YESIM SAGLAM:	Good morning, good afternoon, good evening to everyone. Welcome to the APRALO mentorship call taking place on Tuesday 16th of November 2021 at 6:00 UTC.

On our call today, we have Lianna Galstyan, Satish Babu, Amrita Choudhury, Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Maureen Hilyard, Le Yang Joy, and Priyatosh Jana.

We have received apologies from Ali Almeshal.

From staff's side, we have Gisella Gruber and myself, Yesim Saglam and I'll also be doing call management on today's call.

Before we get started, just a kind reminder to please state your names before speaking for the transcription purposes, please. With this, I would like to leave the floor back over to you, Lianna. Thanks so much.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:	Thanks, Yesim. Amrita for the record. So we've planned a very informal update call with all the mentees. Thank you so much for all those who are here. The mentors, Maureen, Cheryl, Satish, Amir for being here, and obviously, the mentees, Le Yang, Priyatosh for being here.

The reason we wanted to have this call is just to have a recap on how your journey has been through ICANN 72 in case you've been able to attend any of the sessions. What you liked, what you did not liked, and what help you want from our end. And also, Lianna and I were thinking that APRALO is planning an ICANN 72 readout, and based upon if you

have attended any session, you liked it, if you would want to present as mentees in the session. So these are certain things that you wanted to discuss, and also have conversation as to what is the kind of support you're looking at from our end, how would you want the mentorship to be much more meaningful for you so that we all can support you in that way. And then obviously at the end, we will share what we want from all of you. We would have loved to see all the mentees here because you see the leadership team is super excited to help, and you can see from the number of participants from the leadership that everyone is excited to be helping to groom the next generation leaders. And if mentees also can kind of reciprocate that, it is great. I will pass it on to Lianna now.

LIANNA GALSTYAN: Thank you, Amrita. Basically, Amrita covered what we wanted and planned, but here's the time for our mentees to start and share their experience, because after the first ICANN meeting that you [inaudible], it was online for many of you for the first time, that's the virtual meeting and it has its own challenges, especially given the time zone challenge for our region. So we would like to see and share about what sessions you attended, how was your journey as you've started. So I will give the floor to you and your experience. Then we will come back. Basically, this is not that much a formal meeting. We want to hear and talk to you. So please step in and say your [inaudible]. Thank you. Le Yang or Priyatosh, whoever wants to go first.

LE YANG JOY:

Thank you all. And maybe [inaudible] actually, I come from China and my Chinese name is [inaudible] So it's like [inaudible]. That's okay. You can also call me Joy.

So this is the second time we have the virtual meeting. I think before, two months ago or [inaudible] months, we have the meeting, and [thanks] all of our mentors. After the meeting, I sent an e-mail to Lianna or [inaudible] because you sent out some resources, ICANN courses or the ISOC courses, and I learned some about that.

I don't know why, maybe the e-mail escaped. I think that is two weeks or three weeks ago that Lianna responded to me and I got some information from that. But for the ICANN 70 or 72, actually now I've not attended so much of the activities. And my question is about—I know ICANN 72 maybe had a lot of activities. I don't know how to focus about that. Or should we have some of the others like WhatsApp or more convenient message tools to deal with our mentors?

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thanks, Le Yang. Apologies that you didn't get the response earlier. So we also wanted to ask a question to all of you as to what is the mode in which you would want to communicate. Do you want to do it over WhatsApp, Signal, Skype if mails don't work so much for you? Of course, mail is primary. So we'd like to hear from you on that, but coming back to your question, what I could understand is you were not able to attend most of the ICANN 72 meeting. The best part is all these sessions are available, the recordings are available. So if you want to hear the recording, they are all available and we can share those links with you

so that you can go through them, depending on the topic you are interested in. I hope that helps for you to kind of understand what discussions are going on. I'm sure the mentors like Maureen, Cheryl, Satish, Amir would share more on this. But thank you for the feedback and we'll see how we can improve the communication. Priyatosh, do you want to share if you have gone through any of the ICANN 72 sessions and what you liked, what you didn't? I guess she has an issue. So Maureen or Cheryl or Satish or Amir—yes, Cheryl, please go ahead.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you, Amrita. Joy, my question back to you so I can be sure I understand, is it that what you would like to have had happen before ICANN 72 is an interaction with one of the mentors to perhaps go through the different sessions that were on offer—so register and log on to the meetings website, look at the schedules, go through the schedules with someone and discuss with them what they are actually about, what might happen in them and help you decide what you may or may not be interested in? Is that what you were seeking?

LE YANG JOY: Yeah.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Okay. So if that's what you're seeking—and we can only apologize that that didn't happen before ICANN 72 to make your job easier—we can certainly make sure that that happens as we go to ICANN 73, because ICANN 73 is also going to be fully virtual. So it might be, for example,

also an interesting thing for you to perhaps even join—I know this might sound a little bit like jumping into the deep end of a pond and hoping you can swim, but we have a group that gathers to help organize what the At-Large activities are in and around any ICANN meeting. Maureen runs it. I'm there, others are there. Perhaps it might be interesting for you to speak to Gisella and Maureen and join that group. We're not going to make you do anything terrible, don't worry. But just to experience what goes into putting a meeting together. And you'll also start to understand what the different types of activities are and will be there, and that'll get you comfortable. But it'll also mean that you'll have Maureen and others from that group that you can discuss when you're looking at what you can commit any of your valuable time to attending during ICANN 73. If you agree to that, I'm going to suggest that that's a way we could make our poor performance as mentors a better one as we go forward.

LE YANG JOY: Thank you so much. And one more question I would ask is, each of you, the mentors, you have the [focus topic] about ICANN 72? Because if you have the topic [inaudible] maybe I can communicate with you and maybe you can [get me to participate] in the discussion or something like that. Is that [inaudible]?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Well, certainly, if we know, as your mentors—and I'm not actually a mentor, I'm just here to help the mentors do the best job they can— what the mentors can do is especially that you know and they know

what you're going to be attending, when they will attend those meetings when possible. And you can always chat—if not through the actual Zoom platform that ICANN is running, but with Signal or WhatsApp or whatever we choose to use.

And you can ask a question and they can say, "Oh, this means that," or, "Yes, ask that of the speaker." It just gives you the confidence to engage, because that's what we're trying to do, help you find your pathway to get what you need out of the experience as an active APRALO member.

I'm going to suggest, Gisella, that we rope Joy into the group as a junior [staff] assistant and Maureen and I will help her along and we'll make sure that things don't fall through the cracks as we go to ICANN 73.

LE YANG JOY: Okay, because for me, maybe I'm interested [inaudible] the privacy or the data governance, Internet governance, some topic of that. So I want to search that topic closely.

LIANNA GALSTYAN: Thank you. I'd like to jump in, Satish, before giving you the floor. Please do reach out to us. Me and Amrita, we are very open to discuss what you are interested in, which topic and which session everything ... So we are just waiting for you to interact with us, and then [we want that] and we are ready to help you with any of your interest of topic, discussion, working group, how you get engaged, etc. We know this stuff, we can help you with it. But what we need is your interest, and from your side

to come to us. So certainly, any communication method, you mentioned the e-mail somehow that's stuck, probably in a spam box, etc. Busy times, etc.

That's why we're suggesting to have an alternative messaging means. We suggested that several times. Please just say. We can put that in the chat right now that we are here, we can have [an alternative] way of communication and then [you can find this instant messaging.] But just to know that we are here to help, and you do not have to wait for another two, three weeks to send another message. Even if it's a short one, we can have this short call, short talk, and then to guide you. You said that you have taken some courses, learning of ISOC and different ones. I'd like to hear about that as well, but probably a bit later. Let's give Satish the floor.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: [inaudible] Lianna, perhaps as Cheryl mentioned, when we are looking at things from APRALO or At-Large, we're looking at issues which are related to end users and others from the ICANN's perspective, which is limited to the domain name system. So certain parts of data privacy, etc. does come into the remit of ICANN, but most of it doesn't. So whatever was discussed at ICANN would be within its remit. So that's one. And perhaps you missed the last call we had, Le Yang, and that's why what I could gather is you're still not too sure about what you can expect from the mentorship program. So perhaps over the e-mail, you can share your number and we will try to create a WhatsApp group to have more communication. I think that would help. Satish, over to you.

SATISH BABU:	A couple of points. First is that the usual way we look at ICANN meetings, especially if you're a newcomer, is that you'd like to get a big picture in general and then more detailed information on the subject of your choice or your expertise.
	Now, the point regarding ICANN 72, not all is lost, because what follows an ICANN meeting usually are multiple readouts. Readouts are important because they give you the big picture, they provide the handholding required. I'm aware that APAC Space is planning a readout, but APRALO is also planning some kind of a readout.
	The APRALO readout is still in the planning stages. We would like to ensure that the fellows are involved directly, which means maybe the mentors will discuss with you and provide a role for you during the readouts. We're aware that you're newcomers, so obviously, the depth of information you have may not be all that much. But that's okay. The point is to get you involved. So the mentors will be in touch with you to see how you can be [inaudible] in with the other experts who will provide of course very authentic information, but you'll also have a role in that, maybe to challenge or critique these inputs on the experts, or in some other form. Thank you.
LIANNA GALSTYAN:	Thank you, Satish. And here, we're just starting this communication, collecting the numbers and interaction. It's kind of hard to start the ball running, but then once we have it, I'm sure we will have a great experience and excitement with all of us. And yes, with the readout, we

are planning to have the ICANN 72 readout, and we [inaudible] want to see our mentees playing a great role in this, so we will probably challenge you. So wait for us to come back to you and let's plan that together, because we want your voice to be heard in ICANN, APRALO meetings and this readout and the other sessions as well.

Okay, Amrita has already created a WhatsApp group. Thank you. Let's see what courses you've taken. Perhaps you can share that and we will see your interest in this. And if you have any questions on this, any challenges, what you have faced with these acronyms, etc. what is the challenging world of ICANN for you? And we can help you. Priyatosh, if you want a dial out, we can ask the staff to organize it. If you're fine, please put that in your chat because we'd like to hear from you too. Joy, would you like to [inaudible] your Learn courses?

LE YANG JOY: I'm just joining the WhatsApp group. How about I introduce some of myself? Then maybe you can know more about me and maybe I can ask you some questions.

LIANNA GALSTYAN: As you feel more comfortable. Yes, go ahead. Then again, just don't forget about these courses that you have taken, because you mentioned the ISOC or the ICANN one. I would like to hear of your interests in this way and your experience, if you managed to do or if you have some problems registering or going ... Just some feedback on those courses, and we'll see how we can help you.

LE YANG JOY: Okay. Actually, I use ICANN Course more than three years ago, and I learned most but not all of the courses. Now I'm a PhD student in the [inaudible] university in China. When I was a master's student, we had a course called cyberspace governance. That's a new course. I was introduced to some of the [inaudible] in China, how the Internet governance or cyberspace governance in China.

I think in 2017, the university, some of our university, we have set up new courses. Some of that is Internet governance or some courses are cyberspace governance. My master's degree is a major in the international relations. So at that time, the professor gave [courses in] cyberspace governance. At that time, I knew ICANN. The teacher said ICANN is a platform for us to learn what is the Internet or what is multi-stakeholder approach, how to govern the Internet.

So at that time, I participated in ICANN courses, and I still remember, these courses were basic ones for us to learn what is Internet and what is the multi-stakeholder approach, what is multi-stakeholder model.

So after that, now I'm more interested in Internet governance, how governance—is some things about national strategy or the national action in the cyberspace. I focus on the [inaudible] in the United Nations process, how [inaudible] behavior in the cyberspace. This is what I'm most interested in. And [inaudible] is about data privacy or data protection. So now I'm in the school of journalism and communication in the [inaudible] university, and my advisor, [inaudible] some research related to the Internet or the cyberspace governance almost ten years.

So we want to do some of the theoretical research about that. And for me, what I want to learn from the ICANN is first, the new stations in the world, how the other countries or different sectors provide the plans or the actions to [inaudible] data protection and data privacy. And another one is content governance. That is more related to the journalism and the communication topics.

Also, two weeks ago, I finished a paper about the [content] governance between the US and China, the different models, structures how China and the US do the [content] governance. So this is what I focused on recently. The national behavior in the cyberspace and the data privacy, data protection and the [content] governance is what I'm most interested in the Internet governance, and how the ICANN process, the multi-stakeholder model works, is also what I want to learn. [inaudible].

LIANNA GALSTYAN: Thank you, Le Yang. Yeah, it's impressive that you're working a lot, trying to understand the cyber norms and what is happening in all those discussions and dialogs in [inaudible] and the others. So I'm sure you must have looked at ICANN world and what ICANN does. So ICANN doesn't look at the content layer at all. It is not in ICANN's mandate. So anything related to content, misinformation, disinformation or content flow is not under ICANN's remit.

Now, even when we are talking about data protection in ICANN, it is limited only to the WHOIS data or the data of people who have bought domain names and addresses, or even the IP numbers. So it is not, I

would say, the complete data, the kind of data which we normally talk about. That is not so much in ICANN's remit.

Cybersecurity is because network security is important or the DNS security is important, and that is why the At-Large has been very involved in issues, capacity building of DNS abuse, etc. But if you're looking at cyber norms, no, we are not into cyber norms. We are not into multilateral discussions. It is plainly to do with domain names and numbers.

So perhaps you can go and visit ICANN's website a bit more of what ICANN does and doesn't do. There are papers regularly coming out from the office of the CTO called OCTO papers. You can possibly look at them. There are various papers which come out based on certain, I would say, policy discussions which are happening globally that may be of your interest. Perhaps go have a look at what ICANN does and then you'll be able to understand what ICANN doesn't do. And perhaps now that we are creating a group, we can look and discuss what are your interests, and possibly then look at one of our colleauges—we've got many colleauges who can help you and guide you in that. Maureen, Cheryl, anyone who wants to add more on this if I'm going wrong somewhere.

LE YANG JOY: Thank you. But actually, I still remember the ICANN—I don't know which [inaudible] I think ICANN follows [inaudible] process. I remember I read some documents from the ICANN how the ICANN will follow the [inaudible]. But I forgot which [inaudible].

LIANNA GALSTYAN:	Let me clarify if I've not phrased it well. As an organization, ICANN follows the rule of the land wherever it works. However, it is a California-based entity following US laws. But ICANN follows the various global developments. But I don't think ICANN is part of [UNGG] because that is a multilateral process. It is governments who decide the [UNGG] processes. ICANN would be following most of the discussions which are happening globally on Internet and digital policies which may affect it.
	ICANN also goes to ITU and most of these meetings, even the UN meetings, but it is not directly involved into it. That's my knowledge. I may be wrong.
LE YANG JOY:	Yeah. I didn't say that ICANN participated in [UNGG.] I also know that national plan [inaudible] participate in that. But it's like the policy department or something like that, they just focus their interest in that, so they give the documents about—update the situations how the [UNGG and OEWG] happen or the process, update the information. [It's not that ICANN participates.] Yeah, I know what you mean.
LIANNA GALSTYAN:	Excellent, Joy. It's good to see your large interest of the cybersecurity and all the other Internet governance topics. But here in ICANN and APRALO, we are kind of focused on policy development within ICANN with all these domain names, the gTLD, ccTLD and all the policies being developed, and that can actually have its impact on the end users and domain name registrants. So that's our interest within the At-Large. So let's focus on this, and I'm sure you can have this very interesting for

your research as well, because as mentioned, DNS abuse, etc., that goes directly with the cyber issues and the users, the domain name [registrants.] So we can find all of your interests and there are other working groups that you can attend and see. We can find a place for you and your interest.

But as Cheryl mentioned, before jumping to the lake, you need to learn to swim. So we can start from the beginning, from just a very basic capacity building, these Learn courses, just to be sure that you know about this policymaking process, about these procedures, this multistakeholder participation. It's not only the model but actually participating through these working groups. You would learn how the process is being developed. This is truly an amazing experience, to see how people bring their opinions and how the policy being developed by help of all of us who are in this group. This is very interesting.

And I would still recommend you to go to ICANN Learn courses as basically Maureen and Cheryl mentioned in the chat also that from the last time you visited there from three years ago, there are many new courses, and actually, they put a lot of effort to bring new and updated information. That would be really good for you to go. And that goes not only to you, Joy, but to all of our mentees.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Lianna, just to add, perhaps we can suggest—there is a policy group which discusses things in At-Large. There is a mailing list called CPWG. Perhaps you can join that group and attend the meeting. They have meeting once every week which the time is rotated. You can join that

mailing group, see what is being discussed, and even kind of participate there, because most of the policy issues which ICANN is today discussing or may be of ICANN's interest, is being discussed in CPWG. Gisella has shared the link in the chat. Perhaps you may want to join this group if you have not done that.

LIANNA GALSTYAN: Yes, that's a very good suggestion, and I would recommend and encourage you all to go to this link and just join the mailing list and then join these weekly meetings, even if it's not that regular, but you would learn how the policy is developed and what discussions in various groups are about, and you would see how you can participate and fit in these discussions, because there are so many aspects of how the policy is being done with various community groups.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: And also, we have Justine from APRALO who is mentoring or helping new penholders in drafting policies in the policy group which we have in APRALO. So perhaps once you join CPWG mailing list, if you're interested, look at it. You can also join the APRALO group, and Justine may be able to help you. And you may also contribute in policy drafting, because at the end of the day, we are looking at people who can help shape the policies.

LE YANG JOY: Okay.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:	Lianna, do we have any questions or anything we need to discuss else? In case you want to share something, we could perhaps take the discussion in WhatsApp. And let's for example take a week's time. If you join these groups, please let us know in the WhatsApp chat. You can also share more on yourself. I think Maureen had mentioned something great, that you can share a short intro, what are your interests, and perhaps join these mailing lists. I know Priyatosh is in the CPWG mailing group. But if you want in, you could do so.

Cheryl also mentioned joining the planning group and see how the meeting schedule is framed or how communities share what should be discussed in the meeting. That's a great experience. The timing is not very Asia-Friendly, but you could always stretch yourself to participate if you can. So I think Lianna, that's good with me. But if any of our super mentors want to share something, that would be good. Else, we can kind of [inaudible]. Maureen, please. |
| MAUREEN HILYARD: | Thank you, Amrita and Lianna, and Cheryl, for sharing this important information with Joy and Priyatosh. Thank you both for coming along. It's a while since we did the mentoring program, and it's really important that we can guide you through what it is that you want to learn about ICANN, but in a way that you can participate as well so that you learn about how ICANN works, you engage yourself into a particular topic area that might be of interest to you, and you actually get involved because it's the whole point of the program and of the membership of APRALO and our encouragement to get more people from the Asia Pacific region into the discussions that happen within ICANN. |

But it is really important as has been explained during this meeting that we are very restricted to what it is what is ICANN's remit. And once you go beyond those into more general Internet governance issues and things like that, you'll be called back into the group to say, "No, that's outside of our remit, we're guided by this particular action." And as Amrita explained, it's all to do with the DNS and the relationship with the domain name system.

So I'm really pleased to hear your interest and your wide experience. It's really important that we do understand what it is that you specifically need help with, but you've got overkill in this particular session where there are more observers to the process than the hard workers like Amrita and Lianna and Satish who are going to be doing a lot of the heavy lifting with regards to working as mentors on a more regular basis.

However, as they also mentioned, Cheryl and I have been around within ICANN for a while, and so if there is anything that you want to know about ICANN or anything, feel free to ask any one of us. Cheryl says quite a while. And we want to welcome you here, into APRALO. We want you to feel comfortable about what it is that you do. But we do want to help you find an area that you are going to be interested in. So that will be the journey that we'll be taking with you along the way. Thank you.

LIANNA GALSTYAN: Thank you, Maureen, and thank you, everyone. It's really good to see the spirit of APRALO in high and everyone participating. Very well said,

everyone, and we're ready to carry this process and activity forward. And let's do that together.

I think we can conclude this. And I see already the chat is active in the WhatsApp. Great. We'll send first to the e-mail this link to join chat for all those who haven't been able to join today's call, and also, the recording will be available. As staff mentioned, that will be posted in the Wiki page. You will receive that link as well in the e-mail. So let's get connected and continue our work. Thank you very much, everyone. I think we can conclude.

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

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]