
ALAN GREENBERG: The purpose of the call is to – I'll keep on speaking. Is to get a briefing that many of us could not participate in while we were in Copenhagen, and Becky Nash is here to talk to us about that. And the second half of the call, followed by questions and answers, and the second half of the call is to start outlining what it is we need to say within our public comment response. If there are no questions or comments on the agenda, then I'll turn it over to Becky.

EVIN ERDOĞDU: Hi Alan. Could I actually just do a roll call real quick? Sorry to interrupt.

ALAN GREENBERG: Sorry, I didn't catch what you said?

EVIN ERDOĞDU: This is Evin. I'll just, if it's alright before Becky speaks, or begins with the presentation, I'll start with the roll call to make sure –

ALAN GREENBERG: Oh, I'm sorry. Sorry, when you turned it over to me I hadn't paid any attention that that wasn't done yet. Yes, please, go ahead.

EVIN ERDOĞDU: Sure, no worries. Good morning, good afternoon and good evening everyone. Welcome to the ALAC subcommittee on finance and budget

Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.

FBSC call on Thursday, 13th of April, 2017, from 16:00 to 17:00 UTC. On the call today we have the Chair, Alan Greenberg, Tijani Ben-Jemaa, Andrei Kolesnikov, Harold Arcos, Javier Rua-Jovet and Judith Hellerstein, along with Olivier Crepin-Leblond, Olévié Kouami, Sarah Kiden, Taryn Presley, Glenn McKnight, Alberto Soto, Nadira Alaraj and Dev Anand Teelucksingh.

Apologies today, we have Ali AlMeshal. And on staff we have Becky Nash, Jessica Castillo, Heidi Ullrich and Evin Erdoğdu, myself, who will be call manager. And our Spanish interpreters are Claudia and Veronica. And I would like to remind all participants to please state your name before speaking, not only for transcription purposes, but also for our interpreters. With that, I'll turn back over to you, Alan.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much, Evin. Was the recording going when I did the first introduction?

EVIN ERDOĞDU: Yes, it was.

ALAN GREENBERG: Then I don't need to repeat it again, and I will now, again, turn the floor over to Becky.

BECKY NASH:

Thank you Alan. This is Becky Nash, and thank you for letting us come and present on the FY18 operating plan and budget. We're going to present several slides that we sent along, for approximately 20 minutes. We're happy to take questions throughout if it's appropriate, otherwise we do have 10 minutes for question and answer at the end.

So I am Becky Nash, and I'll start the presentation now. We do have a table of contents that's quite lengthy, where we are covering the planning process, the five-year operating plan update, the draft FY18 operating plan and budget, and then we have sections related to items that are new to the planning process, the next steps. And comments or slides on the empowered community and rejection powers. And then an appendix. In order to keep with the time, I will go pretty quickly, but of course these slides are available on the wiki for everyone, and we're happy to take any questions.

With that, I'd just like to start with an introduction of the ICANN staff that works on the planning process. First of all, our CFO, Xavier Calvez, is the project sponsor. He apologizes for not being available today, however, myself, Becky Nash, I'm the VP of finance at ICANN Org, and I'm the project owner. And I'm joined on the call by Taryn Presley, Project Manager over the operating plan and budget, along with Jessica Castillo, our Project Coordinator, and two other planning team members that are not with us on the call today but are very active, is Leo Vegoda and Kirsten Watson.

The planning process overview and timeline. This is a slide where we're just highlighting the steps in the FY18 planning process. The process did start last fall, on the 22nd of September, and we've had several

opportunities to engage with the community as it relates to the timeline, the planning process. At ICANN57 we had a community budget working group, which is an open forum that we would invite everybody to, to come and discuss the budget process.

Another key milestone is right before the Copenhagen meeting on the 8th of March, we published the FY18 draft operating plan and budget for public comment. We are under the public comment period, as of today, and that will be closing on the 28th of April.

And the next key milestone after that is the report on public comments will be published in late May. And then we move on towards the June ICANN59 Board approval, which will happen at the June meeting. Just as reference, we've provided information as compared to FY17, just highlighting that we're keeping on schedule with the extended public comment period that falls just before the March ICANN meeting, is what we tried to target.

Just now, an update on the five-year operating plan update. So, as part of our planning process, we do evaluate the five-year operating plan, and this slide highlights the types of changes that have been made throughout this process. We would just like to highlight that there are three high profile updates that were incorporated into the five-year operating plan update for FY18. The first is that the PTI operating plan was incorporated into the total ICANN operating plan. In addition, for the draft, there was no IANA stewardship transition project that was incorporated, due to the fact that the transition was finalized, and also that the work was expected to be completed in FY17. In addition, another update is that reviews that are incorporated into the changes

to the bylaws are now incorporated into the five-year operating plan update, and are called specific reviews. This next section, we're going to cover the draft FY18 operating plan and budget, which is published for public comment at this time.

This first slide is just an overview of the financial reporting structure. We do present this at each of our quarterly stakeholder calls when we publish our quarterly financials. We just provide it here as a reference to show that we have ICANN operations on the left, which includes PTI/the IANA budget. And then over to the right, we have the new gTLD program in orange. And also, at the bottom row, we have the different operating and reserve funds related to ICANN operations. And the new gTLD program funds, under management, and then the auction proceeds. So this is how the draft operating plan and budget is presented in the document.

Slide number 12 is an overview of the highlights of the operating plan and budget. The FY18 operating plan is year three of the five-year operating plan. There are no major changes to baseline operations that are presented in the FY18 operating plan update. The IANA functions, which is PTI and the IANA budget, are incorporated in this operating plan and operating plan update for FY18.

Point number two, the FY18 budget is a balanced budget. The draft budget has funding of 142.8 million, which is the revenue or funding. And the ICANN operations baseline expenses are at 142.8 million, which is a balanced budget. And there are no initiatives to be funded from the reserve fund that are presented in the FY18 operating plan and budget.

The funding or revenue does increase, but it is at a slower rate than prior, or the FY17 and the prior years. The funding forecast for FY18 reaches 142.8 million, which is 5% above the FY17 funding forecast, which is expected to be for the full year FY17, at 135.9 million. This is increasing, however at a slower rate than what we have seen in the prior years. And this is consistent with our expectation that the number of new TLD's in operations are now reaching their peak.

Point number four, the ICANN operations baseline expenses of 142.8, increase organically by approximately 5%. That's excluding the contingency that's included in the FY18 budget. So this is a 5% increase over the FY17 expected forecast, of 130.4 million. And this increase is mainly driven by personnel expenses.

The draft FY18 budget is listed here, where we have the funding of 142.8, and the baseline expenses of 142.8 million, thus it's a balanced budget. This is compared to the FY17 forecast, where we are showing an increase or an excess over our expenses, because we are expecting funding to come in at 135.9, and baseline expenses are forecasted to reach 130.4 million. Thus, we will have a slight excess for the end of FY17.

The draft FY18 budget includes a funding overview, where we provide information on the breakout of the 142.8 million. Over to the right, we have the estimated scenarios. The best estimate, which is the middle amount, is what we've included in the draft operating plan and budget. It is conservative in nature. We did do scenarios to have a low scenario, and then a high scenario, and the differences there are attributed primarily to changes in the new gTLD delegated TLD's and the amount

of growth expected by those registrees. As you can see on this slide, we breakout the revenue streams by both the registrees and the registrars at the bottom. And on the left are the transaction related fees, the better driven by the domain name registrations. So for registrees, we can see that the transaction fees reach approximately 40% of the total of the 142.8 million. And the registrar transaction fees reach 26% of the total of the FY18 funding.

On the right-hand side in orange, this slide provides information on the fees that are driven by the number of contracted parties, which is what we call the fixed fees. And for registrees, the per TLD fixed fee reached 22% of the total funding for FY18. And the registrar fixed fees, which are comprised of both one-time application fees, and then annual accreditation fees, reached 10% of the total funding. Down at the bottom of the slide, we do provide the other funding of 2%. That's comprised, primarily, of sponsorships and ccTLD other funding.

This next slide, we just have the highlights of the risks and opportunities as it relates to funding. I would just like to highlight that we do have conservative assumptions as it relates to the growth in the legacy TLD's, which are just over 2% growth, and that is considered conservative. We would like to highlight that we did hold continued engagement with our community, and the general acceptance of reasonableness of our assumptions have been discussed as conservative. The risks would be that there would be lower legacy transaction growth. We would estimate that risk at approximately half a million to this funding budget. And then the opportunities would be that since we were conservative on the new gTLD transaction growth, if those TLD's do have a higher

growth in funding, that would be considered an opportunity that we quantify at approximately 3.8 million.

I'm now going to move into an overview of the ICANN operations expenses. Again, the annual expenses equal baseline cash, ICANN operations plus the IANA budget. The baseline cash expenses do equal annual funding, which is what we have covered on other slides, so it is a balanced budget. The baseline expense growth is slowing down. We'd like to highlight that the June FY18 is at 5% growth, as compared to the FY17 growth of 18%.

Point number three, we do have a slow-down of headcount growth in FY18. This picture gives a view of total headcount for FY18 budget, where we do have an end of year headcount of 417 heads. This is a 6% increase of 24 positions, as compared to our forecast for June of 17. We're given some history here, that over the prior two years, or from FY15 to FY16, we had an 11% growth. FY16 to our forecasted FY17, we had a 13% growth. At the bottom of this drawing, is the average headcount throughout each of those years.

Point number four. The draft FY18 operating plan and budget has assumptions that the IANA stewardship transition project concludes in FY17, including work stream two. The draft does not have any assumptions as it relates to work stream two, work continuing after the end of FY17.

This next slide is an overview of the differences between the FY17 baseline expenses of 130.4 million, as compared to last FY18 budget, excluding contingency of 137.4, I mean 137 million. Each of these gives

a component of the increase or the decrease over the last forecast. And as we can see, on the left, the first two green boxes provide the increase assumed in the budget as it relates to headcount, which includes FY17 hires that would have been hired throughout the year that have a full year impact of salary and benefits. This increase also is impacted by the transfer of headcount from the new gTLD program into baseline operations. Now that the program is nearing the close, or the full delegation of all of the new TLD's, there is headcount transferring back into operations to perform those services for the ongoing delegated TLD's.

This next box is the impact of the FY18 planned hirings. We do have an increase of 0.8 million, as it relates to increased engagement with the ICANN technical community. Then we have two decreases. One of 2.9 million, which is due to the fact that several projects that reached completion during FY17 and are thus not included in FY18, those would be large projects like sales force, and ERP system. In addition, we have lower expense, as it relates to the completion of a office space build out. So that's not been repeated in FY18. And then there's other types of increases that amount to approximately 0.6 million.

This next slide gives an overview of the FY18 headcount by executive group. We'd just like to highlight that there is the end of year headcount of the 417, the average of the 414, as compared to the forecast for FY17, where we have 401 at the end of the period, or end of the year forecast, and then the average is expected to be 358, due to the timing of the hiring of headcount throughout the year.

This next slide gives an overview of the risks and opportunities, as it relates to the FY18 baseline cash expenses. I just would like to highlight two risks here, that there is a possibility or probability of carrying out what we're calling unfunded potential FY18 activities. There is a slide in this presentation that highlights several projects that were being considered during the budget development, but they were not included in the budget due to the fact that we have a balanced budget. So we have called them unfunded potential FY18 activities, and those would only be prioritized should funding become available by either higher revenue or funding, or lower expense that permits both the community and ICANN to prioritize those specific projects. So they're listed here as a risk, if they do get prioritized and there is no funding, then it would be a risk to the budget, the amount of expense presented.

Another highlight here of a risk, would be the potential impact of the bylaw driven cycle of reviews, both on the community and the ICANN organization, as it relates to workload and bandwidth. Another key risk is that work stream two, transition work, will be delayed until FY18.

The highlights for the opportunities relate to how the prioritization of the activities of the ICANN community impact the budget, and the ability to reduce headcount growth as a result of possible optimization of resources or economy and efficiency.

This next slide is just an overview of the IANA budget. I know that we're approaching the end of our time.

ALAN GREENBERG: Becky. It's Alan. How much longer do you have, because we're at the half hour mark at this point?

BECKY NASH: Yes, I think this can be my last slide, and then I can open it up to questions –

ALAN GREENBERG: Yeah, I don't want to cut you off, I just want to point out, we are going to run short of time if we're not careful. Thank you.

BECKY NASH: Absolutely. Just to highlight that the draft FY18 operating plan and budget includes the IANA budget, which is comprised of the PTI operations budget that was adopted by the PTI Board in late January. ICANN then received the PTI operations budget of 9.6 million, as input into the total IANA budget, which includes some ICANN funded expenses for the RZMA and some capital development of 0.4 million, which then arrives at the total IANA budget included in this draft FY18 operating plan and budget of 10 million. The IANA budget is included in the caretaker budget, should a veto process be triggered, because the IANA budget is subject to the empowered community veto process.

This next slide just provides an overview of the multi-year forecast for the new gTLD program. We do present this in each of our quarterly stakeholder calls, and we've just highlighted on this slide the assumptions included in the FY18 budget for the new gTLD program.

This next slide is a total ICANN financial overview, where we are presenting the total ICANN operations including the IANA budget, which has total funding and expenses of 142.8 million. The new gTLD FY18 impact, where we have funding of the 19.5 and expenses of 10.9, and this is what is presented in the draft as the total ICANN org budget, with funding of 162.3 in baseline expenses, or total expenses including new gTLD FY18 impact of 153.7. And this is compared to the FY17 forecast.

At this time I'm going to stop. There are additional slides that I encourage everyone to look at, including the next steps. I know that the next key item is the responses to the draft operating plan and budget for the public comment period.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Thank you Becky. I'll open it up for questions. I have a number, but I'll let other people go first at this point, and I see Glenn had one in the chat. Glenn said, "I assume that deficit will draw on the reserves, and/or will the deficit impact our communities with across the board cuts?"

BECKY NASH:

Thank you for that question, Glenn. What I'd like to highlight, is that the FY18 budget is assumed to be a balanced budget with no deficit and no reserve funded activities. The FY17 forecast, in fact, is going to have a positive increase to net assets, because our funding is higher than the total expected expenses. The expenses are lower than we originally thought, due to the fact that we have not been able to hire resources as

quickly as expected. There are a number of unfilled positions, and as a result, we have an increase to net assets expected of 5.5 million.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Thank you. Since there's no other hands, I'll ask one of mine. An issue was raised something over a month ago, that there's an item in the budget of \$300,000 that's identified as computer software and equipment for the ICANN and At Large websites. I don't believe we've gotten an answer on exactly what that item is. Can you illuminate the issue?

BECKY NASH:

Yes. So, we did receive the question of the project that was listed as the ALAC website for \$300,000. And the response is that the \$300,000 budgeted is for enhancements to both ICANN.org website and the ALAC website. We did clarify this in the updated draft FY18 operating plan and budget, where there was a revision that was posted on the 13th of March, that there was an additional description listed in the operating plan portion relating to this project. The estimated budget for the ALAC website enhancement is estimated to be \$135,000 of that \$300 amount budgeted, which would be 35%, to approximately \$155,000. So it's a range of between 35 and 40% of the budgeted amount.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Are we talking hardware or software?

BECKY NASH: I will have to double check on whether it is hardware or software. Because it's been listed as website developments and improvements. So Taryn has provided me that it's software related.

ALAN GREENBERG: It would be really nice, in going forward, if the ALAC is identified as a group which presumably has asked for something, if we have some idea what it is before these kind of announcements are made. It puts us in an exceedingly awkward position. I'll go on to Tijani and then I'll come back in the queue.

BECKY NASH: Thank you.

ALAN GREENBERG: Tijani, go ahead, we can't hear you.

TIJANI BEN-JEMMA: Thank you very much. Becky, why did you put one together the website as ICANN plus the website of At Large? Why didn't you separation? And if I understood well, in the text it was written both hardware and software, not only software. So please try to explain that, and try to give us the real figures. It would be good that you separate them and you make them clear that this amount was used to do the At Large website, and for the (inaudible) you, but not you, but ICANN provided for us, but, yes it costs money but you put it now in the budget it is as we asking for money for that. Thank you.

BECKY NASH:

Thank you, Tijani, and I do just want to address both for Tijani and for Alan and the group that I have heard the comments about the fact that this was something that surprised you, and that shouldn't be the case. I know that our IT group did complete different levels of projects, and we do group them based on the type of activity when we do consolidate and report the consolidated operating plan, and then the list of projects that are budgeted for the year. We will circle back, or go back and speak to the representatives in IT to get clarity on the website enhancement activities. And again, we did publish a revision on the 13th of March that we hope clarifies that the project is both for ICANN.org and for the ALAC website. But again, I have taken note that this is something that you would have preferred to have been consulted with, before publication under that label.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Or at least our staff members, staff people should have known about it. Alright, let's go on to another item that I have, in any case. I mentioned to the CEO in a private conversation a few weeks ago, that we might be making some specific requests in this budget, in our comment. And his answer was, if any requests are made, we have to identify what we want to have cut also, because everything must balance. Given what you're saying about staff increasing, and a variety of other things like that, that rule doesn't seem to be applying to ICANN itself. Am I misunderstanding something?

BECKY NASH: What I believe the comments are, is that ICANN has the responsibility to present a balanced budget. So again, the key here is that the funding equals the baseline cash expenses for ICANN operations, including PTI/IANA budget, and that there are no projects assumed to be depleting the reserve fund as well. So, I think what the comment here is, that should we prioritize something that is outside of what's presented in the budget, we must look for cuts somewhere else in order to maintain a balanced budget.

ALAN GREENBERG: Alright, just to be clear, I believe he was referring to we must provide cuts if we want increases, but as you point out, presumably it is an issue of priority. I see no one else in the queue, so I'll go on another one. There is an item on page 28 that implies you have a 4.5 million dollar draw on reserve related to IANA, even though you said that we were not drawing on the reserve for anything. On page 28 of the plan.

BECKY NASH: On the IANA?

ALAN GREENBERG: It's on page 28 of the plan under cash flow synopsis. And it shows the reserve funding decreased by 3.3 million net. 4.5 due to operating expenses.

BECKY NASH: Sorry, I'm just trying to get to that slide.

ALAN GREENBERG: It's on page 28 of the original budget presentation, the budget document.

BECKY NASH: Okay, yes. So, the cash flow that is budgeted is related to the IANA stewardship transition project that is being reimbursed. So it's the FY17 amount, which again, the assumption in the FY17 forecast, is that the entire project is completed, and sorry I'm just scrolling back to where I think the slide is. Here it is.

ALAN GREENBERG: That's right.

BECKY NASH: And the reserve fund portion here is for FY17 activity, as highlighted in the footnote, that the FY17 January through July amounts that are forecasted, are being reimbursed in FY18. So that is something that was a part of the IANA stewardship transition project. There was an approval for that project to be funded by the reserve fund, and it's just the fact that the reimbursement between the reserve fund back to the ICANN operating fund, happens on a six month delay.

ALAN GREENBERG: Okay, so there is a decrease in the reserve in this coming fiscal year, though. Alright, again, no other questions, I'll ask my last one. You

presented where the revenues come from in terms of the fixed and variable costs for registrars and registrees. In terms of looking at risks, there appear to be a significant number of domain names that are used for phishing and spam. Has finance done any risk analysis of what if we are successful in reducing those? What does that do to the impact, to ICANN income, rather?

BECKY NASH:

Could you just repeat that last part, if they're successful, is that...?

ALAN GREENBERG:

Yeah, there appear to be a very significant number of domain registrations that are directly associated with phishing and spam. There's a lot of talk about can ICANN do anything about it. And Jamie Hedlund has, you know -- I said, even though we're not responsible for phishing and spam, maybe there's something we can do to reduce it, since they do use domain names in their operations. And the question is, has any risk analysis been done on what if we are successful, and we actually do reduce the number of domain names registered for phishing and spam? How will that impact our revenues?

BECKY NASH:

I can evaluate scenarios as it relates to the FY18 operating plan and budget, and we only look at historical trends. We're very conservative and we don't go and do any kind of projections on what would happen, we just look at the historical trends, and we present a low case, a high case and then a medium case, which is called our best estimate, and

that's the one that we adopt in the FY18 budget. Just to speak a little bit about registration. As you can see, the FY17 forecast has a higher ending number of registrars than what we expect in the FY18 budget. So we do have assumptions that there would be a decrease in the number of registrars, and that's because during FY17 and the end of 16, we did see an out of the ordinary increase of a certain number of concentrated registrations. So, again, we're conservatively only including approximately new registrations of, or registrars, accreditations of 60 per annum, in the FY18 budget.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Okay. Thank you very much. I see Harold has a question, then we'll close the questions at this point, because we do need a few minutes to do our planning for the drafting a statement. Harold, go ahead.

HAROLD ARCOS:

Harold Arcos speaking. Thank you very much, Alan. I would like to thank Becky, first of all, because the presentation has been great, too much details provided, thank you very much. And then, when you talked about risks, Becky, you talked about some projects that perhaps have been considered, but there will be no funds enough, there will be no funds enough for that. Can you remember, or do you remember which projects, specifically, will lack funds? And then, you talked about the growth in funding and that it may impact the acquisition of some assets for ICANN. Becky, what type of assets are you making reference to? What type of assets that have been included in the budget, will not be purchased or acquired? Thank you.

BECKY NASH:

Thank you very much for your question. One of the items that we included in the draft operating plan and budget that published, is the schedule of unfunded potential FY18 activity. The purpose of this schedule was to highlight that we have, in order to present a balanced budget, although during the development of the budget there were several activities or expenses that were being considered, we were not able to include them in the draft FY18 operating plan, due to the fact that we did not have funding available for them.

However, these activities are listed here on this schedule, as well as in the draft that's subject to public comment, and we would consider these, during FY18, based on priority from the community and the availability on funding. And the availability on funding would come either by higher revenue or funding than we anticipated, which would result in an excess. Or the same funding but lower expenses than we anticipated, thus letting us then prioritize these items and include them in our activities. I hope that answers question number one.

Number two, I'm not quite clear on which assets – we were talking about the changes over from the FY18 budget as compared to FY17. Or is it another slide that we were referring to?

ALAN GREENBERG:

I assume the interpreter --

HAROLD ARCOS: Harold Arcos speaking. No, as a matter of fact, it was the slide about risks and opportunities that you showed. And in that slide, you said that there may be some impact on some acquisitions and so these assets would not be acquired. So I was thinking about what type of assets, what's the impact? Or what ICANN ask – which ICANN answered. It's the risk and opportunities slide. You mentioned something in that respect over there, Becky. Thank you very much.

BECKY NASH: Thank you for your question. I do have that slide up, and I believe we are either speaking about the unfunded potential activities, which is the list that I referred to on slide 36. And activities, not assets, that would be projects and/or expenses that are not funded at this time. I hope that answers your question. If not, please feel free to let us know and we can try to answer that more completely for you. I realize that we're out of time at this point, Alan, so I do want to thank you and the group for having us present on the FY18 operating plan and budget. And we certainly look forward to the public comments that are due back on the 28th of April.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much Becky, for you and your colleagues joining us today. Much appreciated. We'll now go on to the next part of our agenda, and we do have permission to stay about five minutes over, but that gives us a total of perhaps 13 minutes. I'm sorry, about 10 minutes now. So if we can, Tijani, do you want to identify what you think you already know that has to be specified in the request, and we see what

else we need to add. Is Tijani still with us? I see his microphone is muted.

TIJANI BEN-JEMMA: Okay, (inaudible) on the telephone?

ALAN GREENBERG: Yes, we can hear you, although with an echo.

TIJANI BEN-JEMMA: Now I am waiting for what you want me to add, because I will go through all this budget. And I will try to make, as usual, comments that we made some (inaudible) point of view. But if you have specific points that you want to add, or you want to include in this statement, please tell me now so that I can (inaudible). Thank you.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. And Heidi, please cover any that I may have forgotten. Certainly, we need to add a request to fund the GAC liaison for travel funding for all three meetings. So that's number one. Number two, in regard to the At Large review, we have said that we strongly disagree with the methodology proposed in the review recommendations that we think will still be in the final review. That is to consolidate RALO leaders, liaisons and ALAC members, in order to free up about 12 or 13 travel slots. In informal discussions we have also said it's not clear we need, at this point, 12 or 13 travel slots.

But I think there's general agreement that if we could have a few more travel slots to fund active work group members and work group leaders, that would significantly improve our ability to both attract, potentially, and certainly maintain qualified people in our various working operations. And to that end, I would suggest that we ask for something like five additional travel slots, and rationalize it.

If you look at the response to the At Large review where we document the very large increase that other organizations have had in travel positions over the last 7, 8, 9 years, and the fact that we have been completely flat. I think that's a request that we certainly need to make, and hopefully will be honored and responded to. Heidi, are there any other items? We've talked a number of times, what else we need to put in this request, have I missed one?

HEIDI ULLRICH:

This is Heidi. So again, you may wish to note, and note the appreciation that the captioning project, the ALAC and the RALO development sessions have now been brought into the core budget. And perhaps make a note that, as these grow, particularly the captioning, that the funding for that core might increase.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Should increase, you're saying?

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Yes. If you wish to say that, yes.

ALAN GREENBERG: It's not accidental. We are suggesting that it should increase, as census now, not just At Large. Alright? Anything else? Anyone else have anything else, or please speak up?

TIJANI BEN-JEMMA: May I add something?

ALAN GREENBERG: Certainly.

TIJANI BEN-JEMMA: I propose that we also propose that the CROPP program become included in the core budget and not, as now, it is outside the budget. Because normally it will be done, but it is not said yet, so I think we have to (inaudible).

ALAN GREENBERG: I don't think anyone would argue with that. I may be wrong, I'm often wrong. I'm right when I make statements like that. Is anyone here prepared to argue it? Anyone else have other things that we want to be explicitly included in this budget request? Or budget comment? Judith, go right ahead.

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: Yes, it's Judith Hellerstein for the record. I guess my questioning was on the – are they looking not to continue the policy development program, or revising that? Because that seemed to be, also, possibly on the chopping block when she had the slide, so just curious about that.

ALAN GREENBERG: My understanding was, it wasn't used very well last year. And they basically had to take the resource and reallocate it to other things, so I don't know the answer to that. It's certainly a question we can ask.

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: Well, it wasn't used well because I think it didn't meet some of the goals people were looking about on how to do policy. And I think that was – they jumped into the next step without going to the teaching people the beginning steps. And that's my thought on that.

ALAN GREENBERG: I'm not quite sure what it is you're suggesting that we comment on, though. Or are you identifying a question we should be asking the finance staff?

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: I guess, yeah. And maybe we want to – I think the idea is to help people do policy, and maybe that approach – I don't think we should – I guess the thing is, I'm afraid if we kick the slot, if we get rid of it, we won't be able to bring something back, of, like, how to do policy.

ALAN GREENBERG: Heidi, go right ahead. Are you responding to Judith?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes.

ALAN GREENBERG: Go ahead.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Well, I'm trying to enhance it. This is Heidi. Judith, perhaps it's something that the DDPP be extended and this time include a more interactive approach toward policy development learning. Is that something that you'd like to add?

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: Yes, I do, because the pilot doesn't teach you how to do policy.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yeah, I understand.

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: Some of these documents and that wasn't helpful.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Okay. Thank you.

ALAN GREENBERG: If we're including several items, some of which may be substantive, we should probably be prepared to prioritize them, however. Just a thought.

TIJANI BEN-JEMMA: Alan, may I ask a question to Judith?

ALAN GREENBERG: Sure.

TIJANI BEN-JEMMA: I still don't understand, don't see clearly what is your suggestion to be included in the statement that we will write about the budget. So it is asking for funding to make a possibility for people to, about policy development?

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: Yes. But more on – something that, I would say maybe, you know, something basic. I think (inaudible) was just doing summaries of policy which I don't think are helpful, as opposed to teaching people how to do it, or something like that.

ALAN GREENBERG: Yeah, do remember, we don't write policy, we only comment on it.

TIJANI BEN-JEMMA: Exactly. But, may I ask you really to write please, something on the paper, and send it to me so that I can better understand, and I can better include your idea in the statement?

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: Yeah, Glenn, I think, is going to have (inaudible), who is actually on the member, to also respond.

ALAN GREENBERG: Better still, add to the wiki.

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: Yeah, and I was just thinking that the summaries were not that helpful. The idea was helpful, it was a good idea, but the way it was deployed wasn't. I'm going to say that if we say no, then when we find an idea, when we want to restructure an idea, we won't be able to do it.

ALAN GREENBERG: Do recall that the summaries were the fallbacks of what we did with the hired consultants, when they weren't being used for what they were originally hired for. Andrei, go ahead.

ANDREI KOLESNIKOV: It's Andrei Kolesnikov, thank you. I have a technical question. In which part of the budget, the review, like CCMSO and At Large review being allocated, which portion of the budgets they are. Thank you.

ALAN GREENBERG: I don't have a clue. It's probably locatable, but I personally don't know. Does anyone have that answer or should we pass it on to finance staff?

TIJANI BEN-JEMMA: I don't have it under my eyes, but Becky spoke about it. Becky spoke about the reviews in the presentation she made.

ALAN GREENBERG: She did. She said one of the risks is the high number of such reviews, but I don't know where in the budget they show up. Can we have an action item to ask finance where do they show up?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Alan, can you completely state the action item in its full form?

ALAN GREENBERG: Yes. Where do the specific reviews and operational unit reviews show up in the budget? The costs for them?

ANDREI KOLESNIKOV: That's right. Thank you.

ALAN GREENBERG: Do we have anything else for Tijani? The wiki is there, linked off of our policy development listing. The deadline is not very far from now, so

we're going to have to do very quick work to get this drafted, and then an opportunity for people to comment on it. So, please don't delay. Any further comments? Hearing none, seeing none, thank you all for your participation. And we will end the call four minutes after time, and one minute before the end of our extension. Thank you all.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Thanks everyone.

ALAN GREENBERG: And thank you to our interpreters again. Bye bye.

EVIN ERDOĞDU: The meeting has been adjourned, thank you very much for joining. Please remember to disconnect all remaining lines and have a wonderful rest of your day. Bye bye.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you, Evin.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]