Good day, everyone. I’d like to welcome you to your NCUC Executive Committee call on the 24th of September, 2020 at 15:00 UTC. This meeting is recorded. Kindly state your name, when speaking, for the transcript and keep your phones and microphones on mute when not speaking. Attendance is taken via Zoom. And Bruna, I’ll turn the meeting over to you. Thank you.

Thank you very much, Brenda. And thank you all for attending this meeting. As Brenda said, this is yet another NCUC Executive Committee Meeting, mostly likely my last one as the EC chair and also a good one for us to welcome the new regional representatives of our EC. So, thank you very much for attending.

Our agenda for today is a little discussion on the ICANN 69 meetings and agendas—just an information side on it. And then, we can discuss some things on the leadership transition. That is why I invited Raphael, Olga, and Lia to this meeting, as well. I invited the whole new EC. But it’s good for us to have the three new members on this call.

And also, our need to kick off the ABR process … I don’t know if you recall but we had an ABR approved. It was a civil society advocacy course that we managed to approve with the ICANN Org. So, it’s really good if we can start brainstorming ideas for this course in capacity building.
And AOB, just in case anyone wants to add any topics to our agenda. So, this is it for today.

Starting with the ICANN 69 discussion, Maryam has posted on the chat our document for the ICANN 69 agenda template. It’s been a while since we had a meeting at the ICANN meetings. I decided to follow the previous advice from GNSO leadership on helping reduce the number of meetings. And then, we did not host a NCUC meeting for neither ICANN 67 nor ICANN 68. But I think this is a good moment for us to come back to meetings and these discussions, as we are welcoming the new leadership. And this is also a really good moment to have NCUC, having its own discussions and topics on this.

But then, we need ... We also need to form up an agenda. And I guess this is a good space for us to discuss what would you like to see on this specific meeting? We can do ... Of course, I’m supposed ... We are going to do a presentation of the new leadership and also give some space for the incoming EC members to present themselves and also present themselves in front of the community. But we also always have the chance of inviting other parts of NCSG to discuss topics, such as our policy work or any other thing you guys need to see or would like to see in this.

So, my first question is, is there any suggestions for this agenda? Is there any direct topic that you guys would like to see on this discussion? And I guess I can open the floor for now.

Okay. Since I’m hearing no one, I guess we can take on a similar approach of what we have been doing before, which was inviting some
of our representatives in different working groups and policy work to be in those meetings. And so, I would like to propose inviting someone to speak on behalf of the EPDP Team, and also the SubPro, and also the RPMs, as well. I would propose these three. But I think it’s … It’s a one-hour meeting and we have space for more than just this discussion. And I would like to see if you guys would agree on this or … Okay. So, thanks, Raph. Let me just add it to the agenda.

Yes. Amazing. Guys, you can please take the mic. The floor is open to any of you who wish to give any suggestions. I’m writing on the document at the same time I’m trying to read the chat. So, I might sound a little confusing. But I’m taking the suggestions on ccPDP 4 and also the strategy review.

MARYAM BAKOSHI: Hi, Bruna.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Hello.

MARYAM BAKOSHI: I’m sorry. I can’t raise my hand in the room because of my host status. I just wanted to make a quick suggestion, or at least information. So, for the policy update, this usually happens during the NCSG meeting. So, you might want to check with Stephanie to see if this is going to happen—well, it usually does—so you’re not duplicating efforts. Thank you.
BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Thank you, Maryam. I think … I don’t think Stephanie has an agenda yet. And we have somehow duplicated this before. But I will definitely check with her and then see if we can go with, then, just a discussion on the strategy review and ccPDP 4. But that’s a good point.

OLGA KYRYLIUK: Hi, Bruna. I’m also thinking maybe except for introducing the leadership, it also makes sense to have some short introduction of the NCUC [inaudible] because maybe, for the newcomers who would like to—who will attending the meeting and they also, potentially, would like to become our members as well.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Thank you, Olga. So, what I understood, just a little presentation on the constituency you’re proposing, right?

OLGA KYRYLIUK: Yes.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Okay. I’m writing this as “NCUC for newcomers” and then another slot on leadership, and then policy updates, which I can do in a more broad way, taking on some of Maryam’s suggestions, and then a discussion on the strategy review. I think if we do these four—simply these four—it’s a good one for this meeting. Because if we decide to take on the
strategy review discussion during ICANN 69, I think this is going to be a very robust—can be a very robust topic, with a lot of opinion from our members.

So, I’m saying maybe 10 minutes for an introduction, and then more 10 minutes for leadership presentation, and leaving 30 minutes for the strategy review. Milton, thank you for ... Just one moment, Ben. I was just going to ask Milton if we could add the constituency [inaudible] bylaw under the strategy review discussion.

Yeah. I’m thinking that they can be both—like this strategy review debate can be a presentation of what the leadership has talk about so far, and has discussed, and at what point is this review discussion? And then, we can add the point of the constituency merger/bylaw modification. What do you think? Okay, Milton. You have the floor. And then, I’m going to give the floor to Ben. Please go ahead.

MILTON MUELLER: Yeah. So, what else is included in strategy review besides the merger issue? I’m unclear about that.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Oh. Of course. So, I thought an update on how this process is going. Raphael and myself, we have been reviewing the call for members, which I’m thinking that might be open during this meeting. So, just announce the call for either the members or the chair of this strategy—little review group. And then, do a more consistent discussion on the merger/bylaw modification. But if you guys think we should be more
pragmatic and go ahead with the discussion on the bylaw modification, I’m also okay with that. So, I would like to hear everybody else on this topic.

MILTON MUELLER: I’m just uniformed, really. I haven't kept up with this because of the other things, like EPDP. So, you’re saying that the committee that is considering this is called the strategy committee? And so, yeah. It wouldn't matter to me if it were—if those things were combined, if they're the same thing. It’s fine.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Yeah. No, Milton. I am naming things out of my mind. What has happened so far is that Raph and myself, we have been working on the call for volunteers for this committee. And following on what we discussed on this past call, that we decided on issuing a call for volunteers and, indeed, starting this process. So, we have been working on this call for volunteers. And we should be issuing this soon—as soon as we have some of our members and people involved with this, reviewing the call.

But I guess ... Ben, just a little update on the whereabouts of the group, and how it’s working so far, and do a more consistent discussion on the bylaw modification. I think it can work.

Okay. Milton, do you still have your hand up. If so, you have the floor. Okay. So, I guess I have Ben and then Raph. Ben, do you still wish to speak or was your hand for the same question on the chat?
BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: I think that answered my question. But I also would ... The question, initially, was what were we going to be discussing? But now, you’ve clarified by saying that a call for individuals to be—a call for volunteers is going to be out soon. So, I think that update [inaudible] for me.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Thank you, Ben. And I think I can just do a little pick-up on this because you guys might recall that a few months ago, Sam had proposed a merger—a merger of what he considered to be the [troika]—so, a merger of NCC, NPOP, and NCSG.

And some of us started some debates on this. We had the first constituency leadership all with myself, Joan, and Stephanie, and Rafik, if I’m not mistaken, and Raph, to discuss this. And before we decided on anything, we had an open call for the whole group to give opinions and be able to give input on this. And from this open call, we have decided that, yes, we could kick off some debates or a better assessment of what were the hardships of our groups and means of working with that.

And then, we decided to form this working group to address the merger idea/constituency review. We are calling this process the constituency review. And then, what was left as an action point from the past meeting was that we would write a call for volunteers for this process, just so anyone in the constituency who would be willing to help with this process will be able to join this working group.
So, this is where we stand right now. We are still to issue the call. But I think Raph had his hand up to also give some input on this. So, Raph, you have the floor, if you wish to speak about this.

RAPHAEL BEAUREGARD-LACROIX: No. Thank you, Bruna. You actually just covered that. So, [inaudible].

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Thanks, Raph. And then, this is where we’re at. So, we definitely should host a second meeting about this constituency review—like a broader, throughout NCSG constituency review meeting. But then, we also need to issue this call, as soon as we have the input from leadership and other interested members. So, this is where we’re standing on this.

So, can we set with this agenda for ICANN 69? Do you guys have any other thoughts? I see Mili has her hand up. Go ahead, Mili.

MILI SEMLANI: Hi. Thanks, Bruna. So, my question is do we have a joint outreach session with ALAC? If yes, then we can do something short for the NCUC—focus this hour for more membership kind of updates. If not, then maybe would could design the session a little more friendlier for newcomers. I’m not sure if we do have that or not, on the agenda.
BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Mili, we could not hear you because of the echo. And your voice was coming in very low. So, do you wish to try to repeat or maybe write it on the chat for us?

Ah! I see. So, about the joint outreach. This is something that Adam Peake was asking us about. And I really wished to do this meeting. But I don’t think ... I don’t know if we would have the time or the disposition to do it now. What we are doing is that we reached out to ALAC on this, about maybe a joint session/outreach. And ALAC opted for a joint CCWP Human Rights session—so, a place where we could discuss how is the work of the CCWP Human Rights and different topics and approaches by the two groups.

So, I can check again with ALAC. And I will do this as soon as we finish this call. But I can check with them, if there is some space for an outreach. But from the last emails I got, I don’t think there would be much space for doing one. But I agree. We should do something in order to welcome newcomers or anything of the sort.

I also need to check with Siranush because I don’t think there is going to be any sort of space for constituency leaderships to present themselves to fellows this time. At least, I haven’t heard anything about it. So, it would good for us to try to see. If any of you is closer to Siranush or has more information on the fellows [group at] this time and can help me see if we could have any space for doing some sort of reach-out this time there, it could be good. Oh! So, I’m seeing none for the fellows this time.
Okay. But then, if there’s none for the fellows, and if we don’t manage to have a joint session with ALAC, then we can take this suggestion from Olga and having a little slot of presenting our constituency to newcomers and saying, “This is what we do. These are our values,” and some things like that. And this is definitely something we can improve for the next one.

Okay. So, I’m going to close the topic on ICANN 69. If there is anything else you guys wish to add to this agenda, please let me know. But this is all on the screen for you now.

Okay. So, moving on to the transition talk, I guess. So, I would like to kick off this discussion. And hopefully, Raph and Stephanie can also help—and Milton can help me with this. But I think this has been a difficult year for our groups, in general. And specifically, with the COVID dynamics, we have seen some sort of decrease in the engagement of our volunteers and so on. And I know we have had our problems with the mailing list and you guys not receiving my emails.

But I do think that, moving forward, Raph really needs an engaged Executive Committee. And definitely, it’s … We can only profit from your engagement and help in all of the topics we will have to deal with the next year. So, this is just one—maybe a first disclaimer from me.

I do … I would really like to see higher levels of engagement from the EC from now on. I guess we’re all facing our own personal issues and some level of hardship during this pandemic. But this is a work that we are supposed to do together. And I think we have some more challenges in the future, such as restructuring this constituency review debate and
also reshaping, or even moving back to the place of attention that NCUC had. And this is a really important constituency for the ICANN work. And I really think it’s on your guys’ hands to help us move forward and also help us highlight the work of the Noncommercial at ICANN.

So, just a first disclaimer on this. I guess that moving on to more specific and maybe more bureaucratic talks on transition and so on. For each of you who is just incoming into a position that you already have a representative ... So, let me just take the example of Lia and Franco. It’s really important for you, Franco and Lia, to rely on each other and to exchange details on the communities that you’re joining and also how to better outreach to the community that will be your focus from now on. And Olga, as well. I think you can really rely on Louise to help you with this. And I have been doing the same with Raph so far. We have been speaking a lot on transition details and how our—how will be the work for the next year.

What I wanted to propose is something that we did when I joined the EC and really helped me. That was some sort of a transition document—so, kind of a list of things we still had to do—a list of things that are necessary for each meeting or things we need to discuss, such as Policy Committee representation, Finance Committee representation. We also need to fill the slots of the North American representative at the EC. We didn’t have any candidates during the election. So, this is yet another challenge that we need.

So, I wanted to open the floor for a debate on this and maybe welcome Mili, Ben, and Franco into this discussion, for them to also let me know what worked, what didn’t work when they joined on the EC, and how
can we improve this onboarding for the incoming members. So, I guess the floor is open.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: In terms of onboarding, I think something that didn’t work was having the new EC figure out his or her way. I think that’s not appropriate. I think there should be some form of accountability mechanism where ... It doesn’t have to be so rigid but something that could be like a working document. And when anybody comes on board, to take up a particular position or office, it could easily be something to get them up to speed. Not having ... I didn’t have anybody to hold my hand and say, “Hey! This is what I was working on. I think you can continue with this. This is [how] I did it—” and all of that.

So, I think if we want to see the smooth transitioning and continuous work, I think we should have that and we should ... At least, from the beginning, I believe we should start doing it. People should be held accountable for what they promised to bring on board. And yeah. That’s what I think.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Great. Thank you, Ben. Anyone else?

FRANCO GLANDANA: Hello, everyone. Can you hear me well?
FRANCO GLANDANA: Okay. Wonderful. So, I guess I’m going to back up with what was just stated by Ben. I think that in order to have a productive transition, it would be great if we can not only give all the information regarding memberships and who could be possibly engaged in the constituency and so on, but also having a background on the policy updates that were mentioned just before.

In my experience, when I began to occupy this wonderful role, I didn’t have that chance. I was able to understand who was in, and who was out, and where to communicate the work that’s being done. But I think I’d like a little bit of information regarding policy work. So, I guess that’s my two cents on this issue.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Thank you very much, Franco. Anyone else? Amazing. So, that’s good. That’s really good because, Ben, the document that you’re—that you also mentioned—is exactly what I was proposing on this note. I think if we work on a short description of everything—like a document that can consolidate everything that you EC members—like current EC members—have done or the sort of outreach you worked on with your communities and regions and things like that is a good thing.

On my side, I will also fill in with some of the—as what Stephanie was saying—the job description. Stephanie was mentioning it for something else—but my job description. So, I can fill in with some of the things. We
need to ... I just created the doc, Mili. I’m going to share it with you. I’m going to fill in with some of the things we need to do.

I guess that once the new chair and new EC are in place—so, right after the ICANN meeting, ICANN 69—you will have some initial challenges. And I see at least three initial challenges. So, one would be replacing or adding our members—finding representation for NCUC’s Policy Committee representatives. We have two people there. We also need to find one representative for the Finance Committee. So, it’s another person. And we also need to fill in the North American EC slot. So, this is definitely something I can help Raphael and you guys with. But these will be the three initial challenges that I would see, in terms of representations.

As Stephanie noted, you guys might also be aware of that but Rafik is no longer going to be the Policy Committee chair. So, this is something that will also be in the works. But this is at the NCSG level. So, we will have a lot of leadership transitioning in the near future. So, it’s really important for us to take care of that. An I trust Raph. And I put myself ... Whenever you need to talk about this, I’m also available for any help you guys might need.

And there is also the matter of two other things that I’m thinking, that will be necessary and, most likely, an immediate challenge for the new chair, which will be this ABR—the additional budget request. We had one approved for a civil society advocacy training. This is something that Raph, you will be working directly with ICANN staff. But also, it’s really important for us to gather input from the constituency to see what sort
of things they wish to see on this course and what would be the areas that we would need to cover on this debate. So, this is another thing.

And I had something else in mind but I forgot. But I’m just going to … I’m going to read the chat now because I’ve seen Mili and Stephanie wrote some things here.

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: I don’t know if I can say some things.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Yeah!

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Okay. So, I think this is a good time. We’ve been putting this off for a long time. It’s a good time for NCSG, or NCUC’s visibility—to become very, very visible, in terms of—as of our websites need to become more interactive. I don’t know what we’re asking for budgets for and things like that. So, our Social Media Team needs to become very intentional. And I think those are the things we can invest in. And [ourselves] will become advocates that we ought to be.

And I agree. Yes, we need to do policy work, which I’m also all for. However, being visible and vocal is what is going to help us get the immediate input of content that we need to advocate, or adjust the policies, or push for the policies we want to see changed, or [inaudible] for policies we want to see.
So, I would say we should look at some effort in that direction, as well. There should be content on our website. Our website needs to become very active. We should have a working group on social media that is actively being held accountable and motivated to do the work. It might also be part of us in the EC leading. But we have to have that mandate. And we have to agree that that is something that is [worked toward], essentially, because it seems to have just gone cold. So, that’s something I also think we need to consider for the meeting. Yes. Thank you.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Thank you very much, Ben. So, about the website … I agree on us using more of this resource. But I have offered you guys, not just once but a lot of times, that we have our blog. We have a blog space on the website. And this is a space that can be used by any one of us—anyone on NCUC that wishes to write a blog, to be featured in the website. This is a resource that can be used by any of us. The only steps that we need to do is that someone would write the blog. And then, the EC has to go through the new text and approve it. This is the only process that we have for that.

So, we have used it before, for ICANN 68, doing a little—a short description of the sessions—and had offered to it you before to do this as well. But I definitely agree, Ben, that we should be using more of these resources and being more vocal about our values, our participation in this community, and things like that.
And I agree it’s a good time, as well. We have been ... And I’m just going to say this. I guess this community, as a whole, has been facing a lot of problems. And I don't mean problems directly. But each of us has been facing different things. And we’re also going through a hard time. And so, it’s normal for us to ... It would be normal for us to become less vocal. But I do agree that it’s the moment to empower and to see in our membership and put us back in this highlight position.

So, if any of you want to write a blog for your communities ... And also, you can write blogs in your native languages, if you wish. You can write blogs in, let’s say, Spanish, talking about ICANN 69 for the LAC community. You can write blogs in French or any other language to talk about ICANN 69 to the African community. So, please let me know if you would wish to use the blog and our social media.

And just during the meetings, it’s mostly me doing the tweets. And it has become a little overwhelming. So, I think Raph would really wish to be—to have some help on that side. So, maybe, really, assembling a working group for social media—it’s a really good idea. Someone we had before helping us with that was, Shahul, Ben. So, maybe he’s someone we can reach to.

And Shahul was also the one behind Ask NCUC, which was a live tweet Q&A we would do during meetings. If you guys would wish to bring this back for ICANN 69, I think it’s a good idea. We just need to set the topic and see who would be our interviewee. So, a lot of good ideas. But I’m going to give the floor back to you guys. Anyone else? All right, if anyone wants to contribute again, it’s also fine.
BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Yeah. I think ... Yeah. We just need to work on it—like have a plan. And thank for the response. It’s true. We could blog. Because I know [Mike and I] was to write some blogs. It just never happened. I got caught up with personal issues, as well. Yes. I think, for the new EC, one year runs away very quickly.

If we really want to make a difference, I think it would be good for us to develop a work plan. I think it would be good to develop a work plan, irrespective of what is happening. Just have a work plan that we can align ourselves with. Probably say every quarter, we would have one or two blogs out. We would ... 

And now, I also don’t know why NCUC, we don’t have Zoom conference. Is there something in ICANN that stops us from having those side conversations, even prior to ICANN meetings. Just organize a Zoom meeting. I’m sure there will somebody who will have access to some kind of Zoom paid access that can host a meeting, just to keep the momentum on because sometimes, the whole policy thing can be too overwhelming for some persons. But they might be willing to have other conversations that has things to do with noncommercial stakeholders. And we could have this conversation on the side, which can wrap up things towards our official meetings and all of that.

But I think we need to get more active. If we can have a work plan as the new EC is coming up, I think that would also be very good. These are good ideas. But I think it’s easy to talk. It’s following up with action
that’s … [inaudible] to make sure it happens. I think a work plan will also help us.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Yeah. Thank you, Ben, for the suggestions. And once again, we tried to do the plans—the work plans. But it’s something that, in the end of the day, was really left aside. So, I really wish that, for this new EC, you guys take on newer levels of shared responsibilities.

And again, we should have had quarterly meetings or NCUC-exclusive meetings and so on. But since I was seeing the dropping levels of engagement and so on, I did not follow through with these meetings because … Our mailing list was mostly caught up in some fighting. And there was never some level of productive discussion.

And then, I really … And this is something I take the responsibility for. But I somehow dropped the ball on hosting quarterly constituency meetings. But this is something we can—and you should—definitely do.

But then again, it’s something that it’s not just proposing but something the EC has to engage in doing. It’s not just Raphael’s or my responsibility. And you should be proposing meetings on the EC list. You should be proposing the agendas on the EC mailing list.

The EC meeting agenda, this is something that is not necessarily the chair’s responsibility but something you guys should be giving input and suggestions to. So, please take—help Raph take the control and also take the control over these suggestions because it’s … As I’ve been telling you guys for more than a year now, it’s a shared responsibility position.
So, you should be ... If you guys, for now ... Let’s say, if we want to do any meeting before ICANN 69 or if you want to maybe try to attempt at a post-ICANN 69 webinar on any of the topics, please propose it to Raphael or myself and we can help you guys work through this. But don’t forget to propose. And don’t leave the suggestions solely for these calls because otherwise, it gets just a little too hard. But I’m taking the suggestions.

So, I’m taking the suggestions to bring the periodic EC meetings and also constituency meetings, where it’s ... And I think this is ... As Ben said, this is a good moment for us to rebuild NCUC’s relevance and so on. So, it’s a really good challenge for you guys in the EC. I’m going to give the floor to Stephanie because I’ve been ranting for more time than I’m supposed to. So, please, Stephanie.

STEPHANIE PERRIN: Yeah. Hi. As someone who has talked almost nonstop on Policy Committee meetings since I’ve been at NCSG, I’m a bit discouraged about the participation rate. We’ve got lots of people attending but they don’t open their mouths. And I kind of was a bit snarky at the last meeting and said, “We don’t know whether you’ve just dialed in and you’re walking the dog.”

Now, I understand that people, if they don’t know a topic, they don’t feel like plunging into the depths of it. And this is the problem. Our policy work is so intricate, and multilayered, and involves research into what happened in the past, and what we’re renovating in a particular PDP. But it is daunting. I get that. I sure do.
But I have frequently ranted that we have to be ready for the GNSO review. And we got a little shot across our bow in the GNSO Council meeting this morning. Anybody can listen to the GNSO Council meetings. And that will bring them up to speed with what our work is and what we’re doing. But I don’t see too many people there. And that’s kind of a first step. But, as I say, GNSO review, we will have people trying to destroy us. And, quite frankly, if we don’t have more people engaged, we deserve to be destroyed. We have to get down to the serious work of why we’re here.

So, the first step in that is listening to Council. The second step, of course, would be participating in the Policy Committee. And then, if you’ve got questions, I have occasionally recommended things to read from old policy documents. Read them! Nobody ever reads them and gets back to me with questions. Read them! They’re all up on the ICANN archive. Or if you can’t find them, I’m really happy to help find things because I know what it’s like. ICANN loses stuff every month. It’s difficult.

But year after year, we get people saying, “We need help getting our feet wet and getting organized.” And I’m not aiming at anybody here. And I don’t want to discourage people from reiterating this. But you have to jump in. You have to read a pile of documents. And I know it’s hard because for many people, it’s their second language. But that’s what the work is. That is what the work is. I’m really reluctant to say, “Why don’t we tweet more?” If the people tweeting don’t know what they’re talking about because they haven’t read the documents.
Sorry for the rant. But I think that, as somebody who’s kind of … I guess I’m a veteran now, after being here for seven years. I’m happy to help people but they’ve got to do some work themselves. I am not going to create PowerPoint slides for people, like you would if you were a professor. And frankly, in my day, professors didn’t do all that much work for their students. Nowadays, students expect to have everything chewed for them. In our day, we were expected to take notes. But I’m happy to help somebody through it but nobody ever calls! Nobody ever sends a follow-up question! It’s very discouraging. Thanks.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Thank you very much, Stephanie. And I think it’s a long … It’s a very long process. We are very aware of how hard ICANN discussions can be and how complicated remaining within this space can be. But we’re also assuming that, since you guys have been volunteering yourselves to the leadership roles, posts, and positions, this means that you are more resilient than some of our volunteers. So, we’re also relying on you to help us outreach, and talk to members, and do things for the whole membership, as well. And I think it’s … It’s a long process, again. These are hard times and it’s a long process. But we definitely need to be more present in these spaces and so on and help with this.

In terms of resources and how to move forward … I’ve told you this before as well but we have a few resources to either work on new social media pieces for NCUC, work on a new—maybe on a new brochure for NCUC. So, if any of you wants to take on that role and help us reshape, maybe, a visual identity or any things you would like to see being
performed on behalf of NCUC, this is also open. And feel free to have any suggestions on this.

I think we also need to, maybe, repopulate those spaces and the [IG] spaces. And let’s take advantage, from this moment, in which all of us are locked up inside our homes and all of the events are mostly online, to use some of these spaces to talk about NCUC and also help bring new people to this group because I do think that we need more outreach. And I’m seeing Mili fill in some of the meetings, and readouts, and things like that. So, this is a good thing.

One other thing that I’m proposing to do, and that we’ve done—we’ve tried to do before—is to arrange a meeting, again, with the new EC and the GSC meeting team as well, just so you guys know who you’re working with and try to look for ways of contributions and joint contributions between ICANN and NCUC. So, this sort of internal reach-out, I can help you guys with.

Anything else, in terms of transition and what you guys would like to see? What else is helpful for you guys? And also, Lia, Olga, and Raph, feel free to also take the mic and point out anything that you guys would see as necessary or relevant to you.

And also, if you guys want to do any specific transition meeting, in any of the upcoming weeks, we can also arrange that so we can maybe fill in this doc together, with the challenges, and things we need to do in the upcoming months, and what I’m leaving for Raph to do, or what Franco is leaving for Lia to do, and also what Louise is leaving for Olga to do, and talk about some of the challenges and so on. So, if this would make
you guys feel more comfortable, we can also arrange a specific transition for the upcoming month—in any of the upcoming days. So, I’m going to give the floor to Raph.

RAPHAEL BEAUREGARD-LACROIX: Hi, Bruna. Thank you. So, I have been listening, and taking notes, and then looking at the chat. But I think, from what people have said so far and things that I’ve seen myself, since I’ve been in NCUC, I think that something that we could make a priority, at least, would be to have a clear list of all the administrative matters that need to be taken care of.

And maybe, if that is clear and known, so we can learn it collectively, then the transition can happen more smoothly as well. It would leave time and space for other things, like taking care of the website, increasing our social media presence, doing better outreach, preparing all these—the ABRs and preparing what we need to do to put the ABRs, if we get, in place.

Because I think, sometimes, what may be happening is that we end up playing catch-up with all the things that we need to do—preparing the meetings and all these things. And so, in the end, our time—the finite amount of time that we can dedicate to ICANN, each of us, every week or every month—ends up being eaten up by these things. And so, then there is no place left for, I would say, extras or things that we could do to improve other areas.

Yeah. And so, that’s just my thought right now. And yeah. As I said, otherwise, I’ve been taking notes so that we can have a list—some form or work plan—a general work plan of things that can be done. But
certainly, having a clear list of all the administrative duties of the EC in general—not only the chair, but the whole EC—would be good so that we all know where we’re going with the things that are our obligation, in a way, so that that can take a bit less of our time. Thanks.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Thank you very much, Raph. So, a good amount—a fair amount—of the EC responsibilities are in our bylaws. Bylaws? No, not bylaws. But you know the document. I’m really tired today, you guys. I’m sorry for that. But we already have the description of the ... We have the description of the positions and so on.

And most of the administrative work, it’s mostly left on the chair position. And it’s kind of like part of your job, for the upcoming year as well, sharing these responsibilities with the EC, and consulting, and redoing that. And we have responsibilities across a lot of things. So, the chair can be the CROP program supervisor. The chair is the one who has to submit a CROP/Outreach plan yearly. The chair has also to submit the ABRs. And this is normally left on the chair position. But it’s definitely something that I’ve counted with a lot of you, over the years, to help—like helping me in working with these documents.

But I will definitely list this on this transition document, Raph, just so everybody’s aware and we can do this transition. From my own thinking, I think it would be good for us to do a transition meeting. Do you guys agree with that? Is that an idea that is okay? Or what are your thoughts on this? And I’m going to give the floor to Olga.
OLGA KYRYLIU: Thanks, Bruna. This is exactly what I wanted to comment on. I’m not sure whether the joint transition meeting, rather than, let’s say, the one we are having currently, would be beneficial. But I think it’s probably more on the [bilateral] basis, based on the regions that we will be taking responsibility for. So, for example, we could have these meetings with you guys, who are face-to-face. So just, for example, for me, I could agree with Louise when it works with her so two of us can just discuss what are the current matters and what are the, let’s say, the specifics of working with the region, and what are the points that we need to follow up.

Because I don’t know. Yes, there are these current administrative issues, which you just mentioned, and which have to be equally distributed between the chair and the other members of the executive committee. But for that, I think we already got the point what is happening. And for that, as you already mentioned, some list of … Yes, it’s good to have the bylaws and the general understanding, in theory, what we have to do. But then, these action points of, let’s say, what you are currently working on and which has to be followed up, these could be put in this Google Doc that you shared and then we could take that from there.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Amazing. Anyone else? We have three minutes left.

RAPHAEL BEAUREGARD-LACROIX: Hi. Just to follow up. So, as you said, Bruna, there’s a lot in the NCUC bylaws. But the list, I’m thinking, would be more detailed than that. And I don’t mean to say that you should have done it or anything. I’ll be glad
to work on that. And it’s true that there’s a lot of things that fall on the chair, anyway.

But just the idea of saying, “Okay. We have an ICANN meeting now coming up in October. What are all the things that the EC needs to do for this to happen the way we want it to happen?” Because, of course, the meeting is going to happen, whether we do anything or not. It’s just that if we don’t do anything, and if we sit on our hands, then we know we’re not going to have any sessions and we’re going to be, basically, invisible.

So, if we want to be minimally visible, then we need to do a certain amount of things, which will include coordinating with the membership, with staff members as well. And so, this is a whole thing that when you've done it a few times, then you kind of know in general. But for someone who comes and is new, then you just don’t really know.

And it’s certainly something that can shared with the EC from the chair. But again, sharing, also sometimes requires more time, almost than just doing it yourself. So, it’s a very difficult balance. And I understand that it’s something that you've probably tried to do. And so, I don’t mean to imply any form of criticism of what you have done, or have not done, or whatnot.

But it’s … That’s the kind of list I’m thinking about—more than a general description of tasks. It’s really, “I give you this, as a chair, as a new EC member and you know almost exactly what you need to do, to get the things that we need to get going,” such as having sessions during ICANN meetings, and preparing ABRs, and … Well, the NCUC doesn’t really
have any nominations to do. It’s more NCSG. But even that—all these elements, with all the details required, basically.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Raph, no. Don’t worry. This is not me taking any offense in what you said. But I am listing, on the document, a lot of things we need to do. And maybe I’ll ask Maryam and Brenda to help me remember the deadlines for some of those things because I recall some of them but not all. So, for the deadlines ... What I’m saying, Maryam and Brenda, are the deadlines for ABRs, CROP outreach plans, and things like that. Can be an approximate deadline. It’s fine. But also, I can definitely list a lot of them. I’m listing them on the document as we speak.

But it’s this. It’s a very ... I definitely gets easier for me, being on this position for two years now. And it’s all in my mind somehow. But it’s definitely something that we need to share between ourselves and to be more up-to-date with the work and so on.

So, yeah. Thanks, Maryam. But there is this. And as Raph was talking, I just reminded another nomination that we need to do. We also nominate two members for the NCSG Executive Committee. So, this is something that also has to be on your guys’ mind. And all of these positions, we often open ... We do open calls for volunteers. And then, the EC has to vote and decide. So, I can definitely ... We can definitely work on a document that does, as Stephanie has been saying for a while now, the job description for all of those. So, that’s it.
Okay. So then, thinking about action points and so on, I would like for you guys to take another look at the ICANN 69 agenda and see if you all agree with what’s proposed there.

On a second note, if anyone wants to develop a blog, or any kind of social media piece, or any social media comments, or blog posts, or anything like that in light of ICANN 69, let me know. I can give you guys the Twitter password and also the blog as well, if you guys want to do anything in that sense. I think it’s really good, whenever we write any piece of this sort because it helps calling the attention. We can tweet something about it and then put our names in the discussion.

So, that’s it. If anyone wants or has any suggestions about what we should do for ICANN 69, or if you have any suggestions of if we should like an Ask NCUC with someone—please let me know.

And I would say that the last action point would be for everybody to go through this transition document and fill in with some of the things you have done for the past few years. I’m saying the current EC. And then, Lia and Olga, if you want to go through this and also take a look and see where you would have any doubts or where it’s not clear for you guys ... I’m assuming that a lot won’t be very clear for you guys at the moment. Just start pointing out thoughts and we can schedule a proper transition meeting to discuss this.

So, I think that’s it. Any last comments, or any urgent business, or anything like that?
OLGA KYRYLIUK: When will we be giving this meeting during ICANN 69? When will we have this NCUC session?

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Sorry. Sorry, Olga. I didn’t hear you properly.

OLGA KYRYLIUK: I was asking do we know, already, when exactly at ICANN 69 we have the NCUC session?

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: We do, we do. Maryam, I’m looking back in my notebook. But I think Maryam has this easier than myself. Do you know, Maryam or Brenda, the exact date? Oh!

MARYAM BAKOSHI: Sorry. I’m trying to unmute. Yes. It’s on Wednesday, 14th of October from 4:00 to 5:00 PM local time. So, that’s CET.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Yeah. Okay. So, it’s like in two weeks time, we’re meeting. [inaudible].

OLGA KYRYLIUK: Thank you.
BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Okay. I’m going to follow up with you guys on the list, saying what we’ve discussed and sending some of the links that we shared with you guys today, just so everybody is on the same page about these discussions. So, don’t worry. And again, if you guys have any suggestions about the upcoming meetings and so on, please let me know. And if you don’t have anything else, I guess we can adjourn this meeting.

MARYAM BAKOSHI: Bruna, just a quick one regarding the ABR. So, I’ve posted a link there on the chat to the original request from NCUC and then the response. So, if you could please take a look at that. And then, I’m guessing it will be Raphael taking the baton for this, so that you can start working on it, please. Thank you so much.

BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS: Yeah. Thank you, Maryam. And I guess I told you that already but I have also … I will write up some sort of a consultation email to the list, this week still, saying that we got an ABR approved. These are the terms of the ABR. And it will be really good if anyone would have any suggestions of things and how we should shape this. The ABRs are due June next year, right, Maryam—like the deadline we have to facilitate all these processes and so on. So, we really need to start soon. Okay. So, I am retiring from ABRs. So, that will be working with Raph on this.

So again, thank you, everyone, for joining this meeting and for the really great contributions. And I do hope that we continue to work together on this. I will have … I will send you guys a short description of this meeting and the links to the documents. And once again, thank you for
the good work and for the year. And thank you, Maryam and Brenda, for this call as well. I guess we can stop the recording.