ICANN

Moderator: Gisella Gruber-White
February 19, 2013
10:00 am CT

Coordinator: Excuse me, this is the Operator. Today's call is being recorded. If you have any objections you may disconnect at this time. You may begin.

Benedetta Rossi: Thank you very much, Operator. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. This is the BC candidate call taking place on the 19th of February 2013.

On the call today we have Jimson Olufuye, Elisa Cooper, John Berard, Steve DelBianco, Ron Andruff, Martin Sutton, Angie Graves, Gabriela Szlak, Yvette Miller, Bill Smith, Marilyn Cade, Sarah Deutsch, Chris Chaplow, Ayesha Hassan, Anders Halvorsen, Glen DeSaintgery, GNSO Secretariat acting as the Verifying Officer, and myself, Benedetta Rossi, BC Secretariat, acting as voting officer, and Robert Hoggarth.

As voting officer I will announce the names of the nominees and noteboth the nominators and the nominees who qualified according to charter rules as good standing members of the BC. Formal nominations will receive the BC votes and were acknowledged by the voting officer.

Candidates were contacted and accepted nominations. Today's call will allow a discussion of each candidate. The GNSO Secretariat, Glen DeSaintgery, acting as Verifying Officer and moderator for this call will conduct the interaction with the candidates. The call is recorded and transcribed.

The nominations are the following: standing for Chair of the BC, Elisa Cooper; standing for Vice Chair of Finance and Operations, no nominee; standing for Vice Chair for Policy Coordination, Steve DelBianco; standing for CSG Representative, we have two nominations, Marilyn Cade and Bill Smith.

Each candidate will be allocated 20 minutes for questions. Questions for candidates were received but can be considered optional for candidates to respond to except those directed to specific candidates.

As a reminder this call will be limited to 90 minutes but candidates may choose to respond to any questions in writing as well. Ballots for the election will be sent tomorrow, February 20, 2013. And voting will open tomorrow as well.

Only paid-up members and primary contacts will receive the ballots unless advised formally by the voting officer or an alternate voter. Any proxy assignments are needed by today prior to the opening of the elections to the BC Secretary email.

Please note as a reminder that voting closes on February 26th. Counting of votes and checks by the Verifying Officer will take place on the 27 of February. And results of the elections will be announced on or by the 28 of February.

I will now turn the call over to Glen DeSaintgery as Verifying Officer to introduce questions. We will start with the nominee for Chair and then Vice Chair for Policy Coordination and CSG representative nominees. Thank you and over to you, Glen.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you very much, Benedetta. And hello to everyone, it could be good morning, good afternoon, or good evening. And thank you very much for inviting me as Verifying Officer to attend this call.

And I think Benedetta has gone through all the logistics. So I will go straight to the questions. They have been submitted to me by Benedetta; they were sent to the list.

Marilyn Cade: Sorry, Glen. It's Marilyn. Can I ask a point of order first, please?

Glen DeSaintgery: Certainly, Marilyn.

Marilyn Cade: I just think I'm aware that there are 44 to 47 paid up members and I know we have a subset of those. I just want to verify, again, for all members who aren't on the call that the call is being recorded and therefore the discussions will be available to all members to come back and respond to. That's question number one.

Question number two if you don't mind, I heard mention of the validation role of Bob Hoggarth as ICANN staff supporting you.

Could you just please clarify that validation role so that all - I'm aware of it from my previous roles at - but I thought it would be good if you could just verify that ICANN provides backup and support to the election as - sort of a backup integrity role to all members? If you don't mind explaining that?

Glen DeSaintgery: Certainly I will, thank you very much, Marilyn, thank you for bringing up that point.

Yes, indeed, Rob Hoggarth is on the call and I've asked him to be on the call because Rob is in charge of - as you probably know quite well, you know him too, stakeholder group and constituency relations and is directly concerned with - for example, the toolkit services and the election assistance that we provide to constituencies and stakeholder groups falls under that. So that is why I have asked Rob to be on the call with me today.

If you have any questions I will gladly answer them. Hearing no further questions, may I then start with the questions that have been submitted for the candidates? But just before I do that there were three questions which were very similar.

So I have taken the liberty of collating those three questions into one. First of all, I think it will save time and probably it makes more sense.

So Elisa, may I start with you, please?

Elisa Cooper: Sure, Glen.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you. And I'm going to first of all pose the questions that have been put for all the candidates. The first question is, did any affiliate or parent company representative vote during 2012 in any other constituency stakeholder group on any policy issue or officer election in 2012 in another constituency?

Elisa Cooper: Yes, I believe that Matt Serlin likely voted as part of the registrar's constituency but going forward (Mark Moniter) will not be voting in the

business constituency so we will not be voting, for instance, in this election or any elections in the coming year.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you very much, Elisa. The second question is, this is a time of much change at ICANN and relationships are really important at this time. Can you tell us about your relationships with the Board, other Chairs, and advisory committees that would support the continuation of the BCs leadership and visibility?

Elisa Cooper: So let's start off talking about the Chairs of some of other constituency groups. In terms of the IPC and the ISPs, I know both of those Chairs well. Of course I also know in the contracted parties house the Chairs for the registrars constituency well. In terms of the registries constituency, that is a Chair with which I'm not as familiar.

In terms of my Board interactions, that is clearly an area where I will need to further develop relationships. And so I will take whatever help I can get from the business constituency to further strengthen those relationships, to build those relationships. I will gladly take that support.

And in terms of other relationships with the support - other supporting organizations, there are definitely relationships that I need to build. But I will say this, I will not be acting as a sole voice in terms of me acting on my own.

I will be representing to the best of my ability all of the members and so in my role as the Chair I intend to better understand exactly what each of the members' perspectives are, to understand those, to identify what is of greatest importance, and to take those and try to incorporate those so that I am representing the views.

I'm not going to be - as I mentioned just a moment ago, I'm not going to be someone to act on my own without the support of the entire organization.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Elisa. The following question is questions about charters. Can you discuss your familiarity with both the BC and CSG charters?

Recognizing charter updates are necessary from time to time, what is the timeline and process that you would anticipate? How would you ensure that the charter updates remain fair to both small business members and large corporate members?

Elisa Cooper: Well, clearly one of my objectives in this coming year is to make some amendments to the BC's charter.

And in particular, I'm interested in looking at changes that can be made for appointments where there are more participants wanting to participate that there are available slots, that's one amendment to the charter that I would like to see. I also would like to see term limits put into the charter for the BC as well.

In terms of the charter itself, I don't sleep with it under my pillow. I will need to refer to it and I will need to ask for help from the members when there are questions about what the charter means or how to interpret it.

I'm not going to take on the owness of making interpretations. If I have questions I fully plan to reach out to the entire business constituency to ask for perspectives and for help.

Again, I'm not going to be acting as a lone ranger out here. I fully need everyone's support. One of the things I do intend to use is a survey tool so I can get feedback from all the members in a very easy way.

So there are - I'm sure many of you are familiar with, online survey tools that are out there and I intend to use those survey tools so that I can quickly gain your feedback when there are questions.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Elisa. Just as a little interlude, the members on the call, I think will have the chance to ask Elisa about the answers when we have finished the written questions. So I haven't forgotten you.

Elisa, the next question is the BC membership today is mostly North American - is made up of mostly North American and European members.

How will those standing for office further the need for basic awareness about ICANN - advance the broader BC membership beyond US and European-based companies, continue to develop more diversity and participation in the BC by parties from all regions, especially encouraging the participation of businesses from developing regions such as Latin America and Africa?

Elisa Cooper: Thanks, Glen. I feel strongly that the only way we can really move forward with outreach is to move towards more online interactions. And so in particular, hosting webinars, we can host those webinars at times that are more convenient for those regions.

But I think that's the only way that we can really advance membership in all regions of the world. And that is something that I have a tremendous amount of experience, not only in presenting on webinars but helping to coordinate and do the actual outreach.

You know, one thing I feel will be good for the BC in this coming year is to really reach out to those new gTLD applicants who have applied for dot-brands.

While I think, you know, they may have a home in the end tag I think that many of them will find that they are also well served by the business constituency. And so if we focus on that and there are applicants across the globe and I think that's a good place for us to start.

But again, this is my thought, you know, I want to understand what the other members think. Again, I'm not going to make this decision on my own. I want to hear from the members in terms of whether they think that's a viable approach.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Elisa. Now there are two questions that were specifically mentioned for the Chair only. But they are very similar to the last question, you may just want to add to what you have said. I'll read the two questions to you together so that you can decide how you'd like to answer them.

The first question is in view of the low participation of business from the developing countries in the BC what new initiatives will you engage in to change this scenario?

And the second question is what is your take on the current ICANN outreach strategy in Africa?

Elisa Cooper: So again, I think my approach would be to move more towards online interactions as opposed to trying to do face-to-face events, really for a number

of reasons. One, business people often can't leave work to go attend a face-to-face event.

Obviously the costs involved for face-to-face events are pretty significant and we don't have the funds at this point to do that sort of thing. So just to kind of reiterate, my plan is to focus on more online web events as opposed to doing face-to-face interaction to improve outreach.

I think your second question was about ICANN and about their outreach in Africa. And...

Glen DeSaintgery: The current ICANN outreach strategy in Africa.

Elisa Cooper: In Africa, that's something that I don't have a perspective on and so I will need to respond to that in writing.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Elisa. May I open it up to the members on the call to ask questions to Elisa or further clarification?

John Berard: Hi Glen, this is John. I have a question.

Glen DeSaintgery: Yes, certainly, John.

John Berard: For Elisa, of course, if you were to, you know, look at the statement that I wrote when I sought to become Councilor, a bit part of it was expanding the footprint of the business constituency. In the three years since it's become clear (unintelligible) interest of business is across the board with regard to ICANN.

There's the advisory committee, the SSAC advisory committee, there's the intellectual property constituency, there's the growing new TLD applicant group within the registries, and of course, the obvious fact that most members - the registrars, the registries, the ISPC are all businesses in and of themselves.

I guess my question is those bits of ICANN have a much more focused deliverable. What is it that the business constituency in your mind can stand for - can represent that would give it - help it maintain equal footing in that (unintelligible)?

Elisa Cooper: So I think it's true. I mean we often find ourselves very much in line for instance with the IPC, with the intellectual property constituency. That said, I think our vision is much larger in that we are also concerned with security and stability, not just protecting rights' owners, not just protecting against domain name abuse.

So when I talk to others about what the BC stands for I really tell them that we are here to protect the interests of businesses who want to conduct online activity, who want to participate in electronic commerce, that want to have a web presence, that own domain names that are concerned not only about protecting their domain names but also about ensuring that the entire DNS is safe and secure.

And so it is very broad. There is no doubt about that. And, you know, even my very running for this particular position in the fact that Matt Serlin is the Chair in the Registrars Constituency, that in of itself - I mean, yes, we are participating all over the board and we find that we have to participate - or we want to participate in two constituencies because our interests are not met over there. Our interests are also met over here as well.

It is a tough question and probably one that we should work together as a team to further refine.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Elisa. May I take a queue? So after John who would like to ask a question?

Ron Andruff: This is Ron. I'd like to be in the queue, please, Glen.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you. Anybody else?

(Jimson): (Jimson).

Glen DeSaintgery: (Jimson), yes.

(Jimson): (Jimson), yes.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, (Jimson). I've got your name. Anybody else? All right. We start with you, Ron, please.

Ron Andruff: Thank you very much, Glen. And thank you, Elisa, for standing for the office. One of the things that - and all the candidates for that matter, it's one of the things that my experience in ICANN and certainly within the BC over these last 13 years has been is we don't have enough hands to put on the oars to keep the boat moving forward if you understand my analogy.

And a lot of people are very busy and to spend the amount of time that ICANN demands it's not an easy one. So I commend all of you who are standing to the offices of the BC because I know the tremendous workload that you're undertaking so thank you for that.

My question comes to the point of the - that you just brought up in fact, that we have a - (Mark Monitor) has two of its employees sitting in Chair positions within two constituencies.

And so the question or it's really more of an observation is that it's going to be a bit of a tricky road for you to navigate in so much that there needs to be a Chinese wall and I appreciate that there will be one. But it's something that we really - within the transparency element of ICANN, it's so important.

And I think it was - it's commendable that you'd make a statement up front and that we hear it directly from you on this call, the situation being that there's two of you from the same company on two different Chairs within the body of ICANN.

But managing that task is not going to be an easy one and I commend you for making sure that all of the issues visa vie where you stand as a corporation and where you stand as the Chair of the BC will be very clearly delineated as we move forward. Thank you.

Elisa Cooper: Thanks, Ron. I'd just like to comment on that. So we've dealt with that already in the past year. And when Matt Serlin has an issue that is proprietary and confidential and not public knowledge that's not something he shares with me and vice versa.

And just to be clear, his participation in the registrars constituency is very, very different than my participation in the business constituency in that he is there to represent (Mark Monitor) as a registrar. And we are the largest corporate-only registrar and that's why he's in that position.

He's there to ensure that that business and those business needs that we have are dealt with and our perspectives are heard and he's there to help lead that group.

My participation in the business constituency is really to bring forward and to help our clients which are large corporations understand what is going on, to not only understand what's going on at ICANN but also to have their voices heard.

So my participation in the BC is really about representing not now only (Thompson Reuters) because as I mentioned (Mark Monitor) was acquired by (Thompson Reuters) and they themselves are a very large corporation but I'm also here to represent our large clients, our large businesses.

I will also mention that not all of our clients are large businesses. We do also serve smaller businesses as well. So I'm aware that there are some different needs for large business versus small and medium-sized enterprises.

But I definitely understand that we need to have this separation. And when we need to have that separation it will occur. That said, when we don't need that separation, when there's information that has been made publicly available and I need to get clarification from Matt as the Chair of the Registrars Constituency it is nice to be able to get that.

So I would actually say it is a benefit but I do understand the need for that Chinese wall and I think in the past year we've already had to navigate our way through that. So I think I'm pretty familiar with what will need to occur.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you very much, Elisa. (Jimson), you're next. And then I'm afraid we will have to close off Elisa's interview.

(Jimson):   Okay, thank you very much. I also want to follow in the example of Ron to really thank all those (unintelligible) BC, those that have also played a significant role (unintelligible). I want to really appreciate this, a lot of time commitment.

Elisa, I just want to ask if you had the opportunity to review the (unintelligible) strategy in getting developing nation (unintelligible) businesses like SME, which you also concern about? I'm also fortunate to review the (unintelligible) strategy.

Would you be willing to adopt some of those strategies apart from the webinar you talk about, the engagement? I think the need for face-to-face engagement is also important and commitment to also come (unintelligible). So (unintelligible) adopt some of those strategies that are already identified (unintelligible) reaching out to businesses in developing regions? Thank you.

Elisa Cooper: I would say to the extent that we have members in those regions who can take on that work and help to facilitate perhaps face-to-face meetings and that kind of outreach. I think the business constituency - the members would be fully supportive of that.

I think this is a decision that probably needs to be asked of the entire membership but of course, if we have members that want to do the outreach and take that on, I think we want to be totally supportive of that. Whether or not the Excomm can take leadership and can promise that we have funds available, that's something that we have to look further at.

But to the extent that - for instance, you would be able to help to support that, I think, of course we would be very supportive and provide whatever materials we can.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Elisa. May we now pass on to Steve DelBianco, please? Steve, are you ready?

Steve DelBianco: Sure, Glen.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you. And I would like to pose the questions that have been put for all the candidates to you first. And then as we've done with Elisa open the floor for the other members on the call to ask you questions.

So Steve, thank you. The first question is did any affiliate or parent company representative vote during the 2012 in any other constituency stakeholder group on any policy issue or officer election in 2012 in any other constituency - in another constituency?

Steve DelBianco: Thanks, Glen. NetChoice is a 501c6 US corporation, a non-profit trade association. As such we don't have any parents, affiliates, or subsidiaries. So none of those kind of relationships or entities voted in any other AC or SO.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Steve. And next question is, this is a time of much change at ICANN and relationships are really important at this time. Can you tell us about your relationships with the Board, other Chairs, and advisory committees that will support the continuation of the BC's leadership and visibility?

Steve DelBianco: Yes, I think visibility is the easiest of those to accomplish by virtue of attending the meetings and speaking frequently. To me the real key there is to

be seen as accessible, being friendly with people in conversations, but more important to be credible. We have to be credible about what we say, be on point, and not sort of harass folks that are on the Board on the GAC.

And that is a challenge to do that. They're so busy that when we do have those interactions it's very hard to zero in on one particular point that's important to BC members.

And I have found it's useful to do communications outside of the ICANN meetings, I mean a casual phone call, and email exchange, outside of the pressures of ICANN are one real way to build that one-to-one relationships that are essential.

I feel like I have especially good relationships with Board members like (Crawford), (Despain), (unintelligible), (Tonkin), (Erica Mann) and (unintelligible).

And also several GAC members including the GAC leadership, I feel they've seen me as somebody that can present a point quickly and have some credibility about addressing the key issues that are relevant to that audience.

I'll take the next question.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Steve. Question about charters, can you discuss your familiarity with both the BC and the CSG charters? Recognizing charter updates are necessary from time to time, what is the timeline and process that you would anticipate?

How would you ensure that the charter updates remain fair to both small business members and large corporate members?

Steve DelBianco: On the small versus large I think the key there is to keep our due structure with multiple tiers and do our best to keep it affordable for the very smallest entities.

With respect to the charter updates, that really needs to be driven by members. And I'll give you two examples. Members have already indicated a strong preference that we have elections rather than executive committee appointments for certain positions that the BC has the opportunity to fulfill, things like the NomCom or whatever.

Second is that we really need to ask members about areas of interest for charter updates and perhaps even a straw poll before we do the work of drafting the change to the charter that would accomplish that objective. So it's really putting the cart behind the horse in this case.

So to give you an example, I would want to do a strong poll of members - and this would of course be subject to the rest of the Executive Committee's approval, but straw poll of members on do we want to change the charter with respect to membership criteria? Do we want to change the charter with respect to term limits?

And if the majority of members were interested in that change then we do the work of drafting. I just feel like that's easier than trying to draft it first.

Okay, Glen?

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Steve. And the last question is BC membership is almost totally North American and European today. How will those standing for office further the need for basic awareness about ICANN, advance the broader BC

membership beyond US and European-based companies, and continue to develop more diversity and participation in the BC by parties from all regions, especially encouraging the participation of businesses from developing regions such as Latin America and Africa?

Steve DelBianco: Thanks, Glen. Four of my own member companies at NetChoice are part of the BC today, PayPal, eBay, Facebook, and News Corp. But so many of my other members and people I work with regularly in coalitions are multinational corporations who don't belong to the business constituency or to ICANN.

And speaking just as what I can do, I mean I realize that leadership of our Chair and the SCG liaison, we have a lot of things we do in finance administration in terms of outreach events.

But speaking from my policy position as Policy Chair, I would want to consider approaching my other members that are not in the BC to say, give us the opportunity to talk with your professional colleagues in that multinational company who are in Asia, in Latin America for instance, who would have the remotest interest in the relevant issues that the BC covers.

That kind of an introduction would carry with it the opportunity for me to try and get them engaged with the BC and with what's coming up later this year in Latin America, it's a golden opportunity to see whether we can get some companies to designate their own colleagues from South America to plan now for the end of year meeting in Buenos Aires and start to get indoctrinated to the BC issues.

And think that - this is not a giant retail operation that's going to bring in dozens of new members. I have to be realistic about this. But those kind of

direct targeted outreaches have the opportunity to bring maybe half a dozen new members that would be in places like Asia and Latin America.

Glen DeSaintgery:Thank you very much, Steve. May I open it up now to the floor? And can I take a queue of those who would like to ask questions to Steve?

Marilyn Cade: It's Marilyn. Could I be in the queue?

Glen DeSaintgery:Thank you, Marilyn. You are indeed. Is there anybody else?

Ron Andruff: And Ron. I'm sorry, Glen, Ron.

Glen DeSaintgery:Ron, yes. Anybody else?

(Jimson): (Jimson).

Glen DeSaintgery:(Jimson), yes.

(Jimson): (Jimson).

Glen DeSaintgery:(Jimson), I've got you. Anybody else to get off mute quickly? Hearing no more voices, Marilyn, please go ahead.

Marilyn Cade: Actually, let me defer to Ron and (Jimson) and ask a question - I want to offer the courtesy to others first.

Glen DeSaintgery:Certainly, Ron, you were next.

Ron Andruff: Thank you, Glen. Thank you, Marilyn. Steve, you know, you and I are both long in the tooth with BC and we come from a place where we used to go to a

meeting every 350 people in total and a number of things that were on the agenda in terms of policy things may have been (unintelligible) ten. Now it seems to me we're getting five or ten a day.

What do you - or how do you feel we can best handle the - this pace of policy development within the BC right now recognizing that there's so many things on the table?

How would we - how would you suggest we try and tackle this monster that continues to grow in terms of more and more policy discussions and more and more public comments that need to be weighed in upon? Thank you.

Steve DelBianco: Thanks, Ron. And I know you acutely recognize the workload. Just last week I know you put out a call to members, both on email and on the phone, to try to get folks to step up and volunteer. And I appreciate that.

But I also understand that on a phone call, when I ask who's interested in volunteering, that that is a very tough thing for people to respond to. I find it difficult myself on a phone call like that if somebody asks for volunteers, it's often difficult to know whether I want to volunteer because I don't have a real sense of the time requirements, not exactly sure how I would start.

I don't know if someone else is going to join. So that may not be the best way to do things and I think it's better to do direct outreach. And I've tried a couple of experiments recently.

Like, traditionally we've circulated the draft by (Robert Tour) that's been recruited and then soliciting comments on that. This is what we did for the straw man for instance.

Well, look, that's a big lift to that initial drafting. And the lift then becomes heavier if members do provide substantive edits at the very last minute, which we tend to have a habit of doing that.

Now I think we have to try to experiment with some other methods, Ron. So one, for instance, is to circulate a preliminary draft, a very rough draft or an outline via email, gives people a chance to read it on the text portion of their email, they won't have to open an attachment, give them an opportunity to give a quick reply.

Now we've done this five times this year out of the 13 times that we did comments and it did help. And I think all of you saw - that Elisa did it late last week with the draft on our response on policy versus implementation. And look, it was a fabulous flow of early responses. And Elisa's got a lot of work to do to turn those into a draft now but it's been great to draw people in.

The second, Marilyn has suggested the idea of brainstorming calls. I know we have a scheduling tool like (Doddle) to do that and we ought to try that I think more than we do.

And finally, yesterday I tried something completely different for all of you regarding closed generic TLDs, right. I sent out a background document and I usually do this, I categorized all of the prior BC positions in case a relatively new member sort of was to spin off on where we've been on something before. But that's optional, it's an attachment.

And I also put in the document in question, which was the registry code of conduct. Instead of making you go find it I carved it out of the registry agreement and made it a little - one-and-a-half page attachment.

And then I flipped a straw poll of outcomes, not necessarily the rhetoric we'd attach but just outcomes. And if we don't get significant interest in BC members at one or another of those outcomes or the fall back position is either not to comment at all or just to provide background and information to ICANN and what the BC has said in the past.

So I'm hoping that that sort of really targeted outreach of asking people for an indication of what kind of outcome we want will start to give me a chance to get some reaction from people.

And Ron, I certainly hope you'll weigh in on that too. And that leads us down the path of where we have to comment. Some of these, Ron, gets to the point that with so many open public comments periods we inevitably have to prioritize. We can't address them all.

So by asking for a straw poll like I did yesterday, I hope that that will reveal whether this is a priority item to the BC. But I realize that it could just be that we have conflicting interest that would make it difficult for us to have consensus on any of the three outcomes that I've put in there.

But Ron, thanks for your effort on that and the volunteering that you do. Next question?

Ron Andruff: Thank you very much, Steve. I really appreciate that - the insight, thank you.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you very much, Steve. (Jimson), may I ask you to go next?

(Jimson):   Okay, thank you very much. Let me use the opportunity again to thank Steve for all his commitments and the work he has done for BC in terms of policy. You said something quite significant that you intend to (unintelligible) the

ability of (unintelligible) more members from developing regions (unintelligible) multinationals. I think that is quite profound.

As a policy person, would this be something you want to put in the policy so that we kind of fulfill the purpose? Because look at the growth that we've had in ICANN and (unintelligible) BC and (unintelligible) and mostly populated by the North American and European continent.

So will you be willing to put into policy (unintelligible) or maybe charter or something to kind of entrench the (unintelligible) idea of bringing developing (unintelligible) BC? Thank you.

Steve DelBianco: (Jimson), thank you for the thank you and you're welcome. And particularly it's rewarding when I'm explaining something and relatively new members who show a lot of interest like you seem to appreciate it and thank you for your interest.

You asked about the notion I said of acquiring new members in developing parts of the world through contacts I have at multinational companies. And by no means is that the only strategy. I only represented it as something that I might be able to deliver upon because that's where my interactions are with policy people.

I do realize that finding someone from a multinational company who's got operations in South America or in Africa - it may not be necessarily be the sign of a small business representation but I'm not looking to scratch that itch with that outreach.

And (Jimson), I'll say that the telephone connection we have isn't ideal and at least for my part, the very end of your question was something about whether

I would want to change something in the charter. And I would just ask you to repeat the end of your question for me so that I can try to respond? Or if anyone else heard it well enough to repeat for me?

Angie Graves: This is Angie. I - what I heard was exploring the ability to encourage developing nations. It was breaking up for me too. He said as a policy person would it be possible to put into the policy some substance of this process of outreach? Are you willing to entrench this process within the BC?

Steve DelBianco: Thanks, Angie. Go ahead?

Marilyn Cade: Steve, it's Marilyn. I'm sure he will come back on the call.

Glen DeSaintgery:Marilyn, I have asked the Operator to check his line.

Marilyn Cade: Thank you. I agree with Angie's interpretation. It's Marilyn. I agree with Angie's interpretation but I was just listening. But maybe we could just whenever he comes back - would it be okay, Glen, to have him given priority to speak?

Glen DeSaintgery:Repeat the question, certainly. But in the meantime Marilyn could we go over to you, please? I noticed that there is a slight problem but we will get (Jimson) back. So over to you, Marilyn.

Marilyn Cade: Whatever you prefer, Glen, I'm one of the two candidates so I think it's over to me and Bill Smith, right? However you want to conduct this.

Glen DeSaintgery:Marilyn, sorry, you do not want to ask questions?

Marilyn Cade: No, no, no. No - not to Steve, no, thank you. I just wanted to - I was just saying maybe from a priority perspective we could put (Jimson) back in to Steve.

(Jimson):   I'm back.

Glen DeSaintgery: Yes, there we are. Thank you, (Jimson). (Jimson)?

(Jimson):   Yes, is there a question for me or something?

Glen DeSaintgery: Yes, (Jimson), the members were not able to hear clearly a part of your question. Could you please repeat it?

(Jimson):   Okay. Yes, I was asking Steve whether it was possible to entrench the (unintelligible) talking about in the charter or in the policy (unintelligible) work of BC, that is as to reach out to (unintelligible) of multinational in developing regions (unintelligible) developing nation participation in BC?

                   Or I was trying to ask as a policy person, as a policy chief, whether to make this a policy process. Thank you.

Steve DelBianco: Thanks for the question, (Jimson). I would not have assumed that I would add anything to the charter specifically about getting policy input from developing nations.

                   But I would suggest this, our mission statement is very clear about the interest of registrants and users. And therein lies the sweet spot for developing parts of the world.

They are full of registrants, businesses and individuals that want to make their presence known to the planet, and they're full of users, many of whom are getting online for the first time, maybe through a mobile device, and using the DNS, both for email and for web navigation.

So I believe that we could add to our charter maybe an explanation that takes our mission statement and translates it into terms that are more relevant to developing nations so that they understand that the interest of registrants and users are uniquely covered by the business constituency.

And all that would be is an extra paragraph, maybe a clarifying paragraph, to point them to the place that the BC is the place for them to belong.

And that's got to be the first step at getting them interested in participating in policy because when it comes down to it, when they have a comment deadline or something that the BC needs to reply to at ICANN, we have all we can do to try to get a cohesive reply done by the members that we have.

And that is not the time that I would end up recruiting developing nation members in the middle of a policy development on a particular topic.

So I do think the charter can be clarified to show why the BC is the right place for them. But it's hard for me to see how I would change the policy drafting process to specifically bring new developing nations in. And thank you for the question.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you very much, Steve.

(Jimson):   Thank you, Steve.

Glen DeSaintgery:Thank you very much to (Jimson) and I apologize for that glitch we had with your line. We can go over to - Marilyn, may we go over to you as one of the candidates for CSG representative?

Marilyn Cade: Of course, Glen, but I just want to be sure - if you don't mind, can we verify if there have been any additions to the participant list?

Glen DeSaintgery:To the participant list?

Marilyn Cade: Yes, if you don't mind. Have there been any people joining the BC list?

Benedetta Rossi: Glen, I can do an update on the roll call if you'd like?

Glen DeSaintgery:Yes, please Benedetta.

Benedetta Rossi: Ever since the roll call we've had three additional members joining, (Barbara Warner), (Jim Baskin), and Caroline Greer.

Glen DeSaintgery:Thank you very much, Benedetta. So Marilyn, over to you and may I ask you the same questions that have been put in writing for all the candidates?

Marilyn Cade: Of course, thank you.

Glen DeSaintgery:Thank you. The first question is did any affiliate or parent company representative vote during 2012 in any other constituency stakeholder group on any policy issue or officer election in 2012 in another constituency?

Marilyn Cade: Thank you, Glen. (MK LLC) is a member only of the business constituency and so of course I should also say I don't represent any - I know sometimes

I've heard comments from various members of the BC questioning whether companies like mine are also representing other companies elsewhere.

So let me just address that as well. No, the fact of the matter is (MK LLC) and myself do not represent interests elsewhere in other constituencies. The focus of my company is on the business constituency. And I think that they - something that probably needs to be validated going forward. I think it is in the constituency but I'll just state that for the record now.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Marilyn. Second question is, this is a time of much change at ICANN and relationships are really important at this time. Can you tell us about your relationships with the Board, other Chairs, and advisory committees that will support the continuation of the BC's leadership and visibility?

Marilyn Cade: I'm happy to address this. I have quite extensive personal relationships that are built on long standing interactions and engagements with the Chairs of all of the other constituencies. And I can say that frankly with the - many of the GAC members, I think probably a very large number of the GAC members, know me personally.

I work with them not only at ICANN but elsewhere. I have interactions of informational engagement with a number of the Board members outside of ICANN and within ICANN. And I know personally many of the representatives of other constituencies and engage with them on a positive and productive basis on a range of topics.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Marilyn. The third question is a question about the charters. Can you discuss your familiarity with both the BC and the CSG charters? And secondly, recognizing charter updates are necessary from time to time, what is

the timeline and process that you would anticipate? How would you ensure that the charter updates remain fair to both small business members and large corporate members?

Marilyn Cade: Thank you, Glen. I think sometimes members - all of us want to forget that we after all are governed by charters. And that helps us, that provides division of labor but also protection for different communities of interest within an organization.

I happen to be very familiar with the charter, not only because as past Chair of the position I'm rotating out of, I had to be familiar with it, but because I understand that bylaws and charters are critical to protecting the interests of all.

So I am very familiar with the charter of the BC. I'm also very familiar with the charter of the CSG as I did in fact help to draft it. It is a limited charter defined with a limitation that the BC wanted to ensure. And we were successful in accomplishing that.

As far as the timeline for change, all charters should be reviewed on a - I don't know what the right term is but I will use the term frequent, at least a three to four year basis. They should be reviewed and assessed on whether or not they still meet their purpose and protect the interest of those who signed on to them.

So it is very much timely to consider review of both the charter and also the CSG charter and as to ensuring the representation of all issues - I'm sorry, of all parties, I think it would be important to make sure that certain categories of members don't dominate a discussion and there is a balance of working group to consider the evaluation of the charter.

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I will just say, it's important for the BC members to understand that regardless of what we want there is also an evaluation going on of whether or not we have fulfilled our obligations.

And so we should probably take that into account and see how we do in the assessment, which is going to take considerable resources from the - whoever the executive committee is and secretariat. And then assess improvements to the charter.

Changes in the CSG charter require collaboration with other parties. I think I'm very uniquely qualified to help to advance the interaction with those other parties.

But again, I think it's fair to say members need to be engaged in a representative way in driving any changes to the charter of the BC and also the charter of the CSG. Thank you, Glen.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Marilyn. And the last question is - there are two more specifically questions for the CSG representatives but the last question everybody answered is the BC membership is today mostly North American and European.

How will those standing for office further the needed for basic awareness about ICANN, advance the broader BC membership beyond US and European based companies, continue to develop more diversity and participation in the BC by parties from all regions, especially encouraging the participation of businesses from developing regions such as Latin America and Africa?

Marilyn Cade: Thank you, Glen. For the transcript, it's Marilyn Cade speaking. During the last two to three years when I was the Chair working in strong alliance with other members and with our Vice Chair of Operations and Finance in particular, we undertook outreach to make the visibility of the BC as a possible home to new parties supported by ICANN.

It's been a very difficult and challenging task but I think it has paid off and we now have very strong leaders in Latin America and in Africa who are driving the agenda. Things have changed in ICANN and we nee to understand that, things are very, very different in ICANN.

There's now a new welcomeness to interacting with regional initiatives and we will be able - should we support this, we would be able to actually advance the visibility of small and midsized businesses, not just global corporates, and I know, you know, the BC is - I understand the comment that the BC is largely global corporates from North America and Europe.

But I think those corporates also want to care deeply about advancing a more equitable participation from their colleagues from business in developing countries.

So I think if we work with ICANN and we advance our own unique presence in looking at our industry associations and there are many, many industry associations who are (unintelligible) members, who can advance this. I think we can quickly advance awareness and understanding.

The question is how we advance the participation is a big challenge because there's a cost to that. And I think we should start with building on the platform we have now and recognizing that we in fact have a baseline of participants and - from these regions and advance how they can help us in the region.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Marilyn. Now one of the questions that has been specifically indicated for the CSG representative is would the candidate please briefly describe the CSG representative role?

Marilyn Cade: Well, I feel a little odd about doing this, thank you, Glen. I feel a little odd about doing this since I probably know a great deal about this having helped to actually create the CSG role.

So I think it's important that I just refer members to the BC charter. The BC - and to (unintelligible) and also to the commercial stakeholder group charter and note that it's a supporting role and it is there to support the effectiveness of the positions taken by the executive committee.

And its job is really to make sure that we can effectively advance our interests through the collaboration with the other constituencies.

So the respect and understanding and deep relationships with the other constituencies in the CSG are going to significantly impact the effectiveness of the BC in achieving what it wants and its outcomes.

But I don't want to read the charters to members so maybe I could just take questions later on this if that's okay.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Marilyn. And then the last question is finding a joint policy positions of the CSG has been challenging in the past as has been finding nominees for important teams such as the ATRT. Do the candidates agree that person contacts and relationships will be important in this role?

Marilyn Cade: Glen, thank you so much for that question and I don't know who submitted it but I welcome it. You know, really it is incredibly important.

The name of the interactions and history and awareness and ability to interact on behalf of the BC within the CSG, both individually but also with other groups - I will just say in the past - I know this is being transcribed but I'm going to say this.

In the past really we've used my comment - my personal comments to and relationships to advance understanding of the characteristics and the needs of advisors and independent experts, not only members, to the various groups. That's been my - I've been pleased to make that contribution.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Marilyn. May I open the floor now to the rest of the members on the call. And I'll take a queue perhaps to make it easier for questions. Who would like to be first?

Ron Andruff: This is Ron. I'd like to be in the queue please.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you. (Jimson), did I hear you?

(Jimson): Yes, please.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you. Anybody else?

Angie Graves: Angie Graves.

Glen DeSaintgery: Angie, perfect.

Gabriela Szlak: And Gabi.

Glen DeSaintgery: And Gabi. Anybody else? We'll start with you, Ron, thank you.

Woman: I have a point of clarification but that can wait until after the question.

Glen DeSaintgery: Sorry?

Woman: I just had a point of clarification but I can wait until these questions are asked.

Marilyn Cade: I think any point of clarification has to prevail.

Glen DeSaintgery: Yes, please.

Woman: Did I misunderstand it? Did you say that all of the candidates had received these questions in writing?

Glen DeSaintgery: That is my understanding but am not in the secretariat of the BC so I think we should ask secretariat to answer that question rather than me.

Marilyn Cade: It's Marilyn. I have a question. I didn't receive the questions but aggregating the questions is always something we do in the past on the part of the secretariat. But I didn't receive the questions.

Woman: Neither did I, just wanted to...

Marilyn Cade: Can you clarify your question?

Woman: No, I did not receive the questions and so I was just trying to understand whether that had been the expectation that we had all received the questions because I had not received them.

Marilyn Cade: I didn't receive them either. Did you think that's an issue?

Woman: No, but Glen had mentioned that.

Glen DeSaintgery: So sorry, yes. It was my understanding that the questions had been circulated on a BC list.

Woman: That was it.

Glen DeSaintgery: And so should we ask for the questions to be circulated on the list now?

Woman: I don't think that's necessary.

Glen DeSaintgery: Not? I do apologize, that was my understanding and it was wrong.

Woman: Can I ask another clarification question? I'm not sure if I can answer those.

Glen DeSaintgery: Yes?

Marilyn Cade: But Glen, I need to say something, it's Marilyn. I welcome surprise questions, that's not a problem.

Glen DeSaintgery: All right. What is the next clarification question?

Woman: Can I ask a question to other candidates that have already spoken?

Glen DeSaintgery: Yes, of course.

Woman: Okay, thank you.

Glen DeSaintgery: Of course, but can we just go through the list that we have because our time is getting very short. We have got two minutes left for Marilyn so could we go to Ron, please?

Ron Andruff: Thank you, Glen. I'll pass my time to someone else. I've spoken several times today, thank you.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you. (Jimson)?

(Jimson): Just to use the opportunity to appreciate Marilyn for her vision and commitment and to ask whether the momentum of reaching out to potential members in the developing regions (unintelligible) this new position?

Marilyn Cade: I'll make this very quick, the only way the BC is going to be effective within ICANN is if it is broad and diverse and acknowledged and respected for its presence, not just in two regions but in all regions.

And it really is okay for us to be developmental in other regions but we have to have a priority in my view for bringing in the other regions, particularly now with the new CEO who's quite clear - quite clear that internationalization means bringing in participation from other regions.

We're very lucky, we have Gabi and (Jimson) and (unintelligible) from (unintelligible), I think (Andres) is on the phone, who are undertaking initiatives in other regions that if we don't have - if the BC doesn't make itself very clearly more than just global corporates I think we'll lose credibility. And I think we're poised to be so much more. So my point would just be how do we advance being more building on the activities we've been trying to put in place and strengthening relationships that we have now.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Marilyn. And I'm afraid I have to stop (unintelligible) because we have one more candidates and we will then see if we can answer - if we can let the two people who were in line, Angie and Gabi, ask questions when we have heard from our last candidate, Bill Smith.

Bill, are you ready?

Bill Smith: Yes, I am.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you. Did any affiliate or parent company representative vote during 2011 in any other constituency stakeholder group on any policy issue or officer election in 2012 in another constituency?

Bill Smith: I am not aware that any affiliate or parent company has done that. (Unintelligible) of course owned by eBay. I know that eBay is a member of the Business Constituency but we operate very separately. And I'm not aware that any affiliate has taken any action in any other constituency.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Bill. This is a time of change in ICANN and relationships are really important at this time. Can you tell us about your relationships with the Board, other Chairs, and advisory committees that will support the continuation of the BC's leadership and visibility?

Bill Smith: Certainly, as I noted in my candidate statement, I am a relative newcomer to ICANN and having been here now approximately - well, over two years.

In that time I've worked with a variety of people in the different constituencies. I served on the Whois review team and was able to - very

fortunate in that role to work with representatives from across the various stakeholder groups and constituencies.

With respect to the Board, I have a good working relationship with the Chair, Steve Crocker, also (Bruce Tonkin), Bill Graham have established, I think, a very good personal relationship, also professional. And as well, Bertrand de la Chappelle from the IPC community, I know Steve Metalitz quite well; the ISP's Mikey O'Conner.

I know Tony Holmes and Tony Harris but not as well. I do know and work with Heather Dryden, both in ICANN - of the GAC, both in ICANN and outside. We've spent a fair amount of time together at the (WICKET). And from the SSAC, Patrick Falstrom and I also are quite close and work together on technical issues as well as governance issues.

So I believe I have a very good working relationship across the organization. I listen well and, you know, take into consideration views of others and count that as one of my strengths as I think is evidenced by the roles that I've held outside of ICANN over a very long period. And I'd bring that into this organization as something new and - that I can offer, thanks.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Bill. Questions about the charters, can you discuss your familiarity with both the BC and the CSG charters? Secondly recognizing charter updates are necessarily from time to time, what is the timeline and process that you would anticipate? How would you ensure that the charter updates remain fair to both small business members and large corporate members?

Bill Smith: Sure, so yes, I am familiar with the charters. I have read both of them at different times and have a background in governance, both corporate and not

for profit. I served as a - the secretary of the Liberty Alliance for a decade and know very well how important charters are.

Specifically in terms of updating, I think given the fact that, you know, this is a time of change for ICANN - this year is a time for certainly the BC charter to be updated. The CSG charter appears to be a fairly lightweight governing document.

There's - it lays out some things in very broad terms but generally pushes down any decision making - real decision making or policy making back into the respective organizations that make up the CSG.

So that document as far as I can tell at this point would potentially require less update in terms of the changes that we are seeing or might occur within ICANN. And the BC I think is where we would focus, a number of things have been mentioned already. I think we heard from - Elisa, talk about term limits, other...

Marilyn Cade: Sorry, we're losing you.

Bill Smith: Okay, are others having a problem.

Man: I can hear you, Bill.

Glen DeSaintgery: Perhaps you can speak a bit louder, Bill, please.

Bill Smith: Okay, I apologize. I'm speaking into my handset but I think the BC charter should be updated, we should do that as appropriate. Others have mentioned things like term limits, I think we need also on finance budget transparency, items like that.

So yes, I have a familiarity with the charters themselves. If we are going to update them though they require very careful consideration and detailed analysis, far beyond what we could do on this call. Thank you.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Bill. The BC membership is today mostly North American and European.

How will those standing for office further the need for basic awareness about ICANN, advance the broader BC membership beyond US and European-based companies, continue to develop more diversity and participation in the BC by parties from all regions, especially encouraging the participation of businesses from developing regions such as Latin America and Africa?

Bill Smith: So one of the ways that I do that is I travel extensively on behalf of PayPal in the Internet governance and each venue that I attend when I speak with people I encourage participation at the various Internet governance organizations, be they ICANN, the RIRs, the network operating groups around the world, the Internet Society.

One thing we learned at the WCIT that I think ICANN could - and others could take a lesson from is that is in the developing world in particular the ITU sends out formal letters via snail mail to representatives inviting them to meetings.

And that this is actually something that's quite important in those regions is to receive an official invitation so that they can then take it up into the company, their superiors to say, I have invited and here's - I need to go to this meeting.

We have taken, in the Internet community, a very different approach, which is all meetings are open, of course you can come, but that lack of invitation is problematic it turns out. So that's something very simple that we could do.

I believe we should also work with the Internet Society, the International Chamber of Commerce, the Regional Internet Registries, and others we know more regionally to bring more people in, specifically in Latin America we could work with (Raul Acakberia), Alejandro Pisanty, and others.

And I think it's important that we attempt to establish more footholds, we already have some, and build from there. We could look to (Affernick) would be another example.

So I think this is - it is important for us to do this and I think we all can assist by any time we are in a region, speaking with those regions, and encouraging participation.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Bill. The question that is specifically pointed to the CSG representatives is would the candidates please briefly describe the CSG representative role?

Bill Smith: Certainly, so I believe that the CSG role is one to attempt to build consensus amongst the other members of the commercial stakeholder group working with the IPC and the ISPs to establish positions that make sense for the commercial group.

That's the most important thing I believe. I am a very strong proponent of consensus, talking through issues, finding ways to achieve consensus on something that works for all.

And that does not necessarily mean everyone agrees with absolutely everything that is in a position but that we get to a point where we all can say, I can agree to that or I will not disagree. And I think that's a very important thing and I'd like to see ICANN do more of that.

And I see that as an important part of the CSG role and we are going to - we do see a diverse set of opinions, even within our own constituency and we need to find ways to achieve a consensus view that then can be pushed up into the stakeholder group.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Bill. The last question is finding joint policy positions as a CSG has been challenging in the past as has been finding nominees for important teams such as the ATRT. Do the candidates agree that personal contacts and relationships will be important in this role?

Bill Smith: So as phrased that question - it just gets a one-word answer, yes. I agree that person contacts are important. As to the difficulty of finding nominees, I believe that is how the question was phrased, I have no personal knowledge of that.

What I will say in that is that I think it very important that we locate individuals who are interested in serving, that have a passion for this work, and that they are the most - you know, they are the people we should seek.

So if we're having - if the difficulty is finding people like that, well, then we need to go out and solicit them, you know, find people who are passionate, and invite them into these roles.

If the difficulty is some other - something else I am not familiar with that but I think the biggest thing is finding people who are passionate, willing to fight

for a free, open, and generative Internet, something that we all benefit from whether we are businesses, individual users, trademark owners, doesn't matter.

The important thing for all of us is that we have an Internet that remains available and open to all and that's extremely important. Thank you.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you, Bill. May I open now to the floor for further questions to you. We have, I think, three or four minutes left but I would like to give the opportunity to others to ask their questions. Who would like to ask Bill a question?

Gabriela Szlak: This is Gabi.

Glen DeSaintgery: Yes, Gabi, please. Is there anybody else? Angie, perhaps?

Angie Graves: If we're running short on time I'm certainly happy to withdraw my question, thank you.

Glen DeSaintgery: Okay, thanks. Over to you, Gabi.

Gabriela Szlak: Okay, first of all, thanks to all BC members for the support that we've been receiving the last year as members, particularly Marilyn Cade that she has been mentoring us a lot.

So firstly I want to ask, I want to say that I'm only going to ask the question but I have to leave afterwards so I'm not going to really heard now the answer but then I will read in the transcripts.

But I want to know if Bill, Elisa, and Steve, the three of them, they can expand a little more on how they plan to work on awareness and outreach in developing regions and truly be supportive of a representative that will be able to assume key roles in the future?

That's my question. If there's no time maybe they can just write this afterwards. I'm also kind of (unintelligible) any more so thank you very much.

Marilyn Cade: Glen, it's Marilyn. Can you just reread her question which maybe all of us may want to respond to? I thought it was a bit - I just want to be sure that we've captured the question.

Glen DeSaintgery: I'm...

Gabriela Szlak: You want me to repeat it?

Marilyn Cade: Could you? Yes, please.

Gabriela Szlak: So the question would be how do you plan on working on awareness and outreach to be truly supportive of developing country representatives that will be able to assume key roles in the BC in the future?

Marilyn Cade: Okay, thank you. Sorry, thank you so much.

Gabriela Szlak: Thank you.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you very much, Gabi.

Gabriela Szlak: Thanks to all and goodbye, I really have to leave, I'm so sorry for this.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you. Bill?

Bill Smith: Okay, so what I would suggest in answer to this question is exactly what I believe I said - just said, which is let's find people who are passionate about the work that needs to be done for specific role.

So I think in order to get people from the developing world, whether that be Latin America, Africa, wherever - the Island Nations, first we need to do an outreach into those areas to try and attract more participation. And I think we're fortunate that we have Gabi, (Jimson), and others.

But at present we have limited - I would say, a limited number of candidates to do outreach to. So first we need to get more participation.

Once we have that we then would go within that group - I would suggest go in that group to find those who have a definite passion for whatever it is that we are doing if it is - as an example, charter update, we would need to find someone who has deep experience for - that would be best, deep experience with charters, bylaws, etc. and has a passion for working on that.

If we can find someone from the developing world that would be great. I think their input is extremely valuable. But we also need to pay attention to subject matter expertise in these areas.

So I think, you know, again, coming back, we need generally to expand and extend our outreach to get more participation and then we find people who have expertise in an area and are passionate about it and work within the group. Thank you.

Glen DeSaintgery:Thank you, Bill. Is there anybody else who would like to ask them a question? Is somebody trying to get off mute?

Ron Andruff: This is Ron. If I may, Glen?

Glen DeSaintgery:Certainly, Ron, please go ahead.

Ron Andruff: Bill, this is Ron. Thanks very much for standing and being prepared to give the effort and time. Quick question about when you look at the CSG, what is the one thing that you think needs to be moved forward? What is the issue within the BC that you would say is one of the primary activities that you need to undertake?

Bill Smith: That's an excellent question, Ron. I'm not - I don't know that there is a single one. I will say one of the things that I noticed within ICANN at large is - and I believe within the - also within the BC and at the CSG, and that is the ability to achieve consensus on issues.

                    I see a lot of voting that goes on. I believe voting is antithetical to consensus, that may be a controversial viewpoint but voting tends to have winners and losers whereas consensus, everyone is agreeing to accept things they may dislike but indifference to others and the social contract that we are operating under in ICANN and the Internet at large.

                    So I would like to see much more consensus building being done, more outreach to different groups earlier on as opposed to late in the process. And I think that's a very important thing and something I think - you know, I would like to see in this time of change is that we pay more attention to that within the BC itself.

You know, we've talked about small companies, large companies, those from developing nations, North America, Europe, Asia. You know, we've got such a diverse set of interests it is almost impossible to come up with a single position. If - especially if we are doing voting or things like that.

We only need to look, in my opinion, at the (WICKET) at how not to do consensus and the possible outcome of such a thing where you have two-thirds of the world's nation wanting one set of regulations and one third of the world's nation desiring something different.

We can learn from that and we need - we can do better. And so I think that it is - to me that's potentially the most important thing.

I don't know it's just within the CSG, but I think it's a bigger issue for ICANN is how do we take the - make sure that the interests as an example of the commercial group, the noncommercial group government, security, different positions if you will from within the community, how do we make sure that they are - that we pay attention to those but at the same time come up with positions that we all can agree on? And that means that we all will have to yield from time to time.

And so I hope we can find a way forward where we aren't advocating so strongly for a specific position that we lose sight of the importance of other things.

And this actually - the Whois review team for me was a real eye opener in that regard and I believe we did - we found a way where we came up with a consensus report that I certainly know there were things in there that I really didn't want to see but I stand behind because we decided at the outset that we would only issue a report that had a consensus view.

And I think that's - you know, I think that's crucial for ICANN to really be - get back to the bottom-up consensus based organization that it declares itself to be. So that's the big thing I - and I think also then therefore within the CSG. Thanks.

Glen DeSaintgery: Thank you very much, Bill. Unfortunately our time is up for this call. I would like to thank the candidates who participated very much and all the members who participated.

And I would also like to apologize for the misunderstanding about the questions. These questions came from the members apparently. They were aggregated by the BC Secretariat and they were submitted to me but I have no insight whatsoever as to who asked questions. I received an anonymous list.

And I'm sorry, it was my understanding that these had been sent up on a BC list and not being on a BC list I was not able to verify if that was so or not.

So please, my apologies for that, and thank you very much.

Marilyn Cade: Actually, Glen, it's Marilyn. Can I just verify, there's still - it's still possible for members to engage in dialog, right?

Glen DeSaintgery: Yes, certainly.

Marilyn Cade: So I'd just ask that clarification.

Glen DeSaintgery: Yes, thank you very much. Members can still engage in dialog. I - and certainly I suppose interact on the BC list. Is that so, Marilyn?

Marilyn Cade: That would be up to Bene as the officer.

Glen DeSaintgery: Benedetta?

Benedetta Rossi: Yes, that's right. Candidates can still interact on the list until tomorrow when the election opens.

Glen DeSaintgery: And when the - and the election opens - the voting starts tomorrow I believe?

Benedetta Rossi: That's right, yes.

Glen DeSaintgery: And then is there any other - are the lists closed or what is the procedure?

Benedetta Rossi: The procedure is that candidates can interact on the list until voting opens, therefore until tomorrow.

Glen DeSaintgery: Okay. Thank you very much. Are there further questions perhaps about the election procedure? Not hearing any I thank you again very much and good evening, good day to you all.

END