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INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR SETTLEMENT OF INVESTMENT DISPUTES

ICSID Case No ARB/20/7
between

Security Services LLCd/b/a Neustar Security senvices (formerly Neustar, Inc)

Caimant
Republic of Colombia
Respondent

The Arbitral Tribunal
Professor Julian DM Lew KC - President Professor Yves Derains - Arbitrator Professor Kaj Hobér - Arbitrator

ORAL HEARING
Tuesday, 28 March 2023

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263
The Tribunal:
The President:
PROFESSOR JULIAN DM LEWKC

Co-Arbitrators:
PROFESSOR YVES DERAINS
PROFESSOR KAJ HOBÉR
ICSID Secretariat:
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In person:
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Witnesses:


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PRESIDENT: Is it an issue that Mr Castaño needs to be here for?

MR BALDWIN: No, it is not an issue that he needs to be here for.

PRESIDENT: Is it worth finishing his examination and then dealing with whatever the other issue is?

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Cross-examination by Claimant, cont'd
MR BALDWN: Good morning, Mr Castaño. Just to confirm you didn't have any conversations with anyone last night or yesterday evening about your testimony yesterday or this morning, correct?
MR CASTAÑO: That is correct.
MR BALDWN: Hopefully it was a peaceful evening then without having to spend a lot of time discussing things.
Yesterday we talked a little bit about ICANN, and how - well, let's put up what you said. We are going to put up something you said yesterday on your screen regarding ICANN.
You can see I asked you "What did you do to change that in the year you were there?" And then you mentioned several things and we will go down to the ICANN. You said: "Among them we hired more staff", and then it said, "Even if on the one hand we had to supervise the domain .CO we also had to participate in ICANN events. I don't know how that was done by the previous administration but I decided to personally attend ICANN events, so I had the opportunity to be there."
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## Cross-examination by Claimant, cont'd

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by Mr Baldwin, cont'd evening then without having to spend a lot of time
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MR GONZALEZ: Sorry counsel, but if you
the question I was answering at that point. I was $\quad \begin{gathered}\text { 09:40 }\end{gathered}$ replying to a particular question so I am trying to understand what was the question

MR BALDWN: Please, take as much time as you need to read back and understand it. (Pause)

MR CASTAÑO: Well, so prior to that question we were talking about paragraph 7 of my witness statement, and on that basis I was answering to the following question, and you have read the reply to that question. And we were discussing issues related to the reliance we had. We were relying on the information that was received from .CO Internet SAS, and that was in order to reply to your question, and to reply to it directly there was no prohibition.

However, we didn't have any other alternative information sources that could have allowed us to compare. For instance, let's say that .CO Internet did not mention that they were developing a marketing project with an investment of X amount of dollars, we could not know if the investment was of that amount or of a different amount. We were in good faith, and we relied on their good faith and on the fact that the information was correct. We didn't have another
source of information
In the same way, we assumed in good faith that the value for which the number of domains reported during the month of execution of the contract had been sold was the value effectively received by .CO Internet SAS and we received 7 per cent of the amount.

MR BALDWN: Okay. So is there anything -- can you point to me in the 2009 concession --

First, I will ask if you recall and then we can look at the concession directly, but you were responsible for a year for supervising this 2009 concession, so let me ask, do you believe there was something in the 2009 concession that prevented you from being able to look at documents or to audit what the information that .CO Internet was giving you?

MR CASTAÑO: Could we see the document, please?

MR BALDWIN: You can, but I'masking you because for a year you supervised it, and you have testified to it again today.

Let me ask you this. In preparation for your testimony yesterday, starting yesterday, did
you look in the last week or so at the 2009 concession?

MR GONZÁLEZ: Objection That calls for privileged communication. That is work product in terms of what documents we did or did not show him.

PRESIDENT: I would like to stop the interruptions. We are not in a court. We are in an arbitration. Let's just proceed, and I would also like to see if you can keep these questions directly as questions rather than as a discussion. Put the questions to the witness and let's see if we can move this a little bit faster.

MR GONZÁLEZ: Yes. And we will take your caution, Mr Chairman. Just only on privilege issues we must sort of insist.

MR BALDWIN: Have you seen the 2009 concession recently? In the last month?

MR CASTAÑO: Yes, sir.
MR BALDWN: And from your time, your year, supervising the contract, do you recall whether or not that concession gave you audit rights?

MR GONZÁLEZ: I am sorry, Mr Chairman, you just asked counsel to ask direct questions. The witness already asked to be shown the document. He
is trying to test his memory on a document that is $09: 46$
at issue in this case, the contract. He is entitled
to see it and he has asked for it. I have to
interrupt on that.
PRESIDENT: Do you have a memory on that
particular point?
MR CASTAÑ: Well, I think it is quite a
long document. There are annexes, so I would
rather see it. I don't remember everything by
memory, no.
MR BALDWIN: Okay. We will move this
along, Mr Castaño. It doesn't appear you know -- if
you could look at C-17 in your bundle?
PRESIDENT: Mr Baldwin, I amreluctant to
interrupt, but if there is something in that
document that is relevant and you wish to present
that and discuss how that was applied to the
witness, that is one issue. If there is something
in the document that you feel is relevant, it will
be handled in submissions to the Tribunal.
So let's try -- I am not quite sure where
you are going on memory. If it is specifically how
a particular issue was dealt with, let's have the
question which is clear which he can answer as best
he can or he will say he doesn't know the answer or
is trying to test his memory on a document that is 09:46
at issue in this case, the contract. He is entitled to see it and he has asked for it. I have to interrupt on that.

PRESIDENT: Do you have a memory on that
MR CASTAÑ: Well, I think it is quite a long document. There are annexes, so I would rather see it. I don't remember everything by

MR BALDWIN: Okay. We will move this along, Mr Castaño. It doesn't appear you know -- if

PRESIDENT: Mr Baldwin, I am reluctant to interrupt, but if there is something in that ment that is relevant and you wish to present and discuss how that was applied to the in in the document that you feel is relevant, it will

So let's try - I am not quite sure where you are going on memory. If it is specifically how a particular issue was dealt with, let's have the he can or he will say he doesn't know the answer or
he doesn't remember. Let's try and move it in that 09:47 direction.

MR BALDWIN: Okay. I just asked him to look at $\mathrm{C}-17$ in his bundle, please. It is tab No 1 in your bundle.

Mr Castaño, could you go to section9, please? That is the ninth section of this. Why don't you read section 9, please?

PRESIDENT: What page are you on?
MR BALDWN: It is the ninth - I don't have the PDF --

PRESIDENT: We are looking at the Spanish version and at the bottom of the page it has numbers. I am looking at 6 of 11

MR BALDWN: 3 of 11.
MR CASTAÑO: Ninth Registry on reports of the concessionaire. The concessionaire shall submit the report that the other party requires as well as the following reports. No 1. Monthly report concerning the progress of theplans defined in the proposal. Second, monthly report with the performance of the management indicators vis-à-vis the targets that were agreed. And, third, the monthly report on the transactionsthat are broken down as follows: A. New registries, transfers,
suspensions, cancellations and changes among other 09:50
B. Accredited registrars;
C. Other statistics that had been
suggested by the concessionaire orpreviously agreed with the other party.

Fourth. A monthly report on the proceeds.
Fifth. A monthly report of the
performance of the registrars.
No 6. Annual report with the management of all the period, including information on the reliability of the data contained in theWHOIS.

No 7. Periodic reports on the audits
realised and the final report that shall be
submitted 180 days before the end of the contract
with information that may be useful for the new selection process in order to administer the ccTLD.co.

MR BALDWN: Do you recall whether .CO Internet submitted those reports?

MR CASTAÑO: No 8. A final report that should be submitted 180 days -- well, in the time when I was working there, that one had not been submitted by the operator.CO Internet SAS in a satisfactory manner, and we were ready, or let's say we were waiting for that. Maybe some legal action
was to be initiated because that final report had 09:50 not been satisfactorily submitted.

MR BALDWIN: Did you initiate any legal action?

MR CASTAÑO: No. Because I quit that function on 26 August.

MR BALDWIN: Can we turn to the 16th section, which would be it starts on page 6 of 11, at the bottom of page 6 of 11 I don't need you to read it out loud but we can all read it. If you would like to take a moment, read that entire section 16th, please. (Pause)

Just let me know when you are done.
MR CASTAÑO: Yes.
MR BALDWN: So my question for you in light of that provision, when .CO Internet in the year you were supervising the contract, did you use this section, the 16 th section, did you use the 16th section to supervise the contract and request additional information to verify what .CO Internet was giving you?

MR CASTAÑO: Regarding that clause, this is linked to the physical infrastructure which is the basis of all the domain registry system, and what we did during that year, when I was the
director of industrial development, was that one of
281 the supervisors of the contract travelled physically to the premises, to the data centre of Neustar, in the US, so he went there physically and he did all the technical inspections that were required by the contract. That is the way we performed that role that is explained in section 16 , specifically with regard to inspections to the infrastructure that were necessary for the performance of the contract obligations in order to verify the premises, the facilities of Neustar in the US as well as some premises in Colombia.

MR BALDWN: If you could open up your witness statement, paragraph 13, and read that for a moment, please.

MR CASTAÑO: Which paragraph, please?
MR BALDWN: Paragraph 13 of your witness statement, please. (Pause)

You say: "During this session, we focused on analysing in greater detail the report which had been prepared bythe earlier administration regarding the administration of the .co domain and observed that while this report contained interesting insights, it was not sufficient for Colombia to assess the opportunity of either

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renewing the 2009 Contract or initiatinga new 09:58 tender process".

Then you say, and this is the part I want to focus on: 'In particular, regarding the .co domain operation model, we found that this report 'did not take into consideration the absence of a clear and specific public policy on this topic, different from the exclusive outsourcing for operation and administration'.'"

Then you say: "an issue that it was necessary to tackle in light of the evolutions of the domain name industry that I describe above".

Did you feel that that July 2018 report was deficient?

MR CASTAÑO: In which way?
MR BALDWN: In the way you describe here.
What did you find deficient about the July 2018
report, if you did find something deficient?
MR CASTAÑ: I think there are two questions in your question. The first one was if I considered that that was deficient, and the second question what was deficient in the report. Am I correct in my understanding?

MR BALDWN: Yes.
MR CASTAÑO: The July 2018 report in my
view was not a deficient report, and that is what 09:59 I always said when I was asked about that report. It was a preliminary report that had been prepared by the earlier administration concerning mainly the transition period. There was to be a new president, so that report introduces somescenarios that have to be considered by the new government, the new administration, but that report was not intended to either initiate a new selection process or to initiate a process of extension of the 2009 Contract. So I don't think it was a deficient report but the aim was not the same. The aim was information about the context, about the situation that was unfolding in the government, it was important for the Ministry's new team to take all that into account. That was important.

MR BALDWN: And it was your opinion that one of the things that needed to change was this exclusive outsourcing model, as you see in that paragraph 13 ?

MR CASTAÑO: Well, in December 2018 yes. The document of June 2018 is not binding and it is not a recommendation of a change of the model, of the exclusive outsourcing model, but in December, by December 2018, after some work, after some
months' work, and even some studies, some aralyses 10:01 of other issues, it was more and more clear that it was necessary for Colombia, as a sovereign country, it was necessary to have a national policy for the management of that resource, and that policy should have been a lot more proactive and more direct concerning state management of the resource. And that of course included the modification of that model of the exclusive outsourcing of the administration and management of the domain.

MR BALDWN: And turn to paragraph 15. We are getting close to the end, Mr Castaño, just to let you know, but turn to paragraph 15 for a moment of your witness statement.

MR CASTAÑO: Yes.
MR BALDWN: And it says here, and if you need to read the paragraph or paragraphs above, please do, but it says here:
"However, at this moment we still did not discard entirely the possibility of a renewal of the 2009 Contract."

What is "at this moment"? Which moment are you describing with that?

MR CASTAÑO: Well, that specific moment to which I am referring in paragraph 15 was the end of

2018, but that same situation remained until $10: 03$
mid-March, 18 March 2019 more specifically, which
was the moment when the decision was in fact taken
to move forward with a new bidding process in light
of studies, the analyses that we had received.
Moreover, during the advisory committee
session during which the decision was taken we also
looked at the advantages that a possible extension
might provide, but in paragraph 15 I am specifically
referring there to the month of December 2018 .
MR BALDWN: And was that - was "at this
moment" December 2018, was it after the advisory
board meeting in December 2018 , or before it, or at
the board meeting? You say it was December. I am
just trying to understand whether it was before or
after that meeting.
MR CASTAN: It was in December, but as
I mentioned before, the idea of continuing with an
extension in January/February 2019 was something we
were still looking at. We continued to look at both
options until such time as in March 2019, on 18 or
19 of March at that committee meeting, the decision
was finally made to move forward with the bidding
process.
MR BALDWIN: If I missed it, I apologise,
but just to ask this, the "at this moment" you 10:06 referred to in paragraph 15. You said it was December.

MR CASTAÑO: Yes. That is correct, December.

MR BALDWN: Was it in December before that advisory board meetingon December 18 or 10th or after?

MR CASTAÑO: Well, we could in actual fact say during and after the meeting of the advisory committee board.

MR BALDWN: Just one moment, please.
Mr President, could we just have 30
seconds?
PRESIDENT: Yes.
(Pause)
MR BALDWN: Could you turn to
paragraph 27 of your statement?
MR CASTAÑO: Yes, thank you. I have

## finished.

MR BALDWN: In there you refer to .CO's offer of an anticipated payment and you have used the word "we". You use the word "we" a lot in your statement. I want to understand whose responsibility was it to evaluate and decide on the
offer that .CO Internet, which you call the 287
$10: 08$ unilateral offer that .CO Internet made on 21 May 2019, who was to decide whether or not to accept that offer?

MR CASTAÑO: If you would just allow me, I just need to find the point in that paragraph where I say 'we" so that I can give you a proper response to the question. Where are you referring to exactly in that paragraph?

PRESIDENT: "We". Second last line.
MR CASTAÑO: The thing is I am reading the version in Spanish, so 1 am just trying to find the word in Spanish in the paragraph.

MR BALDWN: If you can just read the last sentence of that -- actually, let me just strike that question.

Let me just ask this. Who was responsible for evaluating this offer of 21 May 2019? Who was responsible for evaluating that offer?

MR CASTAÑO: The person who was responsible for evaluating the offer, and this is the May offer, if you allow me just one second, please. (Pause)

May 2019 we are referring to. So the persons responsible for evaluating the offer would
be those responsible for IT industry development as supervisors of the contract, which a request for an extension referred to, so that would be part of the legal department and the general secretariat's responsibility in terms of compliance with the legal requirements in place to make sure that everything was being done according to the Colombian rules and regulations and law.

MR BALDWN: I just want to understand, because this is a point I think that is important. Are you saying it is the General Secretariat's role to decide whether to accept or to evaluate the offer and then perhaps accept the offer?

MR CASTAÑO: From a legal point of view the Secretary General and the legal advisory agency of the Ministry has that responsibility. That is to say, from a legal standpoint that's their function.

MR BALDWN: What about from the business standpoint, or the standpoint of the government?

MR CASTAÑO: Well, in terms of compliance with the contract and from a technical perspective, that was the responsibility of the IT industry development department, which I led, and if we want to, as you have just mentioned, look at it froma business perspective, what we were trying to ensure

[^1]PRESIDENT: Well, we would have taken them

## $\underset{10: 13}{290}$

 had we not had a witness part heard, we would have taken all the questions raised by the parties, but I amvery happy to take Mr Baldwin's issue, it is one of those that you want to discuss as well, and if there are other issues that Respondent wishes to raise we will hear from you on those too.MR GOUIFFES: That is okay, Mr Chairman.
PRESIDENT: Very well. Mr Baldwin, please go ahead

MR BALDWN: Thank you. There was during the clarifications part of the thing yesterday and we are going to pull up the transcript from yesterday and put it on the screen, Mr Gouiffès over there said, page 201 at 4, again, this was during the clarifications part, he said: "We were told for the first time that this is a portfolio company of Golden Gate Capital and then at the beginning Kevin Hughes was presented here in this room as the former general counsel of Neustar who remains general counsel of Security Services LLC. It is unclear whether he is still general counsel of Neustar or just general counsel of Security Services LLC. On his Linkedln profile he appears as general counsel still of Neustar but it is unclear'.

So in response I stated also as a response 10:15 to that clarification, I said and I pointed counsel to exhibit C-135, which is an exhibit in the record, and I mentioned that it provides clarifications that he talked about including Golden Gate Capital.

Now I would like to put the email that we received last night from Respondent's counsel, and this was not copied to the Tribunal but it wasn't intended to be. There was nothing wrong with not copying it to the Tribunal, it wasn't intended, but we wanted to raise it today, and you see the response was --

MR GOUIFFÈS: Sorry, Mr Baldwin, to interrupt. Of course I sent this lawyer to lawyer before we have any discussions with the Tribunal. So I was not expecting we were having this conversation straight away before the Tribunal. But that is fine of course. But can we see the top of the email? Yes, it says the wrong time, it wasn't at 4 pm .

MR BALDWIN: It would have been 9.16 pm local time.

MR GOUIFFÈS: That is okay. And you can read it all, that is no problem, yes.

MR BALDWIN: And I said, I am not at all
saying that Respondent's counsel was wrong in not 10:16
sending it to the Tribunal, it was a communication to there, but because of what is listed in here I think it is important that we discuss it and --

PRESIDENT: I think, if I recall correctly, and if I am wrong you will no doubt tell me so, that what I said is you should try to work this out between you and then if there was a difficulty, come to the Tribunal

MR BALDWN: The issue is we had raised that clarification in response to their -- for Respondent's counsel saying this is the first time they had heard it, and he, you know, raised a number of issues here and said that he was going to bring this to the Tribunal's attention, so I think it was not us that are seeking to bring it -- we are bringing it to the Tribunal's attention because it was raised in a manner yesterday by Respondent's counsel.

We have given them the documents. The other documents are available and accessible, so Laurent here says that the five-page press release here is no way sufficient --

MR GOUIFFÈS: Can we read that email entirely because from the beginning, "Dear Teddy and
Chloe" and I suggest we read it once and then you $10: 17$
make your points and then we can discuss, but let's
read it at least. You can read it or I can read it,
if you want.
MR BALDWIN: "Dear Teddy and Chloe,
following on the hearing today and as per the
Chairman's indications, we have further reviewed
exhibit C-135."
"We can confirm that this 5-page press
release dated 1 December 2021 is in no way
sufficient to answer our doubts regarding
Security Services LLC's legitimacy as a claimant in
this arbitration, or its ability and willingness to
satisfy a potential adverse costs award. In
particular, we note that while this press release
states that 'Neustar Security Services, LLC[..]
has become the newest portfolio company of Golden
Gate Capital and GIC:

1. "It fails to provide any indication as
to whether 'Neustar Security Services, LC' is a
different company from 'Security Services LLC'."
2. It does not confirm that
Security Services LLC has any substantial business
operations or at the very least enough resources to
cover a substantial adverse costs award.

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$10: 17$ make your points and then we can discuss, but let's read it at least. You can read it or I can read it, if you want.

MR BALDWIN: "Dear Teddy and Chloe, following on the hearing today and as per the Chairman's indications, we have further reviewed exhibit C-135."
"We can confirm that this 5-page press release dated 1 December 2021 is in no way sufficient to answer our doubts regarding Security Services LLC's legitimacy as a claimant in this arbitration, or its ability and willingness to satisfy a potential adverse costs award. In par has becom become the newest portfolio company of Golden

1. "It fails to provide any indication as to whether 'Neustar Security Services, $L C$ ' is a 2. It does not confirm that operations or at the very least enough resources to cover a substantial adverse costs award.
2. It does not provide any specific $\quad 294$ information about the precise ownership structure of Security Services LLC, or its officers and directors.
3. There is not even any mention of Mr Kevin Hughes, and whether he remains General Counsel of Neustar in addition to being General Counsel of Security Services, LLC.
"Against this background, we urgently request that you provide clarifications tomorrow at the start of the hearing ..." which is what we are responding to his urgent request to do that, "and at the start of the hearing regardingSecurity Services LLC and its ability to cover any potential adverse cost award (including financial documentation), failing which we will have no option but to revert to the Tribunal with all appropriate applications."

So this is the reason we are bringing this up today at Respondent's counsel's request.

There are several things to say about this. There was an exchange of letters, in addition to the Rejoinder which has a section on this, because the Rejoinder came after this spin-out There was an exchange of letters back and forth. This is where this exhibit C-135 comes from, it was
part of those letters, but it wasn't the only part $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10:20 }\end{aligned}$ that was part of those letters.

C-135 obviously mention that is Golden Gate Capital, which we said before in pleadings and I think we even said it in our opening, is a US entity and is the ultimate beneficial owner of Neustar Security Services.

The previous ownership of Neustar Inc was also confirmed in exhibit C-136, which was the UPA, which is the document that showed the spin-out. That is exhibit $\mathrm{C}-136$. I will note that in the letter that we sent to the Tribunal on 29 July 2022, in response to a letter from Respondent's counsel, we stated that, because this was sent at 9 we don't have all these, but they are in the record of letters that were sent to the Tribunal. I will read this section. It says:
"On December 1, 2021, the owners of Claimant sold Neustar and the majority of its business assets previously held under the umbrella of Neustar, including the rights to the name Neustar, to TransUnion'.

It says: 'Under the terms of the spin out, the Claimant (now Security Services LLC, $d / b / a$ Neustar Security Services, a USlimited liability
company) retained and continues to retain therights $\underset{10: 21}{296}$ to this arbitration. For the avoidance of doubt, the Claimant remains under the same ownership as Neustar prior to the spin out."

This is because the entities that were the ultimate beneficial owners of Neustar Inc were Golden Gate Capital and GIC. They remain the same owners of Security Services, which is LLC, which is the name of the entity, but Neustar Security Services is their $d / b / a$, it is what they do business as, and that is reflected in the name of the proceeding.

And I mention this because this is from July 29, 2022, so this was now -- what was that-eight months ago, and this information was released Respondent's counsel got a copy of the UPA, so did the Tribunal, which sets out the terms and conditions of this. It is a corporate document. They have had that for months now too and again in our letter of 15 September 2022, in a letter to the Tribunal of 15 September 2022, we saict
"As noted by the Claimant in its letter of reply, Golden Gate Capital has been the consistent ultimate beneficial owner of every entity who has had the rights under the ICSID claim This is not
directly relevant,' because they are not a claimant, 10:23
but -- because they are not a claimant, I just
added. I will go back to just reading it:
'This is not directly relevant but meant to show that Respondent's bad faith arguments are misplaced. Golden Gate Capital is and has been a US entity. The claim could have been brought in Golden Gate Capital's name or another US entity in the chain of ownership'", and then it goes on in some other ways, but the one important part is, it says:
"This was not some sub rosa transaction designed to create jurisdiction, but was a USD 3.1 billion transaction that was reported by the Wall Street Journal, Forbes, Nasdaq among many others. The spin-out is, as Hogan Lovells has described, because we submitted their documents, an increasing trend in corporate transactions and this is nothing sinister'.

As part of that letter we submitted several citations which included Bloomberg 's reporting on it, Golden Gate Capital's website, the US Securities and Exchange filings that reported the transaction, TransUnion's reporting of the transaction and others.

So we have submitted substantial evidence

1 to explain this back in July, and then further in 10:24
September and October, including cites that give information about the business. Security Services LLC is a substantial business. It is a substantial security business that has a product called Ultra DNS, which is security for domains, and I believe they are continuing to work on domains even for the .co domain, Security Services to this date but they certainly work security for domains. This is a substantial company with about 250 employees. There is nothing hidden about it. The company has a website. It is a private company so the financials aren't public, but it iscertainly not some shell, some sinister, some other company, and we have relayed this.

In terms of Mr Hughes, I will say that one of the nice things -- oh, and I am reminded that they have more than 2,000 customers, and the customers aren't like people walking into a store but customers that buy domain operators, registry operators and others that need security for their business, so business customers, B2B-type stuff.

## So that is where we are.

In terms of Mr Hughes, there was a
discussion yesterday that I read in the transcript
about his Linkedln page, and it must be nice to be a 10:26 general counsel as opposed to a lawyer who is always trying to find business and has to spend a lot of time on LinkedIn, because the fact is Mr Hughes doesn't spend time on Linkedln, but he is here. You can certainly talk to him, obviously, and he just doesn't update his Linkedln page.

But better than a Linkedln page, the California bar, of which Mr Hughes is a member, maintains records as to the employment of its lawyers and had Respondent's counsel looked up that record, which is a record from the Bar Association of California, rather than Linkedln, he can see very clearly that, when the spin-out happened Mr Hughes left his role as the general counsel of Neustar Inc because of the spin-out and became, and still is, the general counsel of Security Services LLC d/b/a Neustar Security Services.

So all this information is out there. Information about the size of the company is out there, information about their business operations, and not only is it out there publicly, but we have produced it in this arbitration. We produced it in July and then in response to further inquiries in September and October, so this is not something new.

It wasn't learned for the first time yesterday, as had been claimed, and we just should not in the middle of preparation for this hearing be subject to demands of an incident from July because Respondent's counsel doesn't want to do the basic work to even look back on the pleadings that we have done, much less do the minimal due diligence to see anything about the company, which we have reported on and we reported on back in July, September and October.

So again, we are in another edition of the clarifications phase, Mr Hughes is here, he can answer questions if necessary, and if there is other questions that they have, but this is an issue that we should not have to be dealing with and we have said that, you know, we have to provide clarifications to mark the start of the hearing, so we have done that, but the clarifications, except for the Bar Association. I didn't realisethat they were going to bring up the Linkedln, the fact that Mr Hughes, his Linkedln shows his old job, but besides that, the rest of this has been in the record, it has been inthere. The UPA, which is the contractual document, shows the business that was being retained by Neustar Security Services, so this

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is all out there, and that is my clarification as 10:29 requested by Respondent's counsel.

MR GOUIFFÈS: Mr Chairman, we would say this clarification raises even further concerns as far as we are concerned, because I think this is pleadings. You got a reference to press release, Bloomberg, et cetera. That shows that there is no issue. You got a pleading that this is a substantial business. That is my colleague saying it here on record to this Tribunal, then clarifications also. I don't know on the exact position of Mr Hughes, who of course could have been a witness as he was from Day 1 in this arbitration behind the Request for Arbitration, he actually signed the letter of intent, so he was there from the beginning in this dispute.

I will say three things. The first is when we raised this issue yesterday we were shut down by saying oh, look at C-135, and this answers all your questions. What is $\mathrm{C}-135$ ? This is again a press release. It is a three-page document and I would be happy --

MR GONZÁLEZ: Can you put it up, please?
MR GOUIFFÈS: We would like to put that
document up and ask our colleagues, or maybe I will
carry on with my answers and then we will ask them $\begin{array}{r}30: 30\end{array}$ to show in this document where there are any points which clarify and satisfy our request from yesterday. So that is the first point. The first point is yesterday we raised concerns and we were told, you were told, Mr President too, you were told that 135 answers everything --

MR BALDWN: I am sorry. I need to have that pulled up. I amtalking about the transcript where you say I said it answers everything. Could we pull that up, please? Because you said it multiple times now.

MR GOUIFFES: I think the Tribunal will understand what I am saying.

PRESIDENT: I am not sure we are getting anywhere. We have an issue which is on the table. We indicated yesterday that this is a matter that should be sorted out, resolved by counsel, if necessary sit down with the documents. Then, if one counsel is not satisfied, come to the Tribunal and tell us why you are not satisfied and what you want us to do about it.

MR GOUIFFÈS: I was about to have three points, Mr Chairman. I made my first, which is to answer this and to say we are not satisfied. The

## Inc here. This is all the more given that we

 understand Security Services LLC and Neustar, and then this is the second document which has just been mentioned, have an agreement in place, which is the UPA, which is exhibit 136, which regards the claim. So three points, and this is my conclusion.The first is all that you have been told here is just hearsay, words and press release. That is it.

The second is we want a security for costs against Security Services LLC

And the third is we want an award against Neustar Inc and not just against Security Services LLC.

Now, we can have a look now at 136, or I can ask my colleague to point out where in this document it gives the clarifications of the points I have just raised or I raised yesterday already.

PRESIDENT: We can go ahead and bring the document up and you can show it to the Tribunal and we can take issues from there.

Your third point, if I understand, is you want an order for costs. That is the final thing that would be happening in an arbitration.

MR GOUIFFES: No, sorry --
first one is that What we have at the moment from 303 the other side is just allegations, a further news clipping and the substantial business is just in the words of Mr Baldwin. We are just asking to show the documents. That is my first point.

My second point, to say that this is just pleadings, no document. Because we have only informations and no pleadings we want two things.
We want the proof that Security Services LLC has an ability to cover a potential adverse costs award and the precise mechanism of the alleged transfer of an ICSID claim, and because we do not have that we are forced to request from this Tribunal an order against Security Services LLC to post security for costs.

My third and last point is in line with our submissions of yesterday. We note that an award of costs should be granted not only against Security Services LLC, but also against Neustar Inc. Neustar Inc is the party which initiated this arbitration. When you start an arbitration, if a tribunal were to dismiss that claim on jurisdiction or on the merits and award costs, it would do so and address the costs against the party which initiated the arbitration, that would be fine, it is Neustar

[^2]asking for with regards to the security for costs, $10: 35$
No 1. No 2, what we are asking, which frankly is not an application because I think the Tribunal already has the inherent authority and power to do so, is that in the final award which, correctly stated, is yet to be determined and yet to be decided in terms of the award of costs. But if and when, which we are confident you should, find costs in favour of Colombia, that that cost should be found against both entities.

This is not simply the case of a change of name. This is not one company that simply changed its name from Neustar to Security Services Inc. I think at least that part we have clear. So this Tribunal has the authority in the award to issue the award against both of these entities so we are not left chasing one or the other in terms of that.

PRESIDENT: Mr González, I understand that point and, if that is your submission, then I think that is something which we will have to hear from you from, and again we will have to hear from the other side to the extent that they accept that or they accept that they do not accept that. But that is further down the road.

MR GONZÁLEZ: I totally agree and -
PRESIDENT: You made it very clear $10: 36$
yesterday, I don't remember whether it was younho
did so, or Mr Gouiffès, but one of you made it very
clear that you were looking for costs from Neustar
as well. I understand that point
But at this stage, for today's purposes,
I am happy for you to take the Tribunal through
these documents that you feel that are relevant.
The alternative is to file an application, if that
is what you want to do, for security for costs, and
file that in the normal way, showing the authority
of the Tribunal, whatthe security for costs are,
what costs you say should be provided for, and then
we have a timetable for the Claimant to respond and
the Tribunal will look at it.
MR GONZALEZ: Yes. That is fine. And
again, we apologise if this got longer thanit had
to be. It was pre-empted by counsel raising the
issue first. Our intention simply was, as my
partner said earlier, we were going to raise this
issue, simply report that there has been no
satisfaction on this issue and that we will make the
proper applications at the proper time. So I think
that is exactly where we are at now on that issue.
So I think that concludes it.

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$10: 36$ yesterday, I don't remember whether it was youwho did so, or Mr Gouiffès, butone of you made it very as well. I understand that point

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MR GONZÁLEZ: Yes. That is fine. And again, we apologise if this got longer thanit had to be. It was pre-empted by counsel raising the issue first. Our intention simply was, as my partner said earlier, we were going to raise this ssue, simply report that there has been no proper applications at the proper time. Sol think So I think that concludes it.

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PRESIDENT: Is there anything else we need \(\begin{gathered}30: 38 \\ 308\end{gathered}\) to discuss while we are here --
MR GONZÁLEZ: On that issue.
PRESIDENT: On this particular issue, Mr Baldwin, anything you want to add?
MR BALDWN: We were instructed to provide clarifications at the beginning of the hearing. We sought to do that. There are plenty of documents to show the things that they requested. This was from July. They have even had a Rejoinder since that time --
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PRESIDENT: We heard that.
MR BALDWIN: -- where they put all this information in. Now they are seeking to raise it. Obviously if they want to make an application they should make it in writing, not at 9 pmtelling us to provide clarifications at the hearing the next morning. So that is our point. We don't want to be discussing this. We want to be doing the hearing like we should be.

PRESIDENT: I am going to make a suggestion to counsel. During the break later, if it is Respondent's intention to file an application for security for costs, could counsel discuss it between themselves how long Respondent will want
before they make their application, in writing $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10:39 } \\ & \text { obviously, and then how long Claimant will want to } \\ & \text { respond to that. Otherwise we can sit here and } \\ & \text { discuss how long, how long. This is a matter that } \\ & \text { should be worked out by experienced counsel and then } \\ & \text { you can tell us what you have agreed and make the } \\ & \text { application. }\end{aligned}$
MR GOUIFFÈS: Mr Chairman, on this point this is clear, so we will do that. What we had in mind, as I said before, was to discuss three points, administrative points with you, one of those was this one. Our intent was not to have too much discussions now because we have the witnesses still waiting. We just wanted to raise this point with you so that you have them in mind before lunch and then you can also make decisions. So, if I may, can I get to the two other points? They will be much shorter.

PRESIDENT: While we are talking about the points, let's go ahead.

MR GOUIFFÈS: The clarification of course was the clarification we asked and this was the biggest point. There was also a clarification asked to us on two slides out of the 85 slides we presented yesterday and we suggest we clarify that
later today after we have heard from the witnesses, $\begin{array}{r}310: 40\end{array}$
or tomorrow morning, or later, whenever it is convenient for the Tribunal. Of course if you want us to address it now we are ready, but we suggest it can be dealt with after the witnesses, maybe even later today.

The third point, perhaps I pass back the floor to my partner, Dan, is about just the rest of this procedure.

PRESIDENT: Let's deal with your second point, or is it your first point, I can't remember, the slides for clarification.

Unless you feel you need to deal with that now, I would suggest we deal with our witnesses.
Perhaps tomorrow morning? And we come to that in the presentations tomorrow morning. Is that agreeable?

MR GOUIFFES: Very good.
MR GONZÁLEZ: On the second point I think all we will need to do tomorrow morning or later today is just put on the record the clarification,
because I think we have the clear answer with regard to those slides.

On the third point, all it is actually is
a suggestion so we anticipate so we don't wait until
the end of the day, there has been talk amongst the $\begin{array}{r}311 \\ 10: 41\end{array}$ parties and the Tribunal about perhaps using tomorrow, either later todaywhen we finish with the witnesses or tomorrow morning, as some opportunity to have some sort of question and answer.

If the Tribunal is so inclined, for example, if you are formulating some questions as we are listening to the witnesses, would like to provide that to us before the end of the day, we could be therefore prepared to respond to them more efficiently tomorrow morning. So we wanted to raise that to see if that is the direction the Tribunalis going to go with the use of whatever remaining time we want to use.

PRESIDENT: If we decide to have questions, if we have specific questions, we will either flag them to you before we close today or later in the evening. We will come back to that towards the end of the day.

MR GONZÁLEZ: That is all we wanted to ask. Thank you very much

PRESIDENT: Anything else from Respondent's side?

MR GOUIFFÈS: Nothing, Mr President, no.
PRESIDENT: Mr Baldwin, anything from your

## side?

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MR BALDWN: No, Mr President.
PRESIDENT: Before we take our next witness - we have been going an hour and ten minutes -- would it be an appropriate time to take a break? I do want today, whoever has the floor, we should try and aim round about anhour and a halfto have a break for our court reporters and the translators.

So let's take 15 minutes now. By my clock it is just after 20 minutes to 11 and we will revert then, and our next witness will be --

MR GOUIFFÈS: Sylvia Constaín, the former Minister.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. We will adjourn for 15 minutes.
(Short break from 10.42 am to 10.59 am) SYLVIA CRISTINA CONSTAÍN
PRESIDENT: Welcome back. We didn't manage to quite do our 15 minutes' break, but we didn't go too much over that. Thank you very much.

We move now to the examination of
Ms Constaín. Welcome, Ms Constaín Thank you for coming to give evidence to us.

You were here yesterday morning at the
openings so you know who the Tribunal are and you $\begin{array}{r}311: 00\end{array}$
know who the counsel are on both sides?
MS CONSTAÍN: I do, Mr Chairman
PRESIDENT: You have in front of you a statement. Could you please read that into the record?

MS CONSTAÍN: Yes. I solemnly declare upon my honour and conscience that I shall speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth

PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. We have from you one witness statement. It is dated 23 February 2022. Can you confirm that everything in this statement is correct to the best of your knowledge and belief?

MS CONSTAÍN: I can confirm that, yes
PRESIDENT: Is there anything that you wish to change?

MS CONSTAÍN: There is nothing.
PRESIDENT: I am going to ask that you answer the questions that are put to you as accurately as possible. If there are any questions that you don't understand, ask for clarification. If you don't know the answers, just say so

MS CONSTAÍN: I will do that. Thank you, sir.

PRESIDENT: Thank you.

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\begin{gathered}
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## Examination by Respondent

## by Mr González

MR GONZÁLEZ: Good morning, Ms Constaín. Before we tender you over to cross, I would like the Tribunal to get a little bit of background from you. Can you tell us a little bit about yourself, a little bit about your academic and professional experiences before you became the Minister of Telecom?

MS CONSTAÍN: Absolutely. I am 54sol started-

MR GONZÁLEZ: For the recordI did not ask you your age. I know better than to ask you that question. That is always objectionable. If you will speak a little closer to the mic it probably would be better.

MS CONSTAÍN: I started working-- I am an economist by training, I got my MBA right after school, so after that l've worked basically for many, many years with the government. I worked in our mission to the World Trade Organisation in Geneva for four years. Then I workedin our Ministry of Trade Industry and Tourism where I led international negotiations. I then went to the US,
where I was deputy at our trade bureau and thenled $\begin{array}{r}311: 02\end{array}$ our relationships with congressional affairs, basically, in the US, and eventually became deputy chief of mission.

In those interims I worked a little bit with the UN, and then after I left that, let's say, time in government, I went to Harvard for a year where I was a fellow. I worked as a consultant with several international organisations on consultancy contract and then I went back to the UN for a while

I am now -- after that, I joined Apple and
I worked both at Apple and at Facebook. I then joined the campaign for President Duque when he was still a candidate, and I am now working at a payments technology company called Visa

MR GONZÁLEZ: Thank you, Ms Constaín, and in fact I will jump to today since that is where you left off. Today do you have any professional responsibilities or employment by Colombia?

MS CONSTAÍN: No, I do not.
MR GONZÁLEZ: And are you being paid in any way for your testimony and your time here today?

MS CONSTAÍN: No, I am not -- well, I mean they are paying my hotel and flight.

MR GONZÁLEZ: Thank you for that. Thank

Now let's go back to the beginning, and let's go back to August 2018 That is when you assumed your role as Minister for telecommunications. Is that correct?

MS CONSTAÍN: Yes.
MR GONZÁLEZ: Can you tell the Tribunal how you went about preparing for that new role and taking on that new role, and of course I know that role was a lot broader, I would like you to limit your question for today to as it related to the .co domain.

MS CONSTAÍN: I first learned about the .co domain in the transition period because I led part of the transition team from former President Santos to the new incoming president, which was President Duque, and then once I actually joined the Ministry I formed a team, a group, on this issue where I asked them to please take a look at the information that was in the Ministry and to present a brief to me about where we were, what our options were, and suggested next steps. So I got the information from the prior administration, we did our internal work, and then we created a plan for next steps.

[^3]MS CONSTAÍN: So the processes in general 319
in public procurement, but in the Ministry in particular, was I would say a very participative and collaborative process. What we would always do is we would start with a basic draft of what the conditions for a contract would be. We published them online. We received comments from anybody who had any interest in them We went back and reviewed every single comment and answered, either specifically or generally, like when one comment comes in 15 times then you don't have to answer 15 times, you kind of group them and say with regard to this issue this is our comment.

We take on a lot of those comments and some obviously we don't, but that is the way that you build a robust tender document, obviously always starting first on objective criteria and examples from others, and then making it kind of homegrown and reflecting your own market to make sure that you have the best, you know, basis for the tender that you can have.

All the information is public, all the questions, all the answers, all the drafts, it all goes on a website, and anybody, as I say, who wants to can participate in it.

MR GONZÁLEZ: You have explained generally
for the general public. I would like to focus now specifically on Neustar. What did you and your team do to ensure that Neustar was treated fairly and reasonably during the process, both as the former concessionaire of the 2009 concession and then as one of the potential tender offerees?

MS CONSTAÍN: What I would say is they are two different processes. The relationship with Neustar with regard to the operation of the contract that was in place remained, the technical conversations, the oversight conversations remained, but when it came to the tender process, Neustar was like any other participant. It did not have any additional rights that the others didn't have, nor any less rights than what the others had. This had to be a process where everybody who wanted to participate got to do so on a level playing field.

MR GONZÁ'EZ: Thank you. Can you explain to the Tribunal, and the Tribunal has heard a little bit about this advisory committee that existed the .co domain advisory committee. Can you explain why Neustar was excluded from that committee beginning 3 December 2018?

MS CONSTAÍN: Yes. When we came in, as

I shared, the advisory committee was really the $11: 11$
centre of knowledge, big or small, but the centre of
knowledge that we hadwithin the Ministry regarding
a country-code top-level domain. So instead of
creating a new committee for the review of the
possibility or the structuring of a tender, we
decided to build on that internal knowledge, and in
that what we did was we expanded the scope of the
issues that the Committee could look at. And when
it came to the specific scope that we created of
making a recommendation with regard to whether to
extend the current contract or to open a new bid,
basically that part of whether a new bid should be
opened was a newassignment to that committee.
So the Committee for that purpose did not
require the current contract operator, which was
Neustar, because that was a conversation that was
simply different. So as we expanded the breadth of
the objective of the committee for those purposes,
Neustar just simply -- it wasn't appropriate for
them to be in those conversations.
MR GONZÁLEZ: Thank you. I have no
further questions.
Pross-examination by the Claimant
by Mr Baldwin 322
MR BALDWN: Thank you, Mr President. Good morning, Ms Constaín.

Just to clarify, and I mean this as a clarification, you were talking about Neustar being involved in those meetings, and you said Neustar being the operator. You mean .CO Internet?

MS CONSTAÍN: Yes. .CO Internet. It is my understanding that Neustar is the owner, but if not, please let me know.

MR BALDWN: No. That is correct. I wanted to say because the record shows you saying Neustar was the operator, Neustar was in the meetings. It was .CO Internet, right?

MS CONSTAÍN: Yes, exactly.
MR BALDWN: Since we are on that subject, though, tell me, is your role as Minister, we are doing this just out of order just because of what was just discussed, but in your role as Minister, what did you understand - were you aware of Neustar? Do you remember when the first time you became aware of Neustar as opposed to .CO Internet, who was operating the concession and attending the advisory meetings prior to December 2018. Were you aware of Neustar, that Neustar owned .CO?

MS CONSTAÍN: What I would say is that
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I first became aware of the issue when I was provided the 2018 document. If you have the 2018 document, we can see if it says Neustar or .CO. If it does, then I would have become aware of it right there. If it doesn't, then I honestly don't remember when was the first time that I heard the word Neustar, or .CO for that matter.

MR BALDWI: Okay. So the answer is you are not aware when you first heard the name Neustar or became aware that Neustar owned .CO Internet?

MS CONSTAÍN: No. The answer is the first time that I became aware of the issue was when I saw the 2018 report, and if it is in the 2018 report,I did read the 2018 report, so that would have been the first time

MR BALDWN: That would have been the issue, but I am not asking about when you learned of the issue. You had that in your testimony. You discussed that I believe again today. I am asking when you first learned that Neustar was the owner of .CO, if you remember. If not --

MS CONSTAÍN: No. I can honestly say that I don't remember. I amguessing it was the day that I saw the report, but I don't know when was the

[^4][^5]this government relations aspect, this is
paragraph 3-I am certainly happy for you to read paragraph 3, this is your biography so 1 assume you know it very well -- from April 2002 to June 2004 you were the director of foreign investment and services at the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism

MS CONSTAíN: Yes. That is accurate MR BALDWN: Could you describe what your role there was, as the director of foreign investment? Can you explain what you were involved in?

MS CONSTAÍN: We were in charge of seeing the behaviour of foreign investment, is it going up, is it going down, what kinds of policies we should put into place to promote foreign investment, making recommendations as to those policies, talking to industry in the private sector - you know, with foreign investors. As its name conveys, it was in charge of public policy in the realm of foreign investment.

MR BALDWN: The TPA I don't think came about - you are familiar with the Trade Promotion Agreement between the US and Colombia?

MS CONSTAÍN: I amfamiliar, yes.

MS CONSTAÍN: I don't know the exact date, | $311: 24$ |
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| 30 | but if you look at my witness statement, paragraph 4, we can go back to that. I did form part of the transition team for three areas within the transition team, that was finance, telecommunications and what is called the Office of the President, so administrative Office of the President.

I don't know when I had my first meeting with each one of them, I did not know that I was going to be Minister at that point, so my role was very much collecting information and creatingbriefs for our incoming ministers in those three areas, and for the head of the department of the presidency. It was after the election and before taking office.

MR BALDWN: Yes. My question was very much limited to that. Do you recall if you were aware of the July 2018 report that we have discussed? Were you aware of that report prior to becoming Minister on August 7? Or was it only after you became Minister on 7 August that you learned of the July 2018 report?

MS CONSTAÍN: No. We would have had to have had it as part of the transition documentation.

MR BALDWN: Let's say before December,
because the advisory committee changes in December, $\begin{array}{r}331 \\ 11: 25\end{array}$ so I am asking from that time when you were working on the transition through Novemberlet's say 2018, do you recall what your views were as to whether or not there should have been a renewal of that 2009 concession with .CO Internet, or whether it should have gone out to tender? Did you have a view?

MS CONSTAÍN: I think as I said in the beginning we were very much in the information-gathering phase and in the understanding about the different elements of the. CO in particular, so I did not have any preconceived idea one way or the other.

I did have the recommendation that the July 18 document does have very specifically where it suggests that an open fresh bid would be the best alternative, but again I always go back to try to make sure that we have best practices, international best practices, and that is why we recruited the team both through the ITU and domestically for a recommendation.

MR BALDWN: I take that to mean in, let's say, when you took office on 7 August 2018, you had not made a decision as to whether or not the contract should be renewed or a new tender should be

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started?
    MS CONSTAÍN: I had not
    MR BALDWN: Do you recall when you did
decide, when you did decide that it should be a new
tender as opposed to a renewal of the 2009 Contract?
    MS CONSTAÍN: Well, the official decision
was made on the date that I actually signed the
measure, but this, as I guess most decision-making
processes are exactly that, it is a process where
you find information, you have recommendations, you
bring in experts, you create a core team, and so
I would say that it was a process. The official
date upon which that decision was executed, I would
call it that, was the day that we signed the initial resolution.
MR BALDWN: Right. And that was your decision, I think you testified. As Minister, you were the one that decided whether it should be a new tender or extending of the concession Is that correct?
MS CONSTAÍN: Yes. That is what the Colombian law foresees, and that is exactly what happened
MR BALDWN: And of course on the date that it is signed, you know, that is when the
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decision is officially made, but my question is do you recall what the time period was before the official decision was made, that you had decided as the decision-maker that it was going to be a new tender instead of an extension of the concession?

MS CONSTAÍN: I don't recall the exact moment or second. As I said, it was a process. The evidence grew as we did more research as to the convenience of having a new transparent, open public tender, but I honestly don't know if it was Tuesday at 7 am or Friday at 9 pm . I don't know. As I said, it was a process, and we continued to look at the evidence. We continued to look at the recommendations from experts and, as I said, I don't really know the exact moment or second. I don't know.

MR BALDWN: I am not trying to ask you the exact moment, that would be impossible, but I am more asking generally. Let me ask this. There was an advisory committee meeting on 10 December 2018. You are aware? Do you recall there being one?

MS CONSTAÍN: Do you have the minutes? I am not part of the advisory committee, so if you have the minutes, then maybe we can look at them.

MR BALDWN: Well, let me ask it this. Do

1 you recall that if by 10 December 2018 you had made $\begin{array}{r}334 \\ 11: 30\end{array}$
a decision as to whether or not the contract would
be renewed or it would go out to tender? Did you know that on December 10, 2018?

MS CONSTAÍN: Again, the decision to go to tender was made at the moment where legally I signed the document going to tender. Before that it is a process.

MR BALDWN: So up until the day before you signed that, stating that it would go to tender, you still were considering whether or not the concession could be renewed or whether it should go to tender?

MS CONSTAÍN: That is not what I said. What I said was that the decision is formalised into law, and I guess maybe it would be important for us to go back to what a public servant or civil servant is. We are very much -- we live within the confines of very strict laws, very strict legal frameworks -so the decision, any decision is made through a judicial decision process document, which in this case was that one. But, as I said before, I do not know January, February, September, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 3 pm, 5 pm. I don't know what moment it was where that decision was made other than the day

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that I signed. That was the day that you don't go $\begin{array}{r}33 \mathbf{1 1}^{3}: 32\end{array}$ back.

MR BALDWIN: Mr González asked a few questions that I wanted to ask, so you have already answered them, but I just want to go over them a little bit, and one of those questions was what was the process of reaching the decision? So can you just again, so we can have it fresh, can you tell me what information - you said you like information with the economics background, you like data- what data and information you used to make this decision to have a new tender instead of renew the concession?

MS CONSTAÍN: I don't know, maybe the court reporter could read us what I already answered. It is exactly the same but I am happy to re-state it. When we came into the administration we had the 2018 report, the July 2018 report. As my witness statement states, having reviewed the 2018 report, I realised that we would benefit greatly from more information and more expert advice on this issue.

We created a team internally and we then sought out the International Telecommunications Union technical advice. They provided a number of
experts and they worked with our internal team and with additional external domestic consultants that we had. So through the process of this multidisciplinary international and domestic team they started to consolidate information to create recommendations and to bring options and say this is the reason why we are recommending what we are recommending.

As I said, it is a process, and there was a lot of human hours behind this to be able to reach the conclusion that we reached.

MR BALDWN: So the answer that you gave now, and we can look back, if you like, to the answer you gave Mr González, I am not trying to compare and see if it is different, that is not the purpose of this, it is to be clear, but is that the complete process?

You say it is a process and you describe some things that happen. I amjust trying to understand whether that was the entire part of the process, meaning that you engaged the ITU, you engaged the experts, you had your advisory committee. Was that the list of what you did or what you considered when making that decision? I am just trying to understandeverything you considered.

MS CONSTAÍN: Could you maybe rephrase it? | $311: 35$ |
| :--- | MR BALDWN: Okay. I would like to know, you said you made the decision to have the tender instead of renew the contract. I would just like for you to tell us all the sources of information you used to make that decision. That is the question.

MS CONSTAÍN: So the sources of information -- the main source of information was this multidisciplinary team. The sources that the team used in all of their research I don't have all that information. I can tell you that the task of a task force like this one is precisely to collect information, expert opinions, expert suggestions, you know, and then bring it all together.

As Minister you have many different things on your plate, so you can't do the deep dives that you would do in other positions, so you rely very much on technical expertise and the recommendations of the teams or working groups that you create

MR BALDWN: Do you remember -- I amnot asking you for the names, it would be hard for you to remember all the names -- but do you remember the roles that the people on this task force - I assume the task force, you mean the advisory committee you

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created? Or is that different?
MS CONSTAÍN: No. The advisory committee was, let's say, one of the sources, but if you look, the ITU for example is not in the advisory committee. The ITU is an external consultant. So we had several external consultants that worked together to bring information, to bring data, to bring recommendations, to bring international good practices so that we would be aware of what international good practices were in this area, and that internal let's say body of expertise worked together.
MR BALDWN: Was .CO Internet or Neustar involved in that task force at all?
MS CONSTAÍN: No. The task force was created specifically to bring a recommendation with regard to whether a tender process or an extension would be the most optimal choice for the Colombian people and government. .CO Internet was the administrator of our domain name, and so in that role we remained our communication with them with regard to the contract, of course, but not with regard to the decision whether or not to extend the contract, because I would also think there would be an inherent conflict of interest there.
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MR BALDWIN: Did the task force issue a
collective report, or did the members of the task
force each give you individual reports on their areas of expertise?

MS CONSTAÍN: The ITU report greatly integrates the conclusions of the multidisciplinary task force.

MR BALDWN: And the multidisciplinary task force had technical people on it, right, that understood it? It had economic -- did it have economic groups on it?

MS CONSTAÍN: it had people who had expertise on the legal front, people who had expertise on the economic front, it had people who had international expertise. We had one of the ITU advisers was from Argentina, I remember the ITU brought someone in from Australia -- we would have to go back and look - I apologise, I don't know the names of everyone that was there, but we can definitely get you a list of the people that participated in this process.

MR BALDWIN: But just to be clear there wasn't a collective report from the task force, from the various members that was given to you as a collective report? Like the ITU report you said
collected information from others on the task force, $\begin{array}{r}311: 40\end{array}$
but there wasn't a collective report. Is that right?

MS CONSTAÍN: What I would say is I had the expert advice from the different members of these task forces. The ITU report was a very important reference for us and for me in making the decision, of course, and the teams worked in a co-operative and collective manner. So the ITU worked with our teams, both internal and external, and they reached the conclusions that they reached and the recommendations that they reached, which of course all were helpful to me in making the decision.

MR BALDWN: I amgoing to ask you about the legal part of the task force, but to avoid Mr González making a speaking objection, I will tell you that I don't want you to tell me the advicethat they gave you or any of that, but my question about the legal side of the task force is were the legal people involved as part of this task force, did they advise on Colombian law, regulatory law? What type of law did they advise on? What type of law were they looking at?

MS CONSTAÍN: The legal framework that

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rules Colombia.
MR BALDWN: Thank you.
You said that .CO didn't have any involvement with this task force. Does that mean that there weren't any operational or engineering things discussed with regard to the operation of the domain? The domain was being operated at that time by .CO Internet, so was there no input about the current operation of the domain, the .co domain in the taskforce?
MS CONSTAÍN: Let me try to make sure that what you are asking me is whatl amgoing to answer, because it is not clear to me what the question is.
Did the task force look at operational aspects of the top-level domain including ours? I would say the answer is yes, they did.
MR BALDWN: Did they look at the specific operation of the .co domain as opposed to just looking at all the country-code top-level domains? Did they look at the operation of .CO specifically?
MS CONSTAÍN: I wasn't there. You would have to ask them
MR BALDWN: They are not here either, but we will move on.
Now this task force, you said that is not
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the advisory committee, just to reiterate that. The 11:43 task is not the advisory committee

MS CONSTAÍN: When you are in these positions, you have let's say several sources of expert advice. So the advisory committee is one, but for example the ITU again does not sit on the advisory committee.

MR BALDWN: So can you tell me what the difference then is between the advisory committee and the task force? What different roles they served in your decision-making process?

MS CONSTAÍN: Yes. The advisory committee is a technical team created within the Ministry that has a structure as such. I had advisers in several areas, not just in domain, that were just that, were advisers. They would provide information, create documents, and submit, which is very different from the role of a structured office within a Ministry.

MR BALDWN: I would like to understand, you said it was your decision, you signed it on whatever date it was, I don't have it in front of me, I will pull it up, but when you signed the order, the decree or resolution, stating that there would be a new tender, which would have foreclosed the renewal, did you receive a recommendation from
either any individual members of the task force or $\begin{array}{r}311: 45\end{array}$
the collective task force to recommend, did they
recommend that it would be a tender instead of a renewal of the contract?

MS CONSTAÍN: The 2018 report was the first time that we got the recommendation to open an international open tender. I would have to look If you have the ITU report, we could maybe look at it.

MR BALDWIN: Let's put the ITU report aside. We have that in the record. You are right, it says what it says. I amtrying to get
information that we don't have, and that is why the ITU report, you correctly point out, says what it says, so we will exclude that. Outside of the ITU report, did either the task force or the advisory committee give you a recommendation regarding whether to do a tender or a renewal of the concession?

MS CONSTAÍN: I believe that within your records you have the recommendation of the committee. If you would like to take them out, we could read them together.

MR BALDWN: Which, the advisory committee?

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MS CONSTAÍN: Yes.
MR BALDWN: And that was from what time period, do you know?
MS CONSTAÍN: I do not, but if you have them, it might have a date on there.
MR BALDWN: We might come back to that. We are going to move on here for just a moment.
Could you go to paragraph 13 of your witness statement, please? 13 and 14 , so maybe it is better if you read both paragraphs.
MS CONSTAÍN: On 13:
"Specifically, the MinTIC internal team and external advisers started to engage with the ITU experts from early 2019, and carried out extensive research and discussions regarding the future of the .co domain and the recommended process for the conclusion of a new contract."
14. "Quickly, it became apparent that it could be far more beneficial to Colombia to launch a new tender process and adopt new conditions for the administration and operation of the .co domain. This was because the preliminary market studies my team carried out showed that compared to similar ccTLDs the share of proceeds received by Colombia was extremely low, and the average concession length
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[^6]MS CONSTAÍN: Yes.
MR BALDWIN: It is this word "quickly" I am interested in. You say 'Quickly, it became apparent that it could be far more beneficial to Colombia to launch a newtender process". Do you remember how quick "quickly" was?

MS CONSTAÍN: No.
MR BALDWN: Mr Chairman, could we have a few seconds, please?

MS CONSTAÍN: Mr Chairman, would it be okay for me to get a cup of tea or water?

PRESIDENT: We will take a 5-minute break for anybody who wishes to get a cup of tea orcup of coffee.

Ms Constaín, you are in the middle of giving evidence in this case. Please don't talk to anybody about this case while you are out getting a cup of tea.
(Short break from 11.51 am to 11.55 am )
PRESIDENT: Go ahead.
MR BALDWN: Thank you, Mr President.
Ms Constaín, we talked about a -- in your bundle you have an exhibit, it is marked by exhibits, it is exhibit C-39, so if you could just pull that up,
please. ${ }_{11: 55}^{347}$
PROFESSOR DERAINS: Which tab? MR BALDWN: The Cs are the first tab, so

## C-39 -- it goes by numbers.

MS CONSTAÍN: I don't have a C-39.
MR BALDWIN: So we will skip looking at
C-39, I don't have it either.
You testified before our quick coffee
break that you received a recommendation from the
advisory committee as to whether or not to do the tender or to renew the contract, correct?

MS CONSTAÍN: Yes, that is accurate
MR BALDWN: When you received that recommendation from the advisory committee, what steps did you take to determine whether to accept that recommendation or to reject that recommendation?

MS CONSTAÍN: Let's take a step back and let's - I want to share what a decisionmaking process looks like. In these types of very complex contracts and decisions, of which I had to take several, not just this one, you get a series of recommendations. There is normally not a sole source of truth, if you want to call it that way, and part of the due diligence that one does is
precisely to bring in different voices to contribute $\begin{array}{ll} & 311: 57\end{array}$ to a decision-making process. So you don't necessarily, like there is no process that says I adopt or I reject a recommendation. They are just that, they are recommendations that provide you with context and you as the decision-maker take all the different elements that are given provided to you, and that is howa decision is made.

MR BALDWN: So my question, then, after that explanation would be when you received the recommendation from the advisory committee to go to tender, did you take any steps after receiving that recommendation before adopting the recommendation to do a new tender for a new concession?

MS CONSTAÍN: Again, the decision to go to a new tender was executed on the day that I signed the decision

MR BALDWN: Did you do anything after the recommendation? Do you recall doing anything - and I am asking specifically in this case, not as a general matter. In this particular case, after you received the recommendation from the advisory committee to launch a new tender, did you take steps to determine whether that recommendation was appropriate before signing the official resolution
to launch the new tender and to adopt the recommendation?

MS CONSTAÍN: Again, maybe I'm not expressing myself correctly, one does not adopt one recommendation or not. There is no legal proceeding in Colombia that says I have adopted or I have rejected; it is a series of -- you basically express the decision of the decision-maker in the legal document. So I received a series of recommendations, all of which came from expert opinions, both domestic and international, and it is the sum of the recommendations that in this case happened to have been mostly in the same -- all I guess -- in the same direction. It is the sum of the recommendations that I used to make the decision to open a new tender.

MR BALDWN: And you said International, some domestic, some international. International, you mean the ITU?

MS CONSTAÍN: The International Telecommunications Union, yes. It is the international body that has supported many other governments, including the government of Colombia, in the designation for country-code top-level domain.

MR BALDWN: Mr President, we have no more $\begin{aligned} 32: 01\end{aligned}$ questions for Ms Constaín.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Mr González?
MR GONZÁLEZ: We have no re-direct, Mr Chairman.

PRESIDENT: Ms Constaín, thank you very much for coming to give evidence to us. That is the end of your examination and we appreciate your having come this far and also for your report.

MS CONSTAÍN: Thank you, Mr Chairman, members of the Tribunal, and counsel on both sides. It has been a pleasure to meet youall, and if you have any questions, feel free to reach out.

PRESIDENT: Don't offer that!
MS CONSTAÍN: Thank youvery much.
PRESIDENT: Shall we proceed to our next witness or do you want to take a break now? It is a bit earlier than we had planned.

MR BALDWN: I think being noon we could probably take a break. We were obviously going to
finish this witness before the end of the day so I would prefer to take the lunch break now. It is noon, so ...

MR GOUIFFÈS: That is fine with us
PRESIDENT: By my watch it is 2 minutes
after. Let's meet again at 1 o'clock.
(Luncheon adjournment from 12.02 pmto 1.13 pm )
PRESIDENT: Very good. We will proceed.
LUISA FERNANDA TRUIUOBERNAL
(with the assistance of the Interpreters)
PRESIDENT: Good afternoon. Is it

## Ms Trujillo Bernal?

MS TRUJILLO: Yes.
PRESIDENT: Mr Trujillo, you were hereat the first session yesterday, so you know who we are as the Tribunal and you know the lawyers in the room. You have in front of you a piece of paper with a statement. Could you read that into the record, please?

MS TRUJILLO: Yes, sir. I solemnly declare upon my honour and conscience that I shall speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. We have one statement from you and it is dated 23 February. Can you confirm that everything you say in the statement is correct to the best of your knowledge and belief?

MS TRUJILLO: The content is correct.
However, I would like to say that in paragraph 11,
due to a typo, the year is not 2018 but rather 2019. 13:14
There is a typographic error. It was the
18 March 2019 when the meeting took place, and I went on maternity leave on 8 March 2019 but the rest of the content of the text is correct.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. No other changes you want to make?

MS TRUJILLO: No further corrections Thank you.

MS ORDOÑEZ: Thank you, Mr Chairman. I will do the direct examination in Spanish. Examination by the Respondent by Ms Ordoñez

MS ORDOÑEZ: Good afternoon, Ms Trujillo. Before the other side begins the cross-examination, would you be kind enough to describe to us your background, your experience, inparticular what is relevant with respect to the .co domain?

MS TRUJILLO: Of course. I have a degree from the University of Medellin, I left in 2006 and then I began to practise law. Then I did a Master's at the University of Los Andes in public law and I specialised in public administration. I have also worked for a number of companies until 2011 when I started to work for the Colombian government as an
adviser to general secretaries. From 2017 I am the 13:16
Secretary-General, or have been Secretary-General for a number of entities, such as the
Superintendency of Companies, the MinTlC, and currently I am the General Secretary for the institute responsible for evaluation of education in Colombia.

And as Secretary-General I have led a number of bidding processes, I would say some 400. I have also managed technological assets, human resources, for the different entities for whom I have worked.

MS ORDOÑEZ: Thank you. As Secretary-General of MinTIC you explain in your witness statement that you supervised the bidding process that involved the .co domain. Can you explain to us why MinTIC launched that process?

MS TRUJILLO: Yes, of course. As the Secretary-General of the Ministry, it was my responsibility to lead all of the contractual processes pre, during and post contract, and then specifically in 2018 I joined the MinTIC. I did so accompanying Minister Constaín andl became aware that the domain contract would expire in 2020 and it was then necessary to examine what the best

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of the contract. If you were to do that it could $\begin{aligned} & 13: 19\end{aligned}$ lead to disciplinary measures being taken. In this case it would be me that would have to undergo disciplinary processes.

So when we found ourselves faced with the possibility of an extension to the contract, we had to consider the very high legal risk. We could not impact upon the principle of planning because it would mean changing the financial conditions, and also in the handover documents from one administration to another it was made clear that that was something that we couldn't do, and we couldn't change the bases of the original contract

Also, this necessarily affected the
principle of free competition because it would not have granted other interested entities the possibility to take part in the bidding process, as well as the principle of planning because we would have modified the conditions under which the 2009 Contract had been concluded.

MS ORDOÑEZ: So during the bidding process - (speaker overlap) ...

THE INTERPRETER: I am sorry, that was a conversation off mic.

MR BALDWIN: She is going to ask the
question again.

PRESIDENT: You have a couple more minutes, so ...

MS ORDOÑEZ: It is the last one.
So, given that you supervised the bidding process, could you please tell us about the process, how it unfolded, and what treatment was given to Neustar/.CO Internet?

MS TRUJILLO: Well, the bidding process was open, transparent, it was a public process. Both the bidders, Neustar, .CO Internet, all of the interested parties had the opportunity to review all of the documents and they presented a number of observations, many of which were taken into account and incorporated into the final documents, so I believe that the treatment was equal, respectful, and we in fact followed a number of their recommendations and observations, and that can be seen in the final bidding document. In the tender document.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Just before you start, Mr Baldwin, if I may, just for clarification, something that you said, Ms Trujillo, you said "both of the bidders, Neustar, .CO Internet, all of the interested parties had the opportunity to review the

$\square$
documents". You said "both of the bidders, Neustar, 13:22
.CO Internet". Were they both bidders?
MS TRUJILLO: No. They presented a joint proposal.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. And the other thing -- I might have misunderstood this - you said at one stage that you were the General Secretary of institutions responsible for education, but in your witness statement you say that since January 2022 you have been working as an adviser to the secretary of government in Bogotá. What did you mean by Secretary-General of education? Was that a role that you played?

MS TRUJILLO: Mr President, when I submitted my statement in February of 2022, at that time I was an adviser to the secretary of the government of Bogotá and now since September 2022 I am the General Secretary for the Colombian institute that evaluates education

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Mr Baldwin, please proceed.

## Cross-examination by the Claimant

by Mr Baldwin
MR BALDWN: Thank you. Good afternoon,
Ms Trujillo. I just want to ask, were you paid
anything to prepare your statement or to be here? $\begin{array}{r}358 \\ \hline 138\end{array}$
Were you paid money to prepare your statement or be here?

MS TRUJILLO: No.
MR BALDWN: Now, you started with the Ministry in your role as General Secretary in September 2018, correct?

MS TRUJILLO: Yes.
MR BALDWIN: And you ended your role in May 2020, correct?

MS TRUJILLO: Yes. Correct.
MR BALDWN: Then why did you make the change from working at the superintendents of companies to going to MinTIC in September of 2018?

MS TRUJILLO: Well, at that time there was a change of government, and I knew Minister Constaín and she invited me to work with her at the MinTIC, which I was very honoured to do.

MR BALDWIN: And just to be clear, you briefly mentioned your maternity leave, but it was from March 2019, correct, until -- you tell me when it startedand ended. Let's do it that way

MS TRUJILLO: Between 8 March 2019 to 26 July 2019.

MR BALDWN: So congratulations, by the
way. My youngest was born in July of 2019, so $\begin{aligned} & 33: 26\end{aligned}$
I know you still have a lot of things going on!
So you, as you note in your witness statement, you weren't there when the decision was formalised to do the tender, correct?

MS TRUJILLO: Yes. That is correct.
MR BALDWN: And you note that you also weren't there when the decision was taken to hire Durán y Osorio, the law firm?

MS TRUJILLO: No, I wasn't at the Ministry at that time. You are right.

MR BALDWN: Do you know who selected Durány Osorio?

MS TRUJILLO: Yes. I know that during my maternity leave one of my deputies was tasked with being Acting Secretary-General. What I was told when I came back is that a number of law firms were considered, big law firms in Colombia, who met the requirements and who had no conflict of interest in the process, more importantly, and on that basis they decided to hire Durán \& Osorio.

MR BALDWIN: Who is "they"? That is what I am wondering, who actually makes the selection of the law firm in that case? Who actually decided
Durán y Osorio?

MS TRUJILLO: As I said, I wasn't there at | 13:28 |
| :--- |
| the time. The person who signed the contract was |
| the Acting General Secretary at that time. |
| MR BALDWN: So when you were on maternity |
| leave you were the General Secretary, so there was |
| an interim General Secretary while you were gone? |
| MS TRUJILLO: There was someone in charge, |
| yes. MR BALDWIN: And that person took the |
| title of General Secretary while you were on |
| maternity leave? | .

MS TRUJILLO: That person took over the function, so they were acting as Secretary-General during that period

MR BALDWN: Understood. And tell me, just generally speaking, how would a law firm be hired by the General Secretary to do a task? What is the process? Do you reach out to law firms? Is there a publication made stating that work needs to be done? How is the process of hiring the law firm done?

MS TRUJILLO: So in order to engage legal advisers, specialised legal advisers according to the public procurement law in Colombia, it goes this way. You have to make a call for proposals setting

out the specific requirements. There is a request | $13: 29$ |
| :--- |
| for a financial proposal, a set of requirements are |
| set out, the needs and the obligations that have to |
| be met are all set out so they can be considered, |
| and then there is an objective process through which |
| the best candidate that-- the Secretary-General |
| decides who is the best candidate and then the |
| contract is entered into on the basis of the |
| requirements and the proposals that are made |
| MR BALDWN: Okay. |
| You mentioned -- you have a legal |
| background, correct? |
| MS TRUJLLO: Yes. |
| MR BALDWIN: What areas do you have legal |
| expertise in? |
| MS TRUJILLO: Well, as I said, my |
| experience since 2O11 was mainly in the public |
| sector, in different entities of the public sector. |
| I have been in charge of different processes of |
| legal tendering, public procurement, advisory |
| services, and since I took office as |
| Secretary-General it is not only the public |
| procurement but also financial processes, |
| administrative processes, and so on. And human |
| talent also. | or a financial proposal, a set of requirements are set out, the needs and the obligations that have to and then there is an objective process through which the best candidate that-- the Secretary-General decides who is the best candidate and then the contract is entered into on the basis of the

MR BALDWN: Okay.
You mentioned -- you have a legal

MS TRUJILLO: Yes.
MR BALDWN: What areas do you have legal expertise in?

MS TRUJILLO: Well, as I said, my experience since 2011 was mainly in the public sector, in different entities of the public sector.
have been in charge of different processes of legal tendering, public procurement, advisory services, and since I took office as secretary-General it is not only the public administrative processes, and so on. And human talent also.

MR BALDWN: Would it be fair to say that $\begin{gathered}3631\end{gathered}$
your main legal background is in public law?
MS TRUJILLO: Yes. That is correct.
MR BALDWN: Do you have a background at all in international law?

MS TRUJILLO: No.
MR BALDWN: Going back to your starting in September of 2018 at the Ministry, what was your prior relationship with the Minister?

MS TRUJILLO: You mean prior to September 2018? None

MR BALDWN: But you said she asked -- you said that Ms Constaín asked for you to come and work for the Ministry. So how did you know her prior to that? I didn't mean relationship in a formal way, but how were you aware? How did she know to pick up the phone and ask you to come over?

MS TRUJILLO: Well, I had met her during a job interview because my name had been recommended, and my resumé had been recommended through the entity where I worked prior to that. Then we met a little bit better while we were working together of course in the Ministry.

MR BALDWIN: Let me ask this. Is it common for the General Secretary of a ministry to

change when a new presidential administration | $3633^{36}$ |
| :--- | changes?

MS TRUJILLO: Yes, of course.
MR BALDWIN: So would that be, in the United States we would call those positions appointed positions instead of career positions. So the General Secretary is an appointed-type position in the government?

MS TRUJILLO: In Colombia it is called differently. It is a free appointment, a free appointment andremoval.

MR BALDWN: And what about directors, people that hold the title of director at the Ministry. Are those people that typically stay with the ministries, even when the presidential administration changes? Or are those jobs given to people that come in and are changed when the presidential administration changes?

MS TRUJILLO: Well, not necessarily. That is a decision of the new minister. He or she can keep the same people, the same staff. That is a minister's powers depending on the expertise and experience that is needed.

MR BALDWN: You mentioned you have some
background in human resource law, so just a question
for my understanding. Are there rules in Colombia 13:35
that prevent a person from being fired or terminated? Does a worker have protections? In other words, are directors in any way protected as employees from being fired without a reason? Or do they serve purely at the pleasure of the minister?

MS TRUJILLO: In Colombia, there are three forms of employment in public entities. The first is the free appointmentand removal, as I said. Those are offices at the level of director, vice minister, and some other jobs where a person can be freely designed and freely fired. So the protection there, well, we have two motives there, two reasons for protection. For instance, for women, maternity there is a protection there, and also it can be some kind of protection for other reasons, but normally those offices, the people can be appointed and removed freely.

Then you have the career jobs, so there there is the career protection, there is no change, and then you have the provisional appointment that is before the exams, before the public office exams.

MR BALDWN: switching topics here, were you part of the advisory committee at MinTIC?

MS TRUJILLO: Of the advisory committee?
Of the domain?
MR BALDWN: Yes.
MS TRUJILLO: Yes, I was part of it. When
we started there were two specific needs. One was
to find experts, expertise in order to help us to
take the best decision. And the second one was to
create an advisory committee, an advisory committee
that would be able to review and examine and take a
decision about the new operation of the domain, or
general operation of the domain, general.
In 2O18 we decided to modify the
composition of that committee. I was part of that
committee, the Vice Minister was also part of it,
the director who was in charge of the process. The
senior legal officer and economic officer also, and
the General Secretary. We were part of that
advisory committee.
MR BALDWN: You said here -- let me get
you the exact language - you said here in 2018 --
this is what you just said-- 'In 2018 we decided to
modify the composition of that committee'. Who is
"we"?
MS TRUJILLO: We decided. So the "we",
well, we were the persons who were in charge of the
main process, so I was the Secretary-General and

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MR BALDWN: Yes.
MS TRUJILLO: Yes, I was part of it. When we started there were two specific needs. One was to find experts, expertise in order to help us to take the best decision. And the second one was to create an advisory committee, an advisory committee ter would be able revewand ision about the new operation of the domain, or

In 2018 we decided to modify the composition of that committee. I was part of that committee, the Vice Minister was also part of it, the director who was in charge of the process. The enior legal officer and economic officer also, and General Secretary. We were part of that

MR BALDWN: You said here -- let me get you the exact language - you said here in 2018 -this is what you just said - " $\ln 2018$ we decided to modify the composition of that committee". Who is MS TRUJILLO: We decided. So the "we", main process, so I was the Secretary-General and

I had to lead all the contractual processes. Then 13:39 we had the director who was in charge of the operation implementation and execution of the domain. Then the Vice Minister who was also in charge of that implementation and implementation of public policies concerning administration and management of the domain. I think that is all. I don't recall if there was somebody else but I think we were the key people

MR BALDWN: You said "we" decided, so did all of you decide together to change the composition, or was it a decision of Minister Constaín?

MS TRUJILLO: The final decision was a decision of Minister Constaín. However, all her advisers, all her staff, all her working team recommended to do it because it was necessary. It was necessary to have that kind of collective group, collective task force or advisory group in order to take the best decision.

MR BALDWIN: Was that recommendation made in writing to Minister Constaín? Or was it made orally?

MS TRUJILLO: There was an oral recommendation, and $I$ am sure if we review the

resolution you will find there the recommendations | 13:40 |
| :--- |
| 367 | and the approval of the person who had prepared the administrative act.

MR BALDWIN: If you could turn to paragraph 9 of your witness statement, which you should have in front of you, do you have it?

MS TRUJILLO: Yes, I do.
MR BALDWIN: In the last sentence you write, and I will be reading the English:
'Therefore, the 2009 contract was no longer appropriate under the new circumstances (both in terms of its financial conditions, due to the excessively low share of the fees granted to Colombia, as well as in terms of its technical conditions and the operating model itself)."

I want to ask you about a part of that statement where you say that "it was no longer appropriate in terms of the technical conditions". What about 'the technical conditions were no longer appropriate", in your view?

MS TRUJILLO: Well, I'm not a technical expert. However, the technical advisers of the ITU, for instance, in early 2019, as well as the advisers of the Ministry in general and the multidisciplinary task force that was created for that purposestarted
to define the technical conditions of this contract, 13:42
the one in 2009, and those technical conditions were a little bit outdated, let's say. They had been prepared within a different framework. It was a different operating model of the domain worldwide, so it was important to adjust them to the new circumstances of the domain .com. But, as I say, I am not a technical expert, so I couldn't go further explaining which were the technical conditions that were no longer adequate.

MR BALDWN: When you say the technical conditions, you mean the technical conditions set out in the 2009 concession?

MS TRUJILLO: It was not that the conditions were modified; it was the context. It was the framework under which the domains were operating in the world had changed.

MR BALDWN: I amtrying to understand what required a change because was there something in the 2009 concession where the terms of the technical conditions were no longer appropriate?

So you say here "the 2009 contract was no longer appropriate", and then "under the new circumstances", and then it says here in the parentheses "(in terms of the technical conditions

## ...)."

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So I know you are not a technical person and $I$ am not trying to ask you something that you don't know, but you wrote it in here, so I am trying to ask what you meant when you wrote in here that "the technical conditions in the 2009 contract were no longer appropriate'. Can you explain that to me?

MS ORDOÑEZ: I think she has answered the question.

MR BALDWN: Could you please answer the question?

MS TRUJILLO: If you read the whole paragraph, and I will read it in Spanish and we will see how I determined that "in early 2019, as ITU experts on the internal MinTIC team moved forward with the analysis of the .co domain and domain name market conditions, it became clear that it might be more beneficial for Colombia to structure a new tendering process: Since 2009, both the domain name market and international best practices for operating ccTLDs had evolved considerably. Therefore, the 2009 contract was no longer appropriate under the new circumstances (both in terms of its financial conditions, due to the excessively low share of the fees granted to

1 conditions and the operating model itself)".

So when I am talking here about the technical conditions, usually you have in any contract technical, financial and legal components, and all of them had to be updated, taking into account the new circumstances of the market worldwide.

MR BALDWN: If you move to paragraph 10, you state in this first sentence, "In addition, we also began to identify potential legal risks associated with renewing the 2009 contract. To us, it was clear that it was only a possibility for the parties to renew the contract, and not an obligation, as automatic renewals are prohibited under Colombian law'.

Do you see that?
MS TRUJILLO: Yes, Ido.
MR BALDWN: Was .colnternet asking for an automatic renewal of the 2009 concession?

MS TRUJILLO: No, and that was not feasible under Colombian law. That is just not possible. So there is no right to do that, or to ask for that.

MR BALDWIN: And you state in the
beginning part of that that "we" -- I never know who $\begin{aligned} 33: 48 \\ 13\end{aligned}$
"we" is but I assume you mean yourself -- "began to identify potential legal risks associated with renewing the contract".

When did you begin to identify these potential legal risks associated with renewing the contract?

MS TRUJILLO: Well, since a moment -because any time you have the possibility of renewing a contract, there may be always legal risks concerning upholding constitutional principles. So if we have to change something as essential, as fundamental, as the fees, as a share of the fees, so there was a very major modification in the tendering process that was carried out in 2009, that was a major modification to introduce, and there could be some kind of infringement of the principle, of the planning principles, and also of the free competition and competitiveness principle. That is the idea that other bidders could have been prevented from making offers, and also the transparency principle, because if there was a direct hiring or a direct contract, maybe that principle could also have been infringed. Those were the legal risks.

[^7][^8]MS TRUJILLO: No, I don't.
then. Radio broadcast -- regulation of radio broadcast in Colombia, does it fall under MinTIC or does it fall under another Ministry of Colombia?

MS TRUJILLO: The radio broadcasting policy is under the Technology Ministry, yes. Ours.

MR BALDWIN: And is the same true of television broadcast, not other forms, but the broadcasting of the television signal? Does that fall under MinTIC as well? MS TRUJILLO: Yes.

MR BALDWIN: Are there regulations in Colombia, or laws in Colombia, that would prevent someone from just starting a broadcast TVchannel, and just doing it without the government permission? Does the government control what entities can use different frequencies and different channels for TV and radio?

MS TRUJILLO: Well, there are some specific requirements, but I don't see the link with what we are talking about, because really I don't have here in front of me the regulations, you know, to recall exactly what are the rules in Colombia.

MR BALDWN: But being the General Secretary, having been the General Secretary of does it fall

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one document?
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MS TRUJILLO: Yes. That is correct. So the persons in charge of the structuring ensure that the three components are present but in a harmonised way. So we have a ToR which maybe harmonious and it can be published and released for the consultation of potential bidders, or interested parties

MR BALDWN: Thank you. Could we turn to paragraph 20 of your witness statement, and I will give you a moment to read that to yourself. (Pause)

So there is a sentence that in the English is the last half of that paragraph, it says, where you write: "Particularly, on the technical side, I understand that the general approach was to include quite high requirements in order to ensure that the future operator would have the necessary experience and infrastructure to ensure the smooth operation of the .co domain, one of the largest ccTLDs worldwide".

I have a few questions about that. One is do you know whose decision it was to include "high requirements"? Was this the ITU's decision? The Ministry's decision?

MS TRUJILLO: Well, the requirements were set by the ITU experts. It was the ITU experts who
recommended what the technical conditions that had 379 to be met should be. The operator of one of the world's biggest domains had to have very high qualifications in order to guarantee they could provide the service and manage the .co domain

MR BALDWN: So the recommendations from the ITU as to the requirements, are you stating that they were just accepted as is? In other words the Ministry just took whatever the ITU said and put those into the draft terms of reference, rather than determining whether those wereappropriate?

MS TRUJILLO: I understand that the technical experts did evaluate them, and you have to remember by training I have knowledge about legal aspects. I understand that the recommendations were analysed and adapted to Colombia's specific situation, and this was finally reflected in the draft terms of reference that were published in November so that the experts in the market and the operators who might have been interested in taking part could submit their observations and comments.

MR BALDWN: So it is your understanding that at least some of the recommendations from the ITU regarding the requirements for the tender were adapted in the draft terms of reference as it was

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originally published?
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MS TRUJILLO: I don't fully understand your question.

MR BALDWN: You said that the technical experts -- when you said 'the technical experts adapted", reviewed and adapted the recommendations from the ITU, you mean technical experts at the Ministry?

MS TRUJILLO: Yes. Technical experts from the Ministry. Insofar as the ITU are external advisors, and finally it was up to the General Secretary to take the decision Therefore, those recommendations were analysed by the technical part of the Ministry, specifically by the Directorate and the Vice Ministry.

MR BALDWN: And you stated that you don't have -- certainly you don't have the technical expertise like the technical experts do and the Ministry, but yet you were in charge of the tender. So did you accept what the technical expert said or did you do independent review yourself to determine whether or not those recommendations were appropriate?

MS TRUJILLO: I led the contractual process. That does not mean that I deep-dived into
all of the different components because it is
381 impossible to have technical, financial and legal expertise all wrapped up in one person. That is the reason why 1 , as an expert in contracts and leading public procurement processes, I was surrounded by experts in technical and financial matters so that a decision could be taken as an interdisciplinary team to publish the draft terms of reference of the tender.

MR BALDWN: If you look at this last sentence of paragraph 20, you state: "However, we never sought to favour a specific operator; to the contrary, we also wanted to ensure that the process would be competitive, and that various interested companies would be interested in participating".

So was the goal with the terms of
reference to try to have as many companies as possible submit bids?

MS TRUJILLO: To attract the largest number of companies that had the legal, financial and technical expertise in order to operate .com, was the purpose

MR BALDWN: And do you recall how many qualified bidders, how many bidders that qualified, bid for this concession?

MS TRUJILLO: There were three bidders who $\begin{array}{r}382 \\ 14: 08\end{array}$ submitted proposals.

MR BALDWN: But only two of them were qualified bidders, one was excluded Isn't that right?

MS TRUJILLO: In the first round they were excluded because they didn't submit a guarantee policy, and so that just left two bidders.

MR BALDWN: Do you know if.CO Internet as the entity that had been operating the domain for ten years, do you know if.CO Internet was involved in discussions about technical requirements or other issues relating to the operation of the .co domain as part of the tender process?

MS TRUJILLO: As part of the tender process, .CO Internet was involved on several occasions and several times, both for the preliminary and the final document, they submitted a
number of observations that were taken into consideration under the same conditions as other proponents.

MR BALDWN: And these were comments to the draft terms of reference and then revised terms of reference, correct?

MS TRUJILLO: Yes, that iscorrect. So to

I see they are in reverse order so they start with the higher numbers first, but we are opening up C-0084. And if you look at the fourth paragraph of that letter, in the Spanish it is the fourth paragraph, in the English it is the fourth paragraph on the second page. The English for those following along in English it is the bottom of the page of page 1, but for the Spanish it is the fourth paragraph on page 2 . Just take a moment to read that for yourself.

PRESIDENT: For convenience can you read that into the record, please?

MR BALDWIN: I sure will. I will read the English into the record though, Mr President, if you don't mind. It says: "It should also be noted that, from the Ministry's perspective, the new selection process is in line with Colombia's commitments under the United States TPA'. This is a letter you wrote after your return from maternity leave and the date of the letter is the 17 September 2019. Do you recall writing this letter?

MS TRUJILLO: Yes, of course.
MR BALDWN: And when you state in that
the draft and the final version of the terms of $\begin{aligned} 34: 10\end{aligned}$ reference.

MR BALDWN: But in the process of the drafting of the first terms of reference, and the preparation of information relating to the tender before the first draft terms of reference was released, was there any consulting-- were there any discussions with the entity .CO Internet that had been operating the domain for ten years, were there discussions with them to help identify what issues would be important for the operation of the .co domain?

MS TRUJILLO: No, of course not. That would have given way to a conflict of interest, because they would have had a direct interest in the bidding process, and in March we had decided to open that process. Had we involved .CO Internet, it would have been quite likely that there would have been a conflict of interest and that would have prevented them from taking part in the whole contractual process.

MR BALDWIN: Ms Trujillo, you have a binder -- you should have a binder at your desk. There are tabs in the binder and we are going to open a tab, they go in order from Cto R. If you

[^9]MR BALDWIN: Yes, but you can read it to yourself. We all have the letter so you don't have to read the whole letter out loud but you can read it to yourself. I understand that you said we had to understand that line, that sentence from the context of the rest of the letter. I took that to mean that you needed to read the rest of the letter to be able to answer that question. Is that right?

MS TRUJILLO: Because you are just referring to that paragraph, I am suggesting that perhaps I should read the whole letter so that you can understand the full context.

MR BALDWIN: Yes, I think that is a great idea. I was just saying you can read the letter to yourself, you don't have to read it out loud. So I will give you time to read the entire letter.

PRESIDENT: You look a little bit confused of what you are being asked. Could you put the question again, please?

MR BALDWN: Sure. The question again is, and I will read the line that is relevant, because a little time has passed.

PRESIDENT: No, I didn't mean that. So the witness can actually look at this, if she needs to read the document she can readit certainly, but
let's have the question specifically of what you are 14:17 asking her to answer.

MR BALDWIN: I will read the question back that I asked before, which is this line where it says at the fourth paragraph of page 2 in the Spanish, "It should also be notedthat from the Ministry's perspective the new selection process is in line with Colombia's commitments under the United States Trade and Promotion Agreement".

My question is what did you look at, what research did you do to determine that the Ministry's selection process was in line with the US-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement?

MS TRUJILLO: Well, my concrete answer to that is that there was equal treatment given to all of the bidders, as far as I understand. I mean I am not an expert on the Treaty either, but when I say that it is in line with the commitments undertaken, I am referring to the fact that everyone is treated equally, it is an open process, and this was something that .CO kept saying, that there was an impact on the treaty, but in fact there was not a greater impact because alevel playing field was guaranteed. As the letter says, there was no promise of an automatic extension, nor were there
any preferential entitlements. So there was no commitment to them to give them any preferential treatment, or to give them an extension. So that is the answer that I was giving to your question.

MR BALDWN: In preparation for this letter, writing this letter and preparing this letter, did you review the other renewals and extensions that the Ministry had granted to other contracting parties or concessionaires?

MS TRUJILLO: Well, it would make no sense to do that, nor would it make sense to compare them or undertake suchan analysis. Because of the very specific nature of the .co domain contract, it meant it could only be compared with another .co domain contract or a domain contract of such a nature with other countries.

MR BALDWN: Just one moment, Mr President, if I may. 30 seconds. (Pause) Mr President, that concludes our questions for Ms Trujillo, and we thank her.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Mr Baldwin.
MS ORDOÑEZ: I have no re-direct.
PRESIDENT: You have no further questions.
Ms Trujillo, thank you very much. We have no further questions for you. That is the end of

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your examination, and thank you for coming to give \(\begin{array}{r}38: 22\end{array}\)
evidence to us and for your witness statement.
    MS TRUJILLO: Thank you very much to the
President and members of the Tribunal, and thank you
everybody else.
            (The witness withdrew)
PRESIDENT: Subject to what counsel say, I would suggest we take a break and then we will come back and see what else we need to do today in advance of tomorrow.
MR BALDWN: Thank you. That is good for Claimant. Thank you, Mr President.
PRESIDENT: Let's break for -- it is now just after twenty past-- let's try and be back by a quarter to three. I make it almost 25 minutes past two.
MR GOUIFFÈS: Mr Chairman, sorry, can I say something? Just before the break, you are saying that we need to stop and then see what we are going to do tomorrow. You remember our concern the first day, or actually a year ago which I mentioned during my opening, that this would need a maximum of two days, and we are almost a day and a half and we are over.
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We are not sure what would happen tomorrow
and I think it is important that within the Tribunal

## 390 $14: 23$

you have time to discuss whether there should be anything tomorrow, because if it is to answer questions from the Tribunal my partner, Dan González, offered that, but if it is closing submissions --

PRESIDENT: We have had a preliminary discussion amongst ourselves. Tomorrow was scheduled to be answering questions from the Tribunal. We do have a few questions, but we are presuming that you are going to want to file Post-Hearing Briefs. Is that your intent on both sides?

MR GOUIFFÈS: That is correct, Mr Chairman. That was my point.

PRESIDENT: Mr Baldwin?
MR BALDWN: We had talked previously with the parties about either doing closing submissions or Post-Hearing Briefs. I think that our preference would be to do closing submissions, but I think our preference in any case is to do closing submissions even if there are Post-Hearing Briefs, but we think closing submissions in lieu of Post-Hearing Briefs would be appropriate

MR GONZÁLEZ: Just to be clear, when
counsel says that the parties discussed, that 14:24
doesn't mean the parties agreed, so just to be clear-

PRESIDENT: I am not sure that Mr Baldwin said there was agreement. The point is this. We have tomorrow which is reserved. It is there if we need it. We have a few questions. They can be addressed while we are here if that is helpful; they can be addressed in writing. We are here to help.

If counsel feel on both sides that it is useful, then we can certainly deal with it -- hear some answers fromyou. If you are in a position that you would like to make closing statements and you are ready to do so, we are here to listen to them and they will be on the record.

This case has been quite extensively briefed. If we are to have Post-Hearing Briefs, again, we haven't made a decision between the three of us, we have talked about trying to give you some guidance, not to have another pleading that repeats everything that is there, but rather a pleading that would probably say here are our main points and to see it, look at the claims, look at the submissions, look at the transcript, if it is relevant, look at
these documents, and giving us some kind of a $\begin{array}{r}392 \\ \hline 426\end{array}$ roadmap towards the decisions we are going to have to make and presumably people on both sides with the decision that you would like us to make

That is the kind of thing. We have not reached a decision. I am telling youbasically what we have talked about between ourselves if we were giving you guidance. The idea was now that we thought if we were going to meet tomorrow we would give you an indication for you to make your submissions as you wish, what you feel you want to tell us, and we would give you a few questions on which we have already discussed we would like some guidance.

MR GONZÁLEZ: If I may be heard, Mr Chairman, I think that is perfectly acceptable to the Respondent. I think that is in fact why we invited earlier today that we would love to have questions from the Tribunal for two reasons, I think you have hit on both of them, which is to the extent that either/or both parties can address them immediately tomorrow morning, so be it, and having guidance today would be great. I suspect that some of those questions may require the parties to further brief them and we can do that in the post
closing brief. I think it is the only point of disagreement I am hearing.

Our position is going beyond that, because what I heard was doing closing submissions tomorrow in lieu of the Post-Hearing Briefs and the concern we have with that is this has been a very lopsided one-sided case in the sense that only we have presented witnessesand so therefore the notion that we tomorrow have to have the last word that is going to be said about the witnesses which were only our witnesses that were heard would be improper, so what we would like is the orderly process where tomorrow we should address whatever questions can be addressed and we are happy to do that from both sides, I am sure, and then if Claimant should submit, as is ordinary, their post closing brief raising whatever points they want to raise from the hearing and our three witness are represented and we will respond to those, and certainly with the guidance of the Tribunal as to how we should limit that further.

PRESIDENT: I wouldn't accept that that is the general way. Frequently Post-Hearing Briefs are exchanged at the same time. We haveheard and we have listened to the evidence, we have read the

## 394 $14: 28$

submissions both parties have given us, we have read the witness statements before we heard the witness, so we understand -- we think we understand where both parties are coming from, and the only question now is to give the parties the opportunity, should they so wish, to address us on anything further. We do not feel the need necessarily for a repetition.

MR GONZÁLEZ: Exactly.
PRESIDENT: So $I$ understand what you are suggesting, Mr González, is you would like to come back tomorrow and address any questions we have.

Mr Baldwin, what is your position?
MR BALDWN: I would like to take a short break so I can confer with my colleagues and the client before I give you my firm position, but I do think we - you know, we were in a position where we did our opening, then Respondent did their opening We haven't had a chance-- in the clarifications there was not the opportunity to respond to that and there was the witness testimony which can be used for both sides. So I think our position is there should be closings.

In terms of the Post-Hearing Briefs I would like to confer with my colleagues, if I could, on a break and we could come back. If you
intend to take a break anyway, it would be good for $\begin{aligned} & \text { 14:29 }\end{aligned}$ me to --

PRESIDENT: Let's take a break and let's come back in 20 minutes. Let's make it 3 o'clock. We will come back at 3 pm .
(Short break from 2.29 pm to 3.08 pm)
PRESIDENT: Very well. Let's just proceed with where we go from here.

First of all, I amgoing to give you a few questions which are issues that we have discussed between ourselves and on which you may wish to express a view, and we would like to have tomorrow morning a session at which, if you are able to, to address these questions, and also if you would like to take a certain amount of time, maybe 30 minutes each, to give us your closing remarks focusing very much on the evidence and what we have heard over the last day and three quarters.
Tribunal Questions
The questions that we have are the following.

First, is there a hierarchy in the jurisdictional objections or are they alternative?

Second, how do the parties respectively consider the language of the contract'may be
renewed' is affected by the reference to 'the $\begin{array}{r}396 \\ \text { 15:10 }\end{array}$ legislation in force at the time of the renewal "?

Third question: what is the applicable law to determine who is the proper Claimant in this arbitration? And does the Tribunal have jurisdiction to make an award against Neustar Inc?

Fourth question: what is the consequence or effect of point 5 of the interim Request for Relief presented before the Colombian Council of State? That is exhibit R-80.

And the last question. What is the effect on the parties' positions of .CO Internet SAS having been assigned a new contract on 3 April 2020?

Then we are happy to have Post-Hearing Briefs. We think there should only be one round, simultaneous exchange. We would like again the Post-Hearing Briefs to be focused on the evidence that we have in the record and which we have had over the last day and a bit, 20 pages maximum, one and a half spacing, and 12 font. Of course I haven't said anything about margins, but please don't go to both edges of the page!

We will have the transcript, I presume, just as we had yesterday's transcript late afternoon, we will get the transcript for today
today, and tomorrow's transcript, and so if we werer $\begin{array}{r}397 \\ 15: 13\end{array}$ to go 30 days from tomorrow-

MR GOUIFFĖS: Sorry, Mr Chairman, just in relation to that point, I think what we have here in the Procedural Order No 1, at article 21.3, that actually, it is written, that is why I am saying it, before we get to that, we need to agree within 30 days of the receipt of the record and transcript agree any corrections to the transcripts between ourselves. So that would mean - I amjust stating this -- that would mean we have 30 days from that and then 30 days to do the post-hearing briefs. And there is Spanish and English, yes so ...

PRESIDENT: If we are talking about a few extra days --

MR GOUIFFÈS: No, we are talking of one more month, then because we would start the post-hearing briefs.

PRESIDENT: What have we provided for there for agreeing the transcript?

MR GOUIFFĖS: It was article 21.3, and it says ' 30 days of the later of the dates of the receipt of the sound recordings and transcripts', so that is why I am saying reasonably we need to work on the basis of transcripts which have been agreed
according to this article in the PO, and therefore $\begin{aligned} 3915\end{aligned}$
if it is one month -- it is in two months' basically roughly.

MR GONZÁLEZ: And, Mr Chairman, I just finished that process in another case, andthat may sound very ministerial. It is the reconciliation between the Spanish and the English which actually took up more time, and it actually prevented us, both parties, we ended up havingto go back to the Tribunal to ask for an extension on the post-dosing briefs precisely because both parties underestimated the time required to do that reconciliation

PRESIDENT: I understand that.
MR BALDWN: I would just say that I don't know if we need to the two months' aspect of it, but certainly if that is in the Procedural Order and we are going to keep that time period, which sounds like we may need to, the parties can still draft the post-closing brief on the transcripts and then if there are changes, make those changes in the post-hearing brief, so I don't think we need another month because of that, but it certainly sound like we would need some additional time for it.

PRESIDENT: One of the reasons I'd like to put in shorter periods than longer is that we are
all aware of how busy people are as well as having $\begin{aligned} & 399 \\ & \text { 15:16 }\end{aligned}$
their own personal commitments, so if we have something in the diary we all know that we have to get something done within a certain period of time. But if it is genuinely felt on both sides thatwe have the time for the record of the hearing and for the sessions and for the post-hearing briefs, we can agree a 60-day period or a 30-day period after the first period. Okay?

MR BALDWIN: Mr President, if I may?
PRESIDENT: Yes, please go ahead.
MR BALDWIN: I wondered if it might make more sense - I had time to confer with my colleagues on closings and other things and we are happy to do whatever the Tribunal wants, but I wonder if it might make sense to answer the questions in the Post-Hearing Brief, even if maybe it meant it went from 20 to 25 pages. It is up to you, but I wanted to raise that as a possibility.

PRESIDENT: I think we would prefer to hear fromyou tomorrow. There may well be questions. We may be a bit more active on questions when you are making submissions which would enable us to raise questions. In which case it may be something that one or both parties will want to add
to in the post-hearings. So I think we would like

## 15:17

to go ahead with tomorrow morning in any event and again, we suggest we keep it relatively short, aiming at, say, 30 minutes' maximum, if you feel you can deal with that. We are right here. We know the issues, we have heard the witnesses, we have heard the arguments, so it is really focusing on some of these questions and if there is anything that is particularly important, we have heard one or two issues from you that have come up.

MR GONZÁLEZ: I amsorry, I want to ask a point of clarification. 30 minutes' maximum with regards to addressing the questions and anything else that we may want to respond to in terms of a rebuttal and being efficient and not repeating ourselves from what has been heard today or this week.

PRESIDENT: We are putting these timelines down because we don't want to leave them wide open. If it is felt that somebody needs an extra 5 minutes, you have seen the flexibility that we as a tribunal are prepared to show, but we would like to keep it relatively brief.

So we start at 10 tomorrow morning? Does that work for you?

MR GOUIFFÈS: This works for us. MR BALDWN: Yes.
MR GOUIFFÈS: Mr Chairman, if you were about to finish, I think there is one point which we need to discuss which is the security for costs application, because we have discussed with our colleagues on the other side. We have agreed we would do our applications on the 14 April, which is Friday in two weeks. Next week is Easter holiday in Colombia -- everywhere, but in Colombia in particular -- so on 14 April, and the other side will have until 28 April to answer that application

Where there has been a disagreement is we want to make an application on everything and we would put everything to the Tribunal as we had understood we should do, and the other side, I will let them speak for themselves, but they wanted just to bifurcate basically these questions and have first an exchange on whether we are even entitled to have that security for costs, I don't know, and they made an argument on this I must say we disagree entirely on this, but I will let them speak on this

That wouldn't change the calendar we just agreed but it changes the next steps for the Tribunal, et cetera, and $I$ am not sure $I$ understood

[^10]really what their position was.
PRESIDENT: Let me summarise what I have
understood you have said. You are going to make
an application for security for costs?
MR GOUIFFES: Yes.
PRESIDENT: And we can expect that
14 April.
MR GOUIFFÈS: Yes, correct.
PRESIDENT: And then we are going to have
a reply on 28 April. Is that correct?
MR BALDWN: A little nuance. We think
because this goes back to July of last year, we
think there is a question as to whether or not this
issue has been waived having been brought up at the
hearing as opposed to any point before then, and so
we thought we would like to be heard on the issue of
the waiver before we have to respond to a full blown
security for cost application. So our thinking was
we could do that first and that issue could be
decided. We wanted to present that as an
alternative.
MR GONZALEZ: We are going to file on
14 April. They are certainly welcome to respond
however they wish, including asking the Tribunal for
time and giving justifications for why they want to

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$15: 20$


bifurcate these issues. We of course don't agree 15:21 with the circumstances that counsel has stated, but I don't think it is appropriate to ask the Tribunal now to decide to bifurcate. That should be part of their response to the application.

We believe at this point we have waited long and hard, we have asked repeatedly through discovery, through other means, for this information and it has not been forthcoming. We were anxious to see if at least at the hearings we would get this information, but it has not been forthcoming and that is why we have been forced to make the application. The record is clear what has happened in the last two days. So we will make our application. If counsel likes to respond and suggests to the Tribunal a basis upon which they should bifurcate, then they can do so and the Tribunal can hereafter address these issues.

MR BALDWN: I keep having to respond to both, and let me respond to bothagain, counsel on the other side.

It is obviously unworkable that we have a
deadline to do a full response and we submit a partial response. That doesn't work

But more fundamentally this question of
the financials or whatever else was asked at $9 \mathrm{pm} \quad$ 15:22 last night, and you know we mentioned - I mentioned to Mr Laurent that Security Services is a private company so we have to have appropriate confidentiality things, but mentioned to him and I will reiterate here, we are happy to give him financial statements so he can make his determination, but to act like this has been that long coming when it came at 9 pm last night, I wouldn't accept that assertion at all. And I don't know which one is arguing this over there, but I think what we are asking, and it is the Tribunal's decision, but we wanted to mention it, as we think given that long time period, especially because the demand was made at 9 pm last night and we said we would provide financial statements, that I think there is a question as to whether or not there has been a waiver and we think it might be more judicial economy to answer that question first before getting into a full blown discussion on it. So that is the position of the Claimant

MR GOUIFFÈS: Mr Chairman, if I may answer on this, we have made -- you remember the circumstances in which change has been announced or introduced into this arbitration at the end of July
and after the document process, you will remember $15: 24$
that. We actually have asked to this Tribunal, to
the other side and then to the Tribunal, documents
in relation to financial information, et cetera, and
we have received absolutely nothing. So we were
told today or yesterday we will get something. At
the moment there is nothing on record.
So the situation is simple. Yesterday we
were told 135 will dispose of all the issues. That
is not true. It is just a press release. Our
position is very simple. We make an application for
security for cost in two weeks' time, we do it in
the normal way with all the questions, and then if
they want to argue that we shouldn't be doing this
and the Tribunal should dispose that there would be
a bifurcation they can do it on 28 April but we
can't be prevented frommaking that application in
the circumstances I have just described
MR BALDWN: Just one last thing Not to
extend this any further except to point out that,
Mr Laurent, it is clear in the transcript I didn't
say 'all issues", I said 'some' of his answers are
in there.
But putting that aside, more important for
this is that I agree, they can make the application

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on the 14th, they can make a full application on the $\begin{aligned} & 406 \\ & 15: 25\end{aligned}$ 14th, but I am talking about our response to it. I would like to be able to be heard on the waiver so that we don't have to make a full responseto it and we can be heard on the waiver position. That is our position, not that they should be prevented from making an application; I think they can make their application.

PRESIDENT: You want to be heard on the waiver when?

MR BALDWN: I thought if they made their application on the 14th we could be heard on the waiver on the 21st. We had said the 28 th, so I was keeping with that for consistency purposes, but we could be heard in response to that, or we could go with the waiver issue first. If they say they are going to make an application, we could address it first, but we thought given that the dates had already been discussed, the 14th and the 28th, that they could do whatever they want on the 14th, including making a full application if they want to, but we would like to be heard on the waiver in response to that application before doing an entire response and having an entire proceeding about it. Because this is something going back to is.

July, and they certainly did ask for documents and 15:26
the Tribunal I think granted some and denied some, if I recall correctly. So it is not that we were ordered to produce financial documents in July and we haven't done it. So that is not the case, even though that is the implication of what they are saying.

So that is all. We have talked about this enough, but I just wanted to rely what our position

PRESIDENT: I think we can say the following, and I haven't had a chance to talk to my colleagues: 14 April we will expect or we will anticipate there may be an application for security for costs. We will talk amongst ourselves about the reply, and give you that answer from our point of view tomorrow morning.

Okay?
MR GOUIFFÈS: That is okay, Mr Chairman.
PRESIDENT: Good. Anything else we need to talk about today? From Claimant's side?

MR BALDWN: Nothing from Claimant's side
PRESIDENT: Respondent's side?
MR GOUIFFÈS: Just to be clear, tomorrow
morning - I repeat what my colleague Dan has said
$\begin{array}{llll}\text { before -- we are expecting each side to have } & 30 & 15: 27 & 408\end{array}$
minutes answering the questions from the Tribunal, whatever we want to say in 30 minutes roughly, give or take 5 minutes and then that is it and so we may have questions from the Tribunal.

PRESIDENT: What I would like you to do is to prepare your submissions to us tomorrow morning in 30 minutes. We are not going to hold you to 30 minutes if it goes to 35 minutes, but we don't think it should be necessary to go very much longer, and obviously we are not promising not to interrupt you. Maybe not quite as bad as United States Supreme Court judges, but we may well ask -- it depends on the way it is presented and our thoughts in the morning - we may well have some discussions with you, and if we are talking we won't hold that against you.

MR GOUIFFÈS: That is fine. Understood, Mr Chairman.

MR BALDWIN: Just one clarification. I thought I understood and now I am not as sure. The 30 minutes is to answer the questions and then I don't call it a closing -- but 30 minutes and if there is anything to be added into reflect on what happened at the hearing the last couple of days

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[^0]:    MR BALDWN: We can do that. It doesn't
    269 have to occur before his examination, so ...

    PRESIDENT: Well, this issue that you are going to raise, did we get a copy of that - you say you had correspondence from Respondent's counsel?

    MR BALDWN: We received an email. We were going to put it up on the screen to show you and then discuss it, but it was an email that counsel sent, that Laurent sent to us

    PRESIDENT: Then can I suggest we finish this witness and after that we will take this issue that you want to raise.

    MR BALDWN: Okay.
    PRESIDENT: Mr Gouiffès, is there anything fromyour end that you wish to raise?

    MR GOUIFFÈS: We had a few points but we will follow your suggestion -- after this witness, perfect, Mr Chairman

    PRESIDENT: Good morning, Mr Castaña MR CASTAÑO: Good morning, sir.
    PRESIDENT: I hope that your evening in purdah still enabled you to have a relaxing evening. We will continue your evidence, and we expect that your oath that you gave yesterday remains in place.

    Mr Baldwin, please continue.

[^1]:    was that we understood that .co was a sufficiently valuable asset for the state and so we had to assess that along with the Minister. So as a public policy it was the Minister's responsibility, but with the support of the Advisory Committee of the .co domain.

    MR BALDWN: Mr President, that concludes our cross-examination of Mr Castaño.

    PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Mr Baldwin. Do you have any re-direct?

    MR GOUIFFÈS: We have no re-direct, Mr Chairman.

    PRESIDENT: Thank you. There are no questions from the Tribunal, so, Mr Castaño, thank you very much Thank you for waiting overnight to continue your examination. We appreciate your being here to give your evidence.

    MR CASTAÑO: Thank you very much.
    (The witness withdrew)
    MR GOUIFFÈS: Mr Chairman, you asked both parties whether they had administrative questions, they say they have one. We have three. One of these three was the one we are going to address which is probably the most important. Can we address the two others quicklyso that we dispose of them?

[^2]:    PRESIDENT: Your second point, as I understood it, is that you want security for costs. Now, if you want security for costs you would need to file an application for that and we would have to hear from the other side on that basis and then the Tribunal can reach a conclusion on that.

    MR GONZÁLEZ: That is exactly right and we did adhere strictly to what the Tribunal instructed us yesterday. We did exactly what you asked us to do. We looked at the documentations. We sawthat it did not satisfy at all what our request was. We had the courtesy of sending an email, as the Tribunal instructed us to do, to try to work it out, not to wait until this morning and $I$ apologise if the language of my colleague in English wasn't quite as clear as maybe we could have made it, but I think it was clear to my colleague across the table that the idea was exactly what the Tribunal had instructed us to do, try to work it out. We did not have anything and we tried to give them another alternative and say give us something else before we go before the Tribunal. They did not

    So the answer is it does not satisfy us. We will make the application that the Tribunal is

    305
    $0: 34$
    

[^3]:    MR GONZÁLEZ: And what was your assessment
    317 of the status of the .co domain operations at the point you took over?

    MS CONSTAÍN: I guess we always go backas when you are in public service to the reason why you are in public service, so obviously the objective of being in public service is to serve the public. So that was the most important element.

    We realised that the conditions under which the contract that Colombia had at that moment were not in line with market reality, and we started understanding more about the .CO market because frankly we didn't have the internal expertise that I would have liked to have had at that point, so we started seeking that kind of expert knowledge where it is, which is basically in both the international arena and certain domestic experts.

    MR GONZÁLEZ: And if you can take us further forward, then, what was the process of your team that you implemented, and first of all, I would like to separate it into two parts. First in making the decision in either renewing or not renewing the 2009 concession, and then subsequently I amgoing to ask you about the public tender, but first focusing on that decision with regards to renewing or not?

[^4]:    first time that I heard the word Apple either when $\begin{array}{r}31: 15\end{array}$ I bought the phone, so I don't know

    MR BALDWN: Let's go back to the beginning and talk about your biography a little bit. As you mentioned Apple, Facebook, a lot of I have an Apple computer here and I love Facebook, so it is good to see yourbackground. But your background at those companies, you mentioned your background being more of an engineer background? You said you loved data or more of a business background. What is your background generally? Your educational background.

    MS CONSTAIN: I am an economist by training. I have an MBA from the University of Los Andes. I was a fellow at Harvard in international relations, and I am now getting an executive MBA at the MIT.

    MR BALDWN: I meant to say economics, and I said engineering. But at some point your career turned more to government relations. Is that correct?

    MS CONSTAÍN: I was in government for over 20 years, yes.

    MR BALDWN: Including some of the private companies you worked for being involved?

[^5]:    MS CONSTAÍN: My role in Apple, Facebook
    325 and now at Visa is in charge of our relationships with governments. Yes, that is accurate.

    MR BALDWN: Without giving away trade secrets or secrets of those companies, what generally does that mean, being involved in government relations, let's say at your current employment? What does that mean, government relations?

    MS CONSTAÍN: Well, in each one of the companies the names are a little bit different, so public policy in one, government relations in others, government engagement in another, and it basically is the way that we provide information to governments to promote policies that lead to the growth of the industry.

    Where I am now, for example, in digital payments, we provide information for governments on, you know, what are the best practices worldwide, what are good practices or policies for increase in digital payments. We work often through trade associations where we, as an industry, share thoughts on these issues, so that is our role

    MR BALDWIN: And you held, as you said you
    have been in government and then you have been in

[^6]:    for these other ccTLDs was around four or five years
    maximum. The ten-year extension permitted by the 2009 contract therefore did not represent standard practice, all the more in a fast-paced environment such as the internet industry (and the domain name industry in particular). In addition, it became apparent that the current model for the administration and operation of the .co domain did not reflect the needs of the Colombian State to take a more active role both in the management of the .co domain itself and vis-à-vis ICANN, in order to participate in the discussions and negotiations of international domain name policies and better monitor industry standards".

    MR BALDWIN: Just to be clear -- I didn't want to interrupt you-- but if I ask you to look at something, we all have it too, so it is more that you read it and become acquainted. You don't have to read it out loud, but I appreciate that, that was good, but for the future

    So I want to focus -- well, actually, in paragraph 13, it states that 'the MinT1C internal team and the external advisers started to engage with the ITU experts from early 2019." So prior to 2019 there was no engagement with the ITU or the ITU

[^7]:    MR BALDWIN: So when you say "we also 372
    began to identify potential legal risks', instead what really is the case is you were always aware of those potential legal risks that could come with the renewal of a concession, right?

    MS TRUJILLO: No, I don't think so. I think that was one element of the analysis that was necessary during those first months when we took office, but we had not yet identified what was the best decision for the Colombian state.

    MR BALDWIN: Okay. So you stated that automatic renewals are not possible under Colombian law, correct?

    MS TRUJILLO: Yes. That is correct.
    MR BALDWN: And then you state here in paragraph 10, inthe third sentence of paragraph 10 , you say "any extension of the 2009 contract would have to be negotiated". Is that correct?

    MS TRUJILLO: Yes, that is correct, because the renewal could not have been automatic in any case.

    MR BALDWN: Okay. And that would apply to any entity with a contract or concession with the government? None of them could be automatic?

    MS TRUJILLO: That is right.

[^8]:    MR BALDWN: Paragraph 11 says, with the 373 correction that you went on maternity leave on 8 March 2019. When you went on maternity leave on the 8 March 2019, were you aware that .CO Internet would not get a renewal of its contract, and that there would be a newtender for the .co domain?

    MS TRUJILLO: No, I was not aware of that. The decision had not been taken.

    MR BALDWN: Did you learn it only when you returned from maternity leave?

    MS TRUJILLO: Yes, of course. I had been part of all the analysis since $I$ arrived to the Ministry, since I joined the Ministry, and until the moment when I went on maternity leave. So the decision was taken while I was away on maternity leave, so I came back in July and then yes, of course, I learned all that had happened in the meantime.

    MR BALDWN: Okay. I would like to again just briefly change topics. Are you aware -actually this question first because it mightsave time -- are you aware of the Federal Communications Commission in the United States? Do you know what the Federal Communications Commission does?

[^9]:    paragraph I have referred you to that'it should be
    385 noted that from the Ministry's perspective the new selection process is in line with Colombia's commitments under the United States Trade and Promotion Agreement", do you recall what you did to confirm that the position of the Ministry was in line with the United States' Trade Promotion Agreement?

    MS TRUJILLO: I am afraid you can't just read that out of context. That has to be understood from the point of view of the whole text. You can't take it out of context, I mean

    MR BALDWN: Why don't you then read the rest of that whole letter andthen I can ask the question again. If you need more context from the letter, please read the rest of the letter andthen we will go back to that question. Just let me know when you are ready. (Pause)

    MS TRUJILLO: Okay. Do you want me to read it to you?

    MR BALDWIN: No, no, I am sorry. I do not mean interrupt you. I never try to interrupt anybody. Just can just read it for yourself.

    MS TRUJILLO: I can read the whole thing, then?

[^10]:    $\qquad$

[^11]:    PRESIDENT: The intention was the 30
    409 minutes was to do both the questions and whatever it is that you want to say after -

    MR BALDWN: And I agree with that. I think it is a good idea. I wanted to make sure that was the case. We very much agree with that timeframe and that being the time

    PRESIDENT: With that, thank you very much for the last few days and we will adjourn until tomorrow morning at 10 am .

    MR GOUIFFÈS: Thank you, Mr Chairman.
    (The hearing was adjourned at 3.29 pm)

