supporter of non-com and other things.

Joette Youkhanna: Joette Youkhanna, non-com staff, staff support non-com and ICANN staff.

(Anama Lee):   (Anama Lee) from Jordan, ICANN staff.

Poncelet Illeleji: Poncelet Illeleji, vice chair program committee NPOC.

(Lange Porter):   (Lange Porter), I'm a chair of the non-com this year.

(Louie Uld):   (Louie Uld), president of ISOD Quebec, (naralol) member at large advisory committee member.

Klaus Stoll: Klaus Stoll, NPOC and (Karl Malone's) partnership foundation.

Bill Manning: Bill Manning, member of the non-com representing RSAC and Adam would you turn that microphone off? The other one.

Cheryl Langdon-Orr: Cheryl Langdon-Orr, chair elective non-com and obviously hopefully chair of (unintelligible) next year.

Marie Laure Lemineur: Good morning, Marie Laure Lemineur, chair of program committee NPOC.

(Ollie Jacobsen):   (Ollie Jacobsen), I'm also a member of the non-com from the ITF IAB.

(Beryl Glen):   (Beryl Glen), I'm representing the information technology association of Gambia, I'm also a second time coming.

Dan York: Dan York, internet society staff working on the program related to DN SSAC and IPV6.

Glen McKnight: Morning, my name is Glen McKnight, I'm one of the non-com parachute, and today but I'm with the new formed ISAW Canada, (Narelo) and I do run a foundation as well. Thank you.

Cintra Sooknanan: Good morning, Cintra Sooknanan and (balthai) share and (unintelligible) chapter member.

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much, this is Alain Berranger, we are going to hear from non-com and I'll turn it over to you.

Man: Thank you very much, good morning and thank you for letting us here. We have two main messages to - one is to tell you that we need good candidates for all positions that are open this year and the other message is that non-com is no black box.

Not any more at least. Even so it seems to have that sort of reputation. So for the first one, as you know this year the nominating committee will appoint two directors to the board, two GNSO - three, I'm sorry three board directors, two GNSO councilors and one for the ccNSO council and three for the ALAC.

These three this time will come one from Africa, one from Asia, Australia, Pacific Islands region and one from Latin America Caribbean region.

The - we want people who are - have high integrity, are good - when it comes to the board have experience from that sort of position before roughly in the same kind of environment.

ICANN is you know same size of either corporation, other organizations, university, public sector organization, whatever. And who have experience from working in a multi stakeholder environment with a bottom up policy development processes.

All this - one of the qualities, I think we're looking for qualities and skills that are pretty much usual for this type of position but I would add a couple of things when it comes to especially people on the board but also for all levels actually.

One is that this is the motivation, why are people volunteering for ICANN work for this kind of things, it's not for money, there's either money or very little money involved.

The motivation has to be passion. I think that (Fahde) has been using this word many times already and I think that there is something in there. I mean you have to have this passion for the internet, passion for ICANN.

And passion for working for the benefit of all mankind because that's what internet is for. The other thing is a more difficult word which it's a real English language word, it's transposability.

It's in the dictionary but I haven't invented it myself, but anyway what it means is ability to work in different cultural linguistic surroundings. It's like a musician who is certain to place his melody in C major but he's also able to transpose it to F sharp.

And so basically we look for people who are able to try to change the key in various surroundings, environments but still play their own melody.

And this is to my mind this is really one of the key elements of making ICANN more international and making its leadership more international and more varied.

Now as far as the non-com is concerned we have this reputation of being that black box, like you know sort of - like those people who elected the pope and then the white smoke comes out.

And nobody knows why, we are - this present non-com is very resolute with trying to get rid of that image.

Because of course there has to be strict confidentiality about names. That is the - that has not changed and will not change because otherwise nobody would apply if their names would be open in the public domain.

But otherwise a non-com should meet the high standards of ICANN for transparency and openness. That's in our Toronto meeting we decided on a very simple slogan, the process is open but data is confidential.

And how we actually implement it is that we already have started two things, basically there is a monthly report card issued to constituencies by non-com members.

I mean it's a report card that is drafted collectively but then every member of the non-com is responsible for informing his or her constituency about what's going on, using this report card as a basis.

And the reception has been quite good. The other thing is that our meetings are open, there are - one meeting was yesterday, the meeting of the sub committee for outreach and today at 5:00 we have the first ever I believe open non-com meeting, formal meeting in room 5BC.

And welcome all of you. So basically this is what I wanted to say and once more to repeat the basic message, we need good candidates. Please apply, please tell those acquaintances of you whom you think that would make good leaders in ICANN. Thank you.

Man: Thank you very much.

Man: Actually if any of the - if we have time any of our members or chair, or chair elect would you like to say?

Cheryl Langdon-Orr: Thank you very much for the opportunity, Cheryl Langdon-Orr again, one of the reasons I'm excited to be in this room right now is because it's the NPOC.

I mean this is a new sector being able to be brought in to that wonderful fabric we're trying to build with all these threads called the multi stakeholder modeling ICANN.

But from a nominating committee point of view, what's very important is two fold. First if all in my totally biased view you have access to exactly the right level of the executive and experienced board members and leaders in policy development in your own sectors, because of who you all are.

You are probably one of the prime resource areas and we want to make sure that you appreciate that we see you as a prime resource area, that plays approaches, if you need outreach material we will find ways to get you outreach material.

If you know three or more people are gathered together and you spot someone who has the skill sets and talent for all of these layers and remembers those ACs and the SO appointments are absolutely vital.

And I think it would do your sector of organization within ICANN a great deal of good to be actively involved. But it would also do your sector as NPOC being equally well advancing in internet governance more generally.

The one thing that bothers me and I'm sure it bothers you so let's get the elephant out and look at it for a moment, is that how the nominating committee is functionally formed is a whole bunch of representational roles and a few non-voters like us three put in from above.

And more than us three, you do not have a seat at that table yet. So you actually have a communication gap and I think what's important as (Uriel) was saying with this report card is that we make sure we get our report card out to you in some way, shape or form.

Otherwise we're not being transparent to you. So if you can make sure that Joette has an email address where our report card goes to you and then we know you are being continually brought into the loop.

And of course the other thing is you should feel absolutely free to look at whoever is in the nominating committee, we're easy to identify with these red lanyards.

But our contact is easy to find. If you've got talent and you just want to talk, what do you think about this person from the Hong Kong Singapore bank or whatever, please, we're open, just call us.

And it's more important in this room than just about any other room we're going to go to today in my biased view anyway. Thank you.

Man: Thank you very much. I would actually like to echo what Cheryl just said, if there - a lot of what ICANN is built on and a lot of what the internet is built on is personal relationships.

And the ability to communicate and feel comfortable talking with individuals. From people that I have spoke with that have been in ICann for now a decade or more and I sat down with them yesterday.

And we talked a little bit about how the non-com works and about how some internet technologies work and they were ignorant about how some of this stuff interacted.

And so we were able to discuss these things one on one without a lot of stigma attached with well I don't want to ask stupid questions.

So please come and talk one on one with anyone on the non-com if you have questions and if we can't figure out between the two of us or the three of us the answers, we can find those answers.

And everybody is improved by better knowledge and understanding so please come talk to us.

Man: Well thank you very much for this crisp and clear presentation. I'll open it up for questions from NPOC colleagues and other observers in the room. Poncelet?

Poncelet Illeleji: Yeah Poncelet Illeleji, program committee vice chair NPOC. Thank you very much for your presentation and your openness, compliments to NPOC.

And one thing that I've noticed within the nomination committee in terms of agenda and diversity, I try to look at those issues very well but another suggestion or comment I would like to see how you perceive it is in the sense of the new generation leaders, especially from developing countries.

Because what is currently the trend if we look at Africa for example, my continent you discover that and this also applies to the Middle East that is the people in courts that have been running the show that are still there.

You know so - and I always try to use the TRM of what is called the Origin of Species by Charles Darwin. So they have not been able to adapt to these changes that is occurring and that is very - has been very blunt.

What I feel happy (unintelligible) (Youngblood) here, I can see (Beber) and I can see (Inam) which are from these countries and I like to see what

mechanism non-com will use to be able to attract these new generation leaders who are out there and are coming on.

Some of them are born within this digital age that we can get on board because they will really make a difference to ICANN. Thank you.

Man: Thank you very much, before you answer the question, let's see if we can have other questions and maybe take a broader answer to it if you're okay with that.

Now there may not be other questions although I do reserve the right for a question at one point as the chair, so any questions to follow up on Poncelet? So let me share with you a broader dimension of this.

There's two elements of it. The first one was that I was brought in to NPOC at a time of crisis. And I did not understand how (Debbie) got appointed to the GNSO but what I heard for the first six months was there were two types of appointments to GNSO.

Those were elected by the non-commercial stakeholder's group and the others. And this of course at that time stuck for me so I wanted to - I now understand better thanks to a long conversation with Adam at some God forsaken time for both of us.

And thank you for clearing that out for me Adam. The second point is that - and this has occurred progressively but seriously since the first meeting between the what I would call the new and at my age calling the new is not necessarily the right term.

But it was the right term between the old leadership and the current leadership of NCSG and ourselves and the - Costa Rica and I don't want to delve into history but the Costa Rica meeting was a tough meeting because there was no trust.

And we had the board breathing down on us, we had very little resources, the reasons we were there was because we had a future member of NPOC flyers there.

We recruited Marie Law at the time and we wanted to make sure that they understood that we were going to be for real. And of course we weren't taken for real.

And there were - but we plowed along, we signed peace agreements, we broke peace agreement, leadership changed but over the time, and it's only been what, San Jose was just March last year.

And in - at the intercessional meeting in LA at the end of January with the new leadership of NCUC and there was nothing wrong with the previous leadership we were able to take out the last remaining elements.

Those elements you know were new to me because I had discovered them after the fact where yes, large NGO's, mostly Americans, not only Americans but coming from the IT trademark level, were in fact penetrating the non-commercial here.

And it has become clear to me that the motivation was that, was intellectual property trademark association and when I accepted to take the mandate it was because I had spent all my life in international development, a rare situation where I came out of school and went to work the world.

And so I decided I was either going to quit there or not and I decided not to, and we were able in LA to resolve some issues and build some trust and it took I'm quite pleased really although I'm totally biased about this, that we were able to do it quite fast.

And suddenly things we were asking from NCSG, banging our fist on the table, we weren't getting any answers now are getting done without us asking again.

And is it durable, is the question I'm asked, I'm asked of that by ICANN management, by future prospects, by board members and the - my answer is that this is the robust piece, it doesn't mean we're always going to get along.

And we still have fundamental discussions about why is there the necessity to have a group in non-commercial that caters to individuals and corporations, so 89 corporations on the NCUC and 34 corporations only in NPOC.

And I'm not sure that breakdown is necessary. I've always felt that this may be solved by others that other than us but your guess is probably better than mine.

So what I wanted to share with you now that we understand the non-com process and the rules is we are at a very critical stage. We are running 2013 elections and we are missing two - we only have one position which is coming under competition, the position of vice chair.

And then we have the position of membership and position of communications despite the fact that our membership will grow now without any undue barriers.

The question comes to us and we really need some guideline on this is are we going to take our left hand out to bring some relatively rare people that we need to grow NPOC and say come on now, Poncelet or others please go ahead and not that we have any influence on that per se.

But we do have moral situation on that sense. So we need some guidance on that and I'm sorry I took a long road to explain this but I think it was important

because you reverberate throughout the organization and I wanted you to understand that.

Man: So I would like to first of all if I may - my name is Bill Manning with non-com and my question has to do with bringing young people on board.

I will tell you right now that I am a young person. There are people who are older than me and they need to die off so that there's room for me to grow into those positions.

And if you ask my children, they're going to say yes, you're already half dead you need to go away so that we can grow right?

The point being that this is an organic evolutionary kind of activity. It's difficult to actually nail the Jello to the wall and have it stick.

What we have seen from non-com in the past is we have seen a number of very successful candidates come into the non-com process who are in their 20s, who are excelled at new - relatively new areas of in this case intellectual property law.

Because that's an emerging discipline which there's not a lot of history so we welcome the good quality candidates regardless of age. Again because this is in the - an organic and an emergent activity and NPOC is as you say at this critical juncture of growth.

We can help guide, but we can't pick from a vacant pool. You have to fill the pool and tell us what your criteria are so that we can pick the best people from the pool that you create.

So you need to help us fill that pool.

Man: Thank you very much for that advice.

Cheryl Langdon-Orr: Can I? Cheryl Langdon-Orr, just on that question in particular that I will address yours as well. This is something that is recognized in any numbers of layers, in a number of - not just ICANN substructures but the ISTAR area.

And it's something that is being addressed and can I say it's hastening slowly but it is actually in a forward going direction. An example of which and by giving this example I'm also going to perhaps put focus on a problem with this as well, is that there is a children in IC movement that's happening throughout this meeting here today, sorry this meeting this week.

And myself, so I'll be taking a very non-com focus with them because that's the hat I'm wearing and a whole lot of other inadvertent commerce leaders within the ICANN community being shadowed.

And you know we've got people following us around and they're doing mock board meetings and all the things that they should do to do that. The problem is, it's running in parallel, not properly integrated with the ICANN meetings.

So that's something that you as part of ICANN itself should be saying hang on, we need this and we need it to be part thereof. We can talent pick from that puddle providing they put themselves into that puddle but they're not going to have run 100 subordinates.

They won't have managed large departments in the main, they probably won't have just had the budget experience or the fiduciary experience or the corporations and governance training experience that they need for some of our positions.

But the rich are ripe for the picking and if you think about it you could actually develop a very good not for profit corporate governance experience bit by being involved as perhaps a non-com appointee.

As an under 25 year old on to the GNSO or the ccNSO, so there's a huge opportunity is what I'm saying but we do have to get the outreach. So if any of your organizations are interesting with the youth in action in your regions, countries and nations can I suggest that we can always get material to you to try and spread our tendrils further.

They have to be in the puddle for us to pick from and not everyone gets the experience that matches any given year and please all of you make a note of that.

Any given year, the receiving bodies will tell us what they want. They may want someone with very particular legal or financial experience. They may want someone with particular geographic bases. They may want someone with something else, you know only wear pink.

It doesn't matter, that filter is what operates that year. So year in and year out that may also change as well. Thank you. Just coming back to your question and I need to make a declaration, I am an independent member of the NCSG and I refuse to join any subunit thereof.

Okay, so I should declare that first because that's just the way I walk. I'm delighted to hear that your decision is to succeed but you only have to look back very short ten years to see the at large advisory committee and the at large community of ALS's in an almost identical situation to the one you're in.

And look at us now.

(May Mahito):   I don't know whether you're aware of it but on Thursday we are organizing - oh sorry, (May Mahito) for the record, I was saying on Thursday we are organizing actually a panel, a working session on the role of youth in the GNS.

So we're going to have speakers from the dot keys, Asia and Africa, young people from Africa, so we're trying to get them more and more involved without confusing things.

Man: Thank you very much for these questions and observations, I think you raised two problems. One is an old one, it's actually as old as time itself, that is to say the young will eventually inherit the earth and also the internet.

And on that just I thank you very much for taking this up because when we make our selections and that perhaps helps us to get rid of the notion that to have all the qualities I listed, you have to be at least 60 years old.

We have to in this time and age especially when it comes to the internet we have to start accepting that some young persons actually may be better than you know those who have more so called experience.

Because lots of that experience comes from another world. The other thing I'm going to say as a journalist I cover in politics in a lot of countries but it's tough to try to understand what's happening in GNSO.

And - but I think - to answer on a more general level I think that this relates to the development of the internet. I used to say ten years ago in ancient times, 15 years ago internet was a matter, it was of interest to fairly small number of people and to a limited number of groups and stakeholders.

Now the internet is of concern and of interest to everybody and that means that you have this proliferation of various interests that want to organize, want to be aggregated and want to articulate themselves in the ICANN context.

And that means that this process where we continue and the only thing I can say that non-com, this non-com and the future non-coms I hope will adapt to that figuration and the whole organization has to adapt constantly.

I mean it's not a fixed thing and that this changes should be reflected in the composition of the non-com that it remains representative of all interested groups we have here.

And of course also in its selection. Thank you.

Man: Well I guess it is time to - sorry there is one more question, that will be the last question please.

Man: No, it's actually a comment. In context some of you I probably met at WESIS in 2004 for the civil society. In Canada we have 130,000 not for profits and the fifth sector is three times the size of the auto industry.

I know your sector has a number of efficient, very professional people and we really encourage you to go into your rolodex. We have a deadline, it's May 1.

Please get it out to your community and your list serve on your website, we encourage people who you feel are great candidates to put their names forward. Thank you.

Man: Thank you very much for that encouragement, I'm sure we could discuss further the options but I wanted to perhaps close by telling you that we do have an item in our meeting this morning about encouraging our community to express their interest.

We still have until May 1 and we wanted to let you know that's what we did. So thank you very much for putting us on the list and thank you very much.

Man: Thank you for letting us in, thank you.

Alain Berranger: For our colleagues on the remote participation, we are going to let our colleagues from non-com go on to the next meeting so please bear with us and we'll resume the meeting as quickly as possible. Thank you.

Welcome back, my name is Alain Berranger, and I'm pleased to continue with the second item on the agenda which is - which one are we on? Okay, all right, so the next report is on financial report.

I see the treasurer in fact is in Brussels right now so he's not going to give his report. But I know the financial situation of NPOC. We are not very rich, we have - but we do have a little over $5000 in the bank which is a contribution from pure.org.

And we will be reporting on our fundraising report in - shortly under fundraising. We've done in the broad sense, in the financial sense we did two things this year that I'm not sure if they've been done before.

But anyway we did it because we're new and we felt we could do it and we were allowed to do it which was to publish an annual report, calendar 2012 annual report.

And we will send it to - it's on the website but we can also give it to you in person. The second thing we did in the broad sense since the financial situation is relatively simple, we published by the way our financial reports down to every single piece of expense.

I don't know, it is my hope that we won't have to do that at that level in the future but right now that's what we're doing. The second thing we did and we'll talk about it a bit more is the fundraising outreach plan for calendar 2013.

That's roughly it's an eight pager which was done by a group of six people from the executive committee of NPOC.

And we have received about 40% of the funding needed so we'll be able to deliver 40% of the program at least and so I think I will leave it at that and turn it to you for questions.

Woman: Sorry to be new but what is the approach of this financial group to find you know funds for us?

Alain Berranger: It would help if - can you turn your mic off? Alain Berranger again, we - it would help if you had a chance to read it we did bring in hard copies but we weren't able to bring them in time for the meeting, my apologies for that.

Essentially it's a very targeted approach. We do two workshops at every ICANN meeting, so that's three meetings per year so for instance in Beijing tomorrow we will have a workshop on the impact of the new gTLD's on NGOs.

And on Thursday we will have a workshop on the role of youth in the GNS sector. We up to now our financial resources have been limited and we've been using - we've been constraining our speakers from the ones we know, we don't have to pay the ticket to come to the ICANN meeting.

But you know we have 2700 people for instance in Beijing, this was not an issue. So the approach there are webinars and there is the publishing series and fundamentally these are the two elements that are not getting funded as quickly as possible.

Man: I just would like to add not to pre (mit) something but as a new constituency we are just at the end of our policy decision process and without policies you can't fundraise.

Because what changed in the fundraising world as you know is you can just can't go to an organization and say give me whatever. You have to create win-win situations.

And for win-win situation you need policies and action items and we are just on the point where we're starting this process. And I'm actually very hopeful that by the end of the year we get that fully going.

Alain Berranger: All right, thank you very much. It's just been pointed out to me that our treasurer sent in an email report this morning and Cintra is going to read it to us.

Cintra Sookanan: Thank you, Cintra Sookanan, I'm just reporting some of the points that (Revier) sent by email to us. He should be arriving shortly. He says that he is in the process of opening a bank account in Belgium.

We did have a bank account open in Costa Rica previously but that was the location of our previous treasurer so for administrative purposes he's decided to open another bank account and transfer the funds there.

Within the next few days he will submit a budget proposal which will take into account the present cost and income and make a projection of potential area extra (unintelligible) which we could obtain from some organizations.

We would have a face to face discussion with regards to this proposal prior to making it publicly available. Also in terms of potential sponsoring we do plan on creating a publication flyer for the purpose of outreach on NPOC activities to the benefit of our sponsors. Thank you.

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much Cintra, so we will take further questions on the financing side if there are any, no urgent questions so we will move, what's the next item?

Okay sorry.

Man: Technical on the Adobe Connect (Eduardo) is saying the audio is not loud enough please speak up for the Adobe because he's coming through saying it's not loud enough. (Eduardo) how is it now? Is it loud enough?

                If you look he's still stating that it's not loud enough. Thank you.

Alain Berranger: All right, thank you very much, (Eduardo) I hope this is better. So let us know on the Adobe chat. Thanks (Eduardo). The next item is the presentation of the differences between NCUC and NPOC for the fellows session.

                I will give you a summary, the first difference is in the - is to (re) and the type of membership, so the non-commercial users constituency is made up of both individual memberships and NGOs or not for profits.

                And they've been in existence since the beginning of ICANN and as a secondary source I have been told that they have over 200 individual members and 89 organizations whereby I can tell you precisely having produced the elect to all this just a couple weeks ago that we now have about - we don't have about - we have exactly 34 members that are eligible to vote.

                And in fact at least eight or nine members that are coming up for approval this Thursday here in Beijing. The other difference and I'm going from memory is that I won't speak for NCUC because I have not heard from them on this.

                But we are particularly interested in NPOC and understanding the impact of the GNS sector on NGOs. Now the leadership has changed and what was agreed upon before in uniformity is not taken up and we will leave it up to the presentation, to the fellows which is next Thursday morning.

                We meet the fellows and the fellows did ask the question last year and we had to make up the answer Maria and I had to make up the answer on the

go. But anyway I'm not sure we have progressed any more and I open the floor for questions or comments on this.

Dan York: I'm Dan York and I'm completely new to this meeting so I have no context for any of this but when you asked the question about would the impact of DNS SEC on NGOs?

Alain Berranger: DNS sector.

Dan York: Oh, okay, thank you. I thought you were saying DNS sec as in the security sector, thank you.

Vanda Scartezini: Just share with you some experience that we have related to these new gTLDs in the not for profit organizations in South America, especially in Brazil.

We did some evidence last year in Sao Paulo and (unintelligible) encouraged people to understand and to see if governance, a new governance for a place for organizations would be interesting for them enough to join or to move for another TLD for instance.

And the answer was so positive, you know everybody we got really strong support for new gTLDs with a kind of governance that assured two things, think about developing countries, there is a lot of funding opportunities in developed worlds.

And those funds cannot reach those non profit organizations because they don't have a clear information about those non profit organizations out of those developed worlds.

So to have a place like address where a governance assure in some way that this organization is clear, exists, make what they are supposed to do and they

have results and (unintelligible) is something that is very attractive for the organization.

And that we got more than 100 declarations of organizations who joined a governance in that sense. So I do believe that if we all (don) these new gTLDs and as a consequence is GNS industry that we have around, will probably impact the non profit organizations.

So it's something to go more deeply on that but it was an experience that we had last year that results in this really positive way. It's just to share with you some experience we had in Brazil. Thank you.

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much Vanda and of course those of you that know you a little bit more than others know how deep your experience is in ICANN and it's very much appreciated that you take the time to share it with us.

I'm going to turn to Mary Wong.

Mary Wong: None of them listening to you, I don't know whether you show them the program but we are having a station on the impact of the new gTLDs on NGOs and I'm regretting that we haven't invited you to speak, could you - are you able to attend the session?

It's from 9:00 to 11:00, function 9, tomorrow morning. It would be wonderful if you could come and - sorry I thought wrongly.

Vanda Scartezini: But I probably will, I keep in touch with you, I'll be glad to talk about this experience was really interesting.

Mary Wong: Yes because we are getting to open the floor and at least planning to have half an hour so that you know yes.

Vanda Scartezini: Thank you very much Mary Wong, we're going to - if there are no other questions on this I'll - I realize we may be running fast through the agenda, we have a newcomer at the table, welcome.

The next item will be presentation by (unintelligible), I inform strategic alliance, an initiative which was started by a number of individuals inside NPOC under the leadership of Klaus.

And I leave it to him to bring us up to date on the latest developments. Thank you very much Klaus.

Klaus Stoll: Thank you (Alain), for the record Klaus Stoll. For those who are in the room who are not familiar with the context, allow me to give you two minutes of the context and the thinking behind the things I'm going to talk about.

Basically as a constituency, NPOC has to serve to (markets). One is the stable DNS and the other one is the people we are supposed to represent, the not for profits in the sector.

And I think it's - so we have to look for the policies in the areas, which basically I have interest of the DNS and the non-profit sector.

And also, as a new constituency we have to change. We spend I think under the very capable leadership of Alain. He got us through the second phase of NPOC. And we are at a point now where we have to deliver our own policies.

If we just go to ICANN meetings and say, okay we support the policy-making process, but we don't make policies. Then there's something wrong. On the other hand, I fully acknowledge we weren't that capable until about six months ago to develop our own policy.

And what I said, where are the policy's contributions NPOC really can make? And I think the policy contributions NPOC really can make are in two areas.

One of them is quite simply in capacity building, on Internet governance capacity building. And one of my frustrations with Internet governance is that we are living in Internet governance in a country where 1% of the population is basically governing 99% of the rest. And 98% of the 99% don't even know that Internet governance exists.

And I think in (aid) to really support Internet governance on all levels, that includes the IGF and the (businesses), we need to do something which is quite simply to create a huge pool, a general - a pool of the general public, the 99% in the basics of Internet governance because what's happening, and we seen it in Dubai.

And I'm sorry that I'm talking a little bit black and white. But the point is some of the governments make proposals because they knew they would get away with it because of people that are supposed to represent them didn't even know what they were talking about.

And that explains - that reminds me a little bit of very unfortunately past in my own country, when somebody was standing up and said do you want to talk a little bit more? And the rest were screaming yes because they didn't know what was going on. And that's the same thing here.

Okay, in concrete terms what we need to try to do is to find mechanisms how we really can involve and inform the general public about Internet governance.

And we need to do that in a way that we demonstrate first to the general public what the needs - what is - we can say to anybody on the street okay, Internet governance is important if it's not relevant.

So we started, together with (unintelligible) partnership and a lot of people in the NPOC, something called (I Inform). And (I Inform) is an alliance where we

just simply bring together those people who are interested in creating Internet governance on a general public level. And sit together and start doing things to get the message out.

And for - to give you a concrete example, for example one of the idea is to, and there are, at the moment we are talking only to two organizations, (unintelligible) and (BBC) about getting a six-part series about Internet governance on the television, and for example on (BBC World).

And we have that model of the (Do How) Foundation who did that (in years) and is extremely successful. So why shouldn't we take a good model and make it happen?

Concrete terms otherwise I'll speak to long. What will happen is on the seven (remains) of (May) there is an inaugural meeting of the (I Inform) alliance in the Haag, in the Netherlands in the Offices of IICD.

And all we're going to do there is just simply plan on how do we get that thing together. And just one other important thing is (I Inform) won't be a new organization. It will be a mechanism, a tool, not an organization.

After the Haag, the week after we have a session at the Business Forum 2013, and we've got a very exciting development that we might be able to, in the autumn, to get a largish meeting conference together probably in Africa.

We are at the moment talking with sponsorships and people who might - we can partner with to get that going. And watch the space and watch the NPOC Web page. You will see some very interesting developments.

The second point is about creating gTLDs in developing countries. ICANN has the need. And that need is it needs more gTLD in developing countries.

The not for profit sector has a need. And that need is we need more not for profits using that tool gTLD for themselves. So that's another policy area where NPOC should and can become very active.

The news is, and I apologize for those who it only basically expired this morning. The idea is very simple. We played around with the idea. We need - in order to create new gTLD in developing countries, you need to have a business plan. And you need a moderation to do it.

The reason why they only see 26 applications I think from Africa is because it wasn't sustainable. It wasn't - the money wasn't there. So what NPOC has with its development background is actually a business plan because we are using sustainability bundles based on community building.

It's not about selling a gTLD and making money out of it. It's about the community which the gTLDs support and so on and so forth. So based on that one the idea is to, for example, in Africa to take 100 entrepreneurs, put them in a room for three days and talk about the significance and what gTLDs and how it works.

And also talk about sustainable business plans which will allow them to make that happen. And just one minute more.

Yes just there is a visit that I haven't had a chance to tell you about. So, but a minute is great.

((Crosstalk))

Man: I know I'm cutting you short, but...

Klaus Stoll: Okay but I know what's coming. So basically the plan is now in the second week of October that we're trying to get something going (in and of this) on that lines of hundred people - hundred - and see what's coming out.

And just to close the whole thing is what I'm just telling you now is open. Please get involved. If you know somebody, if yourself you want to get involved and so on, please tell me. You are more than invited.

Or you know somebody who should get involved, for example come to the Haag meeting or join the movement. And that's all. Okay Alain, 30 seconds it was.

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much. We are going to take one comment from the Website and then move on to a visitor by the name of Brian Cute who is going to talk to us for a few moments, over to you Cintra.

Cintra Sooknanan: This is Cintra Sooknanan. This is my comments actually. I attended a session by (Matthew Shales) yesterday. And he spoke a bit about ICANN online educational platform, which is in development.

And what Klaus is presenting is relevant in that we do need to take part in the policy discussion. But we also need to recognize that many of our members aren't there in terms of their learning curve. So it's also important for us to be part of that educational platform and provide content (versus that).

Klaus Stoll: I would like to make a comment on that one. There are a lot of ICANN activities and other activities outside ICANN who talk about outreach. Unfortunately we are using the same word but meaning different things.

Outreach in the context of ICANN or in the context of businesses often means in reach. That means getting existing people who are already in the more engaged and talking to each other. That's not what we are talking about at all in (I Inform).

In (I Inform), we are talking really about the man and the woman on the street. We want to reach the general public, and not the people who already know or are already in touch with the 1%.

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much Klaus. We're going to hold the questions because we have the chance of having the CEO of PIR.org, Brian Cute visiting us. So Brian could I ask you to step up to the table at a convenient place and tell us a little bit about PIR.org's plan over the next 18 months?

Brian Cute: Thank you very much Alain, Mr. Chair and members. Thank you for having me. My name is Brian Cute. I'm the CEO of Public Interest Registry. Public Interest Registry is a not for profit registry operator of .org, which I hope many of you know.

I started in my role two years ago. And since that time, one of the - in addition to continuing to operate .org, which for many today on the Internet addressing space is the home for not for profit, non-commercial and non-governmental organizations.

Continue to grow .org and offer the values that are intrinsic in that space to important community around the world. The new TLD program at ICANN presents obviously a lot of interesting opportunities for many.

But at Public Interest Registry, when we looked at the opportunity for new TLDs, we thought very long and hard about could we bring new value to the addressing space?

And in thinking that through the notion of creating an .ngo address space was considered and also .ong, the romance language equivalent, we spent the better part of a year and a half having workshops around the world, meeting with ngos, grass roots and larger local and global.

And endeavored to ask the community would this bring a benefit to you? Does this add value to you? We heard back first and foremost, very importantly the challenge of briefcase ngos is a very common concern to the community that fraudsters who set themselves up as ngos and abscond with moneys that are otherwise intended for the good missions of ngos is a reputational challenge.

And in thinking this through we suggested that an .ngo address that was in some form verified and closed only available to ngos, no other type of entity might provide a home and addressing space that gives users and condoners the higher sense of confidence that they're dealing with a bonafide ngo.

And we heard very resounding support for that. And it was on the basis of the feedback from the community that we decided we should go forward with this.

We filed our application with ICANN. We had - we have input the application as a community-based TLD, not a simple generic but one that is designed to serve the benefit of the community.

We had over 700 support letters from ngos from around the world for our application. And I'm happy to say that we had no competitors in the process. And that we are in a position of moving through the ICANN approval process with a view toward launching in late first quarter or maybe early second quarter next year.

So that's a very exciting project for us. We are continuing to work through how we would verify. This is no easy challenge. I'm sure we all - those of you who are involved in this community know that that's going to be an important critical challenge.

What we do intend to do is again work with the community to gather the resources necessary and a verification mechanism that provides that basic level of confidence.

And you will hear more from us in the coming months as we get closer to trying to put in place a mechanism that makes sense. But also we'll be beginning a new round of outreach to the ngo community in the coming months to again make them aware that now we're in a position where .ngo is going to be launched soon, get their interests.

Continue to gather their input as how we can best serve the community. And build some excitement toward the launch phase in early 2014. So as Public Interest Registry, we're very supportive of the work of NPOC and its members.

We're very open to working with you and collaborating in any way we can. And that's what's going on with us. I'd be happy to take any questions or discussion.

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much Brian, Cintra.

Cintra Sooknanan: Thank you Brian for your presentation. My question is I know PIR did (unintelligible) support from ngos before putting in the application. Can you give us an idea of the number of ngos that support it?

Brian Cute: Yes it was just a little over 700 support letters. And that was part of our outreach over the 18 months prior. And it was a nice geographic balance too. When we looked at the letters from the different regions around the world, it was both a northern and southern hemisphere and good geographic balance that we felt was - we felt it was important if we were going to submit a community-based application to show support from the community.

Alain Berranger: (Unintelligible).

Man: Thank you Brian for your presentation. I just want to give a suggestion in terms of verification of ngos, especially I know it's a very difficult process in developing countries.

                        But one thing I know, and this is from my 16 years or my career has been spent in the development world - in the development world is working with the Attorney Generals Office.

                        You know, in all countries you have to register. You have to register and get different forms of registration. And usually most of them are going to register at a community level, but those registrations don't count.

                        All the registrations that applicable, especially in most African countries that are recognized by the states don't - to the Minister of Justice at the Attorney Generals level.

                        And they have most - I know for the commonwealth countries in Africa, (more than) I know for the (unintelligible), most of them have that data available in their registration.

                        So it's easy (on way) to the whole (EE) governmental process that has been developed in developing countries. You can easily get those by contacting those people directly. So that's just a suggestion only. Thank you.

Brian Cute: Thank you very much for that. We are currently doing research and analysis on those types of lists. And that's a very helpful suggestion. At a very high level, verification or validation will be based on lists such as those.

                        And then where an ngo doesn't appear on a list, we have to provide some form of mechanism. So we also are contemplating a manual-based process, which may require the submission of documentation, some other form of evidence that an organization is an ngo.

We're thinking about things like a referral from a bonafide ngo, but different types of mechanisms. There's a complete recognition from PIR that it will be challenging to provide verification of every ngo when we launch the service based on the resources at the governmental and community level that are available.

But we want to build a mechanism that has the flexibility for those who don't register somewhere. We want to have mechanisms in place too that allow the community to challenge someone who gets a registration.

If it's not a bonafide ngo that somehow gets through the process, we want to have a community-based mechanism to raise a challenge to make sure that if a bad actor gets in the zone, they can be taken out of the zone as well.

So it has to be a multi-faceted mechanism to provide the broadest level of verification and also the protections to make sure it's a trusted space. Thank you very much.

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much Brian. Can you take one more question, Vanda please?

Vanda Scartezini: No, I'm just supporting Brian because there is really government lists that there is many non-profit organizations listed that in fact did not exit or exits but it's not for profit.

And there is a lot of (sense). So it's not an easy task really. And we need to start with that. But this is a start, not a complete solution for that to guarantee you have a governance in that.

Brian Cute: Certainly.

Alain Berranger: Yes and we'll make it the last question and then I have a closing statement to make please.

(Stephanie Parron):   Thank you very much. My name is (Stephanie Parron) and I am a recent edition to the experts working group that is looking at the new directory services.

And I'm coming to this meeting because we are drawing together policy issues that might fall out of an implementation of a new directory services.

And as a newcomer to ICANN, I'm struck by the awe inspiring number of committees that look at policies. But it's often hard to sort of roll them all up into one place to make sure that they don't get missed, at least that would be my newcomers 45 days in observation.

So I was wondering if this sounds like a policy issue that unwittingly we might do something in the directory services recommendations that would stop, or at least make more difficult.

If anyone has any others, if they would please speak to me, I would love to gather them up so that we can put the frame of this document together correctly, good thank you.

Man: Thank you very much Brian.

Brian Cute: Thank you and thank you (Stephanie) and thank you Vanda for your comments as well.

And (Stephanie), being in this industry for ten plus years, the directory service which is otherwise referred to as Whois. But this future potential Whois, there's an important distinction in my mind between collecting Whois data or how we redefine Whois data and verifying that an ngo is in fact an ngo.

So what we've undertaken in our application and in our commitment to the ngo community is to come up with a mechanism that achieves that objective.

Are you or aren't you an ngo? And do we have some evidence to support that?

So related but I see an adjunct task there. And what's important to us is absolutely within that task there's policies that we need to develop to make sure that we're providing the benefit.

And in that manner we do interact with ngo representatives. We are going to have a formal ngo advisory council for PIR as well because we have to build this with the community with feedback. And make sure that the policies on that piece also serve purpose and serve benefit to the community. So point well taken, thank you.

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much Brian. The items we've been discussing with you over the past few weeks have not been discussed yet. But that doesn't stop us from - to thank you for the support PIR.org gives to NPOC right from the beginning.

Right from the beginning, before we had ten members. So this is really a fantastic moment to thank you for your support.

Are there any further questions regarding to (I Inform) because no? Okay. As I said, I'm around.

Man: Okay so I heard a call for questions on (I Inform) and with it.

Alain Berranger: Okay no. Well I would like - I know time is running out. We have 25 minutes, plenty of subjects to talk about. But I'd like to make a statement that we have looked at this very carefully.

And we will propose it to the membership for one of our policy priorities. So thank you very much Klaus for doing this.

We will now move to the next time. Yes, the next item is the plans for the NPOC Website. Let me give you a quick rundown. We've been operating a Web 1.0 Website.

And that obviously requires updating at least to what 2.0. And we have received the proposal from a member based in the Haag, the International Institute for Communication and Development, a leading European think tank on ICT for this, particularly in Africa and Latin America.

And I wanted to raise it here as a matter of public notice. And ask for any suggestions or questions, Klaus.

Klaus Stoll: I had the opportunity to talk to (Andre Bonerbus) who has graciously volunteered to do the Web page. I just would like to make an observation that I think that there is a very slight misunderstanding about roles and job dedication.

(Andre) is one of the best Web designers and producer of and program that I've seen. He just did a brilliant job for me in the - for the International Council of Care and Communities.

And (Andre) is extremely good in translating concepts into Web pages. But he is quite simply not capable of producing a concept or a - for the Web page of NPOC.

And this is why the transition to the new Web page hasn't been done quite simply because he doesn't know what to do. So what I would propose is that we set up a kind of committee which with maximum two or three people who set up a rough concept for the new Web page.

We put it to the membership. (Andre) gets the recipes, this is what we want. And he does it. And this is a way how to get a brilliant new Web page. But he - we need to be clear of what (Andre) is capable of and not.

He is capable of producing technically a brilliant Website. But the concept has to come from us.

Glen McKnight: Glen McKnight for the transcript. There's just so many issues here. I'm more than happy to volunteer on that working group. The problem with a lot of Websites, they don't take into consideration W3 compliance in terms of disability issues in terms of Web checker.

They don't have a mobile strategy. They're not thinking of a mobile app. They don't have content which is social media rich. They don't have so many elements.

And they think well okay, our population is going to go to our Website. Where is the (mobile) codes? Where's the - wow, like it's - this is a big issue. And I can't say enough that it has to look at best practices.

I could share with you, because I work with (IEEE). We have a template. I know my colleague down at the end of the - Dan York has worked on a template with ISOC which we've used.

It's great. The good thing about what you have is you have one organization. It's not like ISOC or (IEEE) with many, many chapters. So you can get it right. But I think there's great practices out there.

Engineering for change, as an example, does it right on a social media strategy. They have a great, great Facebook site for example. Sometimes I'm almost thinking that a Facebook good presence and page sometimes is better than a Website.

So all I'm saying is that look at this very thoroughly. And if you think the Website is going to be the solution. And whether it's a CMS like a word press

or something (druple), it's your choice. But it really needs critical thinking. Thank you.

Alain Berranger: So it will be (Mary Law) followed by Poncelet. But I do want to immediately acknowledge your suggestion of helping out with the group. Thank you very much Glen, (Mary Law) and then Poncelet.

(Mary Law): Yes to what you just said, and (any so yesterday) I had a meeting with the youth speakers to organize the meeting for Thursday. And they were mentioning that where are the app - you know, mobile apps? And they can't find them.

They were complaining about that. Not about NOPC, but ICANN generally speaking. So this is generation that they pick up the phone and they look for the apps. And the girl from Hong Kong, she told me I looked at the App Store and I couldn't find anything. And I needed an app from ICANN.

So we need the young people participating. We need to reach them in the way they (leave).

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much, on to Poncelet.

Poncelet Illeleji: One suggestion, and I was about - I'm going to send that information out some time next week. Based on what NPOC is, one of our strengths is the communities we deal with and the outreach.

So we definitely know that to reach communities, especially the bottom end user like what Klaus mentioned in this (eye) and from the alliance is by getting our word out.

And what will - that Website is one way of doing it. But we have to have an app. And that is something that is because most of our potential community-based ngos that are going to join us, most of them are not going to be

accessing our contents on anything we want to do through the - in the (desktop) or a laptop. They will do it through their mobile devices.

And be rest assured I know that is something that I was going to mention with the (unintelligible) grass root that this Website with all of what Klaus mentioned and Glen, those are things that will be addressed with the engineers. I want to say that now, make sure that we're working with (my chair). So those things will be addressed. Thank you.

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much. I think we will move on, but I retain the recommendation of a working group to give the terms of reference to (Andre). And we've already noticed Glen's and your, Poncelet, support. I hope there will be others.

We will now move on to the fundraising strategy, which is a progress report. And while very simply the - we - I was a little late this morning with (not at all) because we had a meeting with Brian Cute and his - and Paul Diaz about funding of a one-day event in Durban on the capacity building the role of civil society in capacity building for the DNS sector in Africa.

And so you can - this was a nice morning for us because PIR.org is a major funder and has decided to not only fund our core funding every year, but also to now starting funding our first event.

This event will also be most likely be also reproduced in Buenos Aires in November, of course with a subject matter people from the region. So this is also the subject of a proposal that was put to ICANN on a so-called fast track funding track, fast track that was deadlined on March 22.

And recommendations to the board in a meeting in Beijing have been made. And I'm waiting to hear if ICANN will fund part of the process too. I have - we have - we also have submitted the proposal for the Durban and Buenos Aires meeting to other interested parties.

And I've not given up on yet being able to fund 100% in our first year of operation, 100% of our outreach. But so that's the latest. And I'm open to questions, Vanda.

Vanda Scartezini: Yes, this morning we were talking about many things. And this is a meeting with (Alumini) and the board. And one of the issues was why not use funds like the World Bank and with the program to developing areas, to developing council.

So I do believe that if we have a very clear program for regions like, you know, some parts of Asia, Africa, South American Caribbean area, we could really attract this investment from the World Bank for these kind of things.

So all this is - this group, for instance I have been involved and still involved with E-commerce for a small business in South America, in (Mirclesue) area and Europe with the Europe and South America funds.

And for the banks in the group of electronics about the many issues related to E-commerce and how to improve capacity building for those people in those regions, and so there is room for that.

That is my point here. There is room for that. So I do believe that we could also get the help of (Erica). I can, you know, try to talk with her from the board.

And make it in some way join, participation of our group with the main idea of ICANN to get some kind of funds to help those regions.

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much for the suggestion Vanda, please.

Dan York: Dan York, just a question. Is this a one-day capacity building workshop in Durban? And would that be before the ICANN or is that part of the meeting at ICANN? It sounds interesting, by the way.

Alain Berranger: Thank you, it's a good question. I'll come to you Glen after this. It's going to be a one-day workshop based on applied research, standard applied research methodology, two workshops in the morning, two workshops in the afternoon.

One workshop coordinator in the morning and one workshop in the afternoon, and then one full day workshop which will deliver the findings and the conclusions at the end of the day. It will be the Friday or the Saturday, not decided yet.

Dan York: But prior to the ICANN meeting?

Alain Berranger: It will be prior to the ICANN meeting.

Dan York: Thank you.

Alain Berranger: You're welcome. You can...

Vanda Scartezini: Let me - okay.

Glen McKnight: Can I speak? I'm used to strong- willed Brazilian women. I had to work with Vanda. I know. I participated with the NCUC, a capacity building session in Toronto the one day before, and it was great.

A couple of suggestions is they - I was responsible for the live stream. So I strongly recommend we do live stream for it so that whatever we do, we capture and we have it as content back to the Website.

Alain Berranger: Absolutely, Vanda, thanks for that suggestion Glen.

Vanda Scartezini: Yes just to add that in Toronto, people like the fellowships could not participate. And this is something that we need to think about to have them included in this process because first of all, they already got the funding for ICANN.

And second, they are not normally awards spread around, sorry. And this is quite important for us. So maybe it could be interesting to talk about (genis) to make sure that the arrangement guarantee that those people that we are paying to come here, or come to the meeting to learn have the opportunity really to learn.

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much Vanda. That's a great recommendation. I do want to add to your comment Glen that I did agree with the quality of the workshops. However, I felt, but that may be a person bias, that the wrap up was a little quick.

So - but anyway, that there are colleagues. But we need to learn from them too, Glen.

Glen McKnight: The wrap up was in the party after.

Alain Berranger: I'm going to do something unusual because there's eight minutes left. And I want - we have eight or nine people online. And I want to acknowledge them one by one. And I want to ask Cintra to do that please.

Cintra Sooknanan: Thank you, Cintra Sooknanan, (unintelligible), remote participant, Alejandro Pisanty, (Liana Garstan), (Scott Sharon), (Eduardo Diaz) as well as (Fred Shusman).

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much Cintra. So now that we have done our etiquette properly, we're going to move on to the next item with exactly eight minutes to go.

The next item are the upcoming elections. This will be very quick because the election period for nomination is closed. We've got at least one candidate for oppositions except membership and communications, thank you Poncelet.

So we - the elections will start on the 24th of April and will finish on the 24th of May, if I'm not mistaken, 25th - 29th right? What? Oh the 9th. Yes, actually I haven't shared the new dates. We're delaying by from the 24th to the 26th. And we will delay the results by the 12th. Thanks for the reminder though.

So the reality that we were talking before with (non-Com) that we are missing bodies is a hard core reality for 100% volunteers. All the people around this table do this for - as volunteers.

So I just wanted to highlight that point. And we will have to recruit from the membership on this.

We will now move to the membership - participation of NPOC in working groups. This is my time to do a two minutes, maximum two minutes promotion of the best way to learn about ICANN is to participate in a working group.

And I know it takes some resolve to do it. I didn't have the choice because when I started, I was one of very few. And Glen DeSaintgery would say well now Alain you have to be on this committee. She didn't say that I had the choice to say no.

And always being positive and a bit naive, I would take it on. But now I'm glad I did because what it has done, it has helped me to really build a network inside ICANN in a matter of about 12 months.

So I have friends with whom I have shared thoughts on weekly calls for an hour. And these people are now helping NPOC move forward. So my call is

for you, if you are going to get involved in NPOC, think about joining one of the working groups as a way of learning.

And I do want to point out something which never anybody told me about. But when you actually read the guidelines on participating in a workgroup, the only thing it requires is that you participate. It doesn't mean you have to be an expert.

And I felt really comfortable when I did find out that this was the case. So with time rushing, I will close that item.

We now need to talk about, yes, the upcoming, which one Poncelet do you think we should be - okay. I will pass the floor to Poncelet on the items, the role of NPOC within outreach as an ICANN academy face-to-face program. This is a new program of ICANN, so over to you Poncelet.

Poncelet Illeleji: Thank you very much Alain. I'll be very brief, as much as possible. What is happening with the - that you have ICANN getting the consultants and working with the different groups to try to set up this ICANN academy.

Based on what NPOC is doing with the (I Inform) alliance, what we want to do as part of our outreach program, especially in developing countries, is anywhere they have a regional or national IGF working with partners, we shall have a capacity building (follow) that will also discuss critical issues that are related to NPOC in regards to Internet governance as part of supporting the academic process.

So if any of you realizing the (Gambia) or in (Sinigal) or other regional levels, somewhere in the Middle East or Buenos Aires, there's any event happening, you're the regional IGFs or the national IGFs. And you feel that NPOC can play a role in this, we'll link it up with the ICANN academy people and have a track.

So that is something we are really looking at. And they have supported the view in principle, you know, but I - within NPOC we'll take it to the next level. I guess that should make you all know. Thank you.

Alain Berranger: Very much Poncelet. Are there any questions or suggestions on this? I suppose not. It's a brand new thing. So one of the things we need to decide at the executive committee is how we split up between the four working groups. And I suppose we'll have to have one person on each working group.

Vanda Scartezini: Just a question for Poncelet.

Alain Berranger: Yes, please Vanda.

Vanda Scartezini: Yes, just a quick one. Is the academy group, that's the same of academy group?

Poncelet Illeleji: There's no relation to the academy group.

Vanda Scartezini: No, okay, just to understand.

Alain Berranger: We're actually catching up on time. With the last item is the membership related issues. I need to come up with a statement on this because up to the meeting of December 21, which was not very long ago, we had serious difficulties in getting NPOC membership approved quickly.

And this started the closing of the discussion on this issue when we rolled into the Las Angeles meeting at the end of January where we had a closing discussion.

Now we really needed to collaborate between the two constituencies. And the irritants and sometimes the irritants were legacy from prior leadership were finally resolved.

So that the result now is that we are able to approve members in a matter of, you know, it could be as quickly as a few days and perhaps as long as one month.

So from that point of view, I would encourage you all to send ngos that want to get involved in the DNS sector and the impact of the DNS sector on development.

And realizing also that the membership database is for the non-commercial stakeholders group, which is our mother stakeholders group is going to be moved to ICANN as a staff administration.

This is very, very critical because you have some important volunteers doing important work. But they're not doing their executive work when they're doing administrative work or financial work.

And this is one of the issue that we have to resolve in calendar 2012. I don't know if that raises any questions on this as we move to the last few moments, Poncelet.

Poncelet Illeleji: I just want to talk briefly, as I've been involved in the membership drive in terms of membership. As Alain said, the process is now very fast. So what I know like within Africa, which I am considering (membership).

If, let me say, membership application comes through and we are not just set it, we flag it. Of recently Alain sent me a message from a (practical) ngo. And I knew there was nothing wrong about it.

There was something wrong about it, and the guy never responded again. So it makes the process faster. Thank you.

Alain Berranger: Great, (Mary Law).

(Mary Law): Not my membership, it's just a comment, a special hello to our Mexican friend who is on the line, Alejandro. And with that, thank you for being with us. That was it for Latin America.

Alain Berranger: Thank you very much (Mary Law) for our Latino voice. And it's unfortunately the time has closed for this meeting. And I want to thank you for the patience you've had around this table, in fact not creating a lot of traffic.

And it's really, really appreciated. And I wish you a good end of the day and evening for our friends online. Thank you very much and talk to you soon. Bye.

END