
YESIM NAZLAR: Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to everyone. Welcome to the EURALO Board Teleconference taking place on Thursday, 19th of December 2019, at 1700 UTC. On our call today we have Sébastien Bachollet, Erich Schweighofer, Roberto Gaetano, Yrjö Länsipuro, Joanna Kulesza, and Olivier Crepin-Leblond.

We have received apologies from Matthias Hudobnik. From Staff side we have Heidi Ullrich, Gisella Gruber, and myself, Yeşim Nazlar, and I also will be doing call management for today's call. Just a kind reminder before we start to please state your names before speaking for the transcription purposes. And now I would like to give the floor back to you, Sébastien. Thank you very much.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much, Yesim, and thank you for the participants who came on very short notice. The main goal of this meeting is to talk about Board election and I will come back to that. The second item will be if we can share how we think that participation within the ICANN policy can be done at the European level, at EURALO level, and I would like to have a few minutes to discuss where we are with internet individual user association. One of the reasons I add that to the agenda, as you will see where we are with the candidate for the Board. And of course, if there is any other business, I will follow on that. Any comments on the proposed agenda?

Okay, if not, let's go to the first item and let's talk about EURALO Board election. If we can have the page here, and thank you Yesim for doing

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that and thank you, Gisella, to set up the page. We have some obligations or rules. The first one is that we must have 3 to 7 Board members in the discussion prior to the election. We have decided to have a few more ex officio members, for example the current Chair of this internet individual user association is now a Board member as ex officio, we saw that it was a good idea. I hope that the work will be done when we will establish the new rules, all that will be included.

The second rule was no more than one per At-Large structure and no more than one per country. Therefore if you take the current situation, if we follow the rules, and I will go later on if we don't follow, but if we follow the rules, we have two situations.

Yes Roberto, it's 3 to 7 in addition to the ex officio. It's something we can revise when we discuss about new rules, but for the moment that is the situation. If we go to election with the ground rules, for example we have one member of the European individual association coming from France if he is the first elected. The only other one who could be elected is Lutz, who did give yet his agreement to be considered as a candidate. Therefore, we will end up with two and maybe just one Board member. I think it's not possible, I think it's one way but not the best way.

The second, if we have one non-French EURALO individual association member, we will have the possibility to have two additional members, the two coming from outside of EURALO, if Lutz gives his agreement, and that means a Board of two or three depending on what Lutz is doing. Therefore, you see if we follow the ground rules we have a good

chance not to have even enough candidates selected or elected to our Board of three.

Therefore, the second way to go is not to follow the rules, and I take the position if we don't follow one rule, we will not follow the second one, that means GLS and the country. If we don't follow the rules, we have current seven nominations, we need to see how many will be accepted, but I guess for the sake of nomination it's okay, we have to have Ricardo give his agreement. We have still to go, to know about Anne Marie and Lutz.

Therefore, if we don't follow the rules, and Joanna, it's a way to change the rules, but it's my advice, we don't start to rewrite the rules now, it will be the full work that will have to be done about the new operation rules. If we don't follow the rules, we have two paths to go, or we don't do any election as we have seven or less nominations and therefore candidates, and we take all of them, or we go through an election and we will just take the one who has more than 50% of the voters.

We have far way to go and I would like very much to have your input of the ones you would like us to go. Thank you very much. If anyone wants to take the floor, go ahead, please. And I can add, before giving the floor to someone who will ask for, we have already delayed the end of the nomination twice, therefore I think we need to stop nomination now, tomorrow evening, I guess, and go the decision on the rule together. Sorry, someone wants to talk, go ahead please. Yrjö?

YRJÖ LÄNSIPURO:

Thank you, Sébastien, this is Yrjö Länsipuro speaking. Well, in spite of what you just said, that we have extended the deadline twice and we should get to the work of selecting, still I think that one possibility would be to extend the deadline once more, because this happens to be a rather bad time for actually people's attention. The end of the year, holiday season coming, and so on and so forth. That would be one way, and we will try to get a few more people.

Following the rules or not, in principle, I am for following the rules. This is the basics of any sort of work in any association to my mind and changing the rules is always possible, but there is a procedure for that and then you could of course see whether the rules are sensible right now, but changing the rules after the game has started is really something, that could be a bad example. So my advice would be to throw it open once more, and then really start to recruit, start to use our networks and our acquaintances, and try to spread the word that we need a few good people. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you, Yrjö. Roberto, please.

ROBERTO GAETANO:

Yes, this is Roberto for the recording. I think I agree with Yrjö in the sense that changing the rules while the election is open is not good. I believe also that in order to change the rules, I don't think that the Board can change those rules, we have to go through a General Assembly, but I might be wrong, so I would like to ask confirmation on this.

This said, I know that what I'm saying might be biased by the fact that I am chairing the EURALO Individual User Association, but I think that the fact of having the limitation of only one person in the Individual User Association means that we can only have at maximum one individual user that is in the Board. I think there is a substantial difference between having more individual users and having more members of one regular ALS.

This said, rules are rules, but I was wondering the current Board is fully according to the rules, or do have already here an exception? I just ask Staff for confirmation. Anyway, what I'm saying is those are two different things. This said, my proposal would be to put the questions to membership for a vote and I would say that for individual users, we should remove the limitation of not belonging to the same ALS and for what is nationality, I think that we can, how can I say, loosen the constraint if this will bring more members.

In other words, what I'm trying to say is that if we have 3 seats and 4 people, and there are 2 with the same nationality, I think that we should pick only one. But if we have 3 people for 3 seats and 2 have the same nationality, I think that we should loosen the constraint because otherwise we will have one member less. So, accept more people with the same nationality, only if that will not exclude somebody that would be geographically different. I don't know if this makes sense or if I explained myself clearly.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much. Any other input? Okay, Joanna, please.

JOANNA KULESZA:

Thank you. Joanna Kulesza for the record. I agree with everything that has been said, I am in favor of not changing the rules while the game is on. I'm trying to do the map here, I'm not very good at maps, I apologize, but my understanding is that we still have a pretty good team in place to do the work, I think that's the fundamental guideline we should be following. So even if it is just 2 or 3 people we get through the nominations, I understand that there is quite a rich variety of ex officio members that gives us a team of 7 or 8, if my calculations are okay. If we could scroll up the screen, that would make my job much easier.

But I understand that there is still a pretty good team. So, my personal hunch on this would be to follow with the rules as they are, live with the consequences and the lesson learned would be to amend the rules accordingly for the next selection, but I don't think we are in as dramatic of a situation as it might seem from the nominations themselves, because it seem like there is still a pretty strong team on the Board to lead the work further. I might be wrong, but I'm happy to stand corrected. Having listened to you guys, thank you for sharing your insights, I don't think we are in as much of a trouble as it might seem initially. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you. Olivier, please.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Sébastien, Olivier Crepin-Leblond speaking. So, just as sort of a background to the "rules." These are not at present in the EURALO bylaws. They are operational processes by which we have operated. They were not drafted as rules, because that as Sébastien said, the next step is for us to draft these as operational rules and then have some kind of a formality to them.

So at present, the formality that there is was a discussion a few years ago in a EURALO call and some decisions that were made in order to promote the diversity of the EURALO Board so as to have diversity in geographical diversity and so as not to have the Board filled by people from the same region. As I said, there was no formal thing to copy, it was a consensus call that was sent over to the mailing list in 2015, I think it was, and everyone said if there is no objection, then this is what we were going to proceed with. So they are guidelines, if you want, more than rule.

Now when it comes down to whether these should be upheld for this year or not, it's a difficult question, because obviously you would like to have as many people of being able to be involved as possible, but at the same time you do have this constraint that it there, that actually doesn't play in your favor. That being said, I also do think that we have now a number of ex officio members as well in there. So it's a balancing act between the two. I don't have an exact answer on this.

As I said, I was in support of the rules back then, so you make it difficult for me to say now let's change the rules. With regard to the EURALO Individual User Association, it's a complex things because obviously the individual is technically an ALS but is not a typical ALS. There are some

specific agreements done with the EURALO individuals because they're there to support an ATRT mandated piece of work and our region is just doing it in this special way, which implies having something that's certainly independent.

So, I don't think that we can put the two together. I think that there are special cases, and when it comes down to which rules with should move forward with, as I said, they are not rules. So if you're deciding now to change it, what I would suggest is to say okay, and I know that time is of the essence, but at the same time it's still, we don't have a deadline where we need to be operational that quickly, you could ask for a consensus goal with a proposal from the current Board, you know, we propose changing this for this year with a look to get the EURALO relevant working group to work on this and then operationalize this. I'm leaving all options open. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you, Olivier. Erich please.

ERICH SCHWEIGHOFER: Erich Schweighofer speaking. I support Yrjö's remarks concerning following the rules, in particular also we have a call for nominations, and I would like that the conditions remain the same, meaning there was a procedure. So the best would be to make an extension, also noting that we changed the rules now, now that we may take more from the EURALO Individual User Association because of its special situation, and keep the other rules in the bylaws with only commitment and code of

conduct concerning diversity, just no particular mentioning concerning ALSes. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you. Anyone else? Olivier, a new hand? Okay, go.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Yeah, it's a new hand, thank you very much Sébastien. Olivier Crepin-Leblond speaking. It's worth mentioning, and I forgot to mention that in my previous intervention, that last year we closed our eyes on the rule of one person per At-Large structure because we took individuals as not being part of an At-Large structure.

So we had a Board that was majorly constituted of individuals, but we decided to keep the restriction on the nationality or the residency of the people that were on the Board. So although there was an election that was contested, I remember that some people did not manage to make it because they were in second place for the country concerned. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you. Okay, Yrjö please.

YRJÖ LÄNSIPURO: Yeah, I think about the ALSes there are two things here. First of all the individual association, as it was said, it is technical an ALS but not in real terms, and the second is that actually as Olivier said, there is a

precedent, we already last year, and in fact the current Board. So I think perhaps we could be flexible on this point, but then keep the restriction or keep the one per country rule, because that was applied last year. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you. Any other? Okay, Sébastien Bachollet speaking. I will take my Chair hat off and I will play the devil's advocate. We push a lot during the last month about ATLAS III participants and the need of young people, and the need of women. If we do as you suggest, just one per country, therefore we may end up with two from France, one being a young man and one being a woman, and I'm sorry, I need to disclose that she is my wife, but I didn't nominate her, and you will decide, but you have also to take into account that she is the only woman nominated for the moment, and we are pushing for ATLAS III participants to take responsibility.

It's one of the reasons I was suggesting that if we get rid of one of the barriers to get into the Board, this time we get rid of both of them and we take all the seven candidates we have in front of us. I understand that for Individual User Association it will be difficult to keep this as a guideline, but I would like to suggest that we get rid of two of them, particularly because I think we need to embrace the participation of ATLAS III ambassadors in our Board today.

Yes, I know the ex officio could be the only Board of EURALO, it could be one way to go, we would solve the question of election and selection. And if you take the ex officio people plus the Board with the question of

nationality, member of ALS, and so on and so forth, we get into trouble to apply those guidelines. My suggestion is we get rid of those two guidelines and we keep going to the election like it is with the timing we have today. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Roberto, please.

ROBERTO GAETANO: This is Roberto for the recording. I think I have sort of a compromise proposal. What if, since we have delayed already a couple of times the terms, and also it's true that is not a rule, but it's still something that was sort of understood for this election, I would propose one thing, just looking at the numbers. If we go with the same rules that we had for the current Board, that means to allow individual users, we are going to have a Board with a certain number of people at the maximum five, four if Lutz doesn't confirm his candidature, five with Lutz.

That means that we are going to have two seats still open with two people that have not been elected because of the nationality issue. At that point we propose to the membership to relax the nationality issue and to go for additional elections for the two vacant seats, and we have solved the problem.

But that will have the advantage of first of all not making it look as if the Board is making a decision, changing the rule of the game while the process is open otherwise participation of the membership, and also that we will not have delays that we can go to open the election for the

new Board because we have sufficient number of candidates, and we do this in two steps. By the end of January we should be done anyway, and we will have all people elected. But with the process that is creating less worries or concerns. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you, Roberto. Any other comment? Sébastien Bachollet speaking, it could be one way, I am not comfortable if at the end of the day we have just people from one ALS, even if it's the individual one. That's where my point of view was to accept all the seven and ask them to work on how we write the rules in the future. The easiest way for me was to accept all of them and to go ahead. But I understand that there are lot of you who consider that we need to follow at least part of the principle here. Natalia, please go ahead.

NATALIA FILINA: Thank you very much, sorry for the delay. My point of view, sorry if I will repeat something. I think first of all we must think about the ability of our nominee to take the position, then about the diversity of experience and I think at the last moment we need to look at number of persons from one country, but much more important to take one person from one ALS. I think the individual association we can exclude from these rules, because it's just technical, as Yrjö said.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you, Natalia. Any other comments? Erich, please.

ERICH SCHWEIGHOFER: Erich Schweighofer speaking. I'm still in favor of following the rules, maybe with the exception that we accept more candidates from the EURALO Individual User Association because it's in our new rules also mentioned in the call for this election. Also I note that it could be difficult to get the sufficient votes of the ALSes for this Board if we do that, so I would like to do another call and develop for January, because Christmas is starting and we may not enough votes for the Board and that's also difficult. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you, Erich. Any other one? Okay, leave it for me to make a summary. I am almost sure that even if we extend the time for new nominations, already it was difficult to get those nominations. I spent some time to discuss with people, for example Lutz gets mail from me, but I am sure not just from me, and we don't have his feedback and we have sent the invitation for nomination more than once.

The risk in going in that direction that we follow the rule except for one, the individual user association is that we will get people who will not accept the nomination and we will have less people participating. The seven people we have in front of us, it's a good mix of knowledge, it's not a good balance for gender, it's not a bad mix for country.

You suggest we go with election with those current candidates and we keep the guideline principle one per country. I will suggest that we not postpone the election. We still have work to do during Christmas therefore we can take not just one week but two weeks or three weeks

for the election itself if we wish, but I think it's better if we go ahead if we decide to go that way.

Therefore, I will try to put one question after the other. The first one is who is in favor that we close the nomination tomorrow evening, and the one who disagree, we will after decide if the majority disagrees with the fact we close tomorrow, we will decide to when we will keep open the nomination. Therefore, if you can use the green tick if you agree that we close the nomination as it is currently scheduled tomorrow evening, and if you disagree, a red cross. I don't know where I will be able to see that on my phone, but we will try.

GISELLA GRUBER:

Sébastien, this is Gisella for the transcript. Just to say that when we sent out the extension for nominations you asked me to keep it open until Sunday, so it's open until Sunday the 22nd. Would you like me to send out a reminder after this call to say that it's closing on Sunday? Or will you be sending something out? And if you would like, I can read what we can so far the ticks and the crosses.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Yes, please, because I am not sure that I can see that on my phone. I see Olivier, Roberto, and myself are three, and I have 3 green and 2 red.

GISELLA GRUBER:

That's correct.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Yes, Gisella, thank you very much, it's until Sunday. Okay, that's very easy for the Chair to decide, 3 against 2 is the majority. I don't like that at all. Okay, I will see here we have a small majority, but we will close the nomination on Sunday. Thank you, if you can take your cross or your tick out, it will be great, thank you.

Next point is that we have, I will ask two questions, the first one is do we keep the guideline about one per ALS, that will be my first question, and the second will be do we keep one per country, not nationality, but per country. That will be my two questions, so the first one, can you say if you wish to not choose the guidelines about one per At-Large Structure. Yes, a green tick, and no, a red cross, please.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Sorry, Sébastien, I am not sure I have understood the exact question.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: My question is do we keep one member of the Board per ALS?

ROBERTO GAETANO: Well, my point is that the Individual User Association is something different. It is not a group that is compact like an ALS. It's in itself inside diverse and groups people that have no other way to participate. So it is in some way a different structure.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Okay, let me rephrase the question. My question is do we take out the Individual User Association from the rule of one per ALS? Yes, a green tick, and no, a red cross, please.

GISELLA GRUBER: Sébastien, I'm so sorry, please see our chat, our answer is there.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: I want to do two questions, the first one is one per ALS except Individual User Association, and we will discuss about the country after that. Green tick if you want to put the Individual User Association outside. Okay, 4 against 1, it's passed. Let's go, now take your green tick out. Do we keep the rule about one per country? If we keep the rule one per country, you say Yes, a green tick, if you want that we don't keep the rule of one per country, it's a red cross. Okay, that's 4 against 1.

Okay, then we have ruled, I will not make use of a joke can we have a balanced Board, but we need to think about that, we don't have a gender balanced Board and I am very uncomfortable with that. If at the end of the day we have just men, and once again, it's not because the one who is the woman candidate, but you have three days to find a woman to join the Board and I would love to have a balanced Board, it's my struggle for ICANN in general and it will be my struggle within this group, also.

I understand, Roberto, your caveat that we would like the rules, but either we do it today or it will be another call and we will discuss that with the result of the election. Okay, I guess we are done with this

point. If I summarize, we close the nominations on Sunday as it is currently done, and yes, Gisella, can you send a reminder for the nomination up to Sunday evening.

Again, we organize the election, I suggest when the Staff comes back from holiday, we do seven days or eight days of election in beginning of January the election itself, give time for people to accept the nomination until the 1st of January, for example, and give the application your eye, as we say, and we take the rules or the guidelines, one per country and one per ALS except for the Individual User Association and of course we keep 3 to 7 members of the Board elected. Do I summarize well the situation, please?

Okay, if there is no comment, we consider that the summary is not too badly done, and then we are now more than half an hour through, no it's more, we have 10 minutes to go, even less.

Therefore I would like to go very quickly about participation within the ICANN policy. I would like very much to have this discussion within the Board, how we organize that. We need to have a voice from Europe and how we can organize that. I know that Yrjö suggests that we take the list of the competency we have within the ALSes, it will be great if someone can go through. We have a very topic from my point of view, starting from yesterday, with ATRT3.

I would like very much that somebody else than me take the lead on that and I will help this person, of course, but I think it's important that we go through. I would like to suggest that we push as much as possible the people to participate with the CPWG led by Olivier and Jonathan.

But if you have any specific comments on that issue, we will come back on the next call on that, on the EURALO call. If you have any feedback back now, it would be great. Thank you. Okay, we will continue this discussion on the mailing list, I think it's the best way to go.

The next point is roles and responsibility of Individual User Association, we already had a long discussion on that. I just would like to be very sure and very clear that all the members, specifically the ones who are candidates to be on the Board are only members in Europe of this ALS. When I say we need to be sure, they need to say, yes, I am a member just of this ALS. It is I think an important to be made, because it is the current rules. Any additional points, comments, disagreement? Yes, Roberto, go ahead.

ROBERTO GAETANO: Just to clarify as a matter of fact, if somebody is a member of an ALS in EURALO, that person does not qualify for being a member of the association. So we are committed to make this check. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much. Okay, good. That means if it's the case, I don't have to worry about that, and that's great. Okay, as we have a few minutes left, any other business? Okay, thank you very much. I will not repeat the Action Items, as I have already done it at the end of the discussion about EURALO Board election.

I don't think there is something to add. I hope that we will be able to have our election going through as quick as possible now, and I would

like to thank you for your participation, thank you for your inputs, thank you for your support, and I hope you will have a good Christmas and happy new year to every one of us, and good will for EURALO and for At-Large and ICANN in general by all of us. Thank you very much. I declare this call closed. See you soon, bye bye.

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