ICANN77 | PF – GAC Opening Plenary
Monday, June 12 2023 – 10:45 to 12:15 DCA

GULTEN TEPE: Welcome to the ICANN77 GAC Opening Plenary session being held on Monday 12th of June at 1445 UTC and 10:45 local time. Recognizing that these are public sessions and other members of the ICANN committee may be in attendance. The GAC leadership and support staff encourage all of you who are GAC members to type your name and affiliation in the participation chatbot. This is to keep accurate attendance records. To ensure transparency of participation in ICANN's multistakeholder model, we ask that you sign in to Zoom sessions using your full name.

If you would like to ask a question or make a comment, please type it in the chat by starting and ending your sentence with a question or comment as indicated in the chat. The feature is located at the bottom of your Zoom window. Interpretation for GAC sessions include all six UN languages and Portuguese. Participants can select their language they wish to speak or listen to by clicking on the interpretation ICANN on zoom toolbar. If you wish to speak, please raise your hand. Once the session facilitator calls upon you, please unmute yourself and take the floor. Remember to state your name and the language you will speak in case you will be speaking a language other than English. Speak clearly and at a reasonable pace to allow for accurate interpretation. Please make sure to mute all other devices when you're speaking.

Finally, this session, like all other ICANN activities, is governed by the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior. In case of disruption during the session, our technical support team will mute all participants. This session is being recorded and all materials will be made available on the ICANN77 meetings page. With that, I would like to leave the floor to a GAC chair, Nicolas Caballero. Nico, over to you, please.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much, Gulten. Before I go on, please make sure to send me the link. Thank you so much, Gulten. So, good morning, everyone. Good afternoon and good evening for those following this opening plenary online. My name is Nico Caballero, I'm from Paraguay, and I'm the new gut chair replacing Missis Manal Ismail from Egypt. Manal was a GAC chair for the last five years. And let me just say that it is extremely difficult to let go of a wonderful person. Where's Manal, by the way? A wonderful person who has done so much for the GAC. She certainly fills this place with the joy, patience and wisdom. Thank you for being here, Manal.

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished GAC colleagues, it is my great honor and privilege to welcome you to the GAC sessions at ICANN77 in the beautiful city of Washington, DC, a city named after George Washington, a founding father, commanding general of the continental army in the American Revolutionary War and First president of the United States. This is a historic occasion for me as well as it is my first meeting as GAC chair, a very important body within the ICANN multi stakeholder model. It is also the first time that a Latin American has been elected to this position which basically reflects the diversity and

inclusiveness of the organization. I am deeply grateful for your trust and support and I pledge to serve you with dedication and impartiality.

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished delegates, this is also the first time that an ICANN meeting is being held in Washington in the 25 years of the organization, and please Alan correct me if I'm wrong. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the government and the people of the United States of America for their warm hospitality and excellent arrangements. And in that sense, I would like to especially thank Sally Costerton, (ICANN CEO), Tripti Sinha (Board chair), Susan Chalmers (GAC USA representative), David Olive from the ICANN DC office, Mandy Carver and the ICANN GE team, Rob Hogarth and the GAC Support team, the Fabulous five, as I call them, Jamie Hedlund and his team and everybody involved in the organization of this ICANN meeting once again, let me express my sincere gratitude and appreciation.

We are also honored to have assistant secretary Alan Davidson in the opening plenary today. NTIA is led by the assistant secretary for communications and information and through the secretary of commerce, Mr. Davidson is presidents, principal advisor on telecommunications and information policy. He will share with us his valuable insights and perspectives on the issues on our agenda. I'm very confident that with this guidance and your active participation, we will have a productive and successful session this morning. So, without further ado, I now have the pleasure to give the floor to assistant secretary Davidson for his welcoming remarks. Alan, you have the floor.

ALAN DAVIDSON: Well, thank you. Thank you, Nico. And thank you all for being here for this important conversation. And first, let me say on behalf of our US delegation and the US government, let me welcome you to Washington, DC. And it is hard to believe actually that this is the first ICANN meeting in 25 years that is taking place in the capital of the United States. We are so happy to have you here in our city and I'll just say I do hope you'll find a chance to get out and take advantage of all the city has to offer when you can escape this subterranean ballroom. You're at a good time of year here so I encourage you to get out. And I'd like to acknowledge the hard work of the Governmental Advisory Committee and its commitment to the multi-stakeholder process I know it's not always easy but it is worth it.

I just wanted to say, to reflect that collectively, we have come a long way since the early days of ICANN and in fact, as many of you know, this year marks the 25th anniversary of ICANN. And as someone who has been around since some of those early days, actually my first official ICANN meeting was ICANN3 and I went through ICANN 3to 12, as a matter of fact. It's amazing to think how much has changed and how much ICANN has accomplished since those early days. When ICANN began in 1998, there were less than 150 million people on the internet and today as we know we have over five billion. When ICANN began there were no smartphones, no social media, No Google. Through this incredible growth of the Internet, the operation of its unique identifier systems, the Internet's names and numbers has been stable and it's been secure and the result has been an open, accessible, unfragmented Internet, and that is the ICANN success story of the last 25 years.

ICANN has not been around this long without overcoming a few challenges, but each time it has been tested, this community has shown the value of its bottom-up consensus-based policy making process. And the Internet continues to work properly for people worldwide because of this technical and policy coordination that happens at ICANN. First and foremost, this is a testament to the success of the multistakeholder model of Internet governance. Multistakeholder processes can sometimes be slow. Their outcomes are hard earned. They incorporate the views and expertise of the technical community, the industry, and civil society alongside governments like all of us. But that's a feature, not a bug.

The products of multistakeholder cooperation are far more durable for the global Internet than top-down regulation. And it is more important than ever, that we commit ourselves to this multi-stakeholder approach. People of good faith, from diverse perspectives, coming together in a spirit of collegiality to solve problems of common interest online. It is not an exaggeration to say the Internet would not exist without this approach, certainly not the way it exists today.

In this context, the Government Advisory Committee at ICANN plays a special and important role. This committee is the place where we and government find common ground and resolve issues of general import. Governments have a special role to play in providing key input on public policy issues at ICANN. This input is of particular importance and its why governments should participate. And I will say it is so gratifying as somebody who was in some of those early meetings that ICANN to see how this body has grown from the small set of governments who originally participated to a much broader, more diverse and more

inclusive group of governments.   And we need that diversity of perspectives and diversity of voices coming into the GAC if we're going to succeed.

The United States wants a multistakeholder system of Internet governments to continue to succeed. To support this system, we urge all governments to engage in the GAC at ICANN. We are glad you are here and hope you will continue to engage in a spirit of collective problem solving and collegiality with us. Our work where I am at NTIA in the US government, focuses on building a better-connected world, one that focus, that fosters open an inclusive communication, one that protects security and privacy, one that respect human rights.   The Internet we want, one that enables fundamental freedoms and promotes innovation, depends on the success of the multistakeholder approach at work at places like ICANN.

When individual governments try to regulate a shared global network, we risk fragmentation. This is counter to the vision of a global Internet that has made the Internet the essential tool of communications in our modern world.   When we come together though with expert stakeholders to solve problems collectively, we enable that better world of connection. That is why the ICANN community must continue to fulfill the policy development role it has for the Internet's global naming and numbering systems.

And to close, I will just say, we see ICANN as the central venue supporting an open, accessible, and unfragmented Internet. The US has been involved with ICANN since its beginnings and always has supported that multistakeholder approach. This approach has thrived,

in the last 25 years because it works. I look forward to watching it grow and succeed for the next 25. Thank you and it's wonderful to be here with you. And I'm going to go join my delegation now. It's great to see you all and I'll see you around the halls here.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: So, thank you so much again, Assistance Secretary Davidson. So, before we review the agenda for today's session, let me just mention some housekeeping details. The first one being, our recommendation to review our expected standards of behavior when participating in ICANN meetings both in person and online, you have the link Gulten, would you please send it. Thank you. Also review the ICANN community anti-harassment policy when participating in ICANN meetings and if you have any kind of question or concern for the ICANN, please reach the ombudsman.

So welcome again to the GAC opening plenary. As I said, our agenda for today is basically, after the welcoming introductions, we'll have a very quick review of the GAC block schedule for the day and for the week. We're going to have an overview of logistics and technical capabilities just in case. Then we'll have the tour de table and then we'll dive right into the GAC Communique development for this session. Finally, we'll be reviewing some notable GAC work since ICANN76, time permitting obviously, like some SO/AC chairs interactions, BGIG discussions and other developments.

So, this is our agenda for today. As you can see, the GAC, ALAC and GNSO facilitated dialogue on closed generics just happened a while ago right before the break. This is the GAC opening plenary. We'll be here

for about 90 minutes then we'll have a lunch break for another 90 minutes and internally, we'll have a GAC leadership short meeting taking advantage of the time for lunch. Right after that, we'll be covering the discussions on new gTLD program, the first of two sessions, regarding next rounds. Then we'll have a break.

Right after the break, we'll have a session on WHOIS and data protection policy including accuracy for about 60 minutes. And then very briefly, we're going to touch a little bit on the preparations for the meeting with the ICANN board for about 30 minutes. Right after that, we'll have the opening reception at 5:30. I hope we can get together there and share some dreams and introductions. Any questions so far regarding our agenda today before we move on to Tuesday?

I assume we're all okay with agenda. So, let me walk you through the agenda for Tuesday. So, we'll start with the GAC meeting with the GNSO, for an hour and 15 minutes, then we'll have a break for another 30 minutes. And right after that, we'll have a pause because the second session of the GAC, ALAC and GNSO facilitated dialogue on closed generics will happen. It will be open to the community and it will last for about 90 minutes. Then we have a lunch break for another 90 minutes and by the way, we'll be having the GAC leadership meeting at the same time.

Right after that, we'll have a session on the new gTLD program next round, the second session actually for again for 1 hour and 15 minutes, then a short break, a short 30 minutes break. And right after that, we'll dive into the two things are going to happen at that time. One, is the ICANN Board listening session on CEO search, and at the same time, the

GNSO guidance process applicant support happening at the same time as I said before, and then we'll have a networking cocktail for about 90 minutes. Are there any questions, comments so far about our agenda for Tuesday? If not, and I don't see any hands. So, let me cover.

GULTEN TEPE: Nico, this is Gulten speaking.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Yes. Go ahead, please.

GULTEN TEPE: We have Kavouss Arasteh from Iran delegation raised hand.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Okay. Mr. I can get to see the-- give me just a second. Iran, please go ahead.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Good afternoon or good morning, Mr. Chairman, distinguished GAC delegates, happy to at least participate virtually with you. Distinguished Chair, would it be there some opportunity for some GAC members in particular those virtually to raise some comments or present some comments on the GAC, ALAC GNSO facilitating group on the closed generic on Tuesday? Thank you.

EN

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Iran. Of course. Anybody online or here in the room. Yes. The answer is yes. Do we have any other question, Gulten, any other hand raised? No. Thank you so much. So, on Wednesday, we'll have our first session. A session will be the GAC meeting with the ICANN Board for which by that time we will have already talked about given the fact that the first preparatory meeting will be on Monday at 4:30 pm. Sorry. Right after that, we'll have a break for 30 minutes and then we have the GAC discussion on DNS abuse for 60 minutes and then GAC discussion on emerging technologies, which was suggested by our distinguished colleague from Chinese Taipei and from the Netherlands, if I'm not mistaken. Please correct me if I'm wrong. My memory is not working so well lately.

Right after that, we'll have a lunch break for another 90 minutes along with the GAC leadership meeting. And then we will dive into the GAC communique, the first session of the GAC communique for 75 minutes. We'll have a 30-minute break right after that and then we'll have the second GAC communique session for another 90 minutes. Right after that, we'll have another networking cocktail.   The Community Excellence Award, as far as I understand, we'll be given at that time. Any questions so far about our agenda for Wednesday?

GULTEN TEPE: We have Kavouss Arasteh from the Iran delegation on the queue.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: The floor is yours, Iran, please go ahead. Iran, please go ahead. Iran your microphone in on mute.

ICANN|77
WASHINGTON, D.C.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Hello, Chair. May I proceed?

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Yeah. Go ahead.

GULTEN TEPE: Kavouss, you have the floor.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: I was waiting for the green light of the Chair. Distinguished Chair, the issue or topic of emerging technology is a very, very broad topic. Unless it is confined with activities of in general, ICANN or GAC, it would be much better to limited that to that aspect. Otherwise, talking about the emerging technology, which is a topic in many organizations, including ITU that we are, the member is a very general and broad things. So, I just request you kindly that when dealing this matter, making effort to the extent possible to associate that to the activities of GAC. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Iran. I can assure you that it is directly related to the DNS and by the way, it was suggested by some distinguished members from the GAC. It was not my idea. Again, if you have a better idea or if you want to cancel that session, I'll do what whatever you tell me to do. So, I'll be happy to accept any better ideas, but this is something we have already agreed like more than a month or two months ago. I'm not entirely sure this is the right time to discuss the agenda. But again, I

mean, your hands, I'm just the GAC chair, so I'll do whatever you tell me to do.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Honorable Chairman, I did not ask to delete that. I fully agree with yourself. That is an agenda agreed two sessions, preparation agenda. I'm just saying that we need to think it over that to possibly limiting that as you kindly mentioned after my question to the area of our activity. That's all. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Iran. Well noted. Do we have any other question or comment? Seeing none, so let's review our agenda for Thursday, which is basically GAC communique sessions. We'll have the first one, it is basically 10C. We number them for easier identification. So, we have 10C, GAC communique session for 75 minutes, then we have a break. 10D, GAC communique sessions and then we have the lunch break. And by the way, the ICANN78 kick off and then hopefully, the final GAC communique session. If needed, by that time, I really hope will be done with the communique.

Then at 3:30, right after the break, we'll have the GAC wrap up session, and finally a closing cocktail for 90 minutes on Thursday. And I understand, Rob, and correct me if I'm wrong that that will be on-site again, right? It will be right here. So that's our agenda for the day and for the week. Do we have any comment, any question, any requests for the floor, Gulten? Nothing on the chat room? Thank you so much. Next slide please, Gulten.

So, this is an overview of logistics, as I said before in technical capabilities. This is a note for all attendees, the Zoom Session Infrastructure and Protocols basically states that before the session, the calendar invites are sent 24 hours in advance. This is more or less the rhythm, so to say, the logistics. And the session pages are on the GAC website for materials. So, this is before, during and after the session. During the session, the procedure for requesting the floor is basically for all on-site and virtual participants is to raise the hand via the Zoom room in order to make sure that everybody can participate both on-site and online.

Then please turn the video on, this is for on-site participants, to turn the video on and whenever you need to speak, please obviously turn the microphone on. We have interpretation in six United Nations languages. Arabic, Russian, Portuguese, Spanish, French, and obviously English. The interpreters basically are working remotely. Some of them are on-site though. I can get to see, yeah, they're here.

Please identify yourself and speak slowly and clearly for scribes and interpreters, and I really hope I'm not giving the interpreters a hard time. I hope I speak slowly and clearly. And I see thumbs up, so I'm glad. And then after the session you can get the recordings and basically the transcripts are available on the GAC website. Some of the notes for in-person attendees, the reserved GAC delegation seats and the table microphones, again, they are basically for GAC representatives. The observers are more than welcome on seats on the right and the left side of the room. Some seats will be reserved in front rows for some sessions.

ICANN|77
WASHINGTON, D.C.

And there are some health and safety protocols in place like masks by choice and depending on the color whether it's green, yellow or red, the distancing on the breaks and everything else. Do I have any questions in this regard? Are we okay to move on? And I don't see any hand raised. Next slide please, Gulten. And, Gulten, would you please explain the next slide?

GULTEN TEPE: Of course, Nico. This is a visual on the screen regarding Zoom functions. Just would like to remind our in-person attendees here in Washington, DC, only to use the microphones on the tables. If you would try to use your laptop to speak, it would create an echo in the room. And on the next slide, for our remote participants, they can join. It shows how they can join the audio. And if you would have any questions regarding the logistics, and remote connection details, we would be happy to help you. Please feel free to send an email by gac-staff@icann.org. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Okay. Thank you so much, Gulten. Any question? Any comment? If not, let's do the tour de table. Basically, the idea here is to open the floor to the distinguished GAC representatives and delegates to introduce yourselves and share any comment, any short comment, please or statement you would like to make. Maybe I should start by introducing myself, which I have already done. But again, my name is Nico Caballero. I'm from Paraguay and I'm the new GAC chair. It is my pleasure and my honor to be here.

We'll start from the left, so the gentleman over there on my left would you please—Sorry. It's Mr. Rodrigo La Parra. Would you like to start, please? Well, good point. He's not a GAC member. So that's a very interesting detail, yeah, very good point. So, Gemma, would you please begin?

GEMMA CAROLILLO: Yes, Nico, with pleasure and thanks for the honor. This is Gemma Carolillo. I'm the GAC representative from the European Commission, and I'm happy to say also that our colleagues from European Commission are joining remotely, so we have the team connected. Thank you.

JASON MERRITT: Thank you very much. Jason Merritt, from Canada, the GAC representative here. Pleasure to see you all again at another ICANN meeting and fantastic to be in Washington. So, looking forward to a great meeting this week. Thanks.

PETER MAJOR: Hello. Good morning. I'm Peter Major from Hungary, GAC representative, and I'm very happy to be here.

FINN PETERSON: Good morning, all. Finn Peterson from the Danish government.

KAREL DOUGLAS:	Good morning, everybody. Karel Douglas from Trinidad and Tobago, also a co-chair of the Underserved Regions Working Group. Yesterday, we had a fantastic session, so I hope everybody enjoyed it. Good to be here.
TRACY HACKSHAW:	Tracy Hackshaw, Universal Postal Union, and happy to be in Washington. And thank you to the United States Government for hosting us. Thank you very much.
SUSAN CHALMERS:	Good morning, everybody. Susan Chalmers, Office of International Affairs and NTIA at the Department of Commerce. Welcome to DC. We're glad you're here. Thank you.
NICOLAS CABALLERO:	Thank you so much Susan and the U. S. delegation. We'll continue over there and then we'll go left. So, the gentleman over there, please go ahead.
SASA KOVACEVIC:	Okay. My name is Sasa Kovacevic. I'm from Serbia. It's a pleasure to be here and amazing organization and thank you.
SUADA HADZOVIC:	Good morning. My name is Suada. I'm from Hadzovic, Bosnia and Herzegovina GAC representative. It is nice to be here. Thank you.

JAN VANNIEUWENHUYSE: Good morning, everyone. My name is Jan Vannieuwenhuyse. I'm from Belgium.

BEVIL WOODING: Good morning. My name is Bevil Wooding. I'm from Trinidad and Tobago representing the American Registry for Internet Numbers and also serving as an observer for the organization of Eastern Caribbean States.

BERNADETTE LEWIS: Good morning. My name is Bernadette Lewis. I am the Secretary General of the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization. It is the oldest organization of the Commonwealth that is dedicated to information communication technologies and I'm very pleased. It's been a while since I've been part of the GAC. So, it is just great to be here and to be able to contribute to the discussion that is the effort to keep the Internet open, secure and unified. Thank you.

LEONARD OBONYO: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Leonard Obonyo from the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization. Thank you.

RODNEY TAYLOR: Good morning, everyone. I am Rodney Taylor, the Secretary General of the Caribbean Telecommunications Union based in Trinidad and

Tobago, representing 20-member state space in the Caribbean. An institution of CARICOM, an observer of the GAC whose role is the promotion of ICT policy development within the Caribbean. Thank you.

NIGEL CASSIMIRE: Good day, everyone. I'm Nigel Cassimire, also from the Caribbean Telecommunications Union.

GLORIA KATUUKU: Good morning, everyone. My name is Gloria Katuuku from Uganda. Nice being here. Thank you.

RUDY NOLDE: Hello, everyone. This is Rudy Nolde from the German government, and I'm the German GAC representative.

JANICE FURL: Hello, everyone. I'm Janice Furl from France. Once again, congrats for your new position, Nico. And I will take the floor in French during all the session. Thank you. Good morning.

IRENE AMOT: My name is Irene Amot. I'm a GAC representative from Norway. And this is my first physical GAC meeting. So, I'm really looking forward to the coming days. Thank you.

FRODE SØRENSEN: Good morning. My name is Frode Sorensen, also from GAC Norway. Thanks.

T. SANTOSH: Good morning. I'm T. Santosh, an alternate GAC representative from India and also good afternoon and good evening for the people who are there in the chat. Thank you.

PAULO MILLIET ROQUE: I'm sorry. Good morning to everyone. My name is Paulo Milliet Roque. I'm the president of the Brazilian Software Association. An association that has more than 2000 companies with revenues of close to $20 billion and employing 232,000 employees. I'm not a GAC member, but I was not aware that I could not sit here. I'm sorry for that.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: It's all right, sir. It's all right. No worries. Over there, please.

EDOWAYE MAKANJUOLA: Good morning, all. My name is Edouei Marcondrella. Nigeria.

MISTURA ARUNA: Good morning. My name is Mistura Aruna, also from Nigeria. Thank you.

RONKE ADENIYI: My name is Ronke Adeniyi from Nigeria. Thank you.

OLATOKUNBOH OYELEYE: Good morning, all. My name is Olatokunboh, also from Nigeria.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you. So, thank you so much again. So, we'll go that way now. Please go ahead.

JOSEPH NZANO: Good morning. My name is Joseph Nzano from Communications Authority of Kenya, representing Kenya. Thank you.

LINET ONYANDO: Good morning. My name is Linet Onyando, also from the administration of Kenya. Thank you.

VINCENT NGUNDI: Good morning. My name is Vincent Ngundi. I'm the GAC representative for Kenya.

EMILIE BECK: Good morning. My name is Emilie Beck. I work at the International Organization of Francophonie. I'm very happy to be here and we promote the use of French in all multilateral bodies and I will also be speaking French.

BLAISE AZITEMINA:	Good morning, all. Following the advice of my predecessor, I think I'll speak in French as well for the diversity. My name is Blaise Azitemina GAC representative of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Thank you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER:	Thank you. My name is [inaudible - 00:37:34]. I'm from RIPE NCC.

BO MARTINSSON:	Good morning. My name is Bo Martinsson from Sweden.

EHSANUL KABIR:	Good morning, everyone. I am Ehsanul Kabir. I am from Bangladesh, GAC member. Thank you.

ZAKIR SYED:	Good morning. This is Zakir Syed, GAC delegation Pakistan.

NOBUHISA NISHIGATA:	Good morning. My name is Nobuhisa Nishigata from Japan, and we do appreciate the US colleagues, the time and effort to make this happen. Thank you.

DAI MORISHITA:	Good morning, good afternoon, good evening, everyone. Thank you for hosting us the United States. I'm Dai Morishita from Japan and the ministry of internal affairs and communications. Thank you.
ANA MALDONADO:	Hello, everyone. I'm Anna Malonado from the government of Spain, and it's my pleasure and honor to be here, and I'm looking forward to a very productive meeting. Thank you.
ANA NEVES:	Good morning from Washington. And I will speak in Portuguese. I'm Anna Neves. I represent Portugal in GAC. So, it's a great pleasure to speak Portuguese.
OLADEJO OLAWUNMI:	Good morning, all. My name is Oladejo Olawunmi, GAC Rep from Nigeria. Thank you.
CHRISTINE ARIDA:	Good morning, everyone, and I will speak in Arabic. I am Christine Arida. I am representing the Egyptian government at GAC where I'm working at the NTIA in Egypt.
MANAL ISMAIL:	Manal Ismail, I will also speak in Arabic. I am Manal Ismail. I am representing Egypt at the GAC committee and I am also working with

NTIA where I am congratulating Nico for his leadership for the GAC group here and for his excellent work.

CHERYLEANN PEMBERTON: Good morning, all. My name is Cheryleann Pemberton, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of ICT and Post, representing the government of Saint Kitts and Nevis. This is my first ICANN meeting. I'm very happy to be here, and I look forward to networking and learning as much as I can about ICANN.

SHAWNIE WILKINS: Good morning, all. My name is Shawnie Wilkins, and I'm a part of the delegation from the government of Saint Kitts and Nevis.

DAVIDE COLUCCINI: Good morning, Chair. Good morning, all. My name is Davide Coluccini, and I am the representative of the Vatican City state.

THIAGO DAL-TOE: Good morning. I'll be intervening in Spanish. Good morning, everyone. I'm Thiago Dal-Toe, and I'm GAC representative for Colombia. An adviser in the Ministry of Technology Communications and Information. My warm greetings and congratulations to Nico for his new leadership position.

TOMBOYE IBRAHIM: Good morning, everyone. I'll be speaking in French. Hello. My name is Tomboye Ibrahim from the Republic of Chad. And I am the Chad representative to GAC. It's my 5th in person, participation, it's always a pleasure to be here at ICANN. Thank you.

NÉPOMUCÈNE MUCOWIMANA: Hello. Nepomucene Mucowimana, representative of Burundi.

NAVID AHMED SHAIKH: Good morning. This is Naveed from Pakistan. I'm the secretary ministry of information technology and telecom. This is my first ever experience to GAC and I'm happy to be here. I'm looking forward to learning from the GAC sessions as well as ICANN sessions. Thank you.

GULTEN TEPE: Thank you so much, and we'll continue on the right.

GUY ROLAND NTSIMBA: Hello. Guy Roland. Representative of the Republic of Congo here at GAC.

FAIG FARMANOV: Good morning. I'm Faig Farmanov. I'm representative of GAC from Azerbaijan.

KATHLEEN: Hello, everyone. My name is Kathleen [inaudible 00:42:21]. I'm part of the Australian government delegation. It's my first visit to ICANN and so far, I'm having a great time. Thank you.

JAMIE MCPHERSON: Good morning, everyone. My name is Jamie McPherson, and I'm also from the Australian government, and this is also my first in-person at ICANN and also enjoying myself.

IAN SHELDON: Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening. My name is Ian Sheldon. I am the Australian GAC representative. Thank you to the US Government for hosting us here in this wonderful city. I look forward to a productive colloquium with you all. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you. I'm Nigel Hickson. I'm the UK representative on the GAC and I'd like to echo what Ian just said. Thank you so much to the US for hosting us this week in DC. And thank you, assistant secretary Davidson, for your eloquent and important remarks.

ROSALIND KENNYBIRCH: Good morning. Rosalind KennyBirch, UK, GAC Alternate. Great to be here in DC, and fantastic to meet so many new GAC colleagues in yesterday's capacity building day. Thanks.

ZEINA BOU: Good morning. My name is Zen Bou. I'm GAC Vice Chair from Lebanon, and I'm also representing the GAC in excellence award selection panel.

LIZANIA PEREZ: Good morning. My name is Lizania Perez. I'm the executive secretary for the Reginal Telecommunications Technical Commission, Com Telka, that includes six countries for Central America, Mexico, and Dominican Republic. Thank you.

GUO FENG: Hello, everyone. I'm Guo Feng from China. I'm happy to be here to join you in person. And also, I would like to take this opportunity to thank US Government for hosting this event. And in addition, I'm also the co-chair of the GAC Working Group on printing principle. Thank you.

GABRIELA MATTAUSCH: Good morning. My name Gabriela Mattausch. I'm from Argentina. I'm the GAC representative. Thank you, US, for hosting this event. And I'm glad to see you all colleagues and congratulations Nico for Chair.

MARIELO PEREZ: Good morning. My name is Marielo Perez. I'm also from Argentina.

ALISA HEAVER: Good morning. My name is Alisa Heaver. On behalf of the Dutch government, I'm your GAC rep for the Netherlands. And I would like to

thank the US for hosting the event here in DC. And I look forward to some productive discussions here. Thanks.

MARCO HEGOWONING: Good morning, colleagues, Marco Hegowoning, Dutch Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Policy. I'm the GAC Alternate for the Netherlands. And again, thank you the US for hosting us here in Washington.

AMY MULCAHY: Hello. I'm Amy Mulcahy from Ireland. Very happy to be here for my first ICANN event. Thank you.

KLAUS PARRER: Good morning, everybody. My name is Klaus Parrer. I'm the GAC representative from Austria. I'm coming from the Ministry of Finance and Telecommunications Affairs. Looking forward to having fruitful discussions and wish as it all has successfully event. Thank you.

OMER FADUL: Good morning. I will speak in Arabic. I am Omer Ahmed Fadul from the Qatar Retail Communications Regulator Authority, and it is a great pleasure to be with you here today. Thank you.

KEN-YING TSENG: Hello, everyone. My name is Ken-Ying Tseng. I'm a GAC member from Chinese Taipei. I'm also a member of the International Committee of

Taiwan Network Information Center. First of all, I would like to thank all of the distinguished GAC members for accepting our proposal for discussing emerging technology in the GAC section. I'm really looking forward to the discussion with all of you. Thank you.

WEN FONG TSEN: Good morning, everyone. Wong Fong Tsen. I'm from Chinese Taipei and I'm also the Chinese Taipei GAC representative. And thank you the US government for hosting this event. Thank you.

CHENG-NAN CHIANG: Good morning, everyone. My name is Cheng-Nan Chiang, also from Chinese Taipei. Thank you.

ZINA BUMBÁLKOVÁ: Good morning, everyone. I'm Zina Bumbálková from the Czech Republic. I'm the GAC representative and I seem to be the last one this morning here.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Maybe that's the case. Is there any other GAC member over there, the back row? Anybody who hasn't introduced himself or herself so far? If not, Gulten, please help me with the online participants.

GULTEN TEPE: We have Jorge Cancio from Swiss delegation on the line first.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Switzerland, please go ahead.

JORGE CANCIO: Thank you, Nico. And I hope you hear me okay.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Loud and clear.

JORGE CANCIO: Okay. Thanks so much for giving me on the floor. This is Jorge Cancio from the Swiss government, Swiss GAC rep. And I'm so sorry not being there with you, and congratulating Nico in person for his official first meeting as GAC chair, and thanking my US colleagues for hosting this great meeting in Washington. I would really love to be there. Apart from my national obligations, I'm one of your topic leads for new gTLDs together with Jason Merritt and other colleagues, we do try to prepare the work as best as we can. And I'm also your GAC liaison or GAC point of contact, to use the official term, to the GNSO, where I work very closely with Jeff Neuman, who is the GNSO liaison to the GAC. So, thanks very much, and I look forward to a very productive meeting. Thank you.

MARTINA VERBERO: As I have been allowed to take the floor immediately after Jorge. Good morning. Good afternoon from Brussels. I am Martina Verbero, part of the European Commission delegation. And I joined yesterday already

Day 0. It was the first time for me. It's the first time for me joining ICANN, so looking forward to ICANN 76 and 77 next. Thanks a lot.

GULTEN TEPE: Thank you, Martina. Jose, you are next on the queue.

JOSE LAI: Thank you. Good morning, everyone. My name is Jose Lai. I'm the GAC representative of Timales, participating remotely from Billy.

ASHWIN SASTROSUBROTO: Thank you. Thanks, everyone. Good morning, Nico. My name is Ashwin Sastosubrotto from Indonesia. I'm happy here, because I hope I can find new issues that needs to be carried out at home, in Indonesia, I mean, like second-round gTLD, DNS abuse, and so on. Thanks a lot.

GULTEN TEPE: Thank you, Ashwin. Lang Wang, you're up next. Thank you.

LANG WANG: Thanks, Nico. Thanks, Gulten. And thanks, the US for hosting the event. This is Lan Wang from GAC China, and the newest vice chair of GAC. Unfortunately, I'm unable to come to Washington. I hope I can be with you in person next time in Hamburg. And I'm looking forward to a fruitful meeting led by Nico and the other vice chairs and just the topic leads on-site. Thank you. Over to you, Nico.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Lang. Gulten, do we have anybody else on the queue? Yeah. Go ahead, please.

GULTEN TEPE: Yes, we do. We have United Arab Emirates next on the line.

ABDULRAHMAN AL MARZOUQI: Hello. Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening, everyone. This is Abdulrahman Al Marzouqi from Dubai. I represent the UAE in the GAC. I work for the Telecommunication and Digital Government Regulatory Authority. First of all, I would like to congratulate Nico for becoming the GAC chair and wish him all the best. And I would like to thank also the United States for hosting this meeting and looking forward to a productive meeting. Thank you very much.

LUCIANO MAZZA DE ANDRADE: Hi. Hello. Good morning, everybody. This is Luciano, GAC representative from Brazil. I'm really sorry for not being able to bear with you, especially seeing the very diverse range of participants. I'll like to take the opportunity to congratulate Nico again on his chair as GAC and congratulate also US colleague, Susan, and other colleagues from the US for organizing these events. I'm looking forward for the continuation of the meeting. Thank you very much.

GULTEN TEPE: We have Virginia Pardo up next on the line.

VIRGINIA PARDO: Hi. I will be speaking in Spanish. I am Virginia Pardo, representative for Uruguay. I'm Director of the Information Society of Digital Government of Uruguay. Thank you all for the excellent organization. I wish you all a wonderful week. And I hope next time I will be there on site and meet you all in person. Thank you.

GULTEN TEPE: Hazem, would you like to go ahead and introduce yourself? Thank you.

HAZEM HEZZAH: Good morning, everyone. I'm Hazem Hezzah, representing the League of Arab States and participating remotely this time from Egypt. Thank you.

GULTEN TEPE: And we have Francis Cubahiro from Burundi delegation. Francis?

OLIVIER FRANCIS CUBAHIRO: Thank you, Gulten. I will speak in French. Hello, everyone in Washington. Good evening from Italy, where I am right now. My name is Francis. And I represent Burundi at the GAC, but unfortunately, I wasn't able to be with you guys. I would like to thank the US government for welcoming us for ICANN77. And I look forward to our work during this meeting. Thank you very much.

GULTEN TEPE: And we have Meltem Ergun joining from Turkish delegation.

MELTEM ERGUN: Hello. Good morning, everyone. My name is Meltem Ergun, I'm GAC representative from Turkey. And I'm also from Information Technology and Communication Authority of Turkey.

GULTEN TEPE: And we have Kavouss Arasteh from Iran delegation up next on the line.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Yeah. Thank you very much. My name is Kavouss Arasteh. This is my 31st meeting of GAC. I join the others and echo what they said, warmly congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, distinguished and honorable Chairman, for your chairmanship, and I wish you all the best. Thank you.

GULTEN TEPE: And we have Waleed Aloriny next on the line.

WALEED ALORINY: Hello, everyone. This is Waleed Aloriny from Ministry of Communication and IT from Saudi. Looking forward for productive meeting. Thank you very much.

GULTEN TEPE: And Viacheslav Erokhin came from Russian delegation.

VIACHESLAV EROKHIN: Good morning, colleagues. My name is Viacheslav Erokhin, or shortly Slava. I am working as a policy adviser for our ministry of digital development, telecommunication and mass media. I'm representative of GAC representative of Russian federation since Dublin ICANN meeting. It was 2015. Thank you.

GULTEN TEPE: Thank you, Slava. And we have El Moctar next.

MOHAMED EL MOCTAR MOHAMEDINE: My name is Mohamed El Moctar Mohamedine. I'm a representative of Mauritania. And yes, sorry, I have already started introducing myself. Mohamed El Moctar Mohamedine, adviser to the Minister of digital transformation of Mauritania. And I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, for the trust put in you, and I wish you a lot of success. Thank you.

BENA DZIT-WAI PANG: Hello, everyone. My name is Bena Dzit-wai Pang, adviser to GAC representative of Hong Kong China. Thank you.

GULTEN TEPE: And this was the end of our list, Nico.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: So once again thank you very much to all my distinguished GAC colleagues both in person here in Washington and online. So, let's move on to our next agenda item, which is the GAC communique development. And for that, I will give the floor to one of the fabulous five, my distinguished colleague Fabien Betremieux. Fabien, please go ahead.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Thank you, Mr. GAC Chair. My name is Fabien Betremieux. I'm a member of the GAC support team. And can we please move to the next slide? And I'll talk about the communique development process. Well, okay, there we go. Thank you. Many in the GAC are familiar with this process, but I've also heard during the tour de table that there are a number of new participants. So, we'll take the time to explain this process, which is quite important for the GAC. As you know, the GAC communique is one of the main outcomes, output of an ICANN meeting for the GAC. And so, I'll explain quickly how that works.

So, we'll focus for now on the top of the slide. You may be familiar with the emails that the GAC chair sent before the meeting during the communique preparation phase. Those emails were meant for GAC members to identify potential topic for discussion in the communique and propose potential key messages on those topics. And in fact, you will note that in the current, in the draft communique, which I will send immediately to the mailing list so you can have the link at your disposal, you will see that there is already content proposed on a number of topics for potential GAC advice.

So, we've entered here on the arrow that's highlighted in red. We're on Day 1 of the meeting and this is when we recall and introduce the process for those that are familiar with it. We are in the communique drafting phase now during the ICANN meeting week. And we will proceed through the sessions until Wednesday and Thursday where the actual communique drafting sessions will be held as we've reviewed on the agenda. But in the meantime, at the end of each of the GAC plenary sessions, topic leads of the GAC, which will be presenting those sessions, are invited to discuss potential topics and messages for the communique at the end of the session.

And this is one of the recent evolution of the process, which is meant to help with discussion of the communique throughout the week as opposed to only during the drafting sessions at the end of the week. And we hope with the GAC leadership that this enables consultations as needed on the potential issues in the communique, including with your capitals when that is needed. And that's why we try to spread the drafting process throughout the week to enable for those types of engagement including considering time zone differences.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: And also, taking into account that in some cases, some GAC representatives will need to discuss some issues with their capitals, which is totally logic, right? Sorry to interrupt, Fabien. Please go ahead.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Absolutely. And in fact, there are also remote participants who may be working in a-- who may be challenged by time zones to realize those

types of consultation either with participants in the meeting or in their governments. And so, it's to accommodate for those types of challenges that we've evolved the process in that manner under the leadership of the GAC chair and vice chairs.

Once the communique is drafted at the end of the week, I'm still at the top of the slide here moving to the right, and the 72-hour communique review period. That's been an addition since the remote meetings during the COVID pandemic, which enables GAC members to consider the final communique before it is actually published. And during that review period, there is a potential window for objections to part of the contents of the communique.

So, this is really not to reopen discussions of potential wording, it's really to highlight objections, which would require the GAC to meet again in the event that a GAC member identified a need to object, that would require the GAC to reconvene and discuss the communique again, which would delay its publication. So, this is a step that was created to account especially in the remote meeting setting for the types of challenges that barriers to participation, such as language, connectivity, time difference, etc. And this has been continued in the hybrid setting.

So that's the highlight of how we proceed through the week towards agreed upon and published GAC communique after the meeting. Now, I'll discuss very quickly the bottom part of this slide. And I'll start with the green arrow. As you may have experienced or will experience, the drafting process is open to your diary collaboration into the document. So, you now have in your emails a reminder of the link to the draft

communique. And you're welcome to use that at any time and potentially to propose text, topics in issues as issues of importance, as potential GAC advice, as potential follow-up on previous advice.

And the document will be open for editing throughout the week, and all the way into the communique drafting sessions on Wednesday and Thursday. There may be a need at some point to close editing by members and that's in order to ensure that the text is stable. We've experienced some challenges with edits when the text is getting towards finalization, and especially when they are concurrent edits. So, there may be a time where the GAC chair may request that we close the live collaboration and move to the more historical mode of contributing to the text of the communique, that is to work with ICANN staff to reflect changes that you would like to propose. And you can do that via email to us. That's the easiest way.

And finally, I'll mention at the very bottom, we, as the GAC support team, remain at your disposal at any time to help with checking references or to discuss precedence in sorts of input in the GAC communique. And this is really to ensure that the communique is accurate and is consistent with usual practice. And so please reach out to us at any time if you'd like us to assist this. We can go to the next slide. I think I'll jump over this one, but we'll just mention it so you see. Those are those innovations that I've mentioned throughout my presentation of the process. So, let's move to the next slide in the interest of time.

I'll just mention very quickly and from a practical perspective. When you contribute to the text, please follow these steps 1, 2, 3, 4 using the

features of Google Docs. Make sure you are in suggesting mode, which is the default mode that you should be into when you open the document, then insert your text in the document at the appropriate location. And this will create a pop up on the side. Please make sure you identify yourself, your GAC representation or a potential group of drafter contributing the content. And do not forget to hit the reply button because it happens that when you do not, this doesn't get posted and so it is not visible to others. And with that, Mr. Chair, this completes my presentation. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so much, Fabien, for walking us through the details of the communique drafting. Do we have any question on this topic so far? Any comment? Anything? Gulten, do we have any question or anything in the chat room?

GULTEN TEPE: Yes, we do, Nico. We have Kavouss Arasteh from Iran delegation next on the queue.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Iran, please go ahead.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, Honorable Chair. Thank Fabien for walking us through these steps, which help us to organize ourselves. Distinguished Chair, I wish to offer you or let's just say bring to your kind attention and

attention of distinguished GAC members the following. That in addition to the routine subjects or topics that are included in the communique, we have few other important issues that we need to start to talk about that before getting into the penholder's actions.

The first one is GAC consensus advice, if any, what are the topics? The second would be follow-up action on the GAC previous advice, if any. The third is issue of importance for GAC which need to be included and is not covered in the first two. And the last one, any other issue that maybe distinguished GAC colleagues wish to include in the communique. I would say, it is suggested that before starting to write on something, we have to discuss these four elements, which are those subject or topics that have been included in these four categories of topics that I have mentioned. Thank you very much, Distinguished Chair.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much, Iran. So, you mentioned subjects in the communique, GAC consensus advice, follow-up on GAC previews advice. What was the third one? Would you please repeat?

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: The third one is issues of importance for GAC. It is not GAC advice. It is not follow-up on the GAC previous advice, but it's still the issues important for GAC and yourself also raised that one in the previous meeting, and we had discussions on that. And we have some document on the GAC76 and so on and so forth. So, neither the GAC advice nor follow-up action, but it's still important for GAC to be brought into the

communique. And the fourth one, any other issues that may be included in that, not covered by the three previous topics. I hope I am clear. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much, Iran. Fabien?

FABIEN BETREMIEX: Yes. Thank you. What we're thinking is that we're going to very quickly show you the structure of the communique that may be helpful for those who are not familiar maybe with the communique that will illustrate the points discussed by the delegate from Iran. So, Benita, if you don't mind scrolling down all the way to the start of the communique? So, we'll just do a very quick walk-through noting that there is more content in the presentation. So, let's slowly scroll down.

So, the first section of the communique is the introduction that has sort of the reminders of the meeting and the locations, dates, participants in attendance. Then we have a section that's the inter-constituency activities and community engagement. This is where the GAC reports on the meeting it has had with other communities and the topics of those discussions. If we continue scrolling down, we have the internal matters where we remind the current GAC membership, we discuss GAC election procedures and where working groups provide a report. If you continue scrolling down, we also have discussion of GAC operational matters when needed.

Then we get into the types of topics the Iran delegate was talking about. Section 4 is generally issues of importance to the GAC. Those are discussions of issues of concern, of interest of the GAC that are neither GAC advice or follow-up on previous GAC advice. And you may be aware that the ICANN Board discussed these issues with GAC in a call after the ICANN meeting, which is called the BGIG call, the Board-GAC Interaction Group call, which is usually dedicated to the discussion of that section of the communique. If we continue scrolling down, we have GAC consensus advice to ICANN Board. This is the location of GAC advice. And you can see that there is text currently proposed for potential GAC advice that you're welcome to discuss throughout the week and which the GAC as a whole will discuss on Wednesday and Thursday for sure.

GAC advice is discussed with the ICANN Board in a clarification call after the meeting. The purpose of which is to ensure that before the Board formally considers the advice, it has a clear understanding of the advice. And this is generally called the Board-GAC clarification call. And during that call, we also discussed the last section of the communique, which is the follow-up on previous advice. And so, the scrolling will be a little long because there is a significant contribution currently in proposed GAC advice. And so, this is a section I just reference to the follow-up on previous advice. So, I hope that that illustrates the discussion. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so much, Fabien. Thank you, Iran. Well noted. Do we have any other question or comment at this point? If not, so let's continue

and for the sake of time, let me-- We do have a question? Okay. Go ahead please, Gulten.

GULTEN TEPE: We have Kavouss Arasteh from Iran delegation next on the line.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Iran, please go ahead.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Distinguish GAC Chair, I wish to just share with you my experience on the equitable participation. The first one we raised, it was in 2014 when we had the ICG and others. And we raised the issue of equitable participation. And we had five GAC members, and there were five from other constituency. So, we need to know that that should be followed up because in the EPDP relating to the Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the protection, we did not or the issue of equitable access was not followed. And unfortunately, we were not well represented that.

So, I wish to say that here we should be very careful because in 2014, they wanted to give two place or two position to the GAC, and we objected to that, and we said to the distinguished GAC Chair at that time that either nothing or like others five and five and five and so on so forth. This is just wanted to share with you the experience. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much, Iran. We'll get to that point in due time. In the meantime, and again for the sake of time, if I understand correctly, Rob,

we still have 10 minutes? Is it 10 minutes? So, I just wanted to give-- And thank you Iran again and thank you Fabien for walking us through the process.

So, there have been some very interesting GAC community interactions both with the SO/AC chairs and with the BGIG group. BGIG, again, for the benefit of the new GAC members, that's the Board GAC interaction group. Sorry. You know ICANN is some sort of acronym romance, as I call it, so we tend to use acronyms for everything, but sometimes it's good to clarify what those acronyms basically stand for. So again, this is the Board-GAC Interaction Group. You know there was this-- Well, actually many community leadership, basically the SO/AC leaders that have met regularly before ICANN, certainly before ICANN76 and before this ICANN meeting as well in order to review matters of cross-community impact. As a matter of fact, we had two meetings yesterday. Sunday, I think it was June 11th or something, right?

There are some other recent SO/AC chair roundtables, as we call them, which have included community priority topics for the coming year. That is the remaining time in 2023 and 2024. And Board community engagement at ICANN public meetings. The community chairs also make their own monthly call. In other words, we have a monthly call with all other SO/AC chairs in order to share information, convey community priorities and identify areas of common interest.

Next slide please, Gulten. The BGIG, again, the Board-GAC Interaction Group includes a subset of Board members and interested GAC members. And by the way, let me tell you that it is absolutely open. Anybody interested in participating is more than welcome. The BGIG

has proven to be an effective venue for discussion to ensure effective board and GAC collaboration and communication, as Fabien mentioned before. Those meetings and those calls help clarify not only pending topics but many whatever communication issue that we might have at that point.

The Board also produces a scorecard on GAC advice. We do have one from ICANN, from the ICANN76 communique, which was, by the way, shared in May, if I recall correctly. And another scorecard on GAC issues of importance that was just shared by the Board last week. I think it was, yes, June the 6th. And finally, as I said before, the BGIG membership is open to any interested GAC representative. You just need to contact GAC staff, Julia, Gulten, Fabien, Rob, any of the fabulous five. Finally, Rob, would you like touch on the last page we have before we go to lunch?

ROB HOGART: Certainly, Mr. Chair, I'd appreciate that. Gulten next slide. Yes. I mean, as part of the notable development since ICANN76, many of you know I regularly report and you all have opportunities to see new and other members who are joining the organization. So far, just between the last public meeting and this meeting, there's been nearly 40 new GAC participants. One of the reasons for these types of overviews that you provide, Mr. Chair, to help everybody get on the same level playing field.

Additionally, just in terms of work of the committee that's taken place, it has not been a quiet period for Nico's first three months. There have been eight pieces of correspondence coming and going. The GAC just filed one public comment. There are a number of other upcoming

public comment opportunities you've all seen in my recent consolidated emails to all of you. So, there's not only been a busy last three months or so but a busy three months upcoming including probably the next 60 days after this meeting.

Two things that I think are worth noting that you had mentioned to me earlier, Nico, for this slide is we just completed, Carol mentioned this in the introductions, the excellent capacity development workshop that took place yesterday. That workshop concluded the first annual cycle of capacity development workshops that GAC now conducts. That features a two-day capacity development workshop during the annual general meeting, a one-day workshop during the community forum and then somewhat the half day or Day 0 workshop that you all experienced yesterday. The idea of providing an ongoing opportunity for you all to interact, learn, level set, particularly when we have such substantial turnover over the course of each year.

And then finally, something that Nico introduced that I hope will be socialized more generally during this week that you all saw in his emails over the course of the past period of time are more broader strategic and tactical conversations among the chair and vice chair to come with you as GAC members with recommendations and proposals for further evolution of the operations and focus of the committee. In particular looking not just at emerging technologies, which you all touched on briefly today, but also to look more at geopolitical considerations that impact the committee as well as operational evolutions that can help you all work much more efficiently and effectively.

And I don't know if you want to speak at all to that meeting you all had last month, but I think it's a reflection that the community continues to look to the GAC for input and leadership much earlier in the policy development processes now and essentially it demands that the committee adjust and evolve to meet some of those challenges. So, thanks for the opportunity, Nico. I'll turn it back to you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so much, Rob. And again, for the sake of time, two things, two important things. Number one, and this is for Gulten and for the staff, we can leave our computers and our notebooks and everything here, right, while we go to lunch? Would that be okay? This is a housekeeping thing, but.

ROB HOGARTH: It's never recommended to just leave your things anywhere that we have ICANN meetings but we'll leave that to individual personal preference.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: All right. So, just in case. And later on, again because it's already we're at the top of the hour, is lunchtime, we will talk about some innovations like more active participation from the vice chairs and some other innovations we're trying to apply to our sessions like timers and some other procedural details. But we'll talk about that later on after lunch with more energy. So, thank you so much again. Welcome and meeting is adjourned. We reconvene here at, let me see, at 1:45 if I'm not

mistaken, Rob. Is that right? I can get to see them. Yeah, it's 1:45. We got to be back here at 1:45. Thank you so much. Enjoy your lunch.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]

I C A N N | 7 7
WASHINGTON, D.C.