



By Mason Cole

#### n behalf of the Business Constituency (BC), welcome to ICANN72!

This is ICANN's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the sixth ICANN meeting held virtually since the beginning of the pandemic.

I know I join others in hoping we can soon return safely to face-to-face meetings with colleagues and friends; in the meantime, however, the BC encourages you to take advantage of the good work of ICANN staff, who yet again have skillfully planned what is sure to be a productive four days of sessions and plenaries.

While this AGM is somewhat shortened in time, there is no shortage of work in front of our community. If you're new to the BC, I encourage you to introduce yourself to colleagues and offer your skills and ideas to our efforts – we're a friendly and welcoming group and always are in need of assistance from those with helpful expertise. If you're an old hand, the BC welcomes you back and looks forward to your contributions. Speaking of contributions, let me take a

moment to thank one of our Executive Committee members, Waudo Siganga, who has served as the BC's liaison to the Commercial Stakeholder Group for the past year. This is a crucial role for the BC, and one Waudo has handled very capably. Waudo will leave office at the end of 2021, but fortunately for the BC will continue contributing to our work in other ways. Please join me in thanking Waudo for his good service.

The issues that face the BC continue to be significant. As I wrote in our last newsletter, developments in the



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domain name system (DNS) are widely felt, but particularly by the business users of the internet that we represent. Companies and organizations that make their presence known and conduct commerce via the web need common-sense, predictable online rules to live by in order to thrive and advocating for these attributes is the focus of the BC's work. There's never been a better time to involve yourself in the work of the BC - our voice is strong, but always can be made stronger.

If you have questions about the BC or its work, I encourage you to ask. You'll find that your BC colleagues are helpful and accommodating and will collaborate with you to ensure your views are heard.

To provide you with context about the BC, have a look at our newly designed website at: https://www.icannbc.org.

The site can provide you with an outstanding overview of the BC and its focus. It also is a gateway for past editions of this newsletter, which will give you helpful updates about community developments and the BC's participation in policy development.

Best of luck for a productive meeting, and please stay safe and healthy. I look forward to collaborating with you over the coming week and beyond.

**Mason Cole BC Chair** 



## Encouraging developments on proposed NIS2 directive

The Network and Information Security (NIS) Directive is the first piece of EU-wide legislation on cybersecurity, and its specific aim was to achieve a high common level of cybersecurity across the Member States.

f you've followed the implementation of the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) closely, you're aware that, while it is meant to protect personally identifiable information from unintended use, the law has been consistently misapplied by data controllers, including ICANN's registries and registrars.

This misapplication has led to serious consequences in various corners of the internet, but particularly as it relates to the nearly full redaction of domain name registration data (known historically as WHOIS). With WHOIS effectively

dark, law enforcement is having a difficult time tracking down criminal behavior. Cybersecurity experts can no longer perform the rapid investigatory work necessary to mitigate online harms. Intellectual property owners are frustrated by their now limited ability to enforce their rights.

However, there's good news: Recognizing that GDPR has been very liberally applied and, in some instances, in the wrong way, the European Commission has stepped in with an effort to clarify their intentions behind the GDPR law, including their intentions regarding WHOIS. They've done so





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via a draft directive on the security of network and information systems – known as "NIS2" for short.

When the European Commission sought – via the draft NIS2 directive – to clarify its intentions with regard to WHOIS data, the BC and others (including the ALAC, IPC and even ICANN Org itself) seized the opportunity to lodge our input on what would be helpful clarifications as the draft law is scrutinized by the EU legislators.

With invaluable input from a diverse

drafting team, the BC seems to have contributed to some very positive developments. In particular, the initial position by the Member of European Parliament leading the Parliament's position on the draft law provides us with the following significant updates:

- Rather than mandating disclosure of registration data via a legitimate request "without undue delay," the BC was able to secure language that mandates disclosure within 24 hours.
- In reply to BC input and discussions with EC officials, we now see in the language that WHOIS data must be validated by registrars.
- We also see mitigation of DNS abuse highlighted as a reason for the strengthened language. After a long period as the only real voice on DNS abuse, the BC should be gratified to see this recognition.

The European legislative path is long and winding, but we could not have

hoped for much of a better position from this key Member of Parliament at this early stage.

These developments are laudable and represent a tremendous amount of hard work by the drafting team and others. While this is cause for a moment of celebration, there of course is more work to be done. This is a rapidly-moving situation and will require further attention by the BC the coming weeks.

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### **BC** Outreach

### On the Sidelines of ICANN 71

n Wednesday 9 June 2021, at the occasion of ICANN's 71st Public Meeting that took place "virtually" in The Hague, **Netherlands, ICANN Business** Constituency partnered with ECP, the premier Dutch multistakeholder platform for digital policy, for an online outreach event to share experiences, and highlight the role of the private sector in formulating Internet policies. Leaders of these organizations engaged in a discussion around the business drives and opportunities in engaging with the multistakeholder models for advancing the voice of business in shaping our digital future, such as ICANN and the ECP.



By Andrea Beccalli & Lawrence Olawale-Roberts (Vice-Chair, Finance & Operations and host of the BC Outreach Event)

The Netherlands consistently ranks among the most digitally competitive countries in the world. ECP, and its business members, are a large reason for this success, serving as a trusted platform for advice and information for nearly 20 years. Similarly, the ICANN Business Users Constituency, known colloquially as "the BC" is the voice of commercial Internet users within ICANN, the global body coordinating the domain names and related systems that consumers and businesses rely upon for products and services. Local and global business contribution to the ICANN policy making is key in the evolution of the system of unique identifiers and the resiliency of the Internet.







Speakers included (from left to right): Claudia Selli, Marten Botterman & Arie Van Bellen

Speakers at the outreach event included the ICANN Board Chair - Maarten Botterman who shares a deep history with the Netherlands and was excited to witness the interaction between the Business Constituency of ICANN and the digital policy group ECP,

though they both have different remits. Mason Cole, the Chair of the ICANN Business Constituency (BC) spoke to the group about the objectives of the constituency and how the interest of global businesses are taken into consideration in the policy development



#### Continued: BC Outreach On the Sidelines of ICANN 71



Marie Pattullo (pictured left) of AIM and BC Councilor in the GNSO opened her intervention with an answer to the question "Why are we in the BC?"

process at ICANN. The chair took the opportunity to invite participants to the BC's open meeting.

Marie Pattullo of AIM and BC Councilor in the GNSO opened her intervention with an answer to the question "Why are we in the BC?" she highlighted the need and interest for businesses, big or small, to trust that when their domain names are typed into any browser for any form of use ranging from communication to financial transactions or otherwise on the Internet, it gets to them. Claudia Selli of AT&T (immediate past Chair of the BC), Arie Van Bellen (ECP Director) and Mark Esseboom (IBM Director of Gov. and Business affairs, Benelux) also spoke at different intervals during the outreach. The event was moderated by the duo of Andrea Beccalli the Director for Stakeholder engagement in Europe for ICANN and Stephanie Teeuwen of ECP.

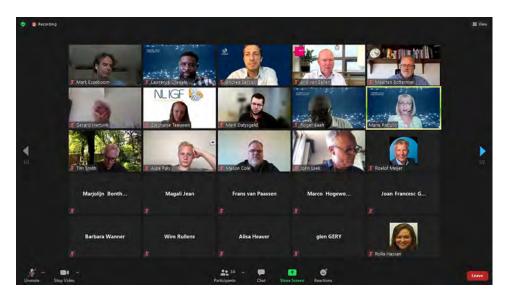
A cross section of ECP and BC members were in attendance including the Vice-Chair for Policy Coordination Steve DelBianco, Waudo Siganga the CSG Representative for the BC and Mark Datysgeld the BC Councilor

amongst others. Christopher Mondini the Vice President, Stakeholder Engagement, Europe and Managing Director Brussels, Belgium Office for ICANN was not only in attendance but played a vital role in helping to organize and ensure the success of the event.

The session highlighted the multiple beneficial aspects of businesses participating and "making their voices heard" through the national and global multistakeholder organization as ECP and ICANN to shape the dynamics and evolution of the Internet with a direct impact on revenue and business outcomes, strategies to follow and how to influence their development.

The outreach event was promoted across the various social media handles of ICANN and spanned one hour and 23 minutes with over 30 people participating.

You can see the full recording of the outreach event on ECP's website by clicking this link.





## ICANN Multistakeholder Organizational Chart



#### **ICANN Board of Directors**

Top row Left to Right: Göran Marby – President & CEO, Maarten Botterman – Chair (NomCom), León Sánchez – Vice Chair (At-Large), Harald Alvestrand (IETF Liaison), Becky Burr (GNSO), Ron da Silva (ASO), Sara Deutsch (NomCom), Avri Doria (NomCom), Lito Ibarra (NomCom), Manal Ismail (GAC Liaison)

**2nd row Left to Right:** Danko Jevtovic (NomCom), Merike Käo (SSAC Liaison), Akinori Maemura (ASO), Mandla Msimang (NomCom), Ihab Osman (NomCom), Patricio Poblete (ccNSO), Kaveh Ranjbar (RSSAC Liaison), Nigel Roberts (ccNSO), Matthew Shears (GNSO), Tripti Sinha (NomCom)

## Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

(see following page)

Philippe Fouquart (Chair) Pam Little (V. Chair) Tatiana Tropina (V. Chair)

## Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

Alejandra Reynoso (Chair) Pablo Rodriguez (V. Chair) Jordan Carter (V. Chair)

## Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

Kevin Blumberg (Chair) Mike Silber & Hervé Clément (V. Chair)

## **Empowered Community Administration**

Maureen Hilyard (ALAC) Oscar Robles (ASO) Alejandra Reynoso (ccNSO) Manal Ismail (GAC) Philippe Fouquart (GNSO)

## Government Advisory Committee (GAC)

Manal Ismail (Chair)

#### Vice Chairs:

Pär Brumark, Rodrigue Guiguemde, Jorge Cancio, Tepua Hunter

## Security & Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

Rod Rasmussen (Chair) Julie Hammer (V. Chair)

#### Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

Fred Baker (Chair) Brad Verd (V. Chair)

## At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Maureen Hilyard (Chair) Joanna Kulesza (V. Chair) Jonathan Zuck (V. Chair)

## Root Zone Evolution Review Committee (RZERC)

Tim April (Chair)

#### **Technical Liaison Group (TLG)**

Christian Toche (ETSI)
Howard Benn (ETSI)
Reinhard Scholl (ITU-T)
Jie Zhang (ITU-T)
Wendy Seltzer (W3C)
Shadi Abou-Zahara (W3C)
Warren Kumari (IAB)

Tim Wicinski (IAB)

#### **Nominating Committee 2021**

Ole Jacobsen (Chair)
Tracy Hackshaw (Chair Elect)
Jay Sudowski (Associate Chair)

#### **Ombudsman**

Herb Waye

## Customer Standing Committee (CSC)

Lars-Johan Liman (Chair)



## GNSO Stakeholder Groups, Constituencies & Council

The GNSO Council is responsible for managing the policy development process of the GNSO.

#### **Contracted Party House Councilors**

#### Registries Stakeholder Group

Kurt Pritz (NA) Sebastien Ducos (AP) Maxim Alzoba (EU)

#### Nominating Committee Appointees (NCAs)

Olga Cavalli (LAC)
Carlton Samuels NCA
(LAC)
Tom Dale NCA (AP)

#### Registrar Stakeholder Group

Pam Little (AP), V. Chair GNSO Council Greg DiBiase (NA) Kristian Ørmen (EU)

#### **Liaison and Observers**

Maarten Simon, ccNSO (EU)
Cheryl Langdon-Orr,
ALAC (AP)
Jeff Neuman, GAC (NA)

#### **Non-Contracted Party House Councilors**

## Commercial Stakeholder Group

## Commercial and Business Users

Mark Datysgeld (LAC) Marie Pattullo (EU)

#### **Intellectual Property**

Flip Petillion (EU)
John McElwaine (NA)

## Internet Service and Connection Providers

Philippe Fouquart (EU) GNSO Council Chair Osvaldo Novoa (LAC)

## Noncommercial Stakeholder Group

Tatiana Tropina (EU), V. Chair GNSO Council Wisdom Donkor

Farell Folly

Juan Manuel Rojas Stephanie Perrin

Tomslin Samme-Nlar

#### **Contracted Party House**

# Registries Stakeholder Group Executive Committee

Samantha Demetriou (Chair)

Beth Bacon (V. Chair - Policy)

Craig Schwartz (V. Chair - Administration)

Jonathan Robinson (Treasurer)

Sue Schuler (Secretariat)

#### Registrar Stakeholders Group

Ashley Heineman (Chair)

Jothan Frakes (V. Chair) Owen Smigelski (V. Chair)

Benny Samuelsen

(Treasurer)

Eric Rokobauer (Secretary)

Zoe Bonython (Secretariat)

## Intellectual Property Constituency

Heather Forrest (President)

Dean Marks (V.

President)

Damon Ashcraft

(Treasurer)

Susan Payne (Secretary)

TBA (Participation Coordinator)

Coordinator)

#### \* The groups' officers are omitted here

#### **Non-Contracted Party House**

## Commercial Stakeholders Group\*

#### **Business Constituency**

Mason Cole (Chair)

Steve DelBianco (V. Chair Policy Coordination)

Lawrence Olawale-Roberts

(V. Chair Finance & Operations)

Waudo Siganga (CSG Representative)

# Internet Service Providers & Connectivity Providers Constituency

Wolf-Ulrich Knoben (Chair) Susan Mohr (V. Chair)

Christian Dawson (Excomm)

Philippe Fouquart - GNSO Council Chair and ISPCP Councilor

Osvaldo Novoa (LAC) GNSO Councilor

## Noncommercial Stakeholders Group\*

## Noncommercial Users Constituency

Raphael Beauregard-Lacroix (Chair)

Benjamin Akinmoyeje (AF)

Mili Semlani (AP)

Olga Kyryliuk (EU)

Lia Hernandez (LAC)

Ken Herman (NA)

## Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency

Raoul Plommer (Chair)

Oreoluwa Lesi (Communications Committee Chair)

Caleb Ogundele (Membership Committee Chair)

Emmanuel Vitus (Secretary)



## The Benefits of BC Membership

The Business Constituency (BC) is the voice of commercial Internet users within ICANN – the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers.

Business users rely on a stable and secure Internet and e-commerce experience, one that serves their users and customers on a global basis. Through your participation in ICANN, and in the Business Constituency, your company will make a difference on behalf of business.

#### BC members contribute as:

- participants on the BC e-mail list to learn about and debate issues
- participants on telephone conferences to reach consensus on key issues
- participants at physical meetings coincident with ICANN global meetings
- issue managers on specific topics
- bridges for information flow between other GNSO constituencies

#### The mission of the BC

The Constituency fully represents the views of the Internet business user community.

ICANN policy positions are consistent with the development of business via an Internet that is stable, secure and reliable while promoting consumer confidence.

ICANN policy positions derive from broad stakeholder participation in a common forum for suppliers and users.

#### **BC** Executive Committee



Chair Mason Cole



Vice Chair Policy Coordination Steve DelBianco



Vice Chair Finance & Operations Lawrence Olawale-Roberts



CSG Representative Waudo Siganga



GNSO Councilor Marie Pattullo



GNSO Councilor Mark Datysgeld

#### 2021 Nominating Committee (NOMCOM members)



Large Business Seat Scott McCormick



**Small Business Seat** Adetola Sogbesan



**Associate Chair** Jay Sudowski

**BC Credentials Committee:**Zak Muscovitch (Chair), Roger Baah,
Vivek Goyal

BC Finance Sub Committee: Lawrence Olawale-Roberts (Chair), Adetola Sogbesan, Tim Smith, Yusuph Kileo



Join the conversation on Twitter: @icannbc

#### BC SECRETARIAT



Chantelle Doerksen

Brenda Brewer

If you would like to become a member of the BC, please contact the BC Secretariat at: info@icannbc.org

or simply visit our website and register online:

www.icannbc.org