
ICANN78 | AGM – GAC Capacity Dev Workshop (9 of 10)
Sunday, October 22, 2023 – 3:00 to 4:00 HAM

GULTEN TEPE OKSUZOGLU: Hello, and welcome to the ICANN78 GAC Capacity Development Workshop Breakout session part B 1, being held on Sunday 22nd of October at 1300 UTC. My name is Gulden Tepe Oksuzoglu, and I'm the remote participation manager for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior. During this session, questions or comments submitted in the chat will only be read aloud if put it in the proper form.

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sessions using your full name. With that, I will hand the floor over to Tracy Hackshaw. Tracy?

TRACY HACKSHAW:

Thank you very much, Gulden, and welcome back. As we get involved in our breakout sessions yet again, rinse and repeat. So, what we're going to do is exactly the same thing as we did yesterday, break into our small groups by language. The flip charts are the same places. Although the people at the flip charts will not be the same. So, there'll be two English groups, one French group, one Chinese speaking group, one Arabic language speaking group, one Spanish speaking group. So please do reassociate yourselves there once we are ready to go.

If there are any questions about that, you can just check me, but I think we should understand how to do that now just by the flip charts. But I'm going to ask Alisa now to explain the thinking behind what the breakouts will look like and the questions. Alisa?

ALISA HEAVER:

Yes. Thank you. Yeah. Could you put the questions on the on the slide? I think it should be on the next slide.

TRACY HACKSHAW:

Questions on the slide, please?

ALISA HEAVER:

Yeah. Perfect. Yeah. So, we prepared 4 questions on alternative naming spaces. And if in case that's not enough to discuss, then we also

have 2 additional questions on the broader aspect of emerging technologies. So, we'll be splitting up in the language sections. Yeah. Actually, I don't really think we need to run them all through, but as we have been discussing the alternative naming spaces basically the whole day, we think it's good that we will get together in smaller breakout groups and hear from each other what you perceive of these, well, issues and what as a GAC that we should do with the knowledge and information that we've attained today.

So, without, well, in that sense, further ado, I would like to ask you to break out and the people online, they will get the invitation again. But I'm thinking who will moderate that? Oh, Pua. Okay. Perfect. Yeah, then I think we can break out.

TRACY HACKSHAW:

All right. And just remember, language groups by the flip chart boards. And when you get into your groups, please first thing you do, appoint a team lead, appoint a rapporteur because you're going to report out after and we're going to have some fun at the end of the day. All right? First thing, appoint of team lead, appoint of rapporteur. So just to remind everyone, I think those who are here, English, English. I think that's-- Welp me with that. What? Chinese, French, and Spanish. Yes.

Let's get up from your seats and move to the language group that you are most comfortable with. Right? You don't have to go to your native language group, but the most comfortable with. Arabic. Yes. Arabic and Spanish. Don't forget to appoint a team lead and a rapporteur first thing that you do when you get to your groups. English, my left, my right. Chinese left, my left. Arabic, and Spanish, my right, and center

French. I think the French group knows where they are because they're well, well associated. And the Zoom room will be handled by Pua.

PUA HUNTER: Hi, everyone.

TRACY HACKSHAW: I think at this point, we can take down the AV in the room now. Thanks.

PUA HUNTER: Hello. Okay. Hi, everyone. And this is Pua Hunter, and I'll be your facilitator for this breakout session. So, Hi, Dr. Shamsuzzoha. So, we need a leader and a rapporteur, if a someone can volunteer, or even if you want to nominate someone who is now online, I will leave that over to you. And while we're doing that, have a look at the questions and start contributing to those questions.

We don't have to go through all of them, but if you're comfortable with what you can respond to, please go ahead. I think for just a fair rapport, it will be nice also if you want to speak, but, well, you can add to the chat to keep it simple. It's your choice. But for the time being, can we please have a leader? Thank you. And please feel free to speak if you're comfortable to speak instead of talking into the chat. Dorothy, please, from Uganda, please go ahead.

DOROTHY OKELLO: Okay. Thank you, Pua, and thank you to our leader and--

PUA HUNTER: Hang on. Hang on, Dorothy. I can't hear you. Hang on. I'm sorry. Sorry, Dorothy. I can hear you now. Please go ahead. I'm sorry.

DOROTHY OKELLO: Okay. Oh, that's alright. Everyone, I hope, can hear me fine. I wanted, first of all, to thank our leader and rapporteur for volunteering to do so. I just wanted to say, just reflecting on this topic and the panel presentations and the speakers we've had since morning. And the concern I have is just how do we as the GAC supporting also our policy makers back home reflecting on what we need.

So how we need to prepare for the high-level government meeting in Kigali next year. How best can we broach these subjects to those key stakeholders? What materials might there be that we could point them to sort of like a blockchain 101 but from a perspective of what do what do GAC members, what do high-level government officials need to appreciate about this and how it changes what we know about the internet and all?

Because I think also what came through yesterday, when we had the group discussions, for at least I've said for back home, and I know it was also the Africa position. A lot of our conversations now are around connectivity and affordability. And actually, the important work of ICANN does get lost within that. So, I can imagine trying to now explain blockchain and its impact. So, that is really my concern and question in a long-winded way. Thank you so much for the opportunity.

PUA HUNTER:

Thank you so much, Dorothy. Your point is well noted. And I take that on board as well. And I hope our rapporteur managed to capture that. If not, if you're able to share it in the chat, that'll be nice, but I'm seeing here that your concern about what approach have the GAC taken in terms of preparing our members or even our high-level participants to the government high-level meeting and also best us to approach the key stakeholders and what materials to point them to for the discussions that we've had and the fact that the important work of ICANN can be lost within this space.

And again, if I had misinterpreted your intervention, please let me know in the chat. And again, feel free to continue this discussion. It's really important. I like your point, and I take that on board. Thank you. Thank you, Dorothy. I see your comment in the chat. Thank you so much. Is there anyone else wanting to share any thoughts you have with these questions? Thank you, Jamal, for putting that on the chat. Maybe I can share what I think also from my government in the Cook Islands.

My concern is that it's not really an issue in government. It's more an issue with the industry. And we look to the industry to provide some directions, some, support for us in the government. I think within this whole blockchain discussions, the thing that come out of it for my government is mainly the cybersecurity. DNS matters is not really a concern for my government today. There was a presentation yesterday I think it was that talks about people end users just want to see that things work. They don't care what's happening in the background. And that's how my government sees it. And so, again, this whole blockchain

issue discussion is not yet a priority. Thank you. Dr. Shamsuzzoha, do you have any comment from your government?

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA:

Yeah. Thank you for that. I think it's almost the same because just I want to share some of the incidents that happened recently in Bangladesh. It's more related to the cyber security that you mentioned. It's about using the Bitcoin for some fraudulent activities. It happened in a big scale, and it was a national issue almost. So, we needed to address that issue. Actually, the cryptocurrency issue. It's not actually Bitcoin, but it's a cryptocurrency based fraudulent activities and it was a big scandal here. So, actually, it helped us to bring different stakeholders together. And we needed to focus on different technical aspect as well as the policy aspect.

And definitely, as a government, so far we have not been pretty much interested or concerned about what is happening with blockchain or other technologies, but that incident actually opened the door for us for more collaboration with the industry. So, that is the thing that there's a position of Bangladesh. Thank you.

PUA HUNTER:

Thank you so much, Dr. Shamsuzzoha, and I think we share the same responses to the questions. Thank you. Jamal, did you capture the intervention from Dr. Shamsuzzoha?

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA:

I think, yes. Mr. Jamal captured the whole part.

PUA HUNTER: Perfect. Thank you. Perfect. Any other contributions? We've got half an hour to go. Even if you want to share anything related to the discussions that we have today, please feel free to share here with us. Thank you.

GULTEN TEPE OKSUZOGLU: Thank you, Pua. I see, actually, Sane from Japanese delegation shared a couple of remarks in the chat spots. I just wanted to highlight that. And everyone, please, please, be encouraged to join this session. Your feedback, your view would be much appreciated. Thank you.

PUA HUNTER: Thank you, Gulden. And thank you, Sane, for the contribution in the chat. Very nice. Thank you. And anyone else, please speak up or contribute in the chat. Our colleague from the Cayman Islands. From Bermuda, Japan also.

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA: We have point from Cayman Islands. Yeah.

PUA HUNTER: Thank you so much, Cayman Islands. Brilliant.

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA: So, my understanding is that this comment from Cayman Islands is more related to question 5 and 6. That's my understanding.

PUA HUNTER: I'll let Cayman Islands respond to your query. It seems like that. It seems that way, but I'll let Cayman Islands respond. Thank you. Perfect. Thank you for confirming.

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA: Yeah. Thank you. So, just intervention from my administration or country that what policy, public policy consideration. I think we have a very good discussion today. And the way we are comfortable with the DNS management system in a multistakeholder model. The big concern with the alternative namespace. There is no actual, community dive and approach on closing approach. So, is mostly the vendor driving or like a particular interest group driving policy. I think that is the most important public policy concern from our side.

If ICANN even support or if we think of supporting any alternative namespace, the first priority should be bring them under the multistakeholder model or like in this environment, so that everyone, in my view, has a say. Otherwise, I think it's very difficult from the framework of ICANN or even from the position of GAC to support those namespaces. So, I think this is the most important public policy consideration for any alternative namespace to bring them under the umbrella or the add in of the multistakeholder model. That's me. Thank you.

PUA HUNTER:

Great suggestion. Thank you so much. And it makes sense. What about our colleague from Bermuda? Do you have any thoughts on these questions? Nice. Thank you, Dr. Marissa. And if you want to have just some general discussions, please go ahead, especially from the sessions today. If there's anything you want to share now that you weren't able to share earlier on or to intervene, please feel free to use this opportunity now to share anything that you want to talk about.

There were some questions I saw on the chat earlier, which was very important. And I think that needs to be-- It's very technical, but the thing is it's important that if you want to share it again here, please do so because to Uganda's point earlier on, these are discussions that if it's not recognized, if it's not a priority in government, we could table it here to say, is it necessary for us to continue the discussions within the GAC. Could it be a side event rather than a part of the capacity development workshop? But then again, that's not for me to decide. That's for us to discuss. Thank you. And feel free to put your video on if you want.

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA:

I agree with Pua that, yeah. Because if something is coming in this sector, for example, I am from the telecom regulator, so the first thing that we see when a new technology is coming whether it's rated by ITU or not. I'm just talking about the core telecoms and I'm just matching it with the DNS system. Whether it's vetted by ITU or IEC or IEEE. And then we actually validate or permit all those technologies. The same thing is in the DNS arena. When a new technology has been developed. So, the PTI or IANA technical team, they collaborate with the internet

engineering task force. It must mainly come from the task force. And then finally if we are going to implement that, then it becomes the main concern of GAC or other community groups that we have in ICANN.

So, I totally agree that at this stage, with immaterial unstable implementation, there is no inclusive forum to decide about the policy or implementation of the blockchain and related technologies. I think it is not a priority as of now, for GAC and definitely, we should keep an eye that what is going to happen but find that thing is coming from our technical colleagues about the implementation, then it can be a priority for us, but definitely not at the system. I totally agree with you. Thank you.

PUA HUNTER:

Yeah. Thank you so much, Dr. Shamsuzzoha. Because there was a question earlier on from one of our colleagues. And because it was the policy question, there was no response to it. And the question was, should there be a different working group that needs to be created to look after this part of the discussion, especially it's quite technical? And also, he was talking about, should this discussion actually fit in under IETF which you mentioned.

And so, again, it's important from a technical perspective, but when you look at it from a policy perspective, how does it fit in with all the happenings that taking place in the GAC. But thank you. Thank you so much for your intervention on that. And thank you also to everyone putting in their comments in the chat. I really appreciate that. And I'm sure Jamal and Dr. Shamsuzzoha are I'm working to get all your comments together for the presentation after. Thank you.

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA:

Just as a supplement to my previous comment. As a regulator, definitely, the DNS has not been a very big concern so far. And I think it's the same as the Cook Islands who were mentioned. But we have been focusing on it especially yesterday I mentioned about the new gTLD program and also the IDN program that ICANN is trying to implement.

So, I think this program would bring some more opportunity of engagement with the developing countries or the countries who are not traditionally dominant in the DNS technicality or business arena. So, it will involve them more and more. And then I think the question of the oneness, even what our colleague mentioned about from Uganda that we need to make the bosses, the head offices or the policy makers understanding about the importance of the DNS system.

We'll be able to bring more attention to this issue, but currently, we are more focusing on the applications. One of the examples that I mentioned that the new way of fraudulent activities that is directly related to the safety of the internet, including the users of cryptocurrency and other blockchain related technologies. So, I'm just talking about question 5. So, these are the priority that we are focusing on as a government.

We have a different SAR. We have different digital security. So, in addition to that, we have developed a cybersecurity sale additionally in our telecom regulator to address those fraudulent activities, especially on the OTT platforms. So, in addition to the traditional way of monitoring and regulating and coordinating with the industry of both

telecom and internet. So, these are the issues that is more of a concern for us to keep us updated with the new security and fraudulent activities in the internet arena. And it is one of the core priority now to address those issues.

PUA HUNETER:

Right. Yeah. I can't help but agree with you, especially coming from a regional perspective, in the Pacific where DNS is discussed in regional meetings and regional discussions, but these are meetings that are technically focused. And so, government, when you look at it from a government's perspective, they're not too involved. But they know something is happening, but they're allowing the industry to take care of it.

And so, within the region, there's service providers that are working together to make sure that the DNS is secure. And there's also some involvement from ICANN to support the region and countries, specific countries will request for that assistance. But from my government, we have not actually had any involvement. Maybe because our system had not been broken or attacked, but we know that there are vulnerabilities.

And so, again, it comes down to whether it's a priority. And at this point of time, even for our regulator who's working closely with our service providers. The discussion is not really DNS but cybersecurity, but we know that within that cybersecurity discussions, behind the scenes without even mentioning DNS, DNS is in there. And when you're speaking to politicians or to leaders, they don't want to hear technical terms. They want to hear terms that they can relate to. And with terms that they can relate to, you know for sure that you will have some kind

of support, resources that will come from government. But at this point, no, they will not look at this as a priority. So, we just have to be creative in how we put this to our leaders to make it a priority and the words that they can relate to or relate with.

And the last comment in the chat from Jose from Cayman Islands. I fully agree with that as well. The online activists and journalists, that they can exercise their freedom of expression without fear of retaliation. So, there are countries whose media have been muted, but we haven't seen that in my country, and I hope I never get to see it in the future.

Hello again, everyone. The other thing I wanted to ask is, coming back to one of the interventions earlier on today is, is it necessary to create another working group to look at this, like a technical working group within the GAC?

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA:

Just it's my comment. As I mentioned earlier, at this stage, I think it's not. Because we don't have anything in a technical concrete proposal from our technical guys. So, my understanding is that at this stage, we don't need a separate technical working in GAC on this issue. But if we have some concrete proposal of like for consensus or maybe from IETF or from IANA, then we can have it. But at this stage, I think we don't have enough even material to [inaudible 00:33:18] something to the board. So, this is my understanding. Thank you.

PUA HUNTER:

Thank you. Yes. Of course. It's not an issue. There's no conflict. No need to create a working group. Brilliant. Thank you. Yes. Thank you, Jose, for your comments in the chat. Governments understand the importance of critical infrastructure, therefore, extending the information to them in this context with some level of risk assessment is key to getting their buy-in. Absolutely. Thank you so much. We still have another 11 more minutes, so continue to contribute any thoughts you have or even to respond further on the questions either in the chat or if you want, just put up your hand and speak up. Thank you.

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA:

This is just my query because I think I missed some part of the session where there was a discussion about the exist of DNS from the IoT systems, I think. I just at the initial discussion I was there, but I missed the later part. And the response from the technical colleague was that it was tested with some IoT systems and the current DNS infrastructure or the system that is we have now under ICANN is working fine with those IoT applications. But as we are observing more and more smart initiatives and there will be hundreds of thousands and millions of IoT applications, that was the world.

So, whether it may have any implication about the resource allocation or not, because I'm not an expert on this particular topic. It can be a question or like concern that the incoming development of lots of the smart system which are not human, without any human intervention, there will be many millions of systems either that addition to our current DNS or the users of the current DNS resources. So, there is no space or addresses, whether they would have any significant impact or

not. I think it can be a concern. That's my thinking. Because I just missed some part of the discussion today.

PUA HUNTER: No. Thank you. I see Dorothy's hands up. Uganda, the floor is yours.

DOROTHY OKELLO: Thank you very much. I wanted to support the proposal forward by Cayman Islands in terms of how we could pitch this kind of information through what they understand. For example, the importance of critical infrastructure as he has presented there, and also the argument around cybersecurity, because that is also something that is very key to our governments. Thank you.

PUA HUNTER: Thank you so much. We got another seven more minutes, so feel free to continue the discussion, even through the chat. Thank you. five more minutes. Maybe we can wrap up. Jamal, are you okay to do a little summary, or would you prefer just to present after?

JAMAL PETER LE BLANC: Hello, Pua. Can you hear me?

PUA HUNTER: Yes. Nice and clear.

JAMAL PETER LE BLANC: Okay. Thank you. Thank you for the opportunity to work on the notes. I can provide a summary in just a few moments, and I'm quite happy to do so, but I will need about five minutes, perhaps. No?

PUA HUNTER: Okay. Sure.

JAMAL PETER LE BLANC: Okay. Thank you so much.

PUA HUNTER: But, I mean, if you're comfortable to present at the end without having to share here, that's fine.

JAMAL PETER LE BLANC: Okay. Thank you. And I thank you everyone for these wonderful comments. I will do my best to represent you well.

PUA HUNTER: Thank you. Thank you so much, Jamal. Yeah. Hi, everyone. Before we wrap up, thank you so much for your engagement and for your inputs, responses.

JAMAL PETER LE BLANC: Pua, I sent you an invitation to the document where we were keeping notes. Did you receive it?

PUA HUNTER: Yes, I did. Thank you.

JAMAL PETER LE BLANC: You're welcome. So, the document is available to you?

PUA HUNTER: Yeah.

JAMAL PETER LE BLANC: Fantastic. Thank you.

PUA HUNTER: Thank you so much. And thank you, everyone. I really appreciate your interactions and your valuable inputs. It's really useful for this session. And also, I know Jamal kindly offered to support Dr. Shamsuzzoha to be the rapporteur. I'm going to ask Dr. Shamsuzzoha if you can do the presentation on our behalf. Please. Hi, Emmanuel. Can you hear me? Thank you. Okay. I haven't heard from Dr. Shamsuzzoha.

SHAMSUZZOHA: Sorry. Are you addressing me?

PUA HUNTER: Yes. I'm asking if you can do our presentation again.

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA: I can, but I thought Jamal was going to do it. So, it's fine that I can do. No problem.

PUA HUNTER: Jamal kindly offered to support you and he's put it into a document. Again, thank you so much, Jamal. I really appreciate that. It's just that I've been told we can have ICANN org support us. I mean, present. But he supported us with putting together our contributions here. So, again, thank you, Jamal, and thank you, Dr Shamsuzzoha, that you can present on our behalf.

DR. SHAMSUZZOHA: Thank you. That would be nice.

PUA HUNTER: Thank you. Hello again, everyone. I'm just going to the write up--

TRACY HACKSHAW: Okay. I think this is about time to take the break. So, we will break for 30 minutes, and we will return in the rooms at 30 minutes past the hour local time and where we are, that will 30 minutes from now. And we will begin by having people who are reporting out join us on stage as well as those in the Zoom room who are reporting out to join us. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]