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DEVAN REED: Good morning, good afternoon, good evening to everyone. Welcome to Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group call on Thursday 1st of July 2021 at 19:00 UTC.

On the call today we have Holly Riache, Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Sébastien Bachollet, Ricardo Holmquist, Maureen Hilyard.

We have received apologies from Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Justine Chew, and Dave Kissoondoyal.

On staff, we have Silvia Vivanco, Becky Nash, Victoria Yang, Alex Morshed, Claudia Ruiz, and myself, Devan Reed on call management.

A friendly reminder to please keep your microphones muted when not speaking to prevent any background noise and to please state your name when taking the floor each and every time.

We also have real-time transcribing on today's call. We'll put the link in the chat. Thank you all very much. With this, I turn the call over to you, Holly.

HOLLY RAICHE: Thank you, Devan, and thank you, everyone. Welcome to today's call on the Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group. We've got three elements to today's call. First, Becky has very kindly agreed to talk about the operating initiatives, which is one of the elements that was developed as part of the budgeting process, and the [feeling at the last couple of meetings is that we should] understand what they are, we

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should understand from this working group what the priorities of ALAC and particularly this working group are in terms of those initiatives.

And then just a quick follow-up on a discussion we had at the last meeting with Steve DelBianco and Sébastien on the holistic review which was suggested at the ATRT3 meeting and to work through what the next steps for that might be.

So we'll start with Becky, then we'll have a look at the poll that has gone out to see what is important in this working group's view of the initiatives, talk through the top five and who would like to take some responsibility for those five, and then on to Sébastien. So with that, I would like to introduce Becky Nash, vice president of planning at ICANN, and a discussion about the operating initiatives, what they are and how they contribute to the ICANN budgeting process. So over to you, Becky, and thank you.

BECKY NASH:

Thank you very much, Holly. So I really want to thank you, Holly, for inviting us today from the planning team, and the planning team includes both the planning department and the finance team. So I think from our core team today, we have myself, Victoria Yang and Alex Morshed. Apologies if I've missed anybody else from staff on the call.

But at the request of Holly, we are here to talk about an overview of the adopted FY22 through '26 operating initiatives. So let me go ahead and advance the slides, and I'll ask Victoria and Alex to jump in if there are hands at any time. I'm happy to pause.

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So just to put in context the planning process. This is an overview of all of the elements of our strategic planning, and the planning department is in charge of the coordination, facilitation and publication of the strategic planning, the operating planning, the financial planning in conjunction with our finance team, and then our objectives include progress reporting.

We are embarking upon many process improvements as it relates to overall strategic planning, and we'll have opportunities in the future to talk through with community members such as yourself about our roadmap.

But if I move along into the operating plan, this is a slide that we present each year about the structure of the operating plan, and what it does is provide an overview of how the plans are structured. We're going to be diving in today to the operating initiatives.

But what I would like to just highlight is that the operating plan, the purpose is to describe the activities ICANN Org will undertake to fulfill the adopted strategic plan, and it has all of the work for the organization to implement its mission and mandate. And the operating plans are organized into two major sections in the operating plan, which is the functional activities, which is 34 different functions grouped in five service groups, and those would be major activities of the organization that are either support or required to be performed for an organization such as tax work or accounting work, or it's certain functions that have the responsibility to implement ICANN's mission and mandate, such as contractual compliance or the IANA functions, amongst others. Then we have the operating initiatives, which represent major work that are in

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support of the strategic objectives identified in the strategic plan. So that is just something that we like to highlight as the structure.

So now I'm going to move into four slides. The first two slides are a summary of all of the operating initiatives, and we've included the purpose, and the purpose is a section that is in the operating plan for each of the operating initiatives. And depending on how interactive this discussion becomes, we can put a link to the operating plan. I think it's on the agenda as well. I can flip over to the operating plan, but I thought we would just start with a high-level summary, an overview of the operating initiatives and then that's for two slides, and then the two slides after that is the progression of work in FY21.

FY21 stands for fiscal year 21, of which yesterday, June 30th, was the end of ICANN's fiscal year for 2021. It started July 1st 2020 and ran through June 30th 2021. So from our operating plan, which again, this is the FY22 plan, of which today is the first day of FY22, and this was Board adopted operating plan after public comment earlier in this calendar year.

The first one listed on the slide here and in the order of the operating plan is support the evolution of the root server system. This is listed—I've also notated the page number in the operating plan. So ICANN will continue to support and collaborate with key stakeholders to ensure the stable, secure and resilient—or SSR—operation of the DNS root zone for the global Internet community.

I do see a comment that the title in all the slides are with FY22. Yes. This is the FY22 operating plan, but we have had the same operating

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initiatives in FY21, so the green pillared slides are progression that we provided in several of our webinars. I hope that answers your question, Sébastien. And if there's any feedback or comments, please let us know. Go ahead, Victoria.

VICTORIA YANG:

Yes, I just want to say that the operating initiatives for five years, because the initiatives are derived from the five-year strategic plan, so strictly speaking, is fiscal year 22 to 26. One thing I want to mention is related to the duration of the strategic plan. So the operating initiatives are originally developed to four, 21 to 25. And therefore, the operating initiatives are planned to complete by fiscal year 25.

So for this particular slide, Sébastien, you're right. If we want to be really strict with the title, it should be 22 to 26 operating initiative. Becky mentioned we have four slides. The last two slides are basically the deliverables for particularly fiscal year 22.

BECKY NASH:

Thank you for that clarification. Yes. So I will ask the group, the process that we want to follow of reviewing each of these operating initiatives. I expect we can go through these two slides and then jump into the actual operating plan, if that makes sense. The operating plan has much more information about targeted outcomes, milestones, etc. Thank you, Holly, for confirming that.

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So we did just discuss about the first one listed on the slide. The order is just so that we can make reference to them, these are not actually numbered in any kind of priority or anything like that.

So I think that the SSR operation of the DNS, I hope makes sense. I've listed page 15, which is the five-year plan for that operating initiative. Then we have the facilitate improvements of the DNS ecosystem, and this particular operating initiative encompasses efforts to understand, document and improve the emergency readiness of ICANN and other actors in the DNS ecosystem. So that's very important and very strategic.

We also have and can share lists of how these operating initiatives map into the strategic plan. Just due to the short notice, I didn't have a chance to pull up that schedule, but that is also something that is in the plan, but we do have an Excel document in the event that that's also useful. So please feel free to make a note in the chat if that's something that's useful as well, as a quick cheat sheet perhaps.

So moving on, I think the next two are components of larger efforts that Holly and others have mentioned as very important to ALAC. So evolve and strengthen the multi-stakeholder model to facilitate diverse and inclusive participation in policymaking. So this initiative aims to ensure that participation in policy development work of ICANN's three supporting organizations and policy advice developed by the four advisory committees is globally representative. Again, the page numbers that are listed here are the actual page numbers for the five-year operating plan for FY22 through FY26.

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This is a very important initiative, and it is also then followed by a key initiative, involve and strengthen the ICANN community's decision making processes to ensure efficient and effective policymaking. This initiative focuses on the facilitation of more efficient, timely and effective policy development work by ICANN's SOs and ACs. Personnel support is provided for developing, documenting, implementing changes and improvements to community procedures and processes intended to reflect commitment to reaching consensus and effective policymaking.

I can pause here and see if there's anyone that wants to jump in at all to indicate that this is one that I have mentioned in addition to the fact that many of these efforts support enhancing the multi-stakeholder model. Sébastien, please.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you, Becky. Just to be sure to understand, what is the link between what we are talking about and the MSM discussion we have with the different components of this process where I guess it was outside of that? How it's linked with what is here? I don't know if I am clear, but there were three items that were taken among the seven or nine—I don't remember—the work we were doing with the community. Thank you.

BECKY NASH:

Yes. Thank you. I think on a preliminary basis, a way to look at this is that the operating initiatives—and again, as Victoria had explained, and it's useful perhaps that we provide background—that these were the major areas of work in the operating plan to support the five-year strategic

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plan. So in the five-year strategic plan, the improve the effectiveness of ICANN's multi-stakeholder model of governance is one of the strategic objectives.

From that, there was then an ICANN-originated effort as it relates to enhancing the multi-stakeholder model. There have also been community review recommendations that are also in line with several aspects of the multi-stakeholder model. And then we have the five-year operating initiatives, here specifically listed as three and four—and again, the numbering is not in any way a ranking—that then also support the strategic objectives.

So there are—and I think with Victoria jumping into the chat, so the two MSM-related operating initiatives are derived from the strategic objective, and then there's linkage both to Work Stream 2 and also to the MSM workplans. Please go ahead, Victoria.

VICTORIA YANG:

Yeah, so I want to elaborate a little bit. And I know there is a lot of linkage between Work Stream 2, these two operating initiatives you are looking at, and also, the multi-stakeholder model evolution workplan. Definitely, there's a lot of linkage. But for these two particular operating initiative, again, the history is once we have the strategic plan, so the ICANN executives get together and look at the strategic plan and were asking what specifically that we can do strategically to really deliver the strategic plan. And that's the result. These 15 operating initiatives were the result. Here are the key major work that we need to accomplish in order to deliver the strategic plan.



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So under the objective of ICANN's governance, we came up with three operating initiatives. These two related to the multi-stakeholder model, particularly on participation, and then decision making. Then the third one is the internal and external [ethics] policy. So these three are derived from ICANN's governance.

So Work Stream 2, of course, we all know there are eight categories of recommendations. Some of them are related to diversity and participation. But then that was before the development of 21 to 25, so again, shows how important it is as we brought it up during the development of 21 to 25 operating and financial plan.

Then the other one I want to mention is the multi-stakeholder model workplan. That was during the development of 21 to 25. So the operating initiatives were derived as what ICANN Org can do to deliver the strategic plan. At the same time, we were thinking the ICANN governance model needs to get community involvement, and that's where the multi-stakeholder model evaluation workplan was—Brian Cote was the initiative to that. We want the community to weigh in as well of how can we achieve this strategic objective. The workplan from the multi-stakeholder model was the output of that.

Right now, it's in implementation phase. It's somehow linked, but it's not equivalent to these two operating initiatives. Sébastien, your hand is up.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Yes. Thank you very much. I am not the only one in this group to be both in Work Stream 2 and ATRT3 shepherd, but I have the feeling that—no, I have a question. How you include in this work what was done in ATRT3

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and how the priority set up within ATRT3 team and the recommendations are taken into account?

VICTORIA YANG:

I'm sure Becky has way more to elaborate on the prioritization, but before I give her the floor, so during the development of 21 to 25 operating plan, which was when this operating initiative was developed and ATRT3 was still under review process. At that time, we didn't have the final recommendations yet.

Having said that, the prioritization recommendation somehow is linked—if we go to the next page on this PowerPoint—with the planning at ICANN operating initiatives, that the planning team currently is working on a prioritization framework. That is in the scope of planning at ICANN operating initiative. Yeah, the timing is not completely aligned. When we developed the operating initiative—and these 15 operating initiatives went for public comment in 2019, around May, June-ish if you recall, before we finalized the draft 21 to 21 operating plan. So those initiatives were already taking place before ATRT3 is finalized.

BECKY NASH:

Thank you very much, Victoria, and thank you, Sébastien, for that question. It's a very important one. So essentially, after the five-year strategic plan was adopted by the ICANN Board, the main objective was to then prepare a five-year operating plan along with the five-year financial plan, and that is a standalone plan that then gets reviewed subject for public comment and then also adopted by the Board along

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with the fiscal year operating plan, which will be just one of the five years, so the immediate five years, plus the annual budget.

And each year, when we put the plans out for public comment, that's where the operating initiatives are—basically, the workplans for the operating initiatives are again published for public comment. I know for FY22, obviously, we were coming out of a year that was unlike any other with the impact of the global pandemic, but I do hope that it's clear that these are included and subject to public comment each year.

And your questions are very good in the respect that we will be covering the operating initiatives as it relates to planning at ICANN, but at the time of the FY22, the draft and public comment, the ATRT3 review recommendations had not been Board adopted as of yet and they have not yet been prioritized as part of the process for prioritization for implementation. I'll just let you indicate if that's a response that—if you have any other comment on that or not, Sébastien.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

No. Thank you for your answer. I just want to say to my colleague from At-Large that it's something we need to discuss, because when ATRT3 came with proposal, we can't wait for one year to have this included in the work of ICANN. Therefore, I would like to put that into deliberation when we will discuss about ATRT3. But yes, thank you for your answer and I totally understand where you come from and how you are doing that. No problem. Thank you once again for your answer. Both very interesting.

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BECKY NASH: Thank you very much. And I will say that at the end of our time—which I'm actually not sure how much time we have, if someone could put that in the chat for us—I do want to make a request to this group, to Holly, about coming back and talking about the planning prioritization, and one of the consultations is also with the ATRT3 shepherds. So we are also going to be making that request as it pertains to planning prioritization.

HOLLY RAICHE: Thanks, Becky. Why don't you proceed? And I think the agenda for this meeting just has been radically altered because we'd like to talk about the operating initiatives, and from where I sit, We're not going to have time to look at the actual poll that we did amongst this group. So I think we're going to have to delay the poll for the next meeting, but that's going to be in light of this discussion about each of these initiatives. So at the end of this presentation—and we've got 15 minutes more—how we can talk about initiatives in the context of the upcoming budget and how that will fit in, but got another 15 minutes and so go ahead. Thank you.

BECKY NASH: Thank you very much. Okay, so as of right now then, we are looking at line number five which is develop internal and external ethics policies. Victoria did provide linkage from that to the governance aspect of the strategic plan. And so hopefully, the description—which is the purpose—and again on page 32 for the five-year plan—is focusing on

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the development of ethics policies to guide behavior between ICANN Org and the community. Is there another hand up? I'm sorry.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Cheryl's hand is up. Thank you. Okay, Cheryl's comment to you, "Let Becky complete," So we'll take comments after you finish your discussion of the initiatives.

BECKY NASH:

Okay. Just moving down the list here, the next one is promote and sustain a competitive environment in the domain name system, DNS. And this one is the initiative that encompasses activities in support of a competitive environment in the DNS marketplace, which includes preparation for the launch of additional rounds of new gTLDs, applying knowledge gained through the implementation of the 2012 round, and subsequent reviews aimed at evaluating different aspects of the program.

I think we often call that SubPro, but it's a subsequent round. So I'll stop here. Cheryl, would you like to go ahead?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Thanks very much. Well, of course, I'd like to contemplate aspects of subsequent procedures as well, but my hand was actually up with regards to your previous point. So just pin me to the board. I'm sure Holly will remember to come back to me later. We'll loop back.

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HOLLY RAICHE: Yeah, Becky, go ahead. We're really pressed for time, so if we just continue, leave about five minutes for questions, and then we can get on to the next item.

BECKY NASH: Okay, so the next operating initiative is universal acceptance, and we do have a slightly different name in the plan for that that encompasses more, but that is ICANN Org's universal acceptance efforts to ensure that Internet applications and systems treat all TLDs in all scripts and email addresses based on those domains in a consistent manner. So universal acceptance promotes consumer choice and provides broader access to end users.

The next one, here is the root zone management evolution, and this is the initiative that supports the continued advancement of the technology platform used to provide root zone management services. This system manages the workflow of change requests from customers, automates many aspects of the processing and ensures quality, accuracy and timeliness of the process. And this is considered IANA functions-related.

The next page has, at the top, the operating initiative, evaluate, align and facilitate improved engagement in the Internet ecosystem. And this is focused really on the mission of a single global interoperable Internet and ICANN plans or plans out to identify where governmental and intergovernmental discussions and initiatives are taking place to determine where ICANN has or should engage to address these initiatives. So this is really related to the governmental and engagement

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team, and again, listing page 44 in the plan that has the entire five-year operating plan.

The next one is through targeted engagement to improve governmental and intergovernmental organization engagement and participation in ICANN. So this focuses on two main areas of working with governments and IGOs engaged with ICANN, and in the policy development process through the GAC and more broadly working with governments and IGOs on issues beyond those being addressed through policy development processes.

Very good point. So we have a question from Judith about the difference between nine and ten. And it is really related to aspects of the work that is supporting the strategic plan. And I'll let Victoria come in on that.

VICTORIA YANG:

In simple words, nine is really about to look at who are we engaging currently with government and intergovernmental organizations, and evaluate, are we being effective engaging with these people? Should we engage with any other people to make sure that we are sitting at the right state when it comes to regulation and policy discussion that impact ICANN's mission?

It's really to kind of sit back and look at the [pool] of governmental and intergovernmental engagement and are we engaging with the right person, evaluate and make decision.

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Number ten is more specifically focused on GAC and IGO of how to improve the effectiveness of their participation either through capacity building or more training, more engagement. So that is more specific.

BECKY NASH:

And we have a follow-up question just about 11, because that is also with our GE.

VICTORIA YANG:

Sure. 11 is really started with GDPR and with that, we have decided we really need to monitor all the legislation and the regulations that can impact us. So we started that actually in 2018 as here mentioned, but at that time, it's really more manual and maybe—I'm just giving examples—on spreadsheets. And right now, we want to be more effective. We have to develop a process of within Org and community and Board, who and how are we collecting this data, and at what level we should escalate, at what level we should do a case study, at what level we should alert and really start taking actions and doing some mitigations?

So it's really to develop this process so that we can make sure the right parties get involved at the right time throughout this process, and also we're evaluating, should we put this process in a system so that rather than manually or tracking with Excel, we are using a system so that we can be more effective and efficient, and of course, also report out.

Right now, our GE department, this functional team has report published on ICANN.org. It's the best way for now, and how can we



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evolve and improve? So it's basically everything related to this monitoring and the process, how can we make it more efficient and robust?

BECKY NASH:

Thank you, Victoria, and thank you, Judith, for that question. And I want to just again highlight that we do have linkage to the strategic plan, so of course, one of the strategic objectives for the adopted FY21 through FY25 is address geopolitical issues impacting ICANN's mission to ensure a single and global interoperable Internet. And I will highlight that this group or ALAC and other community groups participated in this year's FY23 planning strategic outlook trends identification, and the strategic plan was based on what was brought up as strategic trends back before that development, and then we had that process again last year, a bit limited because of the onset of the global pandemic, and then earlier this year, we had again the strategic objectives. And it's very interesting to see the evolution of those trends as it relates to the areas of strategic planning. So those three operating initiatives, again, are in support of the strategic objective that we just discussed.

Quickly moving on, the next few are quite interesting and might be a little bit easier and quicker for me to run through so that we can get to questions. Number 12 on this list is formalize ICANN's funding model and improve understanding of the long-term domain name marketplace drivers, and this is initiative to ensure ICANN's long-term financial sustainability in the strategic objectives and is all related to analyzing the funding model within the context of the marketplace and the key here is to provide a solid foundation for the future funding projections.

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And this of course had a lot of attention as the global pandemic started just because ICANN Org was not sure what the impact was going to be. And as we have seen in our webinars from the financial forecasts, we definitely do feel that we have long-term financial sustainability.

Number 13 is implement new gTLD auction proceeds recommendations as approved by the Board. This operating initiative of course is related to the cross-community working group on the new gTLD auction proceeds, and that initiative along with the SubPro one on the previous page, we consider self-funded, because they basically have different sources of funding but they are in support of the strategic planning, strategic objectives.

Number 14, that is us. This is planning at ICANN. So this is an operating initiatives that the Org planning department leads as it relates to the fact that careful planning of ICANN's activities of course helps safeguard ICANN's long-term financial sustainability and to ensure that ICANN Org is accountable to the public in its stewardship of ICANN's mission.

So this encompasses ICANN Org's planning activities. And within the operating plan noted on page 59, we have several areas regarding planning, but one of them is the planning prioritization framework as part of the annual planning cycle. And that is the project that also is in support of many other initiatives that are focused on prioritization but it is a project that we would like very much to come and have some time. And I will make my request to Holly again that we may want more of a workshop discussion because it is a very involved project.

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The last one here is ICANN's reserves. This is in support of the long-term financial sustainability, and I know many in this group have been active in support of the reserve fund replenishment strategy that was started several years ago and it's important that ICANN Org is accountable to the public, again, in its stewardship of ICANN's mission and public funds, and that ICANN's reserves must be continuously set, reached and maintained consistent with the complexity and risks of ICANN's environment.

And we have shared in public webinars that the reserve fund replenishment has reached the minimum threshold that was set out during that reserve fund replenishment strategy that I know many of your members participated in commenting on. But it is something that we make sure that we monitor to ensure that ICANN has adequate reserves in addition to managing investments and cash on hand in support of long-term financial sustainability.

Okay. So that gives the overview of the operating initiatives. And I guess I will stop here and ask Holly if we want to go into any more slides or stop here with some Q&A, and whether or not this was helpful in the context of what your working group is trying to accomplish.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Yes, it was very helpful. We're absolutely running out of time. I think probably the best thing now, I've got a question not about this but about planning for—our group normally starts to comment on budgeting processes. So, when do you actually start on looking for public comment for FY22-23, the next budget?

BECKY NASH: Thank you very much. And I will let Victoria comment on the timeline for our FY23 planning process. Victoria, if we can highlight IANA functions and overall ICANN, that would be great.

HOLLY RAICHE: Yeah. Just quickly. I just want to know when we can actually look for us starting to discuss. Is that July, August, whatever?

BECKY NASH: Thank you for your question. And the public comment period for the IANA functions based on the recommendations from the [USG] transition process starts earlier than total ICANN, and the public comment dates—Victoria, can you remind me of when that goes out for public comment?

VICTORIA YANG: Early September.

HOLLY RAICHE: Okay. Thank you. That's fine.

BECKY NASH: And that's the first step, Holly. And prior, we will have a webinar specifically on the operating plan priorities for IANA functions, and we will make sure to advertise that in all time zones, thinking that I know

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Cheryl has always reminded us to make sure that we are time zone friendly. So there'll be two webinars, which I think are in late July, just as we start to do the drafting of the operating plan, and then the public comment for IANA functions is in September and the public comment for ICANN overall which will include all these operating initiatives and functional activities, that is scheduled to go out in early to mid-December. So a little bit earlier than last year, if you're using last year's timeline at all. And we will have a webinar prior to the year end holiday season across many global locations.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Okay. Well, what we can put in our schedule is for late July looking to a webinar for a meeting, which gives us, since we meet every other week, we've got another meeting to spend on the operating initiatives. But then what I would like is after that, in later July, would be the webinar. So I'm just mentally thinking about that.

Okay, I think we've got ten minutes for questions on the operating initiatives. Actually, do you think it's more useful in terms of understanding the initiatives to do your next two slides, or do you want questions now?

BECKY NASH:

I'm very flexible, if that was directed to me, Holly. We did make the slides available. But this gives examples of milestones by operating initiatives.

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HOLLY RAICHE:

Becky, why don't we do questions now? And then if we have time, we'll go back to the highlights. Are there any questions at this stage? I think we've run out of questions. So you've got about five minutes for this, and then we can just—I want to save about five minutes for Sébastien's item at the end. And the next meeting, we'll actually go to the outcomes of the polls. So go ahead. This looks very interesting. Thank you.

BECKY NASH:

Thank you very much, Holly. On this slide, we have some highlights of progression on the operating initiatives. So I think, again, we received the feedback—and thank you very much, Sébastien, earlier—about the fact that this is the five-year plan, and then the phasing of the activities for these operating initiatives is always under review and discussion. Again, this is major work to support the strategic objectives in the five-year strategic plan.

So I'll just highlight a couple of items here where we have the—support the evolution of the root server. So this is where a prototype of a root server system monitoring system, set up root zone distribution services, and then other milestones, I don't know if we want to go one by one or if there's anything that anybody has a question about, but this just is what we used to discuss work within the action plans or operating plans that were highlighted.

In some cases, it's what we plan to do as the milestone, and some of it is actually some of the steps that have been taken.

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HOLLY RAICHE: Okay. Do we have any further questions on this? Because I think this is something we can read and then come back to you with questions, I think. I don't see any hands up, so actually, Cheryl, you wanted to have a question at the end.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Yeah, I think you can leave Sébastien sufficient time for his interventions on a different topic rather than waste your time with me. Thank you.

HOLLY RAICHE: I wouldn't call it wasting time. Any other questions on this? Because this has been very useful and I would ask either Claudia or Devan to—these slides will be available on the website, on our meeting, so in talking about the operating initiatives, if you don't mind, Becky, these would be very useful slides for us to have in our own little library to look at and understand. And if there are any further questions, can we come back to you with the questions?

BECKY NASH: Yes. Absolutely. Our team, which includes myself and Victoria and Nathalie and the finance team, absolutely, you can come back to me. And what I also wanted to highlight, Holly, is that I know that part of the ranking is that process which we want to be here to support this group as well as other committees and other groups, that we did notice that there is a discussion about the operating initiatives, but then also our functional activities. And the functional activities, as a reminder, those are functions and departments, and that's not as easy, subject to, say, a

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ranking. You could have a level of interest, but it's a lot different. So we're really happy to see that you're focusing on the operating initiatives, again, which is the major work to support the strategic objectives and the strategic plan.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Well, I'm very glad to hear that. Thank you. So we've honed in on exactly the right thing to understand and then to prioritize amongst ourselves. But this has been a very helpful session, thank you very much. And for anyone with questions and whatever, the slides will be on the agenda and please, ask—well, Becky, can people ask you directly? Can people email you with any further questions they have? Or I'm happy to take them and then just send you a bunch of questions if you think that works better.

BECKY NASH:

We do have an e-mail that I suggest also be copied, which is [planning@icann.org](mailto:planning@icann.org). But [beckynash@icann.org](mailto:beckynash@icann.org) absolutely on copy, and we will collect those up. We really thank you for having us here today. This is really important as part of our efforts of planning. And then as I said separately, we would like to have a workshop and we will have public webinars on brainstorming about our planning prioritization framework. And I will definitely send you a note, Holly, about that.

HOLLY RAICHE:

That would be very helpful. Thank you very much. And this has been very useful. Thank you, Becky, and thank you, Victoria. Sébastien, over



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to you. We're going to skip over an agenda item because we've absolutely run out of time, but the next meeting will be the result of the poll and our working through what is important to ALAC based on the poll and discussions. So that'll be the next meeting. But in the meantime, the final item which I've asked Sébastien to do, for those of you who attended the last two meetings, we've had Steve DelBianco who pointed to a recommendation on the ATRT3 which was a call for the holistic review.

Could we bring up the slides that Steven did to explain simply what the holistic review was about? And I've asked Sébastien because there was interest in the group to follow through with that, and I've asked Sébastien just to briefly say what are the next steps in terms of, does ALAC as a whole want to pursue this? And what do we do if we do want to pursue it? So Sébastien, if you have some final thoughts on the holistic review, I'd very much appreciate it. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Yes. Thank you very much, Holly. I don't have specificity, but I feel that it was very good to have Steve coming to us and pushing for that. As you know, the team of the shepherds of ATRT3, half of them is people from At-Large, and when I say half, it's just when you count the people. But when you count the people working, I may say that we are 100%, more or less.

And that's something very important for all of us four this item, and we would like really to have further support of this group and then the support of ALAC and of At-Large. And at the same time, we need to

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convince other groups to move ahead. That's good that we have the BC, but I try or we try to push the GAC to understand in more detail what we are looking for. It's important to have them. And maybe we need to go to other group to do the same. But I will say, first, we, the four of us—I didn't ask them, but I guess I can talk on behalf of four of us. We need your support. Like that, it would be easier for us to go and not to say just we four of us from the ATRT3, we think, but we as representatives of ALAC and At-Large would like to push this idea.

One of the reasons, after what we hear now is that—and I feel it's important—what is outside of ATRT3 can't wait for one year. One of the proposals was the holistic review. The holistic review was supposed, in our mind, to be set up for the end of this calendar year. Therefore, it's in-between of the fiscal year. Therefore, if we have to wait for June, that's a pity. And when you look to the decision of the Board, it's not to implement the proposal, the recommendation of ATRT3, it's to do pilot and they say a pilot, but we can't do that in the time frame you suggest. That means it's far from the suggestion or the recommendation, and it Work Stream a high-level priority for ATRT3 to do that. Therefore, we need to struggle and discuss first with the Board and the other components of the community to push for that and to see how we can implement that as soon as possible, even if it's not yet into the operating plan for the year starting today.

I hope it's clear, and if not, I am sure that Cheryl will help me to be more clear. Thank you very much.

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HOLLY RAICHE:

Thank you, Sébastien. Maureen, I have a question for you as chair of ALAC. There's support within the OFB working group for pursuing further the idea of a holistic review, but how do you propose we get ALAC's support and develop actions?

One of the actions that came out of the Steve DelBianco meetings was to lobby to include in the budget—and this is where we come in—make sure that there's funding for a holistic review pilot. But we need to see what else we need to do, because what Sébastien is talking about is also seeking support from the other SOs, ACs.

So, could this be an agenda item for the next ALAC meeting, Maureen? If she's still here. Yes. Maureen, are you muted? You are. Okay. Sébastien, it's on the agenda item for the next ALAC meeting, and in that time, what we'll have to do is think of what we suggest. Silvia, yes, ATRT3 holistic review to be included in the agenda item. That's fine.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Thank you.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Do we have any further questions or comments before I say that the meeting is closed? Because the next meeting, which should be in a fortnight, I would like to spend almost the whole of the meeting looking at the result of the poll, which I took which is people's priorities for the 15 operating initiatives and how we move forward with that. I think we can talk about the holistic review in the context of ALAC, so that's fine.

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And then the next July meeting will also probably be a webinar, which is the beginning of the planning process.

So next steps for holistic review, what we have now is a discussion by ALAC generally, and the next call is the same time in two weeks. Silvia, if that's okay.

Now, is there Any Other Business before we adjourn and come back in two weeks' time to just focus completely on the poll now that we've had the briefing about the operating initiatives? And we will have the operating initiatives slides that Becky has used, they'll be on the agenda so that's available.

Are there any final comments before I wish you all a ...? Sébastien, go ahead, please.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Just one point. I don't know when is the next ALAC meeting, but I am concerned about the fact that we have one opportunity to discuss part of this with the Board on the 8th of July in one week. And I don't know how Maureen and you want to struggle with that, but I feel that we may not lose this opportunity, not spend one hour to discuss with them but maybe to say a few words that we are concerned or interested, or whatever word we want to take about this topic, and we would like to follow up with the Board. And maybe as for other topic, we can have a specific discussion with the Board after the ALAC meeting. But that's some ideas. It's in your hands, both Holly and Maureen. Thank you.

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HOLLY RAICHE: Thank you for the suggestion, Sébastien. Maureen, you and I shall talk about that offline. Thank you. Are there any other questions or comments, or Any Other Business? No? Okay. If not, well, I will thank everybody for their time, particularly thank Becky and Victoria. And Silvia, the next meeting will be in two weeks' time, same time.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yeah. Same time, same day, subject to confirmation by our staff that is managing the calendar, but it should be okay.

HOLLY RAICHE: Good. Thank you very much. And thank you all for your time. We will talk again in two weeks. Have a good morning, good afternoon, good evening. Thank you very much.

DEVAN REED: Thank you, everyone. Bye.

**[END OF TRANSCRIPT]**