

Barcelona High Level Governmental Meeting 22 October 2018: record of Meeting

This was the fourth high level meeting of Ministers and senior officials to be held in conjunction with meetings of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and the ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC).

PARTICIPATION

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Francisco Polo, Secretary of State for Digital Advancement of Spain.

There was attendance from 111 representatives of governments. There was also 16 representatives of intergovernmental organizations which are observers on the GAC.

OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Francisco Polo, Secretary of State for Digital Advancement of Spain – The host, in his opening remarks, talked about Spain’s commitment to digitization and the key role governments play in Internet Governance. He noted the negative aspects of digitization and stressed the need to secure fundamental rights such as right to privacy and protection of private data, freedom of speech, human rights, while maintaining the complete interoperability, openness, security and stability of the network. He thought that the balance will depend on how government can generate proper regulations for new digital environment. He also highlighted the need to close the digital divide and the need for regulations to develop talent and reduce inequalities.

Göran Marby, President and CEO of ICANN, reaffirmed the important role of governments in ICANN and expressed appreciation for their valuable input. He talked about the implication on ICANN of the increasing number of data protection and privacy legislations around the world, including the GDPR, such as fragmentation from patchwork laws. He maintained that ICANN does not seek to expand its mandate nor purpose but highlighted the importance of keeping track of evolutions in the ecosystem.

Az-El-Arabe Hassibi, General Director of the National Telecommunications Regulatory Agency Morocco believes that the IANA Transition strengthened ICANN’s accountability, preserving the legitimate interest of governments, an integral part of ICANN’s ecosystem. He stressed the importance of the development of the DNS, the preservation of the multistakeholder model and the importance of GAC contribution in the development of Internet Governance.

Manal Ismail, Chair of the GAC, reviewed the history and the evolution of the GAC within ICANN, from its conception focused on the historical of HLGs and their importance to bring ICANN to the attention of governments and to reinforce their critical role concerning pressing public policy issues between governments, and between ICANN and governments. GAC works hard to keep pace with Internet dynamics and reach consensus, which ultimately gives weight to GAC advice and mandates the Board to

duly take it into consideration. Internet emerged as a critical part of national infrastructure and political forces have moved the dialogue from technical problems to public policy, and from technical administration to Internet Governance. The need to develop global harmonized national policies and global infrastructure is pressing.

SESSION 1 – THE ROLE AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR GOVERNMENTS IN ICANN – POST IANA TRANSITION

Discussion from Panelists and participants

Moderator (Matthieu Weil, Head of Digital Economy Department, France) - The IANA transition process reinforced the multistakeholder model. The goal of the session is to improve the dialogue between ICANN and governments, as ICANN is starting to understand their need to comply with all legal frameworks worldwide and work as a partner with governments.

Wolfgang Kleinwächter (Expert, Professor for International Communication Policy and Regulation at the Department for Media and Information Studies, University of Aarhus, Denmark) – Following institutionalization of the DNS and the history of Internet governance, and how the IANA transition was more or less laid down in the WSIS Tunis Agenda, challenges remain. Problems with ICANN, such as community silos and the management of technical issues with political implications, implies that new Internet governance has shifted to political issues with some technical elements, and it is important for the GAC to be engaged in early discussions leading to political implication. The empowered community still needs to be stress tested.

Brazil (Ambassador Benedicto Fonseca Filho, Director of the Department of Scientific and Technological Affairs of the Ministry of External Relations) – ICANN is unique in the international system and is a challenging place for all stakeholders and governments especially. ICANN faces similar challenges as governments, both have to work together to avoid unintended consequences, and the GAC serves as a conduit for such work. He expressed concern about the risk of paralysis and ICANN not living up to the new circumstances and challenges. The institutional framework needs to be continuously assessed and readjusted, and he thought that consultations about ICANN's governance process was a positive initiative.

India (Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister of Electronics and Information Technology) – Multistakeholder model should be applied to connect the unconnected. Under the leadership of the Prime Minister, India has launched new technology-based programs designed to empower citizens, going beyond digital inclusion. India is also in the process of finalizing its data protection law.

Switzerland (Philipp Metzger, Director General of the Federal Office of Communications) – GAC consensus advice is a key input into public policy development, sometimes considered quantitatively only, leading to protracted conflicts. Governments involvement is essential for ICANN, and they in turn need the full support of all parts of ICANN community. Conflicts should be resolved through inclusive procedures in a transparent timely manner. ICANN should deliver timely, positive and inclusive solutions on issue of

adequate IGO identifiers. ICANN should also consider supporting a fully independent secretariat to the GAC.

Portugal (Ana Neves, Director, Department of Information Society, Science & Technology Foundation I.P. Ministry of Education and Science) – Internet is a global resource owned by us all. Governments play a key role bringing to attention of the public and private sectors the contribution they can make. ICANN is responsible to the global internet community, but it is the governments that are responsible to their citizens.

African Union Commission (H.E. Dr. Amani Abou-Zeid, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy) – Africa’s ICT agenda is being led by governments. Efforts are undertaken with the ITU to address challenges such as connectivity, digital literacy, reaching the marginalized, by African operators and the private sector. There is a data protection and a cybersecurity convention that has been developed, and an initiative with the EU for policy harmonization and regulation Policy initiative on digital Africa (PIDA).

William Drake (Expert, HEID) – Multistakeholder models are a toolbox we can draw from, creating long-term diffuse reciprocity and the sense of mutual gains. Equal footing means that all parties have equal access, as referred in the conclusions of NETmundial. There is an increase in fragmentation, weaponization, and we need fresh thinking about multistakeholder models. There are other mechanisms and modalities, flexible distributed groups and soft law agreements that might be useful to take further IG issues.

Belgium (Séverine Waterbley, General Advisor at DG Telecommunications and Information Society, Ministry of the Economy) – There is a need for principles of good governance and accountability. Organization of the DNS should be finalized between members of the GAC, and ICANN and stakeholders need to conform to existing legislation or adapt the way ICANN works. Invited ICANN to accelerate reforms and reinforce cooperation between states at the GAC, and invite non-members of the GAC to join.

Brazil (Thiago Braz Jardim Oliveira, Ministry of Foreign Affairs) – GAC’s role is not really advisory when developing public policy. ICANN has made some progress but has a long way to go towards ensuring respect of principles of transparency and multilateral management of the Internet. It is unacceptable that ICANN is subjected to the law enforcement and tribunals of a single country, and that it adapts to the policies of a few states and not of others. ICANN should seek immunity from domestic laws while the international community develops and impartial, compulsory and international accountability. There should be provisions for a permanent secretariat for the GAC.

Canada (Pamela Miller, Director General, Telecommunications and Internet Policy Branch, Innovation, Science and Economic Development) – HLG is crucial to build a shared understanding of technical issues and the different public policy considerations at play. GAC needs to continue to work together with the Community to address challenges ahead, such as GDPR compliance and access to non-public data, adopt and implement post-transition accountability, and to advance policy development for new subsequent procedure of the new gTLD.

China (Liu Jie, Deputy Director General of Information and Communication Administration, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology) – China insists on the multistakeholder model in which governments have an important role to play. Sensitive issues for China are ccTLDs and second level TLDs, and they hope that ICANN will take effective measures. China’s domestic Internet is aligned with international policies.

Denmark (Finn Petersen, Director of International ICT Relations, Danish Business Authority) – Recognizes that governments are responsible for public policy, but they should not be involved in issues of an operational nature. The role of governments is to be the primary advisor to the ICANN Board, and the public policy advice of governments should be taken into account. When deviating from consensus advices, there needs to be a solution upfront and a clear and comprehensive rationale for the decisions.

EU Commission (Pearse O’Donohue, Director of DG Connect) – Public policy is not exclusively the responsibility of governments, they need to engage and understand the views and expertise of other communities. Governments have the ultimate sovereign power in making regulations, but all communities have a direct interest and role in the formulation of public policy. Security is the biggest challenge leading to greater legislation by governments.

Theresa Swinehart (Senior Vice President, Multistakeholder Strategy and Strategic Initiatives and Senior Advisor to the President on Global Strategy, ICANN) – The role of ICANN is not to influence or change outcomes of legislations and regulations. Instead, it is to explain the role and policy making process at ICANN, lend expertise to law makers and governments to develop policies that are scalable and can be operationalized. It is increasingly important that ICANN address any laws and regulations that might have an impact, such as data protection regulations which also have a technical operational impact. The GAC and High – Level meetings are opportunities to deepen how we work together, to raise awareness of the availability of the technical information and possibility of furthering participation in ICANN.

OECD (Dirk Pilat, Deputy Director of the OECD Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation) – IGOs have been asking ICANN to protect their names and acronyms in-line with international status under the law, to protect against bad actors using their names and damaging their reputations in the process. No mechanism can address abuse of IGO identifiers under current ICANN rules, as they are protected by international treaties and not trade mark law. Current UDRP contains provisions incompatible with international recorded legal status of IGOs and the GNSO continues to resist making accommodations that would make a similar curative rights mechanism accessible to the IGOs. The OECD calls on governments to support IGOs and calls on ICANN to help adopt an appropriate mechanism to protect IGOs acronyms in the current DNS.

Malaysia (Mohd Ali Mohamad, Deputy Secretary-General (Operations), Ministry of Communications and Multimedia) – Malaysia had already taken a few initiatives designed with the foresight of being technology neutral and to encourage self-regulations, ensuring compatibility with universal standards and guidelines in regard to the DNS, such as the communication and Multimedia Act of 1998. The Multimedia Super Corridor economic-zone is intended to harness the full potential of ICTs and the Internet.

Rwanda (Vincent Museminali, Internet Governance Officer, Utilities Regulatory Authority) – The Internet needs to be managed from a public interest perspective. ICTs have been a catalyst for social transformation in the country, and Rwanda requests ICANN to extend the timeframe for consideration and comment periods and enhance their role within ICANN. They would also like to be consulted when the ccTLD is concerned. The appropriate international organization should do a legally binding convention setting out details in the area of right to data protection and privacy.

SESSION 2 – THEMATIC CHALLENGES IN THE IG ECOSYSTEM – CYBERCRIME, DATA PROTECTION AND PRIVACY

Discussion from subject matter experts, invited discussants and participants

Moderator (Awa N'Diaye, Chairman of the Senegalese DPA) – The session's topic, security and stability of the Internet as it relates to cybercrime, intends to make sure we have security online. Work within ICANN is not enough to present different threats being present on the Internet.

John Crain (Expert, Chief Security, Stability & Resiliency Officer, ICANN) – The Internet's openness and transparency can be traced to the principles of Postel's Law: be liberal in what you accept and conservative in what you send. Security is also included as a principle today, and encrypted web-traffic is behind the digital economy. Stability of the Internet relies on knowing who is responsible for the crucial parts of the network and of the data. The WHOIS protocol is being adapted to the RDAP protocol, which is driven by principles of security and more privacy in the ecosystem.

Enrique Factor (Expert, Spanish DPA, GDPR Board) – In the European Union, privacy and data protection are not absolute rights and can be limited under certain conditions. Right of data protection and privacy may need to be balanced against other interests and EU values, such as freedom of expression, information and press. Fight for the protection of rights cannot be at the expense of transparency, fairness and compliance with the law.

Steven Wilson (Expert, European Cybercrime Center EC3 and Europol) – There is a need to balance data protection and privacy with the rights of the victims, serious threats and exploitations online. WHOIS was a starting point for most investigations and has been vital to investigate the most dynamic abuses seen in law enforcement. Multiple investigations have been challenged and slowed down, a Universal Access Model is fundamental for law enforcement. The Internet is boundaryless and law enforcement needs to be able to work on a global basis and link targeted domains.

Bertrand the La Chapelle (Expert, Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network) – The challenge is to reconcile three objectives: protecting human rights, catching abusers and not hindering the development of the digital economy. DNS should not be seen as a tool to solve what is happening on the Internet, but DNS operators can be leveraged to fight abuses of the infrastructure. Local decisions and legislations have a global impact, and there needs to be communication, coordination and cooperation between governments.

Uganda (Frank Kagyigyi Tumwebaze, Cabinet Minister of Information Technology and Communications) – Data protection and privacy are important as e-policies are being adapted in the private sector. The process of development and provision of policies and industry requirement that relates to the Internet ecosystem should ensure the provision of public services and national security.

Cook Islands (Pua Hunter, ICT Director for the Government of the Cook Islands) – Offered her speaking slot to the representative of Tuvalu.

Tuvalu (Monise Laafai, Minister for Communications and Transport) – Tuvalu is very vulnerable to the effects of climate change, and it is costly to travel outside of the country, an activity seen as crucial for economic development. The communication sector is modest with limited resources, requiring many to multitask. With generous funding from the world Bank to address policy and technical challenges, undersea-cables have been laid down to connect island communities.

Dominican Republic (Nelson Guillen, member of the Board of Indotel) – The Dominican Republic has taken the initiative to establish cybersecurity mechanisms to protect the state and citizens, guaranteeing the reliable development of activities in all sectors with the respect of human rights. There is also concern that laws intended to combat cybercrime and cyberterrorism are used as an excuse to criminalize critics and oppress different political thinking and about using the spirit of cybersecurity to prevent the use of WHOIS data for particular interest, a conflict that should be solved at a global level.

European Commission (Pearse O'Donohue, Director for Future Networks in the European Commission) – It is a balancing act to maintain privacy and ensuring law enforcement protection against cyberattacks. The EU acknowledges ICANN's central role and responsibility for ensuring the security, stability and resilience of the DNS. The EU supports the ongoing dialogue between ICANN and the Data Protection authorities in the EU, and underlines that the GDPR does not prevent the processing of data for legitimate purposes, such as law enforcement and breaching of IP rights.

India (Gulshan Rai Rye, National Cyber Security Coordinator) – Cybercrime, cybersecurity, privacy and the free flow of information are emerging issues as the digital economy grows. India already has a framework for cybersecurity policy and strategy, and is on the verge of developing a privacy framework. The nature of the Internet requires a seamless interoperable network framework that addresses the issue of cybersecurity, privacy and free flow of information. GAC has a key role to play to bring communities together.

USA (David Redl, National Telecommunications and Information Administration) – Access to WHOIS data is crucial for protecting public security and ensuring trust in the DNS. There is a continued lack of clarity and shared understanding among ICANN stakeholders about where the lines of GDPR compliance and non-compliance are, which continues to frustrate the process of EPDP. ICANN should directly engage with the EU Data Protection Board to tackle challenges together and come up with a UAM.

Malaysia (Mohd Ali Mohamad Nor, Deputy Secretary-General (Operations), Ministry of Communications and Multimedia) – There are new challenges for law enforcement agencies. WHOIS is crucial for investigative and law enforcement purposes.

John Crain (Chief Security, Stability & Resiliency Officer, ICANN) – WHOIS and the future RDAP are decentralized systems with many databases and locations around the world. ICANN brings together stakeholders and applies balanced principles, including security, privacy and robustness of the network.

Mexico (Victor Lagunes Soto, National Digital Strategy Coordinator) – Mexico has a national strategy for cybersecurity developed in collaboration with the whole ecosystem in a multistakeholder environment. A data strategy protecting citizens, and innovative economy, public security, strengthening cybersecurity culture, cooperation with the environment, setting technical standards and protecting infrastructure are being developed to strengthen a stable Internet. WSIS has named the platform a champion last year.

Brazil (Ambassador Benedicto Fonseca Filho, Director of the Department of Scientific and Technological Affairs of the Ministry of External Relations) – New data protection legislation has been adopted and will enter into force in 2020, and there are discussions for a national cybersecurity strategy. The debate around WHOIS illustrates the three dimensions Brazil wants to achieve, to fight abuse, protect human rights, and not to undermine the development of new digital technologies. Internet and network jurisdiction is very important.

Samoa (Honourable Afamasaga Lepuiai Rico Tupai, Minister of Communication and Information Technology) – Requested to speak during Session 4.

Sweden (Niklas Nilsson, First Secretary of the Embassy of Sweden to Spain) – Human rights, the rule of law and democracy, must be secured by states and guide the global debate on standards for cyberspace. Online respect for human rights has decreased worldwide, cyberviolence, state-led propaganda and limitation and restriction in citizen participation, all part of a larger trend. Multistakeholder model, which includes human rights defenders, is key when developing frameworks, content and common standards of the Internet.

Netherlands (Geert Moelker, Manager Digital Economy, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate policy) – ICANN could be the organization where privacy and security are reconciled. There is an urgency to harmonize the access model to WHOIS data, where ICANN can play a pivotal role because of its unique position and multistakeholder model and provide a uniform approach on a global scale. WHOIS debate is a test for the multistakeholder model following that IANA Transition.

Italy (Rita Forsi, Director General, Ministry of Economic Development) – Italy supports the work to implement a permanent solution to access WHOIS data, but stresses the need for a UAM. Key driver for success will remain the structure of the cooperation among all involved parties in the domain name system community. Community must also acknowledge that there is a need for speed when dealing with internet governance issues. There is an ongoing dialogue between EU data protection services and ICANN is essential.

Bertrand de La Chapelle (Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network) – ICANN has a limited mandate, and there is a danger that because the community is there, Internet-related issues have a tendency to be discussed there. Some topics do not belong into ICANN, topics should be analyzed and handled on an issue-by-issue basis. It is important to create opportunities outside of ICANN for emerging issues.

SESSION 3 – THE ROLE AND IMPACT OF INTERNET TECHNOLOGICAL EVOLUTION ON ICANN

Discussion from subject matter experts, invited discussants and participants

Chair - David Cierco, Director General of Red.es, Spanish Ministry for Economy and Business

Moderator (David Redl, Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information and Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, USA) – Access to WHOIS is important for cybersecurity, law enforcement, consumer protection and the enforcement of IP rights. Device, software

and network security are a priority for the USA, and their cybersecurity work is aimed at finding the incentives to create a market. People need to trust institutions such as ICANN, and the IANA stewardship transition process has improved accountability but more remains to be done.

David Conrad (Expert, Senior Vice-President and Chief Technology Officer, Office of the CTO, ICANN) – Policy development contracts and agreements, reliable and secure services to ICANN customers and to standards development organization are some of the ways ICANN has an impact in the context of Internet technology. Contracts and services will continue to evolve, with the introduction of the RDAP allowing for differentiated access to registration data for example. In the near-future, ICANN will continue to support the evolution of the underlying protocols, make minor changes and improve the performance of the DNS, improve the infrastructure ICANN is directly responsible for and implement the rollout of the RDPA. In the long-term, ICANN researches and will work with new technologies and tools to better meet requirements. In ICANN's mission, security and stability take precedence, but a single, global, interoperable aspects offer the greater value for the users of the network.

Tripti Sinha (Expert, ICANN Board Member) – The evolution and the growth of the Internet was very fast, necessitating the creation of a coordination organization. We are at an inflection point in the innovation cycle with new technologies on the horizon. A perfect storm of innovation is occurring, and the Internet, identifiers and the address space will grow. The need for coordination will continue to preserve the integrity of the unique identifiers, with an ever-growing security. DNS root services need to scale and potentially evolve, bringing closer the resolution to the user

Japan (Mabito Yoshida, Director-General of Global Strategy Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Telecommunications) – It is difficult to satisfy economic growth and solve social challenges at the same time. Japan is introducing a new human-centric Society 5.0, where cyberspace and future space are integrated and converge. Emerging technologies can change the world drastically, but they depend on a stable, open and interoperable internet. Japan also believes that AI systems will be networked, and the DNS and ICANN will have a significant role to play.

Argentina (Hugo Miguel, Undersecretary of Development, Ministry of Modernization) – Looking towards the future of Internet, Argentina has worked on its infrastructure and has an initiative supporting migration to IPv6 and assessing the impact of IoTs on routing, of 5G frequencies that are going to be used for future networked, and blockchain as a standardization tool. The priority is to provide the necessary infrastructure and to work on interconnection on a global level too.

EU Commission (Pearse O'Donohue, Director of DG Connect) – The EU is looking at a policy called “Next Generation Internet,” where the goal is to achieve a human-centric Internet. We need to look at the wider ecosystem surrounding the Internet and its drivers, and address issues such as the lack of trust, security and privacy, concentration of economic or technical power, silos and a lack of interoperability. To prevent a wider digital divide, when necessary, we should depart from the market-based approach to ensure the creation of a more inclusive, multilingual, transparent and open global social sphere.

Salomon Islands (Peter Shanel Agovaka, Minister of Communication and Aviation) – Salomon Islands appreciate the benefits and opportunities provided by the Internet, and will continue to collaborate with others to continue to maximize internet connectivity for its citizens. They are optimistic about the continued technical and advice to be provided by ICANN and acknowledge that the DNSsec was deployed following a workshop provided by ICANN among others. Salomon Islands call to keep outreach program

and systems available and to provide tangible benefits to some of the challenges of very small island states in the Pacific region.

Germany (Daniela Bronstrup, Deputy Director-General for Digital Policy, Postal Policy, International Affairs, and Media in the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy) – When considering new technologies, it is even more important to guarantee a reliable, secure and open truly global Internet. The multistakeholder model and the IGF have been flagged by the UN Secretary General through the UN High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation, which will feed into the preparation of the next IGF to be held in Berlin in 2019. It remains important for ICANN to provide the platform for stakeholders to work together, but the model will have to grow.

Iran (Amir Nazemi, Deputy Minister at Ministry of Communication and Information Technology) – The unilateral coercive measures (UCM) target the infrastructure of the country and violates important civil rights of the people. The UCM violate the right to development in general, with ICTs in particular. Unilateral interventions have stopped the flow of data and information, and they target the people instead of the government, reinforcing the digital gap. Iran support efforts by several GAC members to ensure that ICANN expand immunity from US jurisdiction and raise the ability to resist sanctions.

Latvia (Edmunds Belskis, Deputy State Secretary ICT, The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development) – New technologies will challenge the classical HTTP protocols and ccTLDs will continue to play a role in the future shaping local community identities, languages or raising local issues. There is a risk of a handful of companies taking over and providing resolution of DNS services, which would inevitably lead to centralization and concentration of important data in a few hands. There is also the question of what role would ICANN play in a peer-to-peer system.

Luxemburg (Claudine Kariger, Senior Policy Advisor, Media and communications department of the Ministry of State) – The most promising technologies on the horizon are AI, augmented reality and IoTs, all pointing to a massive increase in DNS demand. Luxemburg is building a smart nation and support emerging technologies, primarily 5G and blockchain. Blockchain could present alternatives to legacy of the DNS, but from a public policy side, the decentralized, distribution and anonymous nature of it could hamper the public interest duty of governments. Luxemburg is preparing to rollout 5G pilot projects, which will heavily rely on network slicing and tailor-made network architectures.

Portugal (Ana Neves, Director, Department of Information Society, Science & Technology Foundation I.P. Ministry of Education and Science) – Digital issues are promoted through the implementation of a program called INCoDe.2030. There is also development of new technologies, with a special attention on thinking about the Internet architecture, current models of centralized governance and Internet protocols. WEF report on jobs highlights challenges facing us, and we have to bet on digital skills.

Katrina Sasaki (Expert, Chair of the ccNSO, ICANN) - CcTLDs see themselves as a trustee for a country's Internet resources but at the same time, in terms of policies, culture, tech advancement, all are different and distinct as territories and countries around the world. There is a low appetite for risk, ccTLD managers prefer evolution to revolution. They can be viewed as a stabilizing factor when promoting national identity, for instance encouraging the use of IDNs.

SESSION 4 – GLOBAL DIGITAL AGENDA AND INTERNET POLICIES

Discussion from subject matter experts, invited discussants and participants

Moderator (Gushan Rai, National Civil Society Coordinator Government of India) – The evolution and the transformation Internet has made to the global economy has been facilitated by the mobile phone, serving as a single catalytic factor in the digital evolution. The impact of digital technologies is evident in developing countries, and is projected to have a positive impact on economic growth and the GDP. IDNs have the potential to catalyze the growth of the Internet, the digital economy and bridge the digital divide. IANA transition is a powerful illustration of the multistakeholder model, but significant barriers still remain.

Andrew Sullivan (Expert, President and CEO of Internet Society) – The nature of the Internet requires a multistakeholder approach, and all stakeholders have different roles and responsibilities. ISOC collaborates with other organisations throughout the world to put in place community networks for communities that are hard to access or where there is not commercial interest. Governments can help by influencing the allocation of wireless spectrum and adopting legislations supporting development needs.

Dirk Pilat (Expert, Deputy Director of the OECD Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation) – The Internet and digital economy are affecting every area of the economy and society and has become an area of high interest for policy makers. Issues remain which the OECD is trying to address with a new policy framework: access and connectivity, capabilities and skills, unleashing innovation, and the impact on jobs. We need to maximize the impacts for society for better health, government, education and opportunities. Trust, privacy and market openness are also key factors driving the digital economy, issues should be looked at in an integrated way.

Nii Quaynor (Expert, Chairman of the Board of Ghana Dot Com, convener at AfNOG, Chairman of NCS) – The digital divide has been recognized by governments, the UN and other IGOs, and technology has been mainstreamed in development programs. Government are in a position of leadership when determining local policy or facilitate network growth to create access and connectivity, but there is also a need for a bottom-up approach. IDNs offer enhanced access to the Internet, raising the question of how far engagement goes. There is a need of emerging economies to strengthen the local Internet technical institutions with best common practices and know-hows.

Germany (Daniela Bronstrup, Deputy Director-General for Digital Policy, Postal Policy, International Affairs, and Media in the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy) – Government needs to set the right framework and give support where the market cannot cope with problems on its own, such as skills and broadband in rural area. Germany has set up a cabinet committee on digitization to discuss policy areas in view of national strategies, including AI, support for young innovative economies, and a digital policy framework. Governments have to guarantee competition and contestable markets, and that benefits are accessible to all.

France (Mathieu Weill, Head of Digital Economy Department, France) – Along with the UNESCO, France will be hosting the IGF, with the presence of President Macron. The digital program will include a Peace Forum, with the theme “Trust”. France also published an international strategy on digital issues.

Nigeria (Abdur-Raheem Adebayo Shittu, Minister of communications) – Nigeria has a national broadband plan with a 30% penetration target, but foreign companies are welcome to invest in Nigeria in the provision of infrastructures.

(Director of National Information Technology Development Agency) – Agency focuses on digital inclusion, digital job creation, the promotion of government digital cyberspace, and the move from the Internet of information to the Internet of value. Nigeria also has an Advisory Forum to positively leverage disruptive and emerging technologies. The government has been providing affordable internet, free in certain public spaces.

Burundi (Donatien Manirampa, Director General ARCT Burundi) –The ICT plan has been adopted in 2011 and a national plan is currently being developed. Burundi is one of the most densely populated country in terms of infrastructure, a deployment of fiber optic cables which also reduces the cost of connectivity. ICTs and the Internet have become a tool, but the digital world is not immune to criminal actions, and permanent international cooperation with the goal to increase trust and dialogue and find consensual solutions is needed. ICANN offers good solutions through skill-building regional workshops, and they are to be congratulated on their work in Nairobi and Dakar.

Canada (Pamela Miller, Director General, Telecommunications and Internet Policy Branch, Innovation, Science and Economic Development) – Canada has several programs to address the digital divide and encourage innovation and the development of skills. Addressing connectivity inequalities in the long term, building resilient technical infrastructure and developing digital skills requires a coordinated multistakeholder effort where all work together in their respective roles. A good example is the GAC’s Underserved-Regions Working Group. Canada also recognizes the global gender digital divide and supports achieving gender equality.

Samoa (Honorable Afamasaga Lepuiai Rico Tupai, Minister of Communication and Information Technology) – ICANN’s role is crucial in the Pacific region in helping build capacity for the communities there on how DNS and IP addresses can assist in the development of digital services, data protection, privacy and the digital economy. Digital Pacific 2018 was launched this year, with the intent to begin a regional dialogue. Digital transformation is intricately connected with regional security.

Cook Islands (Pua Hunter, ICT Director for the Government of the Cook Islands) – ICANN has been providing support to the GAC Underserved Regions Working Group, to increase awareness and knowledge of the GAC and ICANN process, strengthen diversity and lower barriers to participation. Eight workshops with 250 participates were held in five regions, but the effort requires a broader approach to include higher level government officials and ministers. This will have the potential to develop champion high-level leaders at the national level who will then support its GAC representative to be more active in GAC and ICANN.

Khaled Koubaa (ICANN Board member, ICANN) – ICANN has a narrow remit. ICANN Board is the developing a five-year strategic plan, including championing a single open and globally interoperable Internet. Proposals of strategic goals and objectives will include more engagement to promote IDNs and universal acceptance. ICANN has structured its work around three pillars: identifying the needs,

responding to those needs by developing different activities and capacity building programs, and evaluating those actions.

China (Liu Jie, Deputy Director General of Information and Communication Administration, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology) – The digital economy is playing a significant role in updating the network and the infrastructure, in the promotion of technological innovation, AI, big data and new technologies, and in increased openness and data protection and privacy, to improve the prosperity of the digital economy.

UK (Head of Global Internet Governance, DCMS) – It is a critical priority to connect people across the globe for all stakeholders in the ICANN community. Developing countries are developing good practice when it comes to competitive markets, with streamlined licensing processes, transparent and predictable regulatory frameworks, public-private partnerships, and many others, but the role of the private sector, civil society and the technical community are equally important. Governments need to act within a multistakeholder model to ensure that all stakeholders are working towards the same goal.

Japan (Mabito Yoshida, Director-General of Global Strategy Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Telecommunications) – The role of governments is to build an open and secure cyberspace through freedom of information, the rule of law, openness, autonomy and progress among multistakeholders. Work is being done on measuring the free flow of information as adopted in the G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Declaration. Japan also welcomes the OECD’s Going Digital Project and promotes its Society 5.0 by working on achieving the SDGs, and by achieving gender equality and empowerment of the woman in particular.

OIF (Emmanuel Adjovi, Director OIF Bureau for the LAC Region) OIF’s program for democracy and multistakeholder approach promotes French speaking countries in their involvement in the digital debate. Training and capacity building activities have been organized, a workshop together with ICANN in Dakar, and a summer university to train stakeholders. A new program will be set up in 2019 to develop digital governance, public policies, cybersecurity, to highlight the common good that the digital world represents and to harness innovation and emerging technologies.

Chinese Taipei (Morris Lin) – To reap the benefits of and addresses the challenges brought by digital transformation, governments need to quickly adapt to face a changing environment to enable successful industrial transformation and they need to play an active role in other aspects such as accelerating digital infrastructure deployment. Governments also need to work with other stakeholders to ensure all people have the opportunity to participate in the digital economy. Thirdly, they need to cooperate with the international society to establish appropriate digital economy policies.

Argentina (Agustin Garzón, Director of ENACOM) – AS the Chair of the G20, Argentina promotes the idea of giving importance to the development of infrastructure as part of the digital economy. Argentina has a fund allocated to building of fiberoptic networks where there is no private investor. Training people in digital skills has also been a priority. Digital infrastructure and digital inclusion is the only way to overcome poverty and connect people who are still not connected.

UNESCO (Rachel Pollack) – Gender equality is a priority for UNESCO. Work remains to be done in terms of diversity, IDNs, open Internet, human rights, freedom of expression, privacy, access to information, sustainable developments, by both UNESCO and ICANN.

Ivory Coast – The multistakeholder model needs to be flexible and dynamic to take into account new challenges. The national digital strategy, the elaboration of a strong regulation, the building of digital infrastructure, the establishment of different plans for equipment, the development of different uses through digital programs and the development of local contents, the development of human resources and training to ICTs as well as promoting youth. A new migration process from IPv4 to IPv6 has been launched, and there are also new laws for security, privacy and data protection and laws on cyber criminality.

South Africa (Alf Wiltz) – Bridging the digital divide is also about ensuring that people are equipped to take advantage of the digital economy and improve their lives. South Africa Connect is implementing in partnership with the World Economic Forum the project Internet for All. African Digital Transformation Center of Excellence is also being established to focus on the changing world of policy development. It is critical that governments participate in the development of international public policies as these have a direct impact on national policies. Only 30 applications out of 1930 came from developing countries, which is concerning, because they need to participate as equals in the DNS industry. South Africa would also like to be informed with regards to country code second-level domains.

ATTACHEMENT

LIST OF ACCEPTANCES TO THE BARCELONA HIGH LEVEL GOVERNMENT MEETING

African Union Commission
Argentina
Australia
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
Belarus
Belize
Belgium
Benin
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Botswana
Brazil
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Canada
Central African Republic
Republic of Chad
China
Colombia
Comoros
Cook Islands
Côte d'Ivoire
Croatia
Democratic Republic of Congo
Republic of Congo
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Egypt
European Commission
Finland
France
Gabon
Georgia
Germany
Guatemala
Republic of Guinea

Holy See - Vatican City State
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Iran
Ireland
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Kenya
Korea, Republic of
Kuwait
Latvia
Lebanon
Liberia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Macedonia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of
Madagascar
Malawi
Malaysia
Mali
Mexico
Moldova
Morocco
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nigeria
Norway
Oman
Pakistan
Palestine
Philippines
Portugal
Qatar
Romania
Russian Federation
Rwanda
Samoa
São Tomé and Príncipe
Senegal
Serbia

Sierra Leone
Singapore
Slovenia
Solomon Islands
Somalia
South Africa
Spain [HOST]
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Swaziland
Sweden
Switzerland
Chinese Taipei
Timor-Leste
Tokelau
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Tuvalu
Uganda
Ukraine
United Kingdom
United States of America
Venezuela
Vietnam
Zimbabwe
Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU)
Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization (CTO)
Council of Europe
Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)
International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement
Organization of American States (OAS)
Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)
Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)
The Organization for Islamic Cooperation (OIC)
United Nation Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
West Africa Telecommunications Regulators Assembly (WATRA)
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
World Meteorological Organization