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BARCELONA – ccNSO: Members Meeting Day 1 (3 of 5)
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PETER VERGOTE: Good afternoon. Can I ask the candidate councilors to come over here, please? Okay, good afternoon, everybody. Welcome [inaudible]. In total, we have, if I'm not mistaken, I think we have about 40 minutes for this session. So, what I propose to do is that we give our candidate councilors a couple of minutes to introduce themselves. Hi, Pablo, thanks for joining. And in case they would have made a statement, that they could give some additional information with the statement and then I'll open up the floor for any questions that you might want to fire to our candidates.

I see some familiar faces. Well, you're all familiar faces, of course, but I see some people that are already on the board. I see some people who want to join the board, the council, for the first time. So, maybe I'll start with the more seasoned ones. Pablo, can I start with you? Then, perhaps, Demi, then we just take the order from there.

PABLO RODRIGUEZ: Thank you very much, Peter, and good afternoon to you all. For those of you who do not know me, I am Pablo Rodriguez. I am the Executive Vice President of the registry dot-PR in Puerto Rico. I am currently a North American ccNSO Council and I am looking forward to continue to work with every one of you in as many aspects as possible and all of those that are related and common to us. Thank you.

PETER VERGOTE: Okay, thank you. Demi, please.

DEMI GETSCHKPO: Thank you, Peter. I am not a newcomer in this area. I was around before ICANN also. I think we have a mission here in ccNSO, to strive to preserve the original concepts of the open Internet in the very beginning. And we have some common characteristics, like for example, I suppose many of us are for-profit and I particularly don't like very much the domain name industry. I don't think we are really in the industry. Maybe kind of services, but anyway, this is a lost battle.

But, I think we have anyway to strive to keep the good principles in some way put all us together, since when ccNSO split with the DNSO and created two separate organizations, GNSO and ccNSO. The time of Dennis Jennings and other players.

As I have the honor to be re-nominated for this council, I am very proud of this and I will try to do my best to go forward. Thank you.

PETER VERGOTE: Jordan, go ahead. Thank you.

JORDAN CARTER: Hello, everyone. My name is Jordan Carter, dot-NZ. I've been involved in the ccNSO as a participant since about 2013. Before that, I was the secretariat of the APTLD from 2005 to 2009. In recent years in ICANN,

ICANN 63
ANNUAL GENERAL
BARCELONA
20–26 October 2018

I've focused my attention on the broader organization's accountability to its community through the IANA transition process. So, yes, I'm putting my hand up for this role to help build the ccTLD community, stay true to the values that Demi just talked about, but also to help the council with the process of embedding those accountability changes within the ccNSO and also within the broader ICANN framework. So, I'm keen to help. Thank you to Korea and Japan for the nomination [inaudible]. And if you've got any questions, I'd be more than happy to answer them.

PETER VERGOTE: Okay, thank you.

NICK WENBAN-SMITH: Hello, everyone. Good afternoon. I'm Nick Wenban-Smith, for people who don't know already. I'm the general council for Nominet, dot-UK. I have to put my glasses on. I'm not actually going to read it all, but I think it makes me look more intellectual.

Thank you very much for the nomination from Norway and also from Holland and Belgium for seconding me. The reason I put myself forward is because of Peter is no longer continued in the role. I would have been very happy to see Peter continue and I'm sorry that he's not, but there is a vacancy. So, I have been at Nominet for 11 years and I oversee all the legal affairs for the company. I have, in my role, which changed two or three years ago – so now I oversee all of our international policy work. Since then, I've been I think quite heavily involved in a number of our

ICANN 63
ANNUAL GENERAL
BARCELONA
20–26 October 2018

yesterday processes, the geographic names, the retirement for ccTLDs, the PDP processes. But I also have quite a diverse background and skill set in terms of dispute resolution mechanisms and data protection.

So, I'm quite heavily involved in a number of different areas across not just the CC community, but other parts of ICANN. I would like to, if elected, continue that work in the position of a councilor. I have written it all down in a lot more detail. Please feel free to read it at your leisure and ask me any questions, now or later. Thank you.

PETER VERGOTE: Okay. Thank you. Over to you, Marta.

MARTA MOREIRA DIAS: Thank you so much. I have a PPT, if you don't mind. Okay. So, good afternoon to everyone. As we are in Spain, I should say hola, que tal?

For those who don't know me, my name Marta Dias. I started my career outside the Internet ecosystem in 1998. I was one of the founders of the national, the Portuguese ISOC chapter back in 2011. I work directly with the Portuguese ccTLD, the dot-PT since 2013, first as legal advisor and from 2016 as member of the board of directors where I am responsible for the legal and corporate issues and public relations in corporate social responsibility areas.

So, I would like to thank you all for this opportunity. I don't know if you had the time or the patience to read my election statement. If not, the

purpose of my short presentation will be to, in a way, convince you all – even Nick – that I am the best person to serve.

So, it looks like I'm throwing my hat into the ring. So, before going straight to the point, I have here some background information that I would like to share with you guys.

So, there is Portugal, the country highlighted in red. We usually say that we are Spain's favorite neighbor. I don't know if it is true, but I like to think, yes, we are. We have a current population of 10 million people. You probably heard about Jose Saramago. He was a Nobel Prize in literature in 1998. Well, I decided to bring this slide. He's still the best player in the world and you all know that, so I thought let's have it.

Then, we have the board and the [inaudible]. You probably know them. Then, we have those magnificent pictures in the south of the country, [inaudible]. The private [inaudible] was elected the European best beach this year. So, great as well.

Some figures about the use of Internet in Portugal. So, 70% of households in Portugal have access to the Internet. More than 30% of the population uses e-commerce platforms, mainly the youngest people. And we do speak Portuguese. This common heritage of more than 244 million people.

Then, we have dot-PT. I have some figures regarding dot-PT as well. We are one of the 168 ccNSO members. We will complete ten years of membership this year. It is the first time that myself and, indirectly, my

country, we are applying to serve the ccNSO Council. So, it is an honor for me to be here today.

So, regarding the numbers that I was talking about, we have a registration growth of around 11% which is much better growth than the average in all of Europe, as you all know. We have a retention rate of around 80% and a deletion rate of 5%. So, even though in Portugal the lion's share is still from the legacy ccTLDs, we are responsible for around 38% of the registrations, but we are still a small registry, even though we achieved this [magical] number of one million registrations, in the beginning of the year in March.

A few more topics about the registry. We launched our new [corporate] image as well last week. We have a new logo, a new website, and if you have some curiosity, I want you all to visit the DNS dot-PT.

So, moving on to my election statement, and I will try to be brief, I would like to here cover three points. The first one is more like a question that you can see in the slide, if it is still possible to bring additional value to the council. Well, after I looked to what is my perspective regarding the relationship between the ccNSO and the ICANN, mainly the ICANN board.

Finally, the last question, it will be about why me? Why should I serve the ccNSO Council? The first point, the question that I was talking about, is about engagement. In parallel, this important work that has been done by the current council … I would like to bring again this concept of engagement. You all can say, well, what else is new engagement? This is not a new topic; I know that. But I think that we

hear as a community that have a few interests in common. If you look to my slide, I have there I pointed a few questions that I think that are common that we all, as ccTLD managers, have.

So, the slide has the set of questions that I won't repeat. But my idea is that taking into consideration our diversity in the sense of cultural, economic, and social differences that we all have, we should try to produce more joint solutions. We should work together in the more broadly way.

For instance, I have here a topic that I would like to raise, if possible. We could identify and share some initiatives that are underway, for instance, at the national level which can be replicated in other countries in key areas like trust, security, responsibility, digital literacy. Gender divide is very important. And of course equal access.

So, my idea in the end is that we can try to optimize this powerful network that we already have here in place and try to mobilize and stimulate our community.

For instance, here, I think that I can do, if elected, a very good job. For instance, helping serving as liaison with the Portuguese-speaking countries.

So, the other point that I was talking about is about the relationship between ccNSO and ICANN, mainly ICANN board. Well, I have there [inaudible] I would like to pick. The idea of ccNSO should create strong and safe bridges. What I mean is that we should work in order to enhance and consolidate our status as ICANN supporting organization.

So, this idea for me of creating strong and safe bridges is like a double perspective. It's like a two-fold idea. First, it is important to have this solid relationship between the ccNSO and the board, and then of course create in our community a sense of trust. We should feel that we are really represented by the ccNSO, mainly by the council.

So, the third point is why me? Well, I have a law background. As a member of the board of directors of dot-PT, I have to work [inaudible] communication, marketing and management. So, of course as I told you, I am a member of the board of directors, and also I would like to have this opportunity to talk about LusNIC. I'll be brief.

LusNIC is an association of the Portuguese language ccTLDs. The association was set up in 2015 with all the countries that are Portuguese-speaking countries, together with Brazil, Sao Tome, Guinea, Mozambique. We set up this association and it was a first step in order to make all of those countries work together to increase and to share and to have the opportunity to promote, to have trainings in legal matters, security, technical, and so on.

So, the last idea that I have here is my daily life in the multi-stakeholder environment. What I want to point out here is that I don't know if you know the structure of our registry. The management of the dot-PT was taking care [inaudible] 2013 by the Portuguese [inaudible]. Then in 2013, it was created, an association, a not-for-profit association that now is in charge of the management of the dot-PT.

When the association was created, the idea was to build a multi-stakeholder institution to run ccTLD and now we have a board, and in

ICANN 63 ANNUAL GENERAL
BARCELONA
20–26 October 2018

the board, the government is represented. The biggest association of consumer protection is represented. We have the registrars represented as well and the Academy.

So, my daily life is trying to have consensus and trying to optimize as possible the opinions of all the stakeholders. So, it is a big challenge and the experience that I have, the big challenge, I believe that could be important to bring here to this council.

So, I am just about to conclude my presentation. I would like just to point to [inaudible] to have here a few more ideas. So, my words of thanks to all the members who contributed in the past or are still contributing, giving the ccNSO an active voice. It is an active voice and I believe that we all agree on that.

On the top of my head, I have this main goal of increasing the cross-board collaboration on fundamental areas like trust, security, responsibility, and digital literacy.

Why is this a main point for me? Because I really believe in this. I think it's really helped to have the opportunity to add to this council their experience of someone who, as I told you previously in the daily basis on the ground. I manage a multi-stakeholder organization and I work directly with other countries trying to build possible platforms of collaboration.

So, this brings me to the end of my presentation. I have here a final phrase that I would read to you and it's really committed to the

statement above. If you'd like to [inaudible], I will try to contribute my experience, [inaudible].

Thank you for giving me this opportunity and please welcome me. Thank you so much. Gracias!

PETER VERGOTE: Thank you, Marta. Finally, I give the floor to Biyi.

BIYI OLADIPO: Good afternoon, everyone. I'm actually tempted to say I don't need to say I don't need to say anything. I just follow whatever statement she's made.

My name is Biyi Oladipo. I was nominated for the African state on the council. I would like to say, first of all, thank you to dot-KE and dot-LS for the nomination [inaudible].

A little background about myself. I sit on the board of the manager of the dot-NG. That's Nigeria. I've sat on the board from inception. Currently, I'm the financial secretary and also the chair of the establishment committee of dot-NG.

In terms of working with the ccNSO, I was nominated by dot-NG like two years ago to be the face of dot-NG for ccNSO and I've acted on that part. I really haven't been involved in the work of the ccNSO until recently and I think that the experience that I bring actually is quite needed.

Currently, I'm the ccNSO liaison to the GNSO and also I'm part of the review working party. I found the experience very useful and I think I can contribute a bit more.

Like Marta said, it's going to be too difficult to say I'm coming to make a difference, but what I can say is I'm coming to contribute and give my little part to furthering the cause of the ccNSO and the global DNS community. Thank you.

PETER VERGOTE: Okay. Thank you very much. Well, we have heard from all of our candidates now, but before opening the floor for questions, a couple of points.

I think it's pretty obvious that we are only going to have a head-to-head election for the European seat in the council. That's going to go between Marta and Nick. But, what I see that is very heartwarming is that we have a number of people that are stepping up and engaging for an international function, so to speak, for the first time.

So, I think that it's very critical for the future of ccNSO that we keep on finding people that are willing to step up. But, of course, in a more broader sense, I think that before firing our questions to the candidate, I think they all earn a very warm round of applause for their willingness to serve and to dedicate their time for the greater benefit of our community. So, let's have a round of applause.

I see already one eager community member that is willing to – two! Okay, Byron. Sorry. I hadn't spotted you in the back. Eberhard, by all means, go ahead.

EBERHARD LISSE: Eager is one thing I'm not. Anyway, I know most of the candidates. I'm not going to ask even my not so well-known brother-in-law. I'm Eberhard Lisse from dot-NA which is in Africa, so I'm allowed to say brother-in-law to my Nigerian brother-in-law because he is running unopposed like Pablo and Jordan and Demi.

I found it a bit disturbing that you managed 20 minutes for a presentation. I have never seen you in the last five years, Marta. Where have you been?

MARTA MOREIRA DIAS: You're right. In fact, I was here in 2013 to give a presentation about the new model of management of the dot-PT. So, you probably skipped that meeting or you weren't at the room at the time, but I was here in 2013.

Of course, it took a long time from 2013 to here, but now here I am, and I think this could be an opportunity for me to contribute. In fact, I hope you can in the next meeting you can be here, and so do I, in order to talk and to exchange some ideas. Yeah. Thank you.

PETER VERGOTE: Thank you. Byron?

BYRON HOLLAND: Thanks. Byron from CIRA, dot-CA. Byron Holland. This is really a question for all of you, or I hope you're all willing to answer a question asked from somebody from the North American region. I guess an administrative one. Do you all have the explicit support of your organization, including the time that will be required for you to do good work for this community? That's the first question, just a yes or no.

The second is given all of the efforts that the community has to expend against the various working groups, do we have your assurances that you're willing and able to spend the time and the effort doing work, sleeves rolled up, in the working groups, and on the council?

PETER VERGOTE: Okay. I'll start with Pablo. Then, Biyi, and then we go to the …

PABLO RODRIGUEZ: Thank you very much, Byron, for that question. In my organization, I have 100% support to continue to work with the ccNSO and I have complete commitment from our registry so that I can dedicate all the time necessary to perform the tasks, duties, and other important matters that are relevant to the ccNSO and to the work with other institutions.

For example, in the case of Puerto Rico, we have a special – we are in a special position because, although we are Americans and North Americans, we have a very close relationship with Latin America and the

ICANN 63
ANNUAL GENERAL
BARCELONA
20–26 October 2018

Caribbean Islands. For that reason, I'm in a special position that allows me and helps me to facilitate that integration with the various organizations such as the regional organizations, such as LACTLD. But, at the same time, to promote the participation of ccTLDs from the Caribbean region to participate in the ccNSO.

Furthermore, it is important to continue to work with the ccNSO and other organizations to be able to promote what are the best practices and what are the issues of importance to protect the ccTLDs throughout our region and throughout the world. Consequently, this year, we were able to celebrate one of the first webinars in Spanish between the ccNSO and the Latin American region. That takes a tremendous amount of time to coordinate, along with other events such as ICANN 61 and so many others.

All of those events are necessary in order to integrate the various parts that conform the fabric of this great ccNSO and this Internet community. Thank you.

PETER VERGOTE: Thank you, Pablo. Over to you, Biyi.

BIYI OLADIPO: Thanks, Byron, for that question. One of the important things for me is the fact that if I'm not going to give my all to it, I would rather not take it. Stepping up into the plate just means that I'm committing to the time that is needed. I spent a lot of time on working, observing the GNSO now, at least since – I think I took that position the week before the

Panama meeting, and from then until now, I participated in all of the GNSO activities. I reported back to the GNSO on it. So, that's a commitment, and for me it [inaudible]. If I'm not going to do anything, if I'm not going to be active in It, I'd rather not even step up to the plate.

But, if you understand how the dot-NG is structured, dot-NG is more like a mini ccNSO, so to speak, because what we do is we have different constituencies and most of the guys who are there are volunteers and we don't give people positions if you're not going to give the commitment that is required to it.

So, on both questions, the answer is yes.

PETER VERGOTE: Thank you. Marta?

MARTA MOREIRA DIAS: Thank you for the question. For me, it is exactly the time. I am truly committed with this possible opportunity to serve in the council. I really think that this is a relationship that we say it is a win-win relationship. So, I'm sure that I can bring something to this council, but also from this council to my TLD. I am very committed with this. Thank you.

PETER VERGOTE: Thank you. Nick?

ICANN
ANNUAL GENERAL 63
BARCELONA
20–26 October 2018

NICK WENBAN-SMITH: Thanks for the question. I think it's a very important question and I think it's good to address it straight on. My job is to do these sorts of activities for Nominet, my employer. I'm not the boss of Nominet, so I'm a worker at Nominet and I have to go through a process to get approval for my nomination internally to make sure that I was given the resources and time to do this job and they have absolutely committed to that.

I think, nevertheless, if you look back at my track record of engagement and participation in the last couple of years, it's very strong and I'm totally prepared to, as I say, roll my sleeves up and go in to fight for the ccTLDs on things which are important to us, because if we don't fight, then other people will take them.

For example, tomorrow … I've learned now I'm on a cross-community panel on GDPR again. Obviously, I've tried to then highlight [inaudible] good examples from ccTLDs and to make sure that we're not forgotten. So, absolutely, yes.

PETER VERGOTE: Thank you, Jordan?

JORDAN CARTER: Thanks, Byron. Good question. Yes and yes. A bit less time in the first years. We're just doing our merger and there's a bit of a [inaudible] that at home. But I wouldn't be standing if I didn't have my board's full support for this.

ICANN 63
ANNUAL GENERAL
BARCELONA
20–26 October 2018

DEMI GETSCHKO: Thank you. The same very brief. So, yes and yes. I [inaudible] of course in the best possible time we can get on this. But I am very in favor to keep this voluntary thing we have here in the ccNSO. I think it's in the best interest of the spirit of this supporting organization to keep the work being done by voluntary people inside the community [inaudible] who have many examples like the Tech Day, for example. It's an excellent job done in a voluntary way. Then, I think it's important to keep this way of working in ccNSO. Thank you.

PETER VERGOTE: Thank you. Pierre, I think you were next in line to present us your question. Go ahead.

[PIERRE DANDJINOU]:   Thank you very much, Peter. First of all I'm very proud that the European region is so vibrant in terms of democracy and having several candidates for one seat. I am sorry that Peter has to leave, really, and I would just like to say to Marta that she is warmly welcome in ccNSO, even if we didn't see you and the best way to make sure that you come back is maybe to welcome you and not to tell you that we didn't see you for years. But, this is another way to welcome you.

I just have a question. And that's not for all of you, but those of you who want to answer I would be very pleased. First of all – and it goes in line with the question asked by Byron. Do you identify a particular working

group or a particular CCWG that you want to get involved in in the name of the ccNSO? Now, that's the first question.

The second question is do you see a difference between your previous engagement as a member of the ccNSO participating to these working groups and now a member of the council of the ccNSO? Do you think that it's going to change your approach or it will be the same and it will be just sharing your expertise? Thank you very much.

PETER VERGOTE: Thank you, Pierre. If I may, I especially like your first question because that's really interesting for the membership to see if our candidates already have a certain affinity with the word that is currently undertaken.

But, for the sake of the time, because we only have five minutes and Patricio wants to ask a question as well, is it okay with you if I ask the candidates only to reply to your first question and that I then take Patricio's question? And if we still have some time, we can go back to your second question? Is that okay? Thank you So, please, candidates, if you can just briefly, if you already have identified or feeling affinity with a working group or other ccNSO related activity, if you could share some thoughts. Thank you. Demi, can we start with you?

DEMI GETSCHKO: Just a very short comment. I think we have excellent work done by [Annabeth] in working track five. I suppose we have to [follow] and to be informed in what's going on and contribute in the comments in the

ICANN 63
ANNUAL GENERAL
BARCELONA
20–26 October 2018

next session. I think there is a lot of things very crucial to our supporting organization. The question is how you can characterize what is CCs and how we can defend ourselves against other initiatives. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Good questions, Pierre. Internally, I'm interested in the SOP committee. I'm just trying to join that or I've joined that recently. Scrutiny of ICANN, keeping costs under control is something I'm interested in. Then, externally, I'd be seeking the council's guidance about where I would be useful to help.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: So, I'm obviously from a legal background. I find my skill set best suited to legal matters. Luckily, there are a lot of those in ICANN. So, I'm already, as I said, involved in the work track five, geographic names and I'm I think one of the community leaders for the CCs there and I'm having a council position, actually, gives me a bit more, the formal basis for me to do that.

I'm also interested in things like the guideline reviews which are fairly dry areas, but at least for me it's relatively logical that I should be helping with that and I'm obviously participating already in the interview processes, etc. But, as a councilor, that becomes then a more formal scope. I'll answer the second question if we get time.

MARTA MOREIRA DIAS:	Well, thank you so much. As I've told you, I have a legal background as well, so the GDPR issues and all the questions related with the WHOIS process, of course they are both matters that are very important for me.
	Also, the guidelines reviews and the new challenges regarding the launch of a new gTLD program.
UNIDENTIFIED MALE:	Okay. For a few years of that, being an observer in the SOP Working Group, that's the first place that I've made up my mind that I was going to get involved in. Of course, also coming from my background as a financial person, so that is somewhere that I think my experience will be brought to bear.
PIERRE DANDJINOU:	Okay, thank you.
UNIDENTIFIED MALE:	Thank you. And thank you for the question. Capacity building is something that we need to develop, especially for the Caribbean region. Participation is very low from the Caribbean region, so we need to continue to devise workshops, training, events, that can promote to people. So, outreach is very important, not only for the Caribbean region, but to integrate them into the ccNSO community and into the Internet community globally.
	I am going to abuse this opportunity to also answer your second question. The reason that we must try to do this is because it's so

important to integrate all of the different parts that are related to what we need to do in order to make this Internet work and to have participation from everybody. Thanks.

PETER VERGOTE: Thank you. Patricio, the final question is for you.

PATRICIO POBLETE: Thank you. Patricio Poblete NIC Chile. My question is for Marta. Your face did look familiar from 2013. Now I know. Historically, the ccNSO has taken a very minimalistic approach towards policy development. [They] cant afford not to interfere with local matters. So, I was a bit surprised to hear and read that you were proposing that the ccNSO should do more policy development work, and not only on matters related to ccTLDs, but also on related matters. Did I understand correctly? And if so, would you care to elaborate about that?

MARTA MOREITA DIAS: Thank you. Well, my idea was not to have that so broad idea of bringing all the issues in terms of national initiatives are being [developed] in each country that is here represented, but only regarding the issues that can be important or related to our [activity] because what I was trying to identify, for instance, in that slide that I show is a set of questions that we all have in common.

So, if you look at our national initiatives regarding to that, we can try to bring them here to share with each other in order to find some points in

common and to help us to work together and sometimes when you have [inaudible] some initiatives, some topics that you can use for your country and use in a good way for your CC, I believe it is important and we can use that kind of knowledge from the other CCs in order to help our CC to grow and have the best experiences … Well, I pointed out some matters that I would like to work on regarding these kind of collaboration, like the security, the trust … Well, all of those topics that I think are important for us as ccTLD managers. Yeah.

PATRICIO POBLETE: Yeah. So, I understand that you're not really talking about developing new policy, but rather sharing of experiences and [inaudible] best practices, in which case I would totally agree.

MARTA MOREIRA DIAS: Exactly. I'm sorry if I was not that clear. Thank you.

PETER VERGOTE: Thank you for the clarification, Patricio. Okay. Well, this brings us to the end of this session. I would like to thank all the candidates. I know that this particular session doesn't put you in the most comfortable spot. I know that from personal experience. Thanks again to all the candidates.

Okay. We break for coffee now and we start at—

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