
YESIM NAZLAR: Good morning, good afternoon, good evening, everyone. Welcome to the AFRALO newsletter team call taking place on Thursday the 8th of May 2020 at 18:00 UTC.

On our call today on the French channel we have Gabdibé Gab Hingonné.

On the English channel, we have Remmy Nweke, Bukola Oronti, Raihanath Gbadamassi, Christiane Anaky, Jules Nizeyimana, Sarah Kiden, Dave Kissoondoyal, and Seun Ojedeji.

We haven't received any apologies for today's call, and from staff's side, we have Silvia Vivanco, Evin Erdogdu and myself, Yesim Nazlar, and I'll also be doing call management for today's call.

As you know, we have French interpretation and our interpreters are Isabelle and Jacques. And just a kind reminder to please state your name before speaking not only for the transcription but also for the interpretation purposes as well, please.

And now I'd like to leave the floor over to you, Remmy. Thanks so much.

REMMY NWEKE: Thank you very much. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening from wherever you are. Welcome, everyone, to this meeting. This is [coming as agreed,] and I'm sure that we are keeping safe considering the COVID pandemic all over the place. I hope we'll all survive it and be able to tell the story ourselves.

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.

Coming to the essence of our meeting, it is an agreement as we agreed at the last—we shared it at the last call that we are going to list and matter of fact, we have stated the process of [after] production, we have to review what we have and then see how we can progress from there.

So welcome, everyone, to this meeting. We hope that we're all going to contribute adequately and make the meeting fast [so that we] achieve the essence of this meeting. So welcome all of us and thank you for coming to join this meeting. Thank you.

YESIM NAZLAR:

The next item is the update from the secretariat, Sarah Kiden, please.

SARAH KIDEN:

Hi everyone. I would like to echo Remmy's words and say thank you very much for everyone that contributed to our last newsletter. I have received feedback, and many people said that it was a good one, so I think we should keep up this series.

I think about meetings, we agreed that we should hold meetings as secretariat and as co-chairs, we will have different meetings to talk about other issues, but as the working group, we proposed that we should have a meeting after a particular issue has gone out so that we can discuss challenges from that issue and then see how to improve the next issue or the next volume. So that's up to the working group to agree.

And then we talked about production timelines. We realized we were a bit late with our volume 2 and were also very late with the French translation. So we hope to improve this.

For right now, the plan is to have the next edition, we're planning for end of June and I hope we can stick to the timeline or latest early July, and it will contain activities for the month of April, May and June.

So I know we already sent a call out, but I've not seen anything, like no one has sent any news articles. So please, if your ALS has done any activities, even if it's online, because we know due to COVID-19 many people have not been able to meet physically, but if your ALS has organized a webinar or you had any other virtual activities, we will capture this in our report as well. So please send them.

I think last time, we received some in French. So if you're more comfortable writing your report in French, we will get someone to translate it. Please send it in either English or in French.

And then we talked about collaborating with the Social Media Working Group to promote our ALS activities. For example, today, ISOC Uganda chapter had a webinar on the importance of the Internet in the times of pandemics like this one. So things like that, we say we will work with the Social Media Working Group and I'm happy that vice chair Bukola is also on the call, so [inaudible] take note as we plan to take more collaboratively.

We also encourage members to follow ICANN and ICANN At-Large social media accounts and continue to share activities of our chapters. And then for the translation, what happened in the first volume, we only had

in English, then for the second volume, we had English and then later French. I think Olivier will be talking about the French issues later. And I think the working group, someone had made a comment on the working group mailing list about the timing and when to publish both English and French. I think we can discuss that as well.

Regarding content, if we receive too much content, we agreed, we discussed that we can move it to the next edition. Or if the members feel that it's okay to have a very long newsletter, I think we are happy with that as well.

And yes, I think that was a very long update. Thank you, everyone.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Thank you, Sarah. If I may take the floor just to ask a question to Sarah, proposed suggestion. With regards to the timeline, I would suggest that if you have already a calendar with a key date, like for example date for the first draft or date for collecting all the inputs and so on, what we can do, if you can send it to me, I can post it on the Wiki page and circulate it among all the working group members. and even if you wish, I could send like a calendar invite so they see on their calendars the key dates, like for example last day to collect inputs or last day for translations or so on. So then you have a timeline.

I'm not sure if this—I guess we're in June. I don't know in terms of the calendar, when do you expect to have the final draft? I think this will cover three months, right? it will be a quarterly newsletter. So it will be released sometime maybe in the fall. But it will be very useful for

everyone, I think, to have a clear date to work towards those. Thank you.

SARAH KIDEN:

Yes. Thank you, Silvia. We actually have the dates, but I think they were not shared. I can't remember if Remmy shared them, but it's a good idea to have them on the Wiki. So I think maybe Remmy can share them with you after the call. Thank you.

REMMY NWEKE:

All right. Thank you, Sarah, for that. Yes, we do have timelines for production. Time for submission, time for collection and time for also moving on with the content to staff or other preparation of the production. We do have them. I will share that with you after the meeting.

Then we have also shared it before this meeting to remind ourselves about what we should be doing. But it's [inaudible] also raise it. [inaudible] after the meeting. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Great. Thank you so much, Remy. I see Seun has his hand up.

REMMY NWEKE:

Yes, Seun, let's hear from you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you. I think recently, I thought I'd seen newsletter on my Google calendar. So that was actually started as a [inaudible] reminder for me to actually get my responsibility done in terms of the chair's section of the newsletter.

So I think that was very useful. Anytime I look at my calendar, I see there's an action about the newsletter compilation that is supposed to be done. So I think it should be good that that's maintained as well in addition to the posting on the Wiki.

And I don't know where the Google thing came from. Maybe it was—

REMMY NWEKE: [I sent it.]

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay. I think it was good. Just to note that.

REMMY NWEKE: Thank you. I don't know if Olévié is around, but I remember we also talked about [inaudible].

OLÉVIÉ KOUAMI: Yes, [inaudible]. Good evening, good morning. Yes, are you hearing me?

REMMY NWEKE: Yes, we can hear you.

OLÉVIÉ KOUAMI: Okay. Good morning, everybody. So it was the first time that a French team has worked together to review the English release of the newsletter. It was very hard challenge because that was the first time. And when you'll see the corrections you have made, there are many points and really, I'm not sure that the time we have to do the job was really the right one. But we have done our best and we have sent the last release on Sunday late in the night to the staff. Until now, I didn't receive any response from them if they have it or not. If not, you have [much more than] 30 or 40 points in the French [release. Even that was done] by the specialist, but the sentences are not really correct sometimes. That's what I can note. So for the next issues, we need to have more time for this, and we are going to subscribe it in the timeline. That's what I can add. Thank you.

REMMY NWEKE: Thank you, Olévié. The French copy or translation you made was sent to the staff. Can staff confirm they received it before we can discuss further on that?

YESIM NAZLAR: Sorry, Remmy, I didn't understand your question. What did you ask?

REMMY NWEKE: Olévié, the English version was sent to us for translation into French and a few days back, it was sent back to the staff. He's saying that we have not gotten any acknowledgment and we don't know whether it has

been updated and [been looked at.] Can you acknowledge that staff received the French translation they made, the correction they made, whether the translation that was shared?

EVIN ERDOGDU:

Excuse me. If I may. I believe it was received and I had inputted the French version into the Constant Contact format. I'm checking now. I don't know if it was sent, but it was shared with the team for their feedback if there are any final adjustments, and I'm not sure where we left off. I'm checking Constant Contact now. But I also see Sarah's hand up, so perhaps she also knows. Thank you.

REMMY NWEKE:

All right. Thank you. And please follow up, let's get that version out, because [it's not sounding well] that we have not [met up with our] obligation to publish this French version [while we are having to] [inaudible] the volume three [is actually late based on our timeline.]

As a follow-up to what Olévié reported, one of the things we discussed earlier was that the staff should also find out the possibility of adding a translation widget to that newsletter, which I think would have made our job easier and faster because now [inaudible] is complaining that we [inaudible] cross checking. [It's not easy enough.] And [we hear that we already overshot] our timeline.

So my suggestion is that staff should find out what it would take to have a translation widget on that newsletter, if it's possible to have it. Let us find out what it would take to have it and then maybe [raise it to the

secretariat] and we can take it up from there, because the translation is taking us so much time, and you can see we are trying to go front and back over that, but the idea of having a translation widget, even if you're not a French speaker, maybe you are a Spanish speaker, and you want to read AFRALO newsletter and we have the translation widget there, all you need to do is to choose your own country and it translates to you what is on the newsletter, and you read through, which I think saves all of us the time of going front and back [inaudible]. So please, I will appreciate if staff can get back to us on that if possible we can introduce that in our volume three to see how we can fare with that. Thank you.

SARAH KIDEN:

The running question that we have, I think we've not really agreed on that, but before that, I would like to commend, Olévié, when the French version was sent to us, he quickly [inaudible] our subgroup and mobilized people to join the French group. My French is very minimum but many people joined in time and were able to make contributions very fast. So I would really like to commend Olévié and all the members of the French team for doing this very fast and for being very proactive with the subgroup and just communications generally.

The other question I have is we've never really talked about the time between the English and the French version. I think the widget [would solve the] problem but I'm not sure if we're supposed to send them out at the same time or if we have to send the English and then wait for the French. I think we've not really been clear on that. Thank you. And I see Seun's hand is raised.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Thank you. I think while we can ask staff to explore the widget option, I think that [inaudible] for other languages, both for the French and English, French should be translated, especially considering the diversity we have within AFRALO. The two major languages are French and English. So I think those two, especially French, should not rely on widget alone.

So in terms of the publications, we did not [inaudible] appreciate the newsletter team was able to publish the English and French version [in time for the next] edition. That is going to be helpful for also the French speakers in the community should be able to follow through. So this means that perhaps as the statements are coming in, [when the final edition is done,] maybe the French team should be getting ready once the staff sends the final French [I guess probably.]

I think that [inaudible] delay, maybe a delay within maximum of three days or two days [inaudible] maximum can be accommodated, but we should try to avoid a delay to [inaudible] because the second edition explains that [inaudible] Thanks.

REMMY NWEKE:

Thank you, Seun. The options we are raising is that [inaudible] going to explore the widget, we should still have a French translation done, which is still okay by me. The only thing is that [inaudible] send it to staff, [it takes a short time] for them to really [inaudible] translation before it was sent back to us, [inaudible].

The truth is that initially when we stated, we expected that the team members from French [inaudible] the translation. [inaudible] the first one, there was no sign of that. Then the second one also came and they were still not up and [running] on that. So moving it to staff [became an] option. And [inaudible] after translation, they brought it back and we are lucky that [inaudible].

So [inaudible] as we progress, we'll keep improving on the process, and like you suggested, the French team should be on standby once the publication is ready, [inaudible] translation. And I want to believe that that option will work for us. [But I still want us] to see how we can add the widget while the French version can still be translated. That widget will [then serve for] other languages beyond these two, English and French. So that's my thought on that.

SARAH KIDEN:

We have three hands from Olévié, Evin and Silvia.

REMMY NWEKE:

Okay. Can we take them according to the names you just called? Olévié, Evin and Silvia, please.

OLÉVIÉ KOUAMI:

Thank you for your remarks and comments. I agree with the widget suggestion, but if we are using widget so that the French team is not—it eliminates the French team presence. I don't know why we have to set up a French team, because the widget is an automatic translation.

And when it is an automatic translation, it is robotics one. It's not really the real meaning of the words are not appearing. That's why the team is very useful.

But according to [inaudible] first experience, [we probably need] one week between the publishing of the English version and the publishing of the French version if you want to serve a good French for the people. That's my remark. Thank you.

REMMY NWEKE:

All right. Evin.

EVIN ERDOGDU:

Thank you. So I just wanted to note about the French newsletter, I found in my inbox an e-mail exchange with staff, it was on the 24th of May, and so I had sent the French version and this was the final version the content from English that was submitted to our ICANN language services team and they have done a direct translation from English to French. So I sent the newsletter to the team just for the final okay, but I see what happened was there were some additional comments and revision placed in a Google doc and then a Word doc.

And I just wanted to emphasize that usually, when the content is submitted to language services, the content should be final and it should also be the same content that is in the English newsletter. And as you know, we just launched elections, so the focus has been on this.

I can edit the newsletter, but I would suggest as a best practice going forward, in addition to what Silvia suggested of having the timeline with

key dates and content being final, that also with the translation, once the English version is sent to translation, that the French version also shouldn't be updated per se. So I'll take a look at this and reply to the team. But I just wanted to make that note.

In general, when the content is continually changed, that's when the process is slowed down. So if people can agree upon a final day for content to be finalized, that's key and it's helpful. Thank you. Back over to you.

REMMY NWEKE: Okay. Thank you. Silvia.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes. Thank you very much. Thanks so much, Evin, for that very useful input, and that really confirms that we need to have a clear timeline with the dates. And I have been chatting with my colleagues with regards to the timing allocated for translation. We sent it to the official staff language services department and they usually take for large documents or documents such as this one about ten working days, ten weekdays. So please incorporate this timing into the timeline to be able to have a French version, unless you want to have it at the same time as the English version, but that French translation would need to be done by the membership, by yourselves. But if you want the official language services translation, please allocate about ten working days for this.

And as Evin mentioned, once the English version is final, it should be the same as the French one. So the final document then cannot be revised

because then we would have two different versions. Thank you very much.

REMMY NWEKE:

Thank you very much. The truth is that even at the beginning, we were proposing [for] the translation, [inaudible] by the staff translation. So [inaudible] got back, that's when the French team now take over.

So the ten days I think [inaudible] we'll look into our timelines and make sure it's incorporated there for future proposals [so that] all of us are on at the same time.

Seun, please.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Thank you, chair. I'd just like to make a comment on the versions. I think we should be clear that the main point of [any translation] is the English version. [English version is finalized, every translation would have French or any one that is done by the widget should be the exact contents of the English version.] I think that way, it's easier and we're not having multiple versions. There's no reason why any content—any content that did not make the English version cannot be put in another translation. I think that needs to be very clear.

So if for some reason maybe during the French or any other language translation, some more information came in, we should not accept it. I think we have to freeze once we say the English version is final. Thank you.

REMMY NWEKE:

Thank you, Seun. Yes, I also agree with you that the English version should be final so that it's consistent with our production. And hopefully [inaudible].

So let's progress. And I think we should be on the review of last edition which we have just done, and basically, as of now, we don't have much content for the third edition production, which is the collection of volume three. Yeah, we don't have much. We are still expecting the chair's comment, Hadia's report, as well as the African office content and they have all requested for the deadline which was also communicated to them as well. So we [plead] with them to please submit those ones that are very [inaudible] because once we receive those [inaudible] content, it helps us to move on to the next item. [inaudible] we don't have enough content. [inaudible] content and move on with the production and make sure we meet up with the deadlines we have set for ourselves.

Now we're already running behind schedule and [inaudible] submit the materials to ICANN staff, [inaudible] to do magic and come back to us. So it's important we stick to our deadlines. They're very important.

Are there any comments on collection?

SARAH KIDEN:

Yes, there are two raised hands, from me and from Seun Ojedeji. I received the statement from the chair but I've not received from Pierre

and Hadia and other people. But I'm going to send a reminder to the mailing list and one to the GSE team so that they can send—

REMMY NWEKE: [inaudible].

SARAH KIDEN: But I think when I look at the timeline, we are already behind because we should have received by 24th of May which was a long time ago. So I don't know if we want to extend this deadline and to which date so that we can put that in the remainder [inaudible]. Thank you.

REMMY NWEKE: Okay. Seun, I'd like to hear from you before I respond to Sarah.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you. I think I'd like to suggest that perhaps we should also be featuring something that has to do with—you know we recently not long ago approved our outreach and engagement plan, and one of that was the universal acceptance [inaudible] and the working group [inaudible] In that regard, we are assembling [inaudible] I think we have ambassador who's a member of AFRALO. I think if it is possible to give them a [column] to actually be providing some update about that in our newsletter, that would be good. If the chair of the newsletter committee can approach the chair of the universal acceptance—

REMMY NWEKE: [inaudible].

SEUN OJEDEJI: Yes. Exactly. Thank you.

REMMY NWEKE: All right. Thank you, Seun. I think it's a good solution. We're going to [take it up] because that will also enrich our publication. We'll reach out to them. the one on outreach and engagement, we also will reach out to them to see where we can engage [through] the process in terms of [inaudible] produce, and [inaudible] alongside with them, see how we can collaborate on that. [inaudible].

So we thank you also, Mr. Chair, for making the material [inaudible]. We hope that it'll become more timely moving forward, because it is key to other parts coming up. So we thank you very much for submitting that. We can now focus on the African [outreach.]

Any other comments or hands up?

SARAH KIDEN: I see Seun's hand is still up.

REMMY NWEKE: Go on, sir.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you, chair. My apologies for the delay. And of course, like I said, thank you for [harassing me] with the Google calendar message. At least that got me to do [inaudible]. Thanks.

REMMY NWEKE: Thank you very much, Seun. Any other hands up, Sarah, please?

SARAH KIDEN: No.

REMMY NWEKE: No. Okay. We've already spoken to—[inaudible] like to make a comment on the need to meet deadline. Is Olévié still on?

SARAH KIDEN: Yes, he is.

REMMY NWEKE: [I don't know if you'd] like to make a comment on the need to meet deadlines. [inaudible].

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yesim, I don't know if Olévié is able to speak.

YESIM NAZLAR: Olévié is on Zoom. Let me try to unmute him.

OLÉVIÉ KOUAMI: Hello. Yes. I didn't hear the question. What is the question, please?

REMMY NWEKE: The question, there is on our agenda the need to meet deadlines as part of [what you will take for today.] So, can you speak to us on that?

OLÉVIÉ KOUAMI: Okay. I have just published a new [announce] for the collection for the articles for the next edition. So we will respect the timeline you have already raised for us. So what I'm encouraging is even if you send articles in French, you have to do it [inaudible] have it in English too. [inaudible].

REMMY NWEKE: Okay. Thank you, Olévié. [inaudible] make sure that we send our materials on time so we can meet our deadlines. Thank you very much, Olévié, for those words of encouragement. We still urge everyone to please do their bit.

We are moving over to AOB. That will [inaudible].

SEUN OJEDEJI: Sorry, chair.

REMMY NWEKE: Seun.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Yeah. I just [think] something from what Olévié just mentioned now. Yes, whilst we finalize English content gathering should stop, but during the gathering of the content, some of the content will also be submitted in French. So it means that the French content also needs to be translated to English. So it seems that the timeline—which we should try as much as possible to meet the timeline so that even the French version contents, once they get submitted on time, they can be translated to English, and of course, to be easier to put them in French once the translated version [—once the] English version is final.

I think that contribution needs to be in the back of our minds as well so that we can actually meet up with the timings.

REMMY NWEKE: All right. Thank you, Seun. That was a very [inaudible] we will consider having that at the back of our mind, as you said. That's very noble for us to do that so that we can meet up with our own timeline.

Then we move on to AOB now. Any other hands still up?

SARAH KIDEN: No.

REMMY NWEKE: So Sarah, please, I have an AOB. Let's see if there's any from you, secretariat.

SARAH KIDEN: Nothing from me unless other people have comments.

REMMY NWEKE: Okay. Basically, my AOB [inaudible] I think our membership, they're not very active, and I would suggest that maybe since we have [inaudible] we can assign them to various regions in Africa for them to pull up content for us and see how that works out. We'll need to do that and share with the [material] management and then we can [inaudible] continue [inaudible] encourage them, because some of them, like the last time, [inaudible] up to this moment, I've not seen any content submitted after that.

So in order not to [inaudible] I want to [tone it down to various regions,] just share us across our continent to see how that would encourage them to search for content concerning those subregions moving forward. So that would be my AOB. I don't know if there's any other ones. Is there any other AOB? Anything that we can take? Otherwise, the staff may give us a rundown of action items that we have already agreed on.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Hello. I can mention the action items. The first one is Evin Erdogan will review the latest edits to the French newsletters and will incorporate. The second action item is the working group will prepare a timeline, will send it to me for posting on the Wiki, and the timeline will include ten days for official French translation.

The other action item is actually a suggestion or recommendation, is to freeze the document once the English version is final. I think that's all that I have taken unless there are any other action items you wish to note, please.

REMMY NWEKE: Okay. thank you, Silvia. Another item that I also proposed was [we should add] a translation widget on the newsletter outside the French translation which was suggested earlier on. So let us also add that. I think that was the agenda.

I'm going to also [pick up the regional members] of this team to see how to encourage them. Thank you very much.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Thank you. That's noted.

REMMY NWEKE: Okay. I don't think we have any other item on the agenda. So I thank everyone for coming to this meeting. And I hope we [inaudible] safely [inaudible] pandemic. See you. Thank you, and good night.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Okay. Thank you, everybody.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Thank you everyone. Take care. Bye.

YESIM NAZLAR: Thank you all. This meeting is now adjourned. Have a great rest of the day. Bye.

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