
ICANN86 Seville | PF – ccNSO Members Meeting: Welcome & ccNSO Governance
Tuesday, June 09, 2026 – 10:00 to 11:15 CEST

CLAUDI RUIZ

Hello and welcome to the ccNSO Welcome Session of the ccNSO Community Meeting. My name is Claudia Ruiz and I, along with my colleague, Joke Braeken, are the participation managers for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Community Participant Code of Conduct, the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior, and the ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy.

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Thank you. And with that, I will now hand the floor over to Alejandra Reynoso, moderator for this session. Thank you.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Thank you very much, Claudia. Welcome, everyone, to this ICANN86 in the beautiful city of Sevilla in Spain with a beautiful weather, sunshine, and warmth, not only from the weather, but from the people and everyone that is incoming from the meeting. Today, I will give just a few words of welcome, then Everton will walk us through the agenda that they have prepared for us for the next days.

Afterwards, I'll give you a brief update on the ccNSO governance matters. Then we will hear about the UA Day update. And finally, we will hear about the .EU's celebration of its 20th birthday. So, with that, let's see if I can work this through. Yes, here we go.

As you may be aware already, because I see everyone wearing your beautiful ribbons, we are celebrating our dearest Bart. He is retiring and all of you are participants of this celebration, of celeBARTion. And please join us today at the cocktail to continue the celebrations. And before continuing, since we're already here, can we give a big applause to Bart, please. It's the love of the community for you Bart, we really appreciate you. So, without further ado, I'll give the floor to Everton.

EVERTON RODRIGUES

Good morning, Alejandra. Good morning, Sevilla. It's so good to be with you in such a full room. I would also like to give a warm welcome to all colleagues here, there, remotely, and who are in different places, time zones. And so, Everton Teles Rodrigues from .br is speaking, and it is my pleasure to welcome you and offer you a general Snapshot of the members meeting at ICANN86. This is our dedicated space to discuss and boost the virtual efforts of the whole ccTLD community.

Okay, next slide. There we go. Before diving into the detailed agenda, let me briefly introduce the NPC meeting agenda committee with I have the honor to chair. The NPC is responsible for coordinating the high-level schedule for all the ccNSO-related meetings, including the agenda of members that is held at every one of ICANN's meetings.

You can see the current names. If you have any comments or suggestions for future sessions, please do not hesitate to come to us. Several of the members are present here. I chair the committee and I'm sure what we want is to have a ccTLD meeting and for ccTLDs. So, it is important for all ccTLDs that have suggestions to come to us and talk to us. Next slide.

Before moving on to the agenda itself and reviewing the agenda blocks, I would like to stop here. And as we are here together, I would like to ask you whether here we have anyone attending ccNSO meetings for the first time. Please raise your hands if it is

your first ccNSO meeting. Could you stand up a little bit? Where are you from and which ccTLD? And name.

ALEJANDRO NIETO

Hello, I'm Alejandro from .es. Welcome to Seville, by the way, and thank you also for accepting us as a member of ccNSO. We joined a few months ago, so thank you.

EVERTON RODRIGUES

Thank you very much. Welcome.

JEFERSON NACIF

Hello. I'm Jeferson from .pt in Portuguese.

ANDREA

The same, Andrea [00:06:48 – inaudible] from .pt.

EVERTON RODRIGUES

Thank you.

JOSE CASINHA

Jose Casinha from .pt as well.

EVERTON RODRIGUES

Hi, Jose.

JEAN CARLOS

Jean Carlos, Brazil. NIC.br.

EVERTON RODRIGUES

Thank you, Jean.

JORDI

Jordi, Andorra.

GLENN WIGHTWICK

Glenn Wightwick from auDA, Australia.

EVERTON RODRIGUES

Excellent. Is there anyone else? Welcome all. And just to check if remotely we have anyone from -- they don't. Let's see if there is any new one remote for the first time. I'm not that sure, but rest assured that I can see you. I perfectly know that ICANN meetings can be unbelievably intense for the first time, but don't you worry.

There's a large number of introductory content that's very useful in the ccNSO wiki and in the ICANN Learn platform. And our famous secretary people send daily summaries, which are excellent foundation not to miss anything. So, I'd recommend you pay attention to their emails. At our meetings, there are many acronyms, so be rest assured that everything will be there.

And now, let's talk about the sessions. In Block 2, we will have the first ccTLD News Session chaired by Joel Karubiu, AFTLD. It's a

global platform to know case studies and innovation, and we will have presentations from .es, .rw, .cn, .bd, and .uae.

On block three, we will get started with a presentation on resiliency, part one, Regulatory Trends on DNS resilience affecting the ccTLDs, a session chaired by Annaliese Williams from .au within the context of the IGLC with experts from ISOC, ICANN Org, and NLnetLabs to look at the impact of new global policy on ccTLDs.

Block 4 will continue with Part 2, ccTLDs Perspective, and we'll see how the different groups of ccNSO, TLD Ops, and the study group of IANA and disaster approaches with participants from .lv and .ng.

And we will have Block 5 with Bart. We'll close the day with this space with Alejandra and Chris Disspain with a nice talk on the efforts and the background of Bart. And those who are here will get a cocktail at the end of the day.

Next. Tomorrow, the morning session will get started at the Zurich Room. Please don't forget, it will not be here. It will be the Zurich Room for the updates and consultation sessions of the ccNSO study group led by Jody Anderson from .nz and findings on public IANA registries and disaster recovery for ccTLDs. Block 2, a joint session between the ccNSO and a registry study group with Alejandra Reynoso chairing.

And the next slide. In the afternoon, we will have the second news session for ccTLDs, this time led by Rocio de la Fuente from LACTLD, with presentations from .ke, .ru, .tr, and .sn. In the

interval, we will have coffee and cakes for Bart, celebrating Bart. And in Block 4, we will conclude the sessions with the highly relevant panel, ccTLDs and registrars tackling DNS Abuse, led by Nick Wenban-Smith and moderated by Bruce Tomkin.

We will have very interesting content to share among us. And to wrap up our week in Block 3, Thursday, we will have the 14:30 meeting of the ccNSO Council that will conclude at our efforts in ICANN86. And the Council meetings are open, so I would like to invite you all to join us before saying goodbye. We would like to ask you to feed us back at the end of each session with the meeting tools. Next slide, please.

And also, there will be a poll after the event. As I said, at the end of the meeting, we will launch a poll and make these mechanisms, let us see what is doing well and what we can improve for our meetings. Here in this slide, you have more information about ICANN86. And next one, please. Here you have a QR code with the information from the ccNSO webpage at ICANN86.

That is all with me. Welcome formally to the ICANN86 ccNSO meetings. Welcome to Seville. And I would like to wish you all, both on-site and remotely, an intense and very good working week. Thank you all. See you.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

This is Alejandra. Thank you so much, Everton. I just want to make a quick announcement. If you didn't notice already, the power was

removed from the outlets in the tables momentarily for safety reasons. But after the break, I hope we'll check on how the status is. So, just so you know. With that, as you have seen in our agenda, in the ccNSO, we like to celebrate a lot.

When we had our 20th anniversary, we celebrated the whole year. And now we are celebrating Bart the whole week. Please, I forgot to mention, for the cocktail, those who have registered, go to the secretariat to get your stickers so you can get into the cocktail. And please do not miss any of the events in the schedule. With that, I'll try the clicker to see if we can make it work. Nope. Next slide, please.

So, as I mentioned before, we are going to go into some governance and operational matters. Next slide, please. On the governance update, as you may have seen recently, there are new guidelines that the GRC, that's the Guidelines Review Committee, finished. They were sent to the Council for review. If any feedback came back, they would update it. Then they went through the community. If any feedback came back, they would update it.

Finally, the Council gets them to adopt. And we have now three new published guidelines, which are the ccNSO as a decisional participant for the empowered community, we have the power to, well, remove a ccNSO board director or a NomCom board director or recall the whole board. We hope never to use these guidelines, but now we are prepared with the steps that we need to follow in the event that needs to happen.

But now, we have another guideline that has been finalized. It's the ccNSO nomination process for ICANN board Seats 11 and 12. Whenever there is a nomination process, there's a final report that includes recommendations on the process. And there were some recommendations to update the guidelines to be able to have a smoother process and also a more homogenous process with Council elections, for example. So, it's easier to go through those. So it has, as I mentioned, the process on how the guidelines are developed.

Right now, the guideline went to the Council for first review, and soon it will come to your inboxes. So, please be aware of this email, and if you have any comments, please let us know. We would like to have this finalized in time for the next Board Seat 12 nomination process that is expected around July. You must have received an email already letting you know that this is going to happen. So, be ready. With that, can we go to the next slide, please? Thank you.

Another thing that the Guideline Review Committee has been working hard on is on leading the ccNSO in its Continuous Improvement Program. As you may remember, we've had some discussions around this. There was an ICANN movement regarding developing the Continuous Improvement Program framework. This is aimed to substitute the organizational reviews that are currently in the ICANN bylaws.

Each group in ICANN is now implementing it because we don't operate the same way, so we will define how we want to operate.

And in Dublin, we had a World Cafe where we discussed the principles that you see on the right of the screen to find the criteria and the indicators that will actually make us fulfill that criteria. So, the criteria are the conditions to comply with the principle and the indicators will be the measurement tool that we will use to do so.

So, the five principles that we have is the ccNSO is fulfilling its purpose, the ccNSO structure is effective, are we doing the right thing, the operations of the ccNSO are efficient? Are we doing the things right? Principle four is the ccNSO is accountable internally and externally. And finally, principle five, the ccNSO collaborates to further the mission of ICANN and the bottom-up multistakeholder model. So, next slide, please. The Guideline Review Committee has been working really hard to design how we are going to implement this process.

And this is the proposal that will come to the Council. It's a long process, but nevertheless, it's well structured. We have the first phases where we are, which is the foundation where we have the refinement of the indicators and we're selecting the measurement methods and established baseline. Then on the second phase, we will run a pilot, which will take on only two principles, in particular two and three, that are the effectiveness and the efficiency ones.

This will be a test case to check whether what we think in theory works in practice. After that phase, we will have, as you can see in the top of the slide, a period to gather feedback and adjust anything that we discover in practice. And after that, we will have

a full rollout with all the indicators for the five principles. And then this will eventually lead us to embedding a whole new process to be integrated into the council and the working groups workflows so that we keep this as a loop.

It's based on several methodologies, but what I can tell you now as a summary, we want this to be a learning process. So, even though it will keep us accountable with what we are doing, we will learn from the process as we are reviewing ourselves constantly and improving what we are doing. All right. So, with that, let's go to the next slide, please.

Here in front of you, you can see the ccNSO purpose and goals. This is another document that will go this week to the Council to confirm or reconfirm it has not been changed. This is the document that puts everything that we do in the ccNSO in perspective. Any activity that we embark on needs to follow the purpose and goals of the ccNSO.

So, we are a platform for ccTLDs by ccTLDs that have three main goals, the policy work that we do, the information sharing that we promote, and the ICANN-related work because we work in an ecosystem. Additionally, we have foundational work that makes this actually a reality. Next slide, please.

So, these are the activities that we are already having set up for ourselves. On the left, you can see the current ones, the ones that are in execution, and on the right, the upcoming ones, the ones that are in schedule for us. These are all the activities that we would

love to do, but as you can see, it's quite a lot. We are very ambitious and we are very positive that we could make this work, but there are certain things that we need into consideration before committing to everything that we have in front of us.

If we can go to the next slide, please. The work plan of the ccNSO will now, well, has always taken this into consideration, but this time, the Council will have a focus on capacity to be doing this, because for some time we have been dealing with a bit of overload regarding the work that we do. So, now we are starting with checking what we have to see what we can do. So, the base for the work of the ccNSO is the volunteers. This is you.

Right now, up until May 2026, the ccNSO has 120 volunteers from around the world. And you can see the spread in ICANN regions in the pie chart. The purple piece of the pie are the NomCom councilors. We have five ICANN regions and the NomCom councilors that also participate in the work that we do. And in the bar chart, you can see a fragment of the activities that we do.

These are the committees and the working groups that meet regularly and how the membership is spread across the regions. As I said, this is a piece of the activities that we do, maybe the ones that are a bit more demanding, but there are other volunteers working in external appointments and in other groups, well, like the Council and other areas. Next slide, please.

Also, to be able to do the work that we want to do we need the support from the staff. And currently, the secretariat is comprised

of three members, and sometimes we have ad hoc assistants, but mainly it's a three-person team. A little bit on the view of the workload that the secretariat has, it's in front of you. There are all the study groups committees working groups Council.

They meet at a certain frequency. It can be weekly, it can be every two weeks, it can be monthly, it can be on demand, but each of these meetings usually have some prep work for a prep call with the leadership of the group. After the prep call there will be some work to be done to prepare for the actual call and after the main call, then there will be work to be done afterwards.

And this is multiplied by the number of groups plus the additional work that needs to be done, like the website management. This is a new thing for our secretary to handle because we have a new website. I hope you have checked it out. As anything, it comes with its pros and cons. Pros, we have a very nice, beautiful website. Cons and pro is that now we are able to update it ourselves. Before it was something that was done by another team, but now we can do it ourselves.

But it adds a little bit on the workload of the secretary. Then we have the wiki helping other groups related to the ccNSO plus the internal work of ICANN. And as I mentioned, Bart is retiring. That means that a new person will come and the secretariat will need to level up to recalibrate and check where things are. So, this will take some time to adjust. So, taking all of this into consideration, we

need to think about what we will be able to do in the near future and in the medium future.

Can we go to the next slide, please? So, some adjustments need to be made. We will need to prioritize part of the work and improve our working methods so we can do all we want to do with what we have. It is possible, but not as we are right now. So, we will need to make some adjustments.

Can we go to the next slide, please? So here, as I told you, we base everything around our purpose and goals. So, the proposed portfolio of activities is now taking into consideration certain restrictions to help with the upcoming work. For example, in the policy work, we have lined up several study groups to start, but now it's proposed that the launch of the next study groups wait until the secretariat recalibrates so that they can have a way forward.

Since we cannot foresee how the future will actually look like, but if we have to make a decision, it's proposed to prioritize always the information sharing goal, because that's what the ccNSO does at its most. Additionally, in the ICANN-related work, well, there's no particular change here, but it's something to take into consideration that the ccNSO always makes comment to the PTI and ICANN budget and planning. That's a heavy load.

And there's some reviews and governance structures coming to us that we will need to take care of. In the foundational work, it's where the continuous improvement program that I mentioned comes into place. And it all ties together with this restructuring

because since we are improving our methods continuously, when we finalize all these phases, we are hoping to work smoother in the end.

But while we are doing that, because as you saw, it will take time and effort from our resources and having the recalibration of the secretariat, it's proposed to defer the committee's effectiveness reviews until July of next year. These effectiveness reviews are something that we started to do as continuous improvement.

Every year, we would review two committees to check whether they're fulfilling their purpose or they need to be restructured or if they're not needed anymore. It's a full review. It's proposed to defer those until the new secretariat finds its way. And finally, the recommendation is to improve the ccNSO working methods.

And for this, there's a proposal for the triage committee, which is the Council committee that looks into the workload of the ccNSO in conjunction with the Guideline Review Committee to have a workshop on how to improve the working methods of the ccNSO. And here we are. I know I dumped a lot of information on you, so if you have any questions, I have a bit of time on that. If not, I'll be around. So, you can always approach me. Okay. Everton.

EVERTON RODRIGUES

I'll make a comment. Thank you, Alejandra, for the presentation. So, from your presentation, as far as I understood from one of the previous slides, volunteer work is still very much welcome and

required for all the working groups and all the activities. So this is an ongoing and permanent effort that every single leadership uh from any working group is still heavily uh dedicated to. And that balances well with the challenges that we may have had in terms of the recomposition of the secretariat, is it correct?

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

As in to continue doing the hard work that the leaderships are doing? Yes. Yes, definitely. Like the work of the ccNSO will continue as usual. There will be some things that will change, but it doesn't mean that we will shut down and open office later. No. We will continue to do our activities as usual taking into consideration that there might be some adjustments in the way. Correct.

EVERTON RODRIGUES

Thank you.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

So, Bart, please.

PATRICIO POBLETE

Alejandra, Patricio Poblete here, the Chilean board member. The July start of the nominations for Seat 12, this is July 26 for the term starting in October 27, right? Has the ccNSO considered any way of shortening that period because it's so long before the actual start of the term?

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO I know the answer to that, but please, Bart.

BART BOSWINKEL You can answer the question first, because I wanted to go back to one point you mentioned and the question of Everton around the planning.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO All right. So, yes, we have discussed a way of shortening the Board seat nomination process. But unfortunately, since we have the due diligence as part of that and it's an unknown time, but we know we need to have enough time, like two or three months sometimes and we need to have the Q&A at an ICANN meeting to give the opportunity for people to interact with the nominees.

That's why it needs to be in this timeline. And we need to also appoint the person, I believe, six months before they take their seat in the Board. So, that's why it goes back so much in time so we have the time to do all these things in time. But I agree, it's quite early.

PATRICIO POBLETE Thanks.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO Bart.

BART BOSWINKEL

Maybe just to make very clear, Patricio, that it effectively implies, and that's a Board rule, you want to have the new member in April, March, April, before the next meeting. So, in case there is a runoff election, you need to prepare for this as well, including the due diligence.

So, that's the reason why you need to start now in order to allow for all these steps in the process. Going back to the planning, effectively, Everton, your question is, will the ccNSO be able to continue what it does right now? That was the whole idea of the triage committee. How can we ensure that because of a transition, but also because you saw the enormous amount of projects coming our way, that we ensure that meetings like this can be organized and keep on being organized?

And the only way to do this is to ensure effectively the ongoing activities. Can you go back two or three slides? Go back. Go back. There you are. What is current? And what is current that includes all the information sharing? It includes, for example, the MPC. It includes the IGLC and all these working groups, which are critical for, I think, everybody in this room in the sense of information sharing.

If we do not reduce all the upcoming projects, then you definitely know this will not be sustainable. So, that's the reason for looking into it and looking effectively two years ahead. When can we kickstart new projects on the right-hand side of this list? We also

know there is some other work coming that you must do going forward. So, I hope that addresses your question.

EVERTON RODRIGUES

Yes, it does. Thank you.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Thank you, Bart. Any other questions? I'm looking also in Zoom if we don't have any raised hands. All right. So, seeing none, let's move to the next one. So, this is a new tool that I've told you about last time in Mumbai, that we will now have the ability to log in on our accounts, find groups that we have interest and select them for the secretariat to reach out to you regarding an appointment to such a group by the Council.

So, this is a tool that, as mentioned, you log in, you find it in ICANN services, it's called ICANN Join. Find all the groups, select them, and the information goes to the secretariat because membership is not automatic. It needs to go to the Council. Council is the one who appoints members to working groups. There will be published more slides with step-by-step on how to use this platform, but we will not go through them right now due to time constraint.

But if you have any questions, let me present you Christian, which is our guru on this matter. Or you can also write to the secretariat. Christian is standing there in the back of the room, so if you can see him. Thank you, Christian. Or you can ask the secretariat if you have any questions, you don't find the tool, or it's not doing what

it's supposed to. But it's now fully launched. Before it was coming, now it's available. If we can go to the next slide, please. Oh, not those.

Okay, let's go through those really quickly. These are the ones that will be available for you later. So, you see it's step by step on how to join. You will see all the community groups that you would like to join. Next one, please. And next. Thank you. There we go. So, as usual, the work of the ccNSO is not possible without you. So, here are all the current working groups and committees on the themes that the ccNSO has interest about at the moment.

So, if there's any of those that you feel like you're interested in, that you can contribute, please either enroll via the ICANN Join tool that I just mentioned or email directly to our secretariat. And we always appreciate more participation on our work. And with that, let's move on to the next slide, please. We have UA Day. Do we have Sarmad in the room?

SARMAD HUSSAIN

Hi. So, we'll have Seda present. She's online.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Oh, sorry. Thank you. Seda, are you available?

SEDA AKBULUT

Yes, I am available. And am I audible?

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Yes, we can hear you.

SEDA AKBULUT

Okay, thank you. And hello, everyone. My name is Seda Akbulut and I'm from ICANN. I would like to talk about and give some information about UA Day 2026. UA Day is a global event series that has been driving mobilization around UA for now, four years, with the aim of creating an internet for all. And Universal Acceptance is a cornerstone of a truly multilingual and diverse internet where the internet users can navigate and communicate on internet using the domain names and email addresses that best align their choices, interests, culture, language, and script and so on.

And achieving UA is not possible unfortunately by just one company or in isolation, so it requires joint effort and collaboration with relevant stakeholders. Therefore, UA Day achieves an important... it plays a crucial role in reaching many people around the world with the same. So, can you move on to the next slide, please?

So, I would like to highlight that UA Day is not just one day event or not just for IDNs. It consists of several events that take place annually since 2023 by different interested organizations, including, but not limited to, ICANN community, ccNSO, ALAC, RALOS, the LSEs, and many other interested organizations in collaboration with ICANN and UNESCO.

So, the aim of the UA Day is to rally the top technical language communities, companies, governments and domain name system industry stakeholders worldwide to spread awareness and encourage the UA adoption through various types of events around the world. And the events promote not just the IDNs but also the ASCII-based new gTLDs or ccTLDs and the email addresses as well as their acceptance in the internet applications and devices.

So, the inaugural UA Day was held on 28th of March 2023 and the keystone UA day events were held in the past years in India, Serbia, and Vietnam, and these were conducted in collaboration with ICANN and with the ccTLD operators in these countries. Next slide, please.

Okay, so the UA Day 2026 events were just concluded as of 30th May, and I'm happy to report the fresh results here. We received 70 proposals from 45 countries and territories for the fourth annual UA Day. And after we received the proposals, we formed a community-based team that consisted of eight members from ALAC, ccNSO, and UNESCO. And they have reviewed all the proposals and shortlisted these proposals.

But in addition to these, we also received some requests from the institutions wishing to voluntarily organize awareness-themed events, including the shortlisted and volunteer events, we ended up with a total of 33 events across 30 countries and territories. And following a memorandum of understanding between ICANN and UNESCO, we have been collaborating on UA Day with UNESCO for

this year as well. And you can find more information about all the UA Day events that happened this year on the universalacceptance.day website.

Next slide, please. So, 33 UA Day events that were held in 30 countries, and this was just done in 66 days. In total, 5,851 people participated in these events across the world. And the events were conducted in local languages, spanning 15 languages.

The indigenous Amazigh language, Amharic, Arabic, Armenian, Chinese, English, French, Kiswahili, Krio, Nepali, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Thai, and Urdu are amongst these. And on the right side of the slide, you can see the ICANN community groups with which the event organizers are affiliated. So, nine of the events that were conducted this year were from ALAC, and eight, thanks to ccTLDs, were from either hosted by ccTLDs or the organizers collaborated with the ccTLDs and three of them are also our UA local initiatives. And four of the events were conducted by ICANN accredited registrars and IDN register operators.

So one thing that I would like to also highlight that it's nice to see there are more than 20 events have been organized by ICANN community groups, but equally nice to see that there is also significant number of events that are taking place outside our ecosystem. so those are mostly from academia and the digital space organizations. And next slide, please.

So, this chart actually shows the number of events by type and by region that were completed successfully. So, 33 events distributed,

half of them are from the adoption and demonstration type of events, because this is our main focus this year to drive more UA implementation.

So, with this focus, we wanted the organization to step up and take an active role, not just talking about the subject on UA, but actually carrying out a technical UA deployment and sharing the experience that they gained while they implemented the UA so that their audience also knows how to do it and whether there are some challenges and how they come across and how they face and resolve those challenges.

So, 17 of the events were from adoption type of event, and most of them were from Africa and APAC region where the languages are mostly non-Latin scripts there. And we see also other type of events like curriculum events spread over the other regions. And we had one regional event per region.

So, this year we also looked into having more or much stronger regional events and provided support and participation to the regional strategic events as well. And awareness events include also the voluntarily held events as well. And so, next slide, please.

This shows our timeline, and this is kind of a generic timeline that you can think of for all the UA day events with some slight changes, but mostly the season follows like this. So, usually, in the springtime, we call for the announcements. So, we announced for

the call for proposals. So on 9, October 2025, we started to receive the proposals and it was extended to 24 November 2025.

And after we received all the proposals, the shortlisting review team went through all the proposals and shortlisted them and we published them on our website. And then we started to provide the sponsorship through the agreements, and the UA adoption and demonstration event organizers received demo training for six hours long of training.

And they also tried to implement universal acceptance and we held some one-to-one calls with them to review their accomplishments. And the events were held between 24 March through 30 May 2026. And now we are getting the reports from the UA Day organizers and we will compile them and hopefully publish them by end of this month and share the you consolidated report on our website, which is icann.org. Okay. Now, we can move on.

Okay. So, the UA Day 2026 events by location that were done in 30 countries and territories, one regional event per each region on these countries. One from Armenia for Europe region, Africa countries, it was done by AFRALO, and there is one in United States of America and Uruguay and Vietnam. We will share some more updates about this. And the national events were held across the world in these countries. So, in the interest of time, I will move on to the next slide, please.

UA Day marked another significant collaboration this year actually, which is different than previous years maybe. And on 24th March,

observing the UA Day, an event was held during the International Telecommunication Union's Regional Development Forum. It was organized by ICANN, EURid, UNESCO, and ITU. And the event team was a universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity for an inclusive and sustainable digital future.

It was attended by around 70 representatives, high-level representatives from IT sector members, including the Council of Europe, European Commission and national European ministries and regulators. So, you can find the program here. I think Regina and many other friends now also in the room. So, they may also share more insights maybe from these events who were also attending this event. And next slide, please.

So, in addition to the ITUs event, there is mentioned one regional strategy event hosted in each region during the UA Day. Each brought together high-level stakeholders from several countries, including governments, academia, developers, DNS industry, and so on. So, Africa regional events, for example, showcased how to advance UA through examples of technical adoption and education.

And they invited 16 speakers, contributed from different UA aspects, and it was participated by 81 people from 27 countries. So, it was a virtual event, very successful one. And on the other side, there was a hybrid event by VNNIC from Vietnam that also brought together the ccTLDs and country delegations from

Vietnam, Laos, India, Thailand, China, focusing on bridging policy and technical execution.

For this event, 204 people participated. And another example is from Europe by Internet Society NGO from Armenia. The event was held in three languages simultaneously, Armenian, English, and Russian for 100 participants across the region. Next slide, please.

And on the America side, we had LACNOG and CODI that held also regional events. There were also participation from different countries and regions that also brought together technical implementation and capacity building topics together. And on CODI's events specifically, they reinforced the importance of AI and inclusive language infrastructure and community-driven data initiatives.

So, with that, I will move on to the UA adoption and demonstration events in the next slide, please. This is the main focus of the UA Day. And actually, also the ICANN Strategic Planning is also focusing on partly on this UA adoption rather than just raising awareness. So, 17 event organizers actually registered IDN, Internationalized Domain Names, and used, or if they have their own existing IDNs, they used the IDNs to set up a web space online, either with WordPress or Drupal.

And on this web space, they created a web form to input and process all valid domain names and email addresses. And after that, they set up an email server which supports email address internationalization using the GitHub code that we have online,

free for use, called EAI self-hosting script published by ICANN. And so, they created their own Unicode-based internationalized mailboxes, email addresses to test the web form and the IDN website that they have ready.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Sorry to interrupt, but you have one minute left.

SEDA AKBULUT

Okay, so the languages and scripts, just move on to the please next slide. I have just a few things left. You can see the examples of the scripts and the domain names and the registered email addresses. Please next slide. Yes. And next one as well. This one is non-Latin scripts and the other page shows the Latin scripts examples for the IDNs and domain name registrations. Next slide, please.

And these are a snapshot from the UA Day organizers who feel now fulfilled to complete the UA day events and knowing how to make their own make systems UA Day. And we will have more pictures on Flickr soon. And next slide, please. And this is finally the last slide showing the overall results for the four last years.

In total, we have reached 200 UA Day events in 86 countries in 42 languages, and overall, we reached more than 29,000 of people across the world. And this is mostly focusing on UA adoption and capacity building on the technical side of it. With that, I will pause here and see if there are any questions or if there are any time, so I

will be more than able to answer. If you don't have time, then you can email me at seda.akbulut@icann.org. Thank you.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Thank you so much, Seda. This is very impressive information and we know the importance of Universal Acceptance. Unfortunately, we're a little bit running out of time, so let's leave the questions either to the end, or I know in the next slide you have some contact information and we have Sarmad here in the room as well, so if anyone has any question, we will defer it either to you or to him. Thank you so much. If we can move two slides, please. Now, I will give the floor to Regina to tell us how they are celebrating their 20-year anniversary. Regina.

REGINA FUCHSOVA

Thank you very much, Alejandra, and thank you for this opportunity to share with you some moments from our celebratory year. We are turning 20 this year. And I know that many of you remember April 2006 when we went with [01:00:15 – inaudible] live. It was preceded by a period of sunrise for prior rights holders. But it's already 20 years and still with this nice anniversary we are one of the youngest ccTLDs and ccNSO members.

The majority of the ccTLDs already date back from mid 80s to mid 90s so we have many among us who already celebrated 30 years or have it ahead and even 40 years, so it's amazing. And Bart witnessed good part of journeys of many of us. And today, we are

celebrating in the form that at the ccNSO cocktail, we would like to share with you some local pastries with .eu. That should be very special and very delicious, so I hope you are looking as much as me to taste them in the evening. Next slide, please.

To quickly run through our celebration moments, the majority happened in April, in May. First of all, in Brussels, we were a host of this year's EURid, which had a bit different concept. It was a bit broader conference under the working title Internet Governance First, which was an idea of the European Commission. who also kindly gave us for this conference one of their main buildings, Charlemagne. And on the top, we were able also to promote this conference and our anniversary on the banner of this building.

So, it was like a one-week great visibility in the center of Brussels. Also in Brussels, if you went or are going there, you could see our blue tram which raised a lot of visibility and we got very positive feedback and also snapshots of some friends and partners who saw the tram going via Brussels. And then also, we had specially built an online game because the thematic of our celebration was connecting Europe with trains as visuals.

So, we had also train related online game. It was possible in April to play it either for fun or .EU holders they could play it and win every day, two interrail tickets. So, it was also a way how to highlight our anniversary. During the conference two weeks ago, we had a moment to reflect on what this 20 years means for us and

what actually enabled us to grow into a registry which we are today.

And undoubtedly, one of the most important moments were the partnerships. So, we devoted the very first session to this topic and liked it so much that we did a short video featuring some of the key members of our community. So, I would like to show it to you now if I can ask for the video to be played which is actually on the next slide.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Can we have the next slide please?

REGINA FUCHSOVA

Yes, one moment. You can take a paper and we can play a bingo how many people you recognize in the video. There is also a link, so theoretically clicking on the picture could go to the video. Should I continue or we wait? There is still a chance that we will be able to see it as I see. Otherwise, I can also continue and we can try it at the end. Thank you very much. Can we go to the next slide?

Because one of the highlighted aspects was the Universal Acceptance and IDNs, so we picked it up as a topic for the rest of my short presentation and also in connection to what Seda was speaking before. She mentioned that Universal Acceptance and the progress in Universal Acceptance requires cooperation. So, this is a good example and maybe to highlight for our technical community that it reaches far beyond enabling email addresses in

internationalized form, for example, as a login in our systems or registering domain names in different scripts.

It's actually part of the WSIS and post-WSIS process as a principle to make the internet linguistically inclusive, culturally diverse, and accessible to all. And we as the technical community can of course contribute to it as well. It's also believed to be a way how to bring the next billion users to the internet, a part or linked to the sustainable development goals of the United Nations. Next slide.

When it comes to our journey at EURid, we are not only celebrating 20 years of .eu, but also 10 years and now in June, 10 years of EU in the Cyrillic script. So, all together we are offering Cyrillic, Greek and all special characters from all European Union official languages. Next slide, please. As for the, let's say quantity, it's not high. We are at about 1% of IDNs in our portfolio, which is more or less aligned with the majority of other ccTLDs globally.

It's a bit higher, 1.5%, but still, you would say that the amount is not significant. When it comes to actively used domains, we did a crawling across basically all the IDNs in our portfolio, also the Cyrillic and Greek extension. And we realized that 30% have some kind of user-generated content. The rest had either no name server or no website or they used just for parking pages, which I think is more or less roughly the turned around portion of the normal, let's say, domain names.

So, there is also still space obviously for usage and further deployment. Next slide, please. To put it a bit in perspective, apart

from offering the technical part, Greek-Syriac variant of .eu and the partnerships which I have just highlighted, we are also actively involved in the ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee, one of the committees. where you were invited to join. And we also run already since 2012 IDN World Report available on the same webpage idnworldreport.eu. Next slide.

And we just released the newest version or the newest findings two weeks ago, one and a half week ago. It's a project, of course, with other partners as well, UNESCO, but also regional organizations. CENTR is doing a lot of work in reaching out to the members to gather the data, but also other regional organizations. Next slide.

And I wanted to thank all of you who answered the survey. It's always at the beginning of the year, coming mainly via the regional organization. One part addresses technical readiness, but we also ask some questions about sentiment, about the support to IDNs, what the registrar community thinks, and everything is complemented by article and case studies.

We have cooperated with a number of you. It's also a call for action for anybody who would like to share their experience with implementing IDNs, either what went good, what did not go that well, so we can create a short case study and publish it on the website. So, please reach out to me if you would like to share your experience. Next slide.

Just to highlight some aggregated, let's say, fields or findings, market is highly concentrated about three quarters of all IDNs are

in the hands of 10 biggest TLDs. Positive thing is that technical readiness is improving, but still it doesn't translate into adoption. And third area is awareness, which remains the biggest barrier. To start with, we could ask in our countries, in our communities, what a domain name is.

I think we would not be that successful. And when to ask if, but people think that they can use their language online, I think the percentage would go even lower. So, despite all the efforts, still work on awareness needs to be done. Next slide, please.

In the interest of time, I would like to draw your attention to the website, and I will not go into the details of the amounts of domain names, just maybe highlight that there was a decline apart from .rf, who witnessed positive growth, and that in total, 71% of IDNs are under ccTLDs. So, we are really the community which can make the difference in adoption. Next slide, please.

This is all to be found on the website. Just to say that we plan, in the future, to also adapt the survey so that not that many surveys circulate, and we already started to talk to ICANN also within the Universal Acceptance Committee, and hopefully for next year we could come with some improved survey which would bring useful data to all possible parties.

Next slide. This is a suggestion for long Sevilla nights. If you have nothing better to do, you can have a look at some of the case studies. This is an example of the most recent ones.

And next slide. I mentioned that we will look into further synergies with the partners, mainly ICANN and UNESCO, but other partners as well and a call for action from my side as well. If you are interested in the topic, please join our working committee. And the very last slide is devoted just for some links for your reference if you would be interested in more detail. So, we can go to the last slide. Yes, these are the references, and this is all from me. Thank you very much.

ALEJANDRA REYNOSO

Thank you very much, Regina, for such a wonderful presentation and the video as well. Unfortunately, we're running out of time, but you will be here around, so if you have any questions, please reach out to Regina. And with this, welcome to the ccNSO. We are going now to the coffee break, and please be back by, what's the time, 11:45. So, thank you and enjoy. Bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]