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ICANN72 | Virtual Annual General Meeting - GAC Communique Review  
Tuesday, October 26, 2021 - 13:15 to 14:00 PDT

GULTAN TEPE: Thank you, Manal, we are ready to proceed.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Thank you very much, Gulten, and so it's now time to start our review of the communique. We have -- we have until the hour to discuss our plan for the communique drafting. We will check any communique language that has already been submitted, identify other potential parts that may be missing, and assign pen holders for those missing parts if possible.

We already have the communique on the screen, and I think we already used to using the Google doc, the document starts again by showing the process for the communique drafting with all the deadlines, the communique process, and we have already also covered this during the opening plenary, so depending on when exactly we will finish the communique we have 72 hours review. We are expecting the deadline by Sunday 31st of October end of day in all time zones and the communique should -- we expect the communique to be published on the Monday 1st of November.

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***Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.***

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And again, when you are inserting communique language in the document, please make sure you are using the suggesting mode, and that you insert the proposed text where appropriate. Make sure the author is identified so it doesn't show as anonymous, and finally don't forget to hit reply. Otherwise the edits would not be identified. Now going to the structure of the communique, and as you all know, we have a skeleton for the communique, parts of which are filled by support staff, and those are the factual information on the meeting or reporting on our bilaterals with the community.

And I think I -- I can do it quick reading maybe of what we have right now, so the -- this is the communique, the GAC ICANN72 communique was drafted and agreed remotely during the ICANN72 virtual annual general meeting, and that the communique was circulated to the GAC immediately after the meeting to provide an opportunity for all GAC members on observers to consider it before publication bearing in mind the special circumstances of a virtual meeting.

And as you can see, all parts marked in yellow the date of first of November as well as the sentence that needs no objections were raised during the agreed time-frame before publication, as well as the number of GAC members and observers who attended the meeting, these are things that we fine tune at the very last minute before publication so just to confirm that there were no

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objections received, put appropriate date, and also sometimes even the count is not as accurate until after the communique is posted, so this explains that you may sometimes read a different number of attendees in minutes of meeting because sometimes attendance is being accumulated from all sessions so it's a tough job that sometimes takes time after the issuing of the communique.

Maybe we can -- I will not read it unless we have time at the end. But let's scroll down present the structure. The section 2 is interconstituency activities and community engagement and this is the section where we report on our bilateral meetings. You will find the meeting with the Board again this is the agenda of the meeting, and we can of course fine tune it in light of our meeting with the Board tomorrow.

Then our meeting with the ALAC again reporting the agenda items that we have discussed earlier today, and meeting with the GNSO. Also presenting the agenda that was discussed. Do we need a place holder for our meeting with the universal acceptance steering group on the Thursday, or is this supported somewhere else?

Anyway, then we report on the cross-community discussions, and this may lean on the cross-community panels and we will already have one on designing hybrid ICANN and public meetings and it

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will take place tomorrow. Second 3 reports on internal matters, and this covers GAC membership, we will report on the elections. GAC working groups, from whom we received reports during the meetings, so this is placeholders for the GAC Public Safety Working Group, the underserved regions working group, the operating principles working group, and the human right and international law working group.

Then any GAC operational matters as well belongs to this section. Section 4 we have issues of importance to the GAC, and there is DNS abuse has been submitted by GAC colleagues. I see Nigel U.K. and Susan U.S., I see their names in the Google doc, so thanks for already starting to put text into the template. If we can scroll down and then I will return back to this part there are no other issues. Then we have section 5 where we put our consensus GAC advice to the Board, and here we have to formulate our language very accurately, and we provide rationale for each piece of advice.

And last, I believe is the section 6 on follow up on previous GAC advice, and this is where we reiterate or follow up on specific advice that has already been formulated on shared before, and finally, I'm sorry there is a section 7 where we report on the date of our upcoming meeting.

So, this is the structure of the communique. And we still have half an hour so let's see the text first I would like -- I see Kavouss's

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hand up. I'm sorry, Kavouss, I'm not sure if I've opinion keeping you waiting. I will give Kavouss the floor first and then ask for topics that we need to bear in mind for the communique. Kavouss, please go ahead.

IRAN:

Thank you. Two things. With respect to the issues important for GAC, yes, I agree that there are issues important for us. Among which, as I see it, I see please kindly go to that section -- DNS abuse. I think we need to put some very small introductory paragraph saying that further to the previous views or comments of whatever you want, of the GAC, with respect to this issue, then is a GAC recognize rec recognizes so on and so forth. So are we saying something new?

If that is the case we could say GAC would like to update its previous views or comments in regards with DNS abuse as follows. So we don't want to repeat what we have already said. Even though I was criticized by someone -- I don't know that that I normally raise hand I try not to raise hand anymore or make it minimum -- keep quiet. It's better to be quiet. Maybe people like the quiet people. Not to keep the comment. But in any case, I could not be indifferent if we do not start this part in saying that further to the previous GAC comments or views or communication in regard with DNS abuse, GAC would like to

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provide further updates of previous views and comments, and we have to really give update.

We should not repeat what we said ten times it would be boring for the reader and boring for the boring for ICANN community. This is why a simple way of suggestion.

Point 2, for my friend, Fabien, we need to avoid the personal pronounce IU we they. I can satisfy that but not we can see that instead of saying they previous used the GAC's previous views so we should avoid that. This is purely editorial. I leave it to Fabien to kindly implement that, but I reiterate that in the important issue of for GAC we have to update what we have said before.

We should defer -- if it was indicated we should like to update our previous views and comments and so on and so forth and say something new, not repeat it if you want to repeat something we have said, you could say that this has already been included in the previous GAC communique but wish to reiterate the importance of this issue, and update it as follows. This is by one I would say simple suggestions. Then with respect to the Public Safety Working Group we always have the longest text repeated, what you have said, we should also do the same principle and say something which is new I would assure you it would have more attraction and more attention because people would not like to listen or read something which was said before. I'm sorry that I'm

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very straightforward, and frank and apologize to everybody if, if I raised the hand. Should you decide that I should not raise the hand I keep silence. And do not make.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Thank you very much.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Any comments. Thank you.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Kavouss, no one, no one ever blamed any one for raising hands. So I hope that anyone who has a comment is encouraged to raise their hands on make their voices heard, so thank you for your comments, and please keep the comments coming, and we will take care of the we, I, and so on. This is an advance stage maybe -- I didn't even frankly read the text so I don't know if it is something new or not, but it's an open issue that we may continue reporting on, but I haven't read the text. I see Nigel's hand up and Susan's hand up so maybe we can hear from them on the key messages in there. Nigel, please go ahead.

UNITED KINGDOM: Yes, thank you very much, Manal, and thank you, Kavouss, and good afternoon, or good evening even. Or good morning -- yes, I mean, this text is very much a place holder. I do hope it's new. I

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think it's new. I mean some of the elements of it have been happening for a while. But it's recognizing a dynamic that is taking place in respect to DNS abuse. I would say an escalation of the various discussions, and, of course, I -- you know when I originally drafted something, I put it here because it -- you know it -- in the text because it was like observations, I mean I think we can, we ought to consider and we're not in a discussion on DNS abuse at the moment but we out to consider whether some text needs to go into the advice section either to repeat specific advice and I thought that in this respect the discussion we had before on SubPro and some of the elements that Luisa brought out might well be relevant in that record. And, of course, there could be some new advice depending on perhaps on our how our discussions with the boards go or off elements of our discussions this week so I don't think you should, if you like look at this as the sole text covering DNS abuse.

I'm sure it will evolve over the next couple of days perhaps. Thank you very much.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Thank you very much, Nigel. Susan, please go ahead.

UNITED STATES: Thank you, chair. And just a very quick note to say that couldn't agree more with our colleague, Kavouss, thank you for these

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principles of drafting for the communique. I think that if you review the text you will find that the -- the early contributions that we have offered are indeed new to text, recognizing activities since the last meeting so we look forward to further discussion and contributions from all GAC colleagues on this text, understanding that it is in the early stage. Thank you.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Thank you very much, Susan, and, yeah, indeed that's an early draft and thank you for putting the text early on. We will make a thorough read and provide any comments as you also continue to enhance. Just one quick thing Kavouss on -- I fully agree that we need to be concise, short and to the point. Cannot agree more and I hope we receive concise reporting from the working groups, but I also note that the PSWG they conduct bilateral meetings so that's why they tend to provide a little bit longer text than other working groups but again I encourage them to be concise and to the point as we all have agreed.

Like one more thing before we -- if we still have time we can read the DNS abuse text, but I would like to ask if colleagues already have in mind the topics that they will start drafting, the communique language for, and I see assuming Kavouss and Nigel these are old hands I'll go directly to, Velimira, please. Go ahead, Manal?

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MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: I'm sorry, just a second, Vilimira, is there a new hand?

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Yes, it's new hand.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Velimiri --

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: I would like to mention whenever they refer to the meeting of GAC with other member of the constituency perhaps at the beginning or at the end we would add that they attention of the readers of this communique is drawn to the transcript and minute or some of the record, whatever that, which indicate the result of this meeting. You have to mention that because just saying that we met, and we talked about this without anything it is better to mention that.

People are interested what has happened in that discussion. They could refer to the transcript, and to the summary record or minute of the decision or whatever you call them in your language, and jargons. This is some simple -- either you put at the beginning or at the end. Say that with respect to the meeting of... the following dadada dedede, the interested parties of the result of these meeting and discussions are drawn to the similar record

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or record or recording and the transcript of this discussion. This is something very general. Thank you. Sorry to all the floor again and then I will try to listen to the others. Thank you.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Thank you very much, Kavouss. So a reference for further information for interested readers. Velimira please go ahead. Sorry to keep you waiting.

VELIMIRA GRAU NEMIGUENTCHEVA: Thank you, Manal. Good evening afternoon and good morning to all GAC colleagues. Thank you Manal for asking for further topics. I just wanted to share that we are reflecting upon text to include on accuracy of registration data. The only think that we have taken the approach with other topic leads so afterwards other GAC colleagues may have forward the access to a cleaner text so we will provide some text in the course of tomorrow before the GAC session, and I also wanted to share that we are reflecting also with other GAC representatives on possible wording in relation to the ICANN's Board scorecard on SSR2 report.

The only thing is we would like to wait for the discussion with the Board and this would... once I would say the, the decision what kind of type of text we would be proposing. So this is way wanted to share with everybody.

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Thank you.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Thank you very much, Velimira. This is very helpful. So we have DNS abuse. Data accuracy, and SSR2, and I'm offering you the option everyone of course the option of having drafting Zoom rooms. We're trying to accommodate if people want to put their heads together and start drafting for a certain piece of the communique, or under a certain topic, they are most welcome to join a special Zoom room that for example we can have one for DNS abuse, for those who are interested to draft under DNS abuse, one for accuracy, and again subject to GAC support staff.

I'm not sure about the number of rooms we can have but also one for SSR2 if, if needed. So that's why it's good to know early on and to prepare accordingly. What are the topics? Do we need -- do the drafters need to get together in a Zoom room or not? It's on option, and if so, when would you like this to happen?

We can still see tomorrow, and Gulden and support staff very helpfully said they can start sending the calendar invites or the Zoom links as soon as we agree we need a room, so I'm just bringing it to your attention, if you are working fine over e-mail, it's okay otherwise we can provide you with a Zoom room. Reading in the chat noting any breakout rooms will not have regular ICANN interpretation services. A virtual attempt to

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replicate the in-person gatherings around someone's seat in the room. So indeed. Thank you. So this is not a fully equipped Zoom room as Rob mentioned. Like we normally do during in-person meetings when people gather together around one desk, and they start drafting and updating.

So, let us know, to let us know if this will be helpful, we can work logistics and do this tomorrow but please bear in mind. I think I saw something from Lauren that I skipped in the chat as well -- saying that PSWG holds a series of incompetent formal bilateral that are not recorded or transcribed these meetings are open to GAC members and they are fortunate to have several GAC members join us. Thank you Lauren.

So anything else? We still have -- Kavouss, please go ahead.

IRAN:

Something I'm sure that you know very well as many of GAC colleagues but not all of them. As soon as we write communique, and it is released, GNSO people we sit down, and they scrutinize what we have written carefully and provide one or two or several pages of their comments. We don't mind. We appreciate it. It gives us some feedback whether we have been thinking unilaterally or we have been thinking been the interests of the ICANN community.

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I'm not referring to that. What I'm saying that all of the subject we raise like DNS abuse or accuracy of registration data, at least we should mention one or two lines of appreciation or acknowledgment of actions being so far taken in this regard by relevant entities whether you want to enter by the Board or ICANN organization or whatever, and then saying that nevertheless, there are still areas that need to be further elaborated. And explored so we pre phrase what we are saying by such acknowledgment and appreciation.

I'm sure Fabien will put a simple sentence in that regard. Should in the sound like this is a brand-new issue of no it is issue long-term. As far as I remember the last ten years attending GAC there has always been a case. Some action has been taken but the problem is that the abusers are also clever, what we do they also do something in order to further expand the data abuse so it doesn't stop but it would mitigate the issue, in fact, it has mitigated to some extent so we should express that. Not to leave this impression that we raise this issue, nothing has been done, and we reraise it. I hope I have properly and clearly explained my suggestions. Thank you.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Thank you very much, Kavouss, and point well taken so if there is some progress we need to acknowledge it as well, and then continue to report on what we see missing but be constructive

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and positive and also acknowledge any progress that has been an achieved so thank you very much.

Any further requests for the floor? So if not then I hope colleagues will start thinking and drafting even if things would need to be fine-tuned or finalized after our meeting with the Board, but at least start working on something to facilitate tomorrow's discussions, and we can then agree and whether Zoom rooms are needed and what on who is interested in drafting under which title but it's always good to have a first draft that we could work on.

If there are no further requests for the floor, I give you back 5 minutes, would like to thank everyone we now have 30-minute break, after which there will be an ICANN executive Q and A session, then another 30-minute break, and we will be reconvening in the GAC Zoom room at 16:30 Seattle time, 23:30 UTC last session of today and WHOIS and data protection.

Enjoy your breaks, thank you.

**[ END OF TRANSCRIPT ]**