YESIM NAZLAR:	Good morning, good afternoon, good evening to everyone. Welcome to the APRALO monthly call taking place on Thursday, 21st of May 2020 at 06:00 UTC.

On our call today, on the English channel, we have Maureen Hilyard, Satish Babu, Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Lianna Galstyan, Ahmad Alsadeh, Amrita Choudhury, Fouad Bajwa, Gunela Astbrink, Jaewon Son, Suhaidi Hassan, Syuzan Marukhyan, Samridh Kudesia, Ali AlMeshal, Nadira Al-Araj, Shreedeep Rayamajhi, and Gopal Tadepalli. And I see some new participants are arriving as well, so apologies if I missed those names.

Currently, we don't have anyone listed on the Chinese channel, and we have received apologies from Holly Raiche, León Sanchez, Justine Chew, and from Aris Ignacio.

On staff's side, we have Heidi Ullrich, Gisella Gruber, Save Vocea, and myself, Yeşim Nazlar. I'll also be doing call management on today's call. As you know, we have Chinese interpretation and our interpreters are Ray and Sandy.

Just a kind reminder before we start to please state your name before speaking, not only for the transcription but also for the interpretation purposes as well, please. And one final reminder that our participants list will be updated right after the call. And now I would like to leave the floor back to you, Satish. Thank you very much.

Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.

SATISH BABU: Thanks very much, Yesim. First of all, warm welcome to everybody who's taking the time off to join this call. In most parts of the region, things are somewhat difficult at this point, and it is good that so many of us could take the time off in these very highly disrupted times to join our call. This is the monthly call for APRALO for May 2020, and we will start off with the membership pipeline as we normally do.

For the current month, we have one person in the pipeline for individual membership. We are trying to learn a little bit more about the person. Now, we do not have yet a process of references for individual members, but whenever there's an applicant, we try to find out more information about the person and that takes a few days. So currently, we are in the stage of finding out more information about this person, and the policy is basically to encourage individual members and wherever possible, we try to get them to become members. so most of the application—in fact, I think all the applications so far, we have been able to admit them,

With that, there are no other ALS applications or individual member applications in the pipeline. We will now move on to our regular policy updates. Unfortunately, we have Holly who's an apology today, and Justine had to drop out at the last moment. But very kindly, Cheryl has agreed to provide a brief update on policy.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Justine and Satish have asked me, with a of apologies we have today, if I could just briefly step in and take you through the policy update. Just looking at the agenda, you will notice that there's been a couple of

things that have happened since our last APRALO. Initial review to the all rights protection mechanisms in generic top-level domains, we did an addendum to the expedited policy development process on the temporary specification phase two. We also did a revised community travel support guideline. I know nobody's traveling anywhere, but we do still have ICANN-based travel support guidelines that have regular updating and the Consolidated Policy Working Group put in a great deal of effort with Judith Hellerstein as the primary penholder or scribe on this, and put in a very meaningful set of comments to the latest iteration of. Also of note is of course the mutual statement between APRALO—ourselves—and AFRALO regarding the Middle East and Adjoining Countries—MEAC—strategy 2021 to 2025. That's a first, so we're all rather proud of that.

So all of those have been ratified and forwarded to the appropriate [inaudible]. At the recent meeting of the At-Large leadership team plus regional leaders, etc., it was decided that based on history and indeed what the CPWG, the Consolidated Policy Working Group recommended to the ALAC, there would not be any comment going in regarding the Malaysian script root zone label generation rules. And so if any of you have a personal interest, of course, you're more than welcome to make a public comment on your own behalf or your At-Large structure.

The only ones of note now that you should be particularly interested in are in the table on the agenda, and I believe on the screen as well now. Thank you very much for that, Yesim. You'll see that there's an AFRALO statement. That's all very fine and interesting if you want to have a look at it.

We have however something that you do need to be more interested in, and that is the draft public technical identifiers strategic plan. Holly Raiche, one of the ALAC members and one of our APRALO team, is leading on the drafting for that, and she of course, I think, will be making some very useful contributions to perhaps improving that strategic plan to be more considerate of how the nontechnical and customer-based can read and understand it as it goes forward for its next 2021-2025 planning. So watch that space.

There's also drafting of the name collision analysis project, the proposed final report. Very early days on all of this. And our very own Justine Chew is doing the primary penholding on that, and of course, we will expect then the usual superb outcomes and levels of excellence that we've been very much used to from everything Justine lays her hand on.

And then finally, something that was also covered off today in the At-Large leadership team and regional leaders gathering, and that is a Country Code Name Support Organization policy development process. They don't do many of them, but when they do do them, they're important and this is one of those. And this is looking at initial proposals for process to retire country codes as top-level domains. As you know, occasionally, the ISO listing for country codes is updated, and it looks at a method of how we can manage as a community to deal with those situations when a, for example, Soviet Union stops existing and a whole bunch of other countries start needing their own ccTLD opportunities. So I'd encourage you to look at the tape and records of that meeting if you want to bring yourself up to speed.

The only other thing I would like to just mention is the extremely useful—and I would encourage again, as many of you are possibly interested, to look at the tapes and recordings of this morning's single issue for the Consolidated Policy Working Group, and it was on the registry commitments and role of the Government Advisory Committee advice and Government Advisory Committee early warning. It harbingers much mutualism and working together on similar interests that you will see coming out via the Government Advisory Committee in the near future.

And of course, you've heard it all before but you'll hear it again, there is now the consensus playbook. It's housed in the GNSO rules, but to follow that download link on the agenda and please also look at the PDP 3.0 workspace in the CPWG, the Consolidated Policy Working Group area. That consensus playbook is going to be subject to a little bit more review and update and edit in the near future, but reading through it and becoming familiar with it will allow you as individuals and entity representatives to become better engaged in ICANN's policy development process. The best way of that of course is to join the Consolidated Policy Working Group calls. Back to you, Satish.

SATISH BABU: Thanks very much, Cheryl, for stepping in at the right time. Gisella was privately telling me we have a superstar here, although we have several dropouts. And indeed, that was an excellent and brief update on policy. And it was interesting to note that despite all the COVID-related lockdowns around the world, our policy aspects of ICANN At-Large is proceeding at a furious pace. In fact, yesterday was some kind of a

record with four calls, I think. And some people are still recovering from these calls. But it's good to see that Maureen and Cheryl could join us.

One other point is regarding LGR. We don't normally comment on LGR, the root zone label generation rules, and the same also, we're not commenting on the Malay island script. Now, we have one ALS who's specializing in the south Asian scripts, and we'll be asking them. Incidentally, this is my mother tongue, the language of the people of Kerala. So we'll be asking them to comment if they want to.

Are there any questions on the policy-related updates? Not seeing any hands, we will then move on to agenda item four, which is our regular update from Maureen on ALAC activities.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Satish. Just going through the ALAC update—first of all, I wanted to say thank you to Cheryl for stepping in. As Satish said, it's really good, the [inaudible] of the work is from APRALO within At-Large at the moment is quite significant, I must admit, and it's great that two ALAC people missing and we've still got people like Cheryl to step in. Absolutely brilliant.

Okay. ALAC updates. This is to do with post-ATLAS III and the 2020 workplan activities that we're involved in. Firstly, ATLAS III reporting. This is going to be a really good report when it comes out. I think that people within APRALO are going to be interested in it, because it is based on the feedback that came from your survey and report, and recommendations have been made in it that are going to contribute to work of policy, outreach and engagement and the operations side of

things. It's something I'm really looking forward to presenting to At-Large when it comes out promptly middle of next month or something.

The second thing is of course policy development. Now, you've just heard about the policy items that have been mentioned already, but as well as that, the CPWG is also involved in developing policy resources to support the capacity building and the outreach and engagement work that you as the ambassadors are going to be doing in the region. So we're trying to get [suitable] material ready for you with regards to—I think the one they're working on at the moment is how At-Large contributes to the ICANN policy development process. This is something that Jonathan has set his mind on and he's pretty determined about getting something out pretty quickly.

And then we've got Joanna's capacity building work that she's doing with regards to developing a range of ICANN Learn courses, and one of them that's a priority her is the introduction to At-Large. It's one of the courses that's important to us, but there isn't one at the moment, so we're looking into that one. But also, there's a big focus on the policy webinars. We've already had two. These are being run by Hadia Elminiawi, and [the two will be] the EPDP one and the DNS abuse, and the next one is coming up I think on the 1st of June, is Joanna's one on geopolitics and cybersecurity. If you were able to listen to the one that we had in ICANN 67, I think she's doing a similar one, but focusing on more for At-Large rather than the wider community as the original one was. And then there's going to be two later on, one on universal acceptance and one on the new gTLD round. I think there's one a month or something. The next one then, 1st of June, the geopolitics one.

Then of course we've got the outreach and engagement activities, and I know that Daniel has been focusing on getting the strategic plans for virtual engagement for the RALOs, and APRALO has actually just had a meeting to discuss this. Unfortunately, there was a conflict of meetings and I was unable to attend that one, but they're pretty much on the ball anyway getting there, and I'm sure their plan will be ready very soon, if not already.

And then we've got the operations section which is my area, but apart from the usual things that we're actually engaged in, one of the important changes that's actually been made in the operations area is the development of creation of a new working group, and for the Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group. And it's sort of related to the Finance and Budget Subcommittee that was originally there, because their members are also part of this new working group, but it's going to be looking at basically the overrun of policy items that the CPWG used to work on but that weren't exactly ICANN policy. They were related to more towards ICANN operational activities that were under the finance committee anyway.

And things like the PTI strategy and multi-stakeholder model, reviews. But anything like that is going to be under the operations. And it's actually going to be quite interesting, because although we had a meeting this week, we're actually having another meeting. This week's one focused on, as Cheryl mentioned, PTI and PTI strategy that Holly presented. The next one is going to be looking more inwardly at the operations and the ABRs that At-Large made. We're going to get the finance people to tell us why most of what we requested was rejected.

So what I'm really hoping—and everyone here is welcome to attend. This is an open group, it's one that we'd like to get people's views on because we'll be going through ICANN's operating initiatives, things that actually impact us, and we'll be analyzing them and writing little comments to whoever will listen—finance—on how they're doing things and how we think they could do it better.

But it's going to be a different kind of group, but it's working on the operational side of ICANN rather than the policy side. So that will separate us from the CPWG and what is going to be the OFB, the operations, finance and budget working group.

Okay, now the final things [inaudible] ICANN 68 which I know that Heidi's going to be talking about later anyway. Very topical at, so yeah, there's lots to be gained from those presentations. That's me. Thank you.

SATISH BABU: Thanks very much, Maureen, for the ALAC update. It's a very busy period for ALAC, especially with the ICANN meeting coming up and a bunch of processes happening, it is indeed a very busy period for ICANN At-Large in general.

Are there any questions on the ALAC update? Not seeing any hands, we'll now move on to agenda item five, which is an announcement from Heidi on the APRALO elections which are currently in process.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Thank you very much, Satish. I'd like to just let you know where we are on the elections across At-Large. You will see that we are now about to start the elections for APRALO. They will be beginning on the 22nd and running through the 29th. We do have one person who has won by acclamation, and that is Holly Raiche who has been acclaimed as the ALAC member. Also for the position of APRALO chair, we have two nominees. One is Satish, the other one is Fouad. They're both on the call. So they'll be in the election.

And then for APRALO, we have Ali and Nadira who'll be running against each other in this position, and then also in the position, the ALAC delegate to the NomCom, we have Amrita and we have Aris Ignacio who will be running. That particular position is only a recommendation to the ALAC. The ALAC does need to endorse, appoint all the ALAC delegates to the NomCom. So there's that little extra stuff there, so again, the elections will start on the 22nd and then all positions will take their seats at the end of ICANN 69. That is the annual general meeting. Thank you, Satish.

SATISH BABU: Thanks very much, Heidi, for the announcements. Cheryl, please go ahead.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: While you're on that recommendations of selections, appointments and nominees, I just want to make a heartfelt plea to APRALO at this call, and that is for us not to go into a selection or subselection process for any preference for either of the Nominating Committee suggestions

that we have. The ALAC will make up its mind, the ALAC doesn't even have to take notice of these recommendations, and I think they're both excellent candidates, wonderful names, good workers, and both names should go forward for the ALAC to work out. So I would plea to the leadership team and to the assembly here that we take that off the next steps, we just put those two names forward and we go through a selection/election process for the others that are contested. Thank you.

SATISH BABU: Thanks, Cheryl. So Cheryl proposes that we remove the NomCom person's position from the election altogether and forward both names to ALAC. I'm fine with this, but I'd like to first check with staff to see if there's any technical problem with this at this stage. Heidi.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Absolutely not. It's very good that we have, if this is a decision that we have just now, since we are preparing for the election. So if that is this group's decision, we can certainly have that happen. Thank you.

SATISH BABU: Thanks, Heidi. So there are no technical issues. Now, does anybody feel that we should not be doing this? Maureen, please go ahead.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you. I'm not going to say that we don't go ahead but that in fact I agree wholeheartedly with it. And it's not the first time we've done it anyway, because I think one year, we put about five names. We didn't

think it was fair to have everyone trying to decide amongst all the names that were given. Here we've got two excellent candidates, and I think it's up to the ALAC to make that decision. So I think, yeah, it's only fair that we give them that opportunity. Thank you.

SATISH BABU: Thanks, Maureen. I see Nadira has made a comment that we should check with the nominees, but I see her hand raised as well, so please go ahead, Nadira.

NADIRA ALARAJ: Thanks, Satish. That's what I wanted to—you read my comment. It's good to inform them. They might withdraw maybe.

SATISH BABU: Right. Thanks very much, Nadira, for that. Heidi, would you please ensure that we check with the candidates to see if this is okay?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes, I'm happy to do that.

SATISH BABU: Right. So we have asked Heidi to check with the nominees, and if they have no problems, we will straight away pass both names over to ALAC for the final decision.

	Are there any other questions or comments on the election announcement? Not seeing any further hands up, we will move on now to item number six of the agenda. These are a couple of updates from Heidi. Please go ahead.
HEIDI ULLRICH:	Thank you, Satish. Actually, the meetings are all Gisella's, as I think she's proven over the years. So Gisella, are you ready to provide a highlight of where we are with ICANN 68 preparations? Thank you.
GISELLA GRUBER:	Thank you very much, Heidi and Satish, for giving me the opportunity to provide APRALO with a very brief update on where we are with ICANN 68.
	ICANN 68 will be running from the 22nd to the 25th of June, and it will be on Kuala Lumpur time, so excellent timing for the AP region. You will not have to attend meetings in the middle of the night. ICANN 68 is, however, a fully virtual meeting, unlike ICANN 68. Therefore, ICANN 67 which was the Cancun meeting, again virtual, our technical team was based in the LA office.
	Therefore, we have a few limitations to take into account when we're scheduling the sessions, and the block sessions will actually have a 30-minute break between each session, and this is to allow for the technical team and the interpreters to switch from one session to another, allowing for dial outs, etc. So slightly longer than the regular 15 minutes which we usually have between meetings.

We've got the ICANN 68 prep week, which is this time running over two weeks from the 8th to the 18th of June, and the program is published on the ICANN 68 website. For those of you on the call, I am putting the links into the Zoom chat. For others, all information is on the main ICANN 68 page, which you can see up on the screen.

The first webinar that we will have is the interpretation platform kickoff webinar, so this will explain how the interpretation will work. That is mainly for those requiring French and Spanish interpretation, and also a reminder that registration will be required for all the webinars.

Now, the registration has not opened yet, but the links will be posted on the main ICANN website. Again, all information will be sent out to the regions as and when it is updated on that webpage.

With regards to the schedule, this is still very much work in progress as we're finalizing on our weekly ICANN 68 planning committee calls, so it happens on Tuesdays. We had one this week and we made good progress. And then the final number of sessions will be confirmed—I'm going to put the link in to the Google document which is currently the At-Large schedule.

Now, if you can regularly check that one, by all means. Please note what—I'm just putting the link again for those of you who are on Zoom in the Zoom room—reminder that all the sessions will appear very shortly, hopefully by the end of this week, on the ICANN 68 Wiki. That is usually where all the information is, and we will be putting the agendas together, again, over the next couple of weeks, and all information is on our one-stop ICANN 68 webpage.

This is just a brief overview of the schedule and what to expect now. Note there have been some changes that have come in overnight and I'll be updating this document over the next few hours. So if Maureen would like to add additional information on the content, I'd like to hand over to her. If not, once again, please do bookmark the ICANN 68 Wiki space where you can find all relevant information. Thank you very much, and we look forward to seeing many of you during ICANN 68 virtually. Over to you, Maureen or Satish.

SATISH BABU: Thanks very much, Gisella, for that update. Before I pass it back to Heidi, I'd just like to mention that in the last virtual meeting, which was in the Mexico time zone, our region did excellently well in terms of participation. So I hope that we will continue our track record. This time, it is [inaudible] in our region's time zone, so I hope that many more of us will participate than we did last time around. Heidi, back to you for the next announcement.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Thank you very much. Yesim, could we please have that fiscal year additional budget request implementation page up, please? Thank you very much. So again, as Maureen noted, we now have the fiscal year 21 budget approved, and with that is the decision on the fiscal year additional budget requests or ABRs. And what we normally do within At-Large is place all of the results, both those that have been approved and those that have not, on to a page that then shows the status for the implementation.

So this is just to let you know about this page, and also for the results. Now, the results that have been approved for At-Large, the good news is that the access for RALO discretionary funding was approved. The request was for $30,000 for all of the RALOs, however, the request came in—as has been the case for the past several years—at $20,000. That means that each of the RALOs have that $4000 again starting on the 1st of July through the 30th of June 2021. So that is good news, and a page will be set up shortly that will have all of that information, including the online form. If you could scroll down, please, a little bit.

Another request that was approved was one for RTT, or real-time transcription. The original request did have requests not only for English but also Spanish. However, the approval language with as only for English. So we will continue with that. And for not so much a concern for APRALO, we had two additional budget requests approved, both for the EURALO and the LACRALO general assemblies. They had put in requests for training at their GAs that will happen in fiscal year 21. It's actually March and June 2021, so hopefully travel will be starting up then. And so they will have that chance to have some additional training. And again, likely as most of the RALOs will have, they will be training along the lines of the ATLAS III.

Now, those that were not approved. As Maureen noted, there were quite a few that were not approved. These included a request for the At-Large content management system and that is likely due to the forthcoming Information Transparency Platform, which already has as soft launch but the thought behind that is that this request will be incorporated into that at some point.

Then another one was the At-Large request for travel support for delegation to the 2020 Internet Governance Forum. That one was not approved. Also, there was a NARALO request for North American School of Internet Governance which might be virtual or [inaudible]. And then also, the AFRALO and At-Large Technical Taskforce request for support of a translation tool.

This is called a transbot, we've had that updated in the LACRALO region to help with their English-Spanish translation and this request was for a similar transbot into the AFRALO list for their English into French. And hopefully that will happen at some point without the ABR.

And then also [inaudible] two AFRALO requests that were not approved [inaudible] for conferences and language service support for face-to-face meetings in Africa for training. So that is the situation with the fiscal year 21 additional budget request. Back to you, Satish.

SATISH BABU: Thanks very much, Holly, for the update. There may be two things that have an impact on us, APRALO. One is that of course, we did not put in a request for our next general meeting, which is actually in 2022. So we will be putting in a request next year for this event which we have kind of tentatively discussed with APRIGF and we were planning to collocate our general meeting in which we will try to invite our ALS representatives and perhaps the individual representative, depending on the budget, to the meeting, and as mentioned, in some way it'll be a continuation of what we started out at the ATLAS III, and that, we will

start planning maybe the next year. And the second is that we have some discretionary funds that have been allocated for all RALOs.

So for this discretionary funding, we will be talking about it in the next agenda item which is the outreach and engagement strategy. So there is perhaps some room for an event that some of the ALSes may wish to conduct, for instance, a readout. We have ICANN meetings coming up, and some RALOs and some institutions do the readout. And if that happens and there is a [inaudible] expenses. These days, of course, there are no physical meetings, only virtual meetings, at least for the next several months. So we can discuss that in the next agenda item.

So we will now move on to the next agenda item- which is the APRALO FY21 outreach and engagement strategic plan. The draft plan is up on the Wiki page, as you can see. Let me give you a very brief background before I invite Ali to also speak. Every year, APRALO prepares an outreach plan, which basically talks about the kind of outreach we do.

It could be with our partner organization, could be with our ALSes, individual members, and based on this and after discussions with the GSE. ICANN's GSE, we worked with four VPs. We have Jia-Rong in Singapore who's the main person that we deal with for the approval of this plan. We have Save. I see that Save is on the call, so welcome, Save. We have two more people: one looking after the Middle East, because ICANN has a separate VP looking out for the Middle East, and also another person who's looking after the Central Asia, which is Russian speaking countries which is looked after by the Russia person of ICANN.

So APRALO has kind of—we had been working with all these four vice presidents of GSE. And for the current year, we had a significant amount of discussions. We had a meeting this week. And the COVID-19 outback has actually impacted us very much in terms of outreach and engagement. It's very hard to look at outreach at this point because there is no possibility of international travel for quite some time. And we can of course do online kind of outreach, but that is also—we don't want to be very promiscuous with Zoom meetings. People have already begun complaining about Zoom fatigue.

So we have to be judicious about this, and we have to also discuss the priorities of the virtual outreach with both Jia-Rong's office, and the other VPs as well. And with the ALAC level plan for the outreach and engagement which is headed by Daniel.

So currently, we are discussing with this group, that is the vice presidents and with Heidi's team, and we'll be finalizing the proposal in a week's time. So before I pass on to Ali, that's one thing I would like to mention is that in case any of the ALSes are interested in small amounts of money for running outreach programs, please contact us before the next week is up. So maybe by 26th or so so that we can discuss and decide and then incorporate it, we are supposed to hand it over to Jia-Rong by 29th of May, which is the next Friday. So you can contact us, and I'd like to invite now Ali to speak on this because he's been spearheading this process. Ali, over to you.

ALI ALMESHAL:	Thanks, Satish. Adding on what Satish has just [inaudible] introduction and details about the outreach and engagement strategy that we are having, as you can see, we have four [GCs] to coordinate with, and in previous years, we were having sort of complaints that whatever budget we have in place does not cover all the activities that we have around our region. But now during COVID-19 hopefully this will cover because most of it has been converted to a virtual meeting. So we are hoping that by at least end of this year or next year, the other activities, we'll be able to cover.

We have looked into this, the strategy to cover as much as possible, to diversify in the region itself, like in Asia Pacific we have Central Asia, we have the Middle East, the Oceania as well. so we are trying to cover as much as we can, be it virtual or face-to-face.

And if I would move a little bit ahead of this, Satish has just [pinpointed] the outreach and engagement working committee. I want just to give a brief highlight about this as well because the work we need to do should be in line with the overall strategy that is being developed by the outreach and engagement committee. As you may know that since Maureen take over, she has restructured this committee and become the main committee and have a sub-working group which is the capacity building and social media sub-working group as well.

So into that, there are so many activities that being the co-chair representing the APRALO on that, there are so many things that have been taken care of. The most important one that's been developed and worked on is for this year, which is the virtual outreach and engagement

strategy that all the co-chairs are participating and the committee members are working on to produce.

So that's a good alignment for all RALO strategy, at least that is something on a very high level, and then the RALO strategy [inaudible]. On the outreach and engagement committee, we have done a lot when it comes to the participation in the ICANN booth or what you call the outreach and engagement booth within ICANN meetings, within the IGFs, within some other special activities that have been done.

One of the main things is that Kobe activity itself and the outreach that has been done at Kobe and so many activities done by the RALOs, but in coordination with the outreach and engagement.

Just one final note about APRALO strategy as well. as you might see, we have so many things and we have a promising activities that we need to cover and participate and do the outreach there and engagement from all our ALSes. Hopefully by the time things would be clear more and with the coordination with all of the GCs that are providing fantastic support to us, all of them to support us and all of our activities, so [things will be clear and] we'll be doing as much as we can. Back to you, Satish.

SATISH BABU: Thanks very much, Ali. Are there any questions or comments on anything that we discussed relating to the outreach and engagement? If not, we will move on to the next agenda item, and we also have an additional AOB request, so we have two more items and just enough time to finish them.

Over to agenda item eight which is the NomCom update. So over to you, Amrita.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Thank you, Satish. Not much to report at this point of time, but the NomCom chair recently released a blog stating what we are doing at the moment, which is kind of selecting and looking at the applications and shortlisting them. Though we have not had any of our face-to-face meetings, and that is a challenge, especially in interviewing people. The NomCom leaders are trying to see and are working with the ICANN Org to see how we can have some kind of—if we can have a face-to-face meeting once the travel ban restrictions are removed, because this may delay our work a bit. However, we are still trying to keep up our commitments of time. We are currently starting the deep dive. So we would be keeping you posted in the times to come. So this is what we can share from NomCom at the moment. Another request, that any of the ALSes, if you've done anything this month, please send in your updates with a photograph to ICANN staff and me, preferably by 25th or 26th. Thank you, Satish.

SATISH BABU: Thanks very much, Amrita. Of course, of all the different parts of ICANN which is impacted by the COVID pandemic, it is perhaps the NomCom which has got a very significant amount of disruptions because people are not meeting. In fact, when I try to look back, this was the peak time for the NomCom, these months leading up to the June meeting. So I don't know, it must be really hard for the NomCom members to work

under these severe constraints. So thanks for your welcomes and the entire NomCom.

We now move to AOB, item number nine. the first AOB item is an announcement. This request has come from some of our ALAC members. it started out because one of our members, he's from Africa and he got stuck in the US on account of the lockdown. And of course, when you get stuck like this, it's very difficult to survive because you went to an expensive place and you don't know when you can go back to your home country. It's a lot of uncertainties and it's an expensive time.

So there was an attempt by some of the people of the people from ALAC to support and raise the funds, not just for this one person but also maybe to anybody else who's in such a dire kind of situation.

So there's a request coming from, as you can see on the screen, this is the ICANN At-Large caring community COVID-19 fund. There's a request for contributions for [inaudible]. You can contribute in your name or anonymously.

If you have some money to spare and you're able to transfer money—because some of the Asian countries in our region, it's very hard to transfer money even if you want to, because of various credit card and banking issues. So if you're able and willing to transfer money, please do, whatever the amount. This amount will be jointly looked after by our leaders, including Maureen, so if there is someone who's really badly affected, then this money will be kind of distributed to such people.

So that is the first announcement. Are there any questions on this? We can take up after the second AOB also. The second AOB is an announcement from Maureen on the Social Media Working Group. Over to you, Maureen.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you. Yes. I'm sorry I didn't raise it before, but one of the things that we've had difficulty with in the Social Media Working Group, with John Laprise who was the chair sort of didn't get onto the ALAC again and was getting quite busy at work and he was finding that he was having to take himself away from the leadership role. But we were trying to find some sort of way of having good consistent leadership within that group, because they're actually doing a really great job.

So what I am trialing is a rotational leadership role by the co-chairs, the RALO leads. And so the RALO person, co-chair, whatever they call themselves leading up to for example ICANN 68 is the APRALO region. So Shreedeep is going to be the very first of the rotational leaders of the Social Media Working Group and after the first meeting, ICANN 68 when the Social Media Working Group has had an evaluation of what was done and everything following the ICANN meeting, then because the next meeting is in Hamburg, supposedly, hopefully, that will be Natalia who'll take over and lead the Social Media buildup towards the next meeting.

So I just wanted Shreedeep to have an opportunity to talk to you in the RALO about what he is planning on doing, just a couple of minutes, and hopefully you will help him in his social media role. It's an opportunity

for our social media people to have a leadership role and different leaders leading up to their next ICANN meeting. So Shreedeep, I'll pass it over to you.

SHREEDEEP RAYAMAJHI: Thank you, Maureen. It's really great the way we have used social media in the past, and for the ICANN 68, social media strategies, to further use ICANN as a tool of engagement and outreach. Apart from that, last week, I had a meeting from Jia-Rong, Siranush, and Samiran from India regarding what we can do with the meeting, and we have come up with great ideas.

We'll probably bring out a social media strategy which is already there, simple strategy about how we are going to use social media for collaboration, engagement and outreach. So I'm looking forward to the position as well as from a collaboration from all the leaders so that we can make ICANN 68 a success and a very collaborative meeting. Thank you.

SATISH BABU: Thanks, Maureen and Shreedeep, and congratulations, Shreedeep, for the next rotating leadership position. Since it's in our region, it's certainly good to have you. We did start out in the last virtual meeting social media and it is interesting, the tweets and things like that, so we hope that this meeting also will be made very interesting for our community. Cheryl says she's active in all the social media, so most welcome. I hope you win a prize this time, Cheryl.

We have come to the end of the meeting. Are there any burning issues that anybody would like to speak for a minute? Nadira, please go ahead.

NADIRA ALARAJ: Thank you, Satish. Just to mention that I'm going for the vice chair role, and I want to bring something new that my experience as a co-chair in the Middle East space as we kind of empower the community to come up with a position statement, and in fact, currently, I'm working—this month I guided some guided—the penholder to write a statement about the universal acceptance and internationalization of e-mail address using Arabic script. And there will be a virtual discussion, because like other meetings.

And also, I want to encourage—I might circulate this call if somebody interested to participate in the discussion of the Middle East statement. Thank you. Back to you.

SATISH BABU: Thanks, Nadira. I do not see any other hands up. So I'd like to thank everybody for joining this call. I must also say that we have two quick announcements. One is that elections are coming up. Please ensure that you vote. Voting is an indicator of how active as a community we are, so please ensure that if you're an eligible voter, please vote. And secondly, this is a festive time for our region. Many parts of our region are celebrating Ramadan. So Ramadan greetings to everybody who's celebrating Ramadan. So although on lockdown, still, it is a time of joy for many of us.

So thank you once again for joining, and it's back to Yesim for closing this call.

YESIM NAZLAR: Thank you very much, Satish, and thank you all for joining today's call. This meeting is now adjourned. Have a great rest of the day. Bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]