ICANN79 | CF – GAC Communique Drafting Work Session (7 of 7)
Thursday, March 7, 2024 – 10:30 to 12:00 SJU

GULTEN TEPE: Hello and welcome to the GAC communique drafting session on Thursday, 7th of March at 14:30 UTC. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN expected standards of behavior. During this session, questions or comments submitted in the chat will be read aloud if put in the proper form. Please remember to state your name and the language you will speak in case you will be speaking a language other than English. Please speak clearly and at a reasonable pace to allow for accurate interpretation. And make sure to mute all other devices when you are speaking. You may access all available features for this session in the Zoom toolbar. And with that, I will hand the floor over to GAC Chair, Nicolas Caballero. Over to you, Nico.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much, Gulten. Welcome, everyone. Again, good morning and good afternoon and good evening for those online, depending on the time zone you're located. So we will have the last GAC communique drafting session running till noon. Then we'll have a lunch break and you can get to see the rest of the activities for the day. We have the geopolitical forum and then the GAC wrap-up session. Then right after that, the closing cocktail. And if you want to stay for the ICANN board meeting, more than welcome as well.

So we have 90 minutes to cover all the different parts of the communique. For example, Fabien, correct me if I'm wrong, but there are two or three parts we didn't actually read yet, starting with the inter-constituency activities and community engagement, if I'm not mistaken. So we'll start right there, then we'll go to Mr. Karel Douglas from Trinidad and Tobago for the report. I mean, not the report, but the final version, let's say, of the text that belongs to the Underserved Regions Working Group update. Correct me if I'm wrong, Karel sorry, and capacity development workshop. And right after that, we'll have a final reading of the whole communique, but we'll do it the way we did in Hamburg. I mean, we're not going to go line by line again, because that would take forever, and 90 minutes won't be enough. That's clearly the case. So given the fact that in Hamburg it worked very well, we'll do it again now. The idea is very simple, again, if something works well, just keep it, right? For the sake of efficiency, as we usually say. So with that, let me give the floor to you, Fabien, to walk us through the details of what is still needed.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Well, I think you've laid it out pretty clearly. We need to read this section once, the inter-constituency activity and community engagement, then finalize, hopefully consider a finalized text on capacity development, and then we'll be ready. So we're in your hands.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so much for that, Fabien. And so let's dive into the, you know, into the details. And for that, let me give the floor to my distinguished colleague from Lebanon, Zeina Bou Harb. Would you, please?

ZEINA BOU HARB: Meeting with the ICANN Board. The GAC met with the ICANN Board and discussed GNSO statements of interest, urgent requests for disclosure of registration data, next round of new gTLDs, including application for gTLDs that are culturally sensitive to countries/governments, applicant support program, overview of analysis related to costs and benefits of a next round of the new gTLD program.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Lebanon. Any comment? Any feedback at this point? This is pretty straightforward, you know, self-explaining, I would say. But again, more than welcome to take any questions or any comments you might have. That not being the case, let's move on. Would you please go ahead again, Lebanon?

ZEINA BOU HARB: Meeting with the Address Supporting Organization, ASO. The GAC met with members of the ASO and discussed IPv4 transfers, IPv6 deployment, ongoing work on criteria for establishment of new regional Internet registries.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you. Would you, please, read the one referring to the ALAC on top?

ZEINA BOU HARB: The GAC met with members of the ALAC and discussed the new gTLD applicant support program, update on enabling inclusive, informed, and meaningful participation at ICANN.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Lebanon. And finally, the one regarding the GNSO and—I'm sorry, there are three more. I'm sorry. Just keep going, please.

ZEINA BOU HARB: Meeting with the Generic Name Supporting Organization, GNSO. The GAC met with members of the GNSO Council and discussed new gTLD program next round, GNSO statements of interest, SOIs, and transparency. DNS abuse mitigation, WHOIS data protection. Meeting with the Contracted Parties House, CPH, of the GNSO. The GAC met with representatives of the CPH and discussed DNS abuse mitigation, registration data request service, RDRS, and statements of interest, transparency, SOI.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Lebanon. Can you scroll down a little bit, please? Here we go. So I'll continue reading. Thank you so much for that, Lebanon. Meeting with the Nominating Committee, NomCom. The GAC received a briefing from the 2024 NomCom leadership team on the opportunity for applications for ICANN leadership positions, the committee's expected work in this calendar year, the roles and responsibilities of community members who serve on the NomCom, and the opportunity for a delegate from the GAC to join the 2025 NomCom.

So the next one is the Meeting with the Universal Acceptance Steering Group, UASG. The GAC received a briefing from the UASG and discussed why universal acceptance is important, how the UASG is addressing the UA challenges, UA efforts by the ccNSO. Can you scroll down a little bit, please, Gulten? Okay. And then finally, we have cross-community discussions. UASG members participated in relevant cross-community sessions scheduled as part of ICANN 79, including the Community Consultation on Public Interest Commitments, or PICs, and Registry Voluntary Commitments, RVCs. The subsequent procedures implementation review team sessions, and the DNS abuse community outreach organized by the GNSO's Contracted Parties House, CPH.

So as you can see, these are just informations. The text is drafted the way we traditionally do. We don't put too much detail or any kind of comment there. We just kind of give a briefing of what was discussed. Any comments at this point, thoughts, feedback, anything you would like to add, modify? I don't see any hands in the room. I don't see any hands online, for which I'm very, very happy, which means we can move on to the next section. Fabien, back to you.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: So we've received the text regarding the capacity development workshop. So we're just going to paste the text right in capacity development section. So we've just done that. If you want to scroll down to capacity development. So we're not exactly sure of where it's intended to go, whether it is a replacement of the text currently in the report of the Underserved Regions Working Group, or if it's for capacity

development. So we'd probably want to seek an understanding of what was the intended location of the text.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Trinidad and Tobago, please. Go ahead.

KAREL DOUGLAS: Yeah, thank you. Good morning again. Karel Douglas, Trinidad and Tobago. Yes, so it is a replacement of the text, the current text, and it expands on two parts. So the first part is actually what was discussed, so some more detail as to what was discussed. We did before have four bullet points, but now we've actually written it out in a language to explain a little bit more. And the other part is to explain the breakout sessions and what were the issues that came out of those breakout sessions.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much, Karel. So for this part, I would kindly ask my distinguished GAC Vice Chair from Egypt to do the reading. Would you please go ahead, Christine?

CHRISTINE ARIDA: but before I go, just a quick question to Karel. If we're going to replace it completely, then we do not have anything referencing the working group. Is that what we want? I think it was meant to go in the capacity development, but we can then take out from the original text the repetition. Can we do that, Fabien? Can we maybe go back to having it in the capacity development instead of in ...? And then we can work on

taking out the repetition from the working group part. Okay, now I can read it to see if it's okay with everyone.

So on capacity development, at the beginning of the meeting week, the GAC conducted a productive and informative capacity development workshop featuring several topics of interest to GAC participants. The workshop discussed the following matters, ccTLD management led by presentations from .pr's experience regarding the management of its ccTLD, ccTLD transfer with focus on IANA's role related to the ccTLD transfer process, IP addresses allocation and the role of regional Internet registries, RIRs, regarding the allocation of IP addresses at the regional level.

Six language breakout groups were then formed by CDW participants, French, Portuguese, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, including two groups for English. The groups were given the opportunity to discuss the key takeaways from the sessions, the level of importance within the group's country and region, including what could be the potential challenges and recommendations to help ICANN overcome them. The common denominator shared by the groups was the interconnection of the topics presented.

On the matter to ccTLDs, most groups agreed on the need to continue building capacity related to ccTLDs and particularly in developing countries taking into account that ccTLD management is not run the same way across countries. Also of note were the country code policy development processes, the resiliency of ccTLDs in natural disasters and their role in the recovery process. CDW participants shared

concerns about the process of re-delegation, DNS abuse and IDNs within ccTLDs.

Regarding IPv6, the groups encouraged ICANN to promote the adoption of IPv6 worldwide. The groups noted the need for coordination between governments and ICANN stakeholders such as the ASO to elaborate guidance on the management of numbers and systems and shared resources.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so very much for this, Egypt. So there it is. Any feedback? Is everybody okay with the drafting? Egypt, go ahead.

MANAL ISMAIL: Sorry, one very minor comment I think regarding the six language breakout groups, maybe saying in addition to two groups for English rather than including. I think including is a bit misleading. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much for that, Egypt. Well noted. I have Iran and then Lebanon.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, sir. Could we go to the IPv6 parts? Yeah. Regarding the IPv6, the groups encouraged ICANN to promote the adoption of the IPv6 worldwide. I really don't know how ICANN promoting IPv6 worldwide. Maybe ICANN encourage membership or GAC members or whatever to adopt IPv6, but IPv6 has already been promoted by ICANN. The only

thing is adoption and adoption have some factors. Some people may not be still ready to adopt. Some people may have difficulty to adopt and so on and so forth. So I wonder whether we need to say ICANN to promote the adoption. Thank you. I leave it to the author of this, whether—I'm sure that he has quoted what was discussed, but from the essence, I don't think that ICANN promoting the adoption. Maybe there has been something else, but I stand to be corrected. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Iran. I don't think the GAC in this case is encouraging ICANN or, you know, or in any case promoting the adoption of IPv6 worldwide. What we are doing here is reflecting what the working groups suggested. Correct me if I'm wrong, Karel and Zeina and the ones in charge. If that was the outcome of the working groups, you know, during the breakout sessions and everything, if that's what they wanted to convey to ICANN or given the case to the United Nations or to the President of Paraguay, you know, I don't think we as the GAC can preclude whatever suggestion they might have at that point. But again, that's my irrelevant opinion as the GAC Chair. I stand to be corrected here. And I see, Karel, go ahead, please, Trinidad and Tobago.

KAREL DOUGLAS: Yes, Karel Douglas for Trinidad and Tobago. You're correct, Nico, this is a report. Whether it was the correct position of members to say or not, we are merely reporting what was said.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Karel. That was my understanding as well. But again, it's for us to decide. I see Shelly-Ann, please, please go ahead.

SHELLY-ANN CLARKE-HINDS: Thank you, Chair, Shelly-Ann Clark-Hinds, Trinidad and Tobago for the record. Just a minor edit in the paragraph where it says six language breakout groups were then formed by CDW participants, perhaps replace the full stop with a colon and then say French, Portuguese, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, and two groups for English.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Trinidad and Tobago, Shelly-Anne. And I see Iran and then Lebanon. Iran, go ahead.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, sir. First of all, you were right, and I'm not saying anything about that, but I don't think that the working group encouraging the ICANN, working group is part of the GAC. Working group is not independent. So we may need a little bit of drafting or a little bit of amendment, but working group is not an independent entity to directly encourage the ICANN. Maybe the working group requested the GAC to convey to the ICANN, so on and so forth. But I don't think that we break the relation of the working group, which is part of the GAC and authorize to directly proposing something to the ICANN. That is something principle. But if everybody agree, I don't want to prolong discussion, but I don't think that the current text reflect what is doing today. So working group is part of us and anything is come from us. Maybe the working group suggested or proposed that the GAC to ask the ICANN or invite

the ICANN to promote that, I have no problem. But I know this is the report of the meeting, but this report is [inaudible] by chair, and if the chair of that group kindly agree, we could slightly amend that. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Iran. Would you have any alternative text to provide at this point in this regard?

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Yes, Chairman, if you allow me, I said regarding IPv6, the group either requested or invite the GAC to ask ICANN or to invite ICANN to promote adoption and so on and so forth. Just put a link between the group, GAC and ICANN. Maybe not to have two time invite, the group requested the GAC to invite ICANN and so on and so forth. But maintaining the link between the group as a subsidiary of the GAC or subordinate of GAC and GAC and ICANN. This is a proper, I would say, hierarchy. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you. Yeah, I was just trying to read the text proposed by Iran. So it would read, regarding IPv6, the groups requested the GAC to invite ICANN to promote the adoption of IPv6 worldwide. That's what Iran suggested. I have Lebanon, and then the USA, and then Switzerland. Egypt. Ah, sorry, Egypt was first. Sorry, sorry. Go ahead, Egypt.

CHRISTINE ARIDA: No, it's okay. I was just going to make sure, and I think I see my colleague from Brazil has also put that in the chat. Sorry, from

Colombia. I think it's important that we understand that the groups we're talking here are the capacity development workshop participants, not the Underserved Vision Working Group. I don't know if this is clear to everyone and to my colleague from Iran. So it's more of the participants that have been discussing, and I don't know, maybe we should make that more clear in the text and it would solve the issue at hand, but that was just to provide. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Egypt. So would you like it to be, regarding IPv6, the CDW breakout groups, in order to be even more specific, right? So we're saying it's not, you know, I mean, it's obviously coming from the GAC, because the CDW participants are GAC members, as a matter of fact, right? But in order to be even more specific, we would say the CDW breakout groups requested, etc. I have the U.S., and then Lebanon, and then Switzerland. Please go ahead, Susan.

SUSAN CHALMERS: Thank you, Chair. I think just in the interest of clarification and simplification, for those of us who were there that day, it was very, it wasn't formal, there were no official requests, no official working groups. I mean, it was noted, the importance of IPv6, but I understand why our colleague from Iran has concerns, but now I feel as if the pendulum has swung in the other direction, and now we're introducing more formality than there ever was during that day. So I'd like to just propose a solution, should my colleagues agree, that regarding IPv6, the breakout groups spoke to the importance of promoting IPv6, worldwide. Or if we wish, IPv6 adoption.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: But in that case, the comma should come after worldwide, right? Breakout groups spoke to the importance of promoting IPv6 adoption worldwide, or actually full period there, right, full stop. No comma there, no comma there. And worldwide, full stop right after worldwide. Would that be okay with you, USA? Okay, thank you so very much. I have Lebanon, Switzerland, and Iran.

ZEINA BOU HARB: If we can go back to the first paragraph in this section, maybe because we noted that the presentation was made by .PR, it's good to mention who presented the other topics. There was PTI, and one of the RIRs. So we just add who did each of these, who presented each of these topics.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Lebanon. I have Iran.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, Chairman. I thought you said Switzerland, but if you give a floor, just I am okay with the suggestion of distinguished colleague from U.S.A. The only thing I replaced spoke by indicated the importance.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Where exactly?

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: The last paragraph. The group indicated the importance, please delete to, instead of spoke, indicated the importance of. Otherwise I am happy with the proposal of USA, thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: So you want indicated the importance instead of spoke to. Okay, well noted, thank you. I have Switzerland.

JORGE CANCIO: Thank you, Nico. I thought I had lowered the hand, but taking the opportunity of having the mic, indicated sounds a bit strange to me here, would use highlighted or something like that, or underscored or emphasized, and we can continue, but indicated.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: What was the other word you used, excuse me, emphasized, highlighted, right? Emphasized or highlighted or indicated, so we need to choose here. And for this, I would kindly ask our distinguished Shakespearean colleagues from the UK or from the USA or from any other English native speaking country to help us with the synonyms. I would go with highlighted, but again, unfortunately, I don't belong to the Shakespearean league, so would you go ahead, please?

SUSAN CHALMERS: I oftentimes find that my colleagues from other countries are better at English than I am sometimes, so I think any one of those would be sufficient. For those of us who were there in the room, I think those are all reflective of the discussions that happened. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much. USA, I have Iran and then Trinidad and Tobago.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope you apologize to me and would not interpret it differently. Speaking on the text does not require to be nationally language in question. People have experience. I have no problem with any of these three words, but it has nothing to do with English spoken or non-English spoken, but I am in the hands of everybody. I agree with any of these three, underscored, highlighted, emphasized, indicated, mentioned. All of them are the same. And thanks for Switzerland that is scrutinizing me. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Iran. I have Trinidad and Tobago.

KAREL DOUGLAS: Thank you, Nico, Karel Douglas, Trinidad and Tobago. I also am not, as I say, indifferent to any of the words. Spoke to, to me, speaks to the fact that these were presentations. Indicated is a more formal way of expressing the thought. So I'm neither here nor there, but I certainly don't want to delay the progress of this. So I'm neither here nor there, but I would actually say spoke to is exactly what was said and how it was conveyed. But like I said, this is certainly not a deal breaker for me.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Trinidad and Tobago. So I suggest we go ahead with highlighted and we end the discussion there, given the fact that they're all synonyms, right? In order not to waste any more time. If you kindly agree with me, would that be okay with everyone? Thank you so very much. So let's go ahead with highlighted. Can you clean the text please, so that I can give it a final read.

So it would read regarding IPv6, the CDW breakout groups highlighted the importance of promoting IPv6 adoption worldwide, etc. Is everyone okay with it? And I see nodding in the room. Thank you so very much for that. Okay. So back to you, Fabien, please walk us through the sections that we still need to cover.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: So the last text we need to finalize is the text of the GAC Underserved Regions Working Group report. So it's section right above, where we need to clarify what should remain of this text and what should be removed. Given the text that was just added and accepted under capacity development.

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

CHRISTINE ARIDA: Right. If I can take the liberty to suggest, we can take out the paragraph that is after the bullets, that they concluded with the language. That's my suggestion, to take that out and to leave the other text as is. That's a suggestion.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Egypt. Can you scroll down a little bit? Is there any more text after that? Oh, there is still text. So Egypt, so your recommendation is to erase that paragraph and keep the rest.

CHRISTINE ARIDA: Yes, because it's kind of a repetition to what we've put into the capacity development and we still have at the end the part about Pua Hunter, which I think, if I understand correctly, if you can go down a bit. Is that the end of the section?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: It is, yes. Okay.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Egypt. So let me read then. Can you scroll up? Can I see the title? Thank you. So this is the Underserved Regions Working Group update or report or however we want to call it. It would read the GAC underserved regions working group USRWG held a capacity development workshop CDW on 2nd 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 addresses allocations and the role of regional internet registries, RIRs.

The USRWG will continue to enhance capacity development initiative through webinars and workshops regionally and during ICANN

meetings in light of the high engagement expressed by members. Can you scroll down a little bit, please? Thank you. 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. And I think that's the full text. Is that correct? Is there any more text underneath? All right. Perfect. So maybe we can clean up the, you know, the paragraph so that we can give it more clarity. And I have Iran, Lebanon and Trinidad and Tobago. Please go ahead.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, sir. I think the paragraph which was proposed to be deleted has some useful elements. For instance, the part saying that they compile and sending to the GAC leadership. So I don't see it's totally repetitive. Some little repetition, it doesn't harm. If you see that the contributions from the respective breakout group will be compiled and so unless the same issue is repeated. So I think it may not be harmful to keep that. The only thing the term meaningful, which we deleted elsewhere, we say thought and so on and so forth. And I think for the ARIN, I remember that our colleague from USA made the modification, but I'm not spoke one of them, but I leave it to them to decide. But I think this paragraph is not totally repetitive. Some part is good. Some part is good. But if you want to start discussions, which part is good, which other takes time. So I stand that even if repetitive a little bit because of the working group, we may retain that without discussion. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO:	Thank you, Iran, for that. And thank you, Egypt, for agreeing to withdraw already. I see you nodding. So that means that we're okay with keeping it. I have Lebanon and Trinidad and Tobago. Please, Lebanon.
ZEINA BOU HARB:	Yes, just to make sure that the RIR was ARIN or RIPE NCC because it was proposed to modify this in the previous session. And I don't want to lose your time, but I think in the capacity development, as I already expressed, we should maybe add who did the presentation of each topic.
NICOLAS CABALLERO:	We have the list. I mean, we can go ahead and we can add it right now for the sake of time.
ZEINA BOU HARB:	On the first paragraph, because there is something related to management led by presentation from .PR, experience related to the management of its ccTLDs. ccTLDs transfer with focus on IANA role related to the ccTLD transfer process was or done by, it was Kim Davies, PTI.
KAREL DOUGLAS:	Yes. And Amy Creamer.
ZEINA BOU HARB:	Yes. And the last one is RIPE NCC, the regional Internet …

KAREL DOUGLAS: With leave, I would just add, yes, correct, it is Kim Davies and Amy Creamer of IANA.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Sorry to interrupt you, but we don't usually put specific names there. That's not the tradition, but I mean, that's something we can change. But, you know, it's not the style, so to say.

ZEINA BOU HARB: Not the personal name, but it's worth to mention that PTI did this presentation and RIPE NCC did the last presentation.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Lebanon. Thank you for that, Trina and Tobago. I was just saying that it wouldn't be a good idea to name specific, you know, presenters. Thank you, Lebanon. I have, yeah, Trina and Tobago, is that an old hand?

KAREL DOUGLAS: Yes, it's an old hand now, but certainly you're correct. I was just going to respond to the issue of repetition. I do appreciate Iran's contribution and I do agree that in this case repetition is not bad per se. And I'm happy to add the additional entities that provided the contributions at the presentations. Sorry.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much for that. And also, can you scroll down a little bit? We had a suggestion from the USA regarding the .PR. I don't know where it is, but the .PR, where is it? Yeah. What was your suggestion, Susan? I lost it.

SUSAN CHALMERS: I think it was when we were listing those who presented.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Yes, exactly there, right after PTI, right after IANA/PTI and then the .PR ccTLD registry.

SUSAN CHALMERS: And while we're here, if you could just remove ARIN. They attended, but again, they did not present. So I would do that and de-pluralize the word registries or singularize.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much for that, USA. So can you scroll up a little bit so that I can read the whole paragraph? I mean, I'm not going to read the first one again. Just let me read the second paragraph there for the sake of time. The day concluded with language-based breakouts, which discussed issues arising from the presentations. The groups shared thoughts and recommendations on the various issues that were presented. The contributions from their 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 leadership. 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, the .PR ccTLD registry operator, and RIPE NCC regional internet registry. Thoughts? Comments? I have Iran.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Yes, thank you, sir. Second paragraph. No, last slide. We say guide the group, whatever, on future workshops. Okay. But I don't think that we can guide anybody for initiative. Initiative comes from the people, but no one could guide anyone else for initiative. Otherwise, it is not any more initiative. Thank you. So, we delete initiatives or we leave it as it is.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Iran. Point taken. I think in this case, but this is my interpretation, initiatives, I assume, are initiatives regarding capacity building, you know, sessions or ideas. That's my understanding. I stand to be corrected here, Karel, you know, Zeina. Was that the case? Was that the spirit of the drafting?

KAREL DOUGLAS: Yes. It is correct, as you were saying.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you. So, maybe we should keep it. I have Egypt.

CHRISTINE ARIDA: I was going to come back on the last paragraph, if that's okay. So, I think the presentation that we received wasn't on behalf of RIPE NCC, it was rather on behalf of the ASO. So, I think we should mention ASO instead of the RIPE NCC here.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Would that be okay for the USA? On the last paragraph, I mean. And I see nodding. Thank you, USA. Egypt, is that an old hand?

CHRISTINE ARIDA: Yes, but maybe DSO or do we need a DSO? Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Okay. Thank you so very much. Thank you for your comments and your feedback. Back to you, Fabien.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: So, I believe this completes the reading of any new text and we're ready for, I'm just scrolling through the document right now to make sure. And we're ready for the final read towards adoption of the communique text.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much for that, Fabien. Okay. So, and then for the final review, we're not going to be reading line by line. We're going to do it, you know, the UN style. And for that, again, I will have the very valuable help of my good friend from the UK, GAC Vice Chair, Mr. Nigel Hickson. The floor is yours.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much indeed, Nico. And for those that would like to go to lunch, we'll go through this fairly rapidly. There's also a public forum going on and some of you, when we've completed this, might want to go to the public forum and say things about ICANN or not. Anyway, we're here to go through and give this final reading to the GAC communique. So, if we can go from the top of the page, we're going to go through each paragraph, but we're not going to read them out. So, we go from the top and the text in italics, of course, is just telling us what the process is.

We then go into the introduction. So, if we can scroll down, the introduction gives some factual updates. Great to see the number of GAC members and observers attending the meeting. It also recognizes the Community Excellence Award awarded to Manal. So, if we can continue scrolling down, we then come to the text that was read out earlier this morning.

Meeting with the ICANN board. This is in bullets form. We then have a meeting with the At-Large, ALAC, meeting with the address supporting organization. So, please stop us if there's anything that you think is unclear. It will be the case that anything grammatical, like if a colon should be a comma or something like that, will be picked up by our

distinguished secretariat. They have to work all night on this and they'll use AI to make sure that commas and colons are correct.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Manual AI.

NIGEL HICKSON: Manual AI, yeah. Right, sorry, yes. Meeting with the Address Supporting Organization. Then meeting with the Generic Name Supporting Organization, GNSO. Meeting with the Contracted Parties House of the GNSO. Then meeting with the Nominating Committee. Meeting with the Universal Acceptance Steering Group. We then come to a paragraph on cross-community discussions. Let's see if we can just scroll up a bit.

Yes, GAC members participated in the relevant cross-community sessions. These are the sessions that we participated in outside of this GAC room, so to speak. We then come on to internal matters. This recognizes our membership. We then recognize the GAC leadership.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: This is a question for GAC staff. Just to make sure that we don't have any new GAC members. If I recall correctly, Bolivia was the last country to join the GAC. Is that correct, Rob? Please correct me if I'm wrong. And in any case, how many – there are two or three countries that are about to join the GAC, if I understand correctly?

ROB HOGGARTH:	There is an additional country government joining soon. I don't know that I can say it publicly, if anyone else would like to. But yes, so that number will go up, but not at the moment. Thank you.
NICOLAS CABALLERO:	Thank you so much. Please excuse my interruption. Switzerland. Go ahead, please.
JORGE CANCIO:	Thank you, Nico. And as it probably is the case of a good neighbor of Switzerland, I would like to mention that it is the application from Liechtenstein, a small country between Switzerland and Austria, and who have expressed the will to join the GAC and also to join us in Kigali with the head of their office, who is the vice minister. So it's a good opportunity, I think, to extend the membership of the GAC. Thank you.
NICOLAS CABALLERO:	Thank you so much. Back to you, UK.
NIGEL HICKSON:	Excellent news. Thank you. Oh, I thought you were going to say something about Switzerland for a minute. Right. We have the GAC leadership, which is the current leadership slate. We then go on to the GAC working groups. And we have the text that we read out earlier concerning Gabriel Andrews, concerning Laureen Kapin and, of course, concerning. Pua Hunter, of course. So Fabien's just doing some editing to the group.

We then have the paragraph on the PSWG. This is the paragraph that we read out earlier. So you'll recall that the report from the PSWG and the reporting that they held various meetings during the ICANN 79 week. As you know, the PSWG meet with a number of the different ICANN constituencies.

We then go on to the GAC Underserved Regions Working Group. This is the, again, the paragraphs that we've just agreed upon. So if we can look at those paragraphs. Just before you go on, if you go to the bottom of that paragraph, there's still a "the" in a different color. But these are, as I said, these are corrections that would be made in the normal course of events.

Capacity development, number four. This is the text that, again, we just discussed through the contribution by Karel, which we're very grateful for, of course. So if we go down to the bottom of that. Thank you very much. These are the paragraphs we just referenced. Okay, further down.

GAC operational matters, strategic planning. Again, these are the texts we've, yeah, we've worked a lot on these texts in the last few hours. Strategic planning, that's the text that we discussed earlier today. High-level government meeting preparation. This is a text that we looked at yesterday, recalling the discussion there. The GAC open microphone session. That was the session earlier in the week and the text there that we looked at earlier as well. Just a factual recording or factual rendition of what happened there. So hopefully everyone's happy with that.

We then go on to issues of importance to the GAC. So this is where we record some of the discussions that took place during our sessions this

week and highlighting why we thought what we discussed during those sessions was of importance to the GAC. So DNS abuse, it's highlighted in orange. That will presumably go at some point. So the first paragraph. On to the second paragraph. This records, as we discussed yesterday, the presentations that we heard during this session from various stakeholders, both internal and external. We then have the final paragraph of that section.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Can I stop you there, UK? I have Iran. Please be brief and straight to the point, Iran.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Brief, straight to the point. The paragraph, the GAC discuss what is reasonable, what would be reasonable, or what is [inaudible]. But not what reasonable. It is not exclamation. So yes, what would be reasonable. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Well, that's the way it is written, Iran, because it says the GAC discussed what a reasonable time frame for assessing the impact of the obligations might be. Now, if you're happy with, you know, changing the order and putting would be a reasonable, I mean, we can do that, right. But I don't think at this point, we need to go ahead with those kind of details. But if you're happy with it, we can do it right now, Iran.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Oh, no, I don't want to prolong discussions. Okay. No problem. I am flexible. No problem.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you very much for that. Back to you, UK.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much. So that was the final paragraph of that section. We then go on to cost benefit analysis of the new gTLD program. This was a reflection of the discussion we had there. And in particular, referencing the advice that we gave at our previous meeting. So the first paragraph, then we have the second paragraph. Then we have the third paragraph. And we'll tidy up that text, including the comment on that.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Can I note that just the comment that are that remained are just indicative of when we've recorded that the text was agreed. So you've seen the comments agreed in community drafting on Wednesday, 16:20 local time. So that's just the purpose of that. So that we keep track of what was actually finally agreed and when.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thanks. I can't read that small text, you know. No, thank you very much. And he keeps us honest. So let's go down to the bottom of that section, if we can. We then, after that final paragraph, we then go on to registry voluntary—

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Hold on. Hold on. I have Iran again.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Yeah. Thank you, Nigel. I think the last paragraph, the GAC recognized. Then for what, a next round or the next round? There is no a next round. There are not hundreds of next round. There is one single and that is the the, but not a. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much, Iran. It is the next round. There's not more than one next round. That's true. I think one's enough. So if everyone's happy with that change, we can go ahead and make that change.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Everybody's happy. Please keep going.

NIGEL HICKSON: Right. Registry voluntary commitments, RVCs, public interest commitments. Again, we're still on issues of importance. This was the recognition of the discussion we had then. Everyone happy with those? Okay. Thank you very much. Registration data. And underneath this, we have registration data request service. So are we going to join those words up or do we?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: No, this is a first subsection of this part.

NIGEL HICKSON: Of course. Yeah. You're absolutely right. Yeah. Yeah. So the first section of four is registration data request service. And the first paragraph, the

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second paragraph reflect the discussions we had on this. Not least with the Contracted Parties House and other entities. Okay. Third paragraph.

Thank you. We then go on to the next section of this, which is privacy and proxy accreditation implementation. Again, this reflects the discussion we had.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Iran, please go ahead.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Yes. Thank you, sir. I think as Nigel mentioned, these are the subparagraph of the main paragraph four. Would it be possible that these subparagraph be numbered for one, for two, for three, and so on and so forth for better reading? Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, Iran. Certainly we can do that. Thank you for the suggestion. Fabien?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: I was going to say we'll look at how to do that in the best form and with consistency with previous communications.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that. Back to you, Nigel.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much. So if we're happy with the privacy and proxy accreditation implementation, we then go on to accuracy and the reflection of the discussion we had there. So again, this is two paragraphs and there's a footnote there as well.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: Nigel, if I may, on the footnote we're going to be looking at improving the reference here because this is a link to a Google document, which we expect will have a fairly short lifespan. So we'll try to find the best way to provide a reference here that can resist the test of time to a better extent.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you for that explanation, Fabien. Okay, so after accuracy we then come on to, that's the end of that section four, we come on to section five, which is transparency in GNSO statements of interest. And we have a paragraph there reflecting the discussion there. Okay, the next section, section six, regional internet registries, reflecting the discussion we had on the RIRs, and in particular the AFRINIC issue. This was a text that was kindly contributed yesterday and worked on and discussed last night. Two paragraphs here reflecting that discussion.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: I just want to note that we've made an edit here to turn appreciated into appreciates as a matter of form, because we usually, when the GAC expresses appreciation of receiving presentation, it is usually in present tense. So we feel that this is more consistent with the way the communique is generally written.

NIGEL HICKSON: It's a great language, isn't it? It's always better to use, we're always taught as children at school, that it's always better to use live language. So appreciates is always better than appreciated, but we won't get into a semantic discussion on that, I don't think. So two paragraphs on that. We then come on to IPv6, which was a… I remember the chair reading out this paragraph, and he got to the end of it earlier, and he was looking for more text because he thought it was too short.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Short is good, short is always good, no problem.

NIGEL HICKSON: Okay, thank you very much. So onward from seven, let's scroll down. I don't think we have an eight. So we're on to GAC consensus advice to the ICANN board, and this structure is very similar to the structure we've had before. And we then come on to the applicant support program, which is text that's been read before. So if we can go through the different paragraphs that GAC advises the board. Paragraph one, paragraph two, to ensure, to publish, to specify, to develop. Thank you very much. Can we just go up a bit? Right, yes. So we had four, to develop. Let's go down to five, to consider, and then six, to explore.

We then have the rationale, and as we discussed, the text in the rationale has numbering that relates to the part that we just read out, to sort of link it together. So paragraph one, paragraph two, paragraph three, this is III, IV, V. We then come on to VI. Let's continue down. Okay, let's stop there. So the second part of our GAC advice is urgent requests

for disclosure of registration data. The first part is the GAC advises the board in the usual way. And then we come on to some paragraphs of rationale. Look at the first paragraph, the second paragraph, the third paragraph. Thank you very much.

It goes without saying that we're very grateful for the authors of all these pieces of text in this communique. I mean, whether the people that will read the communique will be so appreciative, I don't know, but let's hope they are. So if we could continue to scroll down.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Wait, wait a second. I have Iran. Go ahead, please.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, sir. Thank you very much. Just a question. Do we establish the request or we raise the request or we made the request? I don't think we established the request. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: No, it says to act expeditiously to establish a clear process, not to establish a request. Again, this is my understanding, but we're not establishing a request. We're advising the board to act expeditiously to establish a clear process and a timeline for the delivery, etc. I'm not going to read the whole thing again, but if that's okay with everybody, maybe we should keep going. Thank you for that, Iran. Back to you, UK.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much. So we get to the bottom of this text, and we get to a section on next meeting, which references the next meeting in Kigali.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: One thing here, and this is for everyone. Should we mention here that the – ah, okay, okay, okay. Sorry, sorry. It's already there. I'm sorry.

NIGEL HICKSON: No, I read this too quickly and thought we were just going to meet for one day, but I think that's good, but we're not. It's the reference for the high-level government meeting. It's scheduled on the 9th of June, of course, and the GAC meeting from the 10th to the 13th. Okay. Anything else? I think I can hand back to you, Mr. Chairman.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so very much for that, UK. Is everyone okay? I mean, we still have – I mean, we will have 72 hours for whatever edits, whatever comments, and objections, as a matter of fact. I'm sorry, I'm sorry. You're right, you're right, you're right. No comments, no questions, no questions, only objections, you know, at this point, and I have the CTU. Please go ahead.

CTU: Thank you, Chair. I have something that is more editorial that probably could be taken up by the staff when they are editorializing. If you look at each of the points on the GAC consensus advice, it says the GAC

advises the board. Sorry, yes, it says A, the GAC advises the board, but there's no B. I'm wondering if there's any need for that.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Very good point, yes. Fabien?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: So, I suppose this is a format that we've inherited from the past practice for a long time ago, probably upwards to a number of years, possibly up to 10 years, and so we've kept this way of formatting because it happens that under a certain heading, so under urgent request, there could be several pieces of advice that are separated, and so you have A, the GAC advises the board, one, two, but it can also be the GAC advises the board, one, two, so we've used that as a way to subdivide and to organize pieces of advice, and so we've kept this numbering this way even when there's only one piece of advice, and the board uses it in its references to this piece of advice in its scorecard when it responds to advice and identifies each piece of advice it addresses by its reference. So, although it looks a little surprising when there's only one piece of advice, it's been useful in ensuring that there is clear communication between the board and the GAC on which piece of advice we're discussing, and so if that's acceptable as a practice, we'd recommend continuing that practice because it's been working for us so far.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you, CTU. Thank you, Fabien. Ladies and gentlemen, I really wouldn't like to start a discussion on these kind of details at this point. We're 14 minutes away from our break, not because we desperately

need a break or anything, but I wouldn't like to go down that rabbit hole, that's all I'm saying, because we could start, you know, discussing other editorial, you know, changes at this point. I would highly discourage these kind of discussions. I have Lebanon.

ZEINA BOU HARB: Just a proposal to the staff team. Can we add a link on the working group, under the section of the working group, a link to each of the working group members, because maybe we should recognize the huge effort made by these few colleagues on these topics. Why should we wait until they leave the group as we did with Laureen to recognize her work, you know? Just link to the working group's members.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX: May I suggest we take that offline and discuss this for the next communique, and the reason is that there are some challenges with maintaining the lists, and so let's work on this and find a way to address that suggestion in the best way possible, but we might need a bit more time, and it's specifically for some working groups, so there's a bit of work on the background for that link to point to actual current and useful information, so let's take this on and work on it.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you for that, Fabien. Thank you, Lebanon. Do we have any other comment at this point? Anything? Any feedback? I don't see any hand in the room. I don't see any hand online, which means that surprisingly, and 12 minutes before the allocated time—we're improving in terms of efficiency. That's good, that's good, and whenever we have our

strategic plan in place, our annual plan in place, and by the way, the digital tools that we might be or might not be implementing hopefully in the near future, we'll be able to be even more efficient.

So again, thank you so much for your ideas, for your time, for your energy, and above all, for your patience. So we'll break here, and a couple of housekeeping details. Before that, Fabien, go ahead.

Yeah, thank you for that, Fabien. I was going to say during the GAC wrap-up session that the ICANN 79 communique is officially adopted, but we can do it now, and it is, and from now on, yeah, and we deserve a ... Again, thank you for your energy, your patience, and your wisdom at this point.

So a couple of housekeeping details. We'll reconvene here at 3:00 PM. You're more than welcome to attend the geopolitical forum that will be running from 1:15 to 2:30, then there will be a coffee break, and hopefully enough coffee for all of us, and then the wrap-up session, and also, more than welcome to attend the ICANN board meeting and the closing cocktail. I hope to see you there in order to say, you know, some final words and some farewells and so on. Iran, go ahead, please.

KAVOUSS ARASTEH: Thank you, sir. Now that you have adopted the, or approved or agreed to the communique, I may not be at your last meeting. I think that I would like to express my sincere appreciation to you, chair, with the way you conducted the meeting, the amount of energy you have spent, your devotion, your dedication, and also the democratic way that you run, allowing everybody at any time to express his views freely and

without any difficulty and problems. You are very dynamic, very enthusiastic, and we thank you very much, and you deserve a big round of applause. I do it remotely, and the people in the room do it physically. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO: Thank you so much for that, Iran. As a matter of fact, I'll record the session and show it, you know, back home to my minister in order to negotiate a raise. Thank you so much. Enjoy your break.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]