
ICANN79 | CF – Joint Session: GAC Bilaterals
Monday, March 4, 2024 – 3:00 to 4:00 SJU

DANIEL GLUCK: Welcome, everyone, again. Please take your seats. We're about to start. Recording in progress. Hello, and welcome to the NomCom Outreach Committee presentation on Monday, the 4th of March, 2024, at 19:00 UTC. 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 chat will be read aloud if put in the proper form. 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. And please make sure to mute all other devices when you are speaking. You may access all available features for this session in the Zoom toolbar. And with that, I will hand the floor over to GAC Chair, Nicolas Caballero.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much, Daniel. Welcome, everyone. Welcome, Vanda. Welcome, Paul. Welcome, Jennifer. Distinguished GAC Vice Chairs, Lebanon and UK. Again, welcome, everyone. This session will be running for 30 minutes. Right after this, we'll be having another session with the ICANN compliance team. So before I give the floor to Paul and Vanda, I just wanted to point out one important detail, which is that whatever decision we might reach at the end of this session, just bear in mind that if we finally decide to send one GAC representative to the

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NomCom, that person will not be acting on behalf of the country, but on a personal basis. This is very important to point out. So having said that, welcome again, NomCom, Vanda, Paul, Jennifer. The floor is yours, Vanda. Sorry, Paul. Paul, you go ahead.

PAUL DIAZ:

Thank you, Nico, and welcome, everyone. My name is Paul Diaz. I am what we call the chair-elect, I think like vice chair for the Nominating Committee. Recognizing that so many of you are relatively new to ICANN, let me take a few moments just to sort of level set and provide some basic information about what Nominating Committee or NomCom is all about. Vanda can provide, given her experience both on NomCom and in GAC and on the ICANN board, extremely well experienced, further perspective on what it's all about.

The Nominating Committee is enshrined in the ICANN bylaws, and it's established to select positions, and we have a slide for you there. That particular one doesn't show, but in any given year, the Nominating Committee is asked to choose or to fill three seats on the ICANN board, sometimes the PTI board, public technical identifier is the IANA function, as well as positions on the GNSO, the ccNSO, and At-Large, or the ALAC.

So the role, the function of Nominating Committee is very important. We are selecting the senior leadership for those organizations, those constituent parts. And importantly, the Nominating Committee is made up of, and I'm not going to use the word representatives because I think that's going to create misunderstanding, so let me call them delegates,

personal representatives from each of the constituent parts of the community.

There is a spot envisioned for the GAC as well. That spot has not been filled for some time, and that's why we wanted to talk to you today to see if we can get some interest and potentially get a delegate to join us, because the perspective that all of the Nominating Committee members bring is the strength of the organization, and the perspective that somebody coming from the GAC, the government perspective, that senior views and roles with the knowledge of the community, will help us collectively make the best choices for the various seats that we're seeking to fill.

NICOLAS CABALLERO:

Paul, let me interrupt you right there. For the benefit of the new GAC representatives, at this point we're looking for one representative from the GAC, right? Are we talking about one volunteer or two or three places?

PAUL DIAZ:

Yes, sir, just one. So each of the groups, I previously had served as the Registry Stakeholder Group rep. I was there two years ago, and it's just one. Within ALAC, they break it down further into the regionals, each of the ICANN regions. So if you see the org chart, you'll see what appears to be five ALAC. That's because it's per region for their group, and that's a necessity, again, for the roles that we seek to fill. Each of those regional delegates, they have perspective and knowledge about the needs of the work that the ALAC person that will select for the ALAC's

leadership, they have individual insight into the needs at the regional level, so it's different. But one GAC is what we're looking to fill. And again, it breaks down. So each of the groups, right? So there's registry, registrar, IPC, BC, etc. I won't go through the full list.

There was a process for the part of the continuous improvement. Recommendations that were made took some time. Those recommendations were vetted by the community, voted on, and approved by the board. So starting with next year's cycle, the Nominating Committee cycle actually begins at the AGM. So we do a workshop to begin to, for all the new members to get up to speed on what will be involved at the meeting. Let's call it October meeting. And then we meet again, as we did here, in the March meeting. There are steps in between. The Nominating Committee cycle tends to be sort of a slow start with building that foundation of knowledge. The real work begins very soon after this meeting. The current window for applicants for any of the positions that are available will close a week from Friday, the 15th of March. When that closes, the Nominating Committee then has to go into high gear and begin its review and assessment of all those applications, start narrowing the field, doing further research into those applicants, making cuts, narrowing the field again, doing interviews, and eventually making the decisions at the meeting in June. And the June meeting is special for Nominating Committee because since we will be interviewing individuals, we're sort of set aside. We're sequestered. So a volunteer, somebody who joins us on Nominating Committee from GAC, I would please emphasize, understand that the June meeting, you would not be available for all of GAC's regular sessions. Your time will be spent in

Nominating Committee, doing the interviews, and making the final decisions on the candidates that we have to choose from.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Paul. So for the sake of time, let me give the floor to Vanda, then to Jennifer, and then let me open the floor for questions, for Q&A with the GAC. Having said that, Vanda, please go ahead.

VANDA SCARTEZINI: Thank you. Thank you, you all. I have been the pleasure to be sitting in the GAC for five years. So let me remember a little bit the historic situation. When the NomCom was settled, GAC had one person in that time sitting with us. What is important? It's a brilliant person with a lot of experience like you all. The decision made for someone from here to sit with NomCom, because it's an individual position, not to represent any country, even not your own country. And the issue is we have some time to dedicate to that. Sometimes, depending on the position you have in the government, the demand of time may be a little conflicted with your time of work. That is the only thing that you need to care about. If you have time to dedicate, because you are brilliant, you have a lot of experience, you have a lot of knowledge, and that is the only thing that we need to have from anyone that wants to sit with us in this slot of the GAC.

This slot is of the GAC in general, but not represents the GAC. It's just a completely independent way of decision-making process for that person to collaboratively work with us. It's not that they need to go back and say, "Well, I vote in that," because all that is closed. We don't share

the name of the candidates. We don't share who is going to be there before the process is very, very closed and a very private situation. So people like you from government are very used to working in that environment. You don't share issues from your position in the whole world. So you have the profile very adequate to this slot. Anyone sitting here have the profile that we need. The only thing you need to think is do we have time for, you know, do that work. That is quite important. We selected board members. We selected all leadership from all groups. Of course, not for the government, but all those are very important decisions for have input for so brilliant minds that we cannot lose. That's my selling. Okay, thank you very much.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so much for being so eloquent, Vanda. So again, before I give the floor to Jennifer, so we're looking for one GAC representative. The time commitment will be significant, to say the least, and will be from February to June, broadly speaking. So that's the bottom line. Jennifer, would you like to elaborate a little bit more? The floor is yours.

JENNIFER JOHNSON: No, I have nothing to say. I'm just Jennifer Johnson from NomCom Operations Team, and for staff, you can reach me. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much, Jennifer. So I guess I mentioned everything. Before I open the floor for questions, for Q&A, let me give the floor back to Paul for some additional remarks. Please go ahead.

PAUL DIAZ: Just a quick remark. Our chair couldn't be with us. He's already traveling, but he is dialed into the room, so if there are any questions, he can weigh in that way. Similarly, Jen's colleague, Theresa, who leads the staff support team, also already has left, but she's dialed in. So the full leadership team is here for you all, and with that, any questions, anything at all that we might be able to address?

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Paul. Let me open the floor for Q&A now, and I already have India on the queue. India, please go ahead.

INDIA: Thank you, Chair, and thank you, NomCom, for making the presentation regarding the requirement in NomCom. So in GAC, for a particular country, there is a main GAC representative, there is an alternate GAC representative, and an advisor to the main GAC representative. So which among this will the GAC have to provide to NomCom? So if it is made clear, it will be useful for the GAC members over here. Second, what is the time requirement? So in a particular week, how many times one has to dedicate for it? Thank you.

VANDA SCARTEZINI: Well, first of all, what is the work to be done? People that want to [dispute] a position as a board member or as leader of one of our groups, ACs and SOs, like GNSO, ccNSO, ALAC, even PTI some years, and for that, we need to evaluate those applications. But to do that, we also

have training sections, very good ones. We train about how not to have bias. We train about how to interview people. That is very interesting for your own work when you go back to home. And once you evaluate the candidates, we're going to discuss among the group of the NomCom to define if the candidate is well-qualified for that specific position the person applies. So after this phase, we start to vote on those candidates to align by consensus to find the best candidate for that position. So we'll go further and further, eliminate some candidates. Majority are very good, but we have only three or two positions, or even one position. So we need to do these filters on the good candidates and trying to get the best one. So in the end, we interview candidates. And to do that, we divide the group by region to not be so badly, you know, involving persons from one part of the world with another part of the world. So those people then interview by online those persons. And then we go back and try to discuss together the qualifyings of that people.

In the end, if you have an even candidate that we have some discussion, we need to discuss also diversity. Sometimes in our, not this year, but next year, we don't know, we need, as of bylaws, we have limits for board members for each region. We cannot have less than one, no more than five. So if you already have five from one region, for instance, the non-con cannot choose one person from that region. So that could be a limit. But if it's not, it's open for any five regions to be selected. For each group, SO and AC—

NICOLAS CABALLERO: I got totally lost with that.

PAUL DIAZ: Yeah. Let me redirect.

VANDA SCARTEZINI: Okay, no problem. So if you need more information, please reach me out. I can explain in details. Bye-bye.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so much for that, Vanda. But if I recall correctly, India, your question was, can a GAC alternate, can volunteer for the position? Was that your question, India?

PAUL DIAZ: Yes, so let me boil that down. So time served. Vanda started explaining some of the processes, and there will be time. As I had noted, there are workshops that we do before the AGM, before the October, before the March meeting. We were here two days early for that, so for time. There will be the full week of the June meeting that you'd be involved. Historically, we've done meetings in between the entire group to do the selection. That is maybe five days plus travel time. We're hoping that for the coming year, we might actually be able to do both of those face-to-face. Otherwise, it has to be done some of it virtually. As you can imagine, you're adding that up. It's a lot of time.

Who the individual will be that steps up is really open to the individual's availability and the support that they get from their parent organization. What we would request is that it's somebody who has knowledge and experience of how the ICANN community operates,

what works well, what needs to be improved, because that is an important factor in the decision-making process about who gets selected. I would also note that the reference I made to the improvements process, one of the key recommendations is that the people, when they serve on NomCom, it will be for a two-year term. That's the expectation now. It used to be annually. Now it's two. The idea being that you have the continuity and the institutional memory. It doesn't get lost because people cycle out after one year.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Paul. I have the Netherlands, then Portugal, but before that, I have a question from Australia. The question is, what are the privacy and confidentiality arrangements for NomCom participants?

VANDA SCARTEZINI: We have a very straight confidentiality process and demands for any delegate. We cannot share information from inside the process. What we are doing for each candidate, we never share the names of the candidates. We are closed, really, with the confidentiality demands and requirements. Even the way we work is mostly to not have things in our computer itself. We use the system to do everything there, to not keep information that may be spilled in some way. So it's very tied for confidentiality.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you. Australia, does that address your question? Go ahead.

IAN SHELDON: Thank you, Ian Sheldon here, GAC Australia. Just to be clear, the opportunities for reporting back out to the broader GAC will be reasonably limited.

PAUL DIAZ: So please understand, there's not a reporting back to the group that you hail from. The Nominating Committee will provide updates to the entire community, but that confidentiality that Vanda was referring to, that is sacrosanct. There's no crossing those lines.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much. I have the Netherlands, Portugal. Please go ahead.

MARCO HOGEWONING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the record, this is Marco from the Netherlands. First of all, I would of course like to thank the NomCom for providing us this information and explaining the process. To the actual question, would I do this, and of course I can only speak for my own situation, and I am no lawyer, and then the thing you would say is let me consult with capital, but I do have quite a bit of restrictions as a civil servant when it comes to side jobs. I can't say this would be a personal affair, because it relates directly to the dossiers I'm handling. So as much as I could try and get clearance on the conflict of interest, I think it would take longer than my NomCom term. So thank you kindly for your offer, but as far as my personal situation, I won't be able to. My

actual point here to make is that might be true for quite a few of my colleagues, because domestic laws usually tend to have curbs on what civil servants can and cannot do when it relates to their work. But thank you.

VANDA SCARTEZINI:

Yes, thank you for your explanation. We know that some countries have more restrictions than others, and position also. Each position has less freedom than others. But what we really expected is if you have the opportunity, you need among you choose one person to sit with us, because it's quite important, you know, add value that people with your experience will add for the whole process of NomCom. And even in the selection of the best person for position, because, for instance, for the board, it's quite important to have very well-known person that can deal with, for instance, can deal with the government. So your input is quite important for us. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO:

Thank you so much, Netherlands, Vanda. I have Portugal.

ANA NEVES:

About the NomCom, yes, thank you, Vanda and Paul. I recognize your work and for being here with us. And for me, GAC forms part of a community, this community, ICANN. And as a community, ICANN being a community, we have duties, obligations, and within these duties, we not only have to be here, attend these meetings, but also work with all the communities. So it's obvious that GAC needs to form part of the NomCom. But we had a discussion about this matter in the last GAC

meeting. And really, the efforts that are needed to devote to this matter are enormous. And I think somebody who is in the GAC, if it's at the same time a member of the NomCom, will not be able to attend the GAC meetings. So this is something we cannot overcome. So I think that within the GAC, we need still to continue discussing this matter. Because it looks like the GAC has this easiness of forming part of the GAC and at the same time of the NomCom.

So there's also an institutional matter of a public officer in a country does not have time to take part in the NomCom. So we have this situation, this conundrum. And I think that the work in GAC is already quite heavy workloads.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: That's precisely the same problem I have as the GAC chair with the board. I mean, that's something we also need to discuss. Because being a board member, I mean, it's impossible to be in two places at the same time. Unless you're Superman or Iron Man or whatever, Batman, you know. So I totally, I'm with you. But anyways, Vanda, go ahead.

VANDA SCARTEZINI: The main aspects, and I understand that we have June around the corner. And we are here in NomCom. But we arrived well before the meeting. And we worked, we have been working well before the meeting. We form part of another community that is also working during this period. So we are also adjusting the procedures of the NomCom to assure that we can optimize our time within the meeting. So that everybody can discuss, can participate in their own groups. I

know this is not easy, not always feasible. Because we are not always available to attend certain meetings. We sometimes, we need to stay long hours at the meeting place. We cannot go back to our hotels, for example. It's not easy to solve this situation. And we have tried to solve this situation by arriving well before the meeting or staying on after the end of the meeting. For example, in June, we have this situation. And there are other possibilities as well. And for example, we could make the meeting in July, not during the Rwanda meeting. So we have many possibilities. I know this is a democratic process we need to go through. But it's not unfeasible. Thank you. Thank you, Ana Neves.

NICOLAS CABALLERO:

Yes, that would be much better, having the meeting in July and not in June. Thank you, Vanda. We're at the top of the hour. Thank you so very much, Vanda, Paul, Jennifer, the NomCom team. We really appreciate the heavy lifting and the amazing job you're performing. Thank you so much. We're closing the session now. And at the same time, let me welcome the ICANN compliance team. Thank you so much, Vanda, Paul.

So welcome again. I have the pleasure to introduce Jamie Hedlund, a good friend of mine, and Leticia. This is an ICANN compliance update. We're going to have updates on many different issues going on at the moment. I don't want to go into the details. So with that, again, Jamie, welcome. The floor is yours. Thanks.

JAMIE HEDLUND:

Thank you, Nico, and thank you, everyone, for having us. We're happy to be here to give an update on compliance, particularly with respect to

our approach to the DNS abuse amendments, which, as you all know, become effective on April 5th. It is my pleasure to turn over the substance of the discussion to Leticia Castillo, who is senior director in compliance and lead on abuse for our department. Thanks.

LETICIA CASTILLO:

Thanks, Jamie. Hi, everyone. My name is Leticia Castillo, and I am going to talk to you about the readiness of our team to enforce the new requirements that are coming into effect on April 5th. We want to thank you in advance because you provided us with some questions and that helped us tailor this presentation to make sure that we provide the information that you are interested in. For ease of reference, we have divided those questions into three themes. You can go to the next slide.

Team and systems readiness, process, and reporting. I will try to address all of your questions as I present the slides under these themes, but, of course, I am happy to answer any other questions or expand on any subject as needed. Let's go to the next slide, please. Next slide, please. Thanks.

To frame the presentation, there's a lot of text on this slide. I am not going to read it. It is mainly to illustrate the existing obligations under 3.18 of the registrar accreditation agreement, which we enforce and we will continue to enforce, and how these obligations have been enhanced on different fronts, including by requiring registrars to take prompt and appropriate mitigation action to stop or disrupt the DNS abuse with regard to a domain name when there's actual evidence of that DNS abuse. DNS abuse, for the purpose of the amendments, is

phishing, farming, malware, bond nets, and spam as a vector when it's used to deliver the other four types of abuse. Next slide, please.

Similarly, on April 5th, the base registry agreement will require registries to take prompt and appropriate mitigation action to contribute to stopping or contribute to disrupting the use of domain names for DNS abuse when they have actual evidence to such DNS abuse. So let's move to the next slide to talk about how compliance is preparing to enforce the new requirements.

Since June last year, the compliance team has added three new employees. The DNS abuse amendments were one of the factors that were considered for this increase. We have a total of 15 processors for the existing abuse-related obligations, including three subject matter experts who support the rest of the processors as needed and two new resources that are in training.

A subset of our team is mostly dedicated to the enforcement of abuse requirements, but they work on other areas as well because the team is a structure for expertise and training across multiple areas of the policies and agreement, which is important because we do not treat abuse or any other obligation as a stand-alone area. It's sometimes intertwined with other requirements and we address all contractor areas that apply to a case, so we need to make sure that our processors can identify and address all the areas that apply to a particular case.

To that end, the compliance team maintains training materials, dedicated communication channels and check-in meetings among processors and learning and training sessions. Those materials and sessions are being updated to continue to evolve but also to account

for the new requirements, and we will continue to update our internal knowledge base as we gain more insight through the processing of cases related to these new requirements, not only to ensure efficient training but continuity across decisions.

Another point to highlight is that we are updating our webforms through which anyone in the world can come to us to submit a complaint. We are updating to make sure that we can gather the information that we will need to be able to address these complaints under these new requirements. We received a large number of them. We have seen the numbers increasing in the last few years. For 2023, we doubled the number of complaints received in 2022, for example, and we expect this trend to continue.

We are also updating our case processing system to make sure that we can capture the data that we need to report to the community on the complaints received and related enforcement actions and the outcome. I will get into reporting a little more later in the presentation, but to summarize, we are confident that we have the resources and the tools to carry out our mission, including the enforcement of the new obligations, and with that being said, we will continue tracking and monitoring the number of complaints received and other data points to measure efficiency, and if more resources are required, we will work with the org to evaluate and address the need. Next slide, please.

Thanks. So, let's talk about the process. I was mentioning before that anyone can submit a complaint to us, and we do receive a lot of external complaints from people and organizations all across the globe, including law enforcement and cybersecurity professionals who help

combat DNS abuse. So, the moment the new requirements are effective, our priority, not our only enforcement effort, but our priority, will be addressing those external complaints. We have multiple ways through which we monitor the type of complaints that we receive. For example, we have dashboards and reports that highlight submissions that are made by self-identified law enforcement or governments and others, and the type of complaint that we receive and the type of abusive activity that is being reported. And even though we generally address complaints on a first-come, first-served basis, we do monitor these reports to prioritize workload as needed.

We're also taking measures to facilitate the submission of well-rounded complaints, and this will hopefully reduce the number of invalid complaints that we receive, with the goal of having all valid complaints addressed promptly, but most importantly, properly and fully.

And speaking of valid complaints, another question was about the minimum number of them. There is no minimum number of complaints that must be filed against a contracted party for ICANN to initiate its process with the registrar of a registry. One single valid complaint triggered the compliance process to request the contracted party for evidence of compliance. We do track and monitor repeated failures across all areas of the policies, and those repeated failures result in expedited compliance action, which means formal enforcement, and the potential loss of the accreditation happens more rapidly, but there's no requirement of having a certain amount of complaints before we can act per our normal process, which can also lead to formal enforcement and also to special determination.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Sorry, Leticia, let me stop you right there in order to see if we have questions in the room or online. Any questions? Any comments? And I have the USA. Please go ahead, Susan.

SUSAN CHALMERS: Thank you, and apologies, I'm not sure if we've made it to the second set of bullets yet. Not yet, okay. I'll save my question for then, but I just wanted to clarify that, in case I missed it, is compliance going to expand its team at all, or are there two new people who are in training? Is that correct? Forgive me if I am.

LETICIA CASTILLO: So we added three new resources since June last year. So I was saying that, in total, we have 15 processors currently, plus two more that are in training, but that takes into account those three, yes.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, U.S. Do we have any other questions or comments in the room or online? I don't see any hand up so far. Sorry, U.S., go ahead.

SUSAN CHALMERS: Just a quick question about the web forms. Are those dedicated web forms for general complaint, or are they DNS abuse amendments complaint specific?

LETICIA CASTILLO: Thanks for your question. We have dedicated complaint forms for abuse-related complaints filed against registrars and against registries, and we have all other areas of the agreements and policies also divided with their dedicated form. That's important not just to guide the reporters, but also to allow us to organize our work and being able to capture relevant data pertaining to the specific area of the agreement that we're enforcing.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, U.S. Thank you, Leticia, again. Any other comments, questions, thoughts? Seeing none, please, back to you, Leticia.

LETICIA CASTILLO: Thanks. So we're talking about the process. Our process comprises two stages, an informal and a formal resolution stage. The informal resolution stage, which is the one through which most investigations are resolved and closed, generally entails at a minimum three notifications and two phone calls to the contracted party. In the event the contracted party continues to be out of compliance when we exhaust the informal resolution stage, ICANN Compliance issues a formal breach notice. That's what we call the formal enforcement process. If that notice is not cured, that leads to suspension of the accreditation for registrars. This is contemplated only in the registered accreditation agreement or the initiation of termination proceedings for registrars and registries. Compliance with contractual obligations is also a requirement with certain conditions for a contracted party to renew their accreditation or assign it to another entity. So compliance

with the agreements is something taken very seriously and needed for a contracted party not only to keep the accreditation but to maintain it.

So, like I said, the consequences for noncompliance are in the agreements and include the suspension or termination of the accreditation with ICANN. There were also questions about the terms appropriate, prompt and actionable and how will compliance interpret those terms. As you all know, ICANN published an advisory that provides additional details about these terms and about enforcement. What is appropriate, prompt and actionable will greatly depend on the specific circumstances of each case. This is why the advisory provides specific examples with specific facts tied to actions and timing. So we will require contracted parties to provide us with evidence of compliance taking into account the specific circumstances of each case. We will generally do a case-by-case review.

In terms of what we will generally require from a contracted party, that will be an explanation of the actions taken, how those actions were appropriate, reasonable and necessary to stop or to disrupt or to contribute to stopping or disrupting the DNS abuse, when those actions were taken, what kind of damage and to whom, in case the potential of collateral damage was considered for decision to take the action. And all the explanation must be supported by evidence. This is part of our process, not just for the DNS abuse amendment, for any enforcement of any obligation. And the evidence can comprise copies of communications with resellers or registrants where there is a request for an action and an explanation of what action was taken. Or it can be evidence that we can access ourselves, like DNS lookups, to confirm that a domain name has been suspended. We do not simply accept the

word has been suspended. We always check ourselves and document within the case that this is in fact the case.

So I was mentioning that we have a large number of external complaints. We receive them every day. Reviewing the possibility of adding more proactive monitoring techniques using new tools and data tests is something we're working on. And when the time comes, we will inform the community. We will discuss with contracted parties in advance to guarantee transparency in our process.

Similarly, we are not limited to receiving external complaints. We have an audit program operating on a recurring cycle. It's what we call the audit round. Each audit round has a specific timeline with a start and an end date. We generally have two audit rounds per year, one for registrars and one for registries. We launched an audit round for registrars last month. These obligations are not part of it because they are not yet enforceable. But we will consider them for next rounds. A few years ago, in 2018-'19, we had an audit focused on abuse-related obligations for registries. In 2021, we did the same for registrars. And we maintain also the flexibility to perform these more focused audits in the future to review compliance with these DNS abuse requirements. All right. So, finally, is there any question?

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Let's see. Yeah, I have the US. Go ahead.

SUSAN CHALMERS: Thank you so much. So, it's my understanding that the audit round for registrars for 2024 has already commenced. Will there be another audit

round, or would compliance consider undertaking another audit round in 2024 in light of the fact that the DNS abuse amendments will become effective in April?

LETICIA CASTILLO: Do you mean another audit for registrars? I'm going to defer that answer to my boss.

JAMIE HEDLUND: So, thanks for the question. Obviously, we are going to audit compliance with the new amendments. As you mentioned, we've closed the round for the registries, and we're in the middle of auditing the registrars. The biggest line item in our budget, besides headcount, is to support these audits. So, we do two audits a year. Compliance with the amendments will definitely figure highly next year. In the past, we've done audits that focused only on the existing abuse obligation compliance, as opposed to our normal approach, which is to audit parties against the entirety of the agreement. Depending on what happens between April and the end of this year, we may do that now. But, at this point, I don't anticipate that we will launch another audit during calendar 2024. We will launch again in calendar—fiscal year 2025, when we have budget again, which begins in July. I think it's also fair to give some time with these obligations in place before we would really get useful data from it.

SUSAN CHALMERS: May I respond? Thank you so much for that. I should provide a little bit more context, including from our discussions with the Contracted

Parties House earlier today. The GAC is currently going through a strategic planning process, and that includes on DNS abuse. One of the outstanding questions for the GAC is when we will be able to be in a position to understand the effect of the amendments, in order to plan work going forward accordingly. Perhaps I can rephrase the question, which would be, when does compliance anticipate that it will be able to report on the progress of amendments to the GAC, in order for the GAC to see how progress is proceeding and to plan its work accordingly?

LETICIA CASTILLO:

Sure. That's an excellent question. In addition to the audits, and probably something that will yield even better information, there will be our monthly reporting. There will be dedicated monthly reporting at a very granular level on enforcement of the DNS abuse amendments. The amendments go into effect April 5th. We hope to have all the reporting set up and begin to be published in June. It will cover the entire period. Our hope is that not only do we do it for transparency, so the community sees what we're doing, but we're hopeful that the information will be helpful as the community considers whether these amendments are effective. They'll see trends over time. Then it could provide input into whether additional amendments or policies might be appropriate.

NICOLAS CABALLERO:

Thank you so much for that. Jamie.

LETICIA CASTILLO:

Okay, so we can go to the next slide, just for interest of time, since we were talking about reporting. As Jamie was mentioning, we do have a dedicated page with metrics for data regarding the enforcement of all the requirements across the agreements. Other reports, including scope and key results and testing approach, are also published. We are preparing to launch a report dedicated to the enforcement of the DNS abuse amendments and the outcome. We intend this to be eventually a part of a 12-month rolling series, updated every month, so that we can show trends over time. It will include things such as the number of complaints received broken down by the type of DNS abuse, the number of cases resolved with the contractor party also broken down by type of abuse, what type of action was taken, whether it was to take action to mitigate, sorry, to stop or to disrupt, or to contribute to stopping or disrupting, or if no action was taken because there was no actionable evidence. Something else that we will include in this report is the number of those cases that were submitted by governments, law enforcement and governments, within the registrar's jurisdiction and the outcome of those cases, why those cases were closed.

And we will continue to report on the existing abuse obligations that, as I said before, we will continue to enforce. I think I want to just stop here just to make sure we have time for questions.

NICOLAS CABALLERO:

Thank you so very much for that, Leticia. UK, please bear in mind we have three minutes left. Please be brief. All yours, Nigel.

NIGEL HICKSON: Yes, I'll be very brief. Thank you very much and very informative indeed. The question I have was spurred by just walking out into the hall earlier. And one of the exhibition stands is IT.com. They're a registry under .com. They're actually based in London and they're selling names. Someone asked me when I was talking to them, how any complaints about them, not that I'm saying there is any complaints, would be handled. I mean, they have no official ICANN status, as I understand it, because they're a registry down the line, if you like. They're not .com, they're IT.com. And so if I was to have a complaint against them, I wonder how it would be handled.

LETICIA CASTILLO: Thanks for the question. So I want to make sure that I understood the question. If there is a question about the domain name IT.com, you're referring to a subdomain under that domain name? Whether that complaint can be submitted to us if the registrar does not address the complaint for the subdomain? Yes, we can address that complaint. You mean under 3.18 of the RAA for a subdomain? Yes, correct.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so very much. Time is up. Any final thoughts, questions, any comment in the room, online? I don't see any hands up. So thank you so much to the ICANN Org compliance team. Thank you, Leticia. Thank you, Jamie. It's always a pleasure to have you here. So we'll have a break. Enjoy your fantastic Puerto Rican coffee. We'll be back in the room at 4:15. Thank you so much.

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