ICANN72 | Prep Week – What to Expect during ICANN72: A Guide for Newcomers
Wednesday, October 13, 2021 – 09:00 to 10:30 PDT

JOE CATAPANO: Prep Week Session, What to Expect at ICANN72: A Guide for Newcomers. If you have participated in some of our Prep Week sessions prior, you know that this is our 72nd public meeting. It is our Annual General Meeting. We have one AGM per year, three ICANN public meetings per year. And so this session is traditionally done before every ICANN Meeting during Prep Week just to give newcomers a little sense of what's going on at the meeting, what's happening at ICANN, and a little bit more about how you can be involved.

My name is Joe Catapano. I am the Stakeholder Engagement Manager for the North America region at ICANN, and I will be moderating the session today.

So here's just kind of a quick look at what we'll be covering. We will have some welcoming remarks from Maarten Botterman who is the chairman of the ICANN Board. I'll go into a little bit about what ICANN is, and then we'll take a look at policy development at ICANN. We'll do a little overview of some of the high highlights of ICANN72—what to expect in terms of hot topics, things like that.

We'll share some resources for newcomers specifically. And then we'll talk a little bit about some of our newcomer programs, in particular the Fellowship and the NextGen Program. And then we'll wrap it up with Tanzanica from our Meetings Team to talk about navigating the virtual meeting format. And then we'll have some time for Q&A at the end.

So with that, I'm going to turn it over to Maarten to give us some welcoming remarks. So, Maarten, go ahead.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN: Well, thanks, Joe. And welcome, everybody. Really welcome to this important session to get a feel for what it is to be involved in ICANN and to prepare for your Annual General Meeting.

This the sixth time we're doing this now in a virtual way, and it's slightly different, yet in the core, it's the same. And over time, we've always been learning and adapting to do the best possible under current circumstances. And I think we've become quite adept. So you will have a lot of tools available to your disposal to learn and participate. And this session is a session where you can ask the questions on how to participate best, get the most out of your time with this conference.

So having new people at ICANN is crucial. So with that, really deeply welcoming you. Some of you I've seen at the NextGen and Fellows session already. Others are new in this room. It's so crucial for ICANN as a global actor to ensure that the Internet actually delivers by providing unique addresses and to do so in a stable and secure way and ensure the interoperability. It's core to what we do today, how we live today, how we work today.

So it's only a part of the Internet, but it's a crucial part. And to deliver it to the world, we need the world to participate. And newcomers are a very important part of that. Work together with the seasoned participants, those with the experience, those that have been working

with ICANN for a longer time. But also to come with the new needs, the new impressions, the values, and the backgrounds that you have from wherever you are. So whenever you have a question, it's an important one. Ask it.

So there's a great Org team that supports me and the rest of the Board on daily basis to make these things work. And they're here to support you as well. The North American region in particular has been very active in engaging newcomers in the ICANN ecosystem. I'm very happy they're providing this venue for you to learn.

With that, I'd like to turn things over back to Joe Catapano who will moderate the rest of this session. Enjoy and be curious.

JOE CATAPANO: Thank you very much, Maarten. Really appreciate it. So now I'm going to go into a little bit about what ICANN is, who we are, that kind of thing. I will try and keep it as high-level as possible. I will try and spell out as many acronyms as I can. I try not to fall into that trap, but there are a lot of acronyms at ICANN. So sometimes I overlook it.

So when we talk about ICANN and what we do, the part of the Internet that we oversee is the coordination of the unique identifiers for the Internet. And when we talk about unique identifiers, we are talking about Internet Protocol or IP addresses and domain names.

So anything connected to the Internet from your laptop, your phone, your watch, your shoes—I don't even know if they have that yet, but if they do—has an IP address. And that address is … You can kind of think

of it as a postal address, and it allows data to be sent from one device to another. Those combinations of numbers can be difficult to remember, nearly impossible. I know I probably can't remember them for everything.

So in terms of navigating the Internet, we use names. So domain names with a plethora of extensions, the traditional ones like com, .gov, .edu, such as those. And then nowadays there are upwards of 1,200 new ones that are different.

So we take a look at our mission. The core of our mission is to ensure the stable and secure operations of the unique identifier systems. So that involves coordinating the allocation and assignment of names in the root zone of the DNS and then coordinating the development and implementation of policies concerning registration of second-level domains and what we call Generic Top-Level Domains which are the names to the right of the dot that are not affiliated with a country. So, .com, .net, and then some of the new ones like .photography and things like that. Those are generics.

We facilitate the coordination, operation, and evolution of the Root Server System and coordinate the allocation and assignment of the topmost layer of IP numbers and autonomous system numbers. And then we collaborate with other bodies to help govern the standards and such.

So there is kind of a, before I go here, there's a technical side to the ICANN universe which is the actual coordination of the names and numbers. And then the other side of the universe is the policy

ICANN PREP WEEK 72

development. And I'm not going to go too deep into that because we have two of our foremost experts from our policy team who are going to familiarize you with the process and kind of what goes on there.

In terms of globally, what we call Internet governance, there are many partners on the technical side that we work with to help keep the Internet secure, stable, and interoperable. So here is a look at some of those bodies such as the Internet Engineering Task Force, what we call Regional Internet Registries, which there are five of them and they're assigned to different regions of the world. They hold the IP addresses for those particular regions and they delegate them out to ISPs and users and such. There are Root Server Operators and other standards organizations.

So there are also more traditional kinds of international governance organizations that have interactions with ICANN. Some of those are the Internet society, which is a chapter-based organization that focuses on a whole host of issues around Internet policy and technical topics. They focus on ICANN, but also beyond.

Regional Internet Governance Forums and the Global Internet Governance Forum, as well as UN bodies—UNESCO, or the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization—and more prominently, the International Telecommunications Union or ITU.

You'll see this slide a little bit later in the presentation, so I don't want to steal my policy colleagues' thunder. But there are basically three legs to the stool, if you will. So there's the most important part which is the ICANN community which are the folks that are coming together during

this Annual General Meeting and throughout the year, really, to help develop the policy.

And then there's the ICANN Organization. Or you'll see it next to some folks' names in the Zoom, "ICANN Org," which are the staff members who kind of act as a secretariat, supporting the community in their work, and execute on the actions that the Board instructs us to take. There are about 400 of us on staff spread across the world. And then there is obviously the ICANN Board of Directors.

So again, I'll just mention this portion of it and I'll let my policy colleagues go more in depth. So the community is made up … They're broken down into three supporting organizations that develop policy. And then there are four advisory committees that advise on policy and give advice to the Board.

Here's just a look at kind of where we are. In terms of staff, we have regional offices across the world. Our headquarters is in Los Angeles. I work out of the Washington, D.C. office which is a smaller satellite office. It's what we call an Engagement Center. And you can see there are some others listed there from other parts of the world.

So that's kind of a look at us real quick. And now I think I'm going to turn it over to Chantelle and Ozan to talk a little bit about policy development at ICANN. So take it away, guys.

CHANTELLE DOERKSEN: Thank you, Joe. Hi. Can you see me and hear me okay?

ICANN PREP WEEK 72

JOE CATAPANO: Yes.

CHANTELLE DOERKSEN: Awesome, thank you. So I'm a member of the Policy Support Team at ICANN Org, and I'm joining you from Los Angeles, California. Now our team supports the policy development and the advice development processes which you'll hear a little bit more about today. Next slide, please. Thank you.

I'm first going to focus on the role of the ICANN community and the ICANN ecosystem. And Joe touched on this a little bit earlier, but when we talk about the ICANN community one of the things that we often hear is how diverse the views are that are coming from the community. There are a variety of volunteers, experts, people from all over the world who are coming together to make important decisions about how this ecosystem works.

And since the views of members in the community are diverse, there are structures and processes in place at ICANN to make sure the work is approached in an effective way and that all the necessary perspectives are considered in this process. Next slide, please.

So what is this community about and how is it organized in the multistakeholder model? At a high level, the community is made up of the two different categories that you heard Joe talk about. The first being the supporting organizations, or the SOs, which are responsible for developing policy recommendation in different areas. The second

category are the advisory committees, or the ACs, which my colleague Ozan will explain shortly.

Within the supporting organizations at ICANN, there are three separate and unique groups. The first, on the screen in front of you, which is the Address Supporting Organization. There are Regional Internet Registries, or RIRs, each with its own region in the world. And they're responsible for allocating the IP addresses in different parts.

These RIRs form a council called the ASO Address Council, and the Council representatives from each of the RIRs are members that participate to focus on global Internet Protocol address policy. And so that's what's happening at the regional level on the numbers side.

But as you can imagine, there are also global policies that affect more than just one of the RIRs. And these policies are developed through the ASO itself.

The other two SOs relate to domain name policy. The ccNSO, or the Country Code Names Supporting Organization, works on global policies related to Country Code Top-Level Domains, or ccTLDs. Examples of these that you might be familiar with are .br for Brazil or .uk for the United Kingdom. If you'd like to try to come up with an example of another ccTLD—maybe the ccTLD for your country—please feel free to share it into the chat.

The development of a specific country policy may happen within the individual ccTLD, but there are also global policies that happen at ICANN. And so the ccNSO includes representatives from all the different

ccTLD operators. Those are organizations that actually operate the ccTLD and come together at ICANN to help develop policy focused on those topics.

And then finally, we have the Generic Names Supporting Organization, or the GNSO, that is focused on Generic Top-Level Domains, or gTLDs. The one you probably know most, of course, is .com. But there's also .org or .net. If you want to come up with another example, please feel free to share it in the chat.

The pool of gTLDs, as many of you might know, has grown over time. In 2012 there was a significant expansion in the gTLD space through the New gTLD Program, which you might hear about in some of the sessions as you participate and during ICANN72. But with this growth, the need for new policies has also increased.

The GNSO Council is the governing body responsible for supervising policy development within the GNSO. And this Council represents many diverse parts of the ICANN community including the contracted parties which are the registries and the registrars that actually hold contracts with ICANN. It also includes representatives from other groups such as civil society and commercial interests.

With this, I'd like to turn it over to my colleague, Ozan, to go into detail about the SO's policy development process and talk to you about the advisory committees.

OZAN SAHIN:	Thank you, Chantelle. Hello, everyone. My name is Ozan. I'm a member of the Policy Development Support Team working out of the Middle East and Africa regional office located in Istanbul, Turkey. I will talk about the policy development and advice development processes today.

So if you go to the next slide, you will see an infographic on the screen. It illustrates the policy development process for each of the three supporting organizations. I know the fonts are maybe small on your screen, but it's available online in all UN languages, and my colleague Chantelle will drop a link in the chat now that will take you to the web page where you can open the infographic in your preferred language and zoom in. And Chantelle will also drop a link directly to this infographic so that you can open it yourself.

And starting with the GNSO policy development process or PDP, the first step is issue identification. And then the GNSO Council considers whether this issue is within the scope of their mission and also whether or not the issue would result in a policy.

After the identification of the issue, the next step is scoping. At the request of the GNSO Council, the Policy Development Support Team drafts and publishes a preliminary issue report for public comment. This is where there are opportunities for outside input from the entire ICANN community.

Following the public comment period, a final issue report is prepared, reflecting the comments received during the public consultation period. And it is submitted to the GNSO Council for the Council's

ICANN PREP WEEK 72

consideration. If the GNSO Council decides to initiate a PDP, then they develop or adopt a charter for the PDP Working Group. And then the GNSO Council calls for volunteers to form the PDP working group.

Once the working group is formed, it starts its deliberations, consults with the ICANN community, and then comes up with an initial report. Then a public comment proceeding is open for this report. And eventually, the working group reviews the comments received and decides whether to incorporate these comments in the final report. And then the working group submits its final report to the general counsel.

In the next step, the GNSO Council reviews the final report and considers adoption. And then if adopted, then the GNSO Council submits the final report to the ICANN Board.

Moving to the ccNSO policy development process here, the ccNSO works on global policies relating to Country Code Top-Level Domains, and the ccNSO policy development process is very similar to the GNSO policy development process in that you have phase to identify the issue. Then there's a phase where it is determined whether or not the issue is within the scope of the ccNSO. And in the next phase, the ccNSO Council approves the issue report and initiates a policy development process.

And a public comment period opens. Working group phase begins. After the initial report of the working group, another public comment period takes place. And then the final report and recommendations of the working group are developed and submitted to the ccNSO Council.

ICANN PREP WEEK 72

Here, there's a distinction when it comes to voting on the report of the working group. In the ccNSO PDP there's a two-stage voting within the ccNSO. First, the ccNSO Council votes and then also ccNSO members vote. So there's an extra step here where all ccNSO members vote on the report of the working group, even if they are not represented on the ccNSO Council. And after that, the final report is submitted to the ICANN Board.

And moving to the Address Supporting Organization policy development process. The remit of the Address Supporting Organization within ICANN is specifically scoped around global number resources. There is a lot of regional policy development work that happens at the five Regional Internet Registries, or RIRs. And at ICANN it's only limited to global policies.

The way the global policy development process works in the ASO is that the five Regional Internet Registries and the communities within the five Regional Internet Registries have to develop and approve exactly the same policy. And once that happens, the address Council of the ASO starts to track the issue.

They assemble a team called the Policy Proposal Facilitator Team. And this team makes sure that the policy development process was followed in every region and then it was approved. And finally, the proposal has to go to the Address Council for approval.

And then the ASO Address Council submits the proposal to the ICANN Board. The ICANN Board may accept or reject the proposal, or the Board may request changes to the proposal or take no action.

ICANN PREP WEEK 72

So if you go to the next slide, you will see the names and status of the GNSO and ccNSO policy development processes. Being cognizant of the time, I will not go into detail. But if you're interested in hearing more on the ongoing policy development processes within the supporting organizations, there will be a Prep Week session tomorrow called Policy Update. So I invite you to join the session tomorrow starting at 16:00 UTC.

And going to the next slide, in addition to the three supporting organizations, there are four advisory committees. First, the At-Large Advisory Committee which expresses the interests of the individual Internet end user.

And then we have Governmental Advisory Committee that provides advice on public policy issues.

And there is the Root Server System Advisory Committee, advising the ICANN Board and ICANN community on the operation, administration, security, and integrity of the Root Server System.

And finally there's the Security and Stability Advisory Committee, advising on matters related to the security and integrity of the internet's naming and address allocation systems.

So when we go to the next slide, you will see another infographic. This time the multistakeholder advice development. The advisory committees have their own processes to develop advice, and Chantelle will drop another link in the chat box which will take you to this infographic on the screen now. Thank you, Chantelle.

Again, you see similar stages such as the identification of the issue or scoping here. Let me highlight some of the different aspects in the advice development process.

For instance, when the At-Large Advisory Committee develops advice, they make sure to check with the regional At-Large organizations, or RALOs. And the RALOs check with their At-Large structures. And they ultimately go to the At-Large Advisory Committee which approves the statement.

And if you look at the Governmental Advisory Committee advice development process, most of the Governmental Advisory comes through the GAC Communiqué.

There are also Governmental Advisory Committee work parties on a number of topics. And there's a process where the GAC has to reach a consensus before it's a ratified statement.

And the RSSAC has work parties. They are like the working groups. And the outcome of the work party effort, which is usually a report, needs to be approved by the RSSAC.

And finally, SSAC is similar to RSSAC in how they develop advice to the ICANN Board and the ICANN community.

On the next slide, again I will not go into details, but you see the priority topics here for advisory committees. Again, if you'd like to hear more about these topics, please join the Policy Update Prep Week Session tomorrow at 16:00 UTC.

With that, I will now turn it back to my colleague, Chantelle Doerksen.

CHANTELLE DOERKSEN: Thank you, Ozan. Next slide, please.

So how can you prepare for ICANN72? You see a bunch of links on the slide in front of you, and all of these links can be available for you to access on the ICANN72 session page for this call. There are some reports and the agenda is to some of the various groups. And I encourage you to use that as a resource.

I also really quickly wanted to mention a couple of opportunities to see policy development in action during the meeting. These working group sessions touch on the policy development processes, or PDPs, that Ozan just spoke about.

One of these, for example, is Transfer Policy. They're holding a session during ICANN72, and the Transfer Policy focuses on the transfer of a domain name between the Registrars and/or between registrants who are the holders of the domain names.

There's another GNSO PDP focused on the issue of Internationalized Domain Name (or IDN) and variants. This PDP is important for certain language and script communities, and I would encourage you to join both of those. And we'll post the links to those two sessions, specifically in the chat shortly. Next slide. Thank you.

So for our last slide of the day, we also wanted to remind you that there are several different ways to participate at ICANN, related to policy

development. First is for you to join one of the open community groups at ICANN such as At-Large or some other groups in the GNSO. This is a great way to get to know other people with similar interests, make contributions, and help contribute to public comments or position statements. You can help guide the working group members who are active in the PDPs as well. Often, they are the ones representing your community in these groups.

You can also sign up as an observer to follow the work of a PDP itself. You can listen to the calls and see the e-mail exchanges which can help you wrap your mind around some of the work that's being done.

Please feel free to follow up with Siranush or Deborah who can help us connect with you if you'd like more information.

And then finally, you have public comment. Public comment is the process that gives the ICANN community, Internet stakeholders, and the general public and opportunity to provide input on ICANN work and policies. You can submit a comment as an individual or as an informal group, or you can contribute to a public comment that's being formed within a particular community group. You'll see what opportunities are open at any given time via the ICANN Org website. And we'll post that link as well shortly.

Thank you very much for your time today. And if you have any questions about the activities that Ozan and I presented on, please feel free to contact us. And we will be looking at the chat below.

With this, we wish everyone a successful and wonderful ICANN72. And I would like to turn the session back over to my colleague, Joe.

JOE CATAPANO: Thank you, Chantelle. And thank you, Ozan. Since we still have quite a bit of content to provide to you, and we're at about half past the hour, I think what we'll do in terms of Q&A is that my colleagues will monitor the chat for questions. And then I would suggest, if one of our subject matter experts has the answer to that question in the chat, just go ahead and type it in and answer it on the spot. And if not, then at the end we'll open it up to Q&A.

Okay. So next up is Topics of Interest at ICANN. There's a lot going on, so to kind of help you navigate to some of the things that a lot of people are going to be talking about before, during, and after the meeting, I am going to turn it over to Naela Sarras. Naela, go ahead.

NAELA SARRAS: Thank you very much, Joe. And welcome, everybody. My name is Naela Sarras. I am the VP of Stakeholder Engagement for the North America region. And I'm also joining you here from the Los Angeles office, as Chantelle is as well.

I work closely with my colleague, Joe, who is running the session today, as well as several other team members from what we call the Global Stakeholder Engagement Team. Our work and our focus is to engage with the community, so to work with you all. And I'm very happy to be welcoming you to ICANN72 Prep Week and the ICANN72 Meeting in two

weeks from now. And I'm really happy to be welcoming the ICANN72 Meeting to the North America region, albeit a virtual one. But it's still assigned to the North America region.

As Joe said, and in the interest of time—I don't want to take too much time—I'm just going to go through some highlights of some sessions and topics of interest that you're going to hear a lot about doing this meeting, and why some of these things are picking up a lot of attention.

I know my colleague Siranush will go through specific sessions and point you to the right times and session details, but I just wanted to talk about some of these sessions in general. As our colleagues Ozan and Chantelle just said, basically these meetings are put together in order to help the community to further its policy development work and advisory work. That's why the ICANN community gets together and spends all these hours working on it. And this really only successful when newcomers much like yourselves join the ICANN ecosystem and contribute your knowledge, your time, your expertise to this policy development process.

Normally, our meetings happen in person as well as—there's a remote component to them, of course—and they travel around the world so that they can include as many people as possible. But regardless of the delivery method of the meeting, as our chairman said at the beginning, this our sixth virtual meeting. And we're really excited to know that we are still attracting and having newcomers come and put in their time and efforts into these meetings. So we're really happy to see you here today.

So let me just go quickly into some of the things to pay attention to in the meeting that you should be seeing. And if I can have my colleagues … Yeah, I'm on the right slide. Thank you.

So I know we talk a lot about policy, but I wanted to call your attention that there are also what we call Tech Day Sessions that happen at the ICANN Meeting. So there's lots of policy work, but if you're a technical person or if that's your interest, there are technical sessions on topics that are related to registry work/security. So do check those out. They'll be labeled as Tech Day Sessions. They're usually put together by the ccNSO, which our colleagues explained. But they are open to everyone. So take advantage of those, if you will.

ICANN72 is what we're calling the Annual General Meeting. So once a year, at the end of the year, it's called an Annual General Meeting. And as such, it does feature what we call a Public Forum. This is a really important session. I think it's one of the sessions that a lot of community members actually enjoy going to. But it's your chance, basically the community's chance to speak directly to the Board. The Board takes questions/comments. It's this chance as well, as the Board of Directors, to hear directly from the community. So it's a really important session in terms of exchange of ideas and questions.

And similarly, there's a session that's an ICANN Organization Executive Question and Answer Session. So this is, the ICANN Executive Team is also looking for having an opportunity to hear from the community. So the Executive Team will go through the CEO's goals for FY22. So they'll share their priorities and goals, but then they're also really looking for

input from the community on how the organization is doing, where its focus should be, etc.

An interesting session we have happening in ICANN72 is what we're calling a plenary session. And this one is Designing Hybrid ICANN Public Meetings to Equalize In-Person and Remote Participation. So as I said, we have, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this ICANN72 will be our sixth virtual-only meeting.

And as the community and as the world prepares to resume normal operations again, this session is really focused on how to promote and continue the values that we all appreciate so much, which is to have an inclusive meeting designed for everyone being able to participate whether they're in person, on location, or participating remotely. So how will that virtual experience look like? How will it be equalized with the in-person experience, etc.? So this going to be a very important session. Input is appreciated, and it will be a good discussion for the community to have as a whole.

ICANN meetings are also a time when the ICANN Board, in addition to having the public forum comment at the beginning, the Board also meet with individual groups and listens to their specific concerns.

So Ozan went through and explained the GNSO and the ccNSO and their policy work and how the SOs and ACs go through making the policy and the advice. But then each group gets to meet specifically with the ICANN Board so that they can exchange their ideas and their questions individually with the Board.

So those are important sessions, and they're all happening within the ICANN72 week. So please pay attention to those as well.

And I don't have a specific session to point to, but in terms of topics to pay attention to, there's going to be a lot of work and a lot of talk by the individual groups within ICANN, the individual SOs and ACs, about what's going to be …

One important topic is what we're referring to as—and you're going to hear—"Subsequent Procedures." Or you're going to hear a lot of "SubPro ODP" or "the next round." This is all essentially a reference to how to determine the process for how to add more TLDs to the Domain Name System.

I believe Joe, at the beginning, talked about the Domain Name System. And we have currently about 1,500 TLDs. Around 300 of those are Country Code Top-Level Domains and 1,200 are the generics. And so the "SubPro" or the "next round" is about how to expand that generic space. What are the rules for expanding the generic space? So that's an important session.

And what's really important is that this next round, or how we expand the root zone, is really focused on how to make it even more inclusive. How to have additional scripts other than the traditional Latin-based languages represented in those top-level domains. So having more labeled or more top-level domains introduced in Arabic or in Cyrillic which is a script that drives languages like Russian. Or Devanagari which is the script that drives a lot of the Indian languages, etc.

EN

And so by having more of these TLDs expressed in local scripts, it facilitates the process of having domain names that are simply easier to access. So that's what the next round is going to be really focused on.

And then go hand in hand with that, you're going to see a lot about Universal Acceptance. Once those top-level domains are added to the root zone, Universal Acceptance is concerned with, "Okay, so the easy part really is adding them to the root zone. Now how do we get e-mail systems, web development systems, programmers to just be aware that there are more than just simply the traditional top-level domains?"

So getting those universally accepted/used by systems around the world is also an important topic. And the regular work where it's focused on security and stability of a Domain Name System and the roots zone also will be happening as well. So focus on those topics. Pick what's of interest to you.

Of course, the ICANN Meeting isn't all work. There's a little bit of fun. Do please take advantage of the virtual coffee breaks. Usually those are the networking opportunities within the ICANN meetings when they do happen in-person. But that's what the virtual coffee break is trying to do; get people together to do some more networking.

And then finally, there is what's being sponsored by the NARALO, which is the North American RALO region. There's an event on Wednesday evening—it's at 6:00 pm of the local meeting time—which is basically a social where they're going to host a beer expert to review some beers and kind of talk about beers and [experiences], etc. So do attend that if you have time.

ICANN PREP WEEK 72

So I wish you a great meeting. Please continue to attend the Prep Week sessions. We look forward to seeing you in the ICANN72 Meeting sessions. Please do ask questions. All of our e-mails are posted on our slides, so please do reach out to us. And for those of you that are Fellows and NextGeners, please let Deborah and Siranush know if you have any questions. We'll be happy to answer them.

And that's it. Back to you, Joe. Thank you.

JOE CATAPANO: Thank you, Naela. All right, moving right along here. We have about 20 minutes remaining, so I'm just going to ask our remaining presenters to just be a little concise so we have at least a few minutes at the end if there are any outstanding questions.

I deserve a stern talking to for not having a picture slide here, but my colleague Betsy Andrews from our Public Responsibility Support Team is going to give us a little insight into some of the resources for our newcomers. Betsy, over to you.

BETSY ANDREWS: Thanks, Joe. While being a newcomer at ICANN can sometimes feel overwhelming, we do have a lot of resources available to help you make the most of the opportunity to participate. And as I'm sure you can already tell from this call, there are a lot of people who are available and happy to help you on your way.

My name is Betsy Andrews, as Joe said, and among my responsibilities in the Public Responsibility Support Department here at ICANN is managing the free online learning platform that we call ICANN Learn. If you haven't done so already, sign up for that and take some courses. The training that we offer can help you expand your knowledge of technical topics and policy topics, but we also have a lot of skill-building courses that can help you to be a more effective contributor in the ICANN community. So definitely check that out.

But you'll see on the slide that there are other ways to connect and to bolster your knowledge of ICANN. So sign up for the regional newsletter and you'll get information that's relevant to your part of the world.

You can follow us on social media. They'll be linked in the last slide of this deck so you can see all of our handles there.

And you've likely already registered for ICANN72, but bookmark that Meetings page and review the schedule because you can select the sessions you're interested in, in advance, and then export that schedule to your preferred calendar application which is super handy.

Also note that you can access the presentations from individual sessions, so you don't have to take notes if you're a notetaker like I am.

You may want to explore our Newcomers web page and from there learn more about the Next Generation Program for university students and the Fellowship Program that's designed to help participants from all around the world participate fully in ICANN Meetings.

ICANN
PREP WEEK 72

Acronyms, as Joe mentioned at the very beginning, are a challenge in any new environment, and ICANN is particularly rife with them. So it's helpful to bookmark this Acronym and Terms page that we've linked so that you can quickly reference any unfamiliar terms during a session. It's also fine to encourage others to explain the acronyms that they use. We are all trying to do better about that, so feel free to pipe up in the chat and say, "What does XYZ mean?" And someone will be glad to jump to explain that for you.

And then there are a couple of other web pages that you may want to note. Our Communities page, the policy development support page— that's Chantelle and Ozan's team—and our Technical Functions page. All of these will give you some great insight into the complexity of ICANN, and also how the various teams and community groups come together to achieve that great Internet policy development work that gets done here at ICANN. Thank you.

JOE CATAPANO: Thank you, Betsy. You have really great resources there. I highly encourage you to take a look at those, especially ICANN Learn. Their content is constantly evolving and there's constantly new stuff going up there. So, a very good thing to check out.

All right. So now we will move a little more in focus on two of our main programs for newcomers. So my colleague Siranush Vardanyan runs our Fellowship Program. She'll talk a little bit about that and some other newcomer items. And then my colleague Deborah Escalera—she

runs our NextGen Program—will talk a little bit about that in there as well.

Siranush, over to you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Joe. This is Siranush. I'm managing the Fellowship Program. And one more time, I would like to welcome all newcomers, Fellows, and NextGen to this session. I live and work from Armenia—Yerevan.

But before going to the slides and explaining what are expected from Fellows and NextGeners and what sessions they are assigned to, I would like to give the floor to my colleague Deborah's Escalera who runs the Newcomers and NextGen at ICANN program.

Deborah, the floor is yours.

DEBORAH ESCALERA: Hello, everybody. I just wanted to say welcome to ICANN72. I hadn't planned on speaking today, but I just wanted to say welcome to the Fellows into the NextGen at ICANN. We are thrilled to have you with us during this meeting. And to all the newcomers who are joining us today, we are thrilled to have you and we are welcoming you. Please feel free to ask any questions that you may have. There are no dumb questions or stupid questions.

Also, I want to inform you that the application for ICANN73 for the NextGen at ICANN is open now and it will remain open until the 25th of October. So if you know anybody who is interested in participating—it

is also in the North American region—that application will remain open and is open now to anybody who is a university student from the ages of 18 to 30 years old.

We are excited for the happenings that are going to be taking place at ICANN72, and we encourage you to take all the sessions that you can possibly take. Those that you may even think that you're not interested in. Take as many sessions as you possibly can take and definitely take part in the fika coffee sessions as well because those are a great opportunity for you to meet people. Those are a good social gathering opportunity for you. And please have fun at ICANN72.

Over to you, Siranush. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Deborah. Thank you. And with that, I will move forward with the next slide, please.

So there are several sessions which we—myself and Deborah—shared with our groups, Fellows, and NextGeners. And the list of notable sessions which were provided by our colleagues from Policy Team. Here I will not go into details, as Naela already had covered many of them. And Fellows and NextGeners are assigned to participate.

But just briefly going over that during Prep Week which is now taking place, several sessions are highlighted for our Newcomers group to participate. And particularly, the focus is on policy updates, which one took [place] yesterday. The Generic Names Supporting Organization,

and the one will take place on October 14th. So please take the opportunity to participate at those Prep Week prep sessions.

There are two specific sessions planned for the ICANN72 Fellows and NextGeners, and one of them is for Fellows in particular. On October 21st, it's a meet-and-greet session with the ICANN72 Fellows and Global Stakeholder Engagement Team.

So I saw several questions in the chat asking about the Stakeholder Engagement and community engagement. So this will be the session where you will meet in person— in a virtual environment, of course— with your regional Stakeholder Engagement representatives and will have the opportunity to learn more about what are the hot topics and priorities in your own region and the ways you can get engaged on the regional level.

And on the same day, on October 21st, we have a session with one of my colleagues from the Policy Team, Melissa Allgood, on how consensus works in ICANN. This is a very interactive session, and we encourage all Fellows and NextGeners to definitely participate in this session.

One of the interesting presentations which is prepared by our NextGeners, those six NextGeners for whom this is the first ICANN Meeting, please join for their presentations on Monday, October 25th. And I'm sure you will enjoy the presentations provided by our NextGen at ICANN Program participants. Next slide, please.

So during the ICANN72 Meeting—the Annual General Meeting, as Joe has mentioned at the beginning—there will be joint sessions

throughout the week with ICANN Board, and different community groups will have specific, targeted sessions with the ICANN Board. So if you have time and the time zone permits you to participate, this is based on your sector of interest. Please come and join those sessions.

There is a special session also planned for Fellows and NextGen at ICANN Program participants on Monday. My colleagues who are professional in policy, my colleagues from policy team, will come and explain how the policy works in ICANN. So please come and join.

And there was also a question in the chat asking where we can learn more about the technical projects. The Tech Day. There will be three technical workshops with presentations, and this is the opportunity for you to learn about some tech projects. So please join. They are during different timing, so please find the best time which you can come and join at least one of those sessions.

During the week of ICANN72, there will be regional meetings as well. So you can join Middle East Space if you are from the Middle East region. And there will be several which I will be talking about in the next slide. And of course, there are some prep sessions and GNSO Council Priorities, which is a very important session to find out how the Generic Names Supporting Organization Council is prioritizing their work. Next slide, please.

And just to sum up, during the Tuesday 26th of October, it is a so-called Constituency Day. And different communities will meet during that day. Please join if you are interested in ccNSO, GNSO, Governmental Advisory Committee, RSSAC.

With that, I would like to add here that At-Large sessions will take place from the 18th to 20th of October. And those sessions and the links have been shared with the Newcomers and Fellows and NextGeners. So if you are interested in At-Large, please join.

On Tuesday, there will be also the African Regional At-Large Organization and AfrICANN meeting. So if you are from Africa region and interested to learn more, this is the opportunity for you to come.

And if you are from Latin America and Caribbean region, you can join the LAC Space.

Naela mentioned about the Q&A with ICANN Org Executive Team, the plenary sessions, and the public forum, so I will not cover all those.

And just summing up, there is a very interesting social event planned by North America Regional At-Large Organization—Taste of Seattle. So we will try to feel ourselves as if we are in Seattle. This is Beer Appreciation Night. Come and join.

And just for you to understand why we call the daily virtual coffee breaks as fika. Fika is a Swedish word which means "meetup, have a coffee, and a chitchat." So please come and join us to have a virtual coffee with ICANN community members.

And with that, Joe, I hope I was not too long. I will [hand it] back over to you.

JOE CATAPANO: That's okay. Thank you, Siranush. Yes, and the slides are available in the meeting page, so you can download them and take a look at the schedule here.

I will say quickly that there is a North America space coming up. It's the first ever one. And that is October 27th at 12:30 pm Seattle time.

So we are just about, hard to believe, almost two years into the virtual meeting environment. Obviously, we love being in person, but we've become highly effective at running virtual meetings. And now I will give you over to Tanzanica King to talk a little bit about how to get around and all that good stuff. Tanzanica.

TANZANICA KING: Thank you, Joe, I know we have very few minutes left here, and I also see some really good questions in the chat. So I'm going to try and keep this somewhat brief without skipping anything super important. A lot of my colleagues have covered, really, the super important stuff. And you all found your way to this session, which tells me that the website is doing its job. You're able to figure out how to find the links. But let's go ahead to the next slide—and forward again—so we can quickly look at the block schedule.

I just wanted to give you guys an overview, a high-level look at the schedule. As everyone's pointed out, this being our sixth time doing virtual only, we keep learning. We keep trying to make the schedule a little bit better for people to participate from different parts of the

ICANN PREP WEEK 72

world. Some of you may be hoping that we end on time today so you can get to bed, while others of you aren't sure why you're awake yet.

So we've tried to spread things out. You'll notice that the Q&A with the executives versus the public forum. These things are intentionally scheduled at different times of the day so that, we hope, it makes it so you can at least attend some of these. And if you're not able to attend, use all of the things that we provide on the website in terms of archives and recordings to go ahead and check them out later. Let's go ahead to the next slide.

So in looking at the web page … And, again, I think a lot of this very self-explanatory, so I'll try to figure out how to minimize all my comments here. I definitely want to recommend to you that you look at the participation links that are on all of the individual session pages and also under the How to Participate drop-down at the top there.

You can very quickly look at our notes on participation tools, how to use them, best practices. It's not difficult reading. It won't take you a long time. But it will give you quick notes to remember to select your language when you join sessions and little things that will make the whole process a lot smoother for you.

The other thing I want to point out is the Conversations or Discussions feature on the website. So you'll see it worded both ways. I won't go into an explanation of why that is, but it may say "Conversations" and it may say "Discussions." You can jump in there, ask questions, start talking about the topic of the session. Jump in because people will

respond. The session leaders will respond and other community members will definitely respond. Let's go ahead to the next slide.

So here, I just wanted to suggest that you all add things to your personal calendar. Create your calendar, export it, imported into Outlook or Google, whatever you prefer to use. It's nice because once you sign up for those sessions, you'll actually get reminders from the system telling you 30 minutes before the session, "Hey, don't forget. This is about to start." Another helpful tool if it is going to be the middle of the night for you. And let's go to the next slide.

I know it is one minute until we're done. So as we've mentioned, and I know you've heard it from my colleagues as well, there are audio recordings, Zoom archives, transcripts. We post everything as quickly as possible. A lot of times you'll see these things even less than 12 hours before sometimes. But 12 to 24 hours. Transcripts sometimes take a little longer, but you'll definitely see the Zoom recordings.

And I apologize right now to the interpreters for the fact that I'm purposely speaking fast and hadn't even thought about it. Next slide, please.

So another thing I'll point out, for the sake of time, is that during the coffee breaks if you want to come and stop by on Monday, me and my colleague Josh will be in one of the breakout rooms of the coffee break. Casual environment, there to answer questions. We'll show you how to use tools that we have on the website like the one-on-one meetings.

Come and ask us anything. Anything that you see on these slides and you're like, "I want to know about that, but Tanzania didn't tell us," please stop by and ask. You can always e-mail us at meetingsupport@icann.

And there's one more thing I want to tell you before I stop. On the next slide. Click one more time, Joe, and see if it starts populating for you. There we go.

I want to mention—maybe it makes you click every time, it's very slow—our Expected Standards of Behavior. That was a mouthful. All meeting participants are subject to our community anti-harassment policy and our Expected Standards of Behavior. This is just a shortened version of what some of those standards are. But basically, it's really important to us that we have an environment where people who are from many different backgrounds and different cultures are treated with dignity, decency, and respect. Professional and respectful behavior is expected, and anyone who breaches those standards can be removed from the Zoom room without warning. So have fun. Be friendly. Please check out the more detailed information that we have posted, and let us know if you have questions. And I will stop there.

JOE CATAPANO: Thank you, Tanzanica. All right. Well, I apologize for keeping everyone a couple minutes over. And I know we probably didn't get to all the questions, but our contact information for our presenters are in the deck which is housed on the webpage that you used to log into this meeting. So if you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

ICANN PREP WEEK 72

My parting shot is, you know, be a sponge. Take in all that you can. Give yourself space and give yourself permission to not understand something. I've been here eight years and I'm still learning every day.

So with that, I wish you all a great meeting. Thank you for coming by. Bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]