
ICANN74 | Prep Week – Enhancing the Effectiveness of ICANN's Multistakeholder Model
Wednesday, June 1, 2022 – 16:00 to 17:00 AMS

PAMELA SMITH:

Hello and welcome to Enhancing the Effectiveness of ICANN's Multistakeholder Model. My name is Pamela Smith and Yvette Guigneaux and I are the remote participation managers for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and follows the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior. We would like to remind all speakers to speak slowly and clearly for the interpreters. And please state your name for the record each time you take the floor before speaking.

During this session, questions or comments will only be read aloud if submitted within the chat pod. We will read them aloud during the Q&A portions of the session, which will be at the end of each section of the presentation. Please review the notes for how to frame a question properly. We have posted this information in the chat pod and I will post it again for a refresher. All participants in this session may make comments in the chat or raise your hand to be called on at the end of each section of the presentation during the Q&A portion.

With that, I will hand the floor over to Giovanni Sephia. Giovanni?

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GIOVANNI SEPPIA:

Thank you, Pamela. And good day, everybody. And welcome to this webinar about enhancing the effectiveness of ICANN multistakeholder model project during ICANN74 Prep Week. Together with me, the presentation will be given by my colleague, Negar Farzinnia from the Implementation Operations Department. And I'd like, first of all, and not waiting at the end, to thank Yvette and Pamela for their support in making this session possible. And also, I'd like to thank the seven interpreters for providing the service language in several languages.

That said if we can move to the next slide, please. So today's webinar is going to be divided into three parts. The first part of the presentation is about where everything started, so the genesis of the Enhancing the Effectiveness of ICANN Multistakeholder Model Project. And Negar will cover this part. The second part will be about the six priority topics, as they are highlighted in the Enhancing the Effectiveness of the ICANN Multistakeholder Model paper, which ICANN published in October 2020.

And the last part will be about the evaluation methodology, which we are going to apply to several projects and initiatives which we have selected, and afterwards, to all the projects and initiatives that are listed under the six priority topics of the

October 2020 paper. As a matter of fact, the third part is quite important because evaluating can be a real transformational step in making sure that what we do, the work we do, is effective and of the highest quality. And also, the evaluation findings will help us shaping our future work and eventually fill in the gaps.

At the end of each section, there are going to be some polls and also a Q&A session to collect your questions, answer them, and collect also your input. The poll results will be displayed in the form of a word cloud—some of you may know it as a tag cloud—which is a digital representation that highlights the most chosen poll options. We will discuss the poll results at the end of each poll. And I'm going to start with a couple of ice-breaking polls.

So if we can move to the first poll, Yvette, and we can put up the poll, which looks as a Nielsen poll but it's not. You have just one choice. So what is the best band? Please cast your preference. And as I said, we will then display the poll results in the form of a word cloud. So we have four options—Queen, Coldplay, Rolling Stones, and Pearl Jam. I think we can close the poll if we have already enough answers. And then, okay. It looks like the Queen are winning. Anybody no one of those? Sorry. It was tough luck if there's no favorite band but we said the best band. In any case, the Queen are the winners.

And we move to the next ice-breaking poll. So we go to the next ice-breaking poll, which is a bit more focused on today's subject. And thinking about the topic of this webinar, what's your level of understanding of the topic? So you are completely new, you have some basic knowledge, you have a solid background, or you're an expert. So please cast your preference.

And while you're casting your preference and Yvette is assembling the votes to be displayed in word cloud format, I'd like to say that we would like this session to be quite interactive. So we really look forward to hearing from you your input to make sure that we collect what would be our work in the future, and also the community work in the future, on Enhancing the Effectiveness of the ICANN Multistakeholder Model, which is so unique to the ICANN ecosystem but also unique to the worldwide ecosystem.

So let's see the results of the second icebreaking poll. Okay, some basic knowledge, which is good, because eventually, we can say whatever we like now. I'm just kidding. And I shouldn't say so. No, we'll make sure that this is also an educational webinar. And that said, I'd like to leave the floor to my colleague, Negar, to start with the first part of today's webinar, which is where it started and where we stand. Thank you so much, Negar. The floor is yours.

NEGAR FARZINNIA:

Thank you, Giovanni. Is this a bad time to let you know that I'm completely new to MSM? I kid, I kid. I have worked on it before. Hello, everyone. Good morning. Good afternoon. Good evening. My name is Negar Farzinnia. I'm a member of the Implementation Operations Team here at ICANN Org and I manage the MSM project. So I wanted to provide you today with a bit of information or background on the history of the genesis of the MSM project and talk about the topics related to that in the next few slides. Next slide, please. Thank you.

As some of you may recall, our former Board Chair, Cherine Chalaby, kicked off this project in February of 2019. The Board's attention to this project really grew out of our work on ICANN's strategic plan for FY 21 through 25. During the trend identification exercise that we had held to help inform the strategic plan, it became clear that continued evolution of ICANN's multistakeholder model and the challenges that the model faces were an important priority for much of our community.

So this dialogue continued in 2019 with a number of cross-community sessions at every ICANN meeting, as well as webinars, public comment periods, which were all, at that time, independently facilitated. That phase of the work concluded with a draft work plan, which was included as part of the public comment proceeding on ICANN's Year Operating Plan. Then, the

comments received, we incorporated them into the revised work plan that was then further discussed with the community.

So finally, in October of 2020, the final version of the work plan was presented to the Board. And in November 2020, the Implementation Design Phase of the MSM project officially started. Next slide, please. One before that, thank you.

So all in all, nine months of facilitated discussions, six webinars, and three public comments later, a total of six overarching issues emerged as those which are most hindering the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model. Community then further prioritized three of these six issues for a more immediate-term implementation.

Now, to better understand and determine how each of these issues could be addressed, we held a number of discussions with the community. And these discussions eventually identified a number of activities, projects, and initiatives that were, at the time, on their way or about to be started within the community, Org, and the Board, which could address these issues when implemented.

These discussions also identified some gap areas that still need to be addressed in order to really cohesively alleviate the issues that we had identified as those hindering the effectiveness of MSM. Later on in the presentation, we will discuss these six

overarching issues in a little bit more detail and the projects that could help address the six issues. Next slide, please.

So really, if you think about it, and it's obviously quite clear, the multistakeholder model is at the core of ICANN's operating model. It is, in fact, so important that it is one of ICANN's five strategic objectives. And together with my colleagues, the Implementation Operations functional of ICANN Org, we manage this critical project and contribute to ICANN Org achieving its strategic objective. Let's go to the next slide, please.

So the big question here is, how do we go about enhancing the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model? Because let's face it, an effective multistakeholder model doesn't just happen, right? It's a process that needs to be constantly evaluated and adjusted based on the changing needs of ICANN's ecosystem. The need to be able to make small adjustments to our business model to make it more effective really warrants a process in which the stakeholders—ICANN Org, the Board, and community—evaluate various projects and initiatives, determine what works really well, what doesn't, what changes need to be made in order to keep improving our business model.

And this is precisely why, in the course of their discussions, the Board, Org, and community agreed on the need for an evaluation methodology that could be applied either iteratively or on an as-

needed basis, depending on what's being evaluated throughout the course of our work.

So at a high level, the key next steps that ICANN Org is working on is evaluating a number of the projects that were identified when the work plan was first finalized in October of 2020, work through the findings of these evaluations, and determine the impact these projects have had on the multistakeholder model.

But there's more. There's been a large number of projects since the final paper was published in October of 2020. So we're also going to investigate—evaluate other projects that were not in existence when the finalized work plan was published in October of 2020. Later on in the presentation, we will talk in more detail about the projects that we are evaluating, and the additional projects that we are investigating to evaluate as well, in addition to the current work.

This is all a work in progress but we can't do it alone. The community's involvement and input, your involvement and input, is quite paramount to the success of these evaluation efforts. And we are most definitely planning to further engage with all of you to continue to resolve the six issues that were identified as those hindering the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model. We will talk about that a bit later, too.

So let me pause here and see if there are any questions we can help answer before we move on to the next part of the webinar. And with that, Pamela, let me hand it over to you for now, please.

PAMELA SMITH:

Thank you, Negar. We'll now shift to the Q&A portion for this section. I don't see any questions in the chat. But if you have any questions that you would like to pose, feel free to raise your hand and we'll have the appropriate subject matter expert address your question. I do need IT's help in case I'm missing anybody but I'm not currently seeing any hands raised. So with that, I believe that we can proceed with the presentation. Thank you.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA:

Thank you, Pamela. We are moving to the first poll of this section. And I see that the very first icebreaking poll had a tremendous follow-up. But we're going back to poll—the first poll, which is where it started, where we stand at this section. So when you hear the term “ICANN multistakeholder model,” which of the following words come to mind? You have two choices in this case—inclusivity, accountability, evolution, and legitimacy. So please cast your two choices and we'll then see them displayed in word cloud.

And I may pick up some of you. Well, it's anonymous but I will ask some of you to say why you have made certain choices. Don't let me pick out from the list of participants. Volunteer to speak up. As I said, we'd like this to be an interactive session. So I think we can close the poll and give some time to Yvette to elaborate the outcome. And in the meanwhile, is there any volunteer? We are so thankful to ICANN volunteers. Any volunteer who would like to speak up and say why the volunteer, the attendee, has made a certain choice?

Okay. So first, let's see the results of the poll. Okay. Inclusivity is the top, the most chosen, followed by accountability. Okay. And is there anyone who has chosen inclusivity who likes to say anything about why inclusivity—you believe that inclusivity is the word you associate the most to the ICANN multistakeholder model? Anybody? Don't me pick out from the list. I don't want to do it but it's stronger than me. Jordan Carter from New Zealand, would you like to say anything?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: You have a hand raised.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA: Okay. There's a hand raised. Okay. Jordan is mic-shy today. I cannot see. Pamela, can you help me with those who have hands

raised? Alberto, would you like to take the floor and say something? And Andrey.

ALBERTO SOTO:

Yes. I'll speak in Spanish, please. Okay. Good morning, everybody, from Buenos Aires, Argentina. I've chosen inclusivity and also legitimacy. Inclusivity because in this model, nobody is left out. And inclusivity includes the way all issues are settled. And although there may be voting, we reach decisions by agreements. And when an agreement is reached, there is always somebody who has to compromise, to give up something. And the other party has to compromise, too. Maybe you don't get exactly to this at all times but this is the way the inclusivity model becomes legitimate because of the large involvement and participation. Thank you very much.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA:

Thank you, Alberto. Great words. I saw Andrey in line. Andrey?

ANDREY SHCHERBOVICH:

Hello. Greetings from Montreal, Canada. Can you hear me? I'd like to say all of these terms actually are good—not good but perfect characteristics of the multistakeholder model because first of all, let's say, from [inaudible] evolution, I think multistakeholder model is evolution of the whole system of government. This could

be used in international organizations. It could be used to resolve global issues like the war and peace, like the climate change, like the other issues.

Accountability, I think when we allow not only governmental participants to take part in the governance process, it'll also be good for these organizations, for these processes, to be more accountable according to the priority of the community.

Legitimacy, the same arguments. Multistakeholder process raises legitimacy of the process if more participants are taking part in decision-making.

And inclusivity, of course. I think when we have a multistakeholder approach in force, we could allow the whole community to participate without regard of the background, without regard of the special features. I think anyone is able to participate when we operate a multistakeholder model. Thank you very much.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA:

Thank you, Andrey. Wise words, as Alberto. I have another hand up, which is from Shah.

SHAH ZAHIDUR RAHMAN: Hi. This is a Shah from Bangladesh, ICANN74 Fellow. I have chosen also inclusivity and accountability. In my mind, inclusivity would make an effective multistakeholder model. But I understood that from the bottom-up level, everybody needs to be engaged in that policy process from my understanding—for example, to make the connectivity into all [today]—need all the advice including the end users, private sector, government, all the stakeholders. Without inclusive participation, it is quite difficult to make the Internet reliable and meaningful to all.

On the other hand, I also chose accountability. It is not only about inclusivity. We need to be accountable from every end user's perspective, and as well as from other stakeholders. We have the responsibility to raise what the issues can be. And every stakeholder needs to have also some responsibilities to give their voice. Without the responsibilities taken, we cannot make good policy-making. So I think it is our responsibility to make accountability, to take everyone in this process. That's why I've chosen these both.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA: Thank you, Shah. Very true words. Thanks again to all those who have contributed. Let's move to the next poll. Thank you, Yvette, for moving to the second poll at the end of the first section. And let's have the poll up. So what action do you think is the most

appropriate for ICANN multistakeholder model? It's single-choice, one preference only. It's an enhancing, preserving, evolving, redesigning. And again, make your choice and then we'll display. Yeah. There is also—great name, Wisdom—adding transparency, indeed. For your information, we did have more options for the polls. We had to reduce them to speed up a bit the process for word cloud. But indeed, there are so many other words that you can add to the different polls.

So let's wrap up this poll. And let's see among enhancing, preserving, evolving, and redesigning, which is, let's say, the most preferred. Evolving. Wow. Okay. So that's really a great choice.

And let's move immediately to the third poll at the end of this section, which is think about the ICANN multistakeholder model and your engagement. Do you feel as a proactive participant who regularly contributes to ICANN work, an active participant who provides input upon request, or a passive participant who enjoys the ICANN framework as a spectator?

So tell us who you are—proactive, active, or passive. It's anonymous. So the passive one can say passive and nobody will say anything because I don't think that there's any passive participant in the ICANN ecosystem. We are all active. And that said, let's wrap up this poll and see the results of this poll that are going to be displayed by Yvette. So Yvette, let's wrap up the poll

and display the results, if possible. Okay. So let's see. How many proactive, active, or passive do we have in the house today?

Okay. Wow. Active. Okay. Most of us are active participants in the ICANN processes. And the second one is passive. Proactive, you need a lot of time indeed. But I also am happy to say that there are really many, luckily, proactive participants in ICANN processes.

That said, there is the very last ... Okay. Are we done with this? Yes. So we move to the next slide and next section, which is about the six priority topics and the extra projects initiatives. So I'm happy to leave the floor again to Negar.

NEGAR FARZINNIA:

Thank you, Giovanni. Let's go to the next slide, please. Okay. Thank you very much. As I noted earlier in the webinar, there were a total of six work areas that were identified as those hindering the effectiveness of our multistakeholder model. Of these six priority topics, three of them were prioritized for a more immediate implementation. What you see highlighted here in the red box are three prioritized topics which are prioritization of work and efficient use of resources, precision in scoping of work, and consensus representation and inclusivity. Next slide, please.

In respect to the first work area on prioritization, community wants to work together to prioritize work so that we can better utilize ICANN's resources. When it comes to precision in scoping of work, community wanted to introduce a common, disciplined approach to scoping the work to better use resources, improve decision-making, and avoid volunteer burnout. And last but not least, regarding consensus representation and inclusivity work area, community wanted to improve representation and inclusivity to reach consensus, make decisions, and deliver work on time. Next slide, please.

So as I had briefly mentioned earlier in the presentation, there were discussions held with the community to determine how best to address these six issue areas. And here we're focusing on the top three prioritized ones. A number of projects were identified that were, at the time, either in the process of being implemented or were about to start in various stages. And essentially, a list of initiatives and projects were put together that could possibly address these issues.

What you see here are the number of those projects listed under each work area. Some of these projects could address multiple issues at the same time, such as streamlining of reviews, or PDP 3.0. So if you remove the duplicates, there are a total of 20 discrete projects here, that all-in-all could help address the issues that were identified as those hindering the effectiveness of the

MSM. These projects are in various stages of work. Some of the projects and initiatives have been fully implemented, while others are in progress or are about to start.

I wanted to pause here again to see if there are any questions before we move on. So Pamela, let me hand it over to you to see if there are any questions from our participants that we could take at this point in time.

PAMELA SMITH:

Hi, Negar. This is Pamela. Thank you so much. I'm not seeing any questions in the chat. I do see a comment from Wisdom Donkor to add transparency to the earlier discussion to the last poll. And then time is also very important. But we will be happy to take questions from the floor. If you have any questions, please raise your hand. And we'll give you an opportunity to ask your question live. Thank you so much.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA:

Thank you. And just to say that we are, here and throughout the webinar, collecting not only questions but considerations, thoughts, anything that can help all of us to move forward with this project. So feel free to speak up, raise your hand, and tell us what you think about what we are doing, what we will be doing, and also your thoughts about how to evolve, as this seems to be

the most preferred option, how to evolve the ICANN multistakeholder model.

So anybody who likes to take the floor, please feel free to speak up. You're quite many. It's a great attendance and from all around the world. So thank you so much for attending today's webinar. Feel free to, again, speak up. Okay. We have a hand up from Andrey.

ANDREY SHCHERBOVICH: Hello. This is generally the question. It also concerns the multistakeholder model, I think—multistakeholder participation. I am the second time ICANN Fellow because my first time was ICANN72. It was actually an online fellowship. And here will be my first time to attend at The Hague. And I will see this multistakeholder model as it works in ICANN in reality, with my own actual eyes. But I am many times a consistent participant of the IGF, the Internet Governance Forum.

And I'd like to ask what are your feelings, actually how the multistakeholder model differs from the IGF to the ICANN and how it could be implemented in also the processes of governance as well. Thank you. I'm sorry for my global question.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA:

Just to say that I think the main difference between ICANN multistakeholder model and the IGF is that the IGF is not a decision-making body. And therefore, there are no decisions at the end of the day. It's a great forum for discussion of different Internet topics. ICANN is an organization whose decisions are based on the multistakeholder model because most of the decisions are based on what has been discussed by the community and decided by the community at different levels.

So I think this is the main difference from the governance perspective and also from, really, let's say, the history of those two. One is a real organization and one is more a forum. So that is, I think, the main difference. I see in the chat some questions. So thanks again, Andrey. I hope I answered your question.

I see in the chat, there was a question about the priority assigned to the six areas and based on which criteria priority are given. And Mary has already responded that the priority areas were indeed identified by the community during the initial consultation phase. So I hope this addresses the question of Shah.

There's also a comment by Cheryl that the ICANN model also relies on interactions outside of the physical meetings held as well, which is very much through—ICANN work is throughout the year, as well as the IGF. But IGF tends to be more focused around the IGF timeframe.

So that said, I'd like to move to the next poll for this section, which is—if we can have the poll up on screen. And it's about the priority topics. And as someone has asked, and somebody explained, those topics were assigned priorities on the basis of some consultations that were held between 2019 and 2020. Those are the six priority topics. And you have just seen which are the top three within this October 2020 paper.

We are now asking you to rank them again and see if there is any difference because two years have passed. We all know what we have gone through during those two years, in terms of restrictions and changing lives. So let's see what you think or what you feel about those six areas and the priorities—the priority level that could be assigned to each area. So it's a multiple-choice poll. Please cast your preference. Thank you.

So let's give it a few more seconds because it's quite ... And let's have Yvette displaying the word cloud to see what are the most preferred. So to facilitate the display, we had to choose one word per topic. So I see that precision in scoping the work seems to be the most preferred. It's followed by culture, which is one of the topics which was not in the top three. And it's culture, trust, and silos. And then the next one is the consensus one, which is consensus representation and inclusivity. So precision, culture, and consensus seems to be, now, present within this webinar, the most preferred topics. And we will make sure that we will think

about the priority that you have expressed during this webinar today.

That said, I'm going to the next section, which is the last section of today's presentation. So it's evaluating to move forward. And I'm leaving the floor again to Negar. Thank you, Negar.

NEGAR FARZINNIA:

Let's go to the next slide, please. All right. As you have heard and seen in the previous slides, we have a large number of projects that could potentially address these work areas that we have discussed. But how do we know if they actually do? One way to do that is to evaluate the projects. Given the agreement amongst the stakeholders—the Org, the Board, and the community—on the need to be able to evaluate projects and initiatives, ICANN org undertook designing an evaluation methodology.

This process was completed. And the resulting document is now published on a dedicated wiki page that will house all MSM-related content and developments. Yvette, if you could please post the link to the wiki page in the chat for everyone to see, that would be great. I encourage all of you to look at this wiki space, which will continuously be updated as we make progress towards evaluating a select number of projects, which my colleague, Giovanni, will speak to in a little while.

A couple of things that are worth highlighting here. One is that we really value your input and engagement in this process and are planning to have dedicated engagement sessions with various constituencies at ICANN75 to work through the evaluation of some of the projects selected and to give the results of our findings.

It's important to receive your feedback, not just on the evaluation methodology process itself, but to understand how it's applied to various projects and initiatives. But also look at the results of the evaluations that ICANN Org is conducting now and together analyze the results and findings to see what we find, to see what changes we need to make, how we need to improve things, and what is working well and what isn't.

And the second point is, as Goran always says, this is an evolution and not a revolution, which means that we want to achieve incremental and continuous improvements and changes to make our business model more effective. So this is going to be an iterative process, an ongoing process, because the multistakeholder model, as you all voted now, too, needs to continuously evolve to keep up with our changing needs. Let's go to the next slide, please. Thank you.

As you look through the evaluation methodology document, to which Yvette kindly provided the wiki link, keep in mind that the

evaluation methodology is designed to help us assess the process, the implementation, or even an outcome of a given project or initiative. The goal here is to think more carefully about what a project is about and how can or should achieve its objectives. We need to understand what impact a given project has on the ICANN stakeholders and whether we could have done things better, more effectively, differently. These data points ultimately help us run our projects better in the future and more likely achieve our intended objectives.

This work has completed in terms of the development of the methodology. And so currently, we are putting together an action plan which we have actually started implementing on to talk about the next steps. So I wanted to pause here, pass it over to my colleague, Giovanni, to walk us through the current evaluation work that is underway and then next steps. Giovanni, over to you, please.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA:

Thank you, Negar. If we can go to the next slide, please. So, as Negar anticipated, we have selected some projects to start the evaluation. And we picked up four projects out of two of the priority areas. We picked up the project initiative, improving communications between ICANN org and the community from the prioritization of the work and efficient use of resources. When

it comes to the prioritization of the work and efficient use of resources, the community, during the 2019 and 2020 consultation, highlighted that insufficient prioritization impacts the entire ICANN ecosystem and affects ICANN's ability to work in an efficient and timely manner.

And out of these work areas, we have identified the improving communication between ICANN org and the community because ICANN has already implemented several efforts to streamline and enhance communications and also because this, as the other three project initiatives that we selected, has the sufficient data to start the evaluation.

The other three projects were selected from the consensus representation and inclusivity work area. And achieving consensus is one of the most critical elements, especially for the decision-making process, as well as representation and inclusivity are because they're essential that the work is processed in a timely and efficient manner.

So out of this work area, we have selected three project initiatives that are the Consensus Playbook, which was completed in April 2020 by the Consensus Building Institute. And it's a guideline that contains best practices for building consensus, bridging differences, and breaking deadlocks to reach consensus. ICANN

has already continued to work on new and more techniques to refine what was already worked out in 2020.

We have also selected the Fellowship program, which most of us know. And I'm happy to see there are some Fellows participating, attending this webinar today. And also the ICANN Learn initiative, which is an online learning platform with several new courses that are added on a regular basis.

As I said, we have selected those four projects because we have already a good, let's say, quantity of data available to start the evaluation. And our plan is to extend the evaluation to all the projects and initiatives that are listed in the Enhancing the Effectiveness of the ICANN Multistakeholder Model document of October 2020. But not only to them, but also to other projects that we have selected and highlighted that which are now displayed on the wiki multistakeholder page on the wiki, the community space.

So if we can go to the next slide, please, we have displayed, still in the format of word cloud, some of the projects that are now listed on this wiki space, which were not included in the October 2020 paper and which are all supporting the ICANN multistakeholder model. So what we plan to do is to start the evolution methodology on those four projects—and if we can go to the next slide, please—and report back to the community in

September 2022, so the coming September, with the first findings of the evaluation of the first four projects and then extend the evaluation to the other projects.

At the same time, we plan to engage with all the stakeholders during the different possible sessions, including the coming ICANN75 meeting, where we plan to have sessions with SOs and ACs and engage with them to collect their input and views on how to move forward with this project. And we will populate the wiki MSM page regularly with the findings of the different evaluation. And we will work in close contact with all of you to introduce refinements whenever there is a possible deficiency or gap that might be detected, thanks to the evaluation.

And again, we continue to populate this list of projects and initiatives with more projects and initiatives that are supporting the multistakeholder model. So as I said, from the beginning, we like this to be a truly interactive project. And that's why we plan more sessions in the future and this is just the first session of a series of sessions that we plan in the future with some picks during the year, like those that we're preparing for ICANN75 with the different constituencies.

So this is the last slide. But it's not really the end of today's webinar because we have a Q&A session coming up and also the very last poll. So Pamela, I leave the floor to you to see if there's

any question coming up. And as I said, please feel free to raise your hand and speak up. So you may like to speak up rather than writing questions. We'll be happy to collect any input. Thank you, Pamela.

PAMELA SMITH:

Thank you, Giovanni. Actually, we have a little feedback here. We have a comment from Dave Kissoondoyal, “I think the polls in this webinar are good to get the feel. But a proper survey is important.” And beyond that, I don't see any additional questions in the chat. Oh, one more comment from Glenn, “Legitimacy, power, and inequalities in the multistakeholder Internet governance.” But beyond that, I don't see ... Oh. And Michael Zhou said, “ICANN is ruled by which law system—national law, or international law, or others?” And Alberto Soto has his hand raised, Giovanni, if you would like to address his question. Thank you.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA:

Please, Alberto. Alberto, the floor is yours.

ALBERTO SOTO:

Hola. I'll speak in Spanish. Well, as there are Fellows in these sessions, and maybe people who haven't been involved, yet, I've been involved in ICANN since 2005 when we started talking about

active participation. My advice would be the following one. Each of you should choose an issue, a subject matter. There are unlimited subject matters in ICANN and nobody can know about know everything.

So you should focus on what you like the most, your area of expertise. And through this approach, you can get an active participation in the government area. In ICANN, there are more countries represented than the UN. So this shows how everybody is interested in the ICANN work. Thank you

GIOVANNI SEPPIA:

Thank you so much, Alberto. It's a great tip—especially great tip for the Fellows. And, again, there are so many Fellows attending today's webinar. So thank you so much for attending. Is there any other question or anybody who likes to take the floor? Please raise your hand. And, Pamela and Yvette, let me know if I don't see ... Yeah. I see the chairman of ICANN Board. Maarten, the floor is yours.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN:

Yeah. No. Just thanking you for the presentation—also, the interactive way. If you want to do the process, you demonstrate it very well on this webinar. I want to thank all of the people from the community who have shared their thinking and to be here

with their expressing their interest. With me, some other Board members have been listening in to this. And we really appreciate to learn how we can support your best. And this project is very instrumental in that. So thank you all for your time. And thanks to the team for the excellent work. And I truly love the interactive approach. Thank you for that.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA:

Thank you. Thank you so much, Maarten. We have a very last poll to show on the screen. So if you, Yvette, can please put up the very last poll of today's webinar. So looking at the numerous projects and initiatives that support the multistakeholder environment, which is the area you would suggest ICANN ecosystem to work more on? Making information more accessible, further supporting diversity and inclusivity, further empowering the next generation of Internet users to participate in the model.

So let's consider your preference for the very last poll. But this is the very last poll of today's webinar because somebody said those polls were nice. But we are going to do more engagement with the community and also, eventually, more surveys to collect your input. So I see a couple of hands up. And let's wait a second. And first, let's give the chance to the attendees to answer this poll. And then I'll leave the floor to the last two questions. So let's wrap up this poll, Yvette, and display the results. Thank you.

Empower the next generation. I shouldn't say so because I should be impartial but this is what I wanted. So I'm really happy that this is the most preferred. It's indeed something that we should all think about. So thanks to all. Thanks and respect to all those who have participated in all the polls. Next generation is really important. I see Sebastian and Judith, hands up. Sebastian, please.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much, Giovanni, and thank you for your team to bring us this presentation. There is a lot to discuss. And sometimes, it's about the wording. I have always, since years, the trouble of model to whom? Model to what? Why we are talking about model? We are ICANN, a multistakeholder organization. Sorry. I can't use “organization.” Now, it's staff. But we need to find a word. I don't think that model is a good one.

And the other point is that the prioritization question is very important. But I hope that we will go through the decrease of what it's on our shoulders to have a more stable number of projects. But we are lagging so much that we need to prioritize them quickly and to do it as quick as possible. But I hope that we will not stay with 200 projects in our recommendation to be prioritized in the future. Thank you.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA: Thank you, Sebastian. Judith?

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: Yes. So I had a confusion on your question, making information more accessible. The question is, is it making information more accessible for persons with disabilities? Framing the way you do the question so that persons with disabilities can be more included in it? So in a sense, it was like diversity and inclusion. But that shouldn't be a choice. That should be a requirement that ICANN does, as opposed to a choice. So I was really confused about the wording on it because accessibility is not a choice. It should be a requirement.

And there should be sessions because most people would like to make it more accessible. But they don't realize that what they're doing is not accessible, such as the slides without putting a comment, not putting all text. There's range of different other issues that people who write documents are not aware of but are doing and should not be doing. So that's my little pitch. Yeah.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA: Thank you. Thank you so much, Judith. This is really an excellent point. Rest assured that accessibility at different levels is one of the key objectives for ICANN, and not only for the language services that we provide, and the interpretation for this webinar

is a sign, but also other kinds of accessibility are taken into account. So again, it's an excellent point. We're all working on it. So thank you so much for highlighting this element of accessibility. And also sorry if the question was unclear from certain perspectives.

That said, we are quite short of time and we are wrapping up. So thanks a lot to all the attendees that participated. Thank you so much to Negar. Last word from Negar?

NEGAR FARZINNIA:

Nothing. Just thank you, everyone, for attending the session and participating in this discussion. Looking forward to further chats and discussions with all of you.

GIOVANNI SEPPIA:

Thank you, Negar. Thank you so much for that. And Pamela, Yvette, you really made the magic of moving all the poll findings into the word cloud. So thank you so, so much for making and contributing to the session as interactive as possible. Thanks to all the attendees for having us in your day and we'll stay in touch. Don't forget to regularly check the multistakeholder page on the ICANN wiki space. We'll provide you more details about what we are doing and we will continue to engage with you to improve and evolve the ICANN multistakeholder model.

That said, I'd like to end with something that Alberto said in one of his first comments—that one true element of this multistakeholder model is that nobody is left out. So thanks again for participating. Thanks for having us in your day. We'll stay in touch. Bye-bye.

PAMELA SMITH:

Thank you, everyone—to all our presenters and the team behind the scenes, especially our tech support who worked so hard. And thank you again. Enjoy ICANN74 Prep Week and ICANN 74 to follow. You can stop the recording now. Thank you. Goodbye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]