ICANN78 | AGM – GAC Wrap-Up
Thursday, October 26, 2023 – 1:15 to 2:30 HAM

DAN GLUCK:

Hello, and welcome to the ICANN78 GAC wrap-up session being held Thursday, the 26th of October at 11:30 UTC. My name is Dan Gluck, and I am 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 the session, questions or comments submitted in chat will only be read aloud if put in the proper form. The questions for this session will include six UN languages and Portuguese. Click on the interpretation icon in Zoom and select the language you will listen to during this session. If you wish to speak, please raise your hand in the Zoom room, and once the session facilitator calls upon your name, kindly unmute your microphone and take the floor.

Before speaking, ensure you have selected the language you will speak for the interpretation menu. Please state your name for the record and the language you will speak if speaking a language other than English. When speaking, be sure to mute all other devices and notifications. Please speak clearly and at a reasonable pace to allow for accurate interpretation. To view the real-time transcription, click on the closed caption button in the Zoom toolbar. To ensure transparency and participation in ICANN's multi-stakeholder model, we ask that you sign in to Zoom sessions using your full name. With that, I will hand the floor over to GAC Chair, Nico Caballero.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much, Daniel. Welcome again to our last session. This session will run for 75 minutes, and we'll try to make use of the available time the best way we can, because we're a little bit constrained in terms of timing. So some housekeeping details, Fabien, go ahead, please.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: So one element, first of all, we've closed the document for editing just to preserve the stability of the text as it's been reviewed so far. So what you see here on the screen, you may not see on your document, because when you're not able to contribute, you do not see the edits that we see in the document. So please refer to the screen for the actual text that we are reviewing. So that's one element. And here on this section, capacity development, GAC capacity development, where we left off, we have agreed on the first three paragraphs.

What we're seeing in red or purple here, the last two paragraphs are text that was added. We're not exactly sure who suggested it, because that's got lost into all the edits. But there it seems to be two paragraphs which are alternative of each other. So you see the second paragraph, the last paragraph is an alternative text to the previous paragraphs. And so this is what's left to be discussed in this section.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much for that clarification. If you can scroll down a little bit, please, Benedetta. So as you can see, the first paragraph, we put it in brackets. We don't know who sent it. But there's an alternative text that basically catches the idea. Let me read the first paragraph very quickly, and then I'll read the alternative text. So the text goes, in

addition, in the interest of supporting underserved regions, the GAC recognizes the need to address the number resource scarcity issue for these regions. The USRWG is tasked with engaging the relevant units within ICANN, such as the ASO, to develop programs aimed at enhancing number allocation for underserved regions.

This may involve expediting the transition to IPv6 by establishing a sunset date for IPv4 and or allocating funds from the proceeds of the new gTLD run to assist administrations in these regions in acquiring IPv4 addresses from the market. That was the text that we still don't know, or at least I don't know who sent it. So the alternative text for that paragraph would be, in addition, with the aim of supporting underserved regions regarding the issue of number resource scarcity, the GAC looks forward to further discussions, including engagement with the ASO and NRO to address the needs of these regions within ICANN's remit. And I'll pause here in order to see if there are comments, questions. Are we with the text? And I see Timor-Leste. Go ahead, please.

JOSE A. LAY: Thank you, Chair. Just to take ownership, both paragraphs were proposed by Timor-Leste. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for the clarification. Then I would suggest, but this is my take, I would suggest going with the second one. If that is okay with Timor-Leste, if that is okay with everyone. And I see the UK and Netherlands. Go ahead, please.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Nigel Hickson, UK.   Just to thank our colleagues and Timor-Leste for proposing this text. And we'd be very happy to go with the second alternative. Thank you very much.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, UK. Netherlands?

MARCO HOGEWONING: My colleague from the UK was faster, but just happy to go with the second text. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much, Netherlands. And I see, and I see nodding in the room. Any strong feelings against it? Any opposition? Are we okay to move on? And I see some more nodding. So thank you for that. So we'll go with the second one. Perfect. Can we move on to the next? So now I'll read the text regarding the gag working groups. We won't have enough time to discuss everything in depth. So my suggestion would be, unless you have any strong feelings against any of the paragraphs for the sake of time, maybe I'll just read the whole thing. And I will only stop if, if you actually identify a big problem or something like that.

So GAC public safety working group reports. So the text reads, the gag public safety working group PSWG continued its work to advocate for improved measures to combat DNS abuse and promote lawful effective access to domain name registration data. The PSWG participated in a

session to brief the gag on DNS abuse mitigation that included presentations about one, the GAC's public comment on the proposed DNS abuse amendments to the registry agreement and registrar accreditation agreement contracts. Two, possibilities for future work to mitigate DNS abuse. Three, presentations from ICANN org and the DNS abuse Institute on DNS abuse trends. Four, efforts by clean DNS to disrupt DNS abuse. And five, the results of the ccNSO's DNS abuse standing committee survey.

The PSWG continued its active participation to support the GAC small group that focuses on domain name registration issues, including by participating in the update to the gag on these issues. The presentation included an update on the registration data request service, RDRS and implementation of the phase one policy recommendations, including appropriate timelines to respond to urgent requests. Can you scroll down a little bit, please? The PSWG also continued its outreach, holding discussions with several constituent groups within ICANN. Finally, the PSWG extends its sincere appreciation to Chris Lewis Evans for his exemplary service as PSWG co-chair. His participation and leadership within the PSWG will be missed. Anything you would like to say about this report?

GULYEN TEPE: We have Iran in the queue.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Iran, go ahead, please.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, Nico. As you mentioned, we don't have too much time. I think this takes, in my view, sounds very good and we don't need to get in further details and so on and so forth. That is okay. That reflects what has happened. The only thing I would add in the second paragraph when we say PSWG continued its active participation to support. No, the first one, participated in a session to brief. I suggest that we delete participated in a session saying that PSWG briefed the GAC, not participate in a session. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Iran. Very good point. Well noted. Any other comment? Seeing none, let's move on. So I'll go ahead with the GAC underserved regions working group. Fabien, go ahead.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: So during the session on DSMU mitigation, there wasn't a formal briefing of the PSWG on many of those topics because the session included presentation by third parties. And I believe Lauren as co-chair of the PSWG only discussed one topic, which was the amendments of the contracts. So unfortunately, if we use the word brief, it would be inaccurate. And that's probably why the PSWG chose the word of participating in the session in that context.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Fabien. Can you scroll up a little bit because we're not on the same page. So that would mean it would be a problem with

the word briefing. So and going back to Iran, is there any other word you would suggest in this case instead of briefing? Or anybody?

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: No, I don't have anything. No, go ahead, please.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: I have Egypt.

MANAL ISMAIL: So would it be more accurate to say the PSWG organized the session to brief the GAC? No? Okay.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: The reason I think that maybe that may not be accurate either because there were a number of GAC members involved in the preparation of that session. So it feels like the initial wording is probably the most accurate. It could also be contributed to.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: I have Iran. Go ahead, please.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: I agree with Fabien. There is no need to say organize the meeting. The current sentence is sufficient and it's Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Iran. Netherlands.

ALISA HEAVER: Thank you. Just more practical something. My colleague is having an issue getting into the Zoom room and I'm wondering if other colleagues also have that issue. That makes it kind of difficult to participate.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Netherlands. We'll have that checked.

IAN SHELDON: Sorry, I was trying to raise my hand before, but I think the issue has been resolved. I was just supporting the staff's proposal to revert to existing text, but I think the tech issue remains on my end as far as the GAC room calls. Thanks.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Australia. Netherlands. Is that an old hand? Then we'll revert to original text. So can we move on? Because I don't think I need to read the whole paragraph again. Unless you tell me otherwise. So again, for the sake of time, let's move on. I'll read the underserved regions working group report. The text reads, "The GAC underserved regions working group USRWG held a two-day capacity development workshop CDW on 21-22 October 2023. The CDW planning team appreciates the contributions by ICANN org and experts from the ICANN community. The Foundation Policy Day focused on topics of interest to

the GAC with an introduction to the upcoming high-level governmental meeting, HLGM, that will be held during ICANN80.

A technology day was delivered as agreed by the GAC during ICANN77 to incorporate emerging technologies in the CDW program. Both days concluded with language-based breakouts to discuss regional priorities and issues and will be followed by a post-workshop survey. The USRWG will continue to deliver capacity development initiatives through webinars and workshops regionally and during ICANN meetings in light of the complexity and importance of the topics of interest to the GAC and the ICANN community and for the benefit of all GAC participants, including newcomers." And I'll pause here in order to see if there are comments, edits, questions. And I have Iran.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Yes, Nico, thank you very much. In the second paragraph after ICANN80, if you agree, I add in Rwanda, you mentioned the name of Rwanda, that is something that we could mention. And then in the last paragraph, the group will continue, instead of delivering capacity development, to enhance capacity development.   It's not delivering capacity, but enhancing capacity development initiatives. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Iran. And I have the UPU. Go ahead, please.

TRACY HACKSHAW: Thanks, Nico. I think we agreed earlier that to call the HLGM high-level government meeting, and it's just for standardization. So later in the community, we say high-level government meeting. Yes, thanks.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, UPU. So would the underserved regions working group be happy with replacing the word deliver with enhance? Would it be okay? Thank you, Cook Islands. So if there are no other comments or edits, we can move on. Can you scroll down, please? So GAC operating principles evolution working group, or GOAP working group. The text reads, the GAC operating principles evolution working group, GOPE WG, co-chairs updated the GAC on recent activities carried out by the working group, WG. The WG released a work plan for 2024 and 2025, which outlines next steps to review GAC operating principles. The GOPE WG will continue to provide updates on the WG's progress to the GAC as noted in the work plan. Interested GAC members are invited to participate in the working group's upcoming discussions.

The working group will resume its meetings post ICANN78 and update the GAC of their intersessional work at ICANN79. Thoughts, edits, comments? Seeing none, let's move on. Can you scroll down, please? And I will turn to GAC operational matters. The text reads, GAC members exchange views regarding the GAC's current relationship with and potential for future participation in the ICANN nominating committee, NomCom. It was agreed that this topic will be further explored in future discussions among the GAC chair and vice chair's team to inform further committee discussions on options for contributing to the work of the NomCom. Comments? Thoughts?

78 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Edits? Any strong feelings against it? Seeing none, we're good to move on again.

So we'll go up to topic number one, which is the introduction. And the text reads, the governmental advisory committee, GAC, of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, ICANN, met in Hamburg, Germany, in a hybrid setting, including remote participation from 21 to 26 October 2023. Ex-GAC members and ex-observers attended the meeting. That will be obviously completed later on once we have the final numbers.

The GAC meeting was conducted as part of the ICANN78 annual general meeting. All GAC plenary and working group sessions were conducted as open meetings. Let's move on. Inter-constituency activities and community engagement, meeting with the ICANN board, the GAC met with the ICANN board and discussed new gTLD program next round, DNS abuse, registration data policy, GNSO statements of interest, or SOIs, and Internet governance developments. Everything so far? And I see no requests for the floor, so I'll move on.

Meeting with the At-Large Advisory Committee, ALAC, the GAC met with members of the ALAC and discussed follow-up on the 2017 joint GAC-ALAC advice to the board entitled, Enabling Inclusive, Informed, and Meaningful Participation at ICANN, a joint statement by ALAC and GAC. Closed generics, including the joint GAC-ALAC letter to the ICANN board, Contention resolutions in new gTLDs, including presentation and closed-bid auctions. Meeting with the generic names supporting organization, GNSO, the GAC met with members of the GNSO council and discussed new gTLD program next round, IGO implementation,

curative rights, DNS abuse, WHOIS data protection, and transparency in GNSO statement of interest discussion. I'll pause here in order to see if we're missing anything. Any comments, thoughts, edits? Are we to move on?

So, seeing no requests for the floor, let's go ahead. So, now I'll read internal matters. Number one, GAC membership. There are currently 182 GAC member states and territories and 38 observer organizations. Number two, GAC elections. The GAC elected as vice-chairs for the term starting after ICANN 79, March 2024, and ending at the close of ICANN 82, March 2025. Zeina Buharb from Lebanon, Nigel Hickson from the United Kingdom, Wang Lang, China, Christine Arida from Egypt, Tiago Dalto, Colombia. By the way, a big round of applause for them. Can you scroll down, please? We have already read this part, so at this point, I'll turn it over to my very esteemed GAC vice-chair, Nigel Hickson from the UK for the heavy lifting. Go ahead, Nigel.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much indeed, Nico. So, you'll be pleased to know that we're not going to read every single word again. We want to, in this session this afternoon, we want to give you the opportunity of saying a few other things, rather than just commenting on the communique. That's if, of course, you want to. So, we're going to go through the communique now, section by section, paragraph by paragraph, and obviously, if there's anything that strikes you that we haven't got right, or collectively we haven't got right through the discussions we've been having, please shout out. When we finish the text, the GAC secretary will just remind you what the next process is.

As there is a further comment period for a certain number of hours, and then hopefully we'll have time for some general discussion, reactions on this meeting and anything else you'd like to raise in this regard. So, if it's with you, we'll go to the top of the page. I think the first text to look at is the text in italics, I think that's fairly standard. We then have the introduction, which our Stephen chairman has just read out. The highlighted bits in yellow, of course, will be fed in, and Fabian will be able to show us when this goes out, as I said, at the end of the meeting, what those numbers are. But it's really fantastic to see so many people here at this meeting. So, let's go on, anything in that section. So, we then go on to inter-constituency activities and communities engagement.

Again, our chairman read out this meeting with the ICANN board. Please just shout if we've got anything wrong on this. Meeting with the at-large ALAC committee, and thank you so much for many of you attending these sessions and contributing so positively to this dialogue with other parts of the community. Meeting with the Generic Names Supporting Organization, GNSO. These are the topics which we, and just to let you might be thinking, well this is all a bit brief. Perhaps you like brief descriptions. There is, of course, the full transcripts of all these meetings and all the meetings on the GAC site. If we could go down further, internal matters, GAC membership, 182 and 38. Let's see if we can increase that. GAC elections, we've just been over.

Obviously, many congratulations to Christine and Tiago for becoming vice chairs. GAC working groups, the first one was the PSWG. Again, the chair just read this out, but let me give you a couple of minutes to, or a couple of seconds to look through this. I think, as I said, the chair read

this out and we had a couple of dialogue on this. So then if we could go to the next bullet point, the GAC underserved regions working group, recalling, of course, this excellent two-day capacity building program and the excellent offer by our esteemed colleagues from WANDA. We then go on to the GAC operating principles, the evolution working group. Sorry, I do apologize. Just a shout. Go on.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Fabien Betremieux from the GAC support team, just to highlight that the edits you see are from us, and that's just to be consistent in the naming of the working group. We usually do not use WG as an acronym, so to avoid adding the acronym, we just made those slight edits and just want to make sure you're aware.

NIGEL HICKSON: Everyone okay? So we're going on to now GAC capacity development, and this is the text that we discussed earlier today. So let's just look at the first two or three paragraphs of that. Anyone, any comments on this? This is what we read out earlier. Fabien is as we speak, is just making a couple of editorial adjustments. There's some reason, number, resource in the last paragraph. It's got a blue underline. It's probably just the way the software is looking at it.

Now, just as a bit of light relief while you're looking through, we use Z, don't we? One day, when we've got more time, we could have a vote in the GAC whether we use Zs or Ss. Come prepared. This is a very sensitive issue, of course, to many of us. If everyone's okay, if we go down to GAC operational matters, Nico, of course, just read out this

paragraph concerning the NomCom. Clearly, discussion will be going on, as he said.

We then, issues of importance to the GAC. This is the main, if you like, one of the main issues. And just as I think you all know as members of the GAC that the board take these issues of importance very seriously. And they initiate a dialogue with the Government Advisory Committee on these issues of importance. So it's excellent that so many of you contributed. Go on.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Fabien Betremieux from the GAC Support Team, just to highlight here a slight edit we made. It looks like the word host was left over. We're not sure exactly how that was read, but Germany suggested deleting it because it would not have the same meaning, the sentence, which was meant to welcome the invitation from the Government of Rwanda to the next high-level government meeting in Kigali. If we maintain the word host, that sort of changes the meaning of the sentence. So we reflected this suggestion from Germany.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much, Fabien. So this is the first paragraph. We could look at that, the high-level government meeting. Any concerns there? And please just do shout if anyone has any issues. We then go on to...

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Verify, B.

NIGEL HICKSON: Please.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Just the final sentence of high-level government meeting.   After November, alongside with, perhaps just along with or with, as alongside has a different meaning. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much. So we have another English student in the room. I think that makes sense, subject to one thing. I think the proposal was along with. Is that what you suggested? So rather alongside, just along with. Great. Thank you very much indeed for that. It just shows how beneficial this process is. Yes. Sorry. Iran, I do apologize.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Good afternoon, Vice-Chair.   Good afternoon.   As usual, you say I replace, I suggest to replace along with so on and so forth, together with. It's not along with, it's together with agenda. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Are we okay with that? Thank you very much, Iran. So if we could go on to the future round of new gTLDs, and the first section is auctions, mechanisms of last resort.   Are we okay with that first bullet on auctions? We then have GAC consensus, advice and early warnings on new gTLD applications. We discussed this in some detail yesterday, but just if people could just briefly read those paragraphs and make sure

they make sense. Thank you very much. We then go on to something which we debated at length, and I'm sure something that's going to be read by other people, and people are going to go reaching for the dictionary on diacritics. Can't even say it. Sorry, Fabien.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: And on the topic of diacritics, we added a footnote, as you can see next to the word diacritics, which refers to that footnote where we adapted a definition that was proposed in a background briefing to the GNSO, that we're also linking here. So hopefully that will help readers. And also we've suggested removing the S to Latin scripts, so that it reads Latin script singular, because it is our understanding that there is only one. There are numerous languages based on the Latin script. There's only one Latin script, so that's our suggestion for accuracy to remove the S.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much, Fabien. And Iran is on the --

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, Vice Chair. Could you please scroll down? Go to the first bullet. Sorry, scroll up. Go to the first bullet. It's got consensus advice. It isn't consensus advice, because the second bullet is Latin script. Is that also consensus advice? So please kindly clarify whether which one is consensus advice? All of them are consensus advice? Thank you.

| NIGEL HICKSON: | The second bullet, we had the first bullet on auctions. The second bullet is on gap consensus advice and early warnings. That was the part of the SubPro we were discussing. I think that's it. |

NICOLAS CABALLERO: The section, Iran, is issues of importance to the GAC, basically.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you. That is the answer I have looking for. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Sorry, I should have been clearer So where were we? Yes. So thank you very much for the footnote on the diacritics, and we'll no doubt come back to that. We then have new gTLD support, and we have a number of paragraphs here, which were discussed yesterday. So let me just give you a few seconds to look through these paragraphs. I don't think anything's changed here, Fabien, but you might want to. Yes, of course. Manal, Egypt.

MANAL ISMAIL: No, just suggesting that we add the word program to the title, if okay, new gTLD applicant support program.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you so much, Manal. And I see Rose from the UK. She would shout at me if she was unhappy. Rose?

ROSALIND KENNYBIRCH: Yes. Fantastic spot, Manal. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Now, again it's 'programme' spelled with another M and another E. I needed some advice on this. So thank you for this. Perhaps you'd just go up a bit. You're going a bit quick, just to give people the chance to read through these paragraphs. Yes, you can go to the third paragraph now. Thank you. Thank you so much. I was just looking if there's any footnotes on these paragraphs, I think, one to do with the ALAC statement. Can we just come up a bit? No, sorry, down or always the language. There's a there's a page break there. So the footnote, you have the footnote, and then the text carries on, just to be sure. Registration Data Request Service, if we can go on to that, RDRS.

We discussed this in detail this morning, thanks to the contributions from a number of contributions from a number of countries, including our friends from India and the US and others. Any anything on here of concern? Are we okay Fabien, on no changes here?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: I wasn't sure whether I should mention, I don't recall exactly how that this was read, but we had suggested removing the word consensus here because of a technicality of how the process works. So generally, the GNSO submits policy recommendations to the ICANN board that the ICANN board considers.   If the ICANN board approves policy recommendations, it directs ICANN to proceed to their implementation.

And the implementation of policy recommendation produces consensus policy that then becomes enforceable as part of the contracts. And so that's why using the term consensus policy recommendations may be confusing.

NIGEL HICKSON: Sorry, thank you for that, Fabien. Are we all okay with that? Thank you. So if we could scroll down, we come to urgent requests for the disclosure of registration data. Again, this is the one we discussed this morning before lunch. And any comments? Fabien, do you want to speak to it?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: I can speak to the edits we made here. Simply for accuracy, the ICANN org implementation project team comments on this matter was in April, but it's a document that's also dated January. So it's a bit confusing, but the ICANN org's conclusion was in April. And in the third paragraph, we just adjusted a little bit the quote. So it does exactly reflect what's in the GAC letter. So that's just for precision.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much. I think these are factual changes, but please look at them. And I think it makes the text work pretty well. So if we could scroll down a bit. Oh, sorry, Iran.

78 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you very much. Could you go to the paragraph you were discussing, the blue text you have added at the end? Could you go back to that? Somewhere you said had posed something. I didn't understand what you mean here. They posed the request. So I don't know which -- what was the last part?

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Iran, we're quoting another thing there, so I'm not sure we can change that, but anyways.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Oh, it is quotation, we should be faithful with the quotation. No problem That is others' problems, not our problems. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Exactly. That was my point. Thank you, Iran.

NIGEL HICKSON: Yes. It's always a temptation to sort of edit people's quotes because we can read them better, but we better not do that. Thank you, Iran. It was in blue, but then we changed it into the normal color. So if we can go on to five, DNS abuse. So if we can have a look at the first, just the first three paragraphs for now. So these were the paragraphs that our chair read out again before lunch. So we have the three paragraphs on that page, and then it goes on to the next page.

So this was to do with the contractual amendments and the GAC looking forward to further work in this area. And thank you for the US

and colleagues for the submission of this text. So if we can go down a bit more. And then anything on this one? Are we okay on this one? We're making very good progress. Thank you.

So carrying on down, are we okay Fabian? Can we go to transparency and GNSO statements of interest?   This is the again, the one we discussed with the long acronym, CCOICI. It's great, isn't it? Good acronym.   So statements of interest, you'll recall that we had a discussion on this, and then we added, we added some text to the first paragraph earlier today, or yesterday, sorry, late yesterday, but when we had the news about the discussion of the GNSO Council. So we're okay with this text. Thank you.

We then go on to emergency system program for continued internet access. That's a fairly, number seven, that's a fairly short paragraph, I think. Can we okay there? Let's go down if we could. So we now come on to GAC consensus advice to the ICANN board, the following items of advice, and we have closed generics, and there seems to be, Fabian, a slight change to this, do you want to? Thank you.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Here a slight change of the order of words for consistency with how we usually refer to rounds of new gTLDs, future rounds or next rounds, and that was supported by several GAC members as well, so we can accept if it's acceptable to everybody.

GULTEN TEPE: We have Iran on queue.

NIGEL HICKSON: Yes, I just…

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, distinguished vice chair. Could in Roman one instead of in advance of, we say prior to the next round. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: So would that be okay for that? I don't see any difference. I'm with that, but we're in your hands. So would that be acceptable? So prior to instead of in advance of, would that be okay? And I see nodding. So please go ahead.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. And thank you, Iran, for that comment. So if we could look at the rationale, the first few paragraphs of the rationale. This was discussed yesterday, but it seems a long time ago. You can, any comments on this text, Iran?

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: I have no problem with appreciation, but this is part of rationale or should be at the end, because appreciation to X and Y is not rational. So you may put it at the end by adding some something, but not the rationale should start rational, but not appreciations is not rational I have no problem to appreciate anybody, but this is not rational. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Can we just scroll down a bit then to see how we, no, sorry, up. So we have the advice. Let's just go up a bit. So we have the advice, which is prior to the next round. We then start the rationale and we have that text. Can I have any comments on that? Personally, I don't see it's too much of a problem, although I do understand the point that Iran is making, but let's take over.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Can you suggest something?

NIGEL HICKSON: Can we have just, Iran, if you can just wait a minute, we have US and the European Commission in the queue, the US?

SUSAN CHALMERS: Thank you. I think we'd be, I appreciate our colleague's point. It isn't rational. It's just a gesture of collegiality. So we're happy to delete it if others feel similarly inclined, but have no strong opinion. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: European Commission.

MARTINA BARBERO: Thank you very much. I support what my colleague from the US just said. I think we don't have a very strong feeling about that sentence. It

was a gesture of appreciation. If it's a compromise, we can put it at the end, as Iran suggests, so that we still recognize the effort that was put into this work. But we start the rational by explaining the rational of the recommendation, but of the advice. But of course this is no strong feeling on our side.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much. Egypt.

MANAL ISMAIL: Thank you, Nigel. If this would solve the problem, because I see Kavouss' point, maybe we can move this first sentence to A, and this would read, the GAC expresses its appreciation till the end and advises the board. And then we start the advice. But I don't have a strong feeling. I'm just trying to help. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much. That seems a useful way forward. I think we have, let Fabien just put it there.

MANAL ISMAIL: We can copy the sentence in full and thank you. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: While Fabien doing that, did the European Commission want to come back in? No. So, Iran.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Can I proceed?

NIGEL HICKSON: Sorry, go on.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: I could agree any of the two. Either put it at the end or if you want to put it at the beginning, you should start while GAC expresses its appreciation and then start it offers this advice. So, put a little bit as an introductory or preamble to the GAC advice. It's not wrong, but starting that your advice is from the second paragraph, but this would be the introductory or as Manal or some other colleagues suggested, put it at the end. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you. I think we need to move on.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Let's keep it there. I would suggest for the sake of time to keep it as it is right now since everybody agreed and move on with the rest in order not to waste. I'm not saying we're wasting time. But I don't think this is so substantive if you see what. But to have it right there in the title as Egypt suggested.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: And if I may bring just a GAC support perspective here, we're trying hard to make sure that the text of the advice is as clear as short as possible. And so, while it doesn't seem that adding this in the title of the GAC advice is the board introduces too much ambiguity, we caution against using this sentence to add information in the future because the board really looks at every word in an advice as part of its process of considering and responding to GAC advice. So, from our perspective, it feels like it's less risky to have it as a preamble to that sentence, the GAC advises the board or to have it…

NIGEL HICKSON: Yes, thank you. I think as a preamble it looks fine. So, you delete it from the next sentence then.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: There it is.

NIGEL HICKSON: So, the next A would just read -- Oh, you've done it. That's very quick. Thank you very much. Let's move on. If we can go down. I think we looked at the rationale. Go down, down, down, down. So it comes out there. Yes, we don't need it at the bottom if we've got it. Very quick in deleting things. Well, I think we're now on follow-up on previous advice and we have two items. The first item, Meaningful Participation in ICANN. So, any comments on this first one dot? No, thank you very much. Two dot and I think there's been a change to two dot. So, Fabien, do you want to…?

78 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Yes, absolutely. On the title, you may recall we had suggested that GAC considers a revision of the heading and we had provided the history of how that was referred to in the past and given that we have a number of items in the title, I think it's referred to in the past and given that we haven't heard back, we're suggesting that we use the original heading for the ICANN56 advice, which was Future gTLDs Policies and Procedures, which to us sounds sufficiently clear and consistent with references in this communicate to future rounds of new gTLDs. So, we're not creating anything new here. We're just reusing what was used at the time. So, that's for the first comment.

Second comment is in the second sentence. So far, the GAC is not fully apprised instead of aware of the availability of such analysis and that's a reflection of a suggestion by the UK.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much, Fabien. Does the UK want to. Go on.

ROSALIND KENNYBIRCH: Thank you. Rosalind KennyBirch, UK. Yes, our colleague from Denmark and myself had a quick discussion just in regards to an editorial suggestion here. So, it's just intended as an editorial suggestion based on some of the information and documents unearthed from staff. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much. So, if everyone is with that, which is in the green text. Sir.

JORGE CANCIO: Thank you, Nigel. Jorge Cancio, Switzerland, for the record. I'm not really sure what fully apprised means here. So, fully apprised. I could understand, is not apprised, but fully apprised. So, it means we know something, but we don't know everything. And that's a bit confusing also for the board. They could answer like, Okay, but... So, what do you know? So, either is not aware or is not apprised, but fully apprised is a bit confusing to me.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you, Jorge. Thank you, Switzerland. UK.

ROSALIND KENNYBIRCH: Thank you, Rosalind KennyBirch, UK. This was just intended as there was a document found from staff noting closure of the topic, but that it would be taken through the CC TV review. So, there's sort of a nuance here, I think, between those two points. So, it's just in order to capture that and make it more accurate in that regard so that there's no unclarity. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you. But I do take Switzerland's point that this might invite. I understand the UK point as well, but any other. Yes, sorry. Brazil, sorry.

LUCIANO MAZZA: No, perhaps just so far the GAC is not -- Perhaps the GAC is uncertain about the availability of such analysis, something along those lines, and we're in doubt, I understand, that nobody really knows or if such analysis is available, if it complies with what was expected, but I don't think we should spend too much time on this either.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much. I think the UK, you're happy.

ROSALIND KENNYBIRCH: Thank you. Rosalind KennyBirch, UK. Brazil's suggestion we would be supportive of. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Brazil has it. You might not win the football, but you -- No, you win the football as well. Did we capture that, Fabien?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Yes.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you so much. Next paragraph. Now, I want you to study this final paragraph in a lot of detail. If we could have some edits. Sorry, I shouldn't be a pal.

PUA HUNTER: Thank you. Just a matter of clarity and to help our GAC colleagues plan their travel as well as the underserved regions working group. Cook Islands. Sorry. Just a matter of clarity to do with the dates and also to help our GAC colleagues plan the attendance at the next meeting. Also to help the underserved regions working group plan their intended capacity development workshop.   Are those dates inclusive of workshop dates? Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you for that question. Perhaps I could turn it to.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: So, we generally reflect the official dates of the meeting, which does not preclude our adding activities before or after, so I think those are the official dates of the meeting if that's your question.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you for the clarify it was a good question but I yes this has to be I think the official dates of the meeting because other dates could be added on for other purposes of course but the Lebanon sorry.

ZEINA BOU HARB: Just to be in line with was a comment I propose just adding preceded by capacity because we have a section dedicated for this now in the communique; I think it should be added somewhere here preceded by capacity development workshop.

NIGEL HICKSON:	If this is something that's been agreed, then it makes logical sense but.
NICOLAS CABALLERO:	Rob Hoggarth, go ahead please.
ROB HOGGARTH:	Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to clarify the capacity development workshop activities of the GAC are typically included within the footprint of the meeting we've only had one recent difference from that so current plans are not to have day zero or day minus one availability of the capacity development activities thank you.
NICOLAS CABALLERO:	Thank you, Rob. Back to you, Nigel.
NIGEL HICKSON:	Yes, thank you so. Where does that leave us then.
NICOLAS CABALLERO:	And so it would be better and with apologies to my esteemed colleague from Lebanon so it would be better not to include anything there given the fact that we still don't have like unless you tell me otherwise we don't we still don't have the official dates for the capacity building sessions.
GULTEN TEPE:	Thank you, Nico. We have Iran next in the queue.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Iran, go ahead please.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Yes, Chair, I agree with you, these are the details, we don't need to put it in the in the communique and that will be decided later on as appropriate so I suggest that, as you mentioned, we don't include this one, thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much, but thank you Cook Islands, and clearly it's an important point, but as there's not certainty, let's take it out then. And that's it, I think so I'll hand back to the chair and the secretary who might say a few words about the process just to remind us, thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so much Nigel and my apologies again to Lebanon and to Cook Islands on deleting that part of the text but. So we're right there, I can't believe we had enough time to do everything a big round of applause for ourselves. So we still have 10 minutes, I would like to give the floor to Mr. Rob Hoggarth for some important housekeeping details. Before that, Fabian go ahead.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: And that's just to remind everybody that now that the communique is adopted, we will enter the 72-hour review period, we will send a communication in a few hours, in a few hours, this will be time for us to

proceed to editorial review with the GAC chair and make sure that we've not overlooked anything, correct any typos that we would have missed and those sorts of edits. You will receive an email that will explain and give you the deadline for that 72-hour review period, we'd like to remind you that this review period is not for editing the communique, it's for ensuring that there isn't any issue for participants that weren't present, that were remote or for any issues that arise that are substantive and so I'll read a few of the guidelines that we provide in that email we send to the GAC.

And so those guidelines are recalled in that email and there are guidelines from the GAC chair and the vice chairs, any objection should be motivated and clearly identify the text in reference to which it is made, any objection consistent with the above requirements and there are a few other formal requirements, we'll necessitate a post-ICANN meeting GAC session to discuss the objection and therefore delay publication of the communique until then. Given the above, the GAC leadership requests that GAC members consider very carefully and conservatively the recourse to such objection and expect it to be used only exceptionally, factual errors, typographical, grammatical or style issues can be reported as such and will be considered and approved as appropriate by the GAC leadership and that completes our reminder.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much for that. Fabien, Mr. Rob Hoggarth, please.

ROB HOGGARTH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Rob Hoggarth from GAC support staff. Gulten's going to put up a slide that shares just some significant upcoming dates for you all to pop on your calendars. I invite you after this meeting when you get back home to take a look at this slide deck, there's other bits of information regarding upcoming topics, workload and other priority matters for you all to consider here in the next 60 days or so, but we never get through the wrap up slides so I decided to focus on these key dates as Fabien and the chair have noted. We expect the communique to be published early next week. The important thing based upon feedback from many of you is to note the planning dates for ICANN79.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Rob, just one second, sorry to interrupt you but the second bullet point says ICANN77 GAC minutes. Is that correct?

ROB HOGGARTH: Thank you very much. That's late night slide drafting. Thank you very much. You've already seen the ICANN77 minutes. Yes, so the ICANN78 minutes should be out by middle to late next month and then the important aspect is really the call for topics.   Many of you have expressed questions and interest over the course of this week about how the meeting is planned and a key element of that planning is when the staff calls for topics. I know it's somewhat frustrating but we have a long-time planning obligation for these meetings and so unfortunately we have to nail down some of those topics many weeks if not months in advance so any thoughts that you have about potential priority topics

or other areas of work that you would like the committee to consider please consider responding to that request as soon as you can.

Under recent planning team changes we now have two agenda setting calls. Please note that time frame as well. We've got the upcoming holidays and then very quickly as you see the San Juan Puerto Rico meeting starts early in March and so a lot of this work will need to be completed by the end of January. So those are the key dates, Nico. I won't go beyond those. I know that you want to give folks a few opportunities to say thank you and goodbye so I'll turn the microphone back. Thanks.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so much. Rob, I have Brazil.

LUCIANO MAZZA: In the same spirit of uncertainty; I'm not sure about the high-level meeting, there's not a discussion on having a call about the agenda of the high-level meeting at some point just to be to be sure. Sorry, thank you. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Brazil. Would you like to answer to that, Rob?

ROB HOGGARTH: Yes, thank you very much, gentlemen. I was actually about to push Send on an email to you all and then I was called up here, so I think that you will very quickly see we have calendared and you will soon be

receiving an invitation for a 9 November follow-up conversation about topics for the high-level governmental meeting. The email will also include timing and deadlines for supplying GAC support staff with names and email addresses and other information about the potential invitees that you would all like to have the government of Rwanda invite to the HLGM.

So all of that we hope based on the timing outlined in these key post ICANN78 meeting dates is that we'll have much of that at least the preliminary invitation work done by the end of November and then between then and ICANN79 you will all focus more on the details of the agenda. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Rob. Brazil, are you with that? Any other comment, question? Anything you would like to say at this point? We're right at the end of the session. We're there. Mission accomplished, in other words. Before I give the floor to my distinguished GAC vice chair, Nigel Hickson, from the UK I would like to thank very especially to our fantastic team of interpreters and translators, the technical team, the tech team. I want to thank you distinguished GAC colleagues for the flexibility, for the goodwill, for the collegial attitude and the patience. The technical team and the fabulous five, Rob, Benedetta, Fabien, Gulten and Daniel, a big round of applause for them as well. They're really helping with a heavy lifting and the floor is yours Nigel for some final remarks.

NIGEL HICKSON: I think you really said them all. I just wanted to reflect on thank GAC members for the way that they've cooperated in this meeting especially the new members. Thank you very much for all the cooperation and enthusiasm and so it's been a great meeting and it really does help the chair. I'm sure he's too modest of course but having really this spirit of cooperation both online and offline as of course we've had excellent contributions from our remote participants and we look forward to seeing everyone again of course.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: I have Iran on the queue. Go ahead, Iran.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Yes, thank you very much, Nico. You have mentioned everybody and I also echo what you said but you forgot one person and that is you. We, the GAC members, wish to express our in-depth and sincere appreciations and get to you for your efficient effective leading this GAC. For the first time if I am not mistaken, we have finished the communicate midday of the Thursday. Sometimes ago I remember it was midnight that one and they were brought in or bringing sandwiches or pizzas and so on and so on to further discuss. Maybe it was not any difficulty for anybody but that was the situation but this time were very effective.

Thank you very much, Nico, for your kind attention, for your patience, for your democratic way of conducting the meeting and so on and so forth and we appreciate very much your efforts and we are looking

forward to see you and from the long distance of virtual I propose a big round of applause to you, Nico.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you again Iran, thank you again, Iran. I indeed remember, that was Durban if I'm not mistaken, 10 years ago; the 3 a.m. pizzas, that was Durban. We missed the music night, we missed the gala dinner, we missed everything 3 a.m. in the morning communique drafting, pizzas at 3 a.m.; that was crazy, so times have changed. So again, thank you all very much the meeting is adjourned enjoy the rest of your days.

NANAYAA PREMPEH: I wanted to say something, I'm sorry. I'm out of place, I'm still not in the system yet. Gulten has mentioned to me I should be in the system. I wanted to thank you on behalf of the new members for accepting us kindly, hosting us kindly, and we promise to be good students of the system once you show us the way. I wondered why we can't see the faces of those online. This Iran gentleman, I love him already, and I want to see his face so let's try and make way for those online to at least once a while show their cute faces so we can put a face to the voice thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so much for that and a big thanks to Rudy Nolde and the German government; I think they also deserve a big round of applause...

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Sorry, you can see that now. If you want to see me, that is me. Yes. Thank you very much.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so much. Enjoy the rest of your day. Goodbye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]