
CLAUDIA RUIZ: Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. Welcome to the LACRALO monthly call this Monday, December the 14th 2020 at 23:00 UTC.

On the Spanish channel, we have Sergio Salinas-Porto, Harold Arcos, Antonio Medina, Hanna Frank, Percival Henriques, Augusto Ho, Vanda Scartezini, Humberto Carrasco, Lilian Ivette De Luque, Gilberto Lara, Alberto Soto, Maritza Aguero.

On the French channel, we have Sindy Obed.

We have apologies from Carlos Raúl Gutiérrez, Lito Ibarra, and Dev Anand Teelucksingh.

From staff, we have Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, and myself, Claudia Ruiz who will be managing the call today. Our interpreters today are David and Veronica on the Spanish channel, Bettina and Esperanza on the Portuguese channel, and Claire and Jacques on the French channel.

Before beginning, I would like to please remind you to state your name before taking the floor for the transcription and for interpretation purposes. Thank you, and Sergio, you have the floor. Please go ahead.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Thank you very much, Claudia. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening everyone. It's an honor for me to be here with you today, because as you know, these are the final meetings of the year, the last meeting of the year before the holidays. So we have a special

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framework today, because there is a very important framework that we would like to highlight, and we have a new scenario that was marked by the pandemic. And because of this, we had to undergo different situations. Many of us were not used to participating in online meetings, but also the fact that we were not able to meet face-to-face throughout the year and the fact that we were not able to meet with our dear ones, and the fact of having people undergoing COVID, well, that is a turning point in our lives.

So without further ado, now I would like to give the floor to the LACRALO secretary, Harold Arcos, for him to read the agenda for today. Harold, please go ahead.

HAROLD ARCOS:

Thank you, Sergio. On today's call, we have a packed agenda. We have the comments by the ALAC member Sindy Obed, then we will have the reports from the LACRALO working groups. We have the IDN multilingualism, Capacity Building Working Group, the Communications Working Group, and the Domain Names and Users Working Group.

Then we're going to have another series of the session that we have created—this is participation tools—and a regional update by Sergio Salinas Porto. Particularly, he's going to speak about the virtual general assembly by ICANN 70. And then we have Any Other Business. So far, there is no other business, but if you would like, you can add any other topic right now or when we get to this item of the agenda.

So I don't see hands up, so I would like to ask you if you have any topics to add to Any Other Business. If there are no comments or questions or

any other topic, we approve this agenda and we can move forward.
Sergio, please go ahead.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Thank you, Harold. And as Harold said before, the first item on the agenda today are the comments of the ALAC members or by the ALAC members. Today, we are going to have the pleasure to have our friend, Sindy Obed. This is going to be his first follow-up comment regarding ALAC activities. As you know, any new activity and people, we are going to support him and help him to be comfortable in these activities. So Sindy, it's a pleasure for us to have you here, and it's a pleasure to hear you and to have up updating us on these comments. I don't want to put you on the spot, but it is really good to have you here. So Sindy, please go ahead.

SINDY OBED: Thank you very much. Thank you very much, Harold. Thank you for inviting me. You invited me very nicely and quickly. I had a very big day today, very busy, and you asked me to comment regarding ALAC activities.

We did work a lot for ALAC today. For now, I wanted to take some time to learn more about your activities, and that will enable us to work more efficiently. I see we have some topics regarding registrars. The DNSSEC is a very important topic. HTTPS as well. So I believe that last week, I said that I would like to be in the working group for capacity building. I would like to work on capacity building because I believe that everything we do, we do it for end users. We work for those users, and

it's very important to let the users know about those topics. We are spokespersons for those end users. It's very important that they know more about those Internet topics.

And I would like to thank the members of ALAC and LACRALO, and thank you for organizing all those meetings and calls. And I think we'll be able to do a lot for the future of the Internet. I'm going to get involved on capacity building. We did get some training. In Haiti, we have an Internet governance school where we can do a lot, and this is related to ALAC issues. This Internet governance school will be able to do a lot in Haiti for the end users so that they understand ICANN and know more about ICANN in Haiti. And this is how I'm going to be able to participate a lot. We have some highly technical issues as well. We have many people that are very capable regarding technical topics, and I think that we'll be able to bring a lot to the table.

I was trained regarding Internet governance, but this is quite a large topic. We have to get involved much more. And I would like to thank everybody for giving me the floor. Thank you so much for your attention. Thank you, Harold. I know it was a last-minute invitation, and I know you know a lot about those topics and you know a lot about ICANN and all those concepts. Thank you so much, Harold and everyone on this call. I will be very glad to work with you, to participate and to listen in on the French channel. Thank you so much, everybody.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Thank you very much, Sindy. So these are your first steps, but this is a much longer process that you will have to go through when it comes to

your active participation in LACRALO. I'm going to now go to the working group reports. As you will remember, we have some working groups that have been working so far, and some others that stopped working. So today, we go back and we have new hope on one of our working groups. Jose Arce is going to join us shortly, and we can then begin with the first working group. And before that, I'm going to ask Adrian Carballo to please take the floor and to begin commenting us on the capacity issue. This is the end of the year, so we're going to have a sort of evaluation just to see how things worked and went on during this year. So Adrian, please go ahead.

ADRIAN CARBALLO:

Thank you, Sergio. Very briefly, and as I said in our previous meeting, we are still fine tuning the school of Internet in Spanish. We're working particularly on the capacity building program in Spanish. And as I said before, it is going to have five topics. and we're also going to work on improving our work methodology.

Apart from that, I would like to say that we're particularly modifying and changing some of the courses that we have created based on the comments and input that we received during the last month, and this has to do with ICANN functioning.

So very briefly, let me say module one is going to be about Internet and ICANN ecosystem, so this is an introduction module. Then we're going to have ICANN and the Internet ecosystem, ICANN and infrastructure, ICANN policy development role and working method of ICANN,

supporting organizations and advisory committees—that is to say the ACs and SOs—and of course, the Board.

Module number two, we will discuss the domain name system and its infrastructure. We're going to speak about domain names and the difference between gTLDs, ccTLDs, new gTLDs and historical perspectives, policy development, the role of ccTLDs in the Internet nations, the domain name system in the Latin America and Caribbean region, commercial aspects of domain names, registries, registrars and registrars, and other organizations in the current domain name market.

Module number three would be resilience and security and Internet-related activities during the pandemic, the DNS security, DNS abuse, DNSSEC, what it is and what it is for, impact of the new GDPR on ICANN, the EPDP and the gTLD registration policy recommendations, future perspectives for privacy, data protection and treatment in the DNS system.

And module number four would be Internet and its impact on the economy and the society, and in this case, we're going to speak about Internet and the experience during the pandemic, new method of working, and how to learn from the experience of 2020 Internet and the impact on the environment, tech industry concentration, current situation and future perspectives.

This is when it comes to the ICANN school in Spanish, and we're also working on the DNS working group and universal acceptance. We're moving forward with this topic, and we would like to keep on working on these courses. We have the teachers available now, and perhaps we

should go into details with the program and the topics that we're going to address. We will also have to set the dates.

Another topic that I would like to mention to you is that Anahí Menéndez, who's the vice chair of the working group, is not going to be with us anymore after her great support. We had a very good experience with her. She's now going to work, as she said, in the communications working group. She's going to be there, and the vice chair of the communication working group will be Humberto Carrasco. So I would like to welcome him, and then we will comply with all the formalities to appoint him as a vice chair.

Looking ahead and regarding the ICANN school in Spanish, the program that I have mentioned is going to be posted on the Wiki page, therefore you can have a look at it and you can post your comments and input so that we can work on the final version of that list so that we can circulate that information to our teachers and professors. And in summary, this is my update regarding the Capacity Building Working Group. And of course, I am open to questions and comments in case you have any. Thank you very much.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Thank you very much, Adrian. I know you're working there a lot. You're just one more of all the group that is working on the capacity building group. You would need to add Sindy to the group. Please try to get in touch with staff so that he can receive the e-mails from the working group e-mail list, and you can be in touch really quickly.

And then also, together with Augusto and Marcelo Rodriguez, you have the mission to progress on the outreach and engagement group. So this is part of the Board's strategy, that is, to be able to work actively on the working groups. So we would need to see how we can work together, both the board and all the RALO members together in all the ALAC working groups. So this is just a beginning, and we have our capacity building group looking at the ALAC group to be able to work in synergy.

So now we will progress into the report that Marcelo Rodriguez needs to give us. he's part of the communications working group. So Marcelo Rodriguez, you now have the floor. Welcome.

MARCELO RODRIGUEZ:

Thank you, Sergio. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. I am part of the LACRALO communications working group. So we are working together on one side with the secretariat and the chair, and we're also working together with staff—that is the ICANN staff—that is supporting us to see that we can progress with the sort of drafts that we already have.

There will probably be a prior document. We still are looking into the format and we are polishing it with the inputs that we have received from the last call so far. So this is just to wrap up this 2020. We are working together with Harold and also with Sergio to have a look at the different inputs that we have received.

We already have a draft to at least do it at a regional level and in Spanish, and then we'll see how we'll adapt it to have it translated to the different languages that we have available in the region.

Then in addition, we will also be working in the second newsletter or the third newsletter depending on whether this last version of 2020 will be released. Otherwise, we would have the third one that would be released in February, and we also have the input of all the participants and the chairs of all the working groups, including the Capacity Building Working Group, and domain working groups, and the ALSes that are also an important contribution to the work that we do throughout the year.

We also need to consider all the progress we have reached in connection with the next meeting that will be held in ICANN in Latin America. We have also sent a short document, and this document is related to our work in communications and within the goals and objectives we have set, we include strengthening the initiatives that will allow to improve the internal communications. This is where we are going to focus in the first stage of our work as a working group. And of course, we want to engage in all the outreach strategies of the ICANN ecosystem.

And of course, we would like to contribute to the knowledge of the Internet governance in the region. This is exactly what Adrian Carballo was referring to a moment ago when he referred to the ICANN school of governance in ICANN.

So we have 13 members so far. These are the members of our group as of today, and we are trying to consolidate the activities that we have already seen being developed by Lilian Ivette. She was the leader in communication, so I'm resuming the work that she left, and I would like to insist in the internal communication as I said in the first stage, I want

to focus on the internal communication and deal with internal strategies. That is a set of actions to try to reach a goal. So we will first look into the leadership and the improvements that the leaders can set, and secondly, we will try and set goals to raise awareness on and understanding on what LACRALO is, who are the members of LACRALO.

We will also try and have impacting and adequate messages and focus on the digital culture using the strategies and technologies of outreach and engagement. We will foster the use of social media, and we will try to have a better listening on a continuous basis of the digital channels, the traditional channels, the newsletter, and some kind of print material also that we may have for the ICANN meetings. we will also deal with communication with elements such as podcasts and the different applications available. And of course, we will use the traditional channels, radio mainly, and television when available.

And to favor attitudes and behaviors that adapt to this change, we will use strategies within the internal management. We will add innovation for the new trends where we will probably have the possibility to work within this technological progress that we have seen throughout the pandemic.

And lastly, the participation and engagement of everyone, including the chair. So the indication is to have a good internal communication, and then we will also work, as we have already done, almost autonomously. We would try to make a humanization. That is, we will show that we can focus on people and values.

So far, we have created all the inputs that we have seen in the newsletter, and together with staff, we have discussed the possibility to do this after the holidays, because we had a very short time for the translation. But then we have received some inputs at the last moment. We will try and see how we can translate it from Spanish and we will see how we can agree on when we can release this in 2021.

Also, in December, we participated in LACRALO meeting, and on December the 7th, I attended the first meeting as a chair of the communications group. And I thank the staff and everybody else who was present there.

I would also like to say that I received a great deal of support from the current chair of LACRALO, Sergio Salinas Porto, and also the secretary, Harold Arcos. I have also received support from Adrian Carballo and Sylvia Herlein, and Lilian Ivette who have also contributed enormously. I would also like to give a big shoutout to the people who have supported me, and this is, as you know, a new challenge. That is a very important group. Thank you very much, and good evening.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO:

Thank you, Marcelo. This is just for those of you who have already sent your working group reports. So I recommend that you document all the progress that you have attained. We should wrap up this year and you should document on the Wiki all the things that we are saying here today. It is very important that we can document the work of the region. All this should be in the Wiki. If you're looking for something, it should be found on the Wiki. So I suggest both Adrian and Marcelo do

start the process. I think the IDN group has already provided information for the Wiki, but it would be really good to make these recommendations that work very nicely when it comes to showing and proving that we have a region that's working seriously.

It is now the turn of Jose. I also would like to welcome Hanna. This is her first meeting, so Hanna, welcome. You have just arrived at the last meeting of the year. It is a pleasure to have you here. I'm sure Harold will send you an e-mail tomorrow or the day after tomorrow inviting you to join one of the working groups. It would be great if Adrian could have a colleague, a peer working in one of these working groups. So welcome to the work, Hanna. I haven't said hell to Lilian, Maritza. They are both very good friends. So welcome again.

Let's now go to the communications working group again. Just to make this clear, we need the ALSes in the region to send a note. When we started with this, Maritza mentioned the IGF Peru. That was also the IGF in Argentina. We also had the forum for a digital Argentina here. There are many of these organizations that have engaged in nice activities in our country. So it is important that we see this written in the regional newsletters. So I would like you to contact Marcelo privately and send your reports so that they can be included.

Having said this—and this was a parochial announcement—I am going now to give the floor to our friend, Jose Arce. You have the floor. Welcome.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Claudia, could you check if Jose is here?

CLAUDIA RUIZ: it seems he dropped.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Okay. He was here a few moments ago. All right, so Sylvia is here, so Sylvia is now going to take up her slice to provide us with a report. Welcome, Sylvia. You have the floor.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Hello everybody. There's lots of girls this evening.

HAROLD ARCOS: Hello Sylvia. I'm sending you a heart from Chile.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: I miss you all. I need to provide you with a summary of everything we have been working on on the IDN working group and the multilingualism working group as well. I always say I would like to add more, and I did have some personal issues. As you know, I have been infected by COVID-19, and so this took me out of work for a couple of weeks, and I'm also moving to another city. So it was really difficult. So that's why I couldn't really cover everything I wanted.

But in summary, I need to say that 2020 was an excellent year for the IDN multilingualism working group. I do know that in spite of Sergio saying that our Wiki is really okay, well, I actually think that it needs

some work. But now I will have some more time and I really do believe in the importance of this Wiki.

When I was secretary many years ago, the Wiki is extremely relevant in my view. There are so many things happening, we are doing so many things, that when we do need to look for something, it is there. The Wiki is like our library. So you learn a lot about the processes and how things were developed, etc.

So this is our summary. It is positive. We have been able to set up the skeleton of many of the courses that we are going to be providing on universal acceptance. This'll be the title. But then of course, we will add our ideas and our IDN concepts. We are in touch with the global group or the general IDN ICANN group to see how they are working in Asia, which is where we see mostly the importance of IDNs.

But then in spite of the fact that we don't see really a lot of a difference because we speak Spanish and characters are similar to the English characters, we do want the community to know that IDNs are really important in multilingualism.

I was just about to participate in the IGF that was held in Poland but I was just right there in the middle of that week where I was really sick. But I do have all this background of everything that was discussed before the IGF in Poland, and this is what I'm going to bring to the region. I'm going to provide a summary, I will upload it to the Wiki, and that is why I did send a very short note for the LACRALO newsletter in December.

So my goal for the next year is that everybody knows what IDNs are and the importance of this issue and multilingualism in our region, including Spanish and French, and Portuguese as well. So I think all of this was very positive. In March, I think we will have all those courses ready and we will continue working. This was also something really good. We will continue working with the other capacity building and communications groups. Working among three groups is something that would yield very good results, and we're really ready for 2021 to have this great project ready to benefit the region and then we want to convey our knowledge to the other RALOs. So that's all. Thank you very much.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO:

Thank you, Sylvia. You're always welcome to this group. And thank you for your willingness to participate. I don't know if Jose has already joined, but if not, we can move forward and we can give the floor to Harold. He's going to speak about participation tools. And then if Jose joins the call, we can give him the floor and let him speak at the end of the call before moving forward to item number seven, and this is regional update. So Harold, please, you can now take the floor. You can move forward. You have seven minutes to speak.

HAROLD ARCOS:

Thank you very much, Sergio. I know that Claudia has already uploaded my presentation. This is a very brief presentation for new colleagues such as Hanna. So this is a presentation that we created. The name is LACRALO participation tools. We have some chapters available. Some of these are referred to the Wiki page because of the importance that

these working tools mean or represent for us, as Silvia was highlighting before.

In this particular occasion, I'm going to introduce something that was already discussed in LACRALO, and this is the creation and the discussion within the region which is a proposal for processes. This proposal was discussed by the leadership, and it is very important for us as a region to coordinate our debate in order to provide input and comments.

So on this first slide, what we see is this proposal. That is to say, to have an open, exploratory and inclusive discussion. So this was the definition provided by different regions in LACRALO, because there is a need to have discussions and these discussions were present in two main topics. So the objective is to work as a joint community of ALSes and users participating within the ICANN community, and the idea is to decide if we need to make comments or to provide any piece of advice. We're not an advisory committee, but we're a region full of users with our own perspective, and we can at one point in time create recommendations taking into account our perspective.

And then we can also evaluate the topics that are being discussed and see if they need a regional perspective. This can be done thanks to the Board, the group that we have created, the LACRALO Board. So this is a sort of exercise that we have to perform as the collective construction. So since this is a practice that we have already embraced, this is a very good practice for all of us and this is also for ALSes that even though are active ALSes, they do not have enough number of members actively participating in each CWG. So this was an initiative by ALAC and

something that came out not only from the ICANN review but it also came out from ALAC, which was trying to improve participation of Internet users in order to have more ALS members participating. Next slide, please.

So which are the tools that we have available? These are the monthly meetings. so in each monthly meeting, we are going to learn about discussion topics, key topics. In November, Vanda for example let us know about the ALS mobilization report. This is a key topic for us because it impacts on us directly. There is another topic mentioned by Carlos Raúl, and this is individual user, and we also have the criteria for individual members that are not affiliated. And this is the name of the working group that is addressing the topic.

So in our monthly meetings, all the topics are put forth, and we have members from the regions who have mentioned that it is important for us to turn our monthly meetings into a starting point in order to be able to see and discuss if we are going to do a regional follow-up, if we're going to issue a comment or if we're going to draft a joint document.

So this is done during our monthly meetings. We devote three minutes to these topics because otherwise, it would be a never-ending discussion. But during these minutes, we take down notes of the input and comments by the members of the region and then we create a summary of the summary, and with this summary of ideas and perspectives, we send this document to the mailing list. We discuss the document in the mailing list, and then we update and upload the information in our LACRALO Wiki page.

And once we get close to the public comment date, we will see if we're going to issue a public comment as a region or if we're going to provide a recommendation or just state our position as a region participating in ALAC. This dynamic will have results, and the results will be published in the LACRALO gazette or newsletter. But basically, this is the process for monthly meetings. The leadership, the Board has been talking about the importance of taking these monthly meetings as a learning point and as starting point for debate that we usually have in other groups, but monthly meetings where all ALSes participate, we should start with this journey, with this path. Next slide, please.

Once we present the whole process, and of course we [inaudible] the possibility of performing this in three steps. As you can see in this table, we have on one hand the idea and argument gathering. We take into account the topics that are being discussed, for example, ALS mobilization or individual members. Then we take down notes, we include all perspectives and comments, we make a summary of all those points of view and input, and then we send that to the mailing list.

And once we are close to a public comment date, then we decide as a region if we are going to issue a public comment, and then we get to the last phase where we provide or issue our informed opinion, and this is sent to ALAC, and this is the way in which we contribute to the region with the topics being discussed.

So this is the end of our participation process. It's a very simple process but a very important one, and it is very important for us to have this process clear because it is highly motivating for all active ALSes because their members can participate in these activities. Have you got any

question or any comment? And if that is the case, you can go to our mailing list. You can also go to the meeting page or you can also post your comments on the Wiki page, or else you can post your questions and comments on the mailing list. If there is anything that you would like to add or any topics that you would like to mention, any input, you can post it there. Have you got questions? I don't see hands raised or comments. Sergio, this is the end of my presentation. Please go ahead.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO:

Thank you very much, Harold. Thanks for setting the pace for new members, for newcomers in ALAC and in LACRALO. I am now going to speak about the item on the agenda, and this is regional update. There are two topics that we'll need to discuss. The most important topic is our general assembly. We have planned a face-to-face general assembly to be held in the country of León Sanchez, Mexico, Cancun. But as you already know, this general assembly is not going to take place. So based on that, we're going to hold an online, remote general assembly. We have been working with the staff in GA schedule. And we have two parts. There is a place for the online GA, and then we will have a second stage for a face-to-face GA.-

So the face-to-face GA is going to be held in 2022 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. So our online GA is going to be held in the ICANN 70, and we will have to work strongly with our 70 ALSes in the region. If there is any volunteer willing to join, you will be more than welcome, but the Board is going to call each of the members in the region. And let me say that we're working very hard on the metrics based on the document that we had, because the previous document was not possible to

materialize. But we are now working with the group, and I believe that at the end of January, we will be able to discuss this topic in order to approve it during our GA.

Having said this, let me say that we have plenty of work ahead. We are the hosts, we have to work. We are supposed to have three modules, and we are not only going to participate in the GA, we're also going to participate in ALAC and ICANN activities. When you have a look at the agenda, in the last meeting, the time was very bad. It was very difficult for us to participate. But in this case, we're going to have a Latin time, regional time. Therefore, we're going to have a very good scenario to have active participation and to be involved in as many sessions as possible.

But we're going also to have our GA. This is going to be divided into three 90-minute sessions, and we are going to focus on the regional participation.

INTERPRETER:

We are losing Sergio's audio, so it is not possible to provide clear interpretation.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO:

On the other hand, we are going to have a second day with other 90 minutes, and this is going to be up to you, of course. I believe that Carlos Raúl has proposed having a sort of capacity building session with the regional leaders, and we will have to work in a coaching effort in our region. We will have the participation of Jose Arce and David Plum. So if

anyone opposes to this, please let us know, because we are going to work on this and we would like to close all the activities. And this is going to be the closing session where we're going to work on how to improve our leadership.

And there is a third meeting, another 90-minute session. we are going to discuss the LACRALO regional strategy. And when I say this, we know that in 90 minutes, we will not be able to work on and finish a five-year strategy. This is going to be something that is going to start in March, and in March, we're going to approve or not approve this strategy that is going to be created by the region. There is going to be a call probably during the first weeks of January, a call for volunteers to participate in the governance working group. The governance working group is going to discuss the regional strategy, and we hope that you all participate, because our future and present depend on that strategy, at least for the next five years.

Additionally, there is going to be a roundtable. That roundtable, as it was the case in the EURALO GA in the last ICANN meeting, we're going to have some speakers from different SOs and ACs, people representing LACTLD, GSE, LACNIC, and they're going to speak about the framework of the regional strategy and their role as organizations or fellow organizations on how they work in the regions. This framework is going to be discussed within our GA.

This is what we have so far. If you have any comments or any questions, this is the chance, this is the opportunity that you have to discuss. As I said before, we have plenty of work ahead, and we need to have a clear view on this.

In our case, we are starting summer and I usually take holidays during January . So I will try to take some days off during January. But perhaps after the first two weeks, we can start working with this plan—that is to say, the GA—and we will have to see the strategy and how LACRALO is going to work during the next five years regardless of the leadership, regardless of the members.

We are all officers, but the new officers will have to take over and they will have to respect something or the strategy that was developed by the community, and they will need to have the necessary skills to comply and to meet these goals and these expectations. So we will need to watch this process closely, and I would like to invite you all to have a look at this, to start thinking and working on this and to put forth any issue that you would like to explain or voice regarding our future, what you expect from LACRALO, because this'll have to be translated into a written document.

And this is also related to discussion that we need in our region. For the very first time in our history, we're going to start working in an organized manner, looking at the future and the present of LACRALO. And to be very honest, I believe that in this meeting and in the whole region, we have great people with great ideas, and we can have them in order to build a stronger region than the one that we have today.

So this is my comment. I would like to know if you agree with that, with having David Plum, because we will need to discuss this with him. So I will need to also discuss and talk to Jose in order to plan the workplan. Jose is one of our resources, but he's also a coaching professional. So they will have to work, David and Jose will have to work on a plan for

those 90 minutes to be really useful. And probably, we will have to work days before.

However, I suggest—and let me repeat myself—our thinking about the region in a strategic manner, with a strategic view. We have three ways of seeing things. There is one point of view, and this is the tree. The other view is to look at the forest without paying attention to the tree. But there is a third view, and this is to look from above and going beyond the forest. So we will have to go beyond the forest, because men go by, but organizations remain. So we will have to think about other regions, we will have to think about what we want for our region, and we will have to write down that into a document in order to get to our GA with a plan for a doable, viable strategic plan.

So this is the end of my comment. I don't know if there is someone willing to take the floor. We will have to stop here because we only have one hour available for this call. If we have more time available, we can continue with the discussion. Silvia, Claudia?

SILVIA VIVANCO: We have 30 minutes more.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Well, we can just wrap up the meeting here, but the question is, is there anyone who'd like to say something? This is the last meeting in the year. León, you have the floor.

LEÓN SANCHEZ:

Dear Sergio, thank you very much for the opportunity to talk to you, to our colleagues in the region. I just wanted to thank you for another year of work. That was a very hard work, especially considering the very challenging conditions under which we have worked this year. The challenge that was imposed on us because we had to do all our activities virtually, and we are a community that is really used to work virtually and work at a distance, but at the same time, we are a community that is very used to being present face-to-face in meetings.

Unfortunately, the current conditions didn't really allow us to conduct one of the in-person meetings that we had scheduled for this year, but it seems there is light at the end of the tunnel now, and it's not just a train coming towards us but actually, there is a light of hope with the approval of different vaccines, and we hope that this will allow us in the near future—or at least in the midterm future—to be able to resume our face-to-face meetings.

Once again, I want to wish you the best in these holidays, in this end of year. We are a very diverse community with different beliefs and customs. And each of us in the way we want to celebrate, we should do this joined by our families and thanking for the possibility to be healthy and to have our jobs.

So on behalf of the ICANN Board and Maarten as a chair, and on my own behalf as vice chair of the board, I'd like to send you a warm greeting, a virtual greeting and my best wishes for the next year. I hope it will be a time where we can once again enjoy our face-to-face meetings and to be able to hug each other as the Latinos that we are.

Once again, thank you very much, and Sergio, thank you for the opportunity to speak right now.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Dear León, it would be very nice to be able to hug you. Years have gone by—we have been many years in ICANN, many years in LACRALO, and we always liked to engage and to participate face-to-face, to hug our friends and to share a beer or a burger. I always remember the very good burger that you had me eat in Los Angeles.

But then having said this, I would like to thank you for your kind words. I think we have worked a lot this year, and perhaps for the first time in our working groups, we've managed to make them work, we've managed to make them have internal activities. We still are in the process of making a quantitative leap. We are still working in terms of quality. We're working [friendly.] We have new people who are assuming new responsibilities in ALAC, and they are working within the logics of representation.

And I now have to face the situation precisely in this capacity building meeting that when you start looking around, you see that we are changing. There is diversity in the number of people who have assumed responsibility. There are possibilities for the region to continue growing. But there is, I think, more maturity in the region to look at the different challenges that we have ahead of us.

And part of those challenges imply perhaps to continue the significant work that you have engaged in. I think we need to consider it this way as well. We need to have a horizon. I see that Augusto Ho has raised his

hand. I want to thank Betty as well who raised her hand as well. But we should look at this as big challenges. In November next year, we will have new authorities that have already been elected. This is our vice chair and vice secretary elect. They will progress on these different positions, new positions, and we will try to leave things as stable as possible so that their experience when dealing with the region and taking ICANN's policies both within and outside our region, and our internal organization as a region, well, they all should have this very well organized.

So León, thank you for your kind words, and also thank you for the very good work that you do at the Board, both you and Lito leave us Latinos very well represented there. So thank you very much. Augusto now has the floor, and then Betty. Go ahead, please.

AUGUSTO HO:

I just want to be very brief. This is our last meeting in the year, and I want to thank all of you, especially you, Sergio and Harold, because you have walked me hand by hand with an intensive training because of these very particular circumstances. I will always remember this and I will always be very thankful.

I don't participate a lot, but I am listening in silence, learning, and trying to absorb everything as a sponge in this limited time I have to be ready for next year. And I hope that we can soon have a vice secretary who will join us from November.

So once again, thank you very much. Thank you for the interpreters and everybody making this situation possible, even in the challenging

circumstances. And please bear with me the next few months. It has been difficult for me as well. I'm coming in at a very complicated time. But then again, thanks to technology, I think things are now a bit more relieved. So once again, thank you very much, and I'm still here, and I wish you all the best for these holidays. Thank you.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Thank you, Augusto. And I want to extend your congratulations to the great work of our beautiful staff and our interpreters who on a daily basis in each of our meetings, they're present and they allow us to work and they allow the other who doesn't speak your language to understand. So the work of these interpreters and the staff who are just [aware] and they just cater to each of our needs, this is what makes our region work. So, thank you again. Betty, you now have the floor.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Betty, you need to speak in the French channel and the interpreters will interpret for you. So you disconnected from French. We'll have the operator dial back to you. Sergio, if you'd like to give the floor to Lilian while we connect with Betty in French again. Lilian, you have the floor.

LILIAN IVETTE DE LUQUE: Hello everybody. First, let me wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year, a healthy year for all of you. I'd like to inform the community, as you may know, that by the ICANN 70 meeting, I will chair the Social Media Working Group, and I will just take advantage of the last meeting in the year to ask for your support and for your participation in all the

activities we are scheduling. We will inform you of all of those activities in due time. And I would like to work very closely with the Communications and with the Capacity Building Working Group. We have a lot of activities that may involve both of them. So this is basically what I wanted to say. We should all be aware of everything we need to schedule from the Social Media Working Group because we want the region to be a very great host and to conduct an unforgettable meeting with a lot of participation from our community. Thank you all very much.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Thank you, Lilian. As I said to you privately not long ago, we will have a discussion with different colleagues in the region. The LACRALO communication working group will of course be available for everything we need and to deepen the communication and the different strategies and tactics that we will implement in this event.

In addition, we will also have extra support from the region, and I will personally talk to each of the members in the region so that they can support the communications process in the meeting. So we can rely on this. We will work together.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So Sergio, I think we now have Betty again in the French channel.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Betty, please go ahead. You have the floor. We can hear you.

BETTY FAUSTA:

Thank you very much. I would like to thank the LACRALO group for welcoming me this year. I stand very close with you and to your ideas. So I'd like to thank you and thank Harold and Ivette who are great members, very involved in the community, and this is great that we have a new French-speaking member at the ALAC level. That's it. Thank you. And all the best. Happy new year, and see you next year.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO:

Thank you, Betty. It is very good that you are participating in our meetings and that you can bring your input. You know that if you want to work in any of the working groups, you will be welcome. There are four active working groups right now. There's capacity building, communications, and there's also IDN and multilingualism, and domain names and users. This is what we are going to start now. This is going to be a deep work on DNS abuse. So if you are interested and if you want to participate, go ahead. This also contributes to the work in LACRALO, to engage, to get involved in ICANN policy and to know what are the issues that are the concern of the ALAC and At-Large community. It would be really [inaudible] if we could discuss these issues. These are issues that we see at a global level. So any of these issues can actually have an impact on the average end users in our countries.

So, thank you very much for your kind words. It is really a pleasure for us to have you here with us. And I think there are no more hands up. I think we are wrapping up our meeting a little bit ahead of time. Let me

just say happy new year, happy holidays. I think we all think the same: it is very good to be together, and it is even better to have an action.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

On behalf of staff, I would like to thank you infinitely for your participation in this very challenging year for each of us. Thank you for your trust and your enthusiasm. We felt very supported by your active participation, and we're very hopeful to see you face-to-face soon. We have missed you a lot. Hopefully, this will happen next year. So we wish you the best for 2021 from all the At-Large staff. Thank you.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO:

Thank you, Silvia, and thank you to all the team, all this really large team and the efforts that they've put into each and every thing you do. So these are my words, but these should be the words of all the region. It is a great support that you are there, but you make our lives a lot easier. That's the truth. Without you, this would be really chaotic. So, thank you very much, and I hope to see you soon and to hug you soon. We haven't hugged anyone for a long time now. So, thank you all and happy holidays. Goodbye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]