CLAUDIA RUIZ: Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to everyone. Welcome to the ALAC monthly teleconference call on Tuesday the 26th of May 2020 at 16:00 UTC. On the call today on the English channel we have Maureen Hilyard, Jonathan Zuck, Abdulkarim Ayopo Oloyede, Adrian Schmidt, Alan Greenberg, Aris Ignacio, Bastiaan Gosling, Ben Kyemba, Carlos Raúl Gutiérrez, Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Chokri Ben, Natalia Filina, Glenn McKnight, Justine Chew, Kaili Kan, Karen Mulberry, Marita Moll, Nadira Al-Araj, Jana Priyatosh, Ricardo Holmquist, Sarah Kiden, Satish Babu, Shreedeep Rayamajhi, and Sébastien Bachollet. We also have Tijani Ben Jemaa.

On the Spanish channel, we have Sylvia Herlein Leite and Harold Arcos. On the French channel, we have Anne-Marie Joly- Bachollet, and Gabdibé Gab-Hingonné, and also Abdeldjalil Bachar Bong.

We have received apologies from Holly Raiche, Roberto Gaetano, and Matthias Hudobnik. From staff, we have Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, Gisella Gruber, Herb Wayne, and Siranush Vardanyan.

Our interpreters on the Spanish channel are Paula and Marina, and on French, we have Jacques and Claire, and myself, Claudia Ruiz, on call management. A friendly reminder to please keep your lines muted when not speaking to prevent any background noise and to please state your name when taking the floor for the interpreters. Thank you very much. With this, I turn the call over to you, Maureen.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Claudia. Yes, good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to everyone who’s here. What a nice little group we’ve got. Looking forward to an interesting meeting.

Just first of all, going through the agenda. If there are any changes that people want to make, please let me know. No action items, which is a really good start. Then, we’re going on to have the ALAC policy development activities.

We don’t have Evin today, so Jonathan, and Olivier, and Ricardo from the operations working group will be cobbling together a report on policy issues, then Heidi is going to give an update on the current status of the ALS and individual members.

Then we’ll have any reports from working group chairs or liaisons that they might want to update the ALAC about, remembering, too, that the reports aren’t completely necessary because the Wiki spaces have these reports on them, anyway.

Then, we’ll have, of course, the updates on the work that we’re currently engaging in within At-Large and [leads] can bring to the attention of the ALAC what are major matters of interest. Then we’ll have León, who is due to arrive around about mid-meeting to give us an update on ICANN Board matters before we end with some updates on the next virtual ICANN68 meeting, continuing our work on our review implementation plan report and, of course, a friendly reminder about the elections.

So, before I finish that, is there anyone who wants to raise anything with regard to any other business? It’s pretty packed, anyway. Okay. Great. Thank you. So, I think we can adopt that agenda and we can, therefore, move onto the business at hand. We can forego number three because there were no action items from the last meeting, and we’ll go straight into the policy development activities with Olivier, and Jonathan, and Ricardo, if there’s anything he wants to raise. All yours, guys. Anyone want to start?

JONATHAN ZUCK: Okay. Yeah. Do we have slides from Evin? I heard that we did, but maybe … Oh, it’s built right into the agenda. I'm sorry. So, this is the status of the current calls for public comment. The ICANN Africa Regional Plan for Fiscal Years 2021 through 2025 is currently in drafting, as are the comments for the … Oh. You scrolled away. As are the draft PTI strategic plan of the name collision analysis.

It’s got Justine at the helm and the ccNSO PDP3 initial proposals for process to retire ccTLDs are all in their drafting phases. I don’t believe there are new ones for decision this week.

And then, down at the bottom here, you can see that the consensus playbook as available for download. I don't know if it has been updated yet to incorporate the At-Large consensus rules but they have promised to do so.

We are also scheduling an At-Large GeoNames survey single-issue call, which is not a report on the survey but actually just an opportunity for those who want help either to understand the questions or to have interpretation in taking the survey. So, it’s just an opportunity to take the survey in real-time for those who have not yet taken the survey, and, hopefully, an opportunity for the RALO leads to encourage their members to get on this call and take the survey with us so that we can get a broader perspective in terms of how people feel about some of these GeoNames issues.

So, it’s a “one of a kind” kind of call that we haven't done before but it’s literally an opportunity to take the survey live with interpreters and with me answering questions if the questions aren’t clear.

So, I think that’s really the update from policy. Scorecards continue to get created by Justine and her small team, so I highly recommend going through and looking. That’s it for policy. Maureen, back to you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Jonathan. I know that you’ve probably got a little bit more on policy development later on, so we can leave that to then. Right. So, [cross talk].

JONATHAN ZUCK: I think Olivier is on. Olivier, did you want to add anything?

MAUREEN HILYARD: Oh, Olivier’s on.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yeah. Thanks very much. No, I just wanted to acknowledge on of the things with is a little out of the ordinary for this quarter, and it was for AFRALO APRALO to release a joint statement on the ALAC strategy [in Cancún], just looking at Middle East and Adjoining Countries Strategy, MEAC. It was good to see the collaboration between the two RALOs.

I don't know if I mentioned it in the last call, but certainly not on the ALAC call. So, it was good to see that. And then, finally, there are a number of processes which keep on going in our Consolidated Policy Working Group, and that includes all the work in the Expedited PDP, as well, so I wanted to acknowledge that in addition to Justine’s ongoing work.

And finally, and there might be some mention of this later, it was resolved that some of the consultations that came before the Consolidated Policy Working Group were not policy. So, that has now moved onto a new working group, the organizational Finance and Budget Working Group, and you can see here the draft PTI FY 2021-2024, although it listed in the policy section here has got a side working group as the OFBWG. That’s it. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Yeah. Thank you, Olivier. Actually, on that, the Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group—we just call it the OFB—Ricardo, do you want to add something to that? Because we had a really good session, the very first session we had, and Ricardo might just want to make a brief report on that.

RICARDO HOLMQUIST: Hello. Can you hear me?

MAUREEN HILYARD: We can.

RICARDO HOLMQUIST: Yeah. Thanks, Maureen. Yeah, we had a very good conversation. We hear the [Africa is to deepen] and we have the first comments for the draft for the PTIs strategic plan. Tomorrow, 16:00 UTC, we’ll have our next meeting of this working group and we will have the draft for the PTI that [we thought were any] on the page of the PTI strategic plan.

It’s posted there, so you can go and see it. If you have any comments to Holly Raiche or the group, it’s going to be discussed tomorrow. Also tomorrow, we will hear from finance for the approved budget and the difference with the budget that was posted originally, and the approval of the ABRs. So, you’re all welcome to join this newly created group. Thanks.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Ricardo. Yes. We’ve got two meetings. We’d normally have one meeting a month but this one is two because we were actually getting the finance team in to talk about the ABRs that were approved and to look at those that weren’t, as well. Okay. So, no other questions or queries from anybody?

I see more people have joined since we started and it’s looking very, very good. Great. Thank you very much for coming. Okay. So, that looks like it’s done for policy. It seems there are no questions. We will then move onto Heidi giving the ALS report. Thank you, Heidi.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Thank you, Maureen. I hope I can be heard. Just very quickly, we have currently 241 ALSes in 104 countries and territories. In terms of the ALS application status, we will be starting a vote next week on 1st June for two AFRALO ALS applications, so stay tuned for those. In terms of individuals, we currently have 134 individuals and 19 observers. I think that is it, Maureen. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Heidi. I did find that the graph, which we can’t see all of … But there are graphs that, I think, Alp has had something to do with putting together. It gives us a good overview of … Can we see it? Can somebody lift that page up a bit? Thank you.

Right. Just to give an indication of the number of individual members we’re starting to accumulate. It would be really good, I think, if we do. Some of our individual members are being very much involved, started to be involved already. Even attending the RALO meetings is really important. So, we are hoping to get a lot more action and activity from our individual members, as well as from our ALS members. Also, Alan. Alan’s got his hand up.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much. Given that we’re just about to submit the final report on the At-Large review, given that it’s two years after it was approved by the board, I find the zero number for LACRALO in terms of individual members somewhat problematic, given that it was a recommendation of the first At-Large review, that all RALOs have individual members, and we’re now giving the board the final report on this review, which also incorporated that. Can we have an update on what the status is, there?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Hi. Silvia, are you able to explain both Alan’s … And while you take the floor, I also see Judith has a question about what observers are in APRALO or in other/all regions. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes, Heidi. Thank you very much. Can you hear me okay?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes, we can.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes. Can you all hear me? Okay. Yes. I just had a question, Alan. Actually, you see 11 observers, and that’s how they [inaudible], but they are actually individuals and they will become individuals once these procedures … The application format is drafted. They, LACRALO, are discussing the details of these observers formally as individuals but they are, indeed, people that are willing individual members of LACRALO. So, I would say they were, if I could use the word, perhaps [inaudible] they are legally incorporated as individual members. So, I hope that [inaudible].

HEIDI ULLRICH: Thank you, Silvia. Yes, I'm well aware that, LACRALO, they’ve just started implementing their new rules of procedure, so that is new forms and incorporating individual members will happen eventually. Judith, did you want to say something else here?

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: Yes. I'm still confused about that. And then, also, Nadira’s point, where she says, “The APRALO individual members are members of ALSes,” at least the definition that we have in NARALO is that the individual members have to be unaffiliated. That means that they cannot be part of another ALS.

And that [seems] we need to confirm that they are not part of an ALS. So, that’s a question, there. And still, I don’t understand “observers.” So, when you fill out an application for an individual, does that mean that, in the time period while waiting to be approved, you are an observer? That’s what I'm unclear on. Thanks.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you. Alan, is your hand up still?

ALAN GREENBERG: Yes, my hand is still up.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Okay. We’ll have you first. Obviously, whichever responds. Okay, Judith. Out your hand down.

ALAN GREENBERG: I think it’s really important to have a date for LACRALO that we can put in the report of when the target is. One knows one can keep on writing rules forever. I think if we’re trying to report to the board on how we’re doing, it’s really important to say, if we’re not done today, when will we be done?

So, I think that’s really important and my understanding is, when we talk about individuals, we are talking about unaffiliated individuals. We know EURALO is a special case where the unaffiliated people are deemed to be an ALS. That’s a special case. If we have rules in other RALOs that say unaffiliated members may also be affiliated, I think I’d like to understand it, if nothing else. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Alan. Perhaps, Judith, is your …? Yeah, okay. Cheryl, please.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you. Just to respond to Judith and, indeed, I think Dave asked the question, as well. I was typing it but I'm still in SubPro, as well, so thank you for taking my hand. Now, the term “observe” is something that we have had in place in APRALO since the inception of our very first set of rules of procedure and that has not changed in its nature.

You need to recognize that it is a pre-membership status or a status where someone has requested, because we are open, transparent, and able to be observed by people who are not members on our list, to be observers. They are, therefore, either not members or in the state of becoming members, whether that is an ALS or whether that is an unaffiliated individual member.

Membership, to get to David’s point, in, at least, APRALO, confers merely, at this stage, one right and privilege, and that is the opportunity to vote, noting that APRALO prefers to use consensus and not voting, anyway.

It, of course, as written originally, referred to the one vote per At-Large structure, which was, of course, tied to the primary representative of that At-Large structure, and these days is not conferred to each individual unaffiliated member in APRALO, as it is not, I believe, in other RALOs, either, but rather an accumulation of unaffiliated members that discuss and decide how their primary representative will vote in an election. So, hopefully, we’ve got that clear. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Cheryl. Tijani.

TIJANI BEN JAMAA: Thank you very much, Maureen. In AFRALO, it is clear that an individual member is an unaffiliated one. That means that it doesn't belong to any ALS and it is under application. In application, the applicant declares that he is not a member of any ALS. When we discover that he is affiliated, we ask him to participate because he is already a member, so he doesn't need to be an individual member. And I think if the—

[JOAN KATAMBI:] Hi, [Joan. You seem to be ringing]. Happy to join the call. Sorry for being late.

TIJANI BEN JAMAA: If it is otherwise in the other RALOs, I think that this should be clarified. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Tijani. Sébastien.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Yes. Thank you very much, Maureen. Just to follow what Alan said, yes, in EURALO we have set up an ALS to have all the individual members to be together and to work together, but it is clear that the rule is the same, and for the other RALO that means that, if you are a member of this specific ALS, you can’t be a member of any other ALSes. If not, you can’t be in this individual Internet user EURALO association. It’s very important.

One of the questions we have to find a way is how we keep that updated because, of course, we have them at the beginning when they decide to become members. But if, one year later, one new ALS came on board and they are a member of this, they need to withdraw from the individual one. We have to find out how we will take care of that in the future. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Sébastien. Alan.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much. I’ll just point out there is a group that is being convened sometime in the near future. I believe Maureen has said it will be led by Roberto to look at individual unaffiliated members in general, the complement of my ALS mobilization group, and, clearly, that group will be looking at that.

I mean, it may well be that you can be an incidental member of an ALS. I know I’ve been an unaffiliated member of NARALO since the very beginning. At one point, I was listed as a member of ISOC Canada because I happen to be an ISOC member. When they became an ALS, I formally took my name off that list.

Maybe we need a rule saying you can be there, where it’s incidental, where you don’t actually participate. The group will be looking at that. Let’s not try to delve into it in a call at this point. Clearly, we need to have some level of commonality between our unaffiliated members now that we have more than one RALO having them, and the group will be looking at that, I trust. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Alan. You raised what I was going to mention about Roberto going to be taking a working group, specifically on what Alan has mentioned, to look at the criteria and expectations for unaffiliated members and to also review, as Sébastien has mentioned, the way in which we can validate the fact that they are unaffiliated.

I am aware that, similar to what Alan just mentioned about his originally belonging to an ISOC chapter and then pulling himself out of that once they became an ALS … And I am aware that there are some members who were members of a particular … I think in that case, too, it was an ISOC chapter, but has actually probably not formally notified ICANN or At-Large staff, apart from the application form, that they are no longer members of the original ALS.

So, those sorts of things need to be clarified. And RALOs, as Tijani mentioned about what’s happening in AFRALO, do have a responsibility to make those checks. And I do want to refer you all to Harold’s mention in the chat, in that, under their new operating principles, individual members will be incorporated into their system. So, we will see some change in those numbers, hopefully before the end of June when we’ve finished writing our report. So, are there any other questions or queries on that so that we can move on?

CLAUDIA RUIZ: Hi, Maureen?

MAUREEN HILYARD: Who was that? Claudia, yes?

CLAUDIA RUIZ: Yes. Sylvia Herlein Leite, who is not on Zoom, she’s only on the Spanish channel, so she can’t raise her hand. She would like to take the floor.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Okay. Thank you. Yes, Silvia?

SILVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Thank you. I'm only on the phone. I don't know what Harold included in the chat but I wanted to let you know that, in LACRALO, we are in the process of making a decision how we are going to deal with this. There are several ideas.

We are about to adopt the rules of procedures and we have an idea that is similar to what Sébastien described for EURALO – how to bring together all those members into an ALS so that they can have one vote as any other ALS.

And we are also considering the fact that individual members should not participate in other ALSes, but these are all ideas in this phase. They haven't been formally adopted yet. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Okay. Thank you very much for that explanation, Silvia. Great. Clarified. Thank you. Moving on, therefore, to our next item, which is any reports from working group chairs, or liaisons. Perhaps not. Or RALO chairs, yes. RALO chairs, because we do have discussion on the working groups in item seven. But RALO chairs, got anything of interest that you might be able to mention to the ALAC? Anyone? Nope? Okay. That’s okay.

Moving on, then, to the work that we’re actually all involved in with regard to post-ATLAS and the 2020 At-Large activity. Did I see Eduardo? Is Eduardo here? No. Okay. Just one word about the post-ATLAS III report. That is actually being finalized at the moment.

There is some excellent work that has gone into that, as I mentioned before, and we have incorporated some of that work into our implementation plan report, as well. I don't know if there is anyone else who actually wants to make any mention of the report that has been working on it, but there is a small team that has been working on that report.

It should be due out very, very shortly. Definitely before the next meeting, anyway. That’s for sure. Okay. Now, moving, then, onto policy involvement, looking at policy development activities. Jonathan, any more to add on that?

JONATHAN ZUCK: I don't think so. What area are we …?

MAUREEN HILYARD: We’re looking at the policy development process.

JONATHAN ZUCK: At the course?

MAUREEN HILYARD: ICANN Learn course, yeah.

JONATHAN ZUCK: Yeah. So, I think we have finalized the script for the course to be created by ICANN Learn. What is still to be done is to add assessment questions in the document for them, but I think that they can begin to build the course as we think about the best possible questions.

I’ve gotten guidance from Betsy on what questions are most easily readable by JAWS, which is the accessibility toolset for folks to use, like screen readers, basically. So, we just need to add some questions for that. But otherwise, I think we have finalized the script for the course. So hopefully, they can get started on it soon. Thanks, Maureen.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Jonathan, do you want to mention Lumio? Because it’s part of the process that you’re looking at for making decisions with regard to … You know.

JONATHAN ZUCK: Sure. As I’ve mentioned on a number of other calls, one of the things that I believe—and I think I'm not alone in this—that we need to do is make more productive use of our time off of calls because we often are pressed up against the limits on calls. And e-mail is, perhaps, the worst mechanism for having structured conversations and facilitating consensus-building and decision-making.

And so, throughout the years we’ve made the attempt to get different technologies in the hands of volunteers, one of the most famous of which is Slack. And so, I have identified an add-on for Slack called Cloverpop, which facilitates incorporating consensus-building and decision-making in decision documentation into Slack.

So, the Slack trial that Dave has been running is still going, and if you’re part of that then Cloverpop is now part of your toolset for creating questions and things like that, and polls, and proposals inside of Slack.

I also started a test of something called Lumio, which is an opensource tool that the TTF looked at many years ago but has been completely overhauled since then. And so, Lumio has all of the thread discussion capabilities of Slack and adds to it all the decision support and things of that sort, natively.

Lumio has the benefit of being an opensource product. So, if we found that we liked it we could either do our own implementation or avail ourselves of the very affordable non-profit pricing for the product because it’s, in fact, being developed by a non-profit.

So, we have another month, I think, on this test for Lumio. I would really be interested in having more people participate in Lumio tests. We have tacit approval of ICANN IT to perform the test because they are in the middle of deciding what tools make the most sense to make available to staff and volunteers. And so, being able to make strong recommendations for it would be a powerful thing.

You can join the test by going to lumio.org/at-large, and become part of it, and start a thread of discussion; make a proposal that people can vote on, etc. I’d love people to try and put it through its paces.

The mobile app is on the way but it also works very well as a mobile website. So, please do try out Lumio and let me know if you have questions about it. If you are one of the people that has been trying Slack, try Cloverpop within Slack. That, you’ll see, has been added as a tool to your Slack window if you’ve been using the At-Large Slack channel. Alan, is that a question about these things?

ALAN GREENBERG: Yes. Well, it’s not a question, it’s a comment.

JONATHAN ZUCK: Oh, okay. Go ahead.

ALAN GREENBERG: One of the attractivenesses of e-mail is it’s a push technology. That is, you don’t have to take action to get something.

JONATHAN ZUCK: So, yeah. Thanks, Alan. Both Slack and Lumio—

ALAN GREENBERG: If I may?

JONATHAN ZUCK: You may.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. Typically, with other tools, they either have an ability that you get notified of every single update, which often is not very practical because the subject line does not necessarily tell you enough about whether you should look at it or not, or you get one a day, which means you’re not really keeping current.

So, the downside of a lot of these tools is they’re very hard to participate in if you don’t have the time to proactively fish around and go look at things. So, it’s a consideration as we’re moving forward that I think we have to consider that, also. Thank you.

JONATHAN ZUCK: Thanks, Alan. As I was going to say, both Slack and Lumio have progressed a great deal in terms of the customization of the notifications that take place. And in fact, in both cases you have the capacity to use e-mail as your tool for participation in conversations and things that are taking place in Lumio or Slack.

So again, I encourage you to participate in the tests and see if your impressions of that e-mail integration may have changed in the interim since the last time you worked with them. Cheryl, go ahead.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thanks, Jonathan. I'm in both trials. I’ll try anything at least twice. Maybe three times to apologize for the first two if needs be. I just wanted to ask you, Jonathan, that … First of all, let me make a statement, other than to say “Cheryl Langdon-Orr,” which is my name, not my statement. These are really important things.

The tools we use are critical to how able we are to meet the widest possible audience and have as many people in as many diverse areas of our At-Large community contribute equitably and clearly. These are not simple, flip a coin, and “I like this one because it’s got a purple background” type of positions.

So, that being said, how, Jonathan, as someone in those trials, can we have a meaningful amount of time at a properly convened—at least one—debriefing opportunity for everybody who has been involved in all of these things and anybody who has just got an opinion to really talk things through and discuss before outcomes are gleaned from the trials?

Because as someone who is in the other part of the time zone globe, you often close things before I can get back to them in one technology over the other. So, that’s something that needs to be discussed as a policy piece that needs to go if a certain choice is taken.

There is a bunch of stuff we need to do. Happy to contribute to do it. Maybe you’ve already got it designed and planned to do this, but if you haven't my plea is to make sure that we have a … Not part of another call – a properly-convened sorting-out and decision-making discussion on our choices of tools before it’s just, “Well, you know, seven people in this trial voted and nine people in the other trial voted, so we go with a nine.” That’s not going to be good enough for something as important as this. Thank you.

JONATHAN ZUCK: Thanks, Cheryl. I agree completely. So, we should definitely have not a section of a call but a call devoted to this. The first of those calls might be the TTF, as Heidi noted, and then that call could be led by the TTF [public broader] participation, but to gain feedback from all of the people that have participated in both tasks.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: But not limited to the TTF. I'm sorry.

JONATHAN ZUCK: No, no. I agree.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: I was one co-chair of the TTF and—

JONATHAN ZUCK: We’re not limiting it.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: I still have a watching brief on it. I haven't joined one of their meetings for years. I have other things to do. So, not limited to TTF. They should be telling us about any specific tricks of the trade, opportunities, upskilling, new things that have happened since we looked at last. That’s all their business. This is a wider decision. So, I'm not for it running in the TTF at all.

JONATHAN ZUCK: Okay. No, I didn’t want to limit it to the TTF. I'm just saying the TTF might be a place from which to manage such a call, but would have a wider participation.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: And you’ve heard me say “no.”

JONATHAN ZUCK: Okay.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: You’ve heard me say “no,” Jonathan. Thank you.

JONATHAN ZUCK: All right. Thank you, Cheryl. Carlos?

CARLOS RAÚL GUTIÉRREZ: Can you hear me?

JONATHAN ZUCK: I think so. Yes.

CARLOS RAÚL GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you very much, Jonathan, and thank you very much for the initiative. The problem is the bandwidth. I mean, we have so many applications. But you caught my attention when you mentioned that it can be integrated with e-mail. If it can be integrated with the e-mail and with the agenda at least, if not with Zoom, then it would make a great progress.

I mean, I have LACRALO in WhatsApp, ALAC in Skype. I have other business in Microsoft software and nothing connects to Zoom now that ICANN has added passwords and other stuff to Zoom that makes it almost impossible to connect unless you go to your e-mail five minutes earlier.

So, whatever you do that can integrate two or three of the platforms we can use, I'm ready to follow you. But please, let’s take the time to discuss. I don't think it makes sense to get just another platform added to the [mire] of websites that ICANN keeps for the different constituencies because it’s getting almost impossible to navigate. Thank you very much for your initiative. I really support you and will follow if you can give us efficiency gains, there. Thank you, Jonathan.

JONATHAN ZUCK: Thanks. I honestly hadn’t prepared to talk about this on this call, in terms of I don't know how much time I have, etc. But the bottom line is this: Skype suffers from the same problems. It’s the lack of coherent threads for discussion.

So, on e-mail and Skype, you have a situation where a conversation is begun, and then somebody brings up something new in that thread, and then suddenly that becomes the discussion, but with the old subject heading. Other e-mail packages split threads apart, so then, suddenly, the conversation is in four threads that you were trying to discuss.

People throw in plus-ones but you don’t actually know what they were associated with. And so, people then form their own impression of what they believe was the growing consensus on the e-mail list, and without really having any concrete knowledge of any consensus that is forming, or changing, etc.

And so, the ability to keep conversations in one place about specific topics, and to periodically actually test where the group is—the temperature of the room, we sometimes call it—is the power of these tools. Whether it’s Slack plus Cloverpop or Lumio, that’s the power.

And in both cases, it shouldn’t increase the number of e-mails that you get. It should be a thread that comes out of one should be taking the place of an e-mail you would otherwise be answering inside of your e-mail, and you can just respond to it. But that response will find its way back into the thread that it needs to be in.

So, at such a point at which you do go back into Lumio or Slack, you can in fact see a coherent discussion about a particular topic, regardless of whether you went into Lumio or Slack to participate. And that’s the beauty of it.

And you can see documentation of polls and other temperature-taking tools along the way, and whether or not progress is being made in a direction or not. And I think that’s the primary benefit of them. So, I think that people might very well participate in Lumio or Slack primarily through e-mail, because the e-mail itself would end up in a more structured place, and then add, as I said, this voting that would help to form consensus in the larger group.

So, that’s the idea behind it. There is a good level of integration. It should in no way increase the amount of e-mail that you get. It’s more that some discussions that are meant to be specific for a decision we’re trying to make are happening inside of the tool but can be participated in via e-mail, and then the e-mail is used more for free-form communication or announcements. So in theory, it should be a way not to increase volume but to increase categorization of the work that you do. I hope that’s helpful.

So, I encourage you to try both. I think Slack has an edge because the staff, in some form or another, are already using it inside ICANN. And so, that might be better from a support standpoint. I think Lumio has a benefit in that the decision support is native and that it’s opensource. And so, we have more control over that platform and more control of our investments in it, etc.

But I really encourage you to try both so that we can get some consensus about whether they’re helpful. My goal is not to force anything on anyone. I did a bunch of research on it after the TIR discussion to see what kind of tools are available to do to work on consensus offline. I found seven of them and narrowed it down to two to try and get people to try it. So, I hope that helps.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you very much, Jonathan, for initiating that discussion. We haven't had an opportunity to really talk about Lumio, especially since we’ve actually started the trials. It has been good to see that people have been participating because, as Cheryl said, we need to get the conversation started to actually do the evaluation. But any way in which we can encourage more people to engage in some of the different discussions …

And the fact that somebody mentions something and you can actually add to that discussion, and also run a poll, that kind of thing. So, that actually does show a versatility which could be valuable for us. I mean, I take on board the frustrations of having so many different platforms that we’re having to us depending on which organization you belong to. It really does become a little bit unwieldy at times.

So, I think that, if we can find something that works, that we’re actually engaging more people in our policies discussions, that’s the whole purpose of it. But it does lead onto Joanna’s contribution to the work that we’re doing within policy and [it’s answering] greater awareness and capacity within At-Large. Joanna, have you got anything on top that you would like to raise with the group? Thank you.

JOANNA KULESZA: Yes, Maureen. I'm just going to use these few moments to highlight a series of webinars. Hadia was kind enough to mention already in the chat. Thank you for that. You can see the tools we’re working on. So, these are three avenues we’re trying to pursue.

The nearest webinar will be held on June 1st. You can find all the details with a link to the agenda. We will continue the discussion from the last virtual ICANN meeting on geo-politics and cybersecurity. There is already an agenda being distributed. As always, I'm happy to share the details with those interested.

We are also working on two free ICANN68 webinars. Those will support the community in better understanding what is the At-Large position on two key policy items, which is, on the one hand, as you might have guessed, DNS abuse.

On the other hand, it is Universal Acceptance. It is particularly pertinent in the region where ICANN68 will be held, so, would we have the meeting in Kuala Lumpur, this would be, obviously, very high on the agenda. It already is.

Satish is running the session that is focused on Universal Acceptance and we want to make sure that we give the community a chance to better understand what the issue is, to build capacity [inaudible]. But as you rightfully indicated, Maureen, we look at these capacity-building exercises also as a chance for us to discuss certain issues. So, all of those webinars have a Q&A session where we welcome feedback.

But there is a series of webinars, with the nearest one just next Monday, but we will also use ICANN68 as a chance to work on our policy position, taking into consideration “Zoom fatigue,” as it is being nicely referred to. We will focus on two key policy items. Thank you, Jonathan, for your support in coordinating these.

So, we are trying to place two capacity-building webinars in the pre-ICANN68 prep week to give our members … But also for this to be a chance for the entire community to listen in to better understand those issues. We will try to place those in the week directly preceding ICANN68.

So, I'm going to stop here. You have the information displayed on your screens. They are linked to the agenda. As always, I'm happy to provide more feedback, if that’s what you needed. Thank you very much.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you so much, Joanna. Moving, then, to outreach and engagement. I see Daniel is with us. Daniel, take the floor.

DANIEL KHAUKA NANGHAKA: Thank you very much. Can you hear me?

MAUREEN HILYARD: I can, yes. Or I'm sure we all can.

DANIEL KHAUKA NANGHAKA: Oh, good. Thank you very much. Just a brief update on what has been taking place in outreach and engagement. Following, still, with reference to the ATLAS III, recommendation [post] activities, that one of the things that was tasked for each of the regions was to come up with their outreach strategy.

I'm happy to share that we’ve had a series of calls together with the regional leaderships in each of the respective regions. I think what we’re left with is for EURALO, and they’re finalized with their respective strategies because the discussions have been going on between the GSE in the respective regions and their regional leaders.

I'm also happy to share that, also, the Outreach and Engagement is finalizing its virtual engagement strategy. After review, I'm going through the final document, together with the co-chairs, which I’ll be submitting into the ALAC when [those meet].

And thirdly, I'm also happy to share that we have already a depiction of the table of virtual events on the Wiki, whereby all regions are expected to populate it with potential activities whereby they can effectively engage in or participate in. So, those are just a brief [inaudible] on what we have achieved as we wait for the next FY. Thank you. Let me give the floor back to Maureen.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you very much, Daniel. Yes. It’s good to see that those strategies are in and, even though it’s virtual, there’s still a lot of work going on within the RALOs. Excellent. Okay. Going into my area.

Of course, I'm fortunate because I get to have more time. That’s coming up later on, to discuss my section. But before we do that we have, of course, our ICANN Board’s vice-chair, León Sánchez with us. I welcome León to our meeting today and to hear what he has to report from the board. Thank you, León.

LEÓN SÁNCHEZ: Thank you very much, Maureen. Thank you for having me again. Hello, everyone. Well there is, of course, a lot of activity going on in the board, as usual. As you know, we have not had any face-to-face meetings. We are, however, continuing to perform our duties and to do our work in a timely fashion.

We have, for that end, or for that purpose, designed a working plan that allows us to continue taking care of business as we usually do, in a remote way, and taking advantage, of course, of the different tools that we have at hand.

We have regular working calls, regular informational calls. We also have regular board meetings. We have committee meetings as usually scheduled. We continue to work along with Org on the different pressing issues that need to be resolved by the board.

For that, I am grateful for all the work that everyone is doing, not only in the board and Org but also in the community. We greatly value the comments that you have put in the different public comment threads that are going on, and the advice that you have provided to the board in the different advices that have been submitted by the ALAC and by other parts of the community.

You might remember that I asked that you came forward and let me know which were the challenges that you were facing during these trying times, and especially during the public meetings that now have gone, of course, virtual. As you know, we are approaching our virtual meeting that was supposed to take place in Kuala Lumpur. And of course, given the circumstances that we are all going through, this has been transformed into a virtual meeting.

I note that many of our colleagues in the community are struggling with different challenges, one of them being connectivity and costs of connectivity to join these public meetings.

That’s why I humbly ask that you could share your experiences with me so I could, of course, transmit this to the board and to Org so as to think of ways in which we could better support our community members that are going through these or facing these challenges and are having difficulties in joining or high costs in joining the public meetings.

I wanted to let you know that I have initially touched base with our CEO, our president, and our board chair, and a couple of board members, and we are all sympathetic to the situation. We understand the challenges and we feel for everyone in the community that are going through these challenges.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to set up any support program for the Kuala Lumpur meeting. It is too short a time for Org to be able to set up any kind of support program to help our volunteers and our community members to face these challenges.

However, the good news is that Org has shown goodwill and good spirit in engaging with the community so as to try to find ways in which we could set up or we could support our community members in a better way to face these challenges while we [are merging] [inaudible], and of course, only for public meetings.

So, I expect that some sort of community or some sort of engagement will happen, initially, maybe to the SO/AC chairs. I think that in the planning of calls that SO/AC chairs hold this could be one of the topics that is discussed.

What I can tell you is that, as I said, I don’t promise to have an answer and a solution for everyone but I do promise to do all that is in hand and in my power to push as hard as possible to try to find a solution and to better support our volunteers. So, please [inaudible]. I don't have, yet, a timeframe for this to happen. I, of course, expect that this will happen as soon as possible.

And of course, I will continue to push for this to happen and for everyone to be aware of the very serious and various challenges that everyone is facing, and mostly those challenges that our colleagues in under-served regions, under-connected regions, or with high connectivity costs are facing during this emergency period and, of course, try to find ways, again, in which we can support and fuel the commitment that we have to be inclusive and to bring diversity into the work we do in ICANN.

So, Maureen, that is what I wanted to update you on. As I said, again, I trust that we will continue to engage in this topic. Hopefully, we will be successful in finding ways to support our volunteers that are facing this challenge during this emergency. Thank you, Maureen.

MAUREEN HILYARD: And thank you, León. We really appreciate the support that you give for At-Large and for the ICANN community as a whole. We know that you will push whatever way in which you can for a solution that will support the volunteers that are working within ICANN. I think that we certainly do appreciate the work that you and the board is doing on our behalf. Thank you.

Okay. So, we have got 25 or so minutes to go. Let’s move onto ICANN68 and, first of all, we’ll have Gisella update us on schedules and the programming that we have actually got at the moment. Thank you, Gisella. Gisella?

GISELLA GRUBER: Hi, Maureen. Sorry, I'm muted. Can you hear me?

MAUREEN HILYARD: Your turn. Your turn.

GISELLA GRUBER: My turn on ICANN68. Thank you, Maureen. So, just a quick, brief update on the logistical side, and then I’ll hand over to Maureen for the content. So, for those who were on the ALT Plus call you may already have heard most of this, but it’s also important [inaudible] [other member hears] the main points.

So, ICANN68 will be running from Monday the 22nd to Thursday the 25th of June and this time around we are running a fully virtual meeting, unlike ICANN67 which had the technical team based in our L.A. office, Los Angeles.

We therefore have a few limitations to take into account when scheduling our sessions. For those who have already seen on the ICANN68 Wiki page, we have a 30-minute break in between each of the sessions. This is to allow our technical team and interpreters to switch from session to the other and to allow for dial-outs, etc.

Apologies. I'm not seeing the Zoom room. So, there, on the ICANN68 page. Thank you very much, Claudia. On this page, please bookmark this page. You will have all the relevant information for ICANN68 posted here. It will be the most updated information.

And you can see, for those in the Zoom room—and for those not in the Zoom room, please do refer to the ICANN68 Wiki page posted on the agenda—that under the second item of ICANN68 we have the ICANN68 prep sessions.

Now, these are the ICANN Org webinars organized between the 8th and the 18th of June. The program is published on the ICANN website. If you click on the link here, you will get the full list of webinars scheduled.

Registration will be required but we will remind everyone as soon as the registration links are available. I have checked only a few minutes ago and registration is not yet open for the webinars.

Now, one of the very important webinars running during the prep weeks is on Monday the 8th of June, which is the interpretation platform kick-off webinar. So, this will explain how interpretation will work during ICANN68. Apologies.

Two sessions will be available, one at 12:00 and one at 20:00 UTC. So, if you are using interpretation during ICANN68 or for all our French and Spanish speaking community members, please make sure to hold one of these two slots in your diary.

It is a new way of interpretation, or it’s a new system being used. We will be trying it out prior to ICANN68. Staff will be joining these webinars, as well, to have a full debrief on just how the system works.

With regard to the At-Large schedule, we are finalizing the sessions later today at 19:00 UTC during the ICANN68 planning committee meeting. We have those weekly and we’ll have these until, probably, a couple of weeks before ICANN68.

And we have already placed our five policy sessions. Please see the Wiki pages for all the details. We have also added the main meetings from other groups on those Wiki pages, and if there were any changes we’d make sure that the Wiki pages are updated as soon as possible.

And unless there are any questions, I’ll hand it over to Maureen to run through the policy session topics and any other relevant content information. Thank you very much, Maureen. Over to you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Giselle. Yes. With regard to the actual sessions, we have got five policy sessions organized. I noted on the schedule … You will have noticed on this page where it has got the Monday to Thursday program. We’re starting to put things into the daily schedule. And thirdly, of the five policy sessions there is a session on DNS abuse with COVID-19 and end-users issues, which is being taken by/moderated by Joanna.

There’s another session on Monday which is PICs and how to get them right, which is a session that Holly is actually leading. And then, on Tuesday – can we quickly go to Tuesday? I’ve forgotten what’s actually assigned for Tuesday. Okay.

As you can see, we’re trying to fill up some spaces, here. Oh, that’s right. It’s the session that Justine’s going to be part of, but we’re trying to find a moderator. I did send a message, suggested by Sébastien, that I ask Olivier, but I know that he has been very busy of late—hasn’t gotten back to me—that the new gTLDs applicants, something for applicants, and “Expanding the Circle,” the title is. So, that should also be another excellent … Well, they’re all excellent, of course, but this one is because it has been quite topical in the CPWG.

And on Wednesday, we have … Ah, yes. Jonathan’s DNS abuse session on setting an acceptable threshold. And also, I note that at the moment we still have the AFRALO-AfrICANN meeting scheduled in there. There’s a couple of … Well, there are several, actually, I noted, 60-minute sessions. We didn’t plan on having as many but those are available for us, I assume, Gisella, if we need them.

We’re trying to keep our involvements down as much as possible to enable At-Large members to make use of the time available to visit other groups and to see what they’re involved in in other sections of our ICANN community.

And the final session on Thursday, of course, is the At-Large internal policy session, which is, of course, “Activating Universal Acceptance,” which is geared toward solutions and how we can engage our RALO communities. That’s the purpose of that one.

And of course, as well as the very first introductory session on Monday, which is the normal introduction to the week and a policy platform discussion and talking points, which will initiate our ICANN meeting as a tradition, the final session, of course, for us, is always the wrap-up.

We actually hope to get the board members and the ICANN CEO so that we can have a chat. But one of the things that I have put in there is that, if anyone has got any questions to present to the … Because there isn’t a board meeting. We’re not having an ALAC board meeting. If you have any questions for the board, they must be given beforehand so that we can actually present any questions to the board before they arrive.

I mean, if you want to keep up to date with what is actually happening during the week, these four pages will be updated following each of the planning meetings so that we will be able to put bits and pieces in as we’re going through. No questions or queries? One of the things that I did want to mention is to do with the Social Media Working Group. One of the things that we had … Sorry. I live near an airport.

One of the things that we decided was that trying to find a chair for the Social Media Working Group was proving to be a bit of a problem, so we’re actually moving toward a rotational leadership so that the co-chair of the region that the next meeting is going to be held at has an opportunity to develop social media promotion of what is actually being planned, what is happening in ICANN and being planned for the next ICANN meeting, and they can start promoting activities both within At-Large and within ICANN so that we can get more engagement.

I think that this, of course, means that Shreedeep will be in charge over the next four weeks leading up to the meeting that was supposed to be in Kuala Lumpur, and his term as the Social Media Working Group leader will end at their meeting following the ICANN meeting for an evaluation, and passing the mantle of leadership over to Natalia, who would be the next lead up to the Hamburg meeting, whether it is virtual, or face-to-face, or whatever.

So, I just wonder whether Shreedeep might want to have a minute to talk about what he’s proposing for the Social Media Working Group. I think I saw him here. Yes, he is. Shreedeep?

SHREEDEEP RAYAMAJHI: Yes. Hello? Maureen? Yes. We have a Social Media Working Group meeting on 28th May, and then we’ll probably be working with that. We already have an ICANN68 social media strategy. So, we are working. I hope to see a lot of you in that meeting, as well.

And then, we need a lot of collaboration so we are working, always, to make this event [more stressful], more engaging, more outreaching within the RALOs, within the RALO leads. So, we are all collaborating. Thank you, Maureen.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Shreedeep. Yes. If you’d like to join the group and be part of that activity, please check your e-mails for the end schedule for the Social Media Working Group meeting. Okay. So, there are no hands going up for asking questions about ICANN68.

There’s a meeting, as Gisella said, on at 19:00, so if you would like to be part of that planning group or if you have been shoulder-tapped to participate in a working session during ICANN68 or any prep work that is going to be done during the preceding weeks, which are almost upon us already, please come along and add your voice to the decisions we make about what’s going to happen during that week.

Okay. Moving, then, onto the At-Large review implementation. I mean, as I mentioned before, the small group have been beavering away at that report. We actually have … We’re still … Okay. Sorry. There’s a bit of interference, here. Alan, do you have an update on your mobilization paper that you’re putting together?

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you, Maureen. Just a very brief update. We are progressing, as I may have mentioned last time. We have finished the criteria and expectations section and we are currently working on the application process that is used to process new ALS applications.

There have been a fair number of problems over the years and we just recognize it’s time to go over the procedures—they haven't been reviewed since about 2007—and make sure that, number one, they are working, and that if things have changed over the years, and they have in some cases, we make sure our rules and documentation matches what we are really doing.

So, we’re looking at it, essentially, based on the current process but with a zero-base look at it to make sure what we’re doing is necessary, is effective, and is efficient so we don’t waste time of either volunteers or staff doing it. We are pretty well through the difficult parts of it, I hope.

There’s a meeting tomorrow which, with a little bit of luck, we may finish that procedure. And then, we’ll go onto a number of other areas that all are linked to the ALS process in existent ALSes, including a review of the bylaws to see if there’s anything that needs to be changed going forward.

So, unless there are any questions, that’s all I have. The group is working quite effectively. We’re meeting once a week, with no exceptions, recently, and it’s looking reasonably well.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you very much, Alan. And as mentioned before, as part of this review process and part of the membership review that we’re doing, Roberto has offered to lead the working group on the individual members.

However, he is very busy at the moment with EuroDIG and has asked if the group can actually start after EuroDIG. Probably after ICANN68. So, we’ll be a little bit late actually starting on the work, but for those who are interested in joining the working group, we’ll be establishing the working group and getting everything, the Wiki space, everything, ready for Roberto to just come in and start his work. But we’ll get the logistics and everything ready for him to start when he’s ready. Okay. So, are there any other questions or queries related to that? No? Oh, Abdulkarim.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Yeah. Thank you very much, Maureen. I was thinking that, rather than having to wait for him when he’s finished, is it possible you probably get somebody to get the work started? And when he’s free, then he can take over or something like that, rather than having it delayed. I was just thinking that might be more effective.

MAUREEN HILYARD: No, good thinking. Actually, I’ll be doing that, which is one of the reasons why we’ll be setting everything up. We’ll probably …

CLAUDIA RUIZ: Hello? Maureen, can you say that again, please? Maureen, are you on?

MAUREEN HILYARD: So, leading onto our final thing, since we don’t have any other business, anyway, just a reminder about elections. The elections are taking place at the moment and the elections .. This is election week for most people except, I think, AFRALO has got a delayed one.

And of course, LACRALO has got a delayed one, as well. That’s something we have to deal with after. It’s sort of like a little … Basically, the situation is such that the delayed notification of a member of LACRALO who isn't eligible, but we are verifying that with legal. So, more on that as we get information back, but we probably won’t deal with that until after ICANN68. We’ve just got so much on our plate at the moment. Sébastien.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: You don’t need to answer me now but I don't know what we are clarifying with legal. We know the situation, and that’s clear. We used to have this situation a few years ago, or some years ago, and there is nothing to go with legal. We have to abide with our rules and with the bylaws. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Sébastien. Yeah, we’ve had discussions about it. Alan’s probably going to explain. Alan.

ALAN GREENBERG: During my involvement in past experiences, I have been slightly involved in this. The simple answer is there are those who are questioning the interpretation that At-Large staff and the senior At-Large people involved are making, so we are looking for a formal clarification from ICANN Legal.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Alan. We’ll leave it at that. And what’s more, it takes us right up to the 7:30 AM my time, so at the half-hour, the end of the meeting. So, thank you all very much for attending. We had 60 members at one stage, which I'm thrilled about. We’re getting really decent attendance.

It’s good to see so many of our ATLAS III participants here, as well, which is great. Yeah. I hope you have a really great rest of the day, or evening, wherever you may be. We’ll see you at the next meeting, which is coming up shortly. Thank you. Bye.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Thanks, everyone. Bye-bye.

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

**[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]**