
ICANN85 Mumbai | CF – Meet and Greet: Fellowship and NextGen@ICANN Programs
Saturday, March 7, 2026 - 09:00 to 10:00 IST

FERNANDA IUNES

Hello and welcome to the Meet and Greet for The Fellowship and NextGen Programs. My name is Fernanda Iunes and I am participation manager for the session. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Community Participant Code of Conduct. ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior and The ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy.

Please observe the following guidelines to participate in this session. I've also posted them in the chat. I will post them in the chat for your reference during the session. Questions will only be read aloud if submitted within the Q&A pod. Interpretation for this session will include English, Hindi and Spanish.

If you would like to speak during this session, please raise your hand in zoom when called upon virtual participants will be given permission to unmute in zoom on site participants will use a physical microphone to speak. Only questions posted in the Q&A pod will be read aloud during the session as time permits and when directed by the chair of the session.

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Please state your name for the record, the language you will speak if speaking a language other than English and speak clearly at a moderate pace. And with that, I'll hand it over to Siranush.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Fernanda. Welcome, everyone. Welcome again. And for those who are here for the first time, I'm sure you will enjoy ICANN and you will find it interesting. Can you raise your hands who are the first time for whom this is the first ICANN meeting ever? Excellent. And I see, yes, we have a lot of newcomers here this time, along with the first-time fellows and first-time NextGeners, we will be having here during the session different sessions 50 NIXI fellows.

So NIXI, the company who is host, one of the hosts here supported 50 participants newcomers to come and participate at ICANN85 so my warm welcome also to this group. I don't know if some of them are already here. So, for us to start and be ready for the upcoming couple of days here in Mumbai, and those who will be joining us virtually. Just a couple of words, what to expect during the week and then what to do during this session here.

So for the weekend, for today and tomorrow, everybody will be hearing from ICANN community members. So, the those who are part of ICANN multistakeholder model, you will be hearing from civil society members, business community, government representatives, country code names, supporting organizations, you will be hearing a lot of acronyms.

Don't feel frustrated if you don't understand, ask a question. What we usually say for those who are first time here, there are no stupid questions, but you will not learn if you don't ask. So, please prepare and ask questions and whenever you don't understand, don't feel uncomfortable of asking because we all are here to learn. We are here to learn from each other, from community here, and we are here to find out where we ourselves fit in this community and what community meets our criteria, our sector of interest, and how we can get engaged in future.

So, that's why these two days will be hard days for all of us. A lot of sessions, a lot of information. So, don't sleep during the sessions. I will be watching all of you. We will be trying to make it interactive. So, that's why your questions will help us to make it interactive.

And with that, for this session, the main goal of us to meet each other, first of all, in person and to introduce you our team, our global stakeholder engagement team, those people who are working in your region and those people who will be your first contact when you are back to your region. This is very important to start knowing them, to interact with them during this week here. So you will hear from some of them who are here, you will hear from some of them who are joining us virtually and just start to introduce yourself. Use the opportunity during the networking coffee breaks, evening gatherings. Introduce yourself.

Try to work with your mentors who are assigned to you during the week. Take the most out of this week because this is a unique

opportunity for you all to be at the ICANN meeting and meet these people. And this will build your both future network, career, personal connections. So, try to make to take as much possible out of this as possible.

Our alumni, those fellows for whom this is not the first ICANN meeting, they all to some extent already know what's going on. So, talk to them, introduce yourself. Don't be shy. That's my request to you. Especially if this is your first meeting, you may be lost.

There are more than 170 sessions in parallel will take place during this week. So, you might be lost. But again, if you are lost, just whomever you know, just by face, reach out and ask. We will be also having an engagement booth. There is an engagement booth. If you go out from this room in this booth area and some of the fellows will be there to help you, to guide you. And there will be also several activities in the engagement booth.

So, step by if you want to ask a question. There are people who can help you as well. But meanwhile, me, myself, Fernanda will be here also to guide you. But these two days you will be with us the entire week, especially for those who are first time. These are so called mandatory sessions for all of you. And this is not only because of just it is mandatory, but this is a learning process.

This will give you the opportunity to find out why we are here and who are here. And then during the week, you can explore those communities in action. That's why start taking notes, start to ask questions, start to share your context, introduce yourself, ask

questions. And whenever you ask a question, this is some kind of rule within ICANN. State your name when you come to the mic or you just say, I want to ask a question. State your name and people will start learning also your names.

Everybody is coming here with different backgrounds, with different level of English knowledge. Not all of us understand like English so fluently. Whenever you speak, try to speak at a reasonable pace. We will be having at all our sessions interpretations as Fernanda already mentioned. And please, know that they are interpreting everything we speak here, not only for the people who are on site, but also those who are joining virtually. So, speak at a reasonable pace for having the proper interpretation in place as well.

With that, before I move and start introducing our colleagues here, I would like to give the floor, the person who is managing all the newcomers' programs. Myself and Fernanda's boss, Ergys Ramaj, who is here to say a couple of words for you and welcome you. Ergys, the floor is yours.

ERGYS RAMAJ

Thank you, Siranush. Good morning, everyone. And there's a key lesson that I've learned since I've been working with Siranush for well over a decade, and that's to listen to her. So, I advise all of you to listen to her. She's very wise and she has your best interests at

heart. And she knows exactly how the system works and how you could potentially navigate it.

So, welcome to beautiful Mumbai. Welcome to ICANN85. For a lot of you, I saw your hands, this is your first meeting. You're probably confused. You don't know where to start. And that's legitimate. For those of you who are coming back for a second time or a third time, you're probably maybe on the same boat. Maybe you know a little more. At least you have an understanding of what ICANN looks like, what it feels like, what you need to do. But you're probably still confused.

This past three days, Fernanda and I were working with the leadership of the community. We have a leadership program. And one of the key discussion points during those two days was the importance of bringing in newcomers, integrating newcomers and making sure that they then become active contributors. But in order to do that, you need to first understand what it is that you want. And you need to then understand how you can fit in whatever it is that you want to do, whatever structure, whatever community, whatever group. And that's our job. Our job is to help support you in that journey.

Siranush mentioned a lot of the options that are available. We have here with us our global stakeholder engagement group, the regional folks who help you in your own respective regions to engage with ICANN. And they will be a very important resource for you as you move forward. But it's not just that. ICANN is somewhat

a very flat organization in the sense that you could reach out and talk to anybody.

It could be a Board member. It could be the chair of the Board. It could be somebody on the ICANN executive team. It could be a leader in a community group. There's really not a lot of restrictions to you, especially to you as Fellows and NextGen, to actually reach out to those individuals and have conversations and ask the questions that you want to ask.

In fact, I was just looking at the ribbons that Fernanda has here, the NextGen and the Fellow ribbons. That's kind of like a visa free passport for everybody. You literally can go and talk to anybody about anything and you will find that people are very welcoming and very open to you guys specifically, but of course to everybody else in the community.

So, use this opportunity wisely. We are here to support you. And you have a huge support cast. It's not just our team. As I mentioned, it's the executive team. It's the extended ICANN Org team. It is the Board. It is the community. We are very happy that you are here. We want to help support you in your journey.

The Fellowship Program has been around, I believe, 19 years now. So, next summer is going to be 20 years. That's a long time. ICANN has been around for 26 years. So, that's a big part of ICANN's life.

The NextGen program, if I remember correctly, was actually 12 years ago at this meeting. It was in Singapore at ICANN49. And over

this time, I don't have the exact numbers, but it's roughly about 1500 people that have gone through the ranks of both of these programs. And if you look at the history of ICANN, you can find fellows at the Board, across the leadership in the community, as well as on staff.

You'll hear from some of our fellow staff members who actually started as fellows, and Siranush is one of them. So, the fellowship footprint is really huge at ICANN. In fact, the fellows represent the past, but also the present, and you guys hopefully will be the future of ICANN.

So with that, again, thank you for being here. Please reach out to any one of us. Do not hesitate to ask questions. That is actually your superpower. You have got to ask questions. And if there's anything that we can do, please do let us know. I want to wish you a wonderful week ahead. And again, please ask, ask, ask. Thank you and welcome again.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Ergys. Thank you very much. With that, I also want to introduce a person. So, you know that if you want to complain, whom to go? So, the ombudsman, Elizabeth, please.

ELIZABETH FIELD

I'm brilliant at technology. Anyway, so I'm Liz Field. I am the ICANN ombuds. Welcome, first of all. And my role here is to ensure that community members, all of you, are treated fairly and

appropriately. And I heard Siranush saying it's really important that you ask questions. There're no stupid questions. Safety is a really big part of that and feeling safe. And so, I'm here to help, not just with complaints. So, by now you've heard a lot about the Expected Standards of Behavior, The Community Anti-Harassment Policy.

You have a right in this community to feel safe and to be treated with dignity and respect and likewise a responsibility to treat others. If that doesn't happen, I'm here to help. And this doesn't mean that you have to come with a complaint. You can come with a question or a concern. I love meeting community members, talking to community members. I want to hear about your experiences.

So, I have an office here. It's room 2.08. You are welcome to drop by. You can contact me also, ombuds@ICANN.org. You can contact me at any time, not just in the meeting. And my availability and service to you in the community is not just at the meetings, but is also, you know, if something is, you have a concern about something you'd like to discuss or a concern. A complaint about something.

So, I also just want... Linda's here. She's my wonderful colleague. So, you can also speak to her as well. And one thing I do want to stress is that if you speak to me, it is confidential. So, you can speak to me in safety. And as I said, anything that you'd like to talk about, I want to talk to you about. And I hope you have a wonderful

experience. And this is a great community. So enjoy your days and enjoy the privilege of having the time to learn. So, thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Liz. Thank you very much. And now you know whom to go and say bad things about us if you want. But you also can say some good things as well. So, with that, I also welcome those fellows and Next-Geners who were late. And I hope this will be the last time I tell this. Because I do want to see you on time at the sessions. Because this is respect towards all of us, towards yourselves, and towards our presenters.

All we requested to come to our sessions only for 30 minutes. Each will have time. So, please, the shuttles from Hyatt Hotel are packed if you come late. The traffic is heavy if you come late. So, whenever you have 9 a.m. session, take as early shuttle as possible. Because I want you to greet here before we start the session, okay? And then you are not missing anything.

So, with that, welcome again. Welcome those who were late. And I would like to start with introducing my colleagues, the Global Stakeholder Engagement Team. This is GSC, which you can sometimes start. GSE, Global Stakeholder Engagement Team. So you will start hearing this also, who are our GSC team members. So these is the Global Stakeholder Engagement Team. And I would like to start with the host, who is Vice President for the Asia-Pacific

region, Samiran, is here. And he is the host for this particular meeting.

SAMIRAN GUPTA

All right. Thank you so much, Siranush. And welcome, everyone. The room is full now. But as Siranush said, do be on time the next time you're here. So, my name is Samiran Gupta, and I'm based in New Delhi, India. And I cover, my area of coverage is from the Maldives. So, it's difficult to find it on the map, all the way to Japan on the other side. And then going down below, we go all the way to Timor-Leste.

Now, it's a large area. It's a region with a lot of young people. In fact, you're in the country, it's the most populous country you probably know India is, but India has 734 million people under the age of 30. So, it's an ancient country with a young population.

Enjoy your stay in Mumbai, and in India. You will get to see a lot; you'll get to learn a lot. And of course, if you see me or my colleagues in the room, absolutely feel comfortable to come and reach out to us, and always listen to Siranush Didi. You know, in India, we call sisters, Didi. So, you're the older sister to everybody now.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. The fellows usually call me Mama Mia, so get used to it. I also want to introduce Save, who is managing the Oceania region, which is part of Pacific.

SAVE VOCEA

Yeah, good morning to everybody. My name is Save Vocea. You know, APAC has Asia and Pacific, so I'm mainly in the Pacific side. It's the Oceania region as well, because it includes Australia, New Zealand, and all the Pacific Islands that's in the Pacific Ocean. It's, you know, when you look at it on the map, it's like one third of the size of the globe, right?

That's a coverage area. But there's only about 29 country code top level domain registries in that region. So, I live in Brisbane, Australia, and I serve those regions, so I'm really glad that there's a few Pacific Islanders here as well. You know, you can reach out to them as well. Some are returning fellows, and they've gone on to bigger and better things, you know, as part of the learnings they got from ICANN. But, you know, as Siranush has said, you can reach out to us. You know, if you want to learn about the Pacific, I'm also here to talk to you about that. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. And next person whom I want to introduce is our stakeholder team from Europe. Chris, please.

CHRIS MONDINI

Hi, thank you, Siranush. I'm Chris Mondini. I'm based in Brussels, Belgium, looking after stakeholders across greater Europe. It's a region of 46 countries, and they have a number of team members. We speak a number of languages. We want to help you become

integrated, and we really, really enjoy your insights and your questions.

I have a colleague who's there. Her name is Gabi Schitteck. She speaks a lot of languages. She's based in Warsaw, Poland, and we'll be delighted to spend time with you this week here during ICANN85, and again, welcome. It's so great to start the meeting with this session. Selfishly, I'm having a wonderful time. Thanks.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. Thank you. And next colleague whom I want to introduce is Vice President for Africa. Pierre is here.

PIERRE DANDJINOU

Thank you very much, Siranush, and thanks for reminding that we should be on time, but I had to find my ways to be here, so thanks so much for having me. My name is Pierre Dandjinou. I'm in charge of Africa. Africa is about 54 countries, as you know, and it's quite overstretched and young people, young population. We have a team, a team of close to four people.

We are based in Nairobi, which is now in Kenya. We do have an engagement center over there, a bureau over there, but in fact, we also report to the hub in Istanbul. We are here to assist you. I know it can be cumbersome for you to be around here, meeting so many people, reading through so many acronyms, but we are here to make you understand all of this, so we are so welcome to have you

here in India, and please feel free to kind of join us whenever you have any questions. Thanks very much, Siranush.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Pierre. Thank you for joining us. As Ergys mentioned, yes, some of here, people who are working as ICANN staff, many ICANN community members are coming through the Fellowship Program, and the Fellowship Program started at ICANN29, and it's my pleasure to introduce the person who was a fellow at ICANN29, the first ICANN Fellowship Program, who is now managing the Latin America and Caribbean region. Rodrigo, the floor is yours.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA

Yes, hello, everyone. So, good to welcome you to ICANN85, and yes, what Siranush is describing is correct. My name is Rodrigo de la Parra. I'm from Mexico, but our regional office for Latin America and the Caribbean is in Uruguay, in Montevideo, in a very special place that we call the house of the Internet, or la casa de Internet in Spanish, and this is a place where many different organizations from the technical community of Internet, you will learn about.

I don't want to bring all these acronyms to you, but many of the organizations dealing with part of how the Internet works are based there, including for the Internet Society and LACNIC, which is the RIR, well, I had to do it, but many, 10, yeah, never mind. Well, this is a very special place.

This is our hub. Yes, in 2007, I believe, this was the first, it was a pilot program, the Fellowship Program in San Juan, in Puerto Rico, and many of the people that started in that class of fellows are still involved and engaged in the community or the staff. And now it's amazing to see this group, and I should have said first, congratulations.

Now the program has become very competitive, so if you have made it all the way through here, I think you deserve yourselves a round of applause. Thank you for being here, and we are very lucky to have you, but you are also very lucky, as I was in 2007, to have this soft landing to the ICANN ecosystem.

As Siranush and many of my colleagues have mentioned, this can be very overwhelming. There's a lot of pilot sessions going on, different groups, but you are in a privileged seat, so people will be coming to you, and then you also have the superpower that Ergys mentioned, which is you're allowed to ask questions to anyone and everyone is very happy to help you as much as we can.

I just want to recognize also my colleague, Rodrigo Saucedo. He's the director for the Andean region in Latin America and the Caribbean, and he also happens to be a fellow. So, yeah, welcome again, and please feel free to reach out to us if you need anything from us. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

And Latin America and Caribbean have also a person, my colleague, Albert Daniels, who is looking over Caribbean, who was my mentor when I was a fellow for the third fellowship for ICANN30 in New Delhi. So, I'm very happy to be back also to this country. This country was, for me, the country to be as a first-time fellow, and this country was, for me, the first time as ICANN staff when I joined for Hyderabad meeting.

So, it's a pleasure also to be back here now as part of the fellowship family already. And as many of you know, ICANN meetings are hybrid, and many of our fellows, Next-Geners, also are joining us virtually, but along with them, we also have staff who is joining us virtually. And I would like to give the floor to Naela Sarras, who is vice president for North America region. And Naela, if you can hear us, please unmute yourself and say a couple of words.

NAELA SARRAS

Thank you, Siranush. Can you hear me well?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Yes, perfectly.

NAELA SARRAS

Okay, excellent. Same here. I could hear you very well. Thank you, Siranush, and welcome, everyone, to ICANN85. I am glad to be the living proof here today of the remote participation at ICANN

meetings is an excellent tool and works really well. I'm really happy to be joining you today from Los Angeles.

I'm the Vice President for the North America region, so I look after North America, and I'm based in Los Angeles, which is where the headquarters are for ICANN. I know I've already met the fellows in this meeting, because I've already reached out to you. We want to have a meeting together just to say hello, meet you face-to-face, see what your interests are. And I'm glad this didn't work out where we met in person, because I will get to introduce the rest of the team when we have this meeting, so I'm looking forward to that.

I do want to echo everything that Siranush and my colleagues have said. This is a really strong program. We look forward to having you in this, come through the fellowship and NextGen, because we're here to make sure that you feel integrated, that you find the areas of interest for yourself in ICANN, but also in your own careers and in your own development.

And I do want to say that for North America, we have a really strong. I want to thank Siranush and the team. They've always picked really strong candidates for this program. We work with the fellows on a regular basis where they get involved in projects in their own communities, and we support them or we partner with them.

We call on them for help on projects that we're working on, so it's a really strong and a successful relationship that we look forward to having more people going through this program. So, as Rodrigo said, congratulations for making it here. We're really happy to have

you, and please, you already have my contact information. As Siranush said, reach out, ask questions anytime. Thank you very much, and welcome again.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Naela. Thank you very much, and thank you for joining. I know it's late in L.A. now. Just to make a quick correction, the staff is not picking you up, so we are not part of the selection process. ICANN community nominates the selection committee members and the mentors, so we are here, me and Fernanda are here, to help to facilitate the process, but you are selected by the ICANN community. And indeed, just to say a couple of numbers, for ICANN85, we received about 400 applications for the Fellowship Program and about 100, roughly, for the NextGen program.

So, these both programs have really become very competitive. The selection committee has specific criteria to select out of this huge number of people, so again, this is a very good progress already made by you in your application to become part of these both programs. And I would like to welcome once again those who are Next-Geners.

I only saw two, but the rest, yes, this is the NextGen group of Next-Geners. Please, a couple of applauses to our first-time students. And I would like to really especially welcome you guys and let everyone know that on Tuesday and Wednesday, these smart people will do presentations for the community, so please come,

support, join those presentations, make them feel a part of the strong community who supports their participation.

And my personal thank you for being so courage, strong to be here and do the presentation, whatever your sector of interest is. Just give you an example. I was within ICANN for a couple of years, and I was afraid even to come to take a mic to say something. So I'm really impressed by your courage and strength to be here, so welcome one more time, and it's a pleasure for us having you here. And I'm looking forward to see your presentations.

Okay, with that, I would like also to thank a couple of people who were helping you along the way, our mentors. We have five mentors for the Fellowship Program, and we have three mentors for the NextGen program. Unfortunately, one of the NextGen Program mentors and two of the Fellowship Program mentors are joining us virtually. They were not able to be here in Mumbai, but that doesn't mean that you are not in good hands. Don't feel lost. All our other mentors, which I will introduce now, are here to help reach any of them.

So, I would like to introduce everybody, the mentors for the Fellowship Program. I see Tracy, Tracy Hackshaw. He is the person who is nominated by the GAC, which is the Government Advisory Committee. I see Glenn here. Glenn is here, who is a mentor nominated by GNSO, which is the Generic Name Supporting Organization. And I would like to see Raymond. Yes, Raymond is there. He is nominated by At-Large, the end users community.

And we have Jenifer Lopez, who is nominated by the ccNSO, which is the Country Code Name Supporting Organization. And we have also James Olorundare, who is from RSSAC, which is the Root Server Advisory Committee. So, they both will be joining online, but in case those whose mentors are Jennifer and James, you are not able to reach them because they are in a different time zone.

Again, we all are here to support you. And also, I would like to recognize the people who are mentoring the NextGen program. Alfredo Calderon, a very good friend of mine, a fellow, ICANN fellow, who is here. And he is one of the -- along with Naveed, who is not here in person -- they both are those who started the mentoring program and put the guidelines in place for all of us now to follow.

So, Alfredo, thank you very much for being here and continuing your support as a mentor for the NextGen now. And I also welcome Naveed, who is in Dubai, who was not able to come here. But thank you, Naveed, for the hard work. Naveed also was a fellow, and now he's continued to be part of the ICANN community, strong member. And I also would like to recognize our third mentor for the NextGen program, Amina.

Amina is here. And Amina also is ICANN fellow alumni. And you will hear a lot when we say, now, I was a fellow, we usually don't say a fellow was a fellow. We usually say, once a fellow, always a fellow. So, whenever you are part of these programs, you are in. There is no way out. So, get ready. Prepare yourself to be part of this

community, because ICANN needs you. ICANN needs your expertise.

ICANN community needs your expertise. And you are a group of professionals whose expertise is unique to your country, that for many others, it might be not an issue, but is an issue for your region. So, we need to hear from you. We need to hear your voice. We need to see your presence. That's why, again, your participation is very important, is vital for the ICANN community. And that's why, as Ergys mentioned, you are not only the present, but you are also the future of ICANN.

So, I'm looking forward to your engagement, to your participation, and to the week ahead. Any questions for now? Any unclear things, what to expect during the week? I know that fellows and Next-Gens had specific guidelines and specific agenda per day. You know what to do. You know where to go. You know what's going on. And you have the mentors here. But any questions as of now, which is unclear for you? No? No questions? Yes, I see the question over there. Please.

PETER JIA WEI CUI

Hello, everyone. I'm Peter Jia Wei Cui from Taiwan. I'm sponsored by TWNIC, Taiwan Network Information Center, which is a member of the ccNSO in the ICANN community. And I really enjoyed the whole meeting and also the session. And thanks for organizing

these wonderful events. And I'm actually not an ICANN fellow, but I think I --

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

You are my adopted fellow.

PETER JIA WEI CUI

Yeah, I'm your adopted fellow. Thanks for adopting me. So, I think one question I would like to ask, and I think it is also a common challenge that new fellows or the newcomers to ICANN community might have, is that how to navigate, because, you know, the ICANN whole systems, the whole policy, and the whole bylaws, all these kinds of things are full of a lot of abbreviations.

So, how to navigate all these kinds of abbreviations in a short time is very challenging for me. So, right now, I'm using AI to do that. But, I mean, if there's any tips or any quick, how to quickly equip myself with the understanding about these abbreviations, I would be like to hear about it.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

So first of all, welcome. It's a great pleasure seeing you. We have talked a lot as an adopted fellow. It's a pleasure for me to see you at this session. And the second, you are not the only one who is facing this challenge. Trust me, we all are facing this challenge. This is my more than 40 ICANN meetings, but sometimes I'm forgetting what stands behind those acronyms.

So, ICANN has the list of acronyms publicly available. The first step is just go to ICANN website and just do the search ICANN acronyms. We do have the list for all the acronyms, but trust me, even if you read them, whenever people start talking, you may face this issue again and again. But, as much as you get into this conversation and start talking with people, you will be the second person speaking with acronyms at your second ICANN meeting. Trust me, but again, for the start, it's always hard.

And what we requested from all our presenters during the onboarding sessions for newcomer is to avoid acronyms. So, these are the sessions for you to ask, for example, some...You told ccNSO, I came to my first meeting, I wish I could know what ccNSO stands for. But you already speak with these acronyms here. So, yeah.

Again, those who have this challenge, and trust me, all of us have this challenge, ask the question if you don't understand what stands behind those acronyms. But this is the world of acronyms. ICANN is a world of acronyms. This is hard to navigate through. But again, we have the list of acronyms on the website, which may be a starting point for you. If any of my colleagues have any other tips how to go through this challenge.

SAMIRAN GUPTA

I'll just add a little bit to what Siranush... so, don't try to master the acronyms. Just let it flow. And when you need it, go to the tip. And of course, you're using AI, so that's great. But it's not a test that you

need to know the 101 acronyms. So, we are not going to test you on that. So, take it easy. As you go along, just learn. All right.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Samiran. So this is all for this session, which we planned for. And I really appreciate my colleagues to be here at this time. I'm also very happy to see all those fellowship alumni who keep coming to our sessions. So, welcome, guys. All the fellows will have this with their name tag saying, ICANN fellow. And all the Next-Geners will have the same.

So, you can easily identify them. Talk to each other. Introduce yourselves. Those who are not a part of the fellowship or the Next-Gen program, you are newcomers. Again, there is an engagement booth here nearby, you will find. If you have any questions, feel free to go and ask people who are there to guide you how to navigate. Because I know, as Rodrigo said, at our time when we were fellows, there were no mentors. There were no one except the fellowship coordinator who could guide us. But she was the only one among all these people there.

So, all those newcomers, we were lost. Now, we are in a phase that everybody can find the support. And everybody is here to help you to navigate through your first ICANN meeting. With that, this meeting is adjourned. And I'm looking forward to seeing you back at 10:30 for us to start learning about what is ICANN community, what is part of ICANN community, this ecosystem, what are the

technical and policy pillars of ICANN and how they work. And start learning why we are here and how we want to move forward.

There will be a 10 o'clock coffee break. Please also use the coffee break, the food, which is here. There will be two coffee breaks during the day at 10 to 10:30 and at 3 to 3:30. So, during those coffee breaks, use this time not only to have coffee but also to meet people, to talk to people, to introduce yourselves. Okay. And one last announcement for all those who are ICANN85 fellows. Please stay a bit longer because I need to tell you something special. And for those who are NextGen, see Fernanda after this. And again, let's do a round of applause to all of us here. And again, welcome to ICANN85. Let's rock during this week. The meeting is adjourned.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]