
SAN JUAN – Fellowship Daily Session
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SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: ...working session with all of you. The main idea is to work on how to do a public statement and to do a speech [at] public comment. Many of you have been for the Public Forum 1, and you have seen people are coming and there is a timer there. So everybody has something in written form, not to stand there and just think of what to say. Or some people are telling something which is out of ICANN mission, and ICANN cannot do anything because it's not in [this org] mission.

So we'll talk a bit about this. We have four alumni who will be facilitating the process. We are going also, as per request from many alumni, to draft a statement on behalf of ICANN 61 participants to be presented tomorrow at public forum.

But before going to that, I would like to introduce you to my boss actually who is the Director of Public Responsibility service department. This is the department who is doing a lot of programs in ICANN, like Newcomers, NextGen, Fellowship, ICANN Learn. Ergys Ramaj is dealing with all this stuff and coordinating and helping us to do it on a very high level as much

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as we try to do this. So, Ergys, without further ado, I would like to give the floor to you just to say hello to our Fellows.

ERGYS RAMAJ:

Okay, can you guys hear me? I'm going to stand right here in the front so everybody can see me. Good morning, everyone, or good afternoon. I always tell the same joke every time she introduces me because she says I'm her boss, but you've all met Siranush, right? So who's the real boss?

First of all, I have to apologize because I haven't had an opportunity to engage with you guys throughout this week because, as you all know by now, when you come to an ICANN meeting you get pulled in so many different directions, and I have to apologize for that.

But I am here now, and what I wanted to do is – I don't have an agenda, per se. I just wanted to introduce myself. My name is Ergys Ramaj. As Siranush said, I head the department of Public Responsibility support at ICANN. I know that there's one person in this room that can actually pronounce my name perfectly. Could you please raise your hand. There she goes. She's a fellow Albanian of ethnic origin, so I was very excited to meet [Sara] a couple of days ago. I was actually equally excited to hear that someone else can pronounce my name. But that's okay. I think we all get that to some extent.

What I really wanted to talk to you guys about is just a little bit about the Public Responsibility department. By a show of hands, how many of you are aware of what it is and what it does? I've got the perfect crowd here. Okay, good. I can indoctrinate all of you. Okay, good.

Essentially, our department is, if you think about it along the lines of corporate social responsibility, a lot of organizations or corporations have this one department that does the “good” stuff. They do what is the right thing to do, what is the good thing to do, and it's the “feel good” programs.

A combination of all of those, which is why we oversee the Fellowship Program, which all of you are now familiar with. And especially for those of you who are coming back for a second or a third time, you probably know more about it than I do.

The NextGen program as well, we also oversee issues related to human rights within ICANN but only as it relates to ICANN the organization, issues related to public interest. And again, if any of you are interested in any of those topics, feel free to raise your hand and ask any specific details. I'm more than happy to cover those.

We also oversee ICANN Learn, and I believe that Betsy has already spoken to you. Not yet?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: At the Newcomers session.

ERGYS RAMAJ: Newcomers session. Okay, so that our online learning platform that's essentially our capacity development platform where we give an opportunity to the community at large, not just ICANN community but the global Internet community, to understand issues related to ICANN in a way that it can be accessible from anywhere at any time.

We also oversee the History Project. How many of you are aware about the History Project at ICANN? Okay, good. I see a few hands going up. If you haven't had a chance to look at it, please do. It is possibly one of the best onboarding resources that you can use at ICANN. This is our idea of creating a repository of information related to ICANN, a central repository. We have quite a few very good interviews with individuals who were in charge of creating ICANN, putting ICANN together. Individuals who can give you some of the knowledge and the background in terms of the thinking behind ICANN, where ICANN is going, where they see ICANN in the next 10 to 15 years. There's also a lot of good written materials that are easily digestible in terms of the timelines going back to the creation of the Internet all the way to where we are today.

That’s essentially my little spiel about what the department of Public Responsibility does. We have a team of seven individuals, eight with myself, and Siranush is obviously one of the rock stars on that team.

I would just like to open the floor if anyone has any questions. My job is to bore you to death, so that’s what I’m doing. Any questions for me? Anything you would like to know? It can be about the budget. It can be about any sort of – okay, I see a few smiles. Good topic, yeah? Okay, anything. I’m here at your disposal. Whatever you’d like to discuss. I see a hand over there. Please go ahead.

DANIELLE TOMSON:

Hi, I’m from the North American Fellows group. I have two questions. The first one is, given your department, and you have a pretty meaty bunch of responsibilities, what are some of the goals for your department in the future? Like some of the objectives that you’re trying to meet or new strategies that you’re trying to implement? Number one.

And two, the History Project, how does it relate to ICANN wiki or not relate to it? Is it something that we can contribute to, or is it something that’s more top-down? Thank you.

ERGYS RAMAJ:

I'll start with the second question because I already forgot the first one. I'm just kidding, but I'll start with the second one.

It does not really relate to it. We have worked with Dustin in different capacities as the person who leads ICANN wiki, but in terms of the History Project itself this is something that we're doing organically with members of the community. And of course, there are opportunities to participate and I'm happy to share with you the details later.

In terms of our strategic direction as a department, we went through a very thorough exercise about it two years ago when we used to be called the Development and Public Responsible department. I oversaw the research part of this when we needed to bring our department more in line with what other corporate social responsibility departments do at other corporations.

This was about two years ago. A year ago, after we had presented all the changes of our direction, we somewhat streamlined all of the areas of focus that we are overseeing. What I described to you earlier is our new direction moving forward.

Now we are at ICANN and the new strategic plan beginning 2020 to 2025 is being worked out and within that, of course, we will be a major component. I don't think there will be a major shift in terms of the areas of focus for us. Our job is essentially to

empower current and new stakeholders to actively participate at ICANN, which explains of course why we have the Fellowship Program under our umbrella.

But this is going to be an organic process. The organization is actively engaged throughout the community to the board and staff as well and trying to define what the new strategic direction is. And of course, a lot of that will be in consultation with the community.

I hope I've addressed the question at least a little bit. Thank you.

Any other questions while we're waiting for food?

[JENNIFER CORDERO]: Hi.

ERGYS RAMAJ: Oh, hi.

[JENNIFER CORDERO]: I'm not up above. During our lunch with the board, one of the board members encouraged us to think about metrics for the Fellows Program. I was just curious about any corporate social responsibility metrics that you might be working on.

ERGYS RAMAJ: Very good question. You put me on the spot with that one.

[JENNIFER CORDERO]: Sorry.

ERGYS RAMAJ: No, it's a good one. Siranush and I have been thinking about this very actively over the past ten months because every time we come to an ICANN meeting – is this session recorded? Okay. No, not that I want to say anything that I'm not supposed to be saying. Don't worry. But everybody who works with me knows that I'm a straight shooter, so I'll continue to be that.

We have been put in situations where we would have to justify a lot of things that we do. And obviously, the Fellowship Program is one of those visible things. Everybody knows about it. Oftentimes, the question we're asked is, what is your return on investment? We are asked by the community this question. My answer is to answer it with a question which is, what is your expectation? What do you want the return on investment to be?

This is important because when the Fellowship Program was first designed 11 years ago, and this is a long time ago by the way, it was designed keeping in mind the need at the time. This is to bring diversity into ICANN essentially. I'm simplifying this just to make a point.

Over this time, over this evolution, ICANN has changed a lot since 11 years ago. We all have changed since 11 years ago. We're different people, right? But the Fellowship Program, it's intended purpose, remains intact. Because of the way it was designed, it wasn't designed to necessarily have something to show for it.

I'm not being provocative with this, but this is essentially when it was put together it was said, "Okay, we need to do something about people who can't otherwise participate at ICANN. What are we going to do." The Fellowship Program was the solution to it. During this time, we didn't necessarily think about it in terms of return on investment or measuring that impact.

Now do we have anecdotal evidence? Of course, you have two individuals who sit on the Board of Directors who were Fellowship participants. Is that a cause-and-effect relationship? Is that a correlation? That's up for the community to decide. But if you look at across all of the SO/AC structures there's always going to be a Fellow there – always. So what does that tell you about the Fellowship Program?

Can we quantify that? Yes. If you look at all of the blogs that have been issued over the past year and a half, there's so much data out there to substantiate what the Fellowship Program has done and brought to the ICANN community. So I don't think it's

an issue of lack of data. The issue is with the initial design, and it wasn't designed in a way where what is the return on investment. You put \$2.00 in, you get \$5.00. It wasn't designed that way.

So I think this is a task for all of us. All of you have heard from everyone you probably have spoken to how we have a community consultation now on the Fellowship Program that's open. Essentially this is a questionnaire that we sent out to the community and asked, "What do you think about the structure of the program? Is there enough clarity? Does the size work?" This is ongoing right now. We're expecting feedback from the SOs and ACs until the end of this month.

That to me is a perfect opportunity to actually make the changes that the community wants us to make. So if there is a need for us to have metrics in place before we start the twelfth year, then we can do that. But we have to do that together because if Siranush and I come up with ideas of what the metrics ought to be, then that's somewhat of a top-down approach. We can do that on the org level, and we have those metrics. We know how many people participate, where they're coming from, what is the gender distribution, what is the geographic distribution.

But beyond that, there's also the responsibility from the community to say, "We have a working group and when we do

the onboarding or the intake, are we capturing if these people were Fellows?” In some cases, it happens. In other cases, it doesn’t. But the question is, whose responsibility is that? That’s an internal org discussion but also a community discussion.

Because Siranush’ job is to bring you guys in, make sure everything is taken care of. She administers the program, but she’s not going to stay with you guys and hold your hand or the cohort of 700 people to say, “I need you to go here. I’m going to open this door for you.” There’s a responsibility that ends with her job, and then the community gets involved.

So it’s a shared responsibility. I think a lot of people talk about metrics as if numbers are going to solve the problem, but there’s a qualitative analysis that is in addition to a qualitative one that a lot of people I think are missing. So again, a little longwinded, but I hope I’ve addressed your question. I think that the context is important here. Thank you.

Hand up?

UCHA SETURI:

Hello, Ucha speaking from Georgia. Second time Fellow. Actually, I have two questions. First of all, my question is related to assessment. Did someone do some assessment of results of Fellowship Programs? Because we just heard about budget

cutting, but it's impossible to find some report or something like that about [real] assessment. Everyone is showing some Fellows on the board and it's cool, yes, but how about working outside, working in our countries? Is someone [assess our] going to do this job because of this? Report [is] impossible to have a real picture about us, what we are doing. I think it's very important.

Also, another one is related with the budget cutting for IGF initiatives because for me actually Fellowship and IGF is something like similar. Maybe it's not clear, but it is possibility to participate and get some information, I'm speaking about national IGF intergovernmental initiatives, to get some information about ICANN, some general information. But anyways, it's also working and helping. Thanks.

ERGYS RAMAJ:

Wow. You guys are full of good questions today. Now I'm regretting coming here. Just kidding. Okay, so on the first question, I think I partially addressed with the question that the previous – I forget your name, I apologize. Look, the budget has opened Pandora's Box. I understand that one of the questions is, how did you make the decision. What is the information that you used. Is there a clarifying question?

UCHA SETURI: Yes.

ERGYS RAMAJ: Go ahead.

UCHA SETURI: [Just] assessment. We need a real assessment, not cutting. [Everything's understandable.] Budget is okay. Good, okay, but we need a real assessment, if someone is doing this job or not.

ERGYS RAMAJ: Okay, can I answer that question with a question? Okay, what do you mean by assessment.

UCHA SETURI: Real picture, what are Fellows doing.

ERGYS RAMAJ: Yes, okay, there two components to that. One of them is the data that we collect based on the information that you guys provide when you apply to the Fellowship Program. Again, that's just some of the metrics.

For those of you who are not aware, we carried out a survey, a ten-year program survey. We asked people, how are you engaged at ICANN or are you engaged at ICANN? All those sorts

of engagement questions. The overwhelming majority, about 64% or so, said, “Yes, we’re still currently engaged at ICANN, and here are the areas in which we are engaged.”

So in terms of an assessment, is this self-identified? Yes. We have to rely on people telling us the truth or telling us what it is they’re doing at ICANN. In my mind, that is an assessment of sorts. Now if we were to carry out a more comprehensive assessment of the Fellowship Program, say bring in a third party because obviously Siranush and I if we were to do this, it would seem as though we have a bias. We would say the Fellowship Program is the best thing since sliced bread – and we would.

But a third-party assessment? No, we haven’t had that but there also hasn’t been an ask for it. So we have touched it in various degrees and forms, but there hasn’t necessarily been – I think, if I’m understanding your question correctly – something that is more structured with a more appropriate methodology that goes way back and there are interviews involved, you actually validate the information you receive, you fact check everything.

That for 11 years is a huge project and it costs a lot of money. The way that we do our budget, at least from a program perspective, we do it on an annual basis: this is how many people anticipate to attend, this is the kind of cost it will take, and that’s essentially it. If there is an ask from the community –

and the demand needs to come from the community for such an assessment – I’ll be the first one to welcome it with open arms because I do think it’s needed.

Now if you’re cynical about it, you could also say, “What’s the point? The budget was already cut. It’s too late. You should have done it before.” Anyway, I’m going to stop there, and I don’t mean to confuse you. But we’ve done some parts of it, not what I would regard as the most rigorous approach that we could have possibly taken.

But again, whose responsibility is it to do it? We struggle with this at ICANN all the time: is it the community? Is it the staff? Is it the board? Because it hasn’t been an issue until it became an issue through the budget, now we’re having this discussion.

I see a hand right next to you.

DAVID MORAR:

Thank you very much. David Morar from North America. I think that I want to piggyback off of his question because I think that it’s important to clarify a little bit. What you were saying was outside of the ICANN space but within IG ecosystem and the IG community nationally, there are Fellows at this table, there are alums that have done substantial work.

The idea is that there are ways to self-report, to say, “I went back to my country and I was able to help put fast Internet into rural areas,” or “I went back to my country and I was able to start a youth IGF,” or “I did this,” or “I did that.” Which I think that obviously goes beyond ICANN but for the community to say, “We need them to participate in ICANN and we don’t care about what they do within the overall ecosystem would be shortsighted of them.”

So basically to show, obviously as you said after the fact because the budget has already been cut and it would have been interesting for them to cut the budget after they’ve done some sort of due diligence on the program, but for the Fellows to show we get involved in ICANN but more than that we get involved into our communities. We do the work that then allows ICANN to be successful or we do the work that promotes ICANN’s mission and status and everything that ICANN wants, just maybe not in the sessions themselves or in the organization itself. I think that’s basically what a lot of us feel, and obviously we know you’re on our side.

ERGYS RAMAJ:

Thank you. Again, another good comment. I don’t think you can understate the importance of engaging in your own respective regions. I think all of you to an extent if you’re not engaging

there successfully, it's probably not going to be successful at ICANN if you think about it in those terms.

But, yes, there is this tendency where a lot of people essentially it's a binary thing. You're saying if you're not participating at ICANN within ICANN structures, then going back to the question on the return on investment and what is it. How can we talk with authority about something that we really have no information about.

Really are we paying to bring people to ICANN, expose them to ICANN for them to not really engage at ICANN but to engage in their regional communities – which is fine, no one is saying, no, don't do that – but the primary purpose of it is to bring someone, and I'm just being Devil's advocate here, to bring someone into ICANN so that they can contribute to ICANN and its work.

Now even within ICANN, depending on which community you talk to, some will say our mission is very narrow. You move outside of that mission, you're not in mission anymore. Others will say, yes, but that mission has implications over what happens elsewhere in the Internet governance (IG) space. ICANN doesn't operate in a vacuum. It is a part of a broader ecosystem and it has a responsibility to be one of those actors that promotes the right values, the right principles.

So there are different schools of thought. What I would urge you to do, I think – and okay we’re not being recorded – what I would urge you to do is to be very factual. This is not a conversation about emotions. If you provide feedback in the form of emotions and you say, “No! How dare you? This is good for me. This is good for us. And if you don’t do this, then people like me are not going to be able to participate,” okay, I get it. Fine. But what’s the alternative?

You’re stating the issue. You’re not providing a solution. Again, I’m being Devil’s advocate here, if you are the person, let’s say that you are the owner of a small business and you task one of your people with coming up with a solution and they come back to you and they say, “Listen, this is a problem.” And you’re saying, “I know what the problem is. I’m just asking you what is the solution.” And you’re restating the problem and they’re saying, “Okay, but listen. I’m paying you to come up with a solution, not to tell me what the problem is. Well, let’s work together to find out what the solution is.”

So the community side, all of you sitting on the community side, your job of sorts is to come up with a solution, not restate the problem. We all know the importance of the Fellowship Program. You’ve heard this from everyone you’ve talked to. Those of you who are more cynical than others, it just goes in one ear and out the other or way over your heads. That’s fine.

That’s your prerogative. But I can guarantee you that everyone within ICANN the organization, the board, and a lot of segments of the community really value the Fellowship Program because they see how it benefits their work.

We keep talking about volunteer fatigue. People are tired. There’s not enough bandwidth. “Oh, my God, we’re doing so much work. We need new blood.” But we don’t just need new people for the sake of having new people. We need new people who actually know what they’re doing.

But what’s missing is this understanding that when you bring somebody new into ICANN, this is a complex place. I can speak from personal experience. I joined ICANN five years ago. And I worked for the U.S. Department of State for over a decade before that. When I joined ICANN, the first question I asked my boss on the first day, I asked, “Why did I do this?” Because I got out of a meeting and people were speaking in acronyms. I’m not a technical person. I’m a policy guy. My whole career has been in policy.

So I was confused and as staff with the resources that I have which most volunteers don’t have it took me about a year to understand the lingo. What is it people are talking about? I’m not talking about getting to a point where I can have a

conversation in ICANN-ese because that's next level. I'm talking about understanding what people are talking about.

So now I'm putting myself in the shoes of a newcomer. You come in here to an ICANN meeting for five, six, seven days, depending on which meeting it is, and you're expected to contribute to the policy development process. That's not realistic. But if you're not exposed to that reality, you wouldn't know.

So I'm not blaming certain parts or individuals who are saying, "No, there's no value to this because, what do you mean? You bring them one, and you bring them twice. How much longer do you need?" They don't understand your perspective. They don't understand how difficult it is to be a Fellow or a NextGener and you come into ICANN – or anyone for that matter at the beginning – to understand this landscape.

And also think about capacity development. Also think about onboarding, getting it done right. It's not just about going to a community and understanding what the community is doing. It's about having a mentor, somebody who is teaching you the ropes, somebody who is guiding you. It happens in some places. It doesn't happen in all of the places.

So this is a journey, guys. This is not just a one-stop shop. This is why we have the possibility of a Fellow being able to come to ICANN three times because the first time, you have no idea. You

may think you do. Some people do more than others, but you really don't. What's interesting is that whoever you talk to, the first thing they'll tell you is this is very complex. ICANN is different. Everybody is different. Show me one organization that's similar to the other one.

So I think our narrative is negative. I think what we need to do as a community, as staff and board, is to change the way in which we refer to ICANN and make it more welcoming rather than to say this is complicated. That's not attractive. We need to do a better job, including myself, to say, "No, this is how it works," without emphasizing the negatives, accentuating the positives. I think you can go a lot farther that way rather than just to say, "This is complex. You'll get it. Don't worry about it. We'll just throw you in."

It's also about building capacity in such a way where you have the confidence to say, "I am in this working group, and this guy next to me has been here for 20 years and I'm a relatively young person. He's talking, he's talking. He's so polished. Oh, my God, can I really say something?" That is not easy in any setting, but especially in a setting like ICANN where people will tell you, "I invented the Internet. I was there from day one. You, don't worry about it. You'll get there, but you need a few years." That's not very welcoming, so we need to do a better job at supporting one another and to say, "I get it. This is hard, but this is how we move

forward. Again, don't state the problem. We know what the problem is. What is the solution. Focus on the solution."

I think you have a follow up, and then I have another question over there.

DAVID MORAR:

Just very quickly I wanted to maybe amend your simile. It's not that a small business owner asks one of their employees to come up with a solution for a problem. It's that that business owner said, "I'm going to take this policy course. You tell me why I should or shouldn't do this." Basically, they said, "We're going to cut the budget. Why don't you guys give us some metrics on why we shouldn't cut the budget."

I think that's why a lot of people felt a primal response in terms of emotions because from the way personally I saw it – I'm not going to speak for anybody else – it was they're cutting the budget for Fellows in half. Then personally I asked the chair of the board at a meeting in Washington, DC, why are you doing this when you're claiming that ICANN wants to involve more young people, new people, non-English speaking people? He said it's financial reasons. I said okay.

Then at the lunch with the board, they said why don't you guys come up with some metrics for why this shouldn't go this way.

Then at the first public forum, people were obviously frustrated and upset. I'm not saying that's the way we should do it from now on or that it was a good thing that we did it that way or that it wasn't a good thing.

I'm just saying that from our perspective it felt like not only were we being threatened, it was the program that we cared about a lot and not just because we get to come to ICANN but because we know that other people get to go through our experiences and learn and maybe even get involved more than we do, but it was because not only was the program that we love threatened but then we were also tasked with telling them not just why they should keep it but why they shouldn't have thought about cutting it in the first place.

That's why you saw so many people in this room do that way. I just wanted to give you our perspective.

ERGYS RAMAJ:

Thank you, and I didn't mean to say that you shouldn't use emotion. What I was saying is in a situation where you're talking numbers, there needs to be a little more than that. Of course, people are free to say whatever it is they want to say and feel however it is they want to feel. I'm just giving my perspective of what I think moving forward could potentially help a little bit to drive this discussion in a more streamlined way rather than get

caught up in the details. Because you have to speak the language of the recipient. Communication only exists when the other person understands what you're saying. But thank you for that analogy. I think that was much better than mine. I was just thinking out loud.

We had a hand over there.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: And one hand here, and we'll stop questions for now.

ERGYS RAMAJ: Okay, sounds good.

WALEED ALMARSHEDI: I'm a student at University of Colorado at Boulder. Actually, I'm encouraged by your speech to do something to invite the people, for example, from my university to come here. But I need to be practical. I am very busy, and I believe everybody is very busy. So is there, for example, a crafted presentation made already for those who don't know about ICANN so I can just take it and present it to them?

ERGYS RAMAJ: Yes, there is such a presentation.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: There are a lot of resources available. If you go to ICANN.org and visit resources part, there are a lot of resources available which you can just download and use it. There are a lot of resources available with your regional Global Stakeholder Engagement team if you contact them, and you already know all of your regional Global Stakeholder Engagement team people from ICANN. There are a lot of resources in ICANN Learn which you can just show to others. So we have prepared a lot of ready stuff for you to use for doing outreach in your universities, for using for your own work. So there are a lot available.

ERGYS RAMAJ: I think you said one more question, right? And then once we're done with that question, I would like to frame the exercise that we were hoping to engage in today. And then you can take over again.

NASRAT KHALID: Nasrat Khalid from Afghanistan. We're here today. We have the data of how much money we have spent, the Fellowship Program, how many people have come to ICANN, but we don't have the data on the impact that these Fellows have had, which is where we get to a point where the board goes like all this

money is spent, we don't know what's the impact, and we're going to cut it. It seems to be like that. If you put it and really simplify it. So how do we get to a point where we solve this and go ahead and put things into action?

Here's what I could do as a Fellow from Afghanistan. We've had six people as Fellows I believe that I know of from Afghanistan. So I could go back and get the data of what we have done. Six people, this is the amount of money that was spent, they came into this many meetings, and now when we went back we did the Internet Governance Forum, the school, this and that, and this and that. How many people did we train? How many organizations did we work with?

And we put that, and in a broader scale if all us the Fellows do that, even if we cannot save the amount of funding that's being cut, the least it will do is it will show the effectiveness in numbers that the board can look at. I think if we would be able to achieve that, the board could look at the effectiveness of the Fellowship Program and that way maybe even reverse this or maybe if it's actually really effective that they may want to increase this further.

The data could be put into some sort of a portal, and it could be presented and you could compare between one Fellow with this much finances given into their training and this much time

produces this many people that know about Internet governance and get involved into ICANN, not just for them to come to the meetings as Fellows but for them to work in their countries.

If we have that kind of data and if we work together as Fellows to do this, I wouldn't expect the ICANN staff to get really involved because this is something – we do give out the report, the one-page or two-page report – but I think this is now the time where we need to go much more than that and give out metrics and numbers of how we contribute to ICANN. This could be something that we can take on a country-by-country basis. We know wherever from which country you come in, you can connect with them. Find out 2017 this many events were done by the ICANN Fellows and find out the results.

ERGYS RAMAJ:

Could I quickly respond, or do we not have time? You touched on a couple of points, but I want to be cautious because I did not hear from the board that we need metrics in order to then justify or go against the proposed decision to cut the budget. That's number one.

The second thing is whether or not the Fellowship Program is cut in half in terms of the numbers, we're going to have to have metrics regardless [moving forward]. I think one of the more

important questions is when we talk about impact, can we define what that means? Because what that means to you may be different from what it means to someone else. So defining what that means in the context of the Fellowship Program is perhaps a very good starting point.

Because to someone who likes numbers, it is how many people did you bring to ICANN and where are they now? That's impact. To someone else, a more qualitative approach is more important. Like you said, well, no. I got this money, then I went here, then I went here, and then I ended up in this place.

So I think at a very high level the discussion needs to begin about definitions. What do we mean by metrics? What do we mean by impact? And then building up from that.

Siranush, this is your session. I don't want to monopolize it.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: I think we only have 40 minutes left, and I think that we need to go for the document which had been already prepared for you. I know there are a lot of questions to Ergys, but I think that Ergys may stay here for a couple of minutes if he is not running to another session. And if you have questions, you can just go and talk to him.

ERGYS RAMAJ:

Yeah, and if I may quickly just frame this exercise. When Siranush and I were talking about this last time, a lot of the Fellows that have come through the Fellowship Program before have noted how they would like to do something that's more engaging in the Fellowship sessions. All of you have been around this week. For those of you who have been there before have probably seen a different approach than we took where we said we're going to bring the Fellows to the community.

The approach in the past was we would go to our breakout and the community will come and speak to us about what it is they do. Instead, what we did is we used the Newcomers Day for that, and then for the other days we took you guys to the community. Not just show your faces, but it's a networking opportunity and on and on and on.

With this exercise, what we were thinking was this is a very good opportunity for all of you to engage in the type of exercise that is very similar to what the ICANN community deals with on a regular basis. If you're sitting in an SO or an AC, oftentimes you're debating on a particular issue. There's a lot of opinions and there's a lot of individuals who are pushing in different directions. But ultimately, that group needs to come out with something that mirrors consensus.

So the purpose of this exercise is for you guys to come together, exchange your views, debate it out, sort of like bottom-up multi-stakeholder fashion, and come up with a statement that reflects the views – the consensus views – of the group. So it's something very practical that we've never done before, and I hope that you guys are going to enjoy it. Or if you've already started this, you've already enjoyed it. But that's essentially the purpose of this entire exercise, for you to work like the communities do. Argue, debate it out, and then ultimately see if you can come to a decision or to a conclusion that reflects a consensus statement on behalf of Fellows at ICANN 61.

With that, Siranush, I thank you so much for your time. I really appreciate it.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Ergys. I think it was very important to highlight what is the mission of the program and where we want to go and where we need also our Fellows' support and investment with their information, with their time, with their resources.

With that, I would like to give the floor now to our four alumni who volunteered to facilitate this process on statement. Matthew is now putting on the screen the draft which has been prepared, and I think you are going to read it through and come to the consensus.

Meanwhile, I'm checking. Lunch will be served soon for you. So before end of this meeting, the lunch will be here as well.

So Claudio, Matthew, I'm giving my space to you.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Hi, everyone. It seems we have about 30 minutes to go. It has been a pleasure working on this with our Fellows Caleb, Matthew, myself, and [inaudible] who has taken the task of....

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: And [inaudible].

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: And [inaudible] as well. Who have taken the task of, firstly, what you see up there is based on what has been discussed over the last few days. In the interest of time, that has been condensed into what you see on the screen. In the interest of time, there are two things that have been done. There has been a draft put out also, and we only have two minutes. Keep that in mind. We only have two minutes to speak when we have an opportunity with the board. So this is only a draft.

What we're going to do now is Claudio is going to read what's on the board and [being projected]. Then we will take comments

from everyone here, what you think is important that needs to make its way in or what could be changed here.

Then what we're going to do because we are a group, we're going to reach what's called a rough consensus. So we're not taking a vote on this, but you will be expressing yourself whether you're in support of it or not and we will be reaching a rough consensus if this is something as a group we would be looking to put forward to the board. If we do not reach a rough consensus, it will not make it into this document. Is that clear?

CLAUDIO NETO:

We have it clear, yes. Also, there are a couple of other suggestions at the end of these first two interventions. We, unfortunately, didn't have time to develop them into full comments. They remain at your disposal if you want to elaborate on them a little bit more because I think it touches one of the very interesting things Ergys was talking here about, which is a factual approach. I really do believe that we're touching, yes, an emotional issue. David reminded us of something here. It's not only about the ones who are here in the program already, because some of us are on our third opportunity already. We're going. It's really about the people who we know are going to come because of this initiative, right? So the other comments are at the end of this document, we can

share with you. Perhaps if you're not really glad with one of those, you can still elaborate on the other ones and we still can take it forward.

Do we think we should read it?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: My quick comment will be at the beginning note that this is the statement on behalf of the group or ICANN 61 Fellows or Alumni, so this is the joint statement on behalf of the group. The person will state their name, say "I am the Fellow," and make it clear that "I am going to read out the joint statement on behalf of the Fellows who are currently here." You can just go paragraph by paragraph through this.

CLAUDIO NETO: Through this, all right. So that it's a joint statement, I hope we achieve rough consensus on it.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: If this is not a joint statement, then you delete this.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Just quickly to help us if we're not very familiar, I'm just going to read the definition of a rough consensus here.

CLAUDIO NETO: Without substantial opposition.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yes. Rough consensus is a term used in consensus decision making to indicate the sense of the group concerning a particular matter under consideration. It has been defined as a dominant view of a group as determined by the chairperson. So we are four wise individuals who are co-chairing this process who will be getting a sense of the group. Thank you.

CLAUDIO NETO: All right. This is the first time we're doing this exercise in the group of Fellows, so I think there's no actual procedure. I'm going to read through it so that you can [inaudible]. Let's go through the first one. [We know that as – and then you could] – Khalid?

KHALID SAMARA: Yes, I was thinking that it will be nice to actually move correction away from Microsoft Word and put it in the Google Doc so we could share with everyone and while you're reading along, we could.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: I think there was a suggestion that meanwhile you are going through it, Matthew is taking notes. He will revise it based on your notes and then put it in. I would avoid doing it in Google Drive.

KHALID SAMARA: Okay.

CLAUDIO NETO: All right, so it would be identification.

UCHA SETURI: [inaudible]

CLAUDIO NETO: Oh, I'm sorry, Ucha. Come on.

UCHA SETURI: [inaudible] telling about [inaudible] just finished. I'll use some suggestion about the next steps. Is it possible to stop this cutting and open some discussion about this issue?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Absolutely, I'll open.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: By the way, they are too big. We still have to edit them anyway. This is a rough suggestion for us to start.

UCHA SETURI: Okay, but [inaudible] time because we have no time, so maybe we can finish it today and tomorrow for the [inaudible] but [inaudible].

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Let's use the time we have to [inaudible].

UCHA SETURI: [Two steps] [inaudible] and open discussion about that.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Okay, can we go through it?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Sure.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yeah, thanks.

CLAUDIO NETO:

We know that, as in any other corporation, budget limitations are a reality at ICANN. We know those limitations are in the interest of the financial sustainability of the corporation and that they will apply across its different departments and activities.

I would like to ask those in here who are ICANN Fellows to raise their hands, this promises to be somewhat of a moment.

Our concern in this financial adjustment that must be done is that the ability of ICANN organization to tap into the best human community resources ends up being hindered. Engagement in the community can often be kept but can rarely be built without the face-to-face extremely intense experience that meetings represent to newcomers. And you all know that is even more difficult for us from underserved communities to find the necessary support to have this experience.

Now many good and innovative ideas, including from the business and economic perspective, have and will frequently come exactly from people from these underserved communities because they are the ones that live the limitations, the diversity of experiences, the demands and difficulties of a reality that is much tougher to some of us than to others. A budget cut is much more likely to strike the capacity of ICANN to hear from those people, to bring and keep them onboard. At the end of the day,

this might affect the ability of the community to find and share innovative solutions to the complex problems we face.

You want me to go on? Matthew? All right.

It is not easy for a corporation that is much more economically active in the Global North to uphold the argument and mainly a position of trust and legitimacy if the main capacity building program through which it allocates opportunities more evenly across the world is reduced to such a point that it affects its capacity to reach precisely underserved regions.

Any adjustment to the Fellowship Program must carefully understand that for ICANN to build new institutional space and to consolidate the ones it already occupies to expand its reach and the business environment [it] promotes and depends on to develop and spread opportunities fairly across the community it needs to enhance, not to compromise, trust and legitimacy.

Did that fit two minutes? Really?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Anything for now? Should we go to the next one?

CLAUDIO NETO: Let's open.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I was wondering if – I’m not as familiar with the strategic objectives in detail of ICANN – but isn’t one of their strategic objectives to build the next generation of leaders? Or is there something in the language that they’re constantly trying to build the next generation of leaders? I’m just wondering if we position – I really like the idea of having Fellows stand up, especially if they’re on the board. But I’m just wondering if there’s perhaps an opportunity to say, “Can people who have been engaged with ICANN for the last 20 years please stand up”?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yes, there is.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: And then ten years, two years. So then you show.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You’re creating live metrics, aren’t you?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: That’s right. So you’ve been here for 20 years, and I think we all agree that it’s time to build the next generation of leaders. And here are young Fellows, up and coming fellows from around the world that will be contributing to these new ideas. It’s like a visual representation of...

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yeah, that’s awesome.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Do you have an idea of how to [incorporate it] into the text right now?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yeah, I was thinking about that.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I’m sorry for this.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Before we get to that, let me just say that once we finish this piece, we’ll have Claudio read the second piece because there is more information that if you’re thinking, “Oh, this thought process is not in this one,” there is a second one. So let’s finish that first.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: All right.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: And any other idea for the time being about this one? Let's see if Ucha just states it, and then we come back to do it, all right?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Okay, since we have only two minutes to say each intervention, I think telling people to stand up or to whatever, it takes time for people to actually stand up.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yeah, that would be like let's just be clear, just hand or something.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Five seconds.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yeah, just raise hand. I think it's more.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: But I really like the impact.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Ucha?

UCHA SETURI: I feel myself like in my [inaudible] I feel like an ambassador of ICANN, so I want to highlight somehow it's in the text it will be [from my point of view] interesting and important to highlight in the text this issue. Like we are ambassadors of ICANN in our countries and [inaudible] for ICANN community.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Ah, right. I think the one [inaudible] worked on might touch this aspect a little bit more. If it doesn't, let's take note for this one, Matthew. Caleb? No? Anyone else?

KHALID SAMARA: I just think that rather than using just building for the next gen of leaders, I should think we should probably have the word volunteers for the community as well which is very key here rather than saying that the path of Fellowship when you come in must be leadership.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: True, the word volunteers is not there. That's well noted, Khalid. It's not, is it? [inaudible]? No, most probably not. We're going there.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: So where do you want to [inaudible]?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Good afternoon. Yeah, I want us to look at this thing from probably a more statistical angle, which is one of the reasons why the Fellowship started originally, was to actually bring in people from diverse communities, one, which are probably smaller communities and less developed countries. Let us look at has ICANN been able to do that. If we look at the ICANN board, if we look at probably NomCom, can we actually extract figures to say, you know what? We've actually not been able to do that because these people are still not really involved in ICANN so we still need to keep this going for some time because, to be honest, 11 years is a short time to actually look at long-term effect on things. So if we can actually say, you have this, you have these numbers. Have we been able to achieve what you wanted achieve originally? No is the answer. Then why are you cutting it now?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: That's true. That argument was raised before I think among all of us. That leadership positions alone are not fair metrics for our program because you don't get involved after one or two meetings. It takes some time for you to get involved. So demand someone from the Fellowship Program to occupy leadership and take that as the metric alone to gauge it, to measure it, it's....

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [inaudible]

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Right. Yeah, all right. So let's see if we have time at least to read the second one.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Just in there interest of time, Claudio needs to read the second one. And I would suggest we would focus what we're discussing on what we want to see in the text. And then we can then reach consensus on it. Thank you.

CLAUDIO NETO: All right, would it be a problem for me to read the second one?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Please, shall we allow Claudio to read the second one?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yes.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yes.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: And then we'll have – thank you.

CLAUDIO NETO: All right. These are times when the strength of the ICANN community is being challenged from multiple sides. How we react to each and every one of them will define who we are and what we stand for, for the following years. This is true maybe more than anything for the Fellowship Program which may find it's funding cut from 60 Fellows to 30.

We do not dispute the overall need for cost reduction. We are all aware of financial [prospectus] of ICANN for the upcoming years. The clear question we need to answer now is, what costs can we afford to cut so that we will not threaten the mission and values of ICANN as a global, multi-stakeholder, and culturally diverse community? Simply cutting programs or reducing costs without an intense scrutiny of why we're doing it may not only prove to be inefficient but also in direct conflict with the principles that ICANN stands for.

We believe the gains from cutting the Fellowship substantially cannot and do not proportionally outweigh everything that is lost. The Fellowship is not only a program. It is a flagship.

Here's Ucha's argument.

It is an idea that encompasses the very essence of ICANN. It goes beyond borders, professions, and constituencies. It transcends age, nationality, and gender.

Could it be done better? Sure. We support any discussion and feedback on how it could be improved to better serve the needs of the community. We are committed to find solutions together.

We stand here because we believe the Fellowship Program is absolutely needed. It not only brings together people whose voices would never be heard. It reaches countries and communities which are vastly underrepresented in the organization. It thrives in being inclusive, representative, and diverse. And sometimes it even brings within voices and people that we most need.

To be truly legitimate, ICANN needs to be more representative, and the Fellowship and all it stands for is a great and easy way to achieve that. We need more of that, not less.

That would be the – thanks to [inaudible]. Thank you very much, [inaudible].

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Okay, 1:40. Right. In fact, there's a little bit of a rush in my first interpretation. But if there's time anyway. We had a comment here before.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: We're actually approaching this in a very good way, but it's still very emotional because we're talking about diversity and population and communities. What is being explained to us right now is we don't need to be emotional. What we want to know is, first of all, this decision was taken without consulting the community. We all know that. So why is a community-driven decision made without the community? That's one thing we need to actually include in our statement. We need to know why we as the community of the ICANN nobody was consulted about this. What are the budget cuts that were made, and who was responsible for them? What is the rationale behind making these budget cuts?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Find a way to squeeze the questions in there.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yeah, so it's actually four questions in one. These are really important things to know. We want to know why was it done with the community as a community-driven initiative, who took the decision on it, what was cut from the budget, and what was the rationale behind cutting it? Because if I don't know the

rationale behind cutting anything in a budget, I cannot defend it and I cannot provide them with any kind of metrics.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Sure. The other cuts of the budget I think we get from the [inaudible].

BETTY FAUSTA: I just one thing to put after underrepresented in the organization, we have to [inaudible] ICANN and not IANA anymore. Because if there is only American and people from USA [inaudible], it's not for a multi-stakeholder organization.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Sorry, Betty. Could you just repeat it perhaps a little slowly, and how do you want it written?

BETTY FAUSTA: After “vastly underrepresented in the organization” we have just to put “this is ICANN and IANA anymore.” Just to illustrate I think so because it's important that the impact show that it is not only USA but of people around the world. Even if the industry of Internet is really [inaudible] by Northern America.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: But I feel like that's the whole of the first statement. The first [inaudible] talks about diversity and how it's more than just the Global North and people that could come here on their own dime.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: So we will note that, but we will be having a rough consensus on this. So, Betty, your statement is noted. The group will be expressing themselves and they will be reaching a rough consensus whether or not this makes it. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Hi. I have two points. Just for numbers, cutting from 60 to 30 will greatly decrease the diversity. So how many countries do we have here? Like 42 or something like that just within the Fellows this year?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yeah. That's right.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: So I think we should put in we represent 42 different countries or something like this and if you cut that down, you're severely limiting. Or how many, I don't know.

Secondly, I think rhetorically speaking we could actually use the words of ICANN’s core values and their mission statement as stated online. So for instance, ICANN’s core values D and E, D says “promote international participation at all levels of decision making and policy” and E says “seek broad and informed participation reflecting the functional and geographic diversity of the Internet.”

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Right.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: And I think if you actually use that rhetorical trick of using their mission statement and saying you are committed to this, but what is the impact of that? It will make a strong impact using their words in some way instead of our own.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It’s in there already. Take a look.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: But I mean quoting it directly. Say ICANN core values D and E state....

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yeah, he's drafting. Do it.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Oh.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yeah, we don't have much time. We're drafting real time.

Artem?

ARTEM GAVRICHENKOV: Yeah, so I'm not master of short comments, so be patient please. As you might already know, I'm a technical person, not policy professional. But anyway, we have a community. Speaking about the technical community, it's not [difficult]. I see people here which I've seen on MENO or ENOG and different places. So it's basically the same community as for RIPE or ARIN or AfriNIC I guess.

So speaking about the impact which was mentioned before in a great talk, regarding the impact, RIPE has its own fellowship program. Actually, a few of them because there is the RIPE Fellowship. There is also MENO Fellowship for Middle East. There is also ENOG Fellowship for Europe and SEE, I guess. I don't know. I just recently checked shortly and there's a fellowship for AfriNIC as well and ENOG and [IETF], by the way.

The idea I'm trying to drive home is when all those communities are driving their fellowship programs and ICANN at the same time is reducing this, it risks losing the momentum and then to lose the ground.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: All [parties increasing].

ARTEM GAVRICHENKOV: So I believe it's something that we could display here.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Awesome, Artem. Now we're taking up [inaudible].

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Just a quick reminder. We need to leave the room in ten minutes.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Right. I'm giving a suggestion. We only have five minutes, so from now on we're still going to debate as long as we can. What I would ask you, because we're drafting it, if you're seeing some of the comments are already being input. So what I would ask you to have any comment but if you could please, this is an exercise that we never did and we're sorry for not having

measured the right time, also to contribute something written as a topic to the group or somewhere else that we can use the text. And we are going to find a way here during the sessions to be somewhere here taking your input and continue working on these comments while you have your sessions and taking a look at the groups. We're really sorry for the timeframe, but that's the way we have to work.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: You can use ICANN 61 mailing list. ICANN 61 Fellows mailing list just to share.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: One additional point in respect of diversity, if we have examples of persons who are represented in the Fellowship Program whether now or in the last couple years but not in the leadership program, we could highlight one or two of those examples because I think [inaudible] of the presentation that we will make rather than being emotional we will have some specifics so that we can give examples in our comment. If anybody has any examples, we can contribute as you have said.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Leadership?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Leadership. So any examples of representation on the Fellowship Program but not necessarily in the leadership of the entire ICANN stakeholder model, we can give those examples.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: We do have.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Right.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Good one. We have those examples. Examples of leadership. [inaudible].

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: My comment is more strategy wise. Since we have two comments and two minutes for each, and since obviously these two statements are quite similar which we would not like to have two statements that are quite similar, my suggestion would be to have one statement which is similar in terms of style and substance, more emotional, and the other one to be very focused, very action oriented, very practical, very fact based so that we not only come and underline the importance of the

Fellowship but we also come with something concrete because that's what they have been asking for this entire week.

If two people will stand from the Fellowship saying things that they all agree and they all know that, yeah, the Fellowship is important, yeah, we need to be in line with the ICANN principles, but we don't come with anything concrete, it will just piss them off as everything that we've been doing so far has done and it will not solve anything.

So two comments I would suggest. One, either combine these two or keep just one of them. The second one should be a concrete proposal as to how we could improve what we can do and numbers and facts and that's it. So practical and emotional both at the same time, one after another.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE:

I'm into that, and I can be here. Well, my sessions are pretty much done. But then we would have to start from zero that draft. Totally agree.

One more diversity centered, one more results oriented focused examples of leadership as you said here. But then we would have to start the second one from zero. No problem. From scratch. I'm going to be here, but then I need help.

ANDERSON KGOMOTSO: Hi. I wish we had a bit of time because my position probably will take you to the beginning of the discussion. Because when you talk about budget cuts or whatever, one, you should actually understand what motivated. In other words, is it because the revenues have gone down or the projects that you want to do have increased? Therefore, if you are cutting from this, which are the priority projects that you are taking in.

But unfortunately, as you can see, we don't have time to actually go and analyze the motivation of these budget cuts. But I don't know whether it's something that we can discuss outside this fora to try to understand and maybe to come with concrete strategy as to how we can address this. Thanks.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Excuse me. What's your name?

ANDERSON KGOMOTSO: My name is Anderson Kgomotso from Botswana.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: All right, Anderson. So basically what the board mentioned about the budget cuts is that this is how much money they have and it's actually going up, but it's going up marginally, but the activities are actually going up exponentially. So you have

revenue, but you have more programs, and they have to do some cuts. So this is actually what they talked about during lunch, and that's the rationale for now.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Seeing as we have about five minutes left, we will have to go through these and have a vote and we'll have to reach some form of consensus. If you have any more comments, please put them on the ICANN 61 mailing list and these will be taken into consideration.

Now when Ergys spoke earlier, he mentioned that if there are any ideas, any suggestions of solutions. I'd just like to probably take two minutes and if there's anyone with any suggested ideas of solutions. Then we'll go through this one-by-one. Thank you. We'll just make this very short and [inaudible]. Thank you. [Sara]?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: So my comment actually was going to that direction. I totally agree with you, [Anna], that we shouldn't make it so much emotional and we should provide also solutions. There was a question there, why are we doing this? But we don't provide any kind of solution of how to do this.

We should also have a Plan B. Not only saying you should not cut the funds but also finding a solution of how are they going to cut the funds. Because most probably they are going to cut the funds, but we can say we are staying in a five-star hotel. We can also quite normally stay in a three-star hotel and there is no need to decrease the number of participants. Instead we can only decrease the budget for the hotel.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Sure.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: I really appreciate this discussion, and I'm sure that you need more time. But I think we need to bring this to online now, to remote, and need to leave the room because the next session will start in three minutes.

But the lunch is coming to foyer right outside of this room. Please be there and have your lunch, then go for another session because I don't want you to be hungry.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thank you very much guys. Let's take this online. That's the way we have to do it.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Oh, who is delivering the comments? That's just something I want to flag. Who is delivering the comments. I just want to make a flag for later.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Matthew's centralizing] that now.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Okay, excellent.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The notes made from this session will also be posted on the mailing list, so keep an eye out for that. Thank you. Session adjourned.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]