
MICHELLE DESMYTER:

Welcome everyone. Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening, and welcome to the AFRALO Monthly Call on Wednesday the 8th of January, 2020. On today's call we have on the English channel, Tijani Ben Jemaa, Vernatius Okwu Ezeama, Barrack Otieno, Omar Shuran, Nkem Nweke, Moriam Sulaimon, Moses Andruda, Sarata Omane, Joan Katambi, Daniel Nanghaka, Sarah Kiden, Yaovi Atohoun, Abdel Ouro.

We do have Gabriel Bombambo, Wisdom Donkor, Yazid Akanho, Ejikeme Egbuogu, Jules Nizeyimana, Caleb Ogundele, Sahdrach Ankrah, Seun Ojedeji, Ben Kyemba, Dave Kissoondoyal, Michel Tchonang, Raymond Mamattah.

On the French channel we do have Bakary Kouyate, Gabriel Bombambo Boseko, Olevie Kouami, Vassindou Bamba, Etienne Tshishimbi, Gabdibé Gab-Hingonne, Capda Capda. We do have apologies from Mohamed El Bashir. From Staff, we have Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, and Michelle DeSmyter on call management. Our interpreters today are Isabelle & Camila.

Before we begin, I would like to remind everyone to please state your name before speaking and please speak clearly for transcription purposes, and also so the interpreters can identify you on the other language channels. Please also keep your phones and microphones on mute when not speaking to avoid any background noise. Thank you, and I will turn the meeting now over to you, Seun.

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.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thanks a lot. Hello everyone, welcome. This is Seun for the record. Welcome once again to the first AFRALO Monthly Call for 2020, and once again, happy new year to all of us, and wishing everyone a prosperous and wonderful 2020 ahead of us. Let's move quickly through the agenda. I'll quickly give it to Staff, either Staff or Sarah to take us through the Action Items.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Hello, this is Silvia Vivanco from Staff. I can read out the Action Items. The first Action Item is for me, Silvia, to invite the African Board members on behalf of AFRALO leadership to the next AFRALO monthly teleconference as well as to the AFRALO/AfrICANN meeting at ICANN67. And Seun asked for our coordination and we will address this topic on today's call to prepare the membership to invite them. So, still outstanding. Next one is Seun and AFRALO leadership to follow up on the ALS...

SEUN OJEDEJI: We address this on the agenda. There is something about it on the agenda.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes, it is, it is later on the agenda. So, the next one will be Seun and AFRALO leadership to follow up on the ALS's and individual rules. And this also on today's agenda. The next one is Yesim, Seun and Sarah to organize AFRALO Webinar the week of 16th December on the topic of Universal Acceptance and Latin Script, which was also done and

completed in December. And the next one is Heidi to follow up with the At-Large staff on Remmy's ATLAS III certificate. I'm not sure if that was completed.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Do we have Heidi on the call?

SILVIA VIVANCO: I think we have Heidi on the call.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes, we do have Heidi.

SILVIA VIVANCO: I don't know if you have any updates on this Action Item to follow up with Staff on Remmy's ATLAS III certificate.

SEUN OJEDEJI: I think I see Remmy on the call. Remmy, has the issue been addressed? Remmy, you have the floor if you can speak. Okay, so I think we can just follow up on the chat. The next item, can you move to the next item?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes, it's Olivier Kouami, Remmy and Sarah to follow up on French and Arabic translation of the AFRALO newsletter (volume 1).

SARAH KIDEN: Hi, this is Sarah for the record. Can we address this when we talk about the AFRALO newsletter later on during the call? It's also an item on the agenda.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Okay, Sarah, thank you so much, so we'll keep it open for now. So that's it, over to you, Seun.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thanks a lot. So we move to the next item on the agenda, which is Public Comments. So the last time we had a meeting in December, [inaudible] told us about some of the public comments that were open during that time, so I will just look at the new ones that came up after our last meeting. One of them is the Dates for ICANN Public Meetings for years 2024 to 2028, and of course there is also Revised Dates for the year 2022.

So public comments are open on January 2nd this year and your comments are required on the proposed dates, you may have some comments. We've had sometimes in the past where the dates were in conflict with certain holidays or certain global events and so on and so forth. ICANN makes sure to avoid such clashes as much as possible. So this comment is useful for you to raise observations if you have them.

The next one is the Report of the Auction Proceeds. That was published for comment on December 23rd and it is end on February 14th. A number of us may recall that this particular working group, finally they

have a final proposal and now the proceeds from the auction should be managed.

So this is the final public comments, final report of the working group and your comments and observations are required. One way or the other, the proposal contains a lot of things that would be of interest to all of us at AFRALO, in terms of capacity building, in terms of environment, in terms of various opportunities to propose things that will involving the internet as we know it today.

And if you have comments or suggestions for improvement, this is the time to do so. You may submit directly on the public comment page. I will ask Staff to also post the link on the chat if it's not already done. The other one is also the final one which came up in January, Proposed Amendment to the .COM Registry Agreement. So, that is also open for public comments, for anyone that has interest in that, people follow it up.

As you know, .COM is one of the first TLDs which are referred to as legacy TLDs, with you may be interested in making comments on in terms of the agreement that has been reviewed, or better put, amended. The last one is Draft FY21-25 Operating & Financial Plan and Draft FY21 Operating Plan & Budget. That is also open for comment and your comments are welcome to that particular one, as well.

So that brings me to At-Large policy resources, so as you look at this comment you may find some of those references on various At-Large policy resources useful. The list also contains currently ratified statements of ALAC and also the current statement that ALAC is

currently working on, one of the biggest one which is very popular, on various mailing lists at the moment, is the one about ISOC and the PIR.

That has been a very significant discussion that has been happening, so there is still the contribution of ALAC where At-Large through ALAC will be giving advice in that regard. So, this discussion is happening on the CPWG as we speak, so you may want to either make a comment directly on the URL or the Wiki, or join the CPWG and share your opinions there.

By the way, just as a head up for those who are French speaking, the CPWG calls will start translation in French, so if you are planning to join the calls, I think for the next call, Staff can confirm, for the next call they will start having translations in French, and we really thank ICANN for making that position.

The other further comments that ALAC is working on is also listed there, Third Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT3) Draft Report, as I already mentioned, they are also in drafting stage, so this is the right time to actually make comment and contribute to it if you have suggestions and improvements to make in the comments that ALAC will be submitting. Having said that, we will then move to the next item, before I move on let me see in the chat if there is any comment or hands up.

Seeing no hands up, hearing no comments, we move to the next time, which is Item #4 Reports. And we will start with the Global Stakeholder Engagement. We recognize that Pierre for Africa sent his apology and could not attend due to unforeseen circumstances, but we are happy that Yaovi and Bob are around. So, Yaovi.

YAOVI ATOHOUN:

Thank you so much, Yaovi speaking. I hope you can hear me. So, as Seun said, Pierre sent his apologies and on his behalf we want to also send you the season's greetings, and myometrial thickness colleague Bob is also on the call. For the slot we have is just to give you an update about the call out on Tuesday. So, this is about the Africa Regional Engagement Strategy. To tall you that we have the ICANN strategy plan which is also the main document, we have also the ICANN five year operating and financial plan and then for each region we have the regional engagement strategy.

As you can see in the call, we need to have a new strategy for the Africa region, and that will also contribute to the goals we have or the objectives we have for ICANN globally. We have been talking about this one. We had a session in Montreal and also we had a webinar in December. Just to list them quickly, the first one is on security, the first strategic objective. The second one is ICANN governance. The third one is on unique identifier systems. The fourth is on geopolitics. And the fifth one is on financial.

So, the work this group is going to do is to see how the Africa region, our objective to contribute to these five global objectives. So some of you volunteers are already sending expression of interest to the address in the call. So, this group will be preparing and make the draft pretty. And then once this draft is ready, the whole community also will have to comment on this draft.

So, the expectation is to have this group sent by the 30th of this month, that is the expectation. And this group will have one month to work, to produce the document. So it will be a very touch schedule, it is voluntary work, and we are glad that people started sending the expression of interest. Also for people speaking French, for French colleagues, we also have the announcement in French, I'm sure you have that one too. The link is in the chat room for you if you want the announcement in print.

What I want to remind you also is that the deadline to submit the expression of interest is the 15th of January, so Wednesday of next week. The next step is to have the public comment on the document and we expect to have a document by the end of April. So, we will have a new strategy at the beginning of the next fiscal year on the 1st of July. So, this is what I wanted to mention about this working group. So, this working group will produce a document that will contribute to the five global objectives.

So, this is what I want to share, but before, perhaps something Bob will add, is that we have a webinar. So, Seun mentioned also the public comment, there is currently a call from ICANN on the Draft FY21-25 Operating & Financial Plan and Draft FY21 Operating Plan & Budget. This webinar will give the opportunity to the community to understand better what we have in this document, so that also the community can contribute better to this public comment process.

So, I want to stop there, and then maybe if I have forgotten something, my colleague Bob is on the call, to add to what I said. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, thank you, Yaovi. Any questions for Yaovi?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Seun, I think there is a comment from Michel. It's in French, but I think Silvia can read for you the translated version of the comment, or I can read it. So, Yaovi, there is concern that the working language is English for the working group and they're saying it's a form of exclusion, so I don't know how you can respond to him.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Thank you, so we will bring it back to the team and then we will get back to you, so we take into consideration your concern and we thank you for raising this. So, we will find a way to overcome this issue. So we will get back to the group and then will have a definite solution.

So, I mentioned again that the document, you have the French version, so you can at least read the full document, but I noticed you were talking about the language for the group. So, we will see how to respond, we go back to the team and get back to you. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you, Yaovi, so Michel, if you are interested, don't let that distract you, discourage you from applying. So, express your interest, I'm sure Yoavi and the team will find a work-around on how to ensure that you participate fully in the committee.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: I want to mention before you move, to mention also that in addition to what we said to bring back to Michel, the whole community will have the opportunity to add to this document. This group will just produce a draft and the whole community will also contribute to the public comments. Thank you very much.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Alright, thanks. Okay, we need to move faster now. Next item is Recent and upcoming ALAC activities. Tijani, Dave, Abdulkarim, who wants to go first? Anyone? Do we have Abdulkarim, do we have Tijani? Tijani, I see your hand up, you have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Seun. So, ALAC activities. ALAC is working [AUDIO BREAK]

SILVIA VIVANCO: Hello Michelle, this is Silvia, we lost Tijani.

MICHELLE DESMYTER: Yes, we are redialing him.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay, I repeat, okay. ALAC is working on first the post ATLAS activities, you know that we had this ATLAS summit in Montreal and normally the

At-Large ambassadors or participants in the ATLAS should now be better prepared to be more active in the ALAC and in ICANN activities. So we now have a plan for the post ATLAS III activities. Second point on which ALAC is working is the budget and additional budget requests.

Also, ALAC is working on the At-Large Review Implementation. You know that now there is another report that has been released in December, sent to the Board. And finally ALAC is working also on the At-Large ICANN67 planning, so, planning for the Cancun meeting for the schedule for what are the topics to be addressed, et cetera. These are, in very short, the activities of ALAC these days. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Thank you, Tijani. Abdulkarim, Dave, any addition?

DAVE KISSOONDOYAL:

Yes, Dave here. I just want to thank Tijani for this and would add to that, I don't know whether it has been announced here that Leon Sanchez has been selected as the occupant of the ICANN Seat 15 for a second 3-year term beginning at the conclusion of ICANN69. So I just want to inform the AFRALO members of this. I don't know whether it has already been announced.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER:

Thank you Dave for reminding me that. Thank you very much. And for the record Leon is today the Vice-Chair of the Board.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Somewhere I thought I saw Leon on the call, but maybe not.

LEON SANCHEZ: I am on the call, Seun.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Ah, cool! Leon, thank you, welcome, good to have you drop by here. We trust that you will continue to remain close to us, AFRALO, and we are very glad to have you on our call.

LEON SANCHEZ: Thank you very much, Seun. As you know, AFRALO support has been key for me to achieving what I have achieved, so yes, I promise to remain close to you, the proof of that is that I am here on this call, and I will continue to be on as many calls as possible. When you go to Any Other Business, I would like to give a short update on what the Board is doing, if you allow me, but I won't disrupt the call right now, I'll wait until the end.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you, Leon, thanks a lot.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: This is Abdulkarim. I don't think I have anything to add to what Tijani and Dave have said, so I'm fine with it. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Alright, thank you Abdulkarim. So, we'll move on to the next item on the agenda, Recent and upcoming AFRALO/ALS activities. This is open to all. Any updates from you? Caleb, your hand is up, you have the floor.

CALEB OGUNDELE: Thank you very much. So the Internet Society actually launched a call for application for those who would like to participate in the Nigerian school on internet governance and part of what we are encouraging folks, specifically folks from Nigeria who are members of AFRALO or those who intend to understand how the ICANN ecosystem works, they should feel free to apply as we are dedicating a particular section to ICANN during that school.

Before the school, we have some preschool activities and basically those preschool activities are webinars and online courses which we are actually using ICANN Learn, so actually disseminate information to our participants from the school. That being said, we do hope that Nigerian citizens who are within the AFRALO could participate and we also seek the support of AFRALO. Thank you very much.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Yes, Tijani, you have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Seun, Tijani speaking. My ALS participated in North African SIG, North African School on Internet Governance, that has been in Mauritania. It was organized by the North African IGF and

with the help of the African Union. So it was a very successful school. I attended several other schools, but this one was really successful and I hope that in the future we are improving, I think, because we are having more and more successful schools. So, thank you for this.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you, Tijani for that update. Abdulkarim, I see your hand up.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Yeah, sorry, please, I just wanted to mention something earlier, which I forgot, which is on the additional budget. I am currently working on additional budget request for French translation...

SEUN OJEDEJI: Abdulkarim, let's discuss that on the section it is on the agenda...

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Okay, I want, if people can help work on it, because deadline is today.

SEUN OJEDEJI: We will get to that...

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Okay, thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Alright, thanks. Any comments or questions to the update that has been provide in terms of ALS activities? Okay, seeing no hand up, oh, Olevie, I see your hand up, 10 seconds, please.

OLEVIE KOUAMI: I am going to speak in French. This is Olevie speaking. [AUDIO BREAK]

SEUN OJEDEJI: Perhaps just work with Olevie on the chat, Yazid please, you have the floor. [AUDIO BREAK]

In order to maximize the time and because we are already running late, I think we should just move on. We will probably take Yazid's comments, maybe on the AOB when we get there. So we move to the next item on the agenda, which is 4d. Universal Acceptance (UA) and review of webinar in December. You will recall that late December we had the capacity building webinar on Universal Acceptance.

We had Galila, we had three speakers in total on that particular call. Galila and Yazid have been our AFRALO members and also member of the working group. We would like to hear from them, if they have any comments, any updates for us, especially from their role in the working group. We have Galila on the call?

YAZID AKANHO: Hello, hello.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Yazid, yes, you have the floor.

YAZID AKANHO: Sorry, I don't know what happened with my phone, I was trying to join. Okay, thank you very much. I actually wanted to share some points related to the previous point of the agenda, Recent Activity of ALS, if you allow me, Seun.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Yeah, if you can do it a bit faster.

YAZID AKANHO: Thank you so much. So, last December from 12th to 14th, we had ISOC Benin Chapter had Benin Chapter week. It was three days, very hard in term of activity. So we actually met some students with manager of the African ISOC chapter, to discuss about how internet works and how they can jump in internet governance. It was a very fantastic activity with those students.

They discovered actually what is internet, what is behind internet, and some of them actually joined ISOC so the community is growing. After that we also had rejuvenation of the chapter. It was actually an activity to share with community what we have done during 2019, all the activities we did, and also what is the plan for 2020.

Also, we had a panel with Pierre Dandjinou, with Alan, with other elders of technical community here in Benin, and we went through the beginning of internet in Africa and in our countries, how internet came

and how internet grew up during the years. It was a very fantastic moment of testimonies, or memories, a lot of students from different universities attended and also some managers of national agencies working on internet also attended.

Finally, the last activity was integration of our office, ISOC Benin has now an office, so with the community, with the members we inaugurated and we also got a cake which was the 20th year of ISOC Benin Chapter, so we cut the cake and we celebrated this also. This is quickly the set of activities we did from 12th to 14th last December. I already shared the reports both in French and English to the newsletter team, and hopefully we will get this published in Volume 2 of the newsletter. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Okay, thank you. Would you like to talk about the UA, Universal Acceptance? You've been an ambassador. Any updates from that side?

YAZID AKANHO:

Thank you very much. On this point, quickly, yes, we had the webinar last month with Abdelmonem and some AFRALO members also attended. The webinar was actually to explain what is Universal Acceptance, what are the challenges, why we fight for universal acceptance for digital inclusion, and also to bring all our languages on the internet.

The next step actually for us as ambassadors is to contractor talking about universal acceptance and also to bring the technical community,

make the systems, mostly the mail servers and also other applications to be ready. So there is a program and internally in USG we are finalizing all the prerequisites for the technical training for systems engineers to test the UA readiness of the mail servers and of the infrastructure of the application they built. So it's a set of programs and I'm sure that we come back, both Abdelmonem and myself, we come back to AFRALO to share what we are doing in the next months. Thank you very much.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Okay, thanks a lot, thanks for that update. Is there any comment or question for Yazid? You will recall that the webinar was for UA and for IDNs. We had William talk about the IDNs.

So the recording is there, and if you are interested, I suggest that you go to the recording and you can see one or two things about UA and the IDNs. I think it was a very good webinar and we learned a lot from that webinar. So, if there are no comments, I don't see any hands up, as well, we will move to the next item on the agenda, which is Agenda Item #5.

The first one is Call for topics for Joint AFRALO-AfrICANN. As you know, our usual custom is to have a session on AFRALO-AfrICANN meeting at ICANN meetings, and we also will be having that at ICANN67. So, by this meeting, we are actually issuing a call for topics. Of course, Action Items should also be looked at for the secretariat to send a formal call to the list.

So, please put an Action Item for Sarah or Staff to send a call to the list for topic suggestions and also, while the call is being sent, I think we should just use one stone, the same call can also call for group formation, so those that will be involved in the drafting of the topic. So please put an Action Item to the secretary Sarah on that. Of course, people can start making suggestions.

I would suggest that maybe we put the call for topics, maybe we put a two-week deadline for that, if it's not too much, I think two weeks is fine. Any opinion on that? Okay, I see no objection to my suggestion and I see no comment. I think two weeks is fine for the call for topics. So, please put in two calls for both the comments and the drafting team out at the same time.

Alright, we'll move to the next item on the agenda, which is AFRALO Newsletter, I think we have Remmy on the line. Remmy, you have the floor.

SARAH KIDEN:

Thanks, Seun, this is Sarah. Remmy is not able to join us today, but I think I can speak and then Olevie can suggest. So if possible, I think I would like to suggest that the newsletter team have a call, because I think it's been a really long time. We had a call just before the first newsletter, so it would be nice to have another call. But that's noted.

We are in the process of gathering stories or reports from your activities. We have already reached out to some of you and we will reach out to more. So, for anyone who has given a report today we will reach to you and ask you to send us a brief maybe 100 words, or 150

words, just summarizing your activities for our next newsletter. That will come to your email very soon.

So, regarding the French and Arabic translation for our Volume 1, we now have our French translation for Volume 1, we still don't have Arabic, and I'm not sure if we should focus on making sure we have all the three languages for Volume 2 or also try to have Arabic for Volume 1, that will be up to the members of the working group to agree.

Finally, the call for your reports or articles to put in the newsletter is open until the end of this month, so the end of January, so you have about three weeks to send us your input. I think that's about it.

Our plan is to have the next version just before or during the ICANN meeting in Cancun, so I think we are working against time if I may say. And this time we will try to work English concurrently French and Arabic, so if you are able to help us in any of the three languages, we welcome you. Thank you very much. I don't know if Olevie has anything to add.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, thank you, Olevie, do you have anything to add? Is Olevie online?

OLEVIE KOUAMI: This is Olevie speaking, no, I have nothing to add. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Okay, thanks, Olevie. So I think yes, I can see that at least some content is coming in for the second newsletter. If there are other members who have some updates to share, some news to share, some content to share, please forward it to the newsletter group as soon as you can.

I think we should try as much as possible at least to have the two languages, English and French, even if we are unable to get the Arabic, but we should try with at least two. So that would be some good improvement, if you can do at least two language versions for the next newsletter. That would be good.

Alright, let's move to the next item on the agenda, which is Rules of Procedure. So, you will recall that for the individual membership the rules require that we review it for two years, we already are over two years by a few months so we need to do that. It was actually given as an Action Item on the last call.

What we are suggesting now as leadership is that we activate the committee that initially worked on the review of the Rules of Procedure within the 2014 to 2017. That committee will then look at the section, just that one section on individual membership, and then suggest if there is any review that is required. Of course, a call would need to be reinitiated to confirm the membership of those who are currently members and to also call for new members.

So, Action Item to the secretariat to initiate a call for existing members to confirm their membership and for new members who would like to be part of the working group. And the task is for them to review the section of the Rules which talks about the review of membership and

suggests any modification to the AFRALO members. Any comment on that approach of addressing this particular item? Any objection on the approach?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Seun, Abdulkarim has his hand raised.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Yes, Abdulkarim, you have the floor.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: This is Abdulkarim for the record. I just want to seek clarification on the changes of the Rules of Procedure. Is it only this section that requires changes, and is this going to be for this section alone of the Rules of Procedure?

SEUN OJEDEJI: Yes, thank you, Abdulkarim. These changes, it's not even necessarily changes, it does not actually require changes, it just requires review. The individual membership Rules of Procedure has a line in it that actually says that after two years we should come back to look at the rules affecting individual membership and consider if there is any need to add anything or remove.

Because you will recall that the individual membership rules were put in place just two years ago. So the idea is that the experiences now with individual members, whatever you can use it to improve the current

rule or whether the current rule is sufficient enough. So it's just for the individual membership section of the Rules of Procedure. I hope that answers your question.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Yes, thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Alright, so seeing no objection to that suggested we move forward, I hope Staff has submitted the Action Item. I suggest that we put the call with the timeline of two weeks, as well, or three weeks, and then hopefully the committee can have some reports for us at the ICANN in Cancun, otherwise they can advise on their progress by then. Thank you.

Shall we move to the next item, AFRALO ALS Decertification. This is also something that is on our desk as the leadership. What I suggest is the way forward on this is for Staff, we already have a rule, process or guideline. Based on that, look at which of the existing ALSs are on the decertification list and then push that to the leadership for consideration. Is that list already existing somewhere? Silvia, I see your hand up.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes, hello Seun, this is Silvia. Looking at the rules, you have some thresholds that the ALSs must meet in order to be considered active or inactive. A couple of metrics that we provide to you fairly quickly is attendance records. So the monthly teleconferences and votes,

whether or not they voted. But there are two thresholds which relate to more substantive analysis, that is local activities and contributions.

So what I would recommend is that we touch base with you, with the leadership, and review those thresholds and see you want to evaluate those requirements for you to analyze and make a decision whether or not the ALS is considered active or inactive. We can provide everything that is very concrete, like attendance and votes. If you want to see more substantive contributions then you will need to work internally to decide that.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, thank you Silvia. So, put an Action Item for the leadership to work with Staff on those areas.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes, noted, I will take that.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, we'll move on to the next item on the agenda, which is the FY21 Additional Budget Requests. So, for this particular one you will recall that I sent Staff earlier an announcement for us to submit this, and I also sent a reminder to us a few days ago on this, today being the last day for it.

We have received a couple requests from membership, we received from ISOC and GLASs, we have received from CAPDA, we have received

from Ghana, and we have also received, we requested Tijani in drafting a proposal on the capacity building for the ATLAS III ambassadors.

You will recall that during the ATLAS III that happened in Montreal, we actually committed as AFRALO that we're going to try to improve our participation within ICANN policy processes and we felt that this of course who participated in that activity, that the experience that we gain should also continue to be improved through our participation in the policy processes, through capacity building, educating one another on how to participate in ICANN processes, and so on and so forth.

So we have a draft on that, on some of the activities we intend to do. So that is the fourth one. And then there is also the one on translation, which Abdulkarim was about previously. That one, it's still not a full draft yet, but we need to develop something and then send it as part of the request.

So we will draft something and then also submit it alongside the other proposal that we received. If you have proposals to still submit, you can still do it tonight. You can still get those updated reviews to me, to us, myself, Sarah, and Aziz later today. I see Heidi's hand is up. You have the floor.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Yes, thank you Seun. Hello everyone, happy 2020. I know this is going to be a great year for AFRALO and all of At-Large. On the additional budget requests for Fiscal Year 21, please keep in mind that for any kind of capacity building or training that you do incorporate ICANN Learn as at least part of that request, teleconferences and webinars, as well.

I think that requests include a lot of travel support will likely not be approved, because again, that cost primarily goes to the travel rather than the training. So again, focus on technology that can be used for training when you're thinking about these requests. Thank you very much.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Thank you, Heidi. The ones that we have already we will push to Staff later today and then we will be happy to get suggestions from you on how to better improve the write ups. Any other comments on this particular item? Seeing no hands, hearing no voice, I move to the next item on the agenda.

RALO Discretionary funds. We are still 100% on this particular item, this particular funding. If you look at the Wiki you would see 4K, that is \$4000. We have not received any proposal to use this particular fund, so if you have requests for us for this particular funding opportunity, please push it to us, let us know as soon as possible. These funds are available for our members, so it's good for us to make use of it, the earlier, the better.

As you can see, some other RALOs are already making use of some of their funds. They should all be things that are in line with the rules of the funding, so please follow the rules and send the request to us, and we will be sure to push it as soon as possible. Any comment on that?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Hello, yes Seun, I just have a quick comment, just remind everyone that the Fiscal Year 20 ends on June 30th, so please take a look at the availability of funds and submit your request three weeks before the proposed activity to be funded. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Silvia can you say it again? It ends when?

SILVIA VIVANCO: These funds are available for Fiscal Year 20. The fiscal year ends on June 30th. So we have a few months left.

SEUN OJEDEJI: So we basically have up to April.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yeah, to be safe, yes.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Yes, to be safe. So please put in your requests early, in fact we would appreciate it if you can even send your request before March, before Cancun. That would be good, so that we can actually have time to review it and then push it to Staff, get it approved, so on and so forth. As I've said, if we don't use it, then we lose it. Thank you very much Silvia. We move to the next item on the agenda if there are no comments.

The next item is Discussion Questions to Board Members. We intend to meet with Board members during the AFRALO-AfrICANN meeting as usual. We are looking to ask them some questions, because it's good for us to let them know about the questions. So the essence of this is that we would like to have you our membership work on the questions we would like to have for the Board members. You recall that we have a couple of Board members who are from our region.

I also expect that Leon will also, if time permits, will also be present. So, if you have questions the Board members, especially the ones from our region, please let us know. You can send this to the leadership directly or you can also send it to the AFRALO-AfrICANN discussion mailing list. Action Item should be for Staff to send a call for questions, let's put 3 weeks on this one. Leon, I see your hand is up. Leon, you have the floor.

LEON SANCHEZ:

Thank you very much. I think this is a very good idea and a very good way to engage with Board members. As you might be aware, I have attended the AFRALO-AfrICANN meetings in the last ICANN meetings when possible. I will of course schedule it in my agenda for Cancun, and if time permits I will be there for at least part of the meeting, but I would like to stay for the whole meeting as I usually do.

Now that you've mentioned that you would like to engage with Board members from Africa, I will pass along this message to the Board members that are from Africa, currently Ehab and Mandla, so that they are aware that they are welcome to join the AFRALO-AfrICANN meeting

and of course as they are fresh Board members I would offer to help them get up to speed in terms of AFRALO and the very good work that you develop and the advice that you send to the Board on a regular basis as an outcome of these AFRALO-AfrICANN meetings. Happy to help and engage the AFRALO region with the African region Board members as well. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Thanks a lot, Leon. That's very helpful. Yes, we know that you normally always attend our face-to-face meetings and we really appreciate that, and we hope that you will also find time to attend this upcoming one. Tijani, you have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much, Seun. I didn't understand well what you said. Is it now to ask questions to the Board members or is it sending questions to the Board members through emails or something like this?

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Yes, so the questions that members have will be collated and then submitted to the Board members. So when we meet in Cancun they can respond to them.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Okay, so it is not now, okay.

SEUN OJEDEJI: No, it's not now, so what we are doing now is just to collate the questions.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you Tijani. I think we'll move on to the next item on the agenda, which is Item 6. New At-Large Structure (ALS) & individual member applications that we have received. I will hand this to Sarah.

SARAH KIDEN: Hi, this is Sarah for the record, I hope you can hear me. So, we have two applications and there is one that has bending for very long. We are happy to inform you that we have not received any negative comments so we are going to send an email to Staff to approve this application and send it to ALAC for working.

Then we have another application from Edge Care Foundation and we are not in position to make any decision right now because we don't have enough information about this application. So this may probably come back during the next monthly call. Then in terms of individual membership, we have received one individual member application from Abdel Qafar from Togo. Abdel was actually one of the fellows who attached to the At-Large team.

Also we have not received any comments about Abdel and the recommendation from AFRALO leadership is that we should accept his

individual membership. If you have anything commissions about Abdel's application, please set us know.

So, Abdel is on the call today and I'm happy to note that Jacob is also on the call, Oreoluwa is also on the call, and these are all people who are attached to At-Large mentorship, so welcome Abdel and welcome to everyone else to this call. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, thank you Sarah. I see Aziz's hand is up. Aziz you have the floor. While we are waiting for Aziz, Sarah, a quick one. What is the status of the observers?

SARAH KIDEN: This is Sarah for the record, we have three members who have not yet confirmed their status and I'm not sure what else you can do. Maybe Evan can send them another reminder to confirm. But so far it's only three people who have not confirmed with us. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Alright, thank you. Aziz, you have the floor.

AZIZ HILALI: This is Aziz speaking. I'd like to go back to the previous item regarding the questions that we should ask Board members. Is that for the AFRALO-AfrICANN meeting or is it discussions that we're going to

prepare? Or else can we ask some questions without having to organize anything?

Because in that case we should just give people the email address for the two Africans who were appointed to the Board and then everyone can ask them questions. I don't think we should ask the entire AFRALO community to put together a list of questions for African Board members. Or else perhaps we should invite them if we really wanted them to come be with us.

Given that this is their term and they are new Board members, I think it could be potentially a good idea to invite them to join us at our meeting, so that we can get to know them and eventually ask them any questions. But I think this kind of call for the entire AFRALO community is not really something that would be convenient to us, that's my point of view. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, thank you. Abdulkarim, I see your hand is up.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Thank you very much. I just wanted clarification on the ALS applications.

SARAH KIDEN: This is Sarah for the record. I said that application 293 we received way before, so it came during the transition of leadership, so we are not able to make a decision about this application, but there have been no

comments about it and I think we've mentioned this particular application in about three or four AFRALO monthly calls so it has been pending for over three months now. So, for now we are going to push application 293 to ALAC for voting.

Then regarding application 303 I noted that we had received this application but cannot give any further information right now because no decision has been made about this particular application. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, Abdulkarim, does that answer your question?

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Yes, thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Liz, I see your hand up, you have the floor.

LIZ: Thank you, Seun, and hi everyone. I would just like to add my voice on the idea of asking the Board questions, and I think it's a good move. As earlier suggested, it's good that we invite them to join our session so that they can hear our concerns and how we are doing this area.

But also, not everyone is actually able to attend online meeting or even onsite ICANN meetings. I think it would be good if we accept this call for Board questions given to the mailing list. So it can be a longer

discussion that can have very tangible items to take to the Board. Those are my opinions.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, thank you Liz. Olevie?

OLEVIE KOUSAMI: My question regards the ALS applications. I would like to know what country the individual members are from.

SARAH KIDEN: This is Sarah for the record. My apologies, [AUDIO BREAK] H-Care Foundation is actually from Nigeria, then Abdel, it's already on the WIKI, he's from Togo. I hope that answers your question. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, thank you very much. I think the points Aziz was trying to make in terms of the time, maybe there will not be enough time for the answering of the questions during the AFRALO-AfrICANN meeting, but maybe Leon perhaps can help. We don't know how many questions we will receive anyway. I definitely understand that these are new Board members, as well, and this is why I also suggested that we should have these questions prior to the face-to-face meeting so that we don't catch them by surprise.

So, I think that unless we have strong opposition to this, I think we could still give it a try and see how it goes, if we get questions. But if we

don't, fine, we can call it a day. But it's really questions to the Board and also not all the Board members will be present at our meeting. So, I think we should still give it a try and see how it goes. Aziz, I see your hand up, you have the floor.

AZIZ HILALI:

Aziz speaking. Thank you. I wanted to clarify what I meant. What I said was at the first stage we should invite them and get to know them so that AFRALO we get a chance to explain what our role leads to them. So that later on whenever Board members and the African community were to interact, they will better understand the issues within our region, the internet for end users, et cetera.

So I think before we start working on the questions we want to ask them via email, I think we should first present ourselves and invite them to one of our monthly meetings. But I think we should tell them who we are before we ask any questions. That's what I meant, thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Tijani I see your hand up, you have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you Seun, Tijani speaking. If we are on Any Other Business I would like to inform you that Fatimatah just sent me a line saying that she is traveling and she apologized she couldn't attend this call. My second thing is that I want to thank Leon very much, because he always attends our meeting and he always come when we invite him. So I think

that now we asked him to speak in Any Other Business so he can at least tell us what he wants to tell us about the Board activity. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you, and Aziz, I think we would follow up on the call on that, but for now let's just see how the collation of the questions will go. We are not posing the questions yet, we are just collating the questions at AFRALO. Having said that, we are in Any Other Business, so we will give the floor to Leon.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Hello, this is Silvia Vivanco from Staff. Leon has left the call. He had to leave and he noted this on the chat.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Sorry about that. Okay, fine. I guess that means we have 1 minute or 2 minutes to ourselves. Okay, any other business? Okay, hearing no voice, seeing no hands up, I think at this point I would like to thank us all for attending this call and wishing you all the best for the rest of the 2020 year.

We have a lot to do as AFRALO and the various activities that are lined up, I hope that we will commit to and show that we achieve them. Our appreciation to translators, appreciation to Staff and everyone who attended this call. From me, I say bye bye.

MICHELLE DESMYTER: Thank you so much. This meeting has been adjourned. Have a great remainder of your day, everyone.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]