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>> RAJNESH SINGH: Good morning, everyone. I know it's 11:00
o'clock. We'll give a few more minutes for our Panelists to
arrive and perhaps a few more people to trickle in. Thank you
for your patience.
(Standing by.)
>> RAJNESH SINGH: Okay, we'll make a start. Thank you for
attending this session. For those of you who might not be
aware, the AP Star Community as we call it is a loose coalition,
the best way to describe it, of various organisations that work
in the Asia-Pacific Region. It has been around for several
years now. Typically what happens, the group meets again
informally to some extent at various events around the will
region. For example, at APRICOT or APNIC meetings, there is
usually a meeting scheduled. In previous discussions we thought
it would make sense to talk a little bit about what AP Star is
at the regional IGF as well to give people an understanding of
what this coalition does. We don't make decisions or do
anything as such. It is a great platform for us to exchange
information, what we're doing, what we've done, what is coming
up and find mutual areas of interest that we can cooperate and
collaborate on.

It has been a successful format and has been running several years now. So the purpose of this session is to just give you basically a sampling of the sort of things we discuss at those meetings, typically about a half day meeting or thereabouts. What you see is these various organisations represented at this table here with me and each of them will provide you a brief update from the organisational perspective.

So the good thing about you coming to this session is, you will get a very quick overview of what some of the, I don't want to use the word leading, but some of our community organisations are doing in the region. And what we are focusing on. Perhaps you will find something you would like to get involved in. So we invite you to please talk to us a bit later.

We have one hour for this session. We will try to give five to seven minutes per speaker. Hopefully five rather than seven. Some of them are running some slides. After that we will be happy to open it up to Q&A with the audience.

So without further ado can I ask Paul, who is also the current chair of the Asia-Pacific Regional IGF to speak a little bit? Thank you, Paul.

>> PAUL WILSON: Sure. Hello? Hello? Hi, everyone. Thank you very much for coming. And thanks for your interest in this session. My name is Paul. I'm Head of APNIC. And APNIC stands for the Asia-Pacific Network Information Center. We are the IP address registry for the Asia-Pacific. That means we perform the function of allocating and registering IP addresses. These are not domain names. These are the IPv4 and IPv6 numeric addresses part of the Internet infrastructure.

If you are familiar with domain names, then the purpose of the domain names system is to convert a name which people can easily remember into a number. And it is the numeric address which is critical to the actual transmission of data or packets on the Internet from one place to the other.

So the allocation, the management of the IP addressing space that is done around the world on a regional basis. So there are five regions and five regional Internet Registries. APNIC is the one for Asia-Pacific. We are based in Australia but serve the entire Asia-Pacific from south Asia including Afghanistan, all the way through to north Asia, Mongolia, China, east Asia and through the south Pacific Islands.

We've got a pretty big job to do. Half the world's population, actually. I guess more than half the world's Internet growth to come. Just to tell you a little bit more about the organisation, we are a nonprofit membership organisation independent from any government. Like many of the Internet Governance organisations, we have been around for many years, more than 20, in fact. We predate the real boom in the Internet

and the interest in the Internet that many governments and other stakeholders have got these days. So we have been doing this job since about 1993.

So these days we operate as a membership organisation. We've got more than 6,000 members around the region. We also serve another 6,000 or more through a number of regional Internet address -- sorry, national Internet address registries that operate in just a few countries.

That membership directly and indirectly of 12,000, 13,000 members includes almost everyone who is operating a network of any kind. Traditionally used to be telecos and ISPs and so forth, but there are a lot of other organises, enterprises, NGOs, so forth that operate networks themselves these days and they tend to become a member of APNIC in order to receive addresses to do that.

Apart from that core administrative function, APNIC was established in the first place to facilitate Internet development throughout the will region. The reason for our operation as a Registry is to help the Internet develop. And we've also been carrying out that mission in a lot of other ways over the years. A lot of training activities, a lot of what is called human capacity building these days, I suppose.

We hold a couple of conferences every year, which are opportunities for training and education and professional development.

Something else that happens at those countries is policy development. So in fact as a bottom-up Internet Governance organisation, I suppose we are also a multi-stakeholder community-based organisation with a community-based policy development process. In fact, the Registry in managing and allocating IP addresses, the Registry needs to follow rules and policies. Those policies and rules are actually set not by us but by the community. There's an open policy development process which happens in a conference twice a year. We bring people into that conference very actively through fellowships and other mechanisms and supports so the members of the community can come and participate actively in this process of IP address management. It is at its core a specialist, technical process but is fundamental to Internet operations.

Apart from that, APNIC has just established what we call the APNIC Foundation, which is a development arm which is the aim of which is to raise more resources for creating more training, technical assistance activities around the region. That shows to you something about our dedication and focus on Internet development around the region.

So there is plenty more I can say and I would be happy to answer any questions if anyone has any. But I'll pass on now to the next on the panel. Thanks, Rajnesh.

>> RAJNESH SINGH: Thanks, Paul. So I am just following the order that we have listed on the agenda. So there is no other way to do this. So Noelle, you're up. Introduce yourself and what your organisation does.

>> NOELLE FRANCESCA DE GUZMAN: I'm Noelle De Guzman, from the Internet Society. I believe I have some slides if they are ready?

I don't know how to control that.

>> RAJNESH SINGH: Why don't you sing something?

(Laughter.)

>> NOELLE FRANCESCA DE GUZMAN: Sorry about that. As you can see, Raj is my boss.

But I work with Asia-Pacific Bureau of the Internet Society. There it is! And for those of you who may not have encountered the Internet Society before, we are a global not for profit organisation and work toward the continuing development of open Internet. And next slide please. I am not sure how I can control this thing.

There is a clicker!

>> RAJNESH SINGH: We are using technology!

>> NOELLE FRANCESCA DE GUZMAN: Great. Okay. So as I mentioned, I do have quite a bit of slides. I only have five minutes, I realise. So we work in the areas of policy, standards and development. You can see some of the activities that we do. Globally and in the region as well. We have a global presence, as I've mentioned. So the Internet Society is comprised, a global community that is also comprised of members and chapters. The members and chapters are integral to the operation of the Internet Society especially when it comes to local engagement. So these are within countries, but not necessarily -- in India, for instance, we have four chapters. For 2017 we have the following objectives. So this year we are focusing on trust and Internet access. Just to give a brief overview of the Internet Society and Asia-Pacific, we, you can see the numbers there. We, in will regional office which is based out of Singapore, we have five team members, all based in different countries across the region. So we have quite a spread. We also have two board of trustee members at the moment based in Asia-Pacific. One is in Japan and another one in Singapore.

I won't go through this much because these are what we, basically what we did in 2016. I will focus instead -- oh, this is a community network. So we have, one of the things we do is that we also try to extend Internet connectivity and Internet

access to marginalized communities or those commercial providers
who deem uneconomic to provide connectivity to at the moment.
So whatever I would say key projects in the region is the
community, the wireless communities or W4C. This has been going
on for seven years now and we are partnering with different
local organisations. Currently across south Asia to be able to
empower local communities to connect themselves to the Internet.
Also to manage and operate the networks and, as you can see
there, these are common access points for children. So as an
extension of that programme we have also begun empowering women,
empowering local communities to be able to use the Internet for
their own benefit. You can read more about this on our website.
You can also approach me later on if you are interested.
Again, more engagements in 16. I won't go too much into this.
But what I'm going to focus on are this year's highlights. So
these have been our key activities so far in the region. We
this year are holding several digital accessibility workshops.
So we have been doing a great work with the government in
Pakistan in the last two, three years. Now we are starting to
extend this in other parts of the region. We've done that in
Colombo, Sri Lanka, this year and we will do another one in
Indonesia.
We also have a project, outreach programme called about the IETF
to promote IETF and encourage local technical communities, local
developers to contribute to the IETF.
Also that is ongoing in different countries in Asia-Pacific at
the moment. We are also holding this year an online privacy
workshop series. We've already held one in Vanuatu in
partnership with the government. We are scheduled to go to
another one in Manila next month. Also in Hong Kong. I will
talk more about that in the next slide.
We are also releasing, I hope you will be at the closing social
today because that is where we will be launching it. They will
be available online as well.
I think some of you already have two of those reports with you.
So at the beginning of the year what we do every year is that we
release what we call the year that was report. That's also
available on the website. And that would give you a better idea
of what we are doing in the will region or what we've done in
the past year so far. And we did that as well for -- I'm sorry,
that should be 2016 actually. Sorry about that.
And the Internet policy server board is something that we have
been doing for four years now. I think you already have that
with you. And this year -- oh? Oh, there's a minute? Okay.
So the issue paper, just to say that the issue papers are here.
The issue papers that you see there are here. Feel free to grab
some of them. And local engagements, of course, throughout the

year. And then we are also celebrating the 20th anniversary
this year of the Internet Society.
(Cheering.)
>> NOELLE FRANCESCA DE GUZMAN: We have a lot more activities
coming up. Please stay tuned. Thank you very much.
>> RAJNESH SINGH: Thank you, Noelle. Which channel do we tune
into? You said "stay tuned." So which channel?
(Laughter.)
>> RAJNESH SINGH: Thanks for that.
She mentioned it down here. If you would like a copy, I see
digital accessibility agenda, policies and regulations for the
digital economy. There are another six in development which we
will be releasing shortly. Joyce, could we have you, please?
>> JOYCE CHEN: Hello, everyone. I'm Joyce Chen from the ICANN
Hub based in Singapore. If you could go to my slides, please?
So I do stakeholder engagement primarily in the Southeast Asia
region. And I'm just going to dive straight into it.
So I am going to borrow one minute from Paul because he's
already gone through roughly what the domain name system is an
what a DNS is. I won't go through that again. I will say that
both domain names and IP addresses is what we do. We ensure the
stable operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems.
We do a the look of policy work with regard to domain names in
particular. And so ICANN is one part of the larger Internet
Governance ecosystem. Our friends in APNIC, Internet Society
that you just heard from, IETF, for example, we are all part of
this governance of the Internet. Not necessarily on the
Internet. To ensure that it continues to function smoothly.
Our community is made up of volunteers. So we are a global
organisation and we have volunteers from all over the world
coming for our meetings. They come from very different
backgrounds including businesses, Internet engineers, technical
experts, civil society, government, end users, many, many
others.
So it is really a multi-stakeholder community and I would like
to highlight that we are also a not for profit. As to where we
get our funds from, that's a different conversation. You can
come up to me and we can have a long, long chat about it. Rest
assured that we are trying to use your funds in the best way
possible to make sure that the multi-stakeholder participation
continues on.
Our community are involved in making policy. So there are
groups of what we call supporting on organisations for helping
us with policymaking. We also have the advisory Committee. I
apologize that, they help us to make better decisions by
providing advice to us.

So in terms of what AP ICANN Hub does, we help to facilitate conversations and dialogue in the community. We are helping the APAC community to participate better in ICANN and doing a lot of work in terms of communicating to the SSR of the DNS or the stability, security and resiliency of the Internet.

So in the APAC region we have a special space called APAC Space. This is where the APAC community Members gather together and talk about issues relevant to them and of interest to them. And we see it like a practice ground for our community members to discuss these issues that are related to ICANN.

So the objective is to help to inform committee members of what is going on in ICANN. What are the policies? We have very, very complex processes and policies. And it is kind of to help communes to understand better how we work and how to participate better. APAC Space is community-led. This year our focus areas are talking about the DNS industry topics, the policy development processes that are still ongoing because they take a couple of years, quite a couple of years to finish, and as well as our reviews.

So the APAC Space we meet bimonthly, once every two months, either via web conference and also during the ICANN meetings which take place three times a year.

The next APAC Space conference is going to happen soon. It's in September. And so we've also been very busy in the past year doing capacity development, not unlike our partners in APNIC, for DNS management, DNS security, and outreach on the root zone key, signing key or the KSK Rollover with partners in the region. Myanmar and Micronesia also deployed root zone, and Singapore and Vietnam have signed the DNS security extensions.

As I mentioned recently, ICANN meetings take place three times a year. Join us. The meetings are free. The upcoming one us in an Abu Dhabi. This is where the new board members will take their seats.

This is just one of the key technical focus that we have for this year in terms of the root zone KSK Rollover. It is a bit technical, usually for operators who have deployed DNS. 11 October 2017, important date. If you have not updated your systems, your Internet might break.

In terms of joining us, we have Newcomer Programmes, the Fellow Programme, and the Next Gen programme which is for youth. These provide travel support for ICANN meetings. There is a general newcomer programme, a structured way to get you to understand ICANN better. Some of the ways to get involved. I don't think everybody can see what's on the slide. I think the slide are available anyway. I won't go through it. Thank you very much.

>> RAJNESH SINGH: Thank you, Joyce.

So that very nicely goes into our next presenter's presentation. I should also say Maureen is the one responsible for organising the session today. Round of applause.

>> MAUREEN HILYARD: If anything goes wrong it's my fault. Okay. I'm going to do a presentation on ALAC. It follows what Joyce said. The ALAC is the coordinated body of the regional organisations that represent the interests of end users like you and me, that use the Internet. So the ALAC is, of course, the at-large advisory committee. And we basically work in conjunction with the other constituencies within ICANN to basically sort of provide compensates from the at large community, the end users, in relation to any development, policy development that they actually may be working on.

Okay. Right. So when we are talking about policy updates, I just wanted to mention that the Asia-Pacific Region is quite influential within the at large community organisations. For example, the ALAC leadership team consists of eight members. That is five members representing each of the different regional organisations and three liaisons. We have, of course, our regional representative, who is Holly Raich from Australia. But the three liaisons are actually all from APRALO. This is quite influential. We are not bossy or anything, but we do have a say. Also when it comes to policy statements I wanted to mention that in the last couple of quarters there have been 16 policy statements that the ALAC has made comments on. And of those, four have been where APRALO memberships have taken the pen holder roll. That means that we actually contribute to the, actually do write statements that actually get passed on to whatever organisation has asked for some feedback.

Also one of the things that we do as an at large community is we are represented on cross-community Working Groups, which is the trend for ICANN now to actually have members from across the ICANN community, the actual ecosystem. You've got at large, you've got ccTLDs, you've got generic name supporting organisations, all contributing to different types of Working Groups that actually are looking at policy related areas. And at the moment I've got listed here the sorts of groups that we are actually representing. And they cover a whole range of interest areas. If there's any questions on any of those, please ask me.

Then the big issue for ALAC at the moment is an at large review that, we had a review team that came in and they told us everything that was wrong with the at large community and of course we didn't take that lying down. And so we are putting together a report as we have done, and it is to go to the board. It is the board that actually makes the final decision about what actually happens.

And we are still getting community input into that as well.
So finally, just looking at the sorts of things that we are
actually involved in as a community group. Outreach activities
that we as a regional organisation and Satish and I are sort of
like representing this is one of the many important things we
are doing. When we are in Abu Dhabi, all of the representatives
of APRALO will be gathering. We have 50 member organisations
and we've invited representation from each of those
organisations to meet with us so we can actually look at policy
development within our region.
Thank you.
>> RAJNESH SINGH: Thank you, Maureen. Just to let you all
know, we have a remote presenter. What I'll do, I'll bring that
person on last so that we have continuing flow with this
session.
Satish, five minutes, correct? Thank you.
>> SATISH BABU: Thanks very much, Rajnesh. This is Satish
Babu. I am going to speak about the schools of Internet
Governance, schools and academies of Internet Governance in the
Asia-Pacific. This is a programme that has gathered a lot of
momentum in the last couple of years. I think one of the first
to start a national school was actually Pakistan. That is a
couple of years back. Together with the APSIG, Asia-Pacific
School on Internet Governance.
Let me quickly present which are the different SIGs and what is
their relationship with the international IGFs. The schools of
government is a capacity building programme. That is the first
objective. The second objective is to link government -- these
are the two schools of Internet Governance and most of these
significances that we have today are national SIGs, but of
course not all specific of Middle East and adjoining country
SIGs. They travel to regions, parts of Africa and of course the
Middle East. It comes all the way to Pakistan, the definition
of that MEAC.
What have been the activities this year? So a number of new
countries are coming forward to host their own schools of
Internet Governance. Earlier this month we had the first
instance of a school in Armenia. Now, Armenia, nobody is sure
whether it is Asia-Pacific or Europe. It is again straddling
the boundaries of these regions. Armenia, supported by a data
school for the first time ever. They had 30 participants and
that has been a major milestone in that region.
India school started last year. It has been doing pretty well.
This year we are doing it just before the ICANN meeting in Abu
Dhabi which is in October.
We have India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Korea,
Taiwan and of course, the academy, jointly funded by ICANN APAC

Hub and SICA. I had occasion to teach in that school and it is
a liberating experience. That school is mostly for young people
as opposed to the other schools which are open for any age
category. What is the relation between SIGs and IGFs, the
international IGFs and SIGs. Many countries are too small to
have their own school of Internet Governance. So it's adjunct.
So the training is two days, the school is one additional day
for those who want capacity building on the Internet Governance
aspects.
Last I'll mention a little bit about APSIG and its initiatives.
APSIG is a regional school of Internet Governance. It is mainly
led by one of the members of the Hall of Fame of the Internet
Society and belongs to Korea.
And right now it has become a broader grouping of the national
SIGs. Apart from running the school of Internet Governance each
year, the second instance is just over before the AP regional
IGF meeting now. That school than went pretty well. It was a
good cross-section of participation. Yet there are some
countries which are missing in the sense that I would like to
see participants from Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, et cetera. The
other side, Afghanistan is well covered. Pakistan is well
covered. India is covered. But this side we have some gaps.
We hope it will get filled as we go forward.
One of the other objectives of APSIG is to make sure in the IGF
there is participation from Asia-Pacific. Currently in terms of
workshops there is a proportionality problem there. We don't
see so many workshop proposals from Asia-Pacific. And APSIG is
working towards fixing that problem. They have floated
something called an all-SIG group, mostly Asia-Pacific SIGs.
This has taken on the task of encouraging people to create
better proposals. We had multiple sessions in this APSIG on how
we can submit a good proposal for the global IGF which is going
to happen in Geneva this year. That has become very popular
with the different national schools as well as the individual
participants coming there. And my time is up. I'll stop here.
Thank you very much.
>> RAJNESH SINGH: Thank you, Satish. Winston?
>> WINSTON ROBERTS: Thank you. I'm a little bit the odd man
out here. I'm not the sort of speaker you normally expect to
see perhaps in this Forum. I am going to provide you with a
little bit of information about a couple of points of Pacific
context, you might say.
I'm speaking for the library sector globally. And particularly
not speaking for the National Library of New Zealand but talking
about a project which we have run down there.

This is a project -- first of all, I apologize to the interpreters. The text I sent you is going to be rapidly edited as I speak. Don't do it word-for-word.

In the National Library we discovered last year that many of our colleagues in the smaller south Pacific Island states were having extreme difficulties in maintaining effective National Library services. That is either services within their National Libraries or services across their states supported by or promoted by their National Library.

And that was for various reasons. One of the reasons obviously was questions of disaster recovery because there were so many cyclones and tsunamis in the preceding two, three, four years. But also there are and always have been underlying problems of development. And there have been sort of incidental questions like staff movement and lack of training, which meant that in some cases the library services in the South Pacific states have really been not very dynamic, shall we say.

And we decided to do something not exactly at the moment to do something about it, but to find some evidence of what the colleagues in the Pacific Island states told us.

We obtained some funding from the National Commission for UNESCO in New Zealand and we designed a sort of questionnaire to do an environmental scan. We focused it on only quite a small number of nationality library services across the island states. We didn't really look at the territories. We didn't look at the northern Pacific except that we got one or two answers from colleagues up there that we focused on. We did get, we did poll PNG and Timor Leste. They are not truly small islands, but they are in geopolitical circumstances, we didn't -- we focused on small islands like Cook Islands, Solomons, Samoa, Fiji and others. We looked at the evidence. We got very interesting responses to our scan and the report is available. It is not online, but I can send it to you. If anybody wants a copy, they should give me their details.

But basically the conclusions we found are that library services in the region are given low priority by planners and decision makers. They do not really get the potential return on investment in these services in terms of say educational advancement, cultural preservation and the possible integration of information services in to other processes in the countries. And because the ROI is not really understood, then the budgets are low. The status of the sector is low also.

And in that case, in those circumstances, we do wonder whether weak National Library services are actually able to help the states, small island states, actually meet the challenges of moving forward to meet the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN by 2030.

There are unanswered questions. What services are wanted? What model is the best for small island states? A big conventional resource-heavy model is totally inappropriate. But what sort of transformative interventions are needed to provide services for national library services for these states? This has to be investigated further.

And we plan in the National Library of New Zealand, we plan to work out some actions which will help us -- excuse me, help us find answers to those questions.

And one other thing I need to mention. I know it's zero minutes, but I also would like to mention a report which I can give you some notes about. I'll put them down at the front. This is a report published by IFLA just very recently. So recently, I haven't really had time to analyze it, read it right through myself. This is called development and access to information. It is published by IFLA and a research organisation in the U.S. And it is going to be contributed to the high level discussions at the United Nations in October for planning more work towards the SDGs.

The report is called DA2I, development and access to information published in 2017. And as I say, it is very interesting. It is relevant to the region. It sounds like a big massive international heavy document but it is highly relevant to this region. Therefore, I would like to bring it to your attention. Again I'll put some copies of the executive summary down on the wall here in the front. Okay? Thank you very much.

>> RAJNESH SINGH: Okay. So we will turn to Chat next, our good friend Chat. We realised throughout the last couple of days we have been on many panels together and for some reason always sitting next to each other. We have to stop meeting like this.

>> CHAT GARCIA RAMILO: We have to have a rule next time you only on a panel twice. That's it.

Good morning, everyone. Very briefly, I am from the association for progressive communications, APC. APC is an old network. We were founded in 1990. We are a global network and we are a membership organisation. So our membership is really civil society organisations. Our focus is pretty much around looking at Internet, human rights, and development. So it is quite broad.

But to just break that down to make it a little bit more understandable, we focus on four areas. One we do a lot of knowledge building and research. I am looking at different issues, priority issues. Number two, we do a lot of advocacy around policies in the Internet. We also work on movement building, which is bringing together different civil society organisations to build a movement.

Also we cross movements. Movements are not necessarily involved
in Internet Governance. Lastly, we do capacity building among
our members an also our partners.
We are in 36 countries globally, about 55 organisations to date.
In Asia-Pacific we are in eight countries and we have 12
members.
We have an open membership. So if you are interested, you can
just go to the website and look at the membership process.
We have a strategic plan to 2019. We focus on six areas. One
is on access. So, for example, we work on -- one of our
priorities in this strategic period is around supporting
community networks. We are working, for example, with our
member in India in bringing together and also ISOC bringing
together community networks to look at strengthening that
network.
Secondly, in relation to rights, we, a lot of our work is in
terms of very urgent issues around freedom of expression,
freedom of Assembly. We also have introduced in the last two
years the notion of using the economic cultural social rights to
frame issues of access, for example, cultural traditions, et
cetera. And we did have a workshop here.
We also try and connect what is happening nationally to global
process and even regional. We bring our partners to the human
rights commission. We use these processes to support what is
going on in countries.
Thirdly, one of our priorities is feminist Internet. It is
really something we have introduced in this space. It is really
looking at what is a feminist Internet in relation to
principles, as well as values. But also in relation to looking
at evidence-building around what are the issues and problems
that women and even other communities face. For example, sexual
rights. How does that relate to the Internet? Is it relevant?
So in a sense what we bring together, what we try to bring here
is movement building around the communities that we feel are
very important to be part of this Internet Governance space.
Fourth is governance itself, Internet Governance. So, for
example, we are in APrIGF, we are in all the different Internet
Governance processes regionally and also the global processes
itself. We bring marginalised, we bring people and
organisations who are not necessarily part of the governance
process and we make sure that we expand that participation. So
every regional IGF, we try to bring in women's rights activists,
sexual rights activists, activists that may not participate in
the space generally but we know it is important for them.
We also have a Global Population Internet Society Watch,
monitoring a lot of the different issues in different countries.
For example, last year it was on economic cultural social

rights. This year it is actually around national and regional
IGFs. It is looking at outcomes of the NRIs and also looking at
what would be, how to improve the processes.
The fifth is capacity building. So, for example, we do a lot.
We develop materials around how do you look at Internet rights
as human rights. How then would you, we train or build capacity
among human rights defenders.
I'm going to plug --
(Laughter.)
>> CHAT GARCIA RAMILO: This is a plug. We are organising with
our member engaged media and a few other organisations CoCo-Net.
It is a play on "coconut" because it is a symbol in the region.
It is a digital rights camp. It is from August 22 to 26. It is
going to happen in Indonesia. We want to bring about 75 people,
activists in the region. It is a peer-learning camp. You can
still, if you are interested, you can still apply until August
10. We are doing that in October.
And finally, strengthening the community that we, our community.
When we say APC community, it involves not only our members but
our partners. We convene different meetings where we discuss
issues and we look at direction. We try to build that among our
members.
We also have a grants programme for our members, which we
started two years ago.
So it is really trying to provide that resources, to build and
strengthen local organisations as well.
That is who we are. And thanks for inviting us to participate
in the APC Star. So I guess we can put a star in APC Star now.
>> RAJNESH SINGH: Thanks, Chat. We have one more speaker left
who is joining us remotely. He couldn't be here this week.
And my wonderful support staff tell me that he is online. So
could we queue him up? Nurul, if you can hear me, you have five
minutes, please, for your presentation.
>> NURUL SALWANIE: (Distorted voice.)
(CART provider unable to make out his words.
>> RAJNESH SINGH: I am not sure what is happening.
Is he perhaps speaking but the audio is not clear? Is that what
we are experiencing.
(Audio is distorted.)
>> RAJNESH SINGH: We hear voices.
>> NURUL SALWANIE: Hello. Can you hear me now?
>> RAJNESH SINGH: Nurul, I'm sorry, but the audio is really
bad, the connection is really bad. I think we have to let this
one rest this time around and perhaps we can put your slides and
comments up on the website. So if I can ask my support team to
cut the feed, please. We'll go back to the room. Thanks.

Okay. Sorry about that, folks. Yes, technology sometimes does not work as well as we hope it to. It's a work in progress. So I hope that has given you a nice overview of what these various organisations do in the region. I know it is information over load and lots of acronyms as well. I scratch my head at a few of them and I'm supposed to be from the community. That's how it is. It is a motley crew of people doing great stuff out in the will region.

I would like to invite comments from the floor. If you have questions for the people on the panel with me or some other general question about how we operate in the recently or have any suggestions to make, please feel free to do so. The mic is in the middle. No interest at all?

Going once? Yes! Someone is there. Sold to you, Madam.

>> WINSTON ROBERTS: Before she speaks, can I ask a question, how many people in the audience come from the island states?

>> RAJNESH SINGH: There's two there.

>> WINSTON ROBERTS: Two there. I thought you would come!

>> AUDIENCE: This is about community so I'm very compassionate about community. I'm going to read it. I'll lose the thoughts. Community networks is quite ambitious. There are various communities still living in rural and remote areas struggling to have Internet connectivity. Now, I know that is sort of a Pacific problem, but I'm not trying to get you to fix that. Also some urban citizens who cannot afford to pay for Internet services. That's a big issue. Again I say I'm not trying to get you to fix that.

What I would like to say, when we talk about community engagement, we need to focus on the various subgroups and sectors. For example, persons with disabilities and young rural youths, agricultural farmers, fishermen. Some of our communities are connected to the Internet and some are not. Am I too loud?

>> No, not at all.

>> AUDIENCE: The ones that are connected have no clue about Internet Governance. Some of them.

How can all the Panelists support interventions at the sec tomorrow level, sec tomorrow, by that I mean climate change, agriculture, fisheries, et cetera. And how can you engage civil societies like organisations such as Asia-Pacific Disability Forum? We have a Pacific Disability Forum and they work a lot on ICTs, but again they don't have much clue about SIG. Can you give us some examples?

That's one. And has this group done a needs assessment or a scoping study on the various players and networks around the Asia-Pacific Region and also which networks need attention?

>> RAJNESH SINGH: Perfect two questions for my friend Chat.

>> CHAT GARCIA RAMILO: Me? Why?
>> RAJNESH SINGH: Anyone else want to handle that?
(Laughter.)
>> CHAT GARCIA RAMILO: Gosh. What have we done? I'm pretty
sure this panel will have a lot to say. Mapping? I think I
would suppose each of us do some kind of mapping. Maybe just to
answer your question, we did a mapping on gender and ICT. And
the reason being that we have done that before. Like maybe
about, would have been ten years ago. But things have changed
so much now. What is it now? What are the issues really around
gender? We are doing that. It is a project we are doing with
IDIC, for example. The result is just coming up. We've
interviewed the organisations in the region as well. That's one
thing that we've done.
And it will be around direction in terms of programming. I
think it is a useful thing. As you say, there are maybe pockets
really that are not being paid attention to.
Okay, I did my bit.
>> RAJNESH SINGH: Thanks. As a more general comment, lots of
us are working on bits and pieces across sectors and things.
There is no one organisation that does everything. It is
impossible, as you know. But I think everyone does contribute
in some way or form. If we have individual conversations with
many -- we are not the only ones in this region, by the way. It
happens we are sitting in this panel, but there are many other
organises too.
Satish, you have comments?
>> SATISH BABU: I would like to mention something called the
Internet of Cows which we are experimenting. This is cows who
walk to the milking station and they are marked, and the station
see the code and it tweets out the identification.
Is there a use for this information? I mean, technological
curiosity that the cows can tweet. There are two groups of
people who want this information badly. One is the farmers who
say when we want to buy a cow, we want to know how much that cow
produced in the past. Right there, you go to the farmer who is
selling. But if you have the entire production information of
the cow, we can use that.
Secondly, there are the bankers who have given loans to the
farmer who buy these cows and farmers are selling them off
without the bankers' knowledge and they would like to track. We
realised that Twitter is not purposed for this. Twitter does
not guarantee they will keep this information alive for several
years and we realised the blockchain is ideal for this. Farmers
and blockchain. Currently we are talking about a community
blockchain. I have been working with fishers for a long time,
about 17 years. So we are actually looking into the community

uses of even a new fangled technology like the blockchain and it
is promising really. Thank you.
>> RAJNESH SINGH: Joyce?
>> JOYCE CHEN: I have a comment and I thank you for your
remark. I thought that you raised a point that hasn't really
been picked up. That's on climate change. In the coming APrIGF
it is relevant to the iron states as well, the topic of iron
change and how does it relate to Internet Governance. This time
around we had a session on disaster and how ICT helps with that
kind of development. So that would be very interesting, I
think, to look into for the next APrIGF.
>> RAJNESH SINGH: I would like to plug our issue papers. There
is one on climate changes an one on disaster last year. Sir,
you had some comments?
>> AUDIENCE: I have just only a simple question. Do you have
any idea like there is a single library in this Asia-Pacific
Region which is accessed by all, including people with
disabilities? And last question is for the communities like
different associations who are listening about your activities.
Do you have any representation by the different groups,
including people with disabilities, in your board and decision
making process? Thank you very much.
>> RAJNESH SINGH: I'm sorry, I didn't get the first part of the
question.
>> AUDIENCE: First part of question is like, yeah, for wince
ton if there is any library service that is accessible by all
including people with disabilities in this Asia-Pacific Region?
Thank you very much.
>> WINSTON ROBERTS: I can't give you information across the
whole region about which countries have policies on library
services for disadvantaged people, people with disabilities. It
depends on the policies of individual countries and I'm not, I
don't have information about that.
I think in principle, if a country has laws about equal access
to information about physical access to buildings, about
construction standards which require buildings to have say
access ramps for physical access to buildings, then you can find
that information on the web. There are also, there's also the
question of equal access in terms of for print disabled people.
And one of the big developments there is the Marrakech Treaty
which has already been mentioned here this week. That was
mentioned in the workshop session that I organised a few days
ago. The Marrakech Treaty of WIPO is a treaty which many
countries are now adhering to, acceding to. That will require
them to pass into domestic law standards for digital access to
information for people with disabilities. But this is a very
complex question. I'm sorry, I don't have more information.

>> NOELLE FRANCESCA DE GUZMAN: May I interject? I know in Singapore the libraries, because I go to the libraries often. We have eBooks and we also have audio books for people who can't visually read. So I don't know if that sort of answers your question as well.

>> RAJNESH SINGH: We have zero minutes question. We have one more question. I beg for your flexibility.

>> AUDIENCE: I'm from the Philippines. And as we're speaking right now and two cyclones are hitting our country. Chat and me may have to stay here. Maybe we go to Bangkok.

My concern now is, I notice that the Rockefeller Foundation is integrating all the ICT resilience technologies for disaster. So they have this compilation of different technologies because right now there are several solutions in the Asia-Pacific, but it is not being gathered.

One of our projects in which Mr. Wilson awarded us in Mexico during the IGF is the project to together with the Japanese in which we learned during the tsunami in Japan and Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. This involves telecommunications equipment to be deployed during disaster. After two years of studying and implementing it in the Philippines, we noticed that this infrastructure can also be used to remote island communities during non-disaster areas.

So I think it is also a good point that the next Asia-Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum will give focus on this disaster receiving ICT communications. Thank you very much.

>> RAJNESH SINGH: A quick response to that comment: APrIGF follows an open workshop process. Anyone is free to submit a proposal. I invite you to submit something there.

Sorry, we are out of time. They want to clear the room. Very quickly, to the question, just so people are aware that the Internet Society has a specialty in disabled needs chapter as well and they have an online meeting every couple of weeks. We invite you to look at that. Thank you very much for attending. Thank you to my panelists. Stay engaged with us. All our information is available online. We hope to see you again soon. Stay in touch. Thank you.

>> NOELLE FRANCESCA DE GUZMAN: We have copies of the issue papers available right here.

>> AUDIENCE: In Nepal, IGF is happening on August 18 and 19. If anyone can join, you are very welcome to this event. Thank you.

(The session concluded at 12:04 p.m.)
(CART provider signing off.)
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