

YESIM NAZLAR:

Good morning, good afternoon, good evening to everyone. Welcome to the APRALO monthly call taking place on Thursday, 16th of April 2020 at 6:00 UTC.

On our call today we have Maureen Hilyard, Satish Babu, Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Holly Raiche, Gopal Tadepalli, Shreedeeep Rayamajhi, Jaewon Son, Aris Ignacio, Mubashir Sargana, Alan Greenberg, Amrita Choudhury, Hanan Khatib, Jahangir Hossain, Gunela Astbrink, León Sanchez, Suhaidi Hassan, Syuzan Marukhyan, Aisyah Shakirah, Lianna Galstyan, Mikhail Anisimov, [inaudible]

Currently, we don't have anyone listed on the Chinese channel, and we haven't received any apologies for today's call. From staff, we have Heidi Ullrich, Gisella Gruber, and myself, Yesim Nazlar present on today's call, and our Chinese interpreters for today are Ray and Sandy.

Just a kind reminder to please state your names before speaking, not only for the transcription but also for the interpretation purposes as well, please. And now I would like to leave the floor back to you, Satish. Thank you very much.

SATISH BABU:

Thank you very much, Yesim. First of all, good morning, good afternoon, good evening. For those from the North American continent, a very late good evening.

I'd like to welcome all of you to the merged March-April joint meeting of APRALO. As all of us are aware, we are passing through some difficult

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times, and I very much appreciate on behalf of the APRALO community that so many of us have been able to find the time in the midst of your personal kind of traumatic times to join this meeting.

We have a fairly packed agenda today, but I'd like to especially welcome Alan Greenberg, past chair of ALAC, who's here with us at a very late hour in his own time, and León, who, as Cheryl points out, is a regular for us. We also have Heidi from a different time zone. Then we have of course our APRALO community, and I'd like to welcome everybody and get going with the agenda.

This time, we do not have any pending membership applications in the membership pipeline, so we will move on to agenda item number three, which is very important outcome of the At-Large review and Alan will walk us through this agenda item which is the ALS Mobilization.

At the outset, I'd like to thank Alan for taking the time off in preparing the presentation and being here to talk to all of us. Over to you, Alan.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Thank you very much, Satish. I'm glad to be here. This is a half-hour presentation that I've condensed down to seven minutes, so I will perhaps be going a little bit fast, but I'd like to leave a little bit of time at the end for some questions.

How we got here, many of you were around when we did the At-Large review and you'll remember that the reviewer didn't think very highly of ALSes, and in fact, pretty well recommended that we abolish them.

They actually said we could keep them but treat them as a single person.

To be blunt, we disagreed. We went back to look at why we had ALSes to begin with, because it was worth trying to understand. We knew ALSes were not necessarily working as well as they should, and we went back and were not too surprised to find the main reason that we have ALSes was for their members, because indeed, there were existing groups on the ground around the world that had people who were potentially interested in ICANN.

We've spent a lot of time over the years working with ALSes, but to a large extent, we worked with their representatives and we never quite got to the members in many cases. In some cases, we have, but in many cases, we never actually made contact with them. And that was the reason we were there. Next slide, please.

I won't read, you can look at them yourselves. I presume the presentation is linked to the agenda. These are both the ICANN bylaws and the ALAC rules of procedure which talk about why we have ALSes and what they're there for. And it basically says we want to use them as a path to all of the people that they have on the ground in their own countries. Next slide, please.

So we put together a plan that we're going to start making use of the ALS members, make sure we could content them, and hope, get some of them interested. We put that in our plan, it was ratified by all of the ALSes, all of the RALOs and by the ALAC, and was approved by the board. Next slide, please.

So we put together the small group. It's called the work party, which is a name that we don't use too often in ICANN, and certainly not in At-Large. But the connotation is it's a small group, it's going to work intensely, and then it's going to disappear. We're about two thirds through our work right now. We have 21 members. We asked anybody within At-Large who wanted to participate and we got 21 volunteers, and that's the group we have right now. you can see the people we have from this RALO. Next slide, please.

We've been working partly on new things and partly on some work that was done several years ago when we actually started this concept, and we have now pretty well finished locking in what we expect of an ALS. Now, I should say this group is going to make a recommendation to the ALAC, the ALAC may choose to accept it or may choose to send it back to us and ask for modifications. But we feel pretty confident that what we're putting together has a solid basis.

So one of the things we're going to do is we're going to expect each ALS to report back to us on a regular basis, every two years. So it's not a heavy load, but we want to make sure that they're still around, find out what they're doing, make sure we have all of the right information.

So not a particularly onerous task for an ALS. By the way, your agenda asked the question, what is this going to do to the RALO? What's the impact? And the short answer hopefully will be very little. We hope to get a more vibrant community out of this, and that should impact each RALO in a positive way. But in terms of tasks and work, we don't expect a very large amount. Next slide, please.

Number two is the key item that creates the method, the communication channel that we're looking for. We're going to ask every ALS to redistribute to their members information we send. Now, we're not going to put them on all of our mailing lists and inundate them with things that aren't of interest. Our challenge within At-Large is going to be to create small packets of information that can be sent out to people who do not know what ICANN is, because we know in many cases the membership within an ALS may not be very familiar with ICANN. And essentially, we're trying to trap them. We're trying to get them interested in what we do and interested enough that we're willing to put time and effort into working on ICANN issues.

We don't expect a lot of these. The nominal number, the thing we've said is monthly, but it's not necessarily going to be monthly. It may be often, or if there's a particular reason, it may be less frequent. So we're not expecting a huge load of things to arrive in people's mailboxes. But it's really important that this get out there. And an ALS can either say, "Send it to me, the representative, and the rep will redistribute," or they can give us an e-mail address that will automatically go to their members.

That really is the core of the whole thing, is to make sure that we can get information that is easy to understand, that is not full of ICANN buzzwords and terminology, and we'll do it in multiple languages. So it will be accessible and usable to people who receive it. Next slide, please.

This one isn't really new. It's always been there, but we have never really enforced it and we know in many cases it's not done. We expect

an ALS to be proud enough to be an ALS, to be part of ICANN somewhere in their web presence, whether it's a Facebook page or whether it's a website, that they mention us. The real intent is to make sure that their members understand that in addition to whatever reason the ALS has for existing—and most ALSes existed before they joined as an ALS—in addition to whatever that task is, they have another persona, another reason for existing, and that's to participate in ICANN and At-Large. Next slide, please.

This one is, again, not a new one, but we expect when issues are brought to an ALS and to the ALS representatives' attention, that they respond to us. This may be in the form of an occasional survey, it may be asking if some topic is of interest, or trying to find out more about what the ALS is doing.

Again, we don't expect this to happen often, but we do expect the ALSes to be responsive to occasionally respond to an e-mail if they get one from us.

Number five is an interesting one. If you go to the At-Large website and look at the page about ALSes, it says if there's an ALS in your town or country, you should consider joining it. That makes complete sense. The catch is, in many cases, there is no way to find out how to contact the ALS. Their website may have an address in it, an e-mail address or a link to click, or it may not. And what we're asking is each ALS provide some sort of link or e-mail address so that if a prospective member wants to join them, then they have a way of finding out.

Now, an ALS may be simply looking for members. There may be fees associated. There may be qualifications that you have to meet to join an ALS. So we're not saying anyone can join just by clicking this link, but there should be a way of contacting and interacting with an ALS.

The next item—and I think that's the last one—is the ALS has to designate between two and four representatives. Right now, in some RALOs, there are two or three reps required. Other RALOs only have one, and we're standardizing that you must have at least two. In other words, if your main representative disappears one day, we still have someone to contact. And you may have up to four depending on your own choice. Next slide, please.

Now, those are the expectations. That's what we expect an ALS to do. There's a couple of things that we're changing the wording of a little bit in the criteria for accepting an ALS—in the application. Right now, anyone can apply and say "I want my organization to be an ALS." We have had situations over the years where this has happened, we have approved an ALS, and then for one reason or another, we contact the leader of the group, the chairman of the ALS or the executive director, whatever it is, and they sort of look at us funny and say, "ICANN? ALS?" Because somebody within their group has applied to become an ALS and the organization itself didn't even know about it. So now we're requesting that they certify that they in fact have told the leaders, or the people applying are the leaders.

We want a clear statement of what the intersection is between the organization and ICANN. This is something that's in our current process, but it's not very clear. Now, if you look historically, pretty much all

organizations that join us have something to do with the Internet. Not all, but many. But it's not clear that they have an interest in the DNS and in the rather arcane and unusual things that ICANN does. So we just want to make sure that if this group is going to be part of ICANN, it's a good fit.

And lastly, we're asking for a commitment that they're not lying to us, that this is true, and that they've looked at the expectations, the things that we've just gone over, and said, yes, we plan to do those. So we're simply looking for certification. None of this is going to be—we're not going to send out the Internet cops to verify that everything is true. All of this is certified by people who say they want to participate and they're making the commitment to do it right. Next slide, please. And this, I think, is the last real substantive slide.

The size of an ALS is something that we've discussed many times over the years, and we have decided again in the work party that we're not looking at a specific number. We're not saying, "You must have 22 because 21 isn't enough." We're simply saying that you have to have a group that is more than just the leadership. If the whole purpose of an ALS is to get to your members, you have to have some members to get to.

Now, that might mean you have 2000 members, or if you're a small island territory, you may have 12. And we're not letting down any hard numbers. It's a judgment call. But we expect that if you say you're an organization, you're not just the representative. And again, over the years we know we've had ALSes which really have only one person in them. That's what we're trying to avoid. Next slide, please.

Timing. We are looking to hopefully have our work done in the next month or so. we then have to get approval from the ALAC, and no doubt there'll be discussion within the RALOs. We will need to get board approval because some of the things we're changing will require board agreement. And once we formally announce what we're doing, we're expecting it to take about six months to gear up to have our staff ready to do the work they have to do and to have ALSes have done the relatively small things that they have to do to get in line. Just make sure their web is up to date, provide an e-mail address, give us the name of their contacts. It's not a particularly onerous set of tasks.

And with that, I will open the floor if anyone has any questions. I've taken a little bit more time than I should have, but I hope you'll forgive me.

SATISH BABU: Thanks, Alan, for the presentation. We do have time for maybe one question or comment. Please raise your hand if you have a comment.

ALAN GREENBERG: Either I have totally confused everyone or I've been crystal clear then.

SATISH BABU: Yeah. Maybe just that the members need some time to go through the slides once again, and then we'll get back to you. So once again, thanks to you as well as the team members, especially those from APRALO, for the work done. And we're actually keenly looking at the output of this group because the wording on the agenda, the impact on RALOs, is

actually because we're doing our own ROPs and we want to know what changes we should make as a downstream effect from your work. So thanks very much once again.

ALAN GREENBERG: My pleasure. And you know where to find me if there's any questions. Thank you.

SATISH BABU: Thanks, Alan.

ALAN GREENBERG: and I will go to bed now. Bye.

SATISH BABU: Right. So now, before we go to Heidi with the election announcements, we have León here who's also on a similarly very late time zone. So I'd like to request León to give us your message to us. Over to you, León.

LEÓN SANCHEZ: Thank you very much, Satish, for having me again. I will be quick. Just to update you on three issues, the first being that the report from the office of the ombudsman has been published. You can find it in the ICANN website, of course. And it is interesting to see how the different topics there are reported, and of course, to follow up on important issues that pertain to the expected standards of behavior and how these evolved. So that is one thing.

And the second thing is that we continue to—when I say we, I mean the board—evaluate the transaction on .org. As you know, we have been evaluating this proposed change in control for some months now. We are reaching the deadline, which is April 20, if I'm not mistaken, and we will of course be making a decision soon on that end, and I will update you accordingly as soon as we have a decision on that matter.

The third one is something that you might already be aware of. And I don't say this happily, but the meeting that was scheduled to take place in Kuala Lumpur will be transformed into a virtual meeting as we did with the Cancun meeting earlier this year. And of course, the reason for this is the pandemic that we are all going through with the SARS-COV-2 virus and COVID-19 disease. So I would like to ask for the APRALO understanding to thank everyone involved in organizing this meeting and of course involved in all the efforts that you will do in carrying the work for the ICANN community.

It is with a really heavy heart that I say that we have to turn this into a virtual meeting. I've been there before when we made the decision for the Cancun meeting. Being the host country, I know how hard it was and we understand perfectly how our friends from Malaysia must be feeling right now in regard to this turn of events.

So I would like to thank you all in advance for your comprehension, for your understanding, and to remind you that we are all in this together. And as far as I agree that nothing will replace a face-to-face interaction, we're living very difficult times in terms of health, safety, and for the board and for the organization, of course, the health and safety of our

community is paramount. So we will make all efforts to keep everyone safe and try to conduct the virtual meetings in the best way possible.

So I am aware that planning is going on with leadership of the different SOs and ACs, and one of the issues that will be discussed is the time zone to be used to hold the virtual meeting. I have been vocal to say that we should respect the time zone for Asia Pacific as we did when we turned this meeting virtual to Cancun. But it is important that the leadership from the community, from the different SOs and ACs, reach an agreement on this. So it will be important that you make your voice heard through, in this case, Maureen which is the ALAC chair, and of course, through Satish and the regional leaders.

So I take these calls already as training for that virtual meeting, and those are the three topics that I wanted to update you on. And I'm of course open to any questions you would have. Thank you very much, Satish.

SATISH BABU:

Thank you very much, León, for the update, very important update of course. And on the third point, many of us are somewhat—we understand the situation although it is not easy on some of us who've been putting effort, especially to Heidi and Aisyah and others who have been working on this.

On the positive side, we understand the compulsions behind the time zone choice. No matter what the time zone is, we will be with you, with ICANN in this effort. And just like in the previous case when it was Cancun time and the Asia Pacific still did very well in terms of

participation, we will continue to be in solidarity with the rest of ICANN in this hour of difficulty.

Does anybody have any quick questions for comments for León? If not, thanks once again, León, for joining us and providing us this very valuable update.

LEÓN SANCHEZ:

Thank you, Satish, and thank you all for having me. I will now leave the call. Thank you.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks, León. Right, so with that, we will now move on to the next agenda item, number four, which is an announcement by Heidi who's here with us on the call. Heidi, please go ahead.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Yes. Hello, everyone. Thank you very much, Satish. Good to be with you. This is an exciting announcement. This is the annual election, selections and appointments, and again, this is for all RALOs. So the times scheduled for this is in sync with the ALAC. Thank you, Satish and leadership for agreeing to that.

The big date that's the beginning of the call for nominations is going to be the 27th of April, and then that will go through the 8th of May, then that's for the nomination period. Then those who have been nominated will have until the 15th of May to accept that nomination, and then if the RALO decides to have calls with the candidates, those will take place

between the 18th and 22nd of May, and then again, if there are elections, usually if there's only one nominee, then that person wins by acclamation. However, if there are more than one, then there sometimes will be elections, and those elections will take place between the 22nd and 29th of May. And then the winner of those elections or the one who is going to win by acclamation, they will take their seats at the AGM. That is the ICANN 69 meeting scheduled for October, and so at the end, that person will take their seat on the 22nd of October. So again, three very important points for the process, and that is that the nominations, including the self-nominations, must be made directly to the APAC list. Please CC At-Large staff on that.

Then you'll also—now, there are two websites. This is the actual—what you're looking at is the APRALO one. There's also a main one, and staff will go ahead and post your name to that one if you'd like, but that's the importance of CCing At-Large staff, is once we see your nomination—can either be a self-nomination or somebody else is nominating you—that person will need to also CC At-Large staff and we'll go ahead and put that nomination onto the main election page. And also the nominees, once they accept, they do need to write an expression or statement of interest, and that can be just a few paragraphs on why you are interested in holding that position.

So for the positions for APRALO, the ALAC member, that will be one elected ALAC member. That position is currently held by Holly, and she is eligible for reappointment. Again, that is a two-year appointment, 2020 AGM to 2022 AGM or Annual General Meeting. Also, the APRALO chair position is up. That's currently held by Satish, and as Holly, he's also eligible for reappointment and also a two-year term. And then one

of the vice chair positions, APRALO has two, so this one is the position that currently Ali AlMeshal holds, and again, that's a two-year position.

Now, the APRALO secretariat, that's an appointment, so Satish, we'll be working with you on how that is done and then you can go ahead and do that process as well. And then also, we have the ALAC delegate to the NomCom that is currently held by Amrita. She's eligible for one more one-year appointment, so keep in mind that that delegate is a one-year position and that position, that name needs to go to the ALAC, and then the ALAC will make that ultimate choice for that position.

So those are the positions that are available, and I'm happy to answer any questions that you might have.

SATISH BABU: Heidi, there is a question from Nadira on the chat. It says, how many terms can each leader hold position?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes. Thank you, Nadira. I think that for APRALO, there are no limits, except for the ALAC delegate to the NomCom. That limit is two one-year appointments.

SATISH BABU: Thanks, Heidi. Are there any other questions for Heidi? Not seeing any hands up, if there are any questions, we would be happy to take them on the mailing list. So please feel free to raise any further questions on

the election process or [inaudible] and we will be happy to get staff to—yes, Cheryl, please go ahead.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Thanks, Satish. It's not a question, it's just a comment. I've put it in chat, but every year, for any number of years in my history at least, people don't seem to understand, so I'm going to say it very clearly. The NomCom appointments, as Heidi said, are made by the At-Large Advisory Committee and only by the At-Large Advisory Committee. However, the RALO puts forward a name or names for consideration, because of its local and regional knowledge and outreach abilities, to the ALAC for the ALAC's consideration.

We can, of course, simply put one name, we can put a list of names, we can put a prioritized list of names. Any of that is up to us. But the ALAC does not have to appoint from that list. It's never happened to our RALO, but it has happened to other RALOs where none of the people they have suggested have been given the appointment by the ALAC. And I just think we really need to be very clear again—Satish, I know you know—so everyone remembers that that's the way it is on this very unique circumstance. Otherwise, we will build expectations up which may never be able to be fulfilled. Thank you.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks, Cheryl. This is a point that some of us may not understand, because it's not intuitive kind of thing, but the NomCom appointment is completely in the hands of ALAC. Whatever we do as a RALO, the ALAC has the deciding right on that position.

Right, looking at time, we are running behind. But as I said, if anyone has any questions, please feel free to raise it in the APAC-DISCUSS list and we'll be happy to take it up there.

Now we move on to the routine policy updates, and it is Holly and Justine and probably Cheryl as well. I'd request you to keep it to about 12 minutes. Apologies for the last-minute [inaudible] because we'll run out of time. I hope you understand, Holly and Justine.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Yeah. Okay. That's fine. First, just to note what the ratified statements—we don't have time to go through them, but the ones that have been mentioned [inaudible] by Alan were the PIR comment ones. Can we go to the current statements? I'll quickly run through those since that's what we've got time for.

We have talked about the revised community travel support that's very interesting. For those of you who travel, it's all about times that we should be allowed for visas and compensation, visas and other travel arrangements, which is fair enough.

Now, in terms of the current things that we're looking at—and unfortunately, they're not here, but I will talk about them very briefly. The first, we are finalizing a statement or our position on what's called the EPDP, which is the expedited policy development process. It's been going on for two years. Alan and Hadia need major rewards for this.

The European union promulgated their regulation on privacy, which in many respects directly contradicts the requirements that were in the

ICANN contracts between ICANN and the registries, ICANN and the registrars in respect of the gTLDs.

When that came into effect, as that was coming into effect, a process was put in place called the expedited policy development process to work through how to adjust the requirements on registries and registrars from gTLDs to accommodate or rather to comply with the European Union's directive. There have been a lot of competing views and a lot of discussion. Where we're up to now is working through some final statements.

Alan could have expressed it better than I, but the two issues that ALAC still has a very firm view on is to strengthen requirements on the need for accurate data collected about registrants such that when people need that data, particularly the law enforcement, it is accurate, it's been checked.

The other area—maybe Justine wants to talk about it more than I—or the other issue that's still outstanding is a review of rights protection. For people who are interested in copyright law, that statement is being done by Greg Shatan and Marita Moll. Have a read of it.

The final is the subsequent procedures, and this is the huge, messy topic that looks at the issues that arose from the first round of the new gTLDs. And there are a range of issues that have interest or concern for the At-Large community. I'll just go through a few of them.

One was, first of all, the small number of applications from the Global South, and some of the issues are, well, should there be an applicant support program to help? Should there be—some of the other

issues were DNS abuse. These are issues that were highlighted by [inaudible] but consumer trust, consumer choice, and some of the issues as to what should happen in the next round [is there.]

Another major issue is geographic names. What names should be protected from being available for new gTLDs or not. That's a whole separate topic in itself. There was a survey that went out to ascertain ALAC views on that. Another area was called public interest commitments, whether the new registries actually make commitments about the registrars that will be using the registry services or not. And then there are a lot of issues related to names.

Now, Justine has done the most amazing job in working through the fine detail of what I can only say is a huge matrix that relates to all of those issues. There's going to be a special call tonight just on those issues, but if either of those major topics, which is the privacy one on expedited policy development process, or the subsequent procedures, they are on the policy page of ICANN. Please read through those pages. If you've got questions, look at the person who has been designated as the penholder or attend the policy call that we have every week, Consolidated Policy Working Group where we work through what the ALAC position should be on all of those issues.

So Satish, have I managed to stay within time?

SATISH BABU:

Thanks very much, Holly. Justine, would you like to add anything else, or Cheryl? Please go ahead.

JUSTINE CHEW:

Hi. I'd really like to give more time to the other speakers. I posted a link to the [joining] survey that Holly mentioned. There's still opportunity if you haven't taken it to please take it. Deadline is 30th of April, and the inputs are going into positions that we can formulate for geographic names.

Also, I will come back to this in a little bit, but yeah, the point about subsequent procedures, it's a massive exercise [inaudible] but I think the best thing to do is if you want to follow what's going on with subsequent procedures, then the easiest thing would be to join the CPWG weekly calls because we're spending quite a bit of time going through a lot of the priority and topics in the subsequent procedures. Back to you, Satish.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks very much, Justine, and thanks for Cheryl also for not adding anything else because of the time constraint. One thing I wanted to mention about the policy update was that the last month, we saw very unusual kind of policy development, shared policy development process by AFRALO and APRALO wherein some of our new people joined—Dr. Gopal who is on this call had volunteered, and we also had another volunteer from AFRALO. The process of course went off pretty well and the output has been appreciated, so I'd like to tell everybody that it doesn't matter if you're a newcomer, there are always ways of supporting anyone who wants to participate in the whole policy process. And for the future, if any of you would like to come into the

whole process, you are most welcome. Please let us know whenever the opportunity arises.

So I'd like to move on to Maureen now. Maureen has five minutes. And as it is very short, I don't want to ask her to cut down to less than five minutes. So please go ahead, Maureen.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you, Satish. Are you trying to tell me that I normally go on and on? I would just say, first of all, that I'm very happy to be here, and just to support what León said, one of the most important things that's happened over the last week has been meetings that we've had with the chairs of the other supporting organizations and advisory committees. And how we have impressed on ICANN, and even yesterday with the CEO, Göran Marby, about the current coronavirus situation and how it's changed the situations for many of our volunteers.

So it's understandable—and I'm thrilled with the number of people who are at this meeting today, but that changed situations for our volunteers means that sometimes, ICANN work may not be a high priority in your lives at this particular point in time. And if you are coming along to meetings like this, I think it's absolutely fantastic, and we really do appreciate it.

But one of the things that we've had to do of course as the ALAC is to prioritize what is really important for us and how can we deal with what is important from the many things that we actually put in our 2020 workplan following the ATLAS meeting in Montréal last November.

And of course, for us, just going through that, the very first thing is of course the At-Large review implementation final report. Now, in that report that's due in June, it's going to outline all the improvements that have occurred over the last four years that this has been hanging over our heads and how we're dealing with the way in which At-Large works, especially in the area of policy and outreach and engagement, which of course are our mandated roles.

But with the way in which we communicate with each other, these are the focus areas, policy, outreach and engagement, communicating with each other and with our communities, as well as capacity building and building knowledge and understanding about ICANN and its work. More particularly, as Alan mentioned, how can we get our ALSes being more effectively engaged in the work of At-Large and ICANN?

Another thing I noticed that you may not have noticed, looking at the policy issues, policy of course is normally carried out within At-Large by the Consolidated Policy Working Group, and they meet weekly. One of the things that they found was that their workload was just building up, growing, and they really needed to prioritize themselves on how could they cope better, dealing with what was important for them within their policy group.

They realized of course that a lot of the issues that they were dealing with really were not DNS policy, they were actually operational policies related to ICANN Org. So what they've suggested that we do and which we have taken onboard is they've now been passed over to what has been our Finance and Budget Subcommittee. We are currently after having more people join our Finance, Budget and Operations

Subcommittee so that we can actually talk about what ICANN is doing, what ICANN Org is doing, the projects they're doing, and we can provide some advice or some support for what it is that they're doing and we can incorporate it into our work.

So if [you're at a loose end] and you want to join a group, come join the Finance, Budget and Operations Subcommittee. Contact myself or Sathish or one of the staff, and we'll put your name down on the list.

The last thing that I'm going to mention, of course, is ICANN 68. And as León said, it's now going to be virtual, and one of the really good things is that the planning committee that we had today, it was really good to hear the support that was then given for Asia Pacific who—it was totally acknowledged that the Asia Pacific region got a really bad deal last time, and it was really good to hear that even those areas that are going to be suffering the same as we did at the last meeting were all very supportive of the time zone meeting our needs.

So we need to get as many people from the Asia Pacific region attending that meeting to make sure that we can justify their [inaudible] of us having that time zone. And you will be getting lots of information about the ICANN 68 very shortly, but one of the things that I'd really like to encourage and I'm going to be doing that with the other RALO leaders, is to see if we can actually incorporate some kind of RALO-related session that looks at the grass roots ALS involvement within At-Large [inaudible] in to the ICANN 68 program to let people understand exactly what it is that the RALOs do as well.

So yeah, I don't want to take up too much more time. I hope I kept within my five minutes, Satish. Thank you very much.

SATISH BABU:

Thank you very much, Maureen, for that update. Indeed, as we look towards the next ICANN meeting which is notionally in our region, we have some work to do, and we have started discussions already. Before we move to the next update, the APRALO updates, I'd like to welcome Mikhail Anisimov who's here with us from the ICANN GSE Central Asia and Eastern Europe. Thanks, Mikhail, for joining us. And also, Central Asia is an area of interest for us because we do not have much coverage there. And we hope that APRALO can work with you in seeing how we can improve our footprint in Central Asia.

So once again, welcome to Mikhail on behalf of all of us. Right, so now we move on to agenda item number seven, APRALO updates. We are short of time, so I'd like to request all of the speakers to keep as short as possible. Justine, over to you for the policy platform, one of our most important initiatives for this year.

JUSTINE CHEW:

Thank you, Satish. I will not take nine minutes. I want to give my time to the other speakers. I will try to summarize what I was going to say, which is based on the feedback that we've been getting from using the Google Doc on the APRALO policy platform 2020, I think we've come to the conclusion that there isn't enough responses to warrant separate groups be set up for discussing various different topics of policy. So I guess what we would look at doing now is to just have the existing

APRALO mailing list as our communications channel for policy. So if anybody wants to talk about policy issues, we can use that medium.

Also, some of the other aspects that were raised through the policy platform 2020 was things like the skills outreach survey, which is basically a survey to identify what skills or interests members in the region have for policy purposes so that we could direct them to the right channel or the right forum, or we could tap on to their expertise for policy positions.

I'm hoping that Ali will touch on this because it's something that I believe that Outreach and Engagement Working Group is looking into. Now, in terms of the capacity building element for the policy platform that was mentioned, there is now concrete steps, action plan being taken by the Capacity Building Working Group. They started a calendar of capacity building webinars and the first one that's been conducted was to do with the GDPR or the EPDP. So that element that was raised in the APRALO policy platform has been kind of taken care of. We don't want to really duplicate things so that we reserve our resources for more important endeavors.

And in terms of the policy discussions, I was saying that, use the APRALO mailing list, we'll try to come up with some structure in terms of how we take it forward, but in terms of for example subsequent procedures—I always come back to this because I'm leading that effort—the small team has now looked at putting capacity building elements into their presentations. So a lot of it is condensed, but it hopefully will help newbies, people who are new to topics, to at least

get some background of what we're talking about so that they can fully, more immersive participate in the discussions that are taking place.

I understand that if you don't have the background, it's hard for you to get involved, so that's why we always have that element of capacity building in our minds, but there's only so much we can do with our work and life balance in terms of time being allocated for policy discussions on CPWG, so we're trying our best to balance those demands. So over to the next speaker. Thank you.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks, Justine, and apologies for the shortage of time. This is something that we need to invest more time in, so we will come back to this topic in the next meeting.

I'm told that Ali had to pull out because of an urgent office meeting. He has apologized and said that he will make his presentation in the next meeting. We now move on to the participation on Social Media Working Group update from Shreedeeep. Shreedeeep, please keep to two minutes. Please go ahead.

SHREDEEP RAYAMAJHI:

The Social Media Working Group has launched a social media competition. With regards to that, I have launched our campaign, so the campaign was basically more focused towards new leaders as well as leaders who were already engaging. So we kind of created a group, social media group, and there we tried to engage them with the information regarding the events and stuff like that and the technical

difficulties that new leaders were facing. So we kind of assisted them.
Next slide, please.

YESIM NAZLAR: Shreedeeep, could you please speak a bit louder? Your audio was much better in the beginning.

SHREEDDEEP RAYAMAJHI: Okay. So we opened a social media group called ICANN Circle for the communication and facilitation. We forwarded the social media competition to the discussion forum of At-Large, posted the message of social media competition in several regional fellowship groups, WhatsApp and Facebook groups, other groups as well. We facilitated leaders with the links [and time,] because a lot of them had issues with joining the app because there was some confusion with enrolling. And we contacted both old leaders and new leaders in this context.

So the challenges that I faced during this whole campaign was the communication strategy. The communication strategy was not clear. I need to say the information that we were putting in was really fluctuating. So I would suggest and recommend that APRALO kind of create its own communication strategy [for events] so that it is really easy to handle the social media and there is a collaboration in-between the different stakeholder groups and the leaders. And lastly, the competition, Satish Babu [inaudible] announced the winners [with Sarah.] So didn't mean it, but [inaudible]. Thank you.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks very much, Shreedeeep. Thanks also for the very colorful slides. And as we look towards the next ICANN meeting in our region, we would need your help in formulating our strategy in consonance with the ALAC strategy.

So thanks once again, and we now move on to the last item, which is the Nominating Committee-update. Over to you, Amrita. Please keep your presentation to two minutes.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thanks, Satish. I'll keep it to one minute. Currently, the Nominating Committee members are evaluating the 96 applications we've received for the seven leadership positions within ICANN and the PTI. And in terms of geographic distribution of applicants, 17 were from North America, 22 from LAC, 22 from Africa, and 28 from APAC, and seven from Europe. We have some decent numbers from APAC this year. And in terms of gender of applicants, it is still skewed with 68% being male, 19% being female, and 13% not opting to disclose their gender.

Since the face-to-face meeting is not possible, we are looking at evaluating how we would be doing these discussions online given the current circumstances, and we are currently doing the first round of voting of the candidates [inaudible] to have the next round of elimination. That's all from me at this point in time, Satish. Thank you.

SATISH BABU: Thanks very much, Amrita, for your work in the NomCom. We are aware that this has been especially difficult for NomCom because of the inability to meet physically, and we're happy that you're working remotely in this very challenging situation. Thanks once again.

Before we close, are there any other burning comments or questions that anybody would like to raise? We can take one minute if there's anything.

Yes, Amrita.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Yes, Satish, two things. If any of you are doing any webinars or anything at this point of time, please do send your material to me, preferably by 25th or 26th of this month. And Shreedeeep has been doing a great job, but I would say we have an APRALO Facebook page. Shreedeeep, you could also post things there too. We don't have traction much, but since it is already created, you could use that platform.

SATISH BABU: Thanks, Amrita. The points are well noted. With that, I apologize for overshooting the time. We are very happy to have all of you in this meeting, and stay safe, and it's back to Yesim for closing this meeting.

YESIM NAZLAR: Thanks so much, Satish, and thank you all for participating in today's meeting. Take care and have a great rest of the day. Bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]