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BARCELONA – LAC session on PDPs
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MARTIN SILVA: For those people sitting in the back, you can come to the table if you want to.

Okay, I'm going to speak in English since we have translation and Latin American and the Caribbean region has several languages and it's not only Spanish. But it's also because I'm very scared when I have to translate [inaudible] while speaking.

This is a LAC session on PDPs. We are here to discuss how the different PDPs at ICANN affect the Latin American and Caribbean region. This is still something as part of the LAC community we are exploring, so it's sort of still a session that is growing and finding what works and what not.

I'm not going to introduce [inaudible] PDPs because that's going to be the work of Emily Barabas in a few seconds, but I do want to state that first at least with my context every PDP that we have at ICANN affects Latin America and the Caribbean. It's just like that.

Just a quick example so we can jump off with Emily, I specifically work with rights protection mechanisms which basically is how ICANN creates process to protect trademarks in the domain name space. And every policy, every rule, every process we create there is later applied to all Latin American and Caribbean citizens, business, or even

governments if they wanted to use those mechanisms as well at some point.

Right now in that working group, the level of presence for LAC region is very, very low compared to the general public. We are probably [inaudible] in the room. We had [four] sessions this meeting, and each meeting we had around 30 or 40 people in the room plus the Adobe Connect and we were probably only one, two Latin American/Caribbean people at most which is very low.

So with that, I would like to give you the impression of saying this is important. And I would like to explain – Emily is going to explain to us what are the PDPs and why are they important. Emily, the floor is yours.

EMILY BARABAS: Thanks, Martin. I'm on the GNSO policy support team here with my colleague Steve Chan. And we're going to be talking a little bit about the policy development process in general. That will be a very short update. Some of you this is review; some of you it's new. Then a little later we'll talk more in-depth about one of the policy development processes in general and we'll use that as an example to talk about some of the processes more broadly because it's helpful to have the context.

First I'll say if I'm talking too fast, it happens sometimes, just give me a wave like this, especially if you're using translation, and I'll know exactly what the problem is. So thanks.

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MARTIN SILVA: A quick reminder. I didn't say it myself. This is Martin Silva from Argentina. Do state your name before speaking so the transcript can get it. Thank you, and I'm sorry.

EMILY BARABAS: Again, this might be review, and I'll blow through it as quickly as possible, but ICANN has some different structures, actually seven broad structures that are an important part of the structure of how ICANN works. And each one has its own responsibility and its own role. So I'm going to talk a little bit about one particular part today given the time that we have.

But just to give you a broad overview, there are three parts of ICANN that are called supporting organizations, and all three of them do work in policy development. There's the Address Supporting Organization, which is focused on numbers; the ccNSO, which is focused on ccTLDs; and the GNSO, which is where we'll focus today. I'm sorry, ASO, Address Supporting Organization – I'm trying to reduce the acronyms – Country Code Names Supporting Organization, and Generic Names Supporting Organization.

The GNSO does policy broadly about generic top-level domains. There's quite a number of different projects within that, that are currently going on that there is an opportunity to be involved in. So that's where we're going to focus today.

The other main structure that you'll hear a lot about at ICANN are advisory committees. The role of the advisory committees is to advise

the board within their areas of expertise. You have the ALAC, which I think you're all familiar with so I'll just skip over that; the Governmental Advisory Committee, which is comprised of governments primarily and advises on public policy issues; and then you have the RSSAC and the SSAC or the Root Server System Advisory Committee and the Security and Stability Advisory Committee, and they both advise on technical issues.

I just wanted to talk a little bit about the Generic Names Supporting Organization, the Country Code Names Supporting Organization, and the Address Supporting Organization and how policy development is a little bit different within each of those. They all do policy work, but the focus of that work and the extent of it are somewhat different.

So actually starting on the right, the Address Supporting Organization, most policy work that happens regarding addresses actually happens at the regional level. So there's some coordination that happens at ICANN, but policy development is really actually quite limited.

With the Country Code Names Supporting Organization, there's some policy development that happens at ICANN, but there's also quite a lot of work that's outside of the remit of ICANN as well.

With the GNSO, pretty much – I'll say all – but quite a lot of policy development related to generic top-level domains happens within ICANN, and that's why there are so many projects going on right now and so many opportunities for all of you to contribute. And we'll talk through some examples in a bit.

What is the PDP? What is the policy development process? The policy development process is a series of step that ICANN goes through, and specifically starting with the Generic Names Supporting Organization, to go through a standard process in which they make decisions about policy. What is policy? Policy is a set of frameworks that influences projects and implementation and what practices are going to happen in practice that impact registry and registrar contracts.

I won't go through all the steps here, but you'll notice that it starts with a request for an issue report which is about scoping a problem that's published. There's a review process that happens. You'll see little people throughout this diagram, and each of those is, I think, an important opportunity to think about because each of those is a space where the community has an opportunity to influence the process through public comment. So that happens when the issue is being scoped. It happens when the working groups that do the bulk of the work are undergoing their work. And it also happens toward the end of the process after the initial report is published as well as before the board considers that policy. So those are important moments, and when we talk about a specific PDP we'll see how public comment and all of you are an important part of influencing the process and having your voices heard.

The main part of this process that I'll just touch on is that this working group is convened. It's an open process for many of the working groups. Anyone can join. Decisions are made by consensus. A lot of the work happens remotely. They meet over a period of time. Sometimes it's a period of years. It can be quite a long time. It's quite an involved

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process. What they're doing is gathering information from stakeholder groups, constituencies, SOs and ACs, and they're trying to reach consensus. They're trying to come to some form of agreement about what recommendation should come out of the process. So they produce an initial report, they gather public comments, they produce the final report, it goes to the council, it's considered further with additional public comments, and then it goes to the board and the board ultimately votes. That's a very broad overview of the process.

What does participation look like? As I mentioned, there are exceptions. For example, many of you are hearing quite a lot about the expedited policy development process that's underway, and that's a little bit of a different model, a little bit more constrained and with specific representatives for different groups. But for many of the PDPs, the working group is completely open. Anyone can join. You can be a member, which means you attend meetings as well as participate on the mailing list. But you can also be an observer. If you're just interested in learning more and following the process, and there you're kind of more passive. You don't attend meetings but you have access to reading the mailing list.

ICANN meetings are great. It's a great opportunity to meet people and engage face-to-face, but the reality is that a lot of this work happens between ICANN meetings and it happens remotely. So no matter where you're located and whether you have the resources to attend an ICANN meeting, there is an opportunity to engage and participate fully. Everything is recorded. It's often transcribed. So there is always an opportunity to engage using tools like Adobe Connect.

I wanted to touch very briefly on PDP 3.0, which is another term you might hear floating around in various places. It's basically looking at the policy development process and thinking about how do we do better. As I mentioned, the process – the little snake I showed earlier – is very long. In practice, it can be three or four years that people go through this process. It's a lot of work to be a part of it, and you're all volunteers. So there's this question about how do we meet the goals that ICANN has put forward on the multi-stakeholder model and make sure that there is representation, that there is broad participation, that things are open, that all the necessary and important views are brought into the process, but also get the job done and be efficient about it and use resources wisely.

That looks at things like working group dynamics. How does leadership work and what does effective leadership really mean? Complexity of subject matter. For a lot of these PDPs the learning curve is very steep. That's not to discourage anyone. It's exciting and interesting if that's the kind of thing you like to do. But it does take time to get familiar with the subject matter. And if you're someone who cares about the issues broadly but doesn't have a lot of familiarity with the specifics, it can be a little intimidating. Are there ways that we can make things more accessible so more people can participate at the level that they want to?

There are questions about consensus building that are being considered there. How is the consensus model working? Is it working well? Where are the problems? As well as the role of the GNSO Council as the manager of the PDP and what that means in practice. So the

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Council is now considering and is going to be voting this week on a series of recommendations to potentially improve the PDP. Not completely change it, but just make small adjustments to experience with continuing to improve and be responsive to what we're seeing in the existing processes that are working well and less well.

Where can you learn more? First, please stay for the rest of the session because we're going to go into some more detail. In general, regional newsletters are a great way to get updates about PDPs in general, and a lot of PDPs also have their own newsletters where they provide updates about the progress that they're making. You can attend webinars. They happen before each ICANN meeting and provide some additional updates. Briefing papers as well are really helpful before and after each ICANN meeting. If you're not able to attend the sessions, that's a great way to learn what had happened.

The GNSO website that's listed here, gnso.icann.org, has announcements and provides additional updates and resources as well. I might also mention not listed here is ICANN Learn. It's a really helpful resource. I know that they're currently developing some additional materials to help people learn about policy development and how to get involved.

I'll pass it back to Martin, and we'll talk a little bit more about PDPs in a bit. Thanks.

MARTIN SILVA: Thank you very much, Emily. Rodrigo, do you want to say something.

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RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: I'm going to be very quick. Within the regional strategy, there is a key interest area which is precisely trying to improve participation of Latin Americans and Caribbeans in policy development processes in ICANN. This is a substantial part. As Martin was saying, this is one of these initiatives, this session. But now that Emily was talking to us about where you can learn more, today precisely – I don't know if you saw it in the social media – we issued a report on participation of Latin Americas on PDPs. Since last meeting, we've been interviewing different colleagues who talked to us about their experience on PDPs. And finally, we prepared a report which we have released today, and it is available on the ICANN website. Then we will have some experiences here with [inaudible] and with [Alan]. They will give us their opinion. But the report is there, and this is where you can learn a little bit more about Latin American region and what the experience has been like.

MARTIN SILVA: We have time for only one question only. Vanda?

VANDA SCARTEZINI: Thank you very much. [inaudible] presentation. I do believe that most of the present here have participated in PDP, I personally think that when we define PDP. But what is important is really to engage more people to participate. Most of the [auction] new gTLDs there is few members of our community that really participate in that. And this, I hope that the new model will re-encourage that. But I don't know if it

will be good enough to make this step forward for this engagement process. Certainly, it will be shorter, but I don't know if it will be attractive enough for us.

So what I believe we need to do in the Latin American and Caribbean area is really start local discussions on PDP before we ask then to participate formally in those meetings because people can get lost. My suggestion is we promote here in the LAC region some working groups, parallel working groups, with that are really participating on the mail group to enjoy the opportunity to teach a little bit, to share that knowledge. Because it was just asking people to join, they got lost. So you need to be very deeply involved with the CC or the GNSO mostly to really participate and contribute. If you don't feel that you are not contributing, people do not waste the time being there just looking in the panel just to understand something.

So that's my suggestion for our strategy that I do believe that we need to go forward for that because, of course, here most of our colleagues from – because ALAC, for instance, has huge participation in PDP. But not all the RALOs do that. Not only Latin America, all the others too. So I do believe that we need to go to local and then move it to general. Thank you.

MARTIN SILVA: Thank you very much. I strongly support that strategy. I believe some of us are trying to do that at our own level or are improvising [with it] and it should be a general strategy for the LAC region.

We're going to move now so we can hear a little bit more about the participation experience itself. We have Harold Arcos and [inaudible]. Maybe we can start with Harold.

HAROLD ARCOS: Thank you, Martin. From LACRALO, obviously. I want to share with you this because this is the intention of this session. What does engaging in a PDP imply, and why do we need to improve participation, and why someone after learning the process should be part of a PDP?

I would like to remind you that ICANN bylaws set forth the GNSO function, and this is a supporting organization together with the Generic Names Supporting Organization and the Address Supporting Organization and the ccNSO. These are the supporting organizations that are in charge of these functions. This is established or set forth in the bylaws in this way.

This is part of – we have already seen this as a diagram, but for someone who is not directly engaged it might be quite difficult to understand because it implies time and it implies a serious and ongoing commitment to provide feedback, input, and to understand the process and then to be familiarized in order to provide the necessary feedback according to the different topics or issues. So this is a summary that is on the web page, but this is already summarized in these six steps.

Here you can see the different stages from the detection of the issue and the request for the process. And then we have the scoping stage. Then there is a starting phase. Then we have the working group activity.

The working group implies a micro organization because they have to set the agenda and the working framework, and they also have to coordinate operational things such as the [inaudible] schedule because we are talking about a global community. We have all the RALOs, and we need to provide a balance in terms of times. And we also have to pay attention to the different processes.

We are going to stop here because this stage paves the way for many questions. As Vanda said before, there is one factor which is common to all the RALOs and this is participation. Participation is restricted to people who for some reason because we are researching the topics because of our professions or because we have experience in the topic or we have experience in some of the civil organizations or companies, we manage the topic. For us, it's much easier to close that learning curve and to participate. This is a very important factor in our PDP development. I believe that calling for volunteers is very good. It's an excellent idea because this leads us to start working on a solution.

There are some other elements that although they might be obvious and we take them for granted. But we had a LAC-i-Roadshow not long ago in Montevideo, and there was a very important characteristic that was being repeated by the speakers. It had to do with the ecosystem, and that theme was language. Because you have to read documents very quickly and documents are drafted in English and if it is not your mother tongue, then you have to wait for the translation. In essence, that is not the idea that I want to [inaudible]. This is also very important because this is a space where discussion is being generated, and there are a lot of discussions.

If we're getting to the last slide, there is another topic addressed by Vanda. This is little participation. Carlos is not here, but we have Latin American colleagues working. And, of course, we have Vanda's and Alberto's experience, Juan Manuel's experience. I would like to ask you because we are sharing experiences and we meet in the meetings. I would kindly ask each of you to briefly interact and share with us what being in a PDP means for you and why this is important.

Finally, I would like to show you the final slide. This is my perspective. I want to summarize my point of view from this experience because these sessions, and this goes for the remote participation, the goal of this session is to explain why someone should be interested. If you see all the charts that I have shown before, you have to think about [these two whys]. Why is it important to contribute to this process? Firstly, because we have to contribute to the multi-stakeholder model and we have to keep it alive because we are interested in Internet users and they have to be there. That is essence that we share in ALAC. That is the core of our business because we also can have a shared activity.

Finally, when we move forward in a PDP process, one of the most important values is this shared responsibility because the PDP is created by the community as a whole.

I would like to give the floor to my colleagues now.

ALBERTO SOTO: Let me start. I am currently an outgoing ALAC member. I was chair of LACRALO. Why do I participate in the PDPs? Because I had those

positions and because I will continue working with ALAC because I am an outgoing ALAC member but I will be responsible for working groups within ALAC, for example, ATLAS 3. This is just for you to have an idea. I will also be in charge of the At-Large review. This is a headache for most of us, but the case is this.

Why do we have to participate as an At-Large or ALAC member? Because ALAC is an advisory, in our bottom-up system we provide advice to the board. But we have to provide advice with the voice of the end user. And in order to read the end users, our ALSes should capture the voices, their [original] voices that should converge that meaning to the RALO and the RALO should take the message to the ALAC. And then we have a feedback process that is necessary to participate in a PDP in order to be able to provide advice to the board.

Why are we able to participate? Because we have specific knowledge on certain issues. How should we participate? If someone wants to participate and is interested in a particular topic but does not have enough experience, you can get trained by ICANN Learn. You can participate in the open meetings. Meetings are all open. But you can also become observers. For example, I started being an observer because I had no knowledge at all at the beginning and I am still learning. By being an observer, you are able to listen and learn and then I can be a participant in the groups.

What are we going to do in LACRALO? We have talked to the incoming chair and the GSE VP Rodrigo here, and we are not going to activate our ALSes because they are already activated but we need them to be

engaged. So there are many activities that are being carried out, but they are not participating inside the RALOs. So the idea is to increase participation and with that I believe we are going to have more people and more information to be able to participate in PDPs. Thank you.

MARTIN SILVA: Harold, who else was with you?

HAROLD ARCOS: I just wanted to mention some keywords, but perhaps Vanda or someone else?

VANDA SCARTEZINI: No, no. I don't need to talk. I have already had my intervention before.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Oh, I'm sorry. Juan has specific words to share.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS: Why do we have to participate? Because all PDPs and all the work carried out by PDPs can affect or impact the organizations that we represent here. So these are the keywords. This can impact on end users being represented in ALAC or this might impact the non-governmental organizations and the non-commercial organizations that [Louise] is going to mention. So that was my comment.

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MARTIN SILVA: [Louise], the floor is yours.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I'm going to speak in Portuguese so if everyone needs to put the things on. It's a pleasure for me to be here. Thank you very much for the invitation. It's a pleasure to be able to speak in my mother tongue here in ICANN. This is one of the greatest challenges in all sessions. I had to speak in English. But when I speak English, Portuguese, Spanish, there is a kind of [inaudible] inside my head.

Many things we're told about challenges and many things we're told about the incentives that are necessary in order to participate in a PDP. First of all, let me say that I was very [lucky] or the ALAC selection was really good. It was a very positive week, and it was really good to have this discussion here in our own languages, sharing our own nature and characteristics. This is really necessary in ICANN because ICANN is English focused.

We participate from the NCUC, so I thank you for bringing this perspective. At the NCUC, we have a regional representation. We have representatives from the executive committee coming from each region, and it's a pleasure for me to inform you that the incoming chair of the executive committee will be able to participate in these meetings. So this will be in the [inaudible] meeting.

I would like to mention some important topics in relation to participation in PDP. First of all, you need time. We are not being paid for working on PDPs. We have to devote a great deal of personal time.

Through other organizations we have users that are participating, so this needs to be taken into account. We need to know how much time we can devote to this.

I personally worked in the rights protection mechanisms working group, and I was very busy. When I started working on a PDP, I had to learn really a lot of things. As a newcomer, as a new member regardless of the category, when you start working on a PDP you have to read documents. You have to read the wiki. You have to undergo all these processes. And despite of these informative resources, there is nothing that gives us more experience than the opportunity of being in a face-to-face meeting because here we grasp a real or a clear idea of what ICANN is.

When we are working on a PDP, we cannot start talking from the very first day. We need to take some time. We need to observe. That is being communicated to our newcomers, to our new members, to people who come from many regions. There are really a lot, and one of the main challenges that we face is to keep these members in our processes. This is not a default option. This is a process, and it's very important. Of course, this process is useful to be part of other groups, such as the freedom of speech group, and we need to understand that. From the GNSO we also need to understand how this process develops. This is another entering point.

Now when it comes to time, one of the pieces of advice that I would like to give you is that if you are going to participate in a PDP at the very beginning, that would be a great idea. When I started to participate in a

PDP that was an ongoing process, it started in 1990. So you have to check that. But as I said before, it is a learning process helping us to interact with other parts of the organization. You are not just working in your own bubble or silo. You have to participate in other areas.

I'm not going to [stand] anymore, but I would like to mention that we do need to continue sharing our experiences. One of the best practices is to share experiences. So let's talk about this. Let's talk about participation, engagement, experiences. This is very important in PDPs.

Another important element has to do with capacity building, the creation of capacity training. There are strategies for this. Of course, we have our mentoring program which gives us more experience with these PDP processes. It helps new members to participate and [to learn].

There is another tool which is the focal point. [And thirdly], we have structures, helping structure, and this is the policy writing. This is a training course, and this is important from the language perspective. This is part of our onboarding document.

There are many documents that have been drafted by [each] of the multi-stakeholders in order to introduce those people who would like to participate for them to understand the policies and what we are [defending]. Those documents I believe should be translated. Now they are in English and in French, but I believe that they should be translated and we should explain this to our own groups.

We should say that these are efforts by the community and that therefore they should be translated into our own languages. Capacity building is essential. There are no PDPs with training, so that is not possible. So training is an [enabler] for PDPs. Thank you for the opportunity.

MARTIN SILVA: We have one intervention on the floor. Remember to speak your name for the record.

CINTRA SOOKNANAN: I was previously very active in LACRALO, At-Large, and vice chair of NPOC. I just want to share a little bit about my experience with PDPs. I think I'd like to congratulate staff for the work that they're doing in this area as well as coming to present to us and share with us these developments and just giving us a good refresher as to the PDP process and how we can participate.

I think what we need to come away with is not just participation but effective participation in PDPs. As an attorney, it's important that when you're participating in any group that you have proper access to reference documents and you're able to find information quickly and be able to contribute effectively.

It was mentioned by the CEO at the opening ceremony that a lot of money is being spent on updating the website and making sure that it's searchable and that we can reference 20 years of documentation. I just want to ensure that 20 years of documentation can also be searched in

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Spanish, French, Portuguese. That these people that are in the room can also have reference to those documents and just to ensure that we don't just talk about participation but effective participation. Thank you.

MARTIN SILVA: Thank you very much, Cintra, for your comment. When I started in ICANN in 2013, Cintra was one of the people that introduced me to the process. So thank you for being here.

We're going to move on. I want to have, again, Emily Barabas and Steve Chan introducing the new gTLD subsequent procedures policy development process update. I said that in one breath. Please, you have the floor.

STEVE CHAN: Thank you, everyone. I'm part of the GNSO support team. Thanks for having us. I think that was a great discussion to try to give everyone a good basis to talk about a specific PDP and get some more real examples about how it actually looks in practice.

I guess first of all, I know there are a few people that are actually serving on that PDP. I see Vanda and I think some other folks. So show of hands, who is actually on that PDP? Three over here I think. That's great. Okay, cool.

So what is this PDP about? For all the folks that did not raise their hand just now, the source of this PDP is to really look at the – well, the basis

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is the 2007 policy recommendations that the GNSO developed for the first 2012 round of the new gTLD program. What this PDP is doing is looking at to some degree those original recommendations but also looking at the 2012 new gTLD round and trying to assess what went right, what went wrong, and then taking those lessons learned to try to see how they can make improvements to not just policy but also from an implementation perspective too, how everything in the program can hopefully get improved and be more efficient.

This PDP dates to 2016. Officially, it was initiated I think at the end of 2015, but the charter was adopted in 2016 and then the PDP actually began operation shortly after. Hopefully, these slides will be shared with everyone and you can click that link for the charter if you're interested in looking at the charter.

The scope of this PDP is rather broad. It looks at the entire program. What that results in is having 40 separate topics to look at and, actually, it could be more than that now. The source of those topics was some previous work that the council undertook. It was a discussion group that tried to do issue spotting from the 2012 round. Those issues that group surfaced became the basis for the issue [report] that was developed and adopted by the council and then also integrated into the charter.

Amongst those 40 topics, some of the ones that have been particularly of interest for many have been community based applications where a community based application in a string contention set where they have a same or confusingly similar string. It's a method by which the

community applicant may be given priority. Applicant support where applicants from underserved regions might be able to gain financial assistance. It also provides some other levels of assistance in preparing the application and tries to connect applicants with experienced folks in the industry. And then also geographic names at the top level which is handled in a separate work track called Work Track 5. I definitely know we have some folks on that effort.

How is this PDP structured? There are two overall co-chairs. I'm sure many of you have seen them around and spoken on the subject. It's Jeff Neuman and Cheryl Langdon-Orr. I'm sure you're also definitely familiar with Cheryl.

As I noted, the PDP is broken into 40 subjects. That work was undertaken by a series of work tracks, Work Tracks 1-4. They developed an initial report, and I'll just touch on this really quickly because it goes into more detail later. But just to give context, that was led by a series of co-leads and that initial report was just put out for public comment. It closed at the end of September.

I gave you that context because what we're going to do after that – and actually it already did happen – is we're constituting a series of subgroups that are going to undertake the review of the public comments received to the initial report. So that's why you see reference to Subgroup A, B, and C. They're looking at those 40 subjects and it's sort of a divide and conquer to try to look at the extensive and valuable input that was received to the public comment.

Actually, just for context, the number of public comments received is quite high for a PDP. We received I think close to 70, probably more than 70. So we're very grateful for the input, from the ALAC especially because they gave us I think a 90-page comment. So it's going to take us time to get through that.

I briefly touched on Work Track 5. That is a work track dedicated to a single subject, geographic names at the top level. Actually, I forgot to mention just for the Subgroup A, the leaders of that will be Jeff and Gross. Subgroup B will be Christa Taylor and Rubens Kuhl. And Subgroup C will be Michael Flemming and one of the overall co-chairs again, Cheryl Langdon-Orr.

The way that all this is going to work eventually is that the work of these sub teams will roll up into a single final report. Consensus levels will be assessed on all the recommendations. And that final report with all the recommendations will be delivered to the GNSO Council for their consideration.

The role of the PDP leadership is pretty important. You'll have noticed maybe that of the two co-chairs, one was from the GNSO and one was from the ALAC. But how that's supposed to work is that's not really supposed to matter, where you're from. The leaders of the PDP are to serve more as neutral facilitators to make sure that subjects get surfaced, to make sure that meetings are scheduled. And really, the PDP manual that the GNSO has developed, that that's followed accurately. The other thing is also just to make sure that the views of

the PDP members are shared properly and given time to be able to provide those opinions.

I already touched on that, I guess, that the overall chairs are from the GNSO and the ALAC. But the other interesting thing that we're doing – sort of the grand experiment, we're calling it – is the Work Track 5. It has a shared leadership model where it has one co-lead from each of the ALAC, the ccNSO, the GAC, and the GNSO. But again, as I mentioned, that's not supposed to matter exactly just because they're supposed to be facilitators of process and not advocates for positions of those respective groups. But they're doing a great job of making sure that the viewpoints of the Work Track 5 members are being heard.

What is the current status of this working group? As I noted earlier, the initial report was published. That captures the 40 subjects. That was published on 3 July and it recently closed at the end of September. What staff has done so far is just to compile those reports into a series of worksheets for the subgroups to review. They haven't yet started on that part of the work. That's going to take place after ICANN 63, and that will be a huge focus of the working group afterwards.

The working group has also worked on a set of five supplemental issues. These are issues that the working group identified sort of subsequent to publishing the initial report and realized that they needed additional attention. So while the initial report was out for public comment, the working group spent time discussing these five additional topics. Some of those include auctions, the mechanism of last resort; also private auctions; and the change request process for application; and a couple

others. So that report, the intention is to publish that shortly after ICANN 63, possibly even the week after if everything works out okay.

You might not be familiar, but the way that the initial report was structured is it that it had to some degree recommendations, preliminary recommendations I should say and clarify, but it also had a series of options as well as questions where the PDP was seeking input from the community to try to help them come to conclusions on certain subjects. So the supplemental report will be structured similarly. And actually eventually when the Work Track 5 report comes out, there's a fair chance that it will also have a similar structure.

Finally, just a timeline for the work. It's small print. I'll look at my screen instead. As I mentioned, the supplemental report should be published shortly after ICANN 63. Work Track 5 also hopefully should be published shortly after ICANN 63, potentially near the end of November. That's the target at least. Then as I mentioned, the intention for all of this work is to wrap up into a single final report. So the target delivery date for that is around the end of Q2 of 2019 or possibly early Q3.

You'll see an asterisk at the bottom that talks about whether or not a subsequent public consultation period might be needed. If that is needed, of course, that will add some time to this timeline.

Emily and I agreed to split this presentation, so I think she's up next. Thank you.

EMILY BARABAS: Sure. I'm going to talk a little bit about participation first. This just goes over again the general idea that we talked about in the working group model, the open model. Anyone is welcome to participate. The only requirement is that you fill out a statement of interest. That talks about where you work, if you're speaking for anyone as opposed to just speaking for yourself, and any other interests that you might have that the community might want to know about. So that's a measure of transparency, but other than that there are no additional requirements.

Because the PDP is so far advanced at this stage, it has produced an initial report which has some preliminary recommendations, they've been talking for two years now I think – three years almost actually – if you do join at this point, it's really important to make sure you understand what has been discussed before so that we don't go over everything another time. That's one of the challenges that we face with PDPs. So all, indeed, are welcome, but there is a little bit of catching up to do if you do join at this point

The PDP is quite big. We have 180 members or so and 80 observers approximately. The participation spans quite broadly across the ICANN community. A lot of people have an interest in this topic and, as Steve said, it covers so many different issue areas. There are quite a lot of people with a stake in this work, so you can see there's quite a few different groups there represented, including the ALAC, the ccNSO, the GAC, and the GNSO as well.

Work Track 5 is also quite large. I think it's actually at this point quite a bit bigger than 50-60 members. But again, there's a really broad set of

representation. Oh, I'm sorry. Work Track 1-4, so the small work tracks that were worked in earlier, were each a bit smaller and that helps people communicate better, work more quickly. Work Track 5, the one on geographic names that has really brought interest, yeah, 155 members. It's a big group. It's a big and vocal group, which is exciting and interesting and sometimes challenging as well. And about 90 observers.

If that's an issue that interests you, there's still a lot to contribute there. There's a lot of areas of, let's say, divergence, places where there are different perspectives. That group, there have been a lot of conversations so, again, getting up to date with those conversations is important. But absolutely, new perspectives are welcome, especially from groups that are not well represented currently.

How does the PDP operate? We talked about the diagram with all the many, many, many steps, but what does that look like in practice? This PDP has conference calls. Depending on what's happening it's every week or every two weeks. The sub teams also have regular calls. We use Adobe Connect just like this. There are face-to-face sessions. For this PDP, they took place on Saturday. It was a full day on Saturday of sessions for both Work Track 5 and the full working group. If you weren't able to make those and you'd like to learn more about the PDP, it's actually a great opportunity to just read through the transcripts or look at the recordings because updates were provided there and some good discussions about some of the outstanding issues that are still live and open.

We use a wiki page as our repository of resources. That's where you can find all the materials, including recordings and transcripts of meetings, notes, working documents. For example, when we're working on reports, we post all the links and the drafts and so forth for people to contribute to as well as data requests and the responses to those requests. So for example, the working group might send a request to the ICANN organization for data about the 2012 application round. ICANN organization sends back a response with some data, and all of that information is also posted on the wiki.

Apparently, we're having some technical issues, so just one moment. No? Let me see if I have a different copy of the slides that I can work from offline. Now I'm just going to talk and you don't have slides, but I'll keep it high-level.

How does the PDP engage with the community? This is a question of – all right, I'm going to start talking and [inaudible] will catch up in just a moment. Oh, and we're running out of time.

There are a number of opportunities for the PDP to engage with the community. That's outreach to SOs and ACs, that includes community comments, that includes face-to-face time and cross-community sessions at ICANN meetings. So again, you don't have to be a member to participate.

We were going to talk a little bit more about practices with PDP 3.0. I'll skip that. I'll just briefly touch on what's coming next, and then I'm going to pass it along.

As Steve mentioned, the initial report was put out for public comment. The group will consider those comments. They'll refine the work that they've done already and put out a final report. The supplemental initial report is coming soon, and that will also ultimately be integrated into the final report. And again, Work Track 5 is another contribution, and all of that will go into the final report. So this is all about bringing the different work products together into one cohesive whole. And because there are so many topics, it's really important to make sure all the pieces fit together and make sense for the program in the future.

And then finally, considering the recommendations of the Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review Team. There are a number of recommendations coming out of that, that were targeting the PDP, and it's important to make sure that the PDP takes that into account as it works toward its final work.

And then finally, what happens at the end of the PDP? The GNSO Council will consider this report, the final report, adopt it if appropriate. And then there's a public comment. It goes to the board, and then the board considers adopting those recommendations. Then after that, the ICANN organization goes through a process of implementation.

I will – I was going to post some links. That's okay. The GNSO website is a good place to find additional resources about the PDP. So I'll pass it back to you, Martin. Thanks.

MARTIN SILVA:	Thank you very much, Emily and Steve. Does anyone have a specific question? A very short one.

VANDA SCARTEZINI:	Not a question. Just to remember for anyone that wants to participate that it's quite important if you [do] because there are rotations. So many times the time zone is not appropriate. You have other issues. So you need to read in the listing what happened to not go to the next session and make the same questions that you lost that one. It's just a process that should be informed for who wants to participate.

MARTIN SILVA:	Thank you very much, Vanda. Now we're going to move on to the next slot. We're going to talk about LACNIC's new policy development process. We'll have Juan Alejo Peirano from LACNIC talking about it.

[RODRIGO DE LA PARRA]:	[speaking in Spanish] … to the RIRs and they have an impact. But there are some other that are not debated in the ASO. We have to take into account that in most of the cases policies when it comes to numbers are carried out at the regional level. These are carried out by the different RIRs, and those having a global sphere or a global scope are discussed at the ICANN space.
	So now we are going to zoom in to an RIR and we will see how they develop their regional policies. Then we will have [inaudible] to speak

about the ccNSO and what are the policies of the ccNSO and the differences with the GNSO.

JUAN ALEJO PEIRANO: Thank you, Rodrigo for the introduction. I don't know if we can put them onscreen or not. I believe that there are some technical issues, but anyway let me continue. Oh, there it goes.

Since ICANN PDPs are so easy, we're going to add a new level of complexity and now we're going to speak about the policy development process at the Latin American region at the RIR level. I am not a member of the LACNIC staff, but I am part of the community. Therefore, my view is a community point of view in terms of the policy development process.

Up until May this year, I was the moderator of this particular process, so I had the opportunity to be the moderator of the process and now let me tell you about the change in the policy development process for those who are not familiar with it or who were not part of the process.

As Rodrigo said before, policy development at the number level, and this is the ASN and the IP, is at a regional level. The world is divided into five regions. LACNIC is part of one of these regions. It is part of the Latin America and the Caribbean region. Like ICANN, it has a bottom-up multi-stakeholder model. in this particular link, you will find the details about this PDP at the regional level.

It is important to highlight that each region has its own PDP process. They are different in some ways, but each region decides upon the

management of the policy manual which is a way in which the RIR manages the number resources. For the LAC region, the changes made to the policy manual are these. The guide being used by LACNIC to manage the numbering resources [are made] through proposals, so changes are carried out through proposals to change the policy manual in order to see how LACNIC should manage the numbering resources. So as I said before, this is contained in a policy manual that is published in the LACNIC web page, and these are the rules that are being followed.

LACNIC started in 2002, and this year was the first time that LACNIC changed the policy development process in a substantial way. Because it was believed that a new change was required to have certain similarities with European regional registry. So for those who are not familiar with this and who do not know about the previous PDP, you can check that information on the LACNIC proposal 2018 which was a document implementing the changes in the policy manual and in the process [internally].

I cannot talk about these slides because this is the PDP process, the policy development process, and if I start drilling into this, you will understand nothing at all. But basically, in the LACNIC region the PDP process has five main pillars. That is the mailing list; a face-to-face discussion forum, the moderators of that forum. Then we have the LACNIC board of directors, the LACNIC [CEO], and the RIR community.

There are some other optional elements, such as the working groups. But in this case, in the LACNIC case, they are not similar to the working groups at ICANN. Discussions are carried out between the author of a

proposal and the community as a whole with the moderation in the mailing list and in the policy forum.

When there is a new proposal through the policy process, the policy process starts. As I said before, this is the new process. The first stage takes eight weeks, and that is the initial discussion where we have the participation of people in the mailing list and the face-to-face meetings. The LACNIC community discusses the wording of the text of the proposal. In this case, there are some considerations in terms of time and in terms of the time period for discussion. In this case, we have eight weeks.

For a proposal to be discussed at a face-to-face meeting, the author and the community need to discuss the proposal during eight weeks in a mailing list. That is a unique mailing list. All proposal go into the same mailing list. So sometimes mail exchange might be really mixed up and heavy, if you will, but that's the idea.

When a proposal is being discussed during eight weeks in the mailing list, then it is discussed face-to-face in the meetings or in the sessions. And they have the obligation to decide whether there is consensus. The definition of consensus is the same being used at ICANN and at the IETF and in other Internet ecosystem organizations. That is to say rough consensus, meaning that the majority of people need to agree with the changes. After discussing this, they need to reach rough consensus. If a proposal does not reach consensus and the result is the lack of consensus, it goes back to the list so as to create new versions of that proposal.

If there is consensus, then it goes to a second stage, and this is the final comment stage. This final comment is a new space of debate open to the community for the community to express its views and to say if it agrees or not with the moderators of the process. And then if there is consensus, the community might say that it agrees or it does not agree.

After that, if there is someone who does not agree, they have to provide certain justification. At this stage, you cannot say that you don't agree just because. You have to provide technical reasons for your disagreement. If the proposal has rough consensus in the mailing list, then you have to justify if you don't agree at this stage for the proposal to go back to the mailing list after that.

Then we have a period of one week where the chairs ratify their decision. And after this stage, the LACNIC director ratifies the proposal and if it will become part of the manual or not.

The LACNIC board does not [judge] on the content of the proposal. It only oversees the process. If the PDP process was carried out in a proper and [inaudible] manner if the decisions made by the chairs are in accordance with the community opinion. So it is the LACNIC director, the one considering or overseeing the due process of the PDP.

The PDP changed and why? This was widely discussed, and this was due to the lack of participation or low participation of Latin Americans at a general level. In this case for LACNIC, this is a regional participation. In the case of ICANN, we are talking about global participation. But as a community, we share the same concerns. We need people to participate in these processes. When changes were made and when the

proposal was being discussed, we reached the conclusion that this is a cultural issue. This is an issue that has to do with the lack of knowledge, so why the LACNIC community does not actively participate in certain processes [unlike] many other people in other regions.

To tackle this issue and based on the comments posted, some of the efforts carried out in LACNIC, we realized this was not lack of interest but sometimes it was lack of knowledge and people were not able to take the first step to participate. So how did we tackle that issue? We had small discussion groups during the LACNIC groups before the face-to-face fora. Before that face-to-face fora we create small discussion groups to debate the proposal in a more informal setting with groups of 15 or 20 people who discuss among themselves. So even though people do not have the necessary knowledge or perhaps they are not deeply involved in the processes or sometimes they have no knowledge at all, they feel more comfortable.

We had very positive experiences as the chair of the process. And talking to the LACNIC policy officer, we realized that after carrying out these events new people were able to participate in the policy development process. For that, that was a very positive aspect because if we can have someone talking in the face-to-face forum for the first time, that is for us a very positive thing. I believe that perhaps we can implement that methodology somehow. I don't know how, but we might be able to bring debates or discussions to the region and to create small groups perhaps in a more informal environment. I believe that might be a valuable tool to increase discussion and participation inside the region.

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Do you have any questions or any comments? The PDP process is quite straightforward in LACNIC, and perhaps it can be more attractive for newcomers. They should be first involved in the LACNIC PDP, and then they should go to the ICANN PDP. Thank you.

MARTIN SILVA: Thank you very much, Juan. Is there any comment? Please go ahead.

ERNESTO MAJO: Hello, everyone. Thank you, Juan, for your presentation. I believe that is a great idea that we can have this space to speak about the outside world so that we can speak about LACNIC.

What Juan says is really interesting. We are very concerned about participation and we already spoke about that at the very beginning of the session. We are also looking to improve participation constantly. From the LACNIC board, this is something that we are constantly taking into account.

We have created some initiatives to enable, to facilitate the process by means of creating or adding the shepherds. These are people who have experience in the PDP. They reach consensus at the community level so that they can share their knowledge and help other people to introduce into the PDP and to develop policies.

In 2019 we have been working with [inaudible] a very well-known person. She's an excellent professional. In order to be more objective in our work and in order to clarify the aspects that can be improved and

how we can identify topics that need to be addressed or improved in order to increase participation throughout time and in order to have a better quality in terms of policies for the management. We have a responsibility, so we need to improve that.

That is my comment. We are strongly interested in having more and better participation in these processes.

MARTIN SILVA: …this intervention. Now we're going to move on to the next slot because we are running out of time. We have Alejandra Reynoso who is going to talk about what kind of policies are developed in the ccNSO and how they are developed. Alejandra, it's all yours.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO: Thank you, Martin, and thank you for the invitation to participate in this session. For me, it's a new experience to be out of the ccNSO room. Now I'm going to make the effort to speak in Spanish because in the ccNSO we only speak in English. So let's see what happens. I will speak in Spanish therefore.

The ccNSO is a body within the ICANN structure that was created for and by the ccTLD managers. With that, the ccNSO Council and its members work on global policies relating exclusively to the ccTLDs.

Just to give you a little bit of background, the ccNSO Council is composed by 18 people or members. We have 5 representatives from

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each of the regions plus 3 representatives from the NomCom and we work all together with the community.

One of the distinguishing factors between the PDP at the ccNSO and other organizations is that members are the ones approving if the final report is going to be delivered to the ICANN board. Another point to take into account is that when reports are issued and presented to the public, this happens in an earlier stage. And thirdly, the scope of the ccNSO in an internal PDP is limited to the IANA functions.

Now we're going to review the steps. We have six steps to develop the process. The first stage is that the Council or the ICANN board or the CCT regional organizations or at least ten members might say that there is a topic that needs to be discussed and addressed in a policy development process. For that, the Council appoints an issue manager. This issue manager will determine if the issue is within the scope of the ccNSO. This is defined by the ICANN bylaws. The definition and the limit of the scope of issues are defined by the bylaws.

Next steps are the following. If the issue is within the scope of the ccNSO, the Council approves the issue report and the PDP begins. After that, the ccNSO gives public notice and opens the public comment period on this issue. After that stage, the Council appoints a working group to develop the policy. Then the working group starts working on the initial report, the public comment period is opened, the final report is drafted, and then the ccNSO requests input by the GAC. [speaking in Spanish]

And currently, the ccNSO is working in a single policy development process that very adequately is called ccPDP. That currently has its own working group in process, and the goal is to have a report and to recommend a policy for the withdrawal of delegated domain names that are associated to country codes that have been assigned in ISO 3161-1. That is within the ccNSO framework. This working group was open to members that are representatives of ccTLDs and to participants of other groups that are related, observers, and experts.

To wrap up, here are the links to all our social media and how to contact the ccNSO in case there is any doubt in the process. Let me also say that for those of you who are interested, I brought a very quick guide as an introduction to the ccNSO that was mentioned by [inaudible] before. It is very good to have this very quick introduction document for those of you who are new to the ccNSO to be updated. If you want one, you can get one from me here. I am now open to any questions. Thank you.

MARTIN SILVA: …for Alejandra? Before Vanda, we have someone in the back. Please? You have a comment?

RICARDO HOLMQUIST: Sorry?

MARTIN SILVA: Do you have a comment? No, you go first.

RICARDO HOLMQUIST: Thank you, Martin and Alejandra for the presentation. I just want to know how can an ALAC member be included within the e-mail that you're posting there.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO: You just write to the ccNSO secretariat and say you're interested in participating on the PDP for the withdrawal of the ccTLDs, and they will provide you with precise instructions. This is only withdrawal not redelegation. Yes, there will be two processes, but now they are focusing on the withdrawal. So when this ends, the following one will begin.

MARTIN SILVA: Vanda?

VANDA SCARTEZINI: Thank you for your presentation. I have a question. Country codes, do they have a contract with ICANN or not? Because some ccTLDs did have an agreement in the past, but now I'm curious to know what's the situation like.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO: Well, as far as I know, there are no agreements with ICANN. We do have framework letters of mutual understanding and some other [variants] of the document, but it is not a contract in itself. Yes, it is an agreement.

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MARTIN SILVA: We will have a last intervention from Humberto.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Thank you very much to the presenter for being with us. We know it is all very short. Here's a question. Do all ccTLDs need to pay a fee to ICANN? Are they obliged to pay a fee to ICANN? Are they the same? Are they different? Maybe those are details that one would need to know.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO: That's a very good question. Thank you. There is no obligation. What we do have is a suggestion on what could be the voluntary amount that a ccTLD could provide because the ccNSO actually does give money to ICANN. This proposal is based on the number of registered domain names in the ccTLDs. So if the registry is small and it has a few domain names registered only, it should not pay the same as another one that has lots of, millions of domain names registered. So each of these [bands] has suggestions saying how much it is proposed that someone could give, but the amount is decided at the discretion of the ccTLD. There is no obligation.

There will actually be a session on that tomorrow, so if you're interested, I can very quickly look for the time when it will be held and provide you with the information.

In the meantime let me say something that is sort of intimate but it is transparent and this is that the ICANN audit report informs which of us have a relationship or which one of us are administrators or members of ccTLDs or officers of a registry. And there is an exchange of money,

voluntary or involuntary, with ICANN. So this is reported in the audit report. They state how much the entity for which the board member works is giving. All of this is reported and it goes back three or four years. All of this is reported.

All right, I just found it. There will be a session on financial contributions from the ccTLDs to ICANN, and it will happen at 9:30 in Room 114.

MARTIN SILVA: All right, there are people coming now into our room, so we need to wrap up. Thank you all very much for coming. Special thanks to Rodrigo de la Parra and Rodrigo Saucedo. They are the true engines of these initiatives. And we would also like to thank the speakers who gave their time like [inaudible] who had to leave her [monetary] session. And we hope to continue with these spaces. We're all open to continue conversations. This is an ongoing process, and we don't just wrap up here. So see you in the corridors.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]