ICANN71 | Virtual Policy Forum - At-Large Leadership Session: Welcome to ICANN71 & Policy Talking Points
Monday, June 14, 2021 – 09:00 to 10:00 CEST

GISELLA GRUBER:	Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening, everyone, and welcome to our first At-Large ICANN71 session, At-Large Leadership Session: Welcome to ICANN71 and Policy Talking Points.
	My name is Gisella Gruber, and I am the remote participation manager for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and follows the ICANN expected standards of behavior. During this session, questions or comments will only be read aloud if submitted within the Q&A pod. I will read them aloud during the time set by the chair of the session.
	Interpretation for this session will include English, French, and Spanish. Click on the interpretation icon in Zoom and select the language you will listen to during the session.
	If you wish to speak, please raise your hand in the Zoom room and once the session facilitator calls upon your name, our technical support team will allow you to unmute your microphone. Before speaking ensure you have selected the language you will speak from the interpretation menu. Please state your name for the record and the language you will speak if speaking a language other than English. When speaking be sure to mute all other devices and notifications. Please speak clearly and at a reasonable pace to allow for accurate interpretation.

All participants in the session may make comments in the chat. Please use the dropdown menu in the chat pod and select respond to all panelists and attendees. This will allow everyone to view your comment. Please note that private chats are only possible among panelists in the Zoom webinar format. Any message sent by a panelist or a standard attendee to another standard attendee will also be seen by the session hosts, co-hosts, and panelists.

This session includes automated real-time transcription. Please note this transcript is not official or authoritative. To view the real-time transcription, click on the closed caption button in the Zoom toolbar.

With this, I will hand the floor over to Maureen Hilyard, ALAC chair. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Well, thank you very much, Gisella and Claudia, for getting us started. Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to everyone. My name is Maureen Hilyard. I'm the ALAC chair, and it's lovely to see you all here. We've got a really good crowd as well, I can see.

Welcome to ICANN71. It's ICANN's second virtual policy forum, and we have some exciting events planned for you for this meeting. We're first going to have [inaudible] from our very famous chair of the ICANN Board and then some highlights for us in At-Large at ICANN71, both within At-Large and within the community. And then, of course, Jonathan will take over for the rest of the hour to introduce some important talking points which very much a tradition for us in At-Large

and it's a really good idea to get some backgrounding on some of the important issues that are going to be coming up in ICANN71.

But first I would like to [fully] introduce the chair of the ICANN Board and welcome you to our very first session of At-Large at ICANN71. It's lovely to have you here and also lovely to have someone from the Netherlands where we should have been at this meeting. So I'd like to pass the floor over to you, Maarten.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Thank you very much, Maureen. Actually, it's even from the city where I'm born and only walking distance from the conference center.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Well, rub it in. That's good. Goedemorgen, goedemiddag en goedenavond, wherever you are. You may hear more of this next year when you visit the Netherlands. It gives me really great pleasure to welcome you to ICANN71. And with Maureen and with many of you, I' sorry it's virtual. Not only because you miss the opportunity to enjoy The Hague and the excellent weather we have at this very moment, but also because we do spread ourselves across time zones. And deep respect for all that participate in the time zone that they would normally be using to do other things like sleeping.

So as I told Maureen over several occasions, I'm extremely impressed by the activities of the At-Large communities over the last several years. And specifically during these months, 18 months already, that we are in the pandemic situation. My most recent participation was to a EURALO

organized roundtable in a very innovative way. And again there, Sebastien and the EURALO crew, it was really good to be there and see how it helps to pull in informed people and try new things in a new environment.

So the achievements don't only exist in us in this kind of roundtable but also five policy statements recently and the advice on SubPro sent to the Board recently. So they've been very well appreciated and considered with care, I can assure you.

I also note that At-Large was heavily involved in all three of this ICANN policy sessions, plenary sessions, and five policy sessions [inaudible] that. So thank you for your efforts there in making that happen. I look forward to participate in several of them.

So for ICANN71, for us primary on the agenda is, of course, the SSAD, the GDPR, the EPDP, which is important in itself but also one of the signals of an increasingly high interest of governments to help us take care of this space. Whereas, we think the multistakeholder model was the prime thing, this does provide the settings in which we can provide our mission.

Most recently the G7, if you look for the G7 statement, you'll find that there are specific remarks on how the G7 at least perceive how these new spaces work. Actually, the nice thing is it's not only talking about the Internet but also about outer space. So that's, for those who look at it, Sections 31-34 of that [inaudible].

The other thing is, of course, high on all our minds for different reasons in different ways, the next round of new gTLDs. How can they serve the world best? How do we best serve the world in rolling this out over the years to come?

So underlying this all is the multistakeholder model, the bottom-up multistakeholder model. To keep that functioning and effective and moving forward so we can continue to build on that as the core of our activities to make all this happen we will need to continue to advance it. So whereas, what we've done brought us a long way, if we will just continue to do what we used to do in the past, at some point it wouldn't work anymore.

Fortunately, we're all people that are engaged in helping to make this improve, and I sincerely ask your attention and appreciate the things ALAC has been doing in that. In particular, I see ALAC in this leadership in organizing regional meetings which may well become more of a complement of interaction with the world as well as also the warm welcome you have to new people who join our society, to join our ecosystem, I should say.

So last but not least is, of course, that somewhere in the year to come we will move back to meetings where we also meet face-to-face. And in that I also count on your support to help to find the best possible way forward. The Board hasn't been able to decide yet on the meeting that is to take place in October in Seattle. And very much appreciate the input that we received from you in a questionnaire or survey that has been sent out, and it will help us in our orientations.

And, of course, safety first but also the functioning of the multistakeholder model is an important input. What if only North Americans can come in the USA and others couldn't? I don't say that's the case, but these are also considerations we need to consider when we decide on [inaudible].

So many thanks again for allowing me to welcome you to this ICANN71 hosted virtually in The Hague, and I do hope to welcome you in The Hague and have you already seeing around the city and enjoying the beauty of that city. So if time permits, I'm happy to answer one or two questions. And I'm looking also very much forward to participate in some of the sessions, hear more about your achievements during the week, and very happy to be back at the [inaudible] later this week as well. Maureen?

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you. Thank you so much, Maarten. You sort of covered a whole lot. I had a few questions that I wanted to ask, but you covered that really. And I think for At-Large we're very pleased that we're involved in a lot of the issues that the ICANN Board is on top for you as a Board, and those sorts of things are important to us because of the impacts on end users. And the fact that you mentioned the multistakeholder model which is always important.

But I think that one of the things that's really important too is moving forward what do we do with ICANN meetings in the next few years. I mean, I think the face-to-face meeting is going to be different. I don't think face-to-face is going to be as it was before because we will have

so many people to consider, especially if we're going in the hybrid, if we go down that hybrid track.

So thank you so much for being part of our first session, and we're looking forward. We won't formally get questions to you this time, but we're looking forward to the very last session of our meeting when we do give the community an opportunity to ask the Board and Göran questions that might be on top of them having been through ICANN71 and there may be issues that we may want to discuss then. And of course, we can always dream that we'll be able to come to your hometown next year sometime.

But anyway, let's get on with ICANN71, and we'll look first of all at the highlights that At-Large is going to be presenting at this meeting. And so let's move on to the next slide, please.

Okay, so as you can see, Maarten has already done my job a bit for me because he explained some of the sessions that we're actually participating in. Hadia gave herself a couple of really good sessions. I'm really looking forward to listening in on some of these, especially the end user participation in ICANN PDPs. And if anyone has seen our ICANN Learn course, this would be a little bit of an introduction. And also the engagement that they have with the ccNSO looking at the legal and governance models of their ccTLDs, which should be of interest to our At-Large end users.

And now of course, we have Joanna and the first of her sessions on GDPR. And then we've got another session that's coming from EURALO. It's sort of like we've snuck it into the At-Large policy sessions because

they're going to be looking at geographical names. And Sandra Hoferichter has very kindly offered to moderate that session.

And now the traditional joint meeting that we have at ICANN meetings is our ALAC and GAC joint meeting, and we'll be looking at some policy issues. Doing it a little bit differently this time just to get a little bit more interaction from our communities as well.

It is really good to see, as Maarten mentioned, the fact that we have got At-Large people involved in each of the ICANN plenaries. And it really does show the diversity of our membership. Again, Joanna in a pretty high-level discussion in governmental regulatory developments and then moving to the multistakeholder model which surely comes up in ICANN and the Internet governance ecosystem. And Olivier Crépin-Leblond moderating that as well as the earlier one that he's going to be doing on the ccTLD governance model. He must have lots of spare time to give us all this additional time during the ICANN71 meetings. I mean, moderating is difficult, but Olivier, piece of cake.

And then we have Steinar Grøtterød who is going to…well, we're going to learn a lot more about reputation block lists in his session. Which has captured the interest of the rest of the community as well, so that's great. And then of course, we have our general sessions. We have our regular joint AFRALO-AfrICANN meeting with Seun taking that over.

And Natalia is going to…we heard there's going to be a tour of somewhere in the Netherlands. And there's going to be lots of other things. She has explained it several times to us, and it just sounds like

it's going to be something for me to get up for at 2:00 in the morning on Wednesday. On Thursday, actually, for me.

And then of course, we've got the wrap-up at the end of the week, which is our traditional debrief. [Jonathan] [inaudible] have a little chat about how we've gone with our policy sessions. And of course, as I mentioned, we will have Maarten, Leon, and Göran there as well, and it's a chance for everyone to…if you've got a [inaudible] question, please let us know what it is. We don't want to surprise anyone, but if you've got a question that you want to ask, please let us know so that we can pass it on to them and they can at least consider the question before they come.

But as well as what we're going to be doing, the next slide and my final slide, really just looks at what's on around outside of At-Large that we really should be taking advantage of seeing as we've got minimal program and the opportunity to see what else is going on.

One of the interesting things of course, was the FIKA sessions and the origami tulips. I thought that sounded like a really interesting session to go to. And it's on twice, so if you miss it at 8:00 UTC on Monday, it's on at 12:30 UTC on Tuesday. I'm all fingers when it comes to origami, so it sounds like it could be an interesting sessions for people who are good at origami.

But going into the policy sessions, the DNS abuse is coming up with the GAC, DNS abuse mitigation. So that should be an interesting one for us. We're not doing anything on DNS abuse, not specifically anyway, so this would be something that would be of interest.

The IDN EPDP community outreach, now for those who have put their names forward to be in that group, that would be a really good session for you to attend—2:30 in the morning for me, probably not—but that would be a really interesting session anyway.

And then we've got geographic TLDs, the registry group, geographic TLDs group having their community session on Tuesday. And the ICANN Board's meeting with the GAC, that's usually an interesting session as well for us.

Wednesday there's a joint meeting of the GAC and the GNSO, so especially those people who are in the CPWG and want to listen to what common topics are being discussed between the GAC and the GNSO.

Again the CPH—Jonathan, tell me what CPH is again.

JONATHAN ZUCK: It's the contracted parties house. They have their own DNS abuse working group that we've been interacting with.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Oh, yes. Exactly. So we've been very much involved in that already, so it's a good chance for anyone who hasn't been involved to find out what's happening in there.

And then the FIKA. Now this one has two sessions. One, what are you watching, and it's about TV programs that you might be watching. And the second one is dream vacations. Where would you want to go after

COVID? So those are two interesting sessions where you have a coffee in between other sessions that might be happening at that time.

And of course, on the last day there is a GNSO Council wrap-up. And that very last session is the post pandemic future of ICANN meetings. So if you've got any great ideas or any burning questions that you want to raise for the Board, that's the time to do it.

So there's the week. And I'm sure that if you've got…there is a lot there that's happening a lot that, you know, if anyone is still awake—in the Asia Pacific region it's going to be a big ask. Also, like I mean, we've got Jonathan at 3:00 in the morning and he's here to give us talking points. So over to you, Jonathan. Your turn.

JONATHAN ZUCK: Thanks, Maureen. Let me get myself unmuted here, and I'll start my video. Staff, I'm hoping that you can stop the screenshare and spotlight my video. Is that possible? All right, thank you very much.

So thanks, everyone. My name is Jonathan Zuck, and I am the co-vice chair of the ALAC focused on policy. And I am the co-chair of the Consolidated Policy Working Group which is the body within the At-Large community that's focused on position development for the At-Large for approval by the ALAC. And also that group coordinates the At-Large volunteers that participate in ICANN policy development processes, such as PDPs and cross-community working groups and such.

One of the things that has become a bit of a tradition for the At-Large at ICANN meetings is the discussion of some talking points. Initially, it was because so many conversations happened in the hallways at a face-to-face ICANN meeting that we wanted people to be up to speed on some of the things that are being discussed at the meeting and where the At-Large has fallen on those issues and the positions that we've developed so that if you find yourself in conversations, you're a little bit equipped to participate.

With these virtual meetings maybe it's a conversation going on in the chat or maybe in some instances it's even an opportunity to intervene. So for those who are not part of the CPWG every day, that are not part of the ongoing work of the At-Large on a day-to-day basis and are fairly new to this work and are just joining for the ICANN meeting itself, we try to start with a little discussion of talking points that we'll be addressing over the course of the meeting. And there are a number of different topics.

Attached to the agenda is a PowerPoint presentation along with notes so that you can go into some of these things in more detail including links for background information, etc. So I'm just going to cover a few of the important things that are going to be discussed at this meeting, and we'll go from there and I'll take any questions.

So one of the most frequent topics of discussion of late within the ICANN policy context is a regulation by the European Union on privacy that has had—it's called the GDPR—that has had a fairly significant impact on how we treat registrant data.

The formerly open WHOIS database used to detail everyone's information that had registered a domain in terms of their address and email address and a lot of information about them. And so now a lot of that information has been made private instead of public as a result of the GDPR, our implementation of GDPR requirements.

And there's been an expedited policy development process to go over how ICANN's contracted parties—those being the registrars and the registries—are going to deal with registrant data.

And so there have been a lot of issues, and I definitely recommend you read some of the background material if this is interesting to you. This duality between privacy and security is one that I think we're going to be discussing quite a bit, and there are a lot of interesting sessions that are coming up that touch on this topic.

For the At-Large, we have been focused on consumer protection. In other words, we've been a little bit more focused on non-registrant end users in this case. Because there are a lot of folks that don't have domain names but still need to use the Internet and want law enforcement and security researchers and others to have sufficient access to data in order to make the end user experience as good as it can be and to protect consumers from fraud and malware and other issues that they face on a daily basis on the Internet.

There's something called the SSAD which is a system for requesting data from the contracted parties and getting a response back. And in the At-Large we feel it's an overly complex system for what it's going to

ICANN|71
VIRTUAL POLICY FORUM

deliver and that there's probably something much simpler to create a basic ticketing system than the SSAD would provide.

Another issue has to do with a distinction between legal and natural person. In other words, right now by default all information on registrant is kept private regardless of whether it's a person or a company. And the At-Large continues to believe that it's worth pressing for a distinction to be made so that company data is still made publicly available because it's not technically a requirement to conceal that data under the GDPR.

There are a couple of different sessions, a little bit that Maureen covered. There is an At-Large policy session called GDPR called GDPR as a Technology: Policy Implications. That's Tuesday, 15 June, at 10:30 UTC. There is an ICANN plenary session, which means a non-conflicted session, on the impact of regulatory developments on ICANN. So GDPR being just one of a growing number of regulations that impact ICANN. And that's today at 10:30 UTC.

Another frequent topic of conversation for the At-Large over the past couple of years has been on the issue of DNS abuse. We've been very focused on bad actors sort of in the fringes and how best to get to them. There has been a rise in ransomware in particular. We think that there should be further reform of some of the policies and practices of both ICANN through its contract compliance office as well as the contracted parties prior to any new round.

And then in addition, the At-Large is working on an end user education campaign because a lot of DNS abuse can be thwarted by users being

more aware of how to identify things like phishing scams. And so we're working on an education campaign along those lines.

As far as sessions, again as Maureen mentioned, there's an ALAC-GAC meeting that will discuss DNS abuse. There's a session from the contracted parties house DNS abuse work group where they're making a community update on Wednesday, 16 June, at 8:30 UTC. And I highly recommend checking out that session.

Subsequent procedures is basically a reference to when ICANN may open up the DNS for more top-level domains. The part of the domain to the right of the period like com and net and gov, we now have things like gallery and photos, and there's some pressure within the ICANN community to open that up further.

We have very strong support for better applicant support so that there are more successful applications for top-level domains that come from underserved regions around the world. We support fairly broad GeoNames no notifications. So in other words, if somebody is trying to register a name that refers to a geographic region such as a city or a mountain range or something like that, that the relevant governments are notified.

We think that there is insufficient clarity on how registry voluntary commitments are going to be formed and enforced and that that needs to be resolved as a policy issue and not just wait on implementation.

And then finally, we don't think there should be private auctions. Now that a lot of folks made a lot of money almost by accident in the

previous round, I think there's a deep concern by many that the system will be gamed specifically to take advantage of these private auctions and we don't think that they should continue to exist.

And that is old information on that, so I'm going to just skip past the subsequent procedures piece.

Okay, one of the big plenaries that's going to be taking place is on reputation block list providers. Sorry, this might be a little bit difficult to read. But reputation block lists are a little bit like credit scoring in that they keep track of the reputation of a domain, and they're used by a number of contracted parties as well as ICANN to do reporting on DNS abuse. And so they can be very useful, but sometimes there can be false positives and inconsistent results between block list providers.

And so in this session we're hoping to see some explanation about why there's that inconsistency between these reputation block list providers and maybe have some discussions about whether standards are necessary for these reputation block list providers. And so you see there's a plenary session on understanding reputation block lists on Thursday, 17 June, at 8:30 UTC.

There's another plenary that's on the multistakeholder model itself and whether or not we're evolving that model sufficiently so that it lasts into the future. And so we have a couple of talking points on this that we think that processes for progress [evaluation] must include some quantitative measures. Regular progress reports must include initiatives undertaken by At-Large Structures (ALSes).

There's some issue about structural/power balance issues within the multistakeholder community and how they impact policy development that need to be addressed. And then there's something called PDP 3.0 which is an attempt by the GNSO to modernize how they do policy development. And there are some concerns that this might lead to less participation by the At-Large in particular but stakeholders outside of the GNSO. And so this requires some attention, for sure. And I didn't put down that session, but that is one of the plenaries that's taking place is on the evolution of the multistakeholder model.

There's also something that's being discussed right now called the transfer policy review PDP. This is like when you have your domain with one registrar and you want to move it to another either because you're changing registrars or maybe because you've sold the domain to someone who does business with a different registrar. And the process right now for moving that domain from one registrar to another is overly complex. And so we have volunteers that are participating in that PDP with an eye toward simplifying the system for individual end users while maintaining the security necessary for those transfers to take place.

I guess that's about it, Maureen, I think for the top talking points. But I'm happy to entertain questions and talk about any of these issues further.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you. I was just getting myself a cup of coffee. Thank you, Jonathan. Yeah, I think one of the important things to raise here too is

that a lot of the issues that Jonathan is raising are those issues that are very much talked about during the CPWG meetings. And it's always good to have more At-Large people going along to those meetings and even just listening in and to learn more about what these issues involve and have been very well summarized by Jonathan in these talking points. So that's one of the reasons for raising it right at the very beginning of our meeting so that you've got a little bit of information to hang onto. If there are any questions [inaudible] anyone has got any burning questions that they would like to ask at this particular point in time about any sessions or anything that Jonathan has discussed? Because if there isn't, it will be a short session and we'll have more time as a break in between this one and I think Hadia's session is the very first one that's going to be on in about an hour's time, less than an hour.

JONATHAN ZUCK: It looks like Sebastien has his hand up, Maureen.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Ah, I've just seen it. Yes, thank you, Sebastien?

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Yes, thank you very much, Maureen. Sebastien Bachollet speaking, chair of EURALO. Just to take the opportunity that we are members here gathered that the social event will be interactive and we'll need you to be involved and to come with some tools. I put that in the chat, but I want to repeat it.

If you can come with a white plate, it will be great. But if you don't have a white plate, just take a white board or whatever you want round and come with a blue painting system, a brush or a pen. You will find something to be able to design something. And you will see that Natalia comes with a very nice video to explain how we can do that, and then she will ask you to publish it on the social media.

You will have a [inaudible] of a city just nearby The Hague because The Hague was too big to be done in 20 minutes. It's why we chose another one, but just close to and it will give you a glimpse of what is Holland in that [period]. And you will enjoy a lot of music, then come prepared to dance with us. Thank you very much.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Sebastien. Yes, a good reminder to everyone to join in the EURALO social on Wednesday, 14:00.

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: And if I can add just one point. Thank you very much, Maarten, for coming to our flash pitch too of ICANN and At-Large and thank you for your kind words. It was really what we tried to do some innovation, and it was great to have you. Thank you very much. And to have all the other speakers, of course. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Great. Okay, is there anyone else that wants to mention something about their session? Especially probably the plenary sessions, we'd

ICANN|71
VIRTUAL POLICY FORUM

really like people to attend those sessions because they're not just…it's not just about At-Large. I know we often think that ICANN's all about At-Large, but I think the plenaries are really important. That you really do get a perspective of how a particular issue impacts on the wider ICANN community. And I just wonder, is there anyone here who's actually…we've got Marita or Olivier or Joanna that might like to say something about their particular session, seeing as we've got more people. Joanna, thank you.

JOANNA KULESZA: Thank you, Maureen. Thank you for the introduction and for encouragement of our participants to join the plenaries. The first plenary today is on governmental regulatory developments. And as Jonathan rightfully noted, we will also look into GDPR, the impact that it has had on the community. We will try to recap the lessons learned, but the focus is not so much on what has happened before but rather on what we can do to learn from those past experiences and do better in the future.

Now if you scroll through the agenda, you will see that there will indeed be a European focus. The European Commission and the Council of Europe have both kindly agreed to give us an introduction into their plans and proposals that are already on the table to better understand how we can work together with the GAC, but more interestingly for the At-Large community with regional authorities, organizations, governments.

So for the At-Large, this would be an interesting session where we can see how the multistakeholder model is being developed. I believe it's an interesting session to participate at the beginning of the meeting because we will look into most of the hot topics that Jonathan just identified. It will probably give you a good background to then discuss DNS abuse, reputation block lists, and to have a broader understanding of how the policy work we do here links with national, regional legal standards.

Lawmaking seems to rely [ever] more on coregulation and those technical policies that we develop here within ICANN, so this indeed might be an interesting session for you to put on your agenda. Granted, this is not the middle of the night. It will all be recorded. No worries. You can follow up later on. I still don't know how you do it, Maureen and Jonathan, in the middle of the night. Thank you very much.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Joanna. Of course we get up, especially because you're taking it. And the next person that we've got with their hand up is Marita. Marita?

MARITA MOLL: Good morning, everyone. Can I be heard all right?

MAUREEN HILYARD: Yes, we can hear you.

MARITA MOLL: Oh, okay. Okay, great. It's 3:00 a.m. and I have no idea. I just want to invite everyone to the multistakeholder session which is coming up tomorrow. Exact time, you'll have to check your schedule. But this is going to be a very fluid discussion on the evolution of the multistakeholder system. There are a number of participants from different communities within ICANN and a number of participants from outside our community. Just taking a look at why we do this, what's working, what's not working, and how we would like to see things change. So I think it's going to be a very interesting session and looking forward to seeing lots of you there. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you very much, Marita. We're definitely looking forward to that. I see that Hadia is here and knowing she's got two sessions on this week, I mean, Hadia, there must be something that you think is really good about these sessions that you'd really like to impress on people to come along to. Is she there? Hadia?

HADIA ELMINIAWI: Yes, sure.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Hadia.

HADIA ELMINIAWI: Thank you for inviting me to speak. We have a session in about 45 minutes from now. It's about the end user participation in ICANN PDPs

and their role within the ICANN ecosystem. So through this session we will highlight end users' participation in ICANN PDPs and their role within ICANN's ecosystem, trying to explore their weight within ICANN's community and their impact [on] decision-making and PDPs.

So the session will start with an introduction about Internet end users participation in the ICANN ecosystem. Then we will have a discussion, and our panelists are Göran Marby, ICANN CEO; Leon Sanchez, ICANN Board Vice Chair; and Jonathan Zuck, ALAC Vice Chair. I think this would actually be an interesting session. I hope that you can all join the discussion.

And then tomorrow there is another session which Olivier is actually moderating. It's about testimonies from At-Large end users in relation to ccTLDs governance models. So we actually have At-Large users talking about their experiences with their ccTLDs. Again, I think this is a new approach. And as we say that users [are like the establish that quick reaction due to] policies developed, and that's one way of exploring their reaction to ccTLDs governance models. And it will also be an opportunity to get to know the different legal structures and governance models.

So I'll stop here. Thank you so much, Maureen, for the opportunity to speak.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Awesome, thank you. Thank you, Hadia. Just what we needed. And I'm sure that Olivier wouldn't mind talking about his session which is going

to be a shared session between At-Large and the GAC, or getting the GAC's view on it anyway. So, Olivier?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much, Maureen. I hope you can hear me. Yes, first, welcome to Europe. I hope you all have a great week. Hadia already touched on the sessions, but I just wanted to say a couple of words on the one that we're co-organizing with the GAC. What we will have is a set of questions asked from the participants. And we actually have probably more panelists than we can fit in that 90 minutes. But we're going to ask them a few questions about their experiences and their recommendations for improvements to the multistakeholder model as seen from their perspective.

We often have these discussions about the ICANN multistakeholder model among parties that are interested in this because they don't see the…well, we see the meeting as being something that is participatory—how do you call that? With participation. And participation is so important for us, so we often see it as, well, we need to have it all interpreted and it needs to be easy to access and we need to make sure that the documentation out there is easy for people to understand and how are we going to reach out and bring more people into the discussions.

Other parts of ICANN might not have the same challenges or the same aims. The GAC, for example, has different challenges. They, of course, also have to do a lot of capacity building for their representatives. But they might have an issue with a number of sessions and with the

amount of activity because contrary to At-Large where we can draw on more and more volunteers, the GAC only has a small number of representatives for each of their members. And so you end up with…and often it is people that have, they're doing this as part of their job, but it's just a very small part of their job. So when it comes down to asking for volunteers to do things on the GAC, it's not such an easy task either.

Other parts of ICANN might have a different problem. For example, the contracted parties are primarily in ICANN to focus on the policy development process and also for many of them they use ICANN meetings for business, for relating to other people. They want processes to be swift, to happen quickly because time is money. The problem is, of course, if you want to do something very fast, you're not necessarily going to make this as being something that's going to be very inclusive. And so their idea for improving ICANN might be slightly different to the idea we have for improving ICANN where we think we should bring more people to the table and they think, wait a minute. We should streamline things.

So it's going to be very interesting because I think it's the first time we've actually got a panel of people with people from each of these stakeholder groups that are going to be able to share openly how they would improve ICANN, what they see as being a stumbling block, and especially how ICANN has responded to the current COVID emergency that we've had with no face-to-face meetings. Which basically means there is a problem with bringing people into ICANN as far as we're

concerned because you get less of a feel of it if you're not actually present there.

And there's also a problem for other parties about the efficiency of things, and you will have seen when it comes down to some policy development processes they have taken a lot more time than initially anticipated. Especially the ones that have been tagged as "expedited" where the only expedited part was the E word and that was it.

Anyway, I think I've already…I hope I've whetted your appetite for this thing tomorrow. It's going to be quite interesting and I'm going to try my best to make it as spiced up as possible and to retain as many people as possible so they find this as being an interesting and worthwhile session.

MAUREEN HILYARD: As I am sure it will be, Olivier. And I must admit I really like the way that our team has really got quite excited and enthused about the sessions that they are running. I see, Hadia, your hand is up. Is that a new hand? Not, okay. So do we have anyone else want to hop in and add their little bit to what's happening this week? No?

Okay, well, thank you very much, everyone, for coming along. And I hope that we've made the At-Large sessions at least as exciting as you would want them to be—and they are going to be—during the week. But also that Jonathan and others have raised some of the other sessions that are happening within the ICANN71 which we should all be in there and supporting as well.

ICANN|71
VIRTUAL POLICY FORUM

So there is so much happening. Everyone is going to be during their waking hours if at all possible be able to attend. And I wish that everyone keeps safe in between times. But enjoy yourselves during ICANN71. And we will see…I will be being a fly on the wall for most of the sessions, but I will see you again in the very last session definitely for our wrap-up. So thank you very much, everyone, and have a good morning, evening, afternoon wherever you may be and keep safe. Thank you. Bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]