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ICANN83 | PF – GAC Strategic Planning and Operating Matters Discussion and Communique Review  
Tuesday, June 10, 2025 – 15:30 to 17:00 CEST

JULIA CHARVOLEN

-and the ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy.

During this session, questions or comments submitted in the 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're speaking.

With that, I will leave the floor over to Nicolas Caballero, GAC Chair. Thank you, and over to you, Nico.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much, Julia. Welcome, everyone.

This is obviously not the most popular session of the day, you can tell; but this is an internal GAC thing, so... very understandably, nobody else cares about this except for us.

So, just some housekeeping details. This session is going to run for 60 minutes, that is until 4:30; and then, at 4:30 sharp, we'll start with a short review of the GAC Communiqué in order to see the main topics, some highlights, some details, and some

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housekeeping procedures as regarding to the GAC Communiqué review. And then, we'll have a networking cocktail.

So, that's the menu for the rest of the day, basically. And thank you for being here on time. I hope we'll have an engaging and productive discussion related to, as everybody knows, the GAC leadership terms — a discussion that started in Seattle, but as a matter of fact, we started that conversation long before Seattle. If my memory serves me well, we started that conversation in... was it December '24, November '24, something like that.

So, the gist of it is to align election dates and proposals, to align election dates and extend terms of the chair and vice-chairs. So, according to Operating Principle N°53, and let me read it — bear with me but it is important — very especially for the new GAC representatives to have a broad understanding of what the Principle 53 is.

It says “a member or members may move a meeting for these Operating Principles to be open to revision. If so moved, the chair” — that is me — “shall call for the movement to be seconded. If so seconded, then the chair shall call for a vote to support the resolution. The deciding vote may be by ballot, by the raising of hands” — which will be the case today — “by roll call, or by using an online voting mechanism, and shall constitute a simple majority of the members who are present at the meeting.” Let me repeat that: who are present at the meeting, “at which it was moved for these Operating Principles to be revised. Physical presence at the

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meeting is required for eligibility to vote. If so resolved in favor of a revision of these Operating Principles, then the proposal shall sit for consultation for a period of 60 days,” which is exactly what happened between ICANN 82 in Seattle and today, “at the next meeting” — that is this meeting — “following the 60 days, the chair shall call for a vote for or against the proposal,” which, again, is what we’re going to be doing today.

“The deciding vote may be taken by ballot, by the raising of cards, hands, by roll call, or by using, again, an online voting mechanism, and shall be a simple majority of the members who are present at the meeting.” Let me repeat that once again: of the members who are present at the meeting at which the vote takes place. That is today. This very session.

Physical presence at the meeting is required for eligibility to vote.

So, with that, let me hand the floor to Rob. Rob, over to you.

ROB HOGGARTH

Thank you very much, Nico. And as the slide demonstrates visually, we’re at the last stage of the process that Nico just reviewed with you.

The purpose of the session today is to basically finalize a proposal that you all initially agreed to at ICANN 82. And there are two components to the proposals that were agreed to back at the Seattle meeting.

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The first — and we can go to the next slide, Julia — is with respect to when GAC leadership elections take place. And the second aspect of the decision is, once those decisions are reached, how long does somebody serve in those positions.

And just general summary, what you all agreed to in Seattle was to adjust the timing of GAC elections to conclude not at the third meeting of each calendar year, but at the second meeting of each calendar year. The purpose of that as proposed by the chair at the time was to align the start of the terms of the chair and vice-chairs with basically almost the entire rest of the community, but certainly the ICANN Board of Directors. Something that Nico and previous GAC chairs have experienced is a tremendously high learning curve as they join the Board. The Board does an excellent job of onboarding, but the timing of that is more aligned with the AGM. Under the current practice for the GAC, new chairs or vice-chairs don't start typically until March, but new board members start in October.

Yes, sir?

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Sorry to interrupt, but not only that, not only that there's way too much information to absorb if we don't do that, the next GAC chair is going to have trouble absorbing that much information. But the timing — too much information in too short a period of time. And if you happen to be naturally stupid like me, you know that's even harder because you need... lots of attention, lots of patience, lots

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of travel, which has an impact in your day-job and many other things.

We have Manon here, and she can help me with that, she's a witness to what I'm saying, the amount of information that you need to absorb very quickly, because like two weeks after, you're invited to seven different meetings, in which you feel like you're from Mars or something because you don't understand the topics being discussed and so on and so forth.

So, that's just to give you some color on the reasons why we're trying to change this in order to align with the terms of the rest of the board members, and as Rob mentioned before, all the other stakeholder groups.

So, sorry to interrupt; Rob, back to you.

ROB HOGGARTH

Thank you. And none of you should interpret Nico's comments that the Board aspect of the GAC chair's position is anything but exceedingly exciting, beneficial, and rewarding. So, for those of you who are considering that role in the future, it's certainly something you should not be discouraged from.

But that's an excellent point in terms of being able to absorb, come up to speed along with fellow board members.

So, what you all did in Seattle was to take these changes in two chunks, and what you did in Seattle was to first consider and vote

on whether you would agree with changing this election cycle. As Nico has read through the Principle 53, it's a simple hand-vote; we're at the last stage of the process, so, Nico, if you would like to call for that vote, either by for or against or just by any objections, I'll leave it to you.

Thank you, sir.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Let's raise hands in the room, because the requirement is to be physically present in the room, so let's do just that.

So, those in favor, please raise your hands. Please keep your hands up.

Tracy, is that a hand up, or? Oh, you don't vote; sorry, sorry, you are right.

ROB HOGGARTH

I counted 30, sir.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

OK, we have 30 votes-

ROB HOGGARTH

For those whose hands are getting tired.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thirty votes in favor.

Anybody against, please raise your hand.

That's Mauritania, right? Thank you.

Any abstention?

Was that a question or a vote against? I'm sorry, I'm sorry; then, please use the microphone. I thought it was a vote against.

Go ahead, please, Mauritania.

MOHAMED EL MOCTAR  
MOHAMEDINE

Thank you very much, Chairman. I was not present in Seattle, and I was not part of that discussion, and my question to you today is: What's the rationale behind limiting the vote to the physical participation to the meeting and not allowing other GAC members to vote online?

Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you very much for the question. We don't have time to explain the rationale for that, that was — we could go back like, what, 15 years, 20 years back or something — if you may, Rob, but please keep it short and sweet because we don't have time for that.

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ROB HOGGARTH

Thank you. The voting process was not determined by the vote in Seattle and is something that has been in the Operating Principles. I would leave it to Ian or others who are students of the Operating Principles as part of their GOPE responsibilities. But essentially, it's a reflection of when the GAC would meet in person those three times a year prior to hybrid period; so, it was a recognition of those who participated in the room.

We're now in that mode, and something for consideration by the GOPE Working Group is, now that you operate in a hybrid environment, how, if at all, do you take into consideration the expression of views for those remotely.

It's a challenge not just for this particular procedure, but it's something that was an issue with respect to the Communiqué, and that's been dealt with, for example. So, this may be something that you do want to raise formally with the GOPE Working Group, Benedetta, Ian, Guo Feng — something you may want to note for part of the consideration of the Operating Principles Evolution Working Group. Because it's a good point, and it's true I think going forward, how do you manage an environment where you've got in-person participation, the ability to vote remotely.

Part of it I think was a convention to encourage people to come to the meetings. If you realize the decisions are made during the meetings physically, then it might encourage participation.



To your point, Nico, I'm not being super brief but it does raise a number of broader evolutionary questions for the GAC and its operations. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Which is not the purpose of this session. What we're discussing today is if you agree or not, after that 60-day sitting period, so to say, if you agree with the proposal or not. Not the way we vote or why it was established that way.

I wasn't there, either, you know? It was written like, I don't know, 20 years ago, 15 years ago, something like that. I'm not the expert; Ian can help you with that. But that would open up Pandora's box I wouldn't like to open at this point, because... that's not the purpose of this meeting. But go ahead, please. You have another question?

MOHAMED EL MOCTAR  
MOHAMEDINE

No, I don't have a question. I would like to make sure that Mauritania has voted for and not against. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

OK, thank you. So, that was a misunderstanding, then; I thought you were voting against.

So, that would be 31 votes in favor?

ROB HOGGARTH

That would be unanimous in terms of — I think I counted your hand when it went up originally, so 30.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

OK, just in case — just in case, and for the sake of clarity: Anybody against, please raise your hand.

Perfect. Thank you very much. Over to you, Rob.

ROB HOGGARTH

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

The second agreement that was made in Seattle — again, by physical vote — was the term limits for the GAC chair and vice-chair. If we go to the next slide, Julia, number four. This reflects the amendments. I will read this fully just so that it's very clear to folks.

In red, I've redlined where I've added letters or text and shown strike-throughs, as well. So, the new GAC Operating Principle reflects that "necessary elections for the GAC chair shall take place during the second meeting of every election year, unless the chair can no longer support the functions of the office before the end of the chair's current term of office."

So, this reflects what we just voted on, but I'll continue to read it just for clarity. "If the chair can no longer perform the functions during the first half of their term in office, an election shall be organized for the remaining term in office during the next GAC meetings. If the chair can no longer perform the functions during

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the second half of their term in office, the GAC shall decide which of the vice-chairs should replace the chair until the regularly-scheduled elections are held. Elections for the vice-chair shall take place during the second meeting of every election year. If a vice-chair can no longer perform the functions before the end of the term, new elections should be organized if necessary for the remaining term in office during the next GAC meeting. The results of each election shall formally be announced by the end of any meeting in which an election has taken place, and shall take effect at the end of the next GAC meeting.”

So, thank you, Nico. I should have read that before, but I wanted to make sure that that’s in the record for us.

Now, moving to the election terms of office, when someone is elected, what you agreed in Seattle was that the chair term would change from a maximum of two consecutive terms of each year, to the number of three consecutive terms, and that the vice-chair consecutive term limit options would change from two terms of one year to two terms of two years. And the flag — I’m sorry, we didn’t change the flag...

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Next slide, please. There we go, that’s-

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ROB HOGGARTH

So, what that reflects is that potentially, the GAC chair can now serve for six years consecutively, and vice-chairs can serve for a full four years consecutively.

Obviously, you have elections, so this doesn't mandate that the chairs stick around for that period of time. There were some conversations and discussions about whether longer terms encouraged or discouraged people from volunteering, but I think on balance, you all agreed that expertise won out over anything else; and so, the key there was that people who are experienced be allowed to continue to serve. But by not changing the length of the terms for the chair, there's still that election every two years.

There is a difference with the vice-chairs now having a two-year term instead of a one.

Now, Julia, if you can go to the next slide. We have a question — I'm sorry, I missed that, sir.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Before moving, Rob, I just want to make sure that everybody understands that this will not be applied to me. Let me repeat that, I mentioned that specifically in Seattle and before Seattle as well — where was before Seattle, was it... Istanbul. So, I specifically mentioned in Istanbul and then in Seattle and today, this will not be applied to me, so I'm not trying to perpetuate my tenure as the GAC chair. I can guarantee you that. I prefer my time for golf and good coffee and good beer, but in any case.

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However — however — depending on how we... depending on what we agree, that might or might not be applicable to the vice-chairs, which is — but again, when we say consecutive years, it doesn't imply that you're going to be there for sure for six years, because there are going to be three elections in six years. All we're saying is that the possibility of having three consecutive terms is there, and for two terms for the vice-chairs.

So, having said that — Rob, over to you again. Yes, there's a question from... oh, Egypt. Go ahead, please.

Sorry, if anybody has a question or anything, Julia, could you please go ahead reading it or please tell them to request the floor.

JULIA CHARVOLEN

Thank you, Nico, of course. There's a comment from Qatar: The vote again for the 60 days need clarification, please. That was posted in the chat a few minutes ago, at the time of the vote.

ROB HOGGARTH

Yes, thank you; I think Marco answered the question in chat? So, Qatar, if you'd like to ask if there's a need for clarification there. But yes, as we noted, this is the second vote and there's been more than 60 days since the last ICANN meeting.

Thank you.

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NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thanks so much. Egypt?

MANAL ISMAIL

Thank you, Nico, and apologies, I came in late; but I understand the first vote, which we are in favor of. I'm just confused whether this is one of multiple options that are subject to voting, or this is what we agreed in Seattle?

ROB HOGGARTH

Yes, this is what was agreed to in Seattle. So, these are not multiple options, these are the agreements that were in Seattle.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

This is what we agreed in Seattle and that would sit for 60 days, for people to go back to their capitals and consult and talk to their ministries and so on and so forth, for 60 days — that is since ICANN 82 in Seattle — and then we would vote today.

MANAL ISMAIL

Thank you for the clarification. It was not my recollection from Seattle, but thank you for the clarification.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Perfect. Thank you, Egypt.

Any other question?

OK, back to you, Rob.

ROB HOGGARTH

Thank you. So, Julia, if you can go to slide six, I'll read the changes as reflected.

GAC Operating Principle 21 as adjusted would read: "If the GAC moves to require additional officers other than the chair, then five vice-chairs shall be elected from among the members. To the extent possible, the vice-chairs should appropriately reflect the geographic and development diversity of the membership. The chair shall hold office for a term of two years, renewable twice; the vice-chair shall hold office for a term of two years, renewable once. However, no person may serve as vice-chair for more than two consecutive terms."

So, the effect of that is as the previous slide, that gives the potential for the chair to be elected three times, and for the vice-chairs to be elected twice.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

So, before we vote, comments or questions? Is that clear?

This was circulated long ago, but just in case, if anybody has any last-minute doubt or needs any kind of clarification, no problem, this is the moment. I don't see any hand online or in the room. And I have the CTU, please go ahead.

NIGEL CASSIMIRE

Thank you, Chair. Nigel Cassimire, CTU. I just don't understand the need for the "however" part at the end.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Good point. Very good point. We can change that, as well.

So, thank you for noting the redundancy, CTU.

OK, any other question or comment? And thank you again, CTU. Good catch.

OK, so, let's go ahead with the vote, then. Those in favor, please raise your hands. Please keep your hands up.

Thank you very much. Thirty-three votes in favor. Anybody against, please raise your hand. Thank you, I don't see any hand.

Any abstention? One, two. Two abstentions. Can you please raise your hands again for the abstentions. One, two, three over there. Three abstentions. Thank you very much.

So, over to you, Rob.

ROB HOGGARTH

Thank you, sir. Well, based on 33 for, zero against, and three abstentions, then this measure will pass as well.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

So, basically, the motion passes; thank you so much.



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Let's move on.

ROB HOGGARTH

I promise not to go through this slide completely, unless anyone wants me to do it. I put it up for assurances that we've been doing the math and doing the checking, but what this does in terms of the two changes is it does create some shorter terms, at least for the next election of each of the positions.

So, the impact on Nico's current term is that he would step down about four months early, because he was elected and took his seat in March of this year, but in order to create the opportunity for alignment within the next term, nominations for that election for the chair will begin at the end of ICANN 85, rather than ICANN 86. Subsequently, you will be looked to for nominations in March of next year, and the election will conclude in June. This will then, within the Operating Principles, permit the new chair to start at the end of calendar year 2026, at the AGM.

Basically, if you do the math, that's four months earlier than March of the subsequent year. Now, the next term would not be any change, it would be full two-year terms; the new chair would start in October of 2026 and would end their term in October 2028. So, relatively quick adoption of this within one term.

Slight difference with respect to the vice-chair terms, since they were already elected under the old principles before this meeting, their terms will end in March of 2026. You'll hear — well, I'll just

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share with you now — the nominations for vice-chairs in the next election, that is the 2025 election, will be sought from you all right after this meeting ends. And right after this meeting ends, there will be a period until I think somewhere in mid-September, in which we'll accept those nominations. You'll then have a balloting period, and at the end of that meeting in Oman, there will be a decision as to who the next team of vice-chairs will be.

Those vice-chairs will now serve under the new two-year terms. The challenge is, toward the end of their term, we've now aligned the election to reflect the annual general meeting, so that two-year term will end four months early. And so, those serving or who are committing, or offering to commit, in the next election for vice-chair will not serve the full two years.

That may either encourage you to apply and nominate, or not, but that's the effect of it. And then, subsequent to that, once that's aligned, the next term of the vice-chairs will follow the two years.

And these slides are available — I see a number of you taking photos, thank you — but they're also available on the GAC website. And we'll observe these — we will discuss with the Operating Principles Evolution Working Group if there are any other adjustments that need to be made to GAC Operating Principles to resolve that.

And that's it, Nico. The next slide, Julia, just reflects very quickly that in terms of the vice-chair election — I'm sorry for the typo, it's not the 2024, it's the 2025 vice-chair election — the process begins

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here. So, at the end of the meeting this week, I'll send out an email to the whole membership asking for nominations. We will welcome those nominations, third-party or self-nominations, by the 10<sup>th</sup> of September, and then we'll have a balloting period, if necessary, if there are more nominations than there are seats.

In this case, because of the one-year terms, all five vice-chair seats will be open, but unfortunately for Christine and Thiago, they are term-limited so they won't be eligible for reelection.

And that's it, sir; thank you very much. I want to make sure you have time to do the updates on the strategy session, so.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Yes, I want to make sure also — thank you for that, Rob, thank you so much — I just also want to make sure everybody understands that we're talking about the GAC 2025 vice-chair election that was mentioned in this slide and the next slide as well. So, please don't get confused, that was a typo — it's GAC 2025 vice-chairs election.

So, as Rob already mentioned, all nominations should be made by email to [GACstaff@ICANN.org](mailto:GACstaff@ICANN.org), with a copy to the GAC list. I think you have already mentioned this, Rob, right? The mechanics? No, no, go ahead. Go ahead.

So, including self-nominations are possible for all five positions except for the ones that Rob has already mentioned that are term-

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limited, like Thiago and Christine. And I'll give you the floor, I see your hand, Christine; no worries.

So, staff, that is the fabulous five, we'll send out an email confirmation to the nominator that the nomination has been recorded. If a third-party nomination — this is very logic, right? — staff will also verify that the nominee is willing to stand for election. Right? Just to make sure that we're all on the same page. And you can keep track of everything on the GAC website election page, and you have the URL right there on the screen.

Next slide, please. And this is our reminder about the attendance — but I don't know if you want to speak about that, Rob? The attendance pilot effort here at ICANN 83, and you know... The whole idea about the attendance pilot refers to, on the one hand, responding to the eBallot emails, but how to keep track of attendance, how to know who exactly is in the room during this or that discussion, during... and many other things. Rob, would you like to go ahead?

ROB HOGGARTH

Oh, I'm sorry. Just very briefly — thank you to all of you for responding and reacting to the various calls for you to register. And as Nico notes, it is a second pilot to do two things for us, frankly. One is to make sure that we appropriately capture the remote participants, where it's not as intuitive to register for the meeting

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that you're not attending in person, but it's very important for recordkeeping purposes.

And secondly, for the election that takes place in 2025, if it's necessary, we'll be using a new balloting tool called eBallot, and the messages you'll start to receive later today, just confirming that you're here, that you're participating in the meeting, will be sent via that new tool.

So, we appreciate your willingness to experiment with that, let us test it out; that'll help our balloting later this year, if necessary, if we have that ballot thing. So, continuing evolution and improving of technology tools, Nico. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much, Rob. Before we shift gears and we start discussing the GAC strategic planning, let me give the floor to Egypt.

CHRISTINE ARIDA

Thank you, Nico; I have two questions, actually. On the last point that is related to the pilot, are we talking about again the same that we filled last time through this meeting here?

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- ROB HOGGARTH Yes, it's a similar approach; however, in Seattle, we utilized the Tally voting tool. The new quote-unquote "eBallot" tool is a different one, so it's going to look slightly different.
- CHRISTINE ARIDA And that's still to be sent, I mean we didn't receive that yet?
- ROB HOGGARTH Correct, correct.
- CHRISTINE ARIDA OK. So, and the second question is something that we deferred actually from our previous discussion when we were discussing the terms — we talked about the possibility of having a complete new leadership in full, chair and vice-chair, now that we are aligning the terms, two years and two years. So, we might end up with six completely new people sitting as leadership. So, this is something that has to be taken into account. I think there should be some measures; I don't know what, I have no idea, but I'm presuming that this would be taken in the Working Group.
- ROB HOGGARTH Yes, thank you. You won't have that circumstance based upon the transition circulating, because we're out of sync between the chair and the vice-chairs at present, for probably about three years; but

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it's something that we had noted for the Operating Principles Working Group to make sure they took on. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you again, Egypt. I have Argentina next.

MARINA FLEGO EIRAS

Thank you, Chair. Marina, Argentina for the record. If I got it right, then the ballot for measuring our attendance hasn't been already sent, right? I mean for this meeting.

ROB HOGGARTH

That is correct, yes. I mean it's very interesting using a new tool; the challenge this time is we're trying to marry the EventsAir tool that ICANN generally uses, along with this new ballot initiative. So, the recommendation was to give the behind-the-scenes workers the opportunity to make sure that everything was aligning.

And public thanks to Berry Cobb for the great work that he's doing on that. I know that many of you, over the course of the last six months, have been getting various messages from Berry, whether that's to establish an ICANN account or otherwise update your delegation records; he's also doing great work helping us get all the attendance together. So, thanks to you, Berry, for that.

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NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you, Rob. Thank you, Berry, for sure. And thank you, Argentina, for the question.

Any other comment or question? If not, let's shift gears right now and let's get to the GAC strategic planning discussion. And the agenda, if we can go to the next slide, the agenda for today is to give some background on the GAC's strategic planning effort and some color, some detail, some nuance in that regard.

The second point is the development of the GAC 25-26 Annual Plan. We're a little bit, I would say we're far behind, given the fact that we're in June already and we haven't produced an Annual Plan. That's not the end of the world, but in terms of efficiency, if we come up with an Annual Plan in September or October, which will be the case, that is certainly something we would need to address, again, in my humble opinion.

And the third point, some highlights of anticipated revisions in expected outcomes, or KPIs I would say — KPI being a corporate, I would say, term, but applies here — for selected GAC strategic objectives, or any changes we might need to introduce if at all needed. But again, that's up to us to decide.

So, in terms of — if we can move on to the next slide, please — so, as you can see, in Rwanda, back in June 2024, under Internal Matters, we came up with this very short text. But for the benefit of the newer GAC representatives, I will read both paragraphs.



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So, it stated that “building on a process initiated in December 2023” — and by the way, I was right about the month and the year before; so, anyways — “in December 2023 by the GAC chair and vice-chairs, considering the GAC plenary discussion during ICANN 79 in San Juan, and several consultations of the GAC membership intersessionally, the GAC finalized and endorsed the four-year GAC Strategic Plan 2024-2028, and the corresponding 24-25 GAC Annual Plan. The GAC expects that these Strategic and Annual Plans will serve to bolster the GAC’s proactive stance in ICANN deliberations, increase the committee’s readiness to provide timely and effective advice, and pose input” — excuse me — “and to assist in communicating the GAC’s priorities with higher levels of governments, new GAC members, and ICANN stakeholders.”

So, this is the background and we’re talking about the GAC Strategic Planning and the Annual Plan and everything, just to add some color and background. Next slide, please.

And for this, I will gladly hand over the floor to our esteemed colleague, Fabien. Go ahead, please.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX

Thank you, Mr. Chair. This is Fabien Betremieux from the GAC Support Team. I was going to actually suggest that we just skip over this description of the mechanisms we followed to develop the Strategic Plan and the Annual Plan and just to mention that corresponding to each strategic objectives, there are expected outcomes in the Annual Plan. And this is why, in the rest of the

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presentation, we refer to expected outcomes and that refers to the targets in each of the Annual Plan. And I think the key information for this session is what follows. We'll start to just update you on the current plan.

We were hoping to have the new Annual Plan drafted by now for review, but it's taking more time; there were a lot of input in particular from the GAC leadership, and requests that a number of approaches be evolved in the next Annual Plan. So, we're working on that with the topic leads and each of the caretakers, which are the chair and vice-chairs assigned to each of those strategic objectives.

So, this is just to say that now our target for a draft of the next Annual Plan is to be shared with the GAC for review and input by the end of the summer; that's sort of the rough target, so that there will be a possibility for GAC members to provide input that will be taken back and will be taken into account to produce the final draft, with the aim to have that next Annual Plan endorsed during ICANN 84.

So, that's just an update on the timeline. And now, an update on the various caretakers. You may call that each of the strategic objectives has either the GAC chair or GAC vice-chairs assigned to ensuring progress on each of those objectives, and so with the seeing of a new leadership team, we've updated those. And so, you have the list here and you'll have it on the slide for reference.

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And with that, I think we can move on to a short update on each of those, or at least on a few of those key GAC strategic objectives for which there are anticipated revisions in terms of expected outcome in the next Annual Plan.

And so, I don't know if Jorge, you want to start maybe with Strategic Objective N°1, or do you want me to go through that? It's up to you.

JORGE CANCIO

I can. Hello, everyone; Jorge Cancio, Swiss government and vice-chair, for the record. Also, caretaker of the Strategic Objective N°1.

So, this is not set in stone, it's just the first thoughts we are having. We discussed this, as I think Fabien mentioned, in the process retreat of the new GAC leadership in mid-April, so it's been now seven, eight weeks ago. But basically, on Strategic Objective 1, what you see in red is what we are intending to update. And basically, it tries to make or set some additional emphasis that we don't look just into the GAC's role or into the... it's not just a navel-looking exercise, so to say, but it's also how the GAC interacts with the rest of the community and with the Board to make sure that the governance and the accountability system of ICANN really delivers. And you know we've been discussing things of this character in the last meetings, be it the Code of Conduct on SOIs or be it during this meeting, just one hour ago with the Board, on the question of the reviews, trying to make sure that we abide by the bylaws that the

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community accountability structures are used and that we uphold the accountability measures that we have.

So, that's what we are intending to stress with this new wording to live up to the highest standards of openness, inclusiveness, transparency, and accountability and spirit of the multi-stakeholder approach, and provide sufficient and meaningful opportunity for the GAC to develop, influence, and modify policy outcomes, which is language we already had. So, it's interconnected, because also, depending on how the overall accountability works, at least from our perspective, it should be also enabling our role within the larger multi-stakeholder community.

So, we have some first thoughts about expected outcomes for the GAC Annual Plan 2025-2026. One thought, and this is coming also from the Kigali Communiqué which we adopted by consensus, is that we integrate or we consider the so-called São Paulo Multi-stakeholder Guidelines as a reference for assessing the performance of ICANN's multi-stakeholder model processes. And this is something we have also been mentioning in different discussions in this meeting. One thing we have considered is that, apart from this GAC Board bilateral meetings, we have both in the physical meetings and also intersessionally with the PGIG, which is open to everyone, and also to the clarification calls on the GAC Communiqué that we seek to establish a periodic informal exchange between the GAC leadership and the Board Governance Committee, which is really focused on the governance and

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accountability aspects of the Board work. And that would obviously inform the work of the GAC as a whole, and we would report back, etcetera. So, this is something we haven't discussed yet with the Board, I think, but of course we'll be seeking also the endorsement by the GAC.

And obviously, and as was foreseen in the prior vision of the strategic objectives, we are seeking also to organize another high-level governmental meeting; the last one was one year ago in Kigali. In theory, we should have that every more or less two years; so, it would be good to start thinking about 2026, or 2027 at the latest, as a convenient time to have the next one.

Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you very much for that, Jorge. Before I give the floor to, I understand, the next topic lead — sorry, caretakers are Zeina and Ian — but before I do that, I have Portugal. Please go ahead.

ANA NEVES

So, it's time to hear some Portuguese. We are going to speak Portuguese now. It's high time. Today is the day of Portugal. It's a holiday in Portugal. It's a national day in Portugal; it's the day of Camões and of the Portuguese-speaking communities, overseas communities. And in my humble position, I wish to speak Portuguese.

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I only ask you, who forms part of the Governance Committee mentioning that the first meeting 2027 in March will take place in — yes, March 2027 in Lisbon — and it would be good to have a high-level governance meeting in Lisbon. So, I just wanted to leave this possibility open here. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much, Portugal; well noted. And congratulations on your national day, of course. So, again, thank you so much. Well noted.

With that, let me give the floor — sorry, sorry. Excuse me, there's a question? Or you have a question? Ah, you have a question; please go ahead.

JORGE CANCIO

So, and if my Portuguese is good enough, I at least understood that you were asking who is a member of the Board Governance Committee. So, I don't know them by heart but it's members of the Board, so normally it's four or five, and... at least in prior practice, it used to be the chairwoman or the chairman of the board is at the same time also chair of the Governance Committee. So, that's what we are aiming at. But we can surely look up that information.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you for that, Jorge. Certainly, I can surely get that information. Sorry, I'm a board member but I have no idea who the

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board — there are like 11 working groups, committees, sorry — BGC, Board Governance Committee is one of the many committees. I have no idea who they are but I can find out for you. And you have some information on the website, as well.

So, sorry I didn't hear your question or I forgot about it; sorry. I was more concentrated on Portugal's national day. Thank you very much.

So, at this point, let me give the floor to Zeina Bou Harb and Ian Sheldon — Lebanon and Australia, for Strategic Objective N°2, which is effectiveness of the GAC.

Ian, over to you.

IAN SHELDON

Thank you, Nico. Ian Sheldon, GAC Australia. So, Strategic Objective 2 really looks at the, in essence, the effectiveness and operations of the GAC. This sits quite nicely alongside the GAC Operating Principles Working Group and really takes a deep look at how efficient we are, are we making the right decisions, growing our membership, and making sure that we can work through the issues of importance in due course.

The strategic objective itself isn't being — there are no proposals to change the wording of this, but I might give you a brief snapshot of some of the expected outcomes over the next cycle.

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So, as Zeina, myself, and Fabien continue to work on a survey of the GAC membership, this is looking to I guess baseline of our understanding of some of the ways the GAC works, some of the views that each of us of our operations, and really looking into I guess help us zone in on where we think we might be able to improve our work. There's portions of this that look at onboarding, there are portions of this that look at Communiqué drafting, and the final thing I'll say is we know the workload we all carry is quite burdensome, so we're trying to make this as short and sweet as possible and not overload you with long, complex survey tools.

There will be a renewed focus on the next period on really growing the engagement and participation. So, this also includes some of the ways that we conduct our meetings, some of the ways that we engage with other constituencies across the ICANN community, and how do we make sure that they're innovative — they're not “death by slideshow,” we can engage, we can learn, and members feel comfortable asking questions and making sure we prepare for what will be quite a busy couple of years ahead.

And finally, a continued focus on capacity development and onboarding of new GAC members. So, I think the onboarding piece is quite an important one. We have quite a number of new GAC members coming in at each meeting, and so really trying to get a sense for what their expectations are, what some of those barriers to participation look like, and how do we make sure they feel welcome and part of this reasonably complicated work effort.



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I don't know if Zeina had any... Nico?

NICOLAS CABALLERO

I do, and I'm going to speak Portuguese to honor Portugal's national day. I only wanted to mention that I spoke with Vinicius, the government in Brazil, Eugenio — to start with the idea we had of doing some sort of regionalization of the engagement of GAC members. So, we have an idea of doing this in São Paulo starting in Latin America as a form of example to develop later on this idea. We would like to then start with São Paulo, which is easier due to line connections or else Curitiba, in the south of Brazil. We have quite a good experience working from Curitiba, south of Brazil, and also working in, in my case, the government of Paraguay and Brazil, which are very close to the frontiers in the case of Curitiba. So, we would also include the neighbor countries, and maybe not-so-neighbor, like Peru or Bolivia or Colombia. So, I wanted just to mention this conversation we had, and we need the involvement of ICANN and possibly of the governments that could eventually participate — I mean Latin American governments. And thank you, Brazil, for offering this.

Now that we are speaking Portuguese here, I'd like to confirm here about preliminary conversations with the GAC chair, Nico Caballero, on the idea that we are very much interested in sponsoring this regionalization with a training initiative for South America, so that other countries in the region could take place. We'll discuss the details later on, including the localization of this

initiative. Thank you again, and thank you once more, says Nico Caballero, I just wanted to refer to this about this idea we had with the administration of Brazil. It's a strategic objective — in fact, Strategic Objective N°2, and I'll switch into English now. And this is because I did this in respect for the day of Portugal, the national holiday.

Go ahead, please, Australia.

IAN SHELDON

Thanks, Nico. And I think it's fantastic to hear that the Latin America region is looking to drive this initiative. I am almost certain that my APAC colleagues and myself will be very happy to share the experiences and learnings that we've had in our region doing some of this regional work, as well. We've had some limited success, I think, over the last couple of years doing an APAC GAC gathering, and I think we'd be very keen to see how your initiative runs and where we might be able to learn from each other.

So, just before we move off this strategic objective, I did want to check if Zeina had any thoughts or comments to make before we move on.

ZEINA BOU HARB

Yes, thank you, Ian. I just want to confirm that this idea of having a regional capacity — not capacity building, onboarding or... for

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newcomers — this needs to be replicated in other regions, and I think our region would benefit from such opportunity.

And also, I would like to ask GAC colleagues if they have other ideas that we can explore to enhance the participation, please let us know; this is something that we need to work on together. So, yes, these were my remarks. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much, Lebanon. So, again, sorry to go back to the example with Brazil, but we want to start with the basics, you know, nothing too complicated. It's going to be a little bit technical, though, but it's going to be the vanilla version of... BGP, right, and then RPKI, and then DNSSEC, and then MANRS — M-A-N-R-S — but the vanilla version. We could potentially go, depending on the situation, depending on the attendance and many other things, we could go to more specific, more technical issues, but that will depend again on the... on the focus... we might want to develop at that point. So, I'd be more than happy to share the agenda that we will be — we have already developed an agenda because we already have reached agreement; it's easier when you speak the same language, and when you have this goodwill spirit, I would say, and cooperation among governments. That's always good.

I have Indonesia, I see your hand. Ashwin, please go ahead.

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ASHWIN SASONGKO Yes, just short comment to Ian, regarding the capacity development for GAC for us. In ICANN website, we have several training or whatever it is, online material for trainings; will it be possible if we can make something like GAC-related trainings, because there's so many — you have ICANN training for beginners, you have ICANN other trainings, perhaps we can **[inaudible – 00:58:45]** “OK, this is needed for GAC members,” for example. That's number one.

Number two, I guess if I look at those trainings, perhaps I do not see training materials which goes more detail in basic technical, for example. Today, many ministry is called “digital ministry” and so on, you see — why it is digital, because of computer and obviously use binary numbers, zero and one. I couldn't find in the... what do you call it, the ICANN material — would it be possible also to include some sort of rather technical basic for us to understand also? Thank you.

IAN SHELDON Thank you, Ashwin. I mean the topic of the GAC onboarding pack is something that Zeina, Fabien, and I had actually been discussing as part of this work, so, very happy to take your thoughts on board and see what we might be able to do. I don't know if we have any further comments we can share at this stage on the onboarding pack, but I know it's something that Rob and his team continue to update and maintain; but very happy to take a deeper look at your suggestions there, as well. Thanks.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you, Australia; thank you, Indonesia. We're a little bit far behind in terms of our agenda, but at this point, let me give the floor to the Netherlands. And Colombia — I don't know if Thiago is online, but anyways, over to you, Netherlands, to Strategic Objective N°3, which is the future round of new gTLDs. Very logically included at this point. Go ahead, please.

MARCO HOGEWONING

Yes, thank you. And indeed, I hope that Thiago might be online but didn't see him right now.

So, yes, just to briefly mention and acknowledge the tremendous work our dear friend Nigel did on this topic; Thiago and me are now filling in his great shoes as the caretakers on this topic.

You see in the slides, there is an update; there is a minor, what we considered as leadership also partly editorial change to scope out, that's where we talk about security, stability, and resilient safeguards we particularly focus on those connected to the new gTLD rounds. The rest is mostly unchanged, I think, in terms of the outcomes; I'm not going to read all those slides to you, you have it in front of you — it's prioritization of GAC documentation and procedures for responding during the application round. And I think with the help of ICANN staff and then some of our colleagues, we already started on that during this session with the capacity building.

Conscious of this being a ginormous thought, of course we are very eager to hear more feedback from you about what we can do to share the burden make this an easy task for the GAC [inaudible – 01:02:14] out next year when the window opens and we get all the evaluation. I'll leave it with that. I'm happy to take any questions.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you, Netherlands. Questions, comments regarding the new gTLDs?

USA, please go ahead.

SUSAN CHALMERS

Thank you, Chair. Just a question: As regards the third bullet-point, could that be understood to include matters of DNS abuse, in your view?

MARCO HOGEWONING

I think that we've incorporated that our views in the discussions we had in scoping this out was also looking at, for instance, the discussions about registration accreditation agreement and some other related items on gTLDs that that's on the next round of gTLDs that we're trying to security and stability, so, I think we can include DNS abuse in that scope. It was more that we didn't want to raise the impression that every security-related aspect is now part of this strategic objective; our key focus is the next round.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

I don't know if that answers your question, USA? OK, thank you.

Any other question or comment?

OK, if not, let me give — we're not going to cover, we won't be able to cover the full nine strategic objectives, on the one hand because we don't have that much time, and on the other hand because we don't have... there hasn't been any, or not any but much progress as regarding the other strategic objectives in terms of, like for example, new technologies apart from quantum computing and some other... But we can do that intersessionally, we can have webinars or — not that they're not important, of course, but for the sake of time today, we might need to skip some of the key points there.

In that regard, do we have Colombia online? Is Thiago online? No? OK, so that's one — oh, sorry, Fabien?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX

Yes, I was going to suggest that I could help with this one, given that I'm the support staff subject-matter expert on this issue of DNS abuse. And just to mention that the update here in the wording of the strategic objective is just clerical, it's just to kind of generalize the notion that there will be — there's an intention to develop all the necessary resources to help with GAC members onboarding on this issue.

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And there are some fairly... there's some attention that's been given to re-structuring the expected outcome under this strategic objective for the next Annual Plan, and particularly two block of expected outcome — one that relates to further policy work, and a chunk of work that relates to, again, building capacity and subject-matter expertise in the GAC through various initiatives of training and briefing, etcetera. So, those are details on this slide, you'll have it in a slide, the details, but this is a work in progress with the topic leads on DNS abuse. And so, we expect to have quite a robust new set of expected outcomes as suggested by the GAC leadership in the retreat under this strategic objective.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much, Fabien. And again, going back to Susan's point, to the USA — I don't see any problem merging at some point. Was that part of your recommendation, Susan, merging SOs 3 and 4, or? That was not part of — just to understand, no? All right. OK. So, thank you so much.

So, with that, I'll have to give the floor again very quickly to Ian for SO 5, which is domain registration data. Ian?

IAN SHELTON

Thank you, Nico. I think the only point I would say here is the objective itself is unchanged, but the pace is likely to increase kind of in step with some of the work and the approach we're looking at



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on DNS abuse, on the registration data piece, moving from simply monitoring to looking to drive concrete and time-bound outcomes.

And Nico's talked about this quite a number of times; as we approach the next round, there'll be quite a number of things we need to cross off our list before we actually get that.

So, registration data is certainly one of those key topics that we're looking to focus a little bit more on, and moving a little bit more quickly on. Thanks.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you very much, Australia. For SO 6, universal acceptance. Christine, the floor is yours.

CHRISTINE ARIDA

Thank you, Nico. And for universal acceptance, again, the strategic objective itself hasn't changed. The actual change that has happened is that ICANN is moving into a new phase with the work of the Universal Acceptance Steering Group, the UASG, concluding. So, ICANN will be establishing an expert working group on universal acceptance, which will be providing guidance for the implementation of UA to ICANN and to the wider community.

So, the change is actually the fact that the GAC will be appointing one GAC member to that working group, that expert working group, and I believe it's more like a liaison or just an expert from the GAC that is serving on that group. And this is actually the

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working group that we will be coordinating with in terms of GAC in order to achieve universal acceptance and implement.

So, and there are other editorial changes that I believe are not really important to signal at this stage.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you very much, Egypt. Any question or comment for Egypt in this regard? OK, perfect, then we'll move on to the next SO, which is mine. I'm the caretaker there. I'll be very quick here, as regarding new technologies.

As applied to the DNS industry or to the DNS world, I would say, because it would be impossible to talk about technologies under development all over the world, applied to many different fields, right? Now, as regarding the DNS, and more specifically, not only the DNS but access as well and internet working and so on and so forth, there have been many — and I don't want to bore you with technical jargon or issues, but as regarding BGP for example, or RPKI, DNSSEC, especially when we talk about DNSSEC and the... and the encryption systems, both symmetric and asymmetric, there's another technology under development that some people say that will take five years, some other people, some other scientists say that it will take 10 years — in my humble opinion, it will take no more than three years, and that is quantum computing. And why should it be relevant for us as government officials? Because it will automatically have an effect in this case, in DNSSEC, in the way DNSSEC, the encryption part — again, symmetric or

asymmetric — will be cracked in seconds by using — and I don't want to get too technical, but there was an example about three weeks ago, some quantum computing system breaking RSA. And again, that could be potentially applied also to DSA and AES and a whole bunch of other encryption systems, which might or might not be an issue for our distinguished GAC colleagues, but I can tell you it will certainly be an issue to your... CTOs, that's for sure.

But again, other than that, we could talk about hours and we could have a workshop about this, and I'll be happy to participate of course, but other than that, I don't see anything outstanding happening in the field of new technologies as pertaining to the DNS world.

So, with that, let me hand over the floor to... sorry, are there any questions? I see Argentina. Yes, go ahead, please.

MARINA FLEGO EIRAS

Thank you, Chair. Marina Flego Eiras, Argentina, for the record. Does QUIC, I mean that word stands for... QUIC, UDP internet connections?

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Yes, we can talk about that offline, if you don't mind.

MARINA FLEGO EIRAS

OK.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

It would be kind of complicated to explain the whole thing. Yes. So, thank you for the question, Argentina, but it's a long explanation; I'd be more than happy to have some coffee and explain.

So, with that, let me give the floor to Christine again, regarding internet governance; and then, we'll have, hopefully, 12 or 14 — obviously, then, we'll go to the Netherlands for Marco to explain, to give us an update on the internet number resources. But please go ahead, Egypt.

CHRISTINE ARIDA

Thank you, Nico. So, for internet governance, this is the strategic objective where I'm caretaker together with Jorge Cancio, from Switzerland. And the main change here is based on the discussions that we've had at ICANN 82. So, there is a change in the name, so the strategic objective being called internet governance awareness, indicating that it will be focusing rather on bringing information back to GAC members in order for everyone to be aware of everything that is happening in that area.

And I think one of the main changes that are happening here is that the **[inaudible – 01:13:19]** review process is due to end at the end of this year, and hence, there will be a focus rather on what comes out of that process in terms of topics. One main mechanism that we believe would be used for expected outcomes is to coordinate more closely with the ICANN Government Engagement and Global

Stakeholder Engagement teams in order to coordinate with them GAC awareness, specifically with IG-related to activities; and that, other than that, we continue to deliver on the expected outcomes that were previously shared.

So, I don't know if Jorge would like to add anything in that...?

JORGE CANCIO

No, I think you covered it quite well. Thank you, Christine.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much for the quick report and update.

On the point, and very quickly, how many of the distinguished GAC members in the room are going to be in the IGF in 10 days? Please keep your hands up, I'm just...

OK, thank you so much. So, it has to do a little bit with what you mentioned, Christine; that's why I asked the question.

So, for the last strategic objective, internet number resources — Marco, please.

MARCO HOGEWONING

Thank you, Nico. There aren't many changes at the moment. We present to continue, so **the Asia [? - 01:15:05]** will inform us tomorrow their work continues, maybe we want to consider some language change as it's more about RIR governance than just updating ICP-2, but I'll leave that to the room.

The key change here is — and thank you, Christine, for taking so good take care of this topic that I've now taken over.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you. And again, for the benefit of the newer GAC representatives, ICP-2 stands for Internet Coordination Policy; in other words, RIRs — well, but I would need to explain what — are Regional Internet Registries. The way-

MARCO HOGEWONING

Come back tomorrow to ASO session, we'll tell you all about it.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much. So, we're running out of time. I want to make sure that I can allocate at least 10 minutes to Fabien for the next part of our meeting today, which is, if you can check the block schedule, we have a short — this is going to be short for sure, right? The Communiqué review. And so, without further ado, Fabien, over to you.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX

Thank you, Mr. Chair. So, as is customary, what we do in the small Communiqué review session is that we go through the document, remind everybody the structure of the-

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Could you please — closer to the microphone, Fabien, please.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX

So, what we intend to do in those small sessions is to, usually at each ICANN meeting is before we start drafting is go through the structure of the Communiqué to remind everybody how the Communiqué is structured, what kind of text goes where, and to also show if we already have indications of text in the various sections of the Communiqué.

So, I'll start to mention here that in the preamble, we refer to the minutes of the... GAC meeting as an additional document that can serve as a reference for the GAC activities. We have some pending highlighted text which corresponds to, here, the review period. So, in the final text, we assume that no objections were raised, but obviously, this remains to be confirmed until we complete the review period after Communiqué drafting.

In the introduction, we refer usually to the state of attendance to the meeting, and for ICANN 83, given the exceptional circumstances, we are working on a text that refers to the passing of Nigel Hickson. So, we'll be providing the text shortly. We had done this in the ICANN 66 Communiqué for the Montreal meeting, with the passing of Tarek Kamel, so we are sort of making sure there is a consistent practice here in terms of the approach to that text. And so, we will again share the text before drafting tomorrow.

Then, section two of the Communiqué is the inter-constituency activities and community engagement; this is where we report on the GAC's engagement with various other groups, and this is

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generally a fairly succinct section where we refer to the topics that were discussed with each group, with the assumptions that if anybody is interested in the details, they're available in the minutes or in the recordings and transcripts, obviously.

Then, we also refer here to the cross-community discussion, so we need to update that part; in section three of the Communiqué, internal matters, this is where we report on the state of membership of the GAC, on election processes. So, here, we'll mention the upcoming election. We refer to the results of elections when appropriate, and that will be the case for ICANN 84 but not here, obviously.

Under GAC Working Group, we generally have active working groups that have conducted activities, that report on their activities; so, we expect that will be the case for the Public Safety Working Group for sure. We also use this section to report on some operational matters, so I suspect we will report on the vote that occurred regarding the change of the durations of the terms for the GAC chair and the vice-chairs. We also can report, if necessary, on GAC Strategic Planning Capacity Development.

Then, next section, we are coming here into the more substantive part of the Communiqué. Section 4 is issues of importance to the GAC; so, as we referred in the introduction of the process of Communiqué drafting, issues of importance are where the GAC states its positions or contributes some policy input on various topics. And so, for instance, in this case for this meeting, we know



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already from the various topic leads that there will be text proposed as for issues of importance regarding registration data, RDRS, urgent requests, accuracy of registration data, for DNS abuse as well, and for the next round of new gTLDs with three subtopics — implementation review team, applicant support program, and GAC topics of interest.

So, we usually indicate who are those topic leads that are working on the topics; we are making it clear this time around by inserting the reference to the various topic leads involved next to the header. We will obviously remove these mentions in the final text, but this is to make it clearer than we usually do in a side comment.

And the next section, the section 5, consensus advice to the ICANN Board — this is where the GAC states its consensus advice. There was indication by the DNS Abuse topic leads that there may be suggestion of text for potential GAC consensus advice regarding policy development. And so, we've put here this placeholder for everybody's awareness, I understand, so as a reminder, the DNS Abuse topic leads are the European Commission, Japan, and the United States; so, if you're interested in contributing to this topic, please reach out to those topic leads.

And then, this completes the substantive part of the Communiqué; the last section, section 6 is follow-up — sorry, that's still substantive — follow-up on previous advice. So, this is where the GAC follows up on previous advice with the intent to be careful not to add... substance to previous advice but to really refer to the

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letter of the previous advice and avoid complicating the processing of the previous advice with adding some layers of potential complexities. So, there is an aspect of being careful of the wording in these sections to ensure that, by following up on previous advice, there is attention paid to not necessarily... not complicating the consideration of the initial advice by the ICANN Board.

And then finally, section 7, just a reference to the next meeting for the audience of the Communiqué.

And with that I think, Nico, we've covered hopefully — we can maybe open to any questions or comments?

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much for that, and thank you for the fast and efficient summary of all the sections. Thank you so much for that, Fabien.

Let me open the floor for questions or comments at this point, but I really think it was very clear, but anyways, more than happy to take questions at this point. I don't see any hand online. And I don't see any hand in the room, which, by the way, gives me time to remind you that the Nigel Hickson memorial will be happening right here, in this room, at 5:45. That is right after the networking cocktail, so... in case, of course, you're interested, more than welcome to join us here at 5:45.

Some other housekeeping remarks: Tomorrow, we'll be starting at 9:00 a.m. sharp for the session with SSAC, that is the Security and Stability Advisory Committee. That session will be running for 35

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minutes, and then right after that, we'll have another meeting with... SIDN Labs. And you'll have the details tomorrow, by the way, about quantum computing and some other things that you will love for sure.

So, again, last opportunity for questions or comments? And again, I don't see any hands. So, let's enjoy the networking cocktail.

Thank you so much for your participation today. We'll be waiting for you here at 5:45 for the memorial to our very missed, beloved, and esteemed Nigel Hickson.

Thanks so much. This session is adjourned.

**[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]**