

# ICANN President and CEO and NCUC Leadership

## Details

Friday, 07 February 2025, 14:15-14:45 UTC

## Attendees

Kurtis Lindqvist, ICANN President and CEO  
Wisdom Donkor, NCUC Chair  
Namra Naseer, NA Representative  
Amin Hacha, EU Representative  
Russ Weinstein, Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support  
Andrea Glandon, Policy  
Dan Gluck, Policy  
Carlos Reyes, Policy

## Summary Notes

The ICANN President and CEO welcomed NCUC Leadership to the call. Introductions were given by all, including the new SVP of the Policy Development Support and the Chair of the NCUC.

The NCUC chair asked how ICANN views the role of the non-commercial users within ICANN over the next five years?

- There is such a great value of the non-commercial users in the Multistakeholder Model and in the GNSO, per the President and CEO.
  - Civil Society and the NCUC bring a valuable diversity of perspectives and ICANN will continue to support them.
  - Regardless of a five-year timeline, the value of these voices will not change.
  - The President and CEO was asked if he has any concrete plans for the Noncommercials at this time, but he shared that he does not. He is still in a “learning mode” and is trying to take in as much information as possible. This underscores the importance of open communication between all parties.
- The SVP of Policy Development Support described the importance of the NCUC and Civil Society to continue to reach out to other members of the Multistakeholder Model to share perspective and work together.
  - There are commonalities through the community and if the Policy Team can help with bringing groups together, they are at the service of the NCUC to do so.

The NCUC asked about the fiscal and budget challenges that ICANN faces

- The ICANN President and CEO responded that there are efforts internal to ICANN to maintain a stable budget. At the moment, the outlook is good due to efforts from the organization to find efficiencies and reduce costs on things like staff travel and meeting site costs.

The New gTLD Program was discussed as a point of interest for the NCUC.

- ICANN Org is working on increasing awareness of the New gTLD program. Civil Society will play an important role in making this program and the Applicant Support Program visible for people outside of the ICANN community.
  - There is a [Champions Toolkit](#) available for members of the NCUC to disseminate to people interested in the New gTLD program.

The NCUC North American Representative asked if there were any updates or preparations for new United States Regulations from the new Administration?

- With the US Government currently forming post-inauguration, ICANN org does not have any insider insight into how regulation may affect ICANN.
- ICANN has a US Government Engagement team that will continue to follow and stay in contact with those involved in the process.

The SVP of Policy Development Support asked about which policies the NCUC is following?

- The North American NCUC Representative responded that of course the New gTLD program is important. There are currently internal discussions to have regional sessions for NCUC members to discuss what is specifically important to them.
  - It was also shared that the NCUC believes that engagement for existing NCUC members is an issue of importance for the group and welcomes support in that regard.
    - The ICANN President and CEO shared that this is useful to know and it will be kept in mind.
- At ICANN82, it was requested that the NCUC could take a group photo with the new President and CEO.