
ICANN79 | CF – GAC Communique Drafting Work Session (6 of 7)
Thursday, March 7, 2024 – 9:00 to 10:00 SJU

DANIEL GLUCK: Hello and welcome to the GAC communique drafting session on Thursday, the 7th of March 2024 at 13:00 UTC. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN expected standards of behavior. During the session, questions or comments submitted in chat will be read aloud if put in the proper form. Remember to state your name and the language you will speak in case you will be speaking a language other than English. Speak clearly and at a reasonable pace to allow for accurate interpretation, and please make sure to mute all other devices when you are speaking. You may access all available features in the Zoom toolbar. And with that, I will hand the floor over to GAC Chair Nicolas Caballero.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much, Daniel. Welcome everyone to the last day of our ICANN meeting. Let me walk you through the agenda for today. Roughly speaking, we will have two GAC communique sessions, if need be. The first one running until 10:00 AM. Then we'll have a coffee break for 30 minutes, and I really hope there's still some good Puerto Rican coffee over there when we get to the break. Not the case yesterday, in my case, but anyways, let's see how it goes today. Then we'll have another, again, if need be, right, another communique drafting session from 10:30 to 12. Then we'll have a lunch break for 75 minutes. Right after that, there's the geopolitical forum. Very interesting because we will get

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to have some news and some updates about what's happening around the world in the, let's say, digital environment. After that, a 30-minute coffee break, and then we'll have our traditional GAC wrap-up from 3:00 to 4:00 PM. Then again, a short break for 15 minutes. You're more than welcome to attend the ICANN board meeting and closing cocktail, which will happen at 4:15 PM. And that will be the menu for today. Do we have any questions at this point? Are we okay to dive into the details of the GAC communique? Is everything all right? I don't see any hand-ups, so let me kindly give the floor to my good friend and colleague Fabien Betremieux.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX:

Thank you, Nico. And I'll start by mentioning that we have closed, as you instructed us to last night, we've closed contributions into the document, which means that what you see on your screens at the link we've provided before is the version of the communique without the suggested changes that remain in the document. So what you will see on the screen here in the room is the latest and greatest, including the latest edits that we have carried over and that we will put in the communique as the discussion goes on. So this is why you will not see those on your screens simply because of the feature of Google Doc. So that's one mention.

NICOLAS CABALLERO:

A very important detail. As to editing the document, it's basically what's been blocked. By no means we are precluding any distinguished GAC member to obviously still participate, still edit, still give comments, say whatever you want about the document here in the room or online.

We're just talking about the Google Doc, that for the sake of clarity and let's say good order in order to act in an orderly manner, that's basically what we did. So without further ado, maybe, yeah, yeah, go ahead, Fabien.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: I also wanted to flag that we've gone through the text and made a few suggestions, stylistic or clerical, and when we get to the working group section, we'll also explain what we've done. So I suggest we actually scroll down to the working group section, which we haven't read. Then we can move to internal matters where we still have some text to finalize, and then I think we would be ready for a final review of the text.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Fabien. As a matter of fact, you read my mind because that was my understanding that we should start with the working group, let's say updates, right, or reports. So let me read the first one, I mean, the title and the PSWG report. Anything to add at this point, Fabien?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Yeah, I'll just mention that we have the text that was suggested by the Public Safety Working Group and the Underserved Regions Working Group. We also had a piece of header of that section that refers to the transitions in leadership in the PSWG, and we thought because each of the working groups' text, including a reference to the transition in the respective groups, departures and transitions respectively, we thought it would be good to bring everything in the same place and not repeat

the text in all three areas. So this is our suggestion of merging the dimension in each of the sections, which we've crossed therefore there. So this is a suggestion by us for consistency and good structure and not repeating the same information.

NICOLAS CABALLERO:

Fine, fine, I'm fine with it. Let me read the heading and then we'll dive into the details of each working group update or report. So the heading reads, GAC Working Groups. The GAC notes and welcomes the appointment of Gabriel Andrews from the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation as a co-chair of the Public Safety Working Group. The GAC and the Public Safety Working Group extends their sincere appreciation to Laureen Kapin who is stepping down from this position for both her valuable service and for her continued contribution of expertise to the working group in consumer protection policy, ICANN policy and ICANN multi-stakeholder processes. The GAC underserved regions working group, USRWG, notes the departure of Pua Hunter, GAC representative from Cook Islands and co-chair of the USRWG and extend their appreciation for her tireless commitment and dedication to the work of the underserved regions working group.

Any comment at this point? So as you can see these are kind of like clerical reports, nothing too substantial there. Of course giving thanks to Laureen who I mistakenly, you know I sent an email and my apologies for that Laureen, I thought you were stepping down like for good, you know.

LAUREEN KAPIN: It was such a sweet email. It was worth it.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you and apologies again Laureen. We're very happy to still have you here for at least 10 more years. So having said that and I see no hands in the room but I do see my good friend Mr. Kavouss Arasteh from Iran. Please go ahead. Good morning.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you very much. Good morning. You have a very good coffee, as usual. Just very small grammatical, the second line when we say extend the data appreciation because we are talking of working group, well it's working group, apparently it is singular and then it's appreciation, thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that Iran but it's the GAC and the Public Safety Working Group. So that's why it reads extend, otherwise it would say extends if it were only the GAC. But anyways I'm not a native speaker here so I stand to be corrected by any of the distinguished native speakers beginning with my vice chair from the UK. Is that correct Mr. Nigel Hickson? Are we okay the way it is? And I see nodding, thank you so much. Any other comment? I don't see any hand up.

Perfect, so let's continue, GAC Public Safety Working Group, PSWG, the GAC Public Safety Working Group continued its work to advocate for improved measures to combat DNS abuse and promote lawful effective access to domain name registration data. The PSWG participated in a

session to brief the GAC on DNS abuse mitigation that included a U.S. government presentation about 2023 fraud data including frauds facilitated via email, websites and phishing.

The session also included information about a private company's efforts to detect and mitigate or disrupt DNS abuse noting the importance of minimizing the live time of DNS abuse and looking at the impact as well as the amount of DNS abuse. Regarding domain name registration issues, the PSWG continued its participation to support the GAC small group and helped to update the GAC on these issues. The presentation to the GAC included updates on the registration data request service, RDRS, including usage experience from law enforcement, a business and a registrar.

The update also noted the need to resume work on policies governing urgent requests. The PSWG also continued its outreach holding discussions with several constituent groups within ICANN. And I'll pause here again in order to see if we have any feedback or reactions in the room. And I see the USA. Please go ahead.

SUSAN CHALMERS:

Thank you, Chair. Just noting that there was discussion when we had the DNS abuse section about not naming any one specific government in the communique. And so I think we abstracted our name from that. So I would just suggest that we track what we did previously for consistency's sake. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much for that, USA. Very good catch, Susan, indeed. So yeah, let's try to fix it. Would that be good for the US? So it would read, the PSWG participated in a session to brief the GAC on DNS abuse mitigation. Would that include a GAC member's presentation about 2023 fraud data, including frauds, etc., etc.? Would that be good for the US? Thank you very much. I have the UK. Yes

NIGEL HICKSON: es, good morning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to note in the chat, my UK colleague has asked for a link to the communique to be posted for ease of access. Perhaps the last one no longer works. On the text, I just thought it would be useful right at the end where we say holding discussions with several constituent groups during the week within ICANN, or just to note that these bilaterals took place this week. So I think that just adds some context, thanks.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: So it would read, I'll just read the last part, the last sentence. It would read, the PSWG also continued its outreach holding discussions with several constituent groups within ICANN during the ICANN 79 week. Is that okay for the UK? US, go ahead.

SUSAN CHALMERS: Just to avoid ICANN twice, maybe holding discussions with several, well, holding, yeah, I don't think we need within ICANN. Holding discussions with several, maybe stakeholder groups instead of constituent groups. Just reads more smoothly.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much. Yeah, I was going to suggest that as well. Thank you for that, US. So let me read it again. The PSWG also continued its outreach holding discussions with several stakeholder groups during the ICANN 79 week. Would that be okay? Is it okay for the US? Is it okay for the UK? Is everyone okay with it? And I see nodding, very happy to move on. Thank you. Back to you, Fabien.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: So we're just going to go and scroll down to Underserved Regions Working Group.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Fabien. And for this, I'll have my distinguished colleague from Colombia to do the reading. You don't have access to the, oh, I'm sorry about that, Colombia. So UK, would you help me with the reading?

NIGEL HICKSON: Yes. This is the GAC Underserved Regions Working Group, open brackets, USRWG, closed brackets. The GAC Underserved Regions Working Group, open brackets, USRWG, closed brackets, held a capacity development workshop, CDW, on the 2nd of March, 2024. The workshop focused on matters of interest to GAC members based on feedback received from the post-ICANN 78 workshop survey. The workshop discussed the following matters, ccTLDs management, ccTLDs transfer, IP address allocations, and the role of regional internet registries, or RIRs. The day concluded with language-based breakouts,

which discussed issues arising from the presentations. The groups shared meaningful thoughts and recommendations on the various issues that were presented. The contributions from the respective breakout groups will be compiled and forwarded to the GAC leadership for their consideration. A post-workshop survey will be conducted to gather feedback from members of the GAC on the workshop and to guide the USRWG on future workshops and initiatives. The USRWG will continue to enhance capacity development initiatives through webinars and workshops, regionally and during ICANN meetings, in light of the high engagement expressed by members. The CDW planning team expresses its appreciation to the contributions of ICANN Org and experts from the ICANN community, including IANA/PTI, .PR ccTLD registry operator and ARIN regional internet registry.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much UK. Thoughts, comments, questions, especially to our esteemed colleague Karel Douglas, chair of the Underset Regions Working Group. Is that okay? Is there anything missing? Are you happy with the way it is drafted?

KAREL DOUGLAS: Good morning Nico, Karel Douglas, Trinidad and Tobago. Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to speak on this. I do understand we may have some revisions or improvement to the text, in which case I would ask that we would have an opportunity to make those minor revisions, I believe, and provide some more detail, I believe, on the workshop itself. I don't anticipate that would take too long, but I will certainly want to come back to you if that's okay.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Would you be so kind as to start working as soon as possible on those minor edits, while we deal with the rest of the communique, again for the sake of time and efficiency, so that, I mean, if we do it that way, we might not need another communique session. So nothing precludes us from actually using the next hour, but again, the more efficient, the better, in my humble opinion, so go ahead, go ahead.

KAREL DOUGLAS: Nico, that is the plan. I would certainly hope that we could make those changes very soon, and I would like, if it's okay with your leave, to possibly maybe bring back those changes within the hour. If it's okay, I'll interrupt you at a convenient point in time, and maybe we could just go back to the revised text.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Perfect. Thank you very much, Trinidad and Tobago. I have the USA.

SUSAN CHALMERS: Thank you, Chair. While ARIN was present, our presentation was from RIPE NCC, so just replace ARIN with the RIPE NCC. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Okay, so let me just read that last paragraph. Despite the fact that we'll have some changes and some minor edits from Trinidad and Tobago, so taking that into account, the paragraph would read, the USRWG will continue to enhance capacity development initiatives through

webinars and workshops regionally and during ICANN meetings in light of the high engagement expressed by members. The CDW planning team expresses its appreciation to the contributions of ICANN org and experts from the ICANN community, including IANA/PTI, .PR ccTLD registry operator, and the RIPE NCC regional internet registry. Is that good? Are you okay with it, Trinidad and Tobago? US, are you okay with it? Bearing in mind that you will present some minor edits, hopefully before the coffee break. I'm not putting pressure on you, don't get me wrong, right? I'm sorry to put you on the spot, but this is more or less what we agreed. And I have Lebanon.

ZEINA BOU HARB:

Good morning. Just to confirm with Karel, is the additions that you want to add are on this section or on the report on CDW capacity development workshop? Because I think there are two different sections. Here it's the report on the work of the group and there is a different section on the workshop itself. So, probably you want to add on the other section.

NICOLAS CABALLERO:

Thank you for that, Lebanon. Whatever the case, Trinidad and Tobago, you would be presenting those minor edits this morning. Is that correct?

KAREL DOUGLAS:

That's right. That's correct. Yeah. There was some additional text that I see has been removed, which was the last paragraph.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Last paragraph. Can you scroll down, please? Yeah.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: So, Karel, if I may, what we suggested for consistency and avoiding repetition and addressing the transition and departures from the working group leaderships, we moved everything and the mentions of those transitions in both working groups to the top and added the GAC's recognition and appreciation in addition to the working groups. And so, this is why we've moved that piece of text and adapted it slightly to fit into the heading of the section.

KAREL DOUGLAS: Thank you so much.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Fabien. Thank you, Karel. I have Egypt.

MANAL ISMAIL: Thank you, Chair. And just a minor suggestion, if we can go to the text, Underserved Regions Working Group, and I think the word meaningful thoughts might not be the best thing, so maybe if we can find a replacement or an alternative to meaningful. Since Karel will be working on fine-tuning the text, I thought to propose it here as well. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that. Egypt, what would you like to put there instead of meaningful thoughts, like the group shared ideas and

recommendations or the group, I don't know, insightful perspectives, something like that? Please tell me which one. I mean, I'm okay with either one, but.

MANAL ISMAIL: I can work it out with Karel so that we don't keep everyone waiting, but just to bring it to everyone's attention. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Perfect. Thank you for that, Egypt. I have Iran.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, sir. I think we don't need meaningful. We don't need adjectives. Shared thoughts and recommendations. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Iran. So you will be, you will work it out along with Trinidad and Tobago, right, hopefully before the coffee break. No, I'm joking. I'm joking. I'm joking. Whenever you want, but as long as it is this morning, I'll be happy. Thank you. Thank you for that, Egypt. With that, let me get back to you, Fabien, in order to walk us through the rest of the document.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: I'll note that per Lebanon's discussion, we have reflected here, we created this new header for capacity development under the chapter of internal matters as we did in the Hamburg communique. So this may be where additional detail on the capacity development workshop will go,

and so we'll leave that to you, and I've just created the header for our awareness.

And now we can move on to the GAC operational matters. I believe we still have text refine under strategic planning, high level government meeting preparation was closed already and agreed upon, and then we have GAC open microphone session to discuss.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Can you scroll up, please, and let's get to the strategic planning, and then we'll do the GAC open microphone session. And for this, I would kindly ask my colleague from Lebanon to do the reading. Would you please, Zeina?

ZEINA BOU HARB: Strategic planning. The GAC discussed the development of the GAC strategic plan. GAC agreed to review any additional strategic objectives presented by GAC members and will continue developing an initial set of expected outcomes together with associated potential key performance indicators, KPIs, where applicable. To measure progress in implementing for each of these objectives in consultation with the GAC topic leads, GAC chair and vice chairs for further consideration by ICANN 80.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Lebanon. And so we need to decide here if we keep the phrase in brackets right after key performance indicators, KPIs, where applicable, and then decide if we keep for each of these

objectives in consultation, etc., or if we keep right after where applicable to measure progress in implementing. What should we do here? The floor is open, Lebanon.

ZEINA BOU HARB: I would suggest adding after expected outcomes, action plan, timeline, and associated potential key performance indicators where applicable because the KPIs would be related to the action plan and timeline.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Lebanon. Let me read that sentence then, the way you propose. So it would be, the GAC has agreed to review any additional strategic objectives presented by GAC members and continue developing an initial set of expected outcomes, action plan, timeline, and associated potential key performance indicators, KPIs, where applicable. So thank you for that, Lebanon, but we still have the problem of keeping or not keeping the, oh, [inaudible]. Anyways, anyways, I got totally confused. Anyways, I have Iran.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, sir. First of all, I proceed one by one. We don't need to retain to measure progress in implementing of each of these objectives because the meaning of KPI is this one. We don't want to describe what the KPI is. And then for the addition by distinguished from Lebanon, we don't need to talk about action plan. We are not talking of plan of action of ITU. We are nothing of operational plan. We are talking of a strategic plan. And the strategic plan does not have action plan. A strategic plan as it is defined is a strategic plan starting with vision, goal, objectives,

and outcomes and the KPI and activities. Action plan or operational plan is different. In order to implement a strategic plan once it is approved and adopted, then we may or may not have plan of action or operational plan. So I suggest that if distinguished countries of Lebanon agree, we do not mention action plan because we mixing up two things. A strategic plan is a high level procedures and action plan is implementation of that. Unless we are talking that before adopting the strategic plan, we want to go to the implementation plan as well. I see some difficulty later on to prepare and spend time to the implementation plan or operational plan. Perhaps, if possible, we don't need that. If possible. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Iran. Lebanon, are you okay with that?

ZEINA BOU HARB: Maybe we replace action plan by activities.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you. My observation there to Iran's comments is that given the fact that we're preparing, we're basically talking about strategic planning, KPIs for strategic planning. But again, this is for us to decide altogether. The floor is still open. Any hand in the room? I don't see any. And I have Iran and then Papua New Guinea. Please go ahead, Iran.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, sir. I tend to agree with you that if we just talk about a strategic plan and forget about the activities in that, we may not need the KPI because a strategy does not have KPI. The activity has KPI.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: That was exactly my point. Yes.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Yes. Thank you very much for your kind intervention. Yes. So whether we talk about activities or not, if we don't talk about activities, I said I tend to agree with you and others maybe yesterday, maybe we don't need to KPI and leave it until the time that we come to operational plan or action plan or plan of action and so on and so forth. So that maybe simplifies our work. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: So let me read it as it is right now because, yeah, in my lizard brain, having a KPI for a strategic planning didn't make any sense. But again, my opinion is irrelevant as a GAC chair given the fact that I need to reflect whatever you tell me to include here, you as GAC representatives. So let me read it as it is now and then I'll open the floor again. So it would read, the GAC discussed the development of the GAC strategic plan and agreed on an initial set of priority areas and corresponding GAC strategic objectives. The GAC has agreed to review any additional strategic objectives presented by GAC members and will continue developing an initial set of expected outcomes for each of these objectives in consultation with the GAC topic leads, GAC chair and

vice chairs for further consideration by ICANN 80. I'll stop here and I have Papua New Guinea and Serbia. Please go ahead.

RUSSELL WORUBA:

Good morning, Chair, distinguished colleagues, Russell Woroba, Papua New Guinea for the record. I think my observations from our discussions on the strategic plan was it was sort of put on the shelf for us to agree on a scope so that we can have something by ICANN 80. And that scope is covered somewhat in this and that is to identify the key priority areas or the focus areas that we can further develop come ICANN 80 onwards. So the text as it is without going into the details of measures should be the spirit of the text, just an observation. Thank you, Chair.

NICOLAS CABALLERO:

Thank you so very much for that, Papua New Guinea. Let me kindly disagree with you regarding the timing. The original idea was to have something agreed upon by ICANN 79, which is impossible already because that will not be the case, but just that little detail. My idea was to have something finished and agreed upon by the end of the sessions, at the end of the day today, not for ICANN 80 in Kigali, but you can't always get what you want as the old song from the Rolling Stones, I don't know if you're familiar with it. Anyways, I have Serbia.

SERBIA:

Thank you, Chair. If I may say, KPIs are usually or they are related to the objectives and the measures, not activities. Activities is finished or is something else, didn't finish, pending and things like that. And as I work on strategy in my institution, our practice is that each specific objective

contains several measures and each measure contains several activities. You can have a strategic document without action plan. You can do action plan later. Duration of the action plan is usually two years and strategy is more than that, so thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much for that, Serbia. Well noted. That's actually the idea, that's more or less what we're trying to do here. And by the way, your contributions are more than welcome on the document. I believe it's still open, right, for the Google Doc access is still open for the strategic planning, I mean.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: So the document that was shared with the GAC with the strategic objective, I don't think the document was open for contribution, it was more for review, but we can certainly move into contribution mode. My understanding of Serbia's contribution is on the method, on the methodology in terms of developing the plan, and if I may, it feels like the expected outcome we're talking about here, which you've identified as what would address the midterm horizon of time, would match the measures you've mentioned under each of the strategic objectives before you go into more detailed actions. So I think hopefully we're aligned with your experience of development of strategic plan, and maybe we're using different words, but which are intended, I think, to mean the same.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Fabien. Thank you for that again, Serbia, and let me repeat, you're more than welcome to offer your contributions and your whatever good idea you might have directly on the document. Thank you again. So with that, we seem to have an agreement here. Would you give it a final read, please, Lebanon, the way it is?

GULTEN TEPE: Nico, we have Netherlands in the queue.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Sure. While Fabien is cleaning up the text, Netherlands, please go ahead.

MARCO HOGEWONING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, colleagues. No immediate comment to the text as it is, but I am now really confused about the further process regarding the strategic plan. Are we now agreeing to a living document, as you suggest, that the Google Doc is still open for additions? So I do have some concern agreeing to something that I don't know what it says. So then I suggest that the word agree to get stripped from this text. If this is a living document, document should clearly say that there is no stable text, and that should also be reflected in the communique, thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: So can you repeat the last part? Sorry, Netherlands, I didn't understand. If this is a living text, it should say no, what, I'm sorry, I didn't hear.

MARCO HOGEWONING: Sorry. I think, as indicated, I am happy with what it says now. But then I would also like to have a stable version of the strategic plan produced. Because if we keep editing it, as I said, I can't agree to something that I don't know what it says. So if we then I suggest that we follow up with a stable document and leave a working document for further additions, I can live with that. But if we simply agree to what will be a living document, I have some real difficulties with how this is going.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Netherlands. It totally makes sense. Yes, I mean, as a matter of fact, it's going to have to be a living document for at least, I don't know, one, two or three more weeks until we all decide that that everybody's happy with the results and we can move forward. The idea was to do that by today. That's absolutely impossible. That was not the case. And therefore the logical way forward would be to open again the document for comments and contributions, let's say for no more than two weeks. I mean in real life, you could do it in three days. I'm not asking you to do it in three days because we all understand that we all have our own lives our jobs back home and our responsibilities and 25,000 emails and reports to deal with as soon as we get back to our capitals. I understand that. But you know, two or three weeks, and this is my humble opinion, but I really think that two or three weeks would be more than enough to fine tune the document. Again, all edits are more than welcome. And I'll stop here and I have Egypt and the European Commission. Egypt, please go ahead.

CHRISTINE ARIDA: Thank you, Chair. Just seeking clarification, if my colleague from Netherlands is talking about the suggestion, whether he's talking about the suggestion that Egypt has put forward on the mailing list regarding the addition to the strategic objectives, this is the case. And because also yesterday, the topic of IPv6 seemed to have fallen off the grid when we were discussing the strategic objectives. So it is worth adding that as well to the address or resources section if we're going to have one. So I do feel that it is good to have this one or two weeks where we can have a further discussion on the mailing list. And probably we're not going to make a lot of changes because we've only seen one suggestion. I don't know if something else will pop up, but at least we can take the coming week or so to discuss that. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Egypt, well noted. Before I give the floor to the European Commission, let me just ask you, going back on track, are we okay with the way the text is presented? Are we okay with the draft as it is now? I can read it again if you want. And then European Commission, would you like to go ahead? No? So are we okay to move on? And I see nodding in the room. Everybody seems to agree. And I have a queue. I have Iran. And then Papua New Guinea. Iran, go ahead.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, sir. With respect to your question, to go ahead with this five-line text, yes. But the detail of the strategic plan, we need to work on that. Because yesterday I put two elements after our distinguished colleagues from Egypt and asking whether the issue that I have raised is already there or not. Therefore, in summary, we agree with this text.

But details of that as it is in the document, we need to work on that. Second, I have some difficulty to have two weeks or three weeks for addition unilaterally by any distinguished GAC member. We need to agree on that. I have no problem to add or to deduct or to amend the document and consider it together again sometimes, but not adding without consideration. Therefore, please kindly understand my difficulty. This text five-line, I have no problem. The body of the strategic plan, still, we need to check and we need to, if possible, people wants to have some amendment, but as a draft. But we would not agree on that unilateral amendment because it is very difficult. We need to look at that one collectively. I hope I am clear. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Iran. We never said that. You were right right at the beginning. We were talking about agreeing with these five lines of the strategic planning to be included in the communique. So I have Papua New Guinea.

RUSSELL WORUBA: Thank you, Chair. Russell Woruba, Papua New Guinea for the record. Chair, if it will be of value knowing the urgency and our intent to complete or at least start the strategic planning to include a timeline as we have suggested for the next three weeks or so. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Papua New Guinea. Again, three weeks is just a number. I mean, we can agree it could be 10 weeks if you want. It could be six months. It wouldn't make any sense in my humble opinion, but we can

take six years to do this. I don't think we need six years or six months. That's why I suggested three weeks as a reasonable timeframe, but I stand to be corrected. If you think three weeks is too much or too little, please do let me know and we can agree on that as well. Fabien?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Keep in mind that we, so this is the GAC communique that will live on forever. It's part of the GAC's record, and this is the highest profile piece of outcome from the GAC at each ICANN meeting. We also have the GAC minutes in which we record the substance and report on the substance of the discussions on each of the topics that were on the GAC's agenda. So we have the option to record those discussions of timelines for further consideration of input. We can use the minutes to do that, so I'm just suggesting that you may want to consider those options as you weigh in recording some of your contributions and decisions.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Fabien. Very useful indeed. I have Iran and then Papua New Guinea.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Yes, thank you, sir. I think I agree with Fabien. This goes on Friday, 72 hours for any amendment as a usual case, and after that date on Sunday, that is finished. This text will no longer be amended. So we agree that these five lines at this time, we should agree on that and keep it for any 72 hours, any comment if received, so on and so forth. After that, it is complete and we don't touch it anymore because it's part of the communique. It should have a stable nature. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Iran. Fabien?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: And if I may just add one mention regarding the 72 hours. So the delegate from Iran is talking about the communique review period, which we will enter once the text is adopted, and this review period is intended to provide an opportunity for any GAC delegation, any GAC participants to catch up on the communique because of challenges in different time zones or language may not have allowed them to have a full review of the communique. It is not intended for comments. It is only intended for identifying objection that would be so important that they would require delaying publication of the communique, reconvening to address such objection. So generally, the GAC leadership guidelines that we share at the start of that review period is to really consider objection in the most exceptional circumstances because of the impact of such an objection on a specific part of the text that would require reconvening the GAC to re-discuss the communique. So I just wanted to provide that clarification.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that clarification, Fabien, very important indeed. I would kindly but strongly discourage GAC members from using those 72 hours for any additional comment or edit or anything to modify the document. This is the moment to do that. This or the next session or even at the end of the day today, but as Fabien correctly pointed out, those 72 hours are for extreme situations as a last resort kind of thing.

Again, highly discouraged. I have Papua New Guinea, sorry to keep you waiting.

RUSSEL WORUBA: Thank you, Chair. Just on my initial suggestion for the timing, I will deflect to our good colleague for his suggestion for the minutes should suffice for that. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Perfect. Thank you so much. So I'll give it a final read and then we move on. So strategic planning, the GAC discussed the development of the GAC strategic plan and agreed on an initial set of priority areas and corresponding GAC strategic objectives. The GAC has agreed to review any additional strategic objectives presented by GAC members and will continue developing an initial set of expected outcomes for each of these objectives in consultation with the GAC topic leads, GAC Chair and Vice Chairs for further consideration by ICANN 80. Can we live with this text? Are we okay with it? And I see nodding in the room. Any opposition in the room or online? I don't see any hand up. Perfect. Thank you so very much. Let's move on to the next topic, please, Fabien.

So I'll read, we have only five minutes before the break, so let me give it a first reading and then we'll dive into it right after the coffee break. So it would read GAC open microphone session. The GAC conducted an experimental open mic session designed to help the committee expand its collaboration, information and communications channels within the ICANN multi-stakeholder community. This pilot open mic session invited community members in their individual or representative

capacity to make brief statements to the committee. In addition to intercessions by community members, GAC members also used the session as an opportunity to note topics, issues and upcoming activities that could or should be of interest to governments. GAC members will consider holding future listening sessions at upcoming ICANN public meetings. And I'll stop here and see if we have any feedback or reactions in the next five minutes, which is what basically separates us from some good Puerto Rican coffee. The floor is open, Fabien, go ahead.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: And I believe separates us also from having read the entirety of the text and being able to move on into a final read or consideration.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Very good point indeed. I have Iran and Egypt. Iran, go ahead.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, sir. Just a small changes in the first line. I suggest to replace the word help to enable the community or to provide opportunity, but not help. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Iran. I have Egypt.

MANAL ISMAIL: Thank you, Chair. Two quick comments. First, I think we need to remove the S from communication channels. I think, but I stand to be corrected,

of course. And I don't understand in addition to intercessions by community members.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that. I didn't understand that either, but thank you for pointing it out. What exactly do we mean by intercessions?

MANAL ISMAIL: Is it interventions maybe? There's probably a typo or something, but I leave it to my Shakespearean friend right next to me.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I mean, intercessions would work, but probably interventions is better. And intersession is something you do, but it's often more in a religious context ... But I stand to ...

MANAL ISMAIL: [inaudible]

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Egypt, and thank you to the UK.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: The text is coming from a very spirited member of the GAC support team.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Okay, so I don't see any other hand up. I don't see any other suggestions so far. Is that the case? Which means that we will have three additional minutes for our coffee break. Fabien, any final—two minutes, Fabien. Go ahead.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Well, I was wondering if we could use those two minutes to check on the capacity development text, maybe? I just recalled that there was just this open piece of work.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Yeah, that was the responsibility of our distinguished colleague from Trinidad and Tobago, so I'll leave it to Karel to go ahead with that. But I assume you would need like 30 minutes or something, at least, right? Is that the case, Karel?

KAREL DOUGLAS: Almost there. Thank you, Nico. Almost there, so we'll certainly have something for you very soon.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Perfect. So let's have a coffee break, a much-needed coffee break. So we'll reconvene here at 10:30. Enjoy your coffee. Thank you so much.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]