KATRINA: So, council’s current priorities and then some highlights about our meeting days, what to expect, where to go, where to participate and so on. Good morning. Welcome to the ccNSO Members Meeting Days in Abu Dhabi. Great to see all of you here. I hope you will enjoy the agenda that our meetings program working group prepared for you. We have some changes, and a little bit later, Patricia will guide us through the agenda and highlight some of the most important points here.

But as you know, we really value your feedback, and feedback from our previous meeting in Johannesburg. Some of you indicated that they would like to know more about ccNSO council’s priorities. I think this suggestion was triggered by a successful cross-community session that we held in Johannesburg. That was on who sets ICANN’s priorities. You wanted to know what are the council’s priorities, so today, we’ll start with council’s priorities, and I really hope that those who proposed this agenda item are here in the room now, sitting here and listening and ready to ask your questions.
ccNSO council’s priorities: of course, it shouldn’t come as a surprise to you, our most important priority is our members. Currently, we have 162 members. I don’t know why the number is censored out of this slide. I think it’s something to do with Adobe Connect. The most recent member is in Zimbabwe, so I’d like to welcome everyone, all these members, and even non-members. As you know, the non-members are really welcome to participate in the work of the ccNSO. Again, this should not be of surprise to you. Our topmost priority is our policy development process, PDP, retirement of ccTLDs.

Actually, if we talk about all the voluntary work that we have to do here, to ICANN and ccNSO, we notice this volunteer fatigue. However, for this group, I’m very happy to report that we have many volunteers who are ready and willing to participate in the work of this group, and we have actually new members coming in. If you are not a member of the group and you still want to participate, you can join. Of course, the sooner you join, the easier it is for you to board the train and follow the work of the group.

So, today, from 10:30 to 11:45, we have a session where we will hear detailed updates from this group, so please be here and, if you’re interested, ask your questions. Also they have a wiki page
dedicated specifically to the work of this group. Yes, you can see the link here. Any time you can go and follow the progress.

That was not the only priority. It just disappeared. The next priority is our customer standing committee. We are currently in the process of reviewing its charter. According to the bylaws, we have to review the charter one year into the work of the committee. We have developed a working group together with our partners from the registry stakeholder group, and they, as you know, reformed this. We’re responsible for the work of the customer standing committee together, so we do review together. We have two members from ccNSO and two members from the registry stakeholder group.

Apparently, there will be some changes in the charter to make the work of the CSC even more efficient, and when we’re ready, then they will carry out a review. There will be some other reviews for the CSC in the coming year, but we’ll talk about them a little bit later.

You don’t see the slide, but I can tell you that it’s country and territory names. That’s another hot topic. As you remember, cross-community working group on the country and territory names came up with the conclusion that under their current setup, they’re not able to come up with any solutions. Therefore, it was a common position that we have to close the working
group and look for some other for where we could meaningfully contribute to the discussion.

Currently, GNSO runs the PDP on subsequent rounds of gTLDs, and they have opened work track five. This work track five, all communities, all members who want to participate, they come together and discuss if there are any better solutions to the current situation. The position of the ccNSO – well, there’s no clear understanding even between ccTLDs. Some ccTLDs would like to be stricter, some are less strict. But our common position, nevertheless, is that we believe that if a better solution cannot be found, then the work of this work track – then let’s go back to the applicant’s guidebook, the rules that are set in the applicant’s guidebook.

Again, today we’ll have updates, the same timeslot as the PDP on retirement. Another thing, it’s a ccNSO review. As you know, there are specific reviews and there are organizational reviews. They are in the bylaws, and we have to carry out our reviews periodically. We asked the board to defer our review by one year, because there was so many reviews and so many things going on simultaneously, that we felt in order to do it properly, we need some more time.

Thanks to the board, they granted us one extra year, and suggested that we do a self-evaluation. Currently, the council
discusses this and probably will ask the guidelines review committee, our working group, that looks into our internal procedures, to carry out this internal review and report back to the council. Then we will ask, of course, for your input, what you think is not working, where you see areas for improvement and so on.

Then of course we have some issues around elections and the nominations. Every time when we carry out a round of elections to the board or to the council, we see that some new ideas, how to make the process more interesting, emerge from the community. Of course, when we test the guidelines, we see some other areas where we need improvements, for example. This time, we realized that we should have included a link to additional requirements that are set in the bylaws in our call for nomination, just to ensure that people who step forward are informed about all the requirements.

Guidelines from the review committee will need to look into these issues. Another thing is that, as you know, we have elections to the council. In all five regions, we have only one candidate, so we’ll not have elections for counselors, because there’s only one candidate per region, which is a little bit worrying. I mean, it’s great to have experienced people, and I
won’t lie to you. I’m very happy that I don’t need to compete with strong candidates in my region.

But at the same time, please think about things seriously. It’s good to have new people on board. It’s always good to have some view, new, fresh view on things and how they should be done, so that we can move forward and develop as an organization. If you feel you can contribute to the work, please don’t be shy, step forward, ask your colleagues from other registries to nominate you and join the group. It can be fun. It’s not always fun, but it can be fun.

I think this also should be one of the priorities of the council, to make sure that you guys are interested in our work and you are eager to participate. Then, some more things. It’s not maybe the priority as such, but we’re working on – thanks to Alejandro and Elena, who helped her – they worked on this onboarding document, to ensure that if you’re new to the ccNSO, you can have all the information in one place. You can read and learn some basic things, really basic things. It’s possible to find them on the internet, but now we tried to combine them altogether into one document, so that you can find all the necessary information very easily.

With that, I would like to – yes, there it is. Elena is holding the document. She has at least two printed copies. She has a lot of
those printed copies, so if you’re interested to learn more about
the ccNSO, please feel free to ask her for a copy. Now I would
like to ask you, who is new here? Who is a first-timer? Who is a
newcomer? Not Jamani, definitely not Jamani. I see hands
there, a hand there, a hand there. Great. Let’s welcome our
newcomers.

I hope you feel very welcome, and Elena will gladly give you a
copy of the onboarding document, so that you can easily find all
the information you need. If you have any questions, please feel
free to ask. Grab anyone who did not raise their hand. Grab
them, ask a question, and they will be happy to help you, or at
least point to a person who could answer your questions. So,
again, welcome. Welcome to the newcomers, welcome to
regulars, and with that, I would like to give the floor to Patricio,
who will guide you through the meeting days.

PATRICIO: Good morning. I’m Patricio Poblete, from NIC Chile, filling in for
Alejandro Reynoso, who did most of the work but couldn’t be
here. We have a very interesting agenda for you, and as usual,
the meetings program working group worked for a number of
weeks, putting together this agenda. The chair of the working
group is Alejandra from .GT, and you can see there all the
members, Alan, from .CA, Katrina from .LV, Hiro, .JP, Sana, .FI,
Yanglam, .KR, Peter from Center, Svetlana from .UA, Barack from AFTLD, Andre from .CZ and Eberhard from .NA servers, and myself, from .CL.

We couldn’t do any of this work without the wonderful help of the staff, the secretariat, Bart, Kimberley, Joe, and Maria. Catrina was saying we welcome our newcomers, and there is a lot of material that’s been prepared to help them get on board. Actually, I must confess that I hadn’t looked at it, so I did. It’s really interesting. Even if you’re an old hand, you can learn things from looking at it. There’s a URL, and as you can see at the bottom, we take great care to have easy to remember URLs.

For this meeting, the presentations are published. I don’t know if they’re all, but they will be. There, you have a couple of ways to getting at the presentations. There is the agenda. You have a print version. There are small changes from it that I will point out, but if you can get the up to date agenda, there’s also an online version that’s been updated, in case there are any changes. You can find session summaries and backgrounds also there.

Of course, we invite everyone who couldn’t be here to participate remotely, so you can get to the remote participation pages through the Google calendar, and also through the wiki. Today is day one of our meeting, so we’re meeting today and
tomorrow. We will begin after this one session with a working group update. Katrina is going to chair that session, and then the ccNSO PDP, that’s going to be chaired by Nigel. We’re working on the retirement PDP.

Then the final session with Ralof. Then we’re going to have ICANN updates. Chris Tell is going to chair that, and the PTI session, Abdullah, and [INAUDIBLE 00:16:40] is going to chair the updates from the regional organizations and the ICANN meetings review. Then we have to move to hall three, which is in the main aisle, to meet with the GAC. That’s going to be after lunch. By the way, I skipped important things, like the coffee break. It’s going to be at 10:15, and then we have a lunch break from 12:30 to 1:30.

After that, we meet with the GAC in hall three. The ICANN updates and PTI, the regional organization reports are after lunch, actually. We end our day with ICANN meeting strategy review and the selection for the new criteria. Then we’re all invited to the farewell and toast for Steve Kroger. I hope all of you have brought your postcards. If any of you haven’t given them yet to Katrina, don’t forget to – or the secretariat. Don’t forget, so we’ll give them to Steve tonight, this evening, when we say farewell to him.
For day two, we’ll begin with an internet governance session, chaired by Yangam. I apologize, because we got the order reversed in the slides, and it was too late to fix it. The Q&A with the cultural nominees is going to be later, actually, in the morning. We're going to have the Q&A and the candidates for the boards. This time, we have two candidates. Is it the first time?

KATRINA: It’s not the first time, but probably not many people remember the first time. You are the one who should remember, when there was an election. But since we have uncontested council elections and two candidates for board elections, we decided to give them more time to answer Debbie's and your questions. As long as you will have questions, we will keep asking them.

PATRICIO: Okay. We have an election with two candidates, so I’m sure that will be interesting. Then we have a session with Jordan Carter, a ccNSO Decisional participant, part of the Empowered community and ICANN accountability. Then there is a session that's not in your printed version. From 12:00 to 12:30, we're going to have a meeting session about the second security stability and resiliency review. That’s going to be half an hour, so
the lunch break is going to be only one hour, from 12:30 to 1:30. It doesn’t begin at 12:00, as you can see in your printed version.

KATRINA: Yes, this is the last-minute change to our agenda. That’s why it’s not in your printed versions. But as you may have heard, there are some issues around the work of this review team. On Friday, they received a letter from the ICANN board in which they decided to suspend the working group. At this time, at this moment, the work has been suspended. We have time to help them to define the scope and resolve some issues they may have.

They meet with all constituencies here. We didn’t have them on our agenda, but taking into account all these recent developments, we decided that it is necessary for us to hear their side of the story as well, so that we could help them to solve this issue. If you’re around, it will be really great to be in the room if you have any questions to the team, if you want to learn more before the meeting with the team. Come to me and I will try to give you some background information on this, what’s going on and why it is important for us to make sure that this review is successful, and that all the recommendations that come out of this review are successfully implemented. Thank you. Patricio, back to you.
PATRICIO: Okay. After lunch, we have the joint meeting with the board, and it's in the ccNSO room, which is right here. We're not moving to a different room for a meeting with the board this time. After lunch, just come back here. After that, we're going to have the Q&A and the candidate statements for the council nominees. There's just one nominee for each region, but anyway, it will be interesting to hear what each candidate has to say about this.

Then we have the always popular ccTLD news session. Ali is going to chair that. That will be the end of the members meeting, and you're all invited to stay around for the council meeting, which is going to be at 5:00 pm tomorrow. There are some sessions that might be of interest to you on Thursday, the cross-community session. There is, of course, GDPR at 10:30. They're talking about jurisdiction at 1:30. The ccNSO PDP working group on retirement meets tomorrow also, and before the public forum, there's going to be an ICANN community recognition session, and the forum part two, ending today with the public ICANN board session. It should be very interesting, and we're very glad you all came here. Over to you, Katrina.
KATRINA: Thank you very much, Patricio, for this walk and introduction to our meeting days. Are there any questions? If not, then let’s start our work. We’ll start with the first session of today. It’s the ccNSO working group update. We’ll start probably five minutes early, but I’m sure that our working groups will have a lot of things to report back to you, and you will have many questions you’d like to ask. We’ll start with an update from TLD Ops, Jacques, from .CA, who is the chair of this working group or steering community, sorry. Then we have some other updates. Please, Jacques?

JACQUES: Good morning. I’m Jacques Latour with .CA, and here’s the TLD Ops update for this meeting. Alright, quickly, about TLD Ops, it’s a security community for ccTLD. It’s open for all ccTLD. That’s a thing that we’ve been working pretty hard on, is trying to build a community framework around this. We’re coming along with this.

So far, we have 245 people on our repository, of contacts for TLD Ops, from 192 different ccTLDs. The goal of the TLD Ops is to create a repository where a ccTLD can find other contacts for other ccTLDs when they need help. It’s like a phonebook. That’s the prime objective. The second objective is to have a mailing list where ccTLDs can share security incidents and ask for help.
and guidance on how to resolve or deal with certain incidents. It’s important to note that TLD Ops is not there to be a security department for a ccTLD. It’s there to enhance or provide structure or help the ccTLD to deal with these events, and not replace.

TLD Ops, that’s what it is. Every two weeks, we send this email with the list of all the ccTLD contacts. That’s meant to be stored offline by the security person. Typically what happens is when some smaller ccTLD, they get DDOSed, they send an email out. Typically, the business address doesn’t work, and they use a secondary email address. That’s a new thing that we track in the repository, the primary email address for contacts and the secondary email address, so that we know that if it comes from Joe@Gmail.com, then we can track that it’s a valid contact, that we have in our database.

We send this on a regular basis. The operation, since the last ICANN meeting, there were no new alerts on the list that were shared. There’s no DDOS or any security incident that were shared on the list, so that’s probably a good thing. Although we want traffic, we don’t want this to be full of incidents. We added three new members, Namibia, Lesotho, Greenland. That’s pretty much our rate, three per meeting. We had a couple of changes,
and all of Europe and North America is not covered 100 percent in our list of ccTLDs. It took a while, but we got two done.

This is the list of the security events, prior to the last meeting. There was nothing new, but in there, you’ll see that people are sending notice about having a DDOS or having a compromise of a registry, or slowness in the DNS operation, and quite a few security warnings. If you get some ccTLDs, when they get a storm of some sort, they’ll send an email on the list to say, “Watch out, this might be coming soon to your ccTLDs.”

We need more security warnings, more events on the list, but we don’t want the list to be flooded, so that we have 50 emails a day. Then it becomes not functional. I think we have some balance in the emails. The focus for membership is Africa and LACTLD. We need to work a little bit on that, figure out a strategy on how to reach and get more ccTLDs on board. That leads to another item, is participation of TLD Ops in regional meetings.

That’s something we need to figure out later on. The signing committee, the result since the last meeting, is we developed a new charter to include running, coordinating, security-related workshops. That has been approved, so we’re legit in running a workshop. Before, I guess we weren’t. Yesterday, we did our second workshop with the first one.
The second thing is to develop high-level security frameworks to respond to a certain kind of security incident. Relating to that is to build maturity models, so that the ccTLD can look at, to respond or mitigate DDOS attacks. “These are all the things I can do,” and then we want to build a mature model where you can assess yourself, where you’re at in terms of being ready to respond to these kinds of attacks, and then out of that, build a plan on what you need to do to develop internally, prioritized by this model.

I think that’s some good value that we can generate to the ccTLD. Now we’re going to update our procedures to support secondary email addresses. If you’re a TLD Ops contact today and you want your secondary email address, you send an email at TLDOpsAdmin@ICANN, and we’ll update our contact repository with the secondary email addresses. We’re going to update our leaflet and procedures for the next meeting.

Mine is LatourJacques@Gmail.com. If we’re under a DDOS and we can’t use CIRA email, then I use my Gmail address to tell the world, the community, that I’m under attack. But the problem we had is we had emails on the list from unknown Gmail addresses, like FunnyFlowers@Gmail.com, so we didn’t know who that was. Now at least we can track the personal email address to a security contact.
Yesterday, we had our second TLD Ops workshop here, actually. We had a very interesting workshop. The first thing we did is we brought everybody in the front rows, and that worked. The second thing we did is we asked everybody to take their neighbor’s laptop and go, “Ploop!” That’s something that might not work here. But actually, everybody had no computers in front of them. We had a workshop, and the focus was let’s build a DDOS mitigation playbook together.

We all stood up, we got the flipchart for about five hours, four hours. We stood there and built a framework together, and I think we had a great event. You were part of it. I think that was a great workshop, very interesting. We had about 20 people overall. It worked. It was a really good session, and we had a focus on a lot of new ideas on how to mitigate DDOS. We had experienced ccTLD that actually had DDOS attacks, and they related what worked and what didn’t work.

I think out of this, we’ll be able to write a playbook that we can share with all ccTLDs, so that you can be better equipped for resolving those. The DDOS on the DNS is our first experiment. Over time, we want to build more frameworks for responding to registry compromise and other big things that can impact ccTLDs. That was a good workshop.
I’ll let you look at this, but if you’re on this list, you need to talk to us, because you’re not on TLD Ops. Who’s not there? It’s a list of missing ccTLDs. Those are the ones missing. All the other ones, contact us if you’re on this list.

EDUARDO: Thank you, Katrina. Thank you for the presentation. Do you have the list who are missing?

JACQUES: These are the missing ones.

EDUARDO: These are the missing? Okay, because we can use this in the regional organizations, in order to encourage people to participate in that. Thank you.

JACQUES: I think what we’re going to do is, for a certain region, we’re going to have an ambassador.

EDUARDO: You can use the regional organizations for that.
JACQUES: Yes, so we’re going to print leaflets in multiple languages with the missing regional ccTLDs, and give that to Robert and maybe whoever runs LACTLD and APTLD, to have a list.

PATRICIO: I’m glad to see that Namibia joined. I remember that there was some issue that you insisted, in not allowing role addresses in the list, and Dr. Lisa wanted to have a role address. How was that solved?

JACQUES: In this case, the email address, it's a role address. But the contact details of Bernard and his phone number and his secondary contact is all personal information, relating to that person. After looking at the list, we noticed that, in the 245, there’s a lot of security at ccTLD with personal information. There were already a lot of those in the lists. I think that’s the way it works.

The last ICANN, we set up these objectives for us. It's avenue charters, so that's done and approved. We increased membership by three, to 192. Obviously we don’t know how to count. The thing we need to work out is we need a strategy for TLD Ops to participate in regional workshops. We’ve been asked by Africa and LACTLD to participate in the workshop, for TLD Ops
to participate in their workshop and have DDOS mitigation workshops. We’re not sure how our role is, relative to that, or how we can get money to fund travel or stuff like that. That’s something we need to figure out, because we’ve been asked to participate in outside of ICANN activity, to make security. That’s the good news, but it’s also we don’t know how to support that. That’s it. Questions?

KATRINA: Thank you very much, Jacques. Any questions from the audience? If you have a question, please come to the microphones here in the aisle. Do not shout from your seat, because we have remote participants and they will really appreciate if you could use the microphones. Any questions? If no questions, then thank you very much, Jacques. Thanks for this very important work for the community that you’re doing.

With that, I will give the floor to Giovanni, and Giovanni is the chair of our SOP working group. It’s a strategic and operational planning working group. They are going to be promoted to standing committee, but I believe that Giovanni will brief you on that and the work that they’re doing. Giovanni, the floor is yours.
GIOVANNI: Thank you, Katrina. This is the last presentation update as a working group, because over summertime – so not yet, because we’re going to be there, but in a different format. But during the summertime, it was decided that it was about time for us to become a committee of the ccNSO.

So far, the status has been the status of a working group, and then we decided to becoming a standing committee of the ccNSO. Everything started with the need to revise the charter of the working group, which was a bit old and needed some updates. We started from the review of the charter, and then it was again time to decide to become a standing committee of the ccNSO. In the startup path, I’d like to thank [INAUDIBLE 00:39:44] of the ccNSO Secretariat, because he has been instrumental not only for the life and work of the working group over the past decade, but it was also – yes? No? It was not a decade or more? Am I wrong? A decade, yes.

But he has been really a great help to the working group over the past years, and he has been also of great help to move to the standing committee status. We have spent the last couple of months to redraft the charter of the committee, and during the meeting that we had on Sunday, the working group decided to wrap up the working group, approve the charter, and therefore
become a committee. The charter will be made available to all the ccNSO membership and all the ICANN community.

In the charter, the scope of the committee remains the same as the one of the working group, meaning that the committee will continue to assess and evaluate the ICANN strategy plan process and the ICANN operating plan and voucher processes. At the same time, it is quite important to underline that, under the revised ICANN bylaws, the committee may submit a so-called relevant action petition – a rejection petition, against the ICANN and IANA budgets, as defined in the revised ICANN bylaws.

We'll make sure that our work is sharper, to the point that it has been so far. But as a matter of fact, we will continue to have this dialogue with ICANN and PTI staff, to help them to refine the processes as, again, we have been doing so far. In terms of more concrete work, what we have been doing is to engage with the ICANN CF1 finance department, the finance team.

We had an interesting session on Sunday morning, about the planning of the finance department for the fiscal year ’19, and the new five-year strategy plan. ICANN finance department has anticipated and has also published that the public comment period on the ICANN fiscal year ’19 operating plan and budget will start on the 15th of January, and will close on the 4th of March. During this timeframe, the committee ccNSO SOP
committee will organize its work to submit the comment on behalf of the ccNSO to the process.

At the same time, there are a couple of public comments that are currently open, and we are going to have a meeting on Thursday, quite early in the morning, about the reserve fund that is currently published by ICANN. There is the public comment period on the reserve fund that closes on the 30th of November. The committee has decided that we will assess the reserve fund proposal of ICANN, and we will eventually submit comment.

That said, during the Sunday morning meeting, we were also presented something that I would like everybody to have a look at, which is the new accountability indicators platform of ICANN. For a decade, the SOP working group has highlighted to ICANN the need to have more precise KPIs, and this was one of the strongest points in any of the comments that the SOP working group submitted to ICANN over the years.

After many years of work and dialogue also with the entire community, including the working group, ICANN has launched this new platform that shows the accountability indicators and helps the community to keep track of the work that ICANN is doing in the different areas against the strategy plan objectives, and against the operating plan and budget. It’s a great platform,
and Susannah Bennet presented it to us during the Sunday morning meeting.

Again, it's a very interesting platform to see where ICANN stands against the different objectives and actions. I would recommend all of us to have a look at it. At the same time, as Susannah pointed out, and we also have seen, it's an ongoing project. We will make sure that we will continue to submit also some feedback to Susannah and her team, to make sure that the accountability indicators are further refined the coming years. A big compliment to the ICANN staff for having reached this major objective, to provide this accountability indicators platform to the community. I believe it's a great achievement against the millions of comments that the working group, the SOP working group has made over the years. Thanks a lot.

That said, the draft charter of the committee has been sent to the ccNSO council, and is expected to be approved by the ccNSO council. Afterwards, I will send out an email inviting the current – those who are members of the working group to reconfirm their membership, and eventually we will send out a new call for volunteers for being members of the committee. That said, I would like to really thank all those who have contributed with hard work and spending quite a lot of spare time in refining the charter and also contributing to the work of the working group,
which will be, again, a committee over the years. Thanks again to all the team and all the working group members, and again to the ccNSO secretariat for the support. Thank you.

KATRINA: Thank you very much, Giovanni. Thanks to all the members in the secretariat. I also would like to point out that yesterday, during our bilateral meeting with the GNSO, we learned that the GNSO is also setting up more formal groups to deal with all the incoming documents on the budget and all the strategic and operational plans of ICANN, to be able to react. We also extended an invitation to consult with your standing committee and probably could collaborate with GNSO and share your experiences, to see what the concerns and demands are and have a very efficient mutual collaboration with the GNSO. I hope it will work out well. Thank you, again, for the work. Any questions to the grownup working group and standing committee, or with respect to ICANN finances or plans or anything? If no questions, then thank you very much, Giovanni.

GIOVANNI: Thank you very much, Katrina. By the way, the bowl is for the last session of the day. For those who survived the entire day, there is a session at 6:00 pm tonight, about the strategy, the
ccNSO meeting strategy. The bowl is for the exercise during that session, just in case you ask what the bowl is for.

KATRINA:

Thank you very much. The next update on our agenda is from Ching Chao, on the cross-community working group on the new gTLD auction proceeds. Ching?

CHING:

Thank you, Katrina. Good morning, everyone. My name is Ching Chao. I’m a noncom appointee to the council, and the co-chair for this very interesting working group, working on fund allocation of the fund size. At the moment, it’s $233 million USD generated from the new gTLD auction proceeds. You probably see some of the slides in the last two ccNSO meetings. I’m going to skip rather quickly. Actually, I would like to apologize again for not being able to make it last time. But the work keeps on going, even earlier this year.

I’m going to run through quickly on some of the important information here. On this slide, you'll be seeing ICANN currently has three baskets of funds. One is generated from the day to day operation from the contracted registry and the registrar for their fixed fees and the variable fees. Currently for this bucket on your left and on my right, on the far right, you generally have
approximately about $25 million USD for their annual income, as operation revenue.

In the middle, you have the application, new gTLD applicant evaluation fees which, in the past, for many of you who were involved, it was $185,000 per application, and other fees included. This particular basket, in total, they have about $300 million USD generated. Over the last couple years, they spent around – ICANN overall spent on the application processing and all the costs associated with those is approximately $200 million USD. That’s with $100 million in the bank, in this particular basket.

The third basket is where the working group is working on the auction proceed funds. So far, it has about $233 million USD, but probably most of you are aware of the web disputes, let me put it this way. The fund size may or may not change. The reason I emphasize here in this slide is because recently, there was a public comment on the ICANN reserved fund status.

For those of you who were involved in the IANA transition work, the fund actually drew for the use of the IANA transition work, actually taken from the ICANN reserve fund. What’s been used for the IANA transition, it approximately costs $36 million USD for the work. That left ICANN with approximately five months,
4.8 months of the reserve status, based on their current month to month operational budget.

The reason that I point this out is that this could also impact eventually the fund size for the auction proceeds, if ICANN decided that some of the funds is said to be replenished, the reserve fund for future emergency use. We should keep that in mind. The community should be aware of that.

So, the work has been started earlier this year, but previously there was a drafting team. For those of you who were involved, ccNSO decided not to be part of it in the beginning. But later, the council says that this is very important also for the community to make best use of the funds generated from the community processes. At the end of last year, the CCWG formed, and we started the work this year, with the biweekly call. Here, the members and participants and observers – I would like to maybe stay here for some moments, just to walk you through some of the highlights here.

For ICANN, it has a legal and fiduciary responsibility, so that the fund has to firstly consist with ICANN’s mission. The fund cannot be used for personal or private benefit, and cannot be used for political lobbying activities. All the members in the working group, every meeting we state to please update your conflict of interest statement. Once the fund gets delegated to the
applicant and ICANN then would have, once again, the legal and fiduciary responsibility to conduct the audit – so make sure that the fund goes even to the last mile, is being used in accordance to ICANN’s mission.

The work plan has been developed earlier this year, as well. We are at the phase III status for this particular meeting. We’re going to start the work to develop the possible mechanisms that could be considered by the CCWG. That basically means that, in between whether the fund is 100 percent managed by ICANN itself, or it will be 100 percent managed by an external entity, but with oversight of ICANN, or the third options or many other options, which would be the first and the second – the mix of the first and the second models.

On Thursday, we will have this exercise of members and participants, that will be able to have the time to discuss on those ways to allocate the fund. Here is the work plan, and the initial report, I’d like to share with you the members do have its own internal deadline. It’s not set in stone, but we do hope to have the initial report ready by the next meeting, the Puerto Rico meeting. Then, this has to be sent out for public comment, and the final report will be sent back to this council, and then to the GNSO council for the consideration, before the board takes further action on it.
Once again, at this particular time, there is 11 chartering questions for this group to answer. Right now, we pretty much answer all of them, but the emphasis for this particular meeting here is question number seven. Once again, it’s to see how would be the best model or mechanism that ICANN should adopt, to oversee the evaluation or delegate to another entity. So far, originally we have three members appointed by the ccNSO. But now, I think it’s two or three council meetings away.

We have five members, including myself, with Stephan, with Peter, Pablo, and Zang Chin. Of course, at the moment, if you’re interested, if your organization or yourself are interested in being part of it, you can always be a group observer. Feel free to join. You could be a future applicant or a funding partner, big or small. I think the group is not in any position to decide which entity or which individual would accept the fund. The group is not in the decision to pick and choose. The group is only making sure that there’s a fair mechanism that meets ICANN’s mission.

Yes, here’s the time. It’s on Thursday. Please feel free to join. There’s part one in the morning, and part two after lunch, on Thursday. Let me stop here and see if there’s any questions.
KATRINA: Thank you very much. Are there any questions? Yes, I see Steven has probably not a question, but a comment.

STEVEN: I just started participating in this thing, and I really have not gotten a handle on what's going on, just the sense of where it's going. Earlier, you mentioned you were discussing that the funds are being fenced at the moment. But at the same time, we all know that ICANN’s got $100-some million deficit in their reserve fund, to where they would like it to be, which is a year. I think now it’s four months and change. Did I hear you correctly? I’ve gotten the sense from listening on these calls, that the idea of taking some of these available auction funds and helping to feed the hole in the reserve fund, that that train has left the station with this group some time ago. But did I understand you correctly earlier? I got the sense that you mentioned that ICANN may, in any event, come and take some, anyway. Are they able to do that?

CHING: First of all, I'm not in the position to discuss the reserve fund. Second, you're actually 100 percent correct. They do have, firstly, the board liaison, which is Becky and Asha. They did express interest that ICANN may take some of the funds to
replenish the reserve fund. But if you’re asking if this is 100 percent a goal or how much they’re asking, it’s not on the table yet.

STEVEN: No, I’m just asking if that concept is a possibility. It sounds like it is.

CHING: Personally, I would imagine that is still a possibility for ICANN to do that.

STEVEN: Thanks.

KATRINA: Thank you very much. Thank you, Ching. Thanks. With that, I’m happy to give the floor to myself, in my capacity as the chair of the guidelines review committee. I’ll give you a brief update on what we’re doing and where we are. As you may remember, the guidelines review committee is tasked with reviewing our internal procedures, bringing them up to date with bylaws, with our current procedures, best practices and so on.
What we’ve done since Johannesburg, we have one new guideline. It’s still in the process. It hasn’t been sent to the council yet, but it’s on the ccNSO actions respecting the IANA PR community coordination group. We have our representative on that group, and it was appointed by the council, that we want to formalize the process and to have a guideline for that.

Then we have, again, updated the ccNSO council roles and responsibilities, taking into account some developments that we observed in Copenhagen. We also will need to add some more things to this guideline during the course of our work by next meeting in Puerto Rico. Then again, council election procedure, made it clearer, and I worked on the ccNSO travel funding guideline. It was put on hold because the ccNSO council – again, as you may remember – requested additional traveler seats from the ICANN.

These seats were granted, so the guideline was updated. I will talk about this guideline a little bit later, but then we have two more guidelines in progress, a work in progress. It’s still about rejection action. Tomorrow, you’ll hear a detailed update. Steven will brief you on the current work, how far we are, what we’re planning to do, and then another guideline in progress that’s the ccNSO procedure for partaking in IRP. I keep mixing IPR with IRP, but those are two completely different things.
About travel funding, as you know, all the requests for ccNSO travel funding, they are reviewed by the ccNSO council committee consisting of three councilors, so-called travel funding committee. This guideline, we decided to give them a clearer criteria of how to evaluate the application they receive. Sometimes it’s really difficult to prioritize, I would say, one application over another one.

In this guideline, we have a more clear criteria, but we are not sure that these criteria – how they were going to work in practice. As you know, in theory, everything works. In practice, it doesn’t. Therefore, the guidelines review committee asked the council to task the travel funding committee to test these criteria in real life. All the applications submitted for the upcoming meeting in Puerto Rico will be vetted, using these new criteria. Then we will gather feedback from the travel funding committee, to see what works and what does not work.

When it’s ready, when we have some of this feedback from the travel funding committee, we will again review the guideline, and then we will post it for you to review. Other work that we’re planning to do between today and our meeting in Puerto Rico, again, we still need to update the guidelines, the ccNSO council roles and responsibilities, some more things that we need to add, as you will hear tomorrow from Steven. We propose to have
a rejection action manager who will review all the things related to rejection actions, so we need to add that role to the guideline, the role of substitute rejection action manager and rejection action committee and other things that the council has to – the roles the council has to fill in.

Then, another guideline that apparently will need some update is the ccNSO nominations process for ICANN board seats 11 and 12. As I already mentioned during the council priorities update, the current process shows that we have a couple of things missing in that guideline, so we need to update it, to make the process even clearer than it is now. We’ll maybe need to deal with all the reviews that we have to run, with respect to the customer standing committee.

Then, again, we’ll need to still be working on the rejection action guideline and on this IRP, process matters. Again, in light of the recently published operating standards that now are undergoing a public consultation period, we will need to update our guideline on the specific review teams. It’s already a little bit obsolete, because when we worked on the guideline, we had no idea about the process. We just read the bylaws and tried to interpret the bylaws.

Again, in practice, everything works completely differently, so we need to update this guideline as well. Then, as I already
mentioned, apparently the ccNSO council will task the guidelines review committee to review operating standards and provide some comments to this document. There was a session yesterday, a cross-community session, and during that session, it already showed that there are conflicting views in the community. Some believe that the review team should be given the right to set the scope.

I personally think it's really difficult to select the right people, if the scope is not clear. Apparently the community will need to find some good solutions, how to make sure that all these reviews that are really very important for the ICANN, for all of us, to make sure that they are basically working and we have the meaningful recommendations, and that we can implement recommendations and become better.

Then, the last thing, I already mentioned that we’re preparing for the ccNSO review. We need to do some self-evaluation and make sure that we are beautiful and show that we are as beautiful as we are, actually. But maybe not everybody can see this, so we must make sure that everybody can see how great we are.

With that, that's the update from the guidelines review committee. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask them. If you would like to participate in the work of the
guidelines review committee – and as you can see, I think initially we expected to finish the work in one years’ time. It was five years ago or something, maybe less.

But really, a lot of work there. If you’re eager to give your time for a very valuable review of internal procedures, writing new guidelines, codifying the current practice we have here, please feel free to step forward and join the group. We’ll be very happy to have a new, fresh look at the guidelines and everything that we’re working on. Thank you very much. If there are no questions – and I see no people queuing at the microphones, so I conclude that you’re happy with the work that we’re doing.

Thank you very much, and with that, we’ll break for a very important thing. It's coffee. We reconvene at 10:30 for a very interesting session. It's PDP. That's one thing. We'll hear an update from Nigel, and I really would like to advertise this presentation by Yop. We all run ccTLDs, at least most of us. It’s two-letter country codes. If you want to learn everything about country codes – and believe me, you’ll be surprised when you hear this presentation. Yop presented it to the PDP working group in Johannesburg, and the presentation was so excellent that we decided to ask Yop to give it to all ccNSO members.

It's really a very, very enlightening and eye-opening experience. Yes, of course we also will have an update on country territory
names afterward. This is all packed together into one session. Make sure you’re here, because this is going to be really interesting. With that, let’s break for coffee.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]