| CLAUDIA RUIZ: | Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening everyone. Welcome to the NARALO Monthly Teleconference Call on Monday, the 21st of October, 2019, at 16:00 UTC. On the call today, we have Eduardo Diaz, Adrian Schmidt, Dr. Ajay Data, Alfredo Calderon, Benjamin [Broughtman], Gordan Chilcott, Jose [Lebron], Marita Moll, Susannah Gray, and [inaudible]. We have received apologies from David Mackey, Judith Hellerstein, and [Dana Perry]. From staff, we have Silvia Vivanco, Denise Hochbaum, and myself, Claudia Ruiz, on call management. |

Before we begin, I would like to remind everyone to please state their name before speaking for the transcription purposes. With this, I turn it over to you, Eduardo. Thank you.

| EDUARDO DIAZ: | Thank you so much, Claudia. I just want to add that Jonathan Zuck just sent his apologies. [inaudible], also, is not going to be with us today. He's doing something else, something personal. Just to add. |

| CLAUDIA RUIZ: | Thank you. |

| EDUARDO DIAZ: | Thank you so much. Thank you, everyone, for being here today. I just want to know if anybody has a question about the agenda for today, if there is an objection to the agenda or add to it. This is going to be a 60- |

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minute call, hopefully. So, not hearing anyone objecting to the agenda, we're just going to start with it.

So, let me do some introductory remarks and give you an idea of what we're going to [inaudible] today. Well, today we have the honor or having Dr. Ajay Data. He's the director of the Universal Acceptance Steering Group and he's going to give us a presentation about universal acceptance, so we will hear that. The first 30 minutes will be for that presentation and Denise is going to do the appropriate introduction for Dr. Ajay Data.

After that, we're going to get into our business here on the region and I'm looking for a newsletter editor for next year. We will get into that. I'm going to give you an update report on different places, [inaudible] and the School of Internet Governance. And just bringing you up to date on the discretionary funds. We will not have the policy group update as Jonathan is not here. And we will go over some of the outreach group update report for the event coming [inaudible].

So, without further ado, Denise, please, first I think the agenda is Dr. Ajay's presentation. The floor is yours, Denise, for the introduction.

DENISE HOCHBAUM: Okay, Eduardo, thank you. It's Denise Hochbaum [inaudible] the community [inaudible] Universal Acceptance Group, Dr. Ajay Data, who is here to share his [inaudible] about the importance of [inaudible] strategy. [inaudible] in a consistent effort [inaudible]. Ajay Data [inaudible] he introduced the private Internet service for the first time

in 1999. For his first [inaudible], his collaboration [inaudible] into the areas, [inaudible] technology.

Dr. Data is a [inaudible] technical commercial founders, [inaudible] data exchange technologies. He is accredited globally for bringing internationalization supported [e-mail address] in several countries, including [inaudible] and many other languages. He has been driving efforts [inaudible] and cultural diversity [inaudible]. Presently, the [inaudible] email services for [inaudible] innovation and technology [inaudible] under his leadership [inaudible].

We appreciate your time, Dr. Data, and I'm sure today these next 30 minutes will be a great contribution. Thank you.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Dr. Ajay, you have the floor, and staff will pass the presentation slides, so every time you need to move a slide, just let them know and they will do it. So, we're here to hear you. Thank you.

DR. AJAY DATA: Thank you very much, Eduardo, and everybody else who are involved to invite me here and talk about a very important global issue which Universal Acceptance Steering Group is trying to [inaudible]. Before I [inaudible], I hope everybody is able to hear me properly.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Yes, we can hear you properly.

DR. AJAY DATA: Okay. So, thank you and good evening. I am in India. It's around 9:30 PM. Perfect time to talk. This is an important session which I am going to try my best to at least make everybody aware how important this topic is and what [inaudible] it all [inaudible] take it lightly, this topic, and what we are going [to miss]. I am trying to cover a lot in 30 minutes as possible and see if there are any questions we will try to answer. Next slide, please.

Universal Acceptance Steering Group has a mission with a program objective to enable all the domain names in the local languages and the scripts used by communities globally in a secure and stable manner. So, that's the IDN Program which is there. IDN Program actually initiates a [inaudible] universal acceptance. So, if you do not have the linguistic domain names, the IDN domain names, half of the problem of [inaudible] will not be there. So, because we want to bring in more people online, we need the IDNs and this is how one of the issues is [linked to] universal acceptance. Next slide, please.

So, I am going to talk about a little bit around IDNs first and the domain name and then I will switch myself to UA. So, this domain name is, as you can see, there's a top-level domain name, there's a second-level domain name, and third-level domain name. When we are talking about universal acceptance issue, we are talking about the full domain name, not [inaudible] to only top level or the second level or the third level. We are talking about [inaudible], where any domain name which has been used in any of the applications is [inaudible]. And this is how the

ASCII domain names we all know are going to [inaudible] and this is how we will use them in our examples and [features]. Next slide, please.

So, you can see how the domain names are. In a top-level domain name, you have the [inaudible]. So, as you know, the domain names allow everything from the [letters using hyphens] and these are the things which were allowed in the past, where only the domain names would allow [inaudible] in such a manner that's [inaudible] and the hyphens.

So, I think you can guess that because the entire domain name [inaudible] for design in ASCII in such a manner that everybody programmed to define these rules and [inaudible] the domain names accordingly. Next slide, please.

So, the top-level domain names on the right side of the doc, only [designs] A-J. So, they do not have [inaudible], they do not have hyphens. So, when we have dot-com, dot-net, dot-org, they only affect letters. We don't allow the numbers.

So, I am just sharing with you this knowledge so that we know the entire base, how the problem arose, and we can make sense of it how we are going to solve it now. Next slide, please.

So, this is a domain name in IDN. This is a Bengali script, if you see, Bengali, [inaudible]. It's a script in India. You can see the right side of the dot is top-level domain name and the left side is a second-level domain. Now you can see in the first screen, the ASCII domain names had only allowed LDH which means the letters [inaudible] hyphens and the entire [inaudible], what I mean software to accept letters,

[inaudible] hyphens as a valid domain name. You can imagine when these IDNs started coming into life and [inaudible] that software started [inaudible] and that is where universal acceptance issue started happening. Next slide, please.

Just to tell you the impact, that almost 42 countries had [gone live] with [a] top-level domain name in their own scripts which means all the [inaudible] countries almost having an IDN offering in their own country in their own language. So we cannot just ignore them. Next slide, please.

So, universal acceptance initiative has a vision and a mission and this is the impact which you want to create. The vision is very simple, that all domain names and all e-mail addresses must work in all the software applications. Plain and simple. There is no rocket science here. It's very simple English. Everybody can make sense that if you have a valid domain name, if you have a valid e-mail address, it must work in all the software applications or the website.

The mission is to mobilize the software application developers because the vision is not getting achieved. It is not proved that all the domain names and all the e-mail addresses are treated equally. They are marked as invalid. They are rejected in spite of they are valid. So, there's the mission, to mobilize the software application developers to get their products UA ready, encourage them. Provide them documentation. Provide them case studies. Provide them tools [inaudible] so that they can make their software UA ready and accept all the domain names and e-mail addresses in their application. Next slide, please.

So you can see, I gave you an example of IDN which seemed to be very logical that we moved from ASCII to IDN and there was a logical problem. But there was another problem. When ICANN came out with new gTLD rounds and there were top-level domain names more than three characters. I actually focused on top-level domain names in the past. Top-level domain names started happening from three digits to four digits, which were country-code top-level domain names, and it could go up to 64 digits.

So, you can imagine the top-level domain name which is like dot-com and dot-net, it's now possible technically to have 64 characters. So, you can imagine when the Internet started way back 30 years before almost, when dot-com and dot-net got into existence, all the software developers started thinking that only three characters after the dot are valid, and [inaudible] the applications to value that domain name accordingly.

When the country-code top-level domain name came, then instead of three characters, it started to be two characters. So, they modified a little bit on the applications and they started making two characters top-level domain name also valid.

But a new challenge came when the 64 characters were allowed. So, you were supposed to modify the databases, to storage platform, the [inaudible] platform and actually still today it is not solved properly that all the domain names are [inaudible].

So, one of the problems, which is a starting point of creation of the Universal Acceptance Steering Group is that more than [three-

character] top-level domain names were not treated valid by e-mail addresses, were not treated valid. They were rejected. So, then, all new gTLD operators were obviously not happy with that existence and this community got together to solve this problem.

So, you can see example.photograph is one example, that IDN domain name is one example, and you can see that when you go – you can see the e-mail address. We did, actually, my Hindi e-mail address, if somebody can read Hindi. These are the categories which are affected by UA and these are the issues which we are trying to solve in this. Next slide, please.

UA has a very simple mission. Let us look at an example of any website which [inaudible] are working for or you have your own company or you have your own [inaudible] where you have a website, and you have a newsletter section, and I come to your website and try to register with my Hindi e-mail address. So, does the website accept my e-mail address? Accept means it does not reject my e-mail address by [inaudible] the characters. Does it validate it the way it is required, that it is [inaudible]? Does it store it correctly in the [inaudible] database? Does it process it well, so that it can send an email or send an invoice or send a newsletter to me? Can it be processed well? Then, when it is acquired, can it display that well?

The structure of UA, complete structure of UA, so that people can test their website, test their software, test their applications, and see whether you are UA ready or not. So, you must accept, you must validate, you must store, you must process and you must display all the domain names and all e-mail addresses equally. If you are rejecting and

your website is rejecting or any software is rejecting, then you are not UA ready. That's the fundamentals of the UA readiness. Next slide, please.

So, there are community stakeholders. When I took over as chairman in March, the mandate was that we need to have a strategic plan because ICANN now started having UA as one of the strategic plans in their core issues. So, the focus started getting more on UA Group and we started getting the feedback that we must have a clear goal of community whom we are going to address. Who is going to support us? Who is going to help us in this mission and involve them more deeply, [inaudible] more better, so that we can achieve our goal faster?

So, these are the five community stakeholders the community identified. One of them is technology enablers. These are the people who make standards, like IETF, IEE. These are the people, we call them the [inaudible]. We go to them, talk to them, who make the [development standards] and ask them to provide us a framework, so that these softwares which people are going to use are going to use this framework to create a software and make it possible to make UA-ready software.

Technology developers are the people who are going to use these frameworks and develop the applications that is clear and without the framework, you cannot build [inaudible] ready application or a UA ready application.

Then, e-mail software and service providers, such as me and Google and Microsoft and IBM, the people who are providing email tools or email

clients or email services. They need to be UA ready. So, obviously everything comes from a software and then software should be UA ready, then the [inaudible] them on, so that the UA-ready services can be offered. So, then Google and Microsoft are UA ready phase one, which means you can send an e-mail to them with your linguistic e-mail address and receive an email from. But Google and Microsoft or Gmail and Microsoft are still not ready to host your IDN for [inaudible] services.

Influencing Individuals and Organizations. So, we go to individuals in the local communities and in [inaudible] also who can help us promote UA readiness. We tried to find out the ambassadors. We tried to find out the people who can influence the CIOs, influence the CEOs, and see that the UA mission can be told, the initiative can be told, and they can adopt the UA practice so that the softwares are UA ready.

Government policy makers. Essentially, government is going to be a very big target for us in this year and we are targeting if governments are going to have the procurement policy of softwares which are UA ready, it is going to happen [inaudible] the technology enablers and developers to make their softwares UA ready. Next slide, please.

So, all of you who are part of NARALO and who would like to work closely with UA Group, there are six working groups we have. And these working groups are now live. You can apply on [inaudible]. They're always open. Anybody can apply. There are no restrictions. [inaudible] people are there.

Technology Working Group is going to plan, coordinate, and oversee. We have a Technology Working Group chair, Satish Babu, from India who is chairing this group.

Email Address Internationalization Working Group is led by Mark from Microsoft. He is [inaudible] the plan for UA readiness.

Measurements Working Group is also active and live which is headed by Dennis Chang from Verisign. He is leading that.

Communications Working Group is going to plan and development the communication strategy and community for all the stakeholders. This is led by Raul from India.

Local Initiatives, I am [driving] right now, to construct and plan. This is under execution.

And UA Ambassadors Working Group is led by Dusan from Russia.

These are the working groups which are live, which are active. You may like to participate in any of the working groups. More than one is also fine. Just go to UASG website. On the bottom of the page, you will find a "join working group" section. Click on this and you can just simply fill a form and you will be added. Every week [inaudible]. Next slide, please.

So, how do we move forward, basically? This is where I want to leave you with some actionables before I finish my presentation probably in another two or three slides.

Test your own e-mail address. So, would you like to test your e-mail address if you have on UASG.tech website. There is a widget which we

have created. You can test your website and see whether your email service provider or your email solution is UA ready or not. If not, then you may like to go back to your service provider and ask that we need an UA-ready solution. Because you may not have a linguistic email need or [inaudible] but you may like to be ready, so that somebody else can communicate with you in their own language and send an email, too. Just like if I want to send my email to you from my Hindi e-mail address, most of you will reject that e-mail address or may not understand, your server may not understand what's coming there if you're not UA ready.

You can secure [inaudible] language [inaudible] from these two systems, DataMail app and CoreMail. These are the things which are available completely free. You can secure an e-mail address in the language probably of your choice. Otherwise, 20 languages are there and you can pick up any language and try out in your applications and softwares whether you're EAI ready or not.

Get your own systems evaluated and fixed. That's very important. So, there is a CIO guide available on UASG.tech. You can just Google "UASG blueprint for CIOs." You will get the document. This document, you can give it to your CIO or maybe read it yourself and see how do we evaluate our softwares which are being used in [inaudible] and how do we make them UA ready?

Then, bring in [inaudible]. This is especially for government and this is where we seek your help. If you have any contact in government, if you have any procurement plan, if you know somebody who can guide us and help us [inaudible] policy, UASG.tech has a procurement guideline which can be given to them [inaudible] and they can just [inaudible] into

their procurement process, and when the procurement software, it is automatically UA ready. That's how we are going to make the UA readiness into the system.

Report UA problems. So, if you have an e-mail address in the language of your choice and you go to a website which does not accept or rejects your e-mail address, please let us know. We have a full support platform on the backend supported by ICANN. The issue gets logged and reach out to the customer, reach out to the site which is not supporting.

For example, let's say you go to American Airline or [inaudible] you tried to register your e-mail address for a ticket and it gets rejected. Let us know. We will try to contact them and try to get this resolved.

Participate in the UASG discussions. UASG, everything is open. Everything is transparent. There is nothing closed. And we are going to have almost five or six sessions in Montreal. All are open. You can join them remotely. Same as with the Discuss list here. Anybody is welcome to join a Discuss list. You can just go to UASG.tech/subscribe. Just put in your email address and you'll be part of us and discuss [inaudible] and participate. We have a very active community here. We are almost 450-plus community members here. [inaudible] UASG working groups I have already [inaudible]. Next slide, please.

So, there are many documents which are available here. On UASG.tech website, you can go and look at the document section. There are three sections. Especially these four I would like to mention. The Quick Guide to Universal Acceptance, Quick Guide to Email Address Internalization. There is a case study by done by government Rajasthan here in India in

which they have provided almost six million Hindi email addresses to [inaudible] completely free of cost so that they can come online. And Quick Guide to Tendering and Contractual Documents. I think these are very, very important to look at. All the links, which are there in the presentation, are working, so you can click on the link. My presentation is there. And you can use whatever you want to whenever you have convenience. Next slide, please.

So, this is a very recent article I actually sent and probably you guys have already seen it. I wrote this article. This was covered almost 50% of the page on a newspaper where it is very clearly said, "Bug in your website, Solve to enable your business for next billion customers." So, I would stress to you as a last action, within the organization you are at, and you have a responsibility, please go to your CIO, CEO, CTO or yourself. Look at the EAI website and your organization website. Do not have that bug. Accept all domain names and email addresses. It will be a great boost to the UA, a great boost to the people who would like to come online and [inaudible] for the next million people online. Next slide, please.

I guess we are done. Yes. Thank you very much for inviting me. These are my email addresses. Just to give you an example, you can see my English email address, then my Hindi email address, and then my Bengali email address. These are how the EAI looks like and I am on [inaudible]. Everybody can connect. Would be happy to help.

Thank you very much for inviting me, listening to me patiently. If you have room to ask questions, I will be happy to answer. Thank you very much

EDUARDO DIAZ: Thank you so much, Dr. Ajay Data. This is a very interesting thing. Thank you for the information. Does anyone have a question for Dr. Data? I do have a question in the meantime. I see you gave examples on how we can help on spreading the word, but we as an organization, a the North American Regional At-Large Organization, how you see us helping in this?

DR. AJAY DATA: As I told, there are two or three steps which you can take. Encourage people to join Universal Acceptance Discuss List and join working groups, so that they can know more about what's going on and take the tools and message out of that group and spread the work in the local communities to the local IT companies, to the technology developers, to the government.

I told you there are five stakeholders which [inaudible]. All the five stakeholders [inaudible]. So, for example, if you know somebody in a particular framework who is – [inaudible], for example, is not UA ready. For example, [inaudible] is not UA ready. So, if you know somebody who knows [inaudible] and who can help us connect and can also convince him that we need to build applications and tools to be UA ready, it would be a great community service [inaudible] because ultimately we need to bring all those people online who do not know English and this is a barrier to bring them online for [inaudible] people online.

So, there are many steps which I have put in my presentation and these can be followed very easily. Anybody who is in [inaudible] people get on the call or mail or whatever to help them out.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Thank you. Whoever wants a copy of this presentation, it's in the agenda. Just click the blue square there and it will take you to the presentation and you can download it because there is information in the presentation that I think is very useful, [inaudible] of the emails and links to other places. I guess one of the best things we can do as a whole is to spread the word.

Dr. Data, we already … Also, we created a group which we call the Universal Acceptance Group which is led by Denise. That was the person that introduced you and I have been in contact with you. It's a group of three people that basically they are here to help the region, make sure that we understand the problems around the universal acceptance and ways that we can help or any other information. So, I'm pretty sure that group will be more involved with the UASG and the working groups, and most importantly with the ambassadors that have been assigned to this region.

DR. AJAY DATA: So, this is fantastic, actually. I'm very pleased to hear that you have a UASG Working Group yourself. I [inaudible] ICANN [inaudible] and block your dates with the ICANN schedule for all the UASG events which are happening there. First time UASG is having all the events during ICANN. Before that, we used to have a digital event which means before ICANN

started, before Monday, we used to have the entire UASG day. So, after [inaudible], we have changed the plan and we want to bring in more focus within the community so that it is on the agenda, you can look at the agenda and slot yourself to participate in any of the working groups, any topics you have.

Another thing which I want to tell you is very, very important. When you are having your working group, be very active into the community within the UA because there is a lot of action happening right now. In almost every working group, we have more than 50 people who are actively participating. This is a very, very active community group right now. There is a lot to learn. A lot of new ideas are coming in and a lot of new things you can take to the local community and spread the good word. This is all which I would like to say.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Okay, thank you. So, before we finish this session, are there any questions for Dr. Ajay? This is a fantastic opportunity for you to ask him anything about universal acceptance or doubts about what you just learned. I guess there are no questions, so I want to thank you, Dr. Data, for taking your time and presenting this to us today.

DR. AJAY DATA: Thank you very much. It's my pleasure. Thank you very much.

EDUARDO DIAZ: You're welcome to stay in our meeting if you want but I just wanted to make sure that you—

DR. AJAY DATA: Yeah. I will listen to you. Thank you very much.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Okay, thank you so much. So, if we can put the agenda back. Okay. Thank you so much. The next item in our agenda is the fact that I'm looking for volunteers to manage the newsletter during 2010, next year. This newsletter, we have been doing this for the past five years and this year, Susannah Gray, from San Francisco helped us in coordinating a newsletter. Basically, the work that … It's not that much work that has to be done, because really what we are looking for is a person that can make sure, that can gather content from the region every month. [inaudible] email. I believe you have seen this type of mail asking for content about events, presentations, anything you want to tell the whole region about what you're doing in relation to NARALO.

Once you get all this content, you just send it to staff and they will do the actual assembly of putting together the newsletter and all the other stuff about policy and they will take care of sending it to the region.

So, that's [inaudible]. Also, if you can do some editing because some of us are not English speakers as a first language. Sometimes, we make mistakes. I don't know if staff helped us but I know Susannah helped us there in one way or another. So, the question is are there any volunteers to this next year? This is to start in January of next year. I don't see any clicks. [inaudible] do this.

So, I don't see anyone. So, let's keep it in mind.

CLAUDIA RUIZ: Eduardo, sorry for the interruption. I see that [inaudible] as his hand up.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Oh, okay. You want to say something?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yeah. I can help on the newsletter for the 2020 year. I'd be glad to help.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Okay, that's very good. Like I said, it's not a lot of work. What I will do is I will be in contact with Susannah, so she can [inaudible] the things that she does. It's a matter of putting these things together and send it to staff and as part of doing this on a continued basis. The main purpose, when we started putting together this letter, was really to send a [inaudible] to the region every month. Even thought if you don't … Even though only 20-30% of the people opened this, at least you read the subject, and that bit is important to be seen, just to make sure that we are there, there's a continuity, and from time to time, if you want to know what's going on in the region, you can open it.

Not only that, the newsletter serves as a repository of the work that we do as a region around this theme of the DNS and ICANN. It's a historical record of what has happened.

So, events that you have, anything that you think can be [inaudible], send it to whatever editor we have at that point and it will get published

one way or another and we get that out to the record. It's important that we continue doing this. [inaudible] name correctly. Thank you so much for putting yourself forward as a volunteer.

Let's go to the next item. The next item has to do with an update. I want to give you an update on the ATLAS III and the North American School of Internet Governance.

The ATLAS III, for those of you that you may know or may not know, it's a training program that is going to happen during three or four days in Montreal. There are around 60 participants that will participate in mostly a leadership-type training. But before that … There will be people participating for all the regions. In our case, there were only five people that applied to this training and there were only two that were selected. They have a specific criteria that they have to pass and the two of them are Adrian and David that are going to participate representing NARALO in this training. The rest are coming from all the regions around the world.

So, Claudia, can we see the block schedule? Just to make sure that [inaudible]. So, I just wanted to show you here we are in the second column, which is [inaudible] ALAC. This comes from the schedule used for the final block. You can see on the right side, up in the right side, you can see … I'm lost here. Where is it? Where is the date? Oh, Friday. So, can we move forward just a little bit? The next one? Oops.

You can see here on Saturday, you can see the second column there will be some At-Large work. And if we move to Sunday, Saturday and Sunday is really At-Large work the whole day. So, ATLAS III is going to

[inaudible] Monday morning. Sunday, where are you? ATLAS III is happening Monday. Sunday, in the afternoon, after we finish the ALAC work, there will be a meeting of the ALAC people and NARALO people with a trainer because some of us from ALAC and NARALO will be participating in the ATLAS III as co-chairs. That means that we are going to be participating in the breakout rooms and helping in the trainings, helping the trainer [inaudible] with training specific groups. So, we're going to have some kind of training how to do this.

Basically, the ATLAS will go on from Monday [inaudible]. I'm just going to show you Monday and [inaudible] the other one. All this information, by the way, is in the official schedule on the ICANN 66 space. You will see the thing there is [inaudible] see presentations presented in a different way, not like this.

In any case, really we are going to start the training Monday. It's going to be officially Monday at 15:15, which if you look at the second column, is all the way … There's nothing [inaudible] 15:15. That doesn't mean that you're not going to be participating in anything like this. We are expecting everyone to participate in the Welcome Ceremony which starts at 9:00 and there will be a – which I don't see here. It's a high-interest topic that everyone is going to be asked to participate and [inaudible] EPDP Phase 2, so on and so forth. Can we go back to the agenda, please?

If we go to the training schedule, which is the next one, you can click on that. I'm not going to go through the whole schedule, but I'll just give you a sense as to what is going to happen. By the way, [October] 23rd which is a Wednesday and has been put in the ALAC calendar, there is a

going to be a webinar for all the participants and you are all invited to participate on this webinar. Really, the webinar is an orientation session where we will go and explain the whole schedule and what is going to happen, what to expect, and we will give you a time to ask any questions about what is going to happen in this training.

Basically, the way it was set up is there is going to be a plenary, like in this case, it is just an example of the block for Monday. At 15:15, there is going to be a plenary and the idea is that some training – the idea is a presentation will be presented. In this case, [a change in] leadership. And then you will go to a breakout session to actually go through that on a practice session, the ideas that were presented in the plenary.

The whole three days will go like that: plenary, breakout, plenary, breakout. Also, there will be other sessions of the ICANN regular meeting that we will ask participants to participate. For example, there will be a meeting within the ICANN board and the GAC and we want people to participate in that and do some kind of reporting after that. Then, there will be another meeting with ALAC and the Board and everybody has to participate in that. There are some high-interest topics that will happen during these three days that people are expected to participate.

So, it's a very different schedule but it's going to be very interesting. It's going to be very dynamic. For people that are going to Montreal, it's going to be very interesting. I know people have other responsibilities, like for example, Alan is involved with EPDP 2 and will be doing other stuff in between.

That's basically what's going to happen in Montreal, if we can go back to the agenda. All the sessions will be online, will be streamed, except the breakout rooms which are different rooms all over the place. Are there any questions so far? If not, I have put in the agenda the time and the date where the webinar is going to happen. I didn't put a link to the Wiki page for this, but if you're interested in knowing more about this and what is going to happen there, even if you are not going, then I recommend you participate in this webinar and learn what is going to happen and what are the goals and things like that of the ATLAS III. If there are no questions about that, we'll move to the next item. Are there any questions, comments? No? Okay.

So, the next item brings us to just to let you know there is funding available for your activities, if they are related around ICANN. There is a request form that you have to go through. The actual balance … Every region has to be [fined] $4,000 to support these types of events. So far, our balance right now is $500. Some of the money is going to be used by the GDPR event that is happening November 2nd in the morning. That was requested by Glenn. I understand that Adrian Schmidt had an event happening September and there was some problem with the schedule and I believe it's going to happen in January now. Adrian, correct me if I am wrong on this. Basically, there is a balance of $3500 that is there for all of you to use if you need help with your events. So, please. I just wanted to remind you about this.

The next one, I'm going to the next item agenda here. Marita Moll can … Jonathan is not going to be with us today, but Marita Moll can update us on two of the items that she is working on, on the policy front. Also, Alan is with us today and once Marita finishes, she can bring us up to

date on the EPDP work that is being done right now. Marita, you have the floor.

MARITA MOLL: Hi, everybody. I just wanted to quickly let you know about a couple of items I've been involved in during this last month. Most of the work that I've done has gone into the evolution of the multi-stakeholder model in ICANN. ICANN's version of the multi-stakeholder model is really very unique and it is still very much under development. There is lots of issues and frustrations in the system and things that need to be improved. So, what's currently going on and has been going on for almost a year is an investigation into how can we improve it. We're now on the third round of people commenting to refine previous comments. We've had three various public comment opportunities, as well as meetings at ICANN events. This is all being facilitated by Brian Cute who has been hired to help us come up with ideas on how to improve things.

There were many, many issues to begin with and they've all been condensed into what were eight issues and we were asked this time around to look at each one of those eight issues, decide whether or not they needed to be dealt with right away or whether or not they could be put on hold or whether or not there was some other process going on that was already addressing some of that and to give our own ideas about how some of these things – some of these issues – could be addressed.

The issues involve everything from prioritization of work to culture of ICANN, the trust among groups, silo-ing, and how we evolve the roles and responsibilities. So, it's a whole bunch of different issues.

We put out about a 10-page paper on this over the last month [inaudible] that now is the time to get in everything as we're probably nearing the completion of this stage.

The paper is currently … Let me see. I'll put a link to it on the chat here. It's a long paper, but there's a two-page summary, which if you want to look at it, it'll be helpful. It's an interesting look at the system itself and things that could be done to improve it because it's been going for a while and problems have been piling up.

The other issue I was involved in was that we were asked whether or not we wanted to comment on the public interest commitment that Amazon.org had offered to the group of nations that line the Amazon Basin because ICANN has actually almost completed the process of following true with its allocation of the dot-amazon name at the top level.

It's been a very sticky process that's been going on for a long time. The ALAC group decided that really we didn't have much more to say about it. We weren't really unanimous on what we would want to say. So, our comment was basically that we're not in agreement about whether or not these public interest commitments are what's needed. We know the Amazon region is not really in agreement and we felt it was better for these two groups to continue to work on it as need be. And that will be it, except if there are any questions.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Are there any questions for Marita? It is a very quiet crowd.

MARITA MOLL: Thank you.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Well, Alan, can you give us an update on the EPDP, if there's anything to say there? Mr. Alan Greenberg, if you're speaking, you are muted because we cannot hear you. Okay. Well, we'll see if Alan can join us later on before we end this call. Thank you, Marita, for the information.

The last thing on the agenda is just an update report on the outreach group. Basically, this has to do with the CROP trips happening next year. The application for all these events. It's January 10. The latest information that I had, I don't know if it's different than this, but as of August 12th, there were five publications for [inaudible] to go to [inaudible] 45 which is going to be in Louisville, Kentucky, in April. But there are still applications for the Nonprofit Technology Conference happening in Baltimore in March and zero applications for the [inaudible] [Inclusion] happening in April, so I encourage anyone to please apply for it, any of these events. I just want to stress the fact that these applications have to be in before January 10 of next year in order to make sure that we process them in time. Alfredo, you have your hand up.

ALFREDO CALDERON: Yes, can you hear me?

EDUARDO DIAZ: Yes.

ALFREDO CALDERON: Okay. I haven't looked into the form yet but my question is if somebody has applied for one of these activities in the last year, can he reapply for this year or is there some sort of a restriction? Thank you.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Thank you, Alfredo, for your question. I am not aware of any restrictions based on how many times you have been there. In fact, other regions, they tend to send the same person to the same event because they believe that once you go more than once, then you establish some kind of rapport, you understand the meetings, you know how to move around the meetings and it's easier to do the outreach that way. So, as far as I know, I don't think there is any restriction. I don't know, Silvia or Claudia, if you know. Silvia says there is no restriction. Like I said, if you know more about this conference, if you have been there before, then it's even better because you know what to expect. The more you go, the better it is. Alan, please.

ALAN GREENBERG: Yeah, thank you. There are certainly mixed opinions on that. Some people feel it's really important to get more people involved and expose more people. Other one region tends to use these things for their

leadership because they get involved in other groups at the same time. It's really a judgment call. If you make a good case, then I presume it will be considered. It's my choice, obviously. But different regions do it different ways. Thank you.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Yeah. The important thing is if you have the time an interest, do apply for these events. Heidi, you have your hand up.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Thank you, Eduardo. To add to what you've mentioned and what Alan has mentioned, I don't believe that there are restrictions for people going repeatedly. However, all of this should be in your RALO's annual fiscal year outreach and engagement plan that you've established and hopefully that's passed and that's a requirement for your CROP trip and it should guide you in your activities which events you're going to go to and also who should be going to best represent NARALO.

Also, keep in mind that this year for the additional budget request, the RALO discretionary funding, that is going to require a report at the end of the fiscal year. So, it's important that you select the people that are going to deliver and have the most success in outreach and engagement activities. Thank you.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Thank you Heidi for your information. Alan, we have three minutes. Can you give us a quick update on the EPDP? Alan.

ALAN GREENBERG: Sure. And it will be very quick. The focus of the EPDP at this point is to look at the access method. One of the main targets of the overall EPDP, in addition to setting the policy for registrars and registries, is to develop methodology for making access available to the data for those who have a legitimate need to know.

What we have done is broken the access process and perhaps access software into a number of building blocks and we're looking at them one by one. There are still very different opinions within the group on whether any level of real automation is possible. Certainly, there will be automated assistance that we may have accreditation processes or authentication processes so we know who it is that may be requesting but whether something can be handled in a purely automated way, essentially, and someone makes a request for some non-public data and gets it immediately or whether it has to be handled by a person looking at the request is not at all clear.

Some people, and I'm among them, believe that some types of requests should be able to be handled completely automatically and [automated] but others will have to be reviewed by a person, and particularly by the registrar who may have access to information about the registrant that is not even in WHOIS.

So, it's a complex process. We're working on it and we are making some progress but we still have a way to go. There will be meetings, I believe both a public meeting and a private meeting – not private but working

group meetings open for people to observe but not participate in, in Montreal.

So, it's progressing. It's a lot of work. Hopefully, we're making headway. Thank you.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Thank you, Alan. I do have a question before we finish. Is there a deadline for the second part, the EPDP 2?

ALAN GREENBERG: There is no deadline, as such. We have some working targets, a timeline when we would like to get a report out, but there's no formal deadline other than the clock is ticking and we're spending an awful lot of time and resources on this process, so we'd like to complete it as soon as possible. But there's a lot of difficult questions to answer. Among the is the question of whether ICANN would be willing to take the responsibility and the risk associated with making decisions and is that in fact legal under European data law? So, both of those questions are up. We are in the process of asking ICANN what extent they believe hey are willing to take responsibility and we believe ICANN is in the process of trying to understand from the European Data Protection Board to what extent we would be allowed to, should we be willing to. So, all of that is still up in arms.

It's a very difficult problem right now because we're trying to design a system and we don't really know what the parameters are that are controlling it.

EDUARDO DIAZ: I hope you the best of luck.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you.

EDUARDO DIAZ: And success, surely. And success. So, with that in mind, I want to thank you, Dr. Ajay Data, who stayed with us during the meeting and for his presentation. I'm pretty sure we will hear more about the universal acceptance issues going forward and keep us up to date on that front.

With that in mind, this meeting is adjourned. See you in November.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you.

DR. AJAY DATA: Thank you very much. See you in Montreal.

EDUARDO DIAZ: Bye, bye. Thank you.

CLAUDIA RUIZ: Thank you, everyone, for joining the call. This meeting is now adjourned. Please enjoy the rest of your day. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]