
CLAUDIA RUIZ:

Good morning. Good afternoon. Good evening. Welcome to LACRALO monthly call Monday, December the 20th 2021 at 20:00 UTC. In today's call in Spanish we have Harold Acos, Adrian Carballo, Alberto Soto, Augusto Ho, Carlos Aguirre, Anne Frank, Lilian Ivette de Luque, Olga Cavalli, and Sergio Salinas Porto. In the English channel, we have Claire Craig.

We have received apologies from Dev Anand Teeluicksingh, Lilian Ivette, Humberto Carrasco, and Alejandro Pisanty.

From staff, we have Silvia Vivanco, myself, Claudia Ruiz on call management. Our interpreters today are Paula and Marina for Spanish, Bettina for Portuguese, and Claire and Jacques for French. Thank you all. I want to now give the floor to Augusto.

AUGUSTO HO:

Thank you so much. Let me start by welcoming you to our last meeting of 2021. This is a meeting that will have a duration of 90 minutes. However, we have to be very careful with time management, because that is the time we have available as well as our interpreters. Our agenda is what you see on screen. Let me highlight that by the end of our call, we have some time as we are, by the end of the year, perhaps each of us with some drinks, typical of our region, we can make a toast, you may request to speak, the floor, and then say whatever you want to say, as I close them. That is going to be by the end of our meeting. I will now give the floor to Claire for the submission and approval of the agenda.

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

CLAIRE CRAIG:

The agenda for our meeting today, we had a welcome from Augusto. Hello everyone and welcome to this meeting, the last meeting for the year. For this meeting, we are now at the number three, approval of the agenda. The next item will be a brief report on the IGF Poland fellowship by Lilian Bruges. Then we have the universal acceptance panel by Sylvia Herlein. Following that will be the report from the LACRALO Working Group on communications. Then we will go into the regional updates, which should be few minutes as well. And as Augusto said at the beginning, we will have a few minutes at the very end where we would like to do short toast in your whatever is used in your culture.

So I hope that people will have something or say something. The mic will be open for you to see something. Then any other business, as usual. Is there anything that anyone would like to add to the agenda or have removed at this point in time? No? Okay, good. We take it then that this agenda has been accepted and I turn it back over to Augusto and we move forward with the meeting, thank you very much.

AUGUSTO HO:

Thank you, Claire. So now moving on with our agenda, we will give the floor to Lilian. She will present on the fellowship in Poland. Actually, this is a topic I was very interested in. I'm really interested in knowing what Lilian has to present,

LILIAN IVETTE DE LUQUE BRUGES: Thank you, Augusto. Rather than a structured presentation on the event, let me tell you what this hybrid meeting was like. I think this will be an indication of what our future meetings will be like. I think it was a success. So we started in October, we got the notice, the travel support communication, a little bit different from what we are used to seeing in ICANN. All payments in my case were made through the UNDP program, the United Nations Development Program, all payments were made through there. It was a little bit complicated.

So the Latin American travelers set up a WhatsApp group of 20, 25 People. We were the third largest delegation. The largest one was Eastern Europeans. And the second was the Africa delegation. The African people were really happy. And they were saying we are all vaccinated. There were people there from South Africa, and they were saying we are okay here. We have a doctor here. We were actually stigmatized. For them, they were okay.

The third one was the Latin American delegation. The fourth largest delegation, well, that was a mix of Asia Pacific. But actually, those were very few. The trip was actually quite long from Poland. We went to the Netherlands, from the Netherlands to Kraków. And even though Poland is closed with a letter from the ministry, we were able to enter. I had no issues. Nobody asked me for anything, because Poland is actually categorized as a low-risk country with a very low rate of infected and death. There are actually 50 to 57 million doses of vaccines in our country. So we are a low-risk country.

So the most complicated thing was to get inside the venue. We had to submit proof of COVID test less than 48 hours, and the vaccination

certificate that was requested in all airports. Here in Colombia, people have a digital certificate. As I have three doses, I went with my card certificate, and it was valid. Then, for the entire day, the loudspeakers in the venue were at all times reminding people to use the mask, to wash their hands, etc. And they were checking on protocol at all times, with the exception of meals and the dancing.

During the dance event, everybody forgot about the mask, which I didn't, of course. Each room had the chairs observing the social distance, even the large rooms, there were many, many chairs and people sat with a proper distancing. There were very few people in each room. I think the delegation that followed the discipline, were the Africans, they were always moving around together. They were very observant. Next slide, please.

These are just a few of the sessions. There were so many sessions. The schedule was overwhelming actually, sometimes we had to leave 15 minutes before and run to one, rush to the other. There were some sessions that were actually not well attended. Let's say that ICANN sessions did not have significant participation. Perhaps one or two. That is the atomization of meetings, everybody was dashing around actually not knowing where to go.

I personally attended the Internet governance with the citizens. I was interviewed, because of the work I did in my country with aboriginal communities and rural development. I don't remember exactly how many areas were covered in the interview, but I will be sharing with you later on.

Then, another area was climate change and environment, there was a lot of emphasis made on disinformation, economics, cybersecurity, the pandemic was a topic that was addressed as well. So I believe that hybrid meetings can be held. Those who had only one dose of the vaccine had to take the test every two days. I had a colleague who had to do that. So there was a significant control of what people were doing. There was a nurse's station and a vaccination station and testing station. So people, when they had to go back to their countries, started taking this test. And so far, I didn't learn of any positive, at least in Latin American delegation. So it was quite an interesting experience. And it was so nice to meet people whom we haven't met for virtually two years. So it was an excellent experience.

The temperature was very low. We, we couldn't see much, because it was snowing all the time. The buildings were very well heated, so that was not a problem. As you can see, in this list of some of the sessions—I didn't list them all—you can see that the topics were actually repeated in the various sessions.

There was a very interesting session attended by Olga and Adrian, The good, the bad, and the ugly of the Internet in times of crisis. That was a very good session, well attended. Then another session on multilingualism. That was very good as well. Very good presentation. So the sessions, the meeting was very good. I think it was a success. Can you please move to the next slide? I will share some statistics.

Here we are. 10,000 people online and 2600 on the venue, but you couldn't see those 2600 because it was such a big place with so many rooms and sessions that everybody was really scattered. And we met

only on social events and there weren't many social events. Only four. And I attended only two. So you couldn't see any crowd.

Good news now. The new MAG members are Bruna Santos from Brazil who is also ICANN, remember, Carina Birarda from Argentina. She's very bright, very knowledgeable in cyber security. And Roberto Zambrana from Bolivia continues. SO three from the Latin American region. We also had support from Denise de Alcantara-Hochbach from social media. We tried to provide support with Twitter, with Instagram, to keep the community informed on what was going on.

And I approached the new people and talked to them about LACRALO, what it was, they should participate. There are a couple of people who have expressed interest. I have given the details to Silvia. And as soon as we're back from the holiday, I want to convey this information to the Latin American group because most of them would like to join LACRALO as they're mostly members of ALSes from our region. Next one.

These are just a few pictures. Avri Doria, she was the one sort of managing ICANN sessions. Sarah Kiden, Glenn was present in this call. This is the session for Sylvia. this Olga on the governance school. That is the bad, the ugly, the Internet panel. The next one.

This is Daniel Fing, and a girl from the Brazilian Amazonia. Very nice work, they are doing there on outreach. Daniel's presentation was also great. Next one. These are a few people, Lianna Galstyan, Denise, some of the Latin Americans. Next one. That's me with Avri. That is the front entrance of the convention venue, which is a huge space in Katowice, a city that is not that big, rather old. They sort of understand English.

There are people who do not speak English, mostly in taxis and Uber. And they speak something else.

Let me tell you a story. Oh my god, I can't remember the name. Sylvia, do you remember this person from the US? I'm sorry, I forgot the name. She was asking the driver—Judith Hellerstein, she was demanding the Uber driver to wear a mask. The driver decided to kick her off the car, get off the car. And she had to ask for another. So in this, she lost her backpack with the computer. Well, that was a sad story which was eventually resolved.

This is just a summary to tell you it was a good experience having this hybrid format. And despite sessions were not too much attended because of the high number of sessions, and there were many people online. However, there was a significant control of personal safety and security and health protocol. And that is basically all. Sorry, the next one will be in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The presentation was [inaudible] government representative was there and they are checking. And the next one will be there. Little bit far away. That is basically all my summary for the IGF. So you can see, you can do it in hybrid format.

AUGUSTO HO:

Thank you, Lilian. I'm happy to learn that this went so well, because we are actually very expectant on holding at least hybrid meetings with the hope that someday we'll be able to have fully face-to-face meetings. But it's at least some comfort to know that hybrid meetings are working successfully. Thank you again for those who have attended the

[inaudible] sessions. I will now give the floor to Claire to introduce the next item of our agenda. Claire, you have the floor.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Thank you, Lilian. This was really very useful. It was very strange to hear what happened with that person from the US who was asking for the mask to be worn. You have these really very strange things with COVID going on. Before I give the floor to the next person, I'm not sure Augusto, would you want to entertain any questions at this time? Or do we move on with the agenda?

AUGUSTO HO: I suggest that we move on to the next agenda item. Go ahead.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Okay. All right, good. So the next item would be the universal acceptance panels by Sylvia. So Sylvia, can you please come on with your presentation? Thank you.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Thank you. Since we have not been able to travel ourselves, Lilian made us feel as if we had been there at the IGF in person. I participated virtually, with the Universal Acceptance Steering Group. I was invited to be part of the panel. There were six panelists, only one was there in person. And like Lillian said, we didn't have a large crowd in the audience. There were three panelists speaking on technical aspects. And

there were other three from the academia and from the civil society, and I was there representing LACRALO.

They asked us to be ready to speak about our role as stakeholders in the region in terms of universal acceptance and what we had done. So I think that you can see the first slide. I explained that we are part ICANN, of the LACRALO region, that we stand up for end users' interests, that there are 61 organizations and that basically, we had one representative in each Latin America and Caribbean country.

And they wanted to show some success stories, to see how Universal Acceptance can be spread throughout the world, in other parts of the world, and I explained that in 2018, we started with a group working on universal acceptance. And perhaps we can now move on to slide number three. The first thing we did was to explain that we had disseminated information among our members that we held different webinars so that we could spread all this information and they in turn could share this information with the different ALSes.

And that we also had webinars with ISPs, with technical experts. We had webinars in Bolivia, Paraguay and Nicaragua and I also explained that we had also partnered with other groups within ICANN, as is the case with DNS Women, where we try to partner with women around the world, DNS women. As I said, it's a group of women with representatives from all parts of the world and that we were working together to disseminate information about universal acceptance.

Later on, using the following slide, I explained to them the course that we organized that was so successful, I explained to them that we held

four sessions, what topic we had discussed, we had more than 140 registered participants and that we had participants from 14 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

And then they asked us what we we're going to do in the future. And I used the following slide to show them that we are planning to do some more activities that we will continue disseminating information and making sure that end users could be aware of what universal acceptance is, in order to demand that all ISPs are universal acceptance ready. We also wanted to share with them the success story that we had in Brazil. And also, we talked about the most commonly used websites that are universal acceptance ready in Latin America.

And the conclusions drawn from this panel, even by those who were more from a technical background, is that end users play a key role, they are a very important piece in this context, and that they needed to make sure that the universal acceptance is there so that they can reach out with their emails, with their queries, everyone on the Internet.

And finally, I told them that LACRALO was putting together a course that will start in January 2022. So now we'd like to take this opportunity to invite you all to take part in this course. If you have already attended the first one and you want to refresh some of the contents or if you haven't participated, perhaps you can do this for the first time. We will also have a session, it will be more or less similar to the previous one with some enhancements, but I would like to invite you all to attend the LACRALO course. Thank you.

AUGUSTO HO: Thank you, Sylvia. The universal acceptance course has been very successful. And as you said, now it has been improved and enhanced. So I wish you the best. Now, I think that Marcelo Rodriguez is here with us and He will cover the next agenda item. That is the LACRALO communications working group. I think Marcello is leading that group.

MARCELO RODRIGUEZ: Yes. Thank you. I apologize because I don't have the materials with me, but we had a meeting last Friday. If I can go back in time first, we had a minimum number of participants from the communications working group. This meeting had been postponed on several locations because we couldn't find the proper date, the proper time to hold it. And Maribel Sanchez, who is also a LACRALO member, has been designated as co-chair of the Communications Working Group. She can provide the momentum and dynamism that we require in the group. So we are all very happy because she's a new member on the communications working group who has already been working quite hard.

She's not present in this call now because she's sitting for an exam in Buenos Aires. She is sitting for the final exam for the first years of the program of law. And she has also been quite active in different areas and she also wanted to start working more closely with DNS Women. And as we saw from Lilian and Sylvia's presentation, there are many activities that involve women. We also have Vanda.

And as far as communications are concerned, we are constantly inviting members to participate and to receive and to send actually material so that we can put together the newsletter number three. That is keeping

us busy. We are trying to gather all the necessary information for that newsletter. The information we have just received on the IGF is extraordinary. The IGF held a hybrid meeting. And we have also been following up on social media, what is posted on Facebook, and other social media like Twitter, Instagram, and we are still missing a blog with our own domain name. This is something that Sergio Salinas started. Because that can really serve as a very good tool for LACRALO to be well positioned and to give visibility to all the work that is being done by the ALSes. So I would like to thank the LACRALO group for their trust and all the members of the working group and with Augusto and Claire, I would also like to thank them for allowing us to work on the communication side and hopefully next year we will have a better alignment. I also see Mariano Quiroga who is another LACRALO member who is working with social media.

So right now I'm attending another call, more or less at the same time with this one. So I'm quite busy. And I apologize if my audio was not so good, because here we don't have very good technological capabilities. So thank you all and thank you for listening.

AUGUSTO HO:

Thank you, Marcelo. We could hear you loud and clear. Fortunately, we didn't have any communication problems. I see Sergio has raised his hand. Go ahead Sergio.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO:

I just wanted to tell Marcelo that I would like to join the communications working group. I won't be able to be there full time.

But I'm sure I can help them do some scheduling work for communication throughout the year and also work on assorted communication for social media and multimedia. I apologize for not attending the last meeting, but I'm very busy. My calendar is full. But I would like to join you. So if you're planning to have a meeting after the season break, please count me in because I want to be there. I won't be able to participate there full time because I also have some other responsibilities. But I will try to collaborate because I think that this really allows our region to be seen both internally and externally. We need to show everything that we have done, the IGF in Poland.

AUGUSTO HO:

Thank you, Sergio, for your participation and also for volunteering. And I'm going to take advantage of that to ask other members to follow his steps if you're want to collaborate with Marcelo and the words that his team is doing. So thank you, Sergio. And I urge you also to join the Communications Working Group and provide them with support. Because as Sergio well put it, this is what the rest of the people can see from us.

Okay, now, I think that we need to go on with our agenda. We need to go through some reports by the different directors. So I think Adrian is here, right?

ADRIAN CARBALLO:

Yes, here I am. I just wanted to report that since last meeting, we have been trying to work on a new agenda with some final adjustments for ICANN Learn in Spanish. I would also like to make a call to add more

volunteers to our group. So that we can continue working on the development of ICANN Learn in Spanish. With Humberto Carrasco we have been working on this. We are planning to launch this call. Thank you. That would be all on my side.

AUGUSTO HO:

Thank you, Adrian. And I think Carlos said something to me during the week. But if Carlos wants to take the floor, please go ahead.

CARLOS AGUIRRE:

Thank you all. As I said, during the week, we are working in our group, we are not making too much progress, but we are working anyways. We are working on GDPR and WHOIS-related issues. We are trying to see whether this is going to be applicable to all or only to Europeans because clearly this is a European regulation. So the registries, the GNSO are working on that.

In our working group, we are following up on this work. And as soon as we have any substantial news, we will share them with you. I joined the ALAC a month ago and I'm trying also to keep up to speed with all the different topics that are under discussion right now, which are quite different from what I used to discuss nine years ago when I participated in the ALAC for the last time. So it will take me some time. But I'm sure that from 2022, I will be able to be more in sync and to be able to make more contributions.

I would like to thank Lilian and Sylvia for their report. The report on the IGF has been very interesting. I've also participated in some of the

meetings myself and I think this is what we need to do. We need to keep up to date. And we need to expand our knowledge in order to be able to make useful contributions to our region. This is what I have to say. Bye for now. Probably next time, I will have some more information to share. Thank you.

AUGUSTO HO: Thank you, Carlos.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: If I may, I'd like to report on governance.

AUGUSTO HO: Go ahead.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: There were some pending issue for the past period. We have to retake them. One is the reorganization of the region. We have several ALSes but not all of them participating. we have to start a dialogue with them to check, to see if we can make them fall in love again, or lead them into the region's dynamics. Otherwise, would have to start a new process, the process of opening up. This is what happened to me when I was the chair, and it will happen to you, Augusto. We will see some decline in participation. So this is an issue. We can hold meetings of 25 people but not more. So you'll start seeing individuals who want to participate only in face-to-face meetings.

And this is included, this is mentioned in a document that was not completed. The document or metrics. I don't know if metrics is what we should be discussing or something else. But it is very much related to this. So on January 10, an invitation will be launched to discuss, frankly, in the region, what governance we have. This invitation will be launched then. I really don't know when will the staff working actively. I don't know. They would take 7 or 14 working days' holiday season, but as soon as this staff is operational, I will contact either Silvia or Claudia or whoever is appointed to start with this invitation. That is all on my part.

AUGUSTO HO: Thank you, Sergio. We have a hand raised from Alberto Soto and Vanda. Alberto, you have the floor.

ALBERTO SOTO: No, there's no need because I've already posted a comment in the chat. The GDPR is not only for Europe. That is why ICANN have worked on EPDP and we have so many issues for ICANN to be adjusted to what the rest of the world is doing. Even there is no homogeneity in legislation. Everything has to work properly and the work is ongoing. Thank you.

AUGUSTO HO: The next one in the queue is Vanda, and then Carlos. So Vanda, you have the floor.

VANDA SCARTEZINI:

Hello. I want to take this opportunity to say that on the 15th [inaudible] an invitation was launched to submit applications to the NomCom applications to those who are interested in holding a leadership position in ICANN. So as soon as I receive it, because this is the primary responsibility of outreach, as soon as I receive the flyer or the information with the positions, the details on the page, etc. I will share that on our WhatsApp group. I will share that information to be posted in our website as much as possible so that we can find individuals from our region applying for leadership positions in ICANN.

Let me say that for our LACRALO region, there aren't any this year, only NARALO and EURALO, North America and Europe. However, there are positions for GNSO, ccNSO, PTI. So technical people can also consider having relevant chance to hold this position and certainly [inaudible]. So, I kindly ask you that as soon as you receive this information, please be engaged and disseminate it in your communities. Some other people you know, because this is what we have to do, we have to take our region up.

For example, we do not have positions for our LACRALO, because the last year, that was the time when [Laura] was appointed, but not this year, this year is for other regions. So we are in full season, full activity in our NomCom group. I don't know how it will work, because there will be moments when the work in NomCom is rather unmanageable. It's very long hours, full days. So it's impossible for people who have a job. It's complicated. So it is our hope that now as we are a small group, we will have an opportunity to meet physically somewhere to have a two- or three-day meeting, as we've always done.

But again, I am asking for your help in disseminating this information on the decisions that will be open. They are actually already open since the 15th. But I personally haven't received the flyer. So I kindly ask you all to convey this information. And let me thank you for that in advance. Because the more people we have, the better the elections will be and better people will be holding the leadership positions in ICANN. Thank you very much.

AUGUSTO HO: Thank you, Vanda. Carlos, go ahead.

CARLOS AGUIRRE: Thank you, Augusto. So this is a chance to make a comment on what Alberto has said before. Although it is true that and GDPR applies to all, GDPR is a piece of European legislation for Europeans. That is to say, wherever Europeans are in the world. Not for the rest. And this is exactly what is being discussed, whether it is or not being applied, and that is why the EPDP, the WHOIS, etc. whether it is going to be applicable to everyone or just for the Europeans. Because this is actually a complication to provide such an amount of information when we are talking about data protection. So that's just a clarification I wanted to make because either I was not clear enough in my comments or Alberto misunderstood. Thank you.

AUGUSTO HO: Thank you both for your comments because this is enlightening to all of us. Well, back to our agenda, I still have Harold. I understand Harold has a few things to share with us You have the floor.

HAROLD ARCOS: Thank you, Augusto. Now, coming to the end of the year, I wanted to highlight and refer to the process we started at the beginning of the year with the webinars. I wanted to refer to the Poland IGF efforts, the process of motivating the ALSes in attending the webinars so that participation is informed.

So, in this regard, we have Alejandro Pisanty's presentation, which we have shared, will be later on shared in the presentation by Carlton Samuels in ICANN 73 before the GNSO. These are important things, efforts that open the region to involvement that will eventually lead to a regional declaration, or else, if there is no regional declaration, to support and these statements of the working group, for example, Carlos on GDPR, or the GNSO issues which will be in the agenda for 2022.

Along the same line, we have to talk about the general assembly. As we discussed in November's monthly call, this is a topic in our agenda considering ICANN's requirements that is the issue of the budget, then, the issue of security. This is something that is still to be discussed. Be it hybrid, face-to-face, or exclusively online, we hope everyone will join the general assembly. This assembly will have dedicated components on webinars for the exchange of issues that are key to all users, from Mexico to Patagonia.

Already during Sergio's chairmanship, this was something that started then and it's relevant to bring it back, and keep calm, because we have to be realistic with our expectations. So this is all for the time being and again, I kindly invite you to move forward towards the achievement of our objectives. Augusto, let me know if I've forgotten anything of what we had to reinforce.

AUGUSTO HO: Thank you, Harold. I think it's complete. Thank you. My apologies. I will now make a slight change in our agenda. We will move forward to item nine. and we will have the toast space at the end. I hope you agree.

VANDA SCARTEZINI: Yes, no problem.

AUGUSTO HO: Please, Silvia, Claudia, help me if there are any hands raised, because I cannot see any. Is there any hand raised for other topics of interest?

CLAUDIA RUIZ: Yes, there is one, León.

SILVIA VIVANCO: León, you have the floor.

LEÓN SANCHEZ:

Thank you very much, Augusto. Good afternoon, good evening, everybody. In connection is the next item, the toast, I wanted to take the floor to thank you all for the work undertaken this year. Another year that was very challenging. We had to face significant difficulties in the achievement of ICANN's mission. So let me acknowledge your work, and also the staff work. The staff that gives support to what we do in ICANN.

So on behalf of the Board, let me wish you the best holiday season in the understanding that there is diversity here in terms of how we celebrate our beliefs, etc. So let me convey this message on behalf of the Board. And a very warm acknowledgment for the excellent work before. It may sound cliché, but believe me, it is not. We are very much aware of the huge commitment you all have with ICANN and its mission, the endless hours of work that you devote as volunteers, and certainly the difficulties that we have all faced because of the pandemic.

Certainly, let's stay all safe and careful. And as Lilian was saying, and Vanda put in the chat, take the lessons learned from the IGF meeting in Poland. We see that it is possible to hold a hybrid meeting. We see that it is possible to set different health rules for such events and be successful. With this new variant, however, there are considerations, we still have to see if the rules of the game might change. Let me tell you by the way that the Board had anticipated a meeting in January, a face-to-face meeting in Los Angeles for our first workshop of the year, precisely with this intention of exploring hybrid models, because as any other group in ICANN, The Board is not an exception in terms of the challenges and the constraints that the members face.

So, it has been planned as a hybrid meeting. A few of us would be traveling to Los Angeles, and others will be at home and connected remotely. However, with the increased number of infections and with this new Omicron variant, the decision was made to cancel the face-to-face meeting for the Board in January and it will be fully remote. We understand that this is a pilot program. And a pilot program has many components, planning, discussion. Well, for this, we've only completed the planning phase and it will not be possible to execute it as planned

However, I wanted to let you know about this. And please know that we are doing as much as possible to be meeting either face-to-face or hybrid as soon as possible, but always considering the safety, the health of everyone involved, participants, organization and staff.

Having said that, I want to give the floor to Augusto. But before that, I wanted to thank you for the support I received from you. Thank you very much.

AUGUSTO HO:

Thank you, León. Thank you for this feedback and this update that you have just shared with us, and also, I want to thank you for your comments. I understand that Claire is asking for the floor and then Alfredo Lope. Go ahead, Claire.

CLAIRE CRAIG:

I just wanted to take the opportunity—I don't think we met since—to say congratulations to the LAC members who recently inducted into the Internet Hall of Fame. I think that there were three of our members

who were recently inducted. I don't have their names right now, but I think Lito who's on the call right now is one of them, [inaudible]—I can't remember his last name, and Carlos, I think. I think they're all LAC members. And I just wanted to say congratulations on this particular honor. And I'm very pleased for all of you, thank you.

AUGUSTO HO: Thank you, Claire. Alfredo Lopez now.

ALFREDO LOPEZ: Thank you. I would like to send my greetings to all my colleagues in the region to please extend these to your families. I would like under this agenda item to invite you to the following event. On the first Tuesday of February, we have a celebration in Colombia. I would like to invite you on February the 8th, 2022 to share this event that is held jointly with several universities across the country. Thank you.

AUGUSTO HO: Thank you, Alfredo. I don't know if there are any other hands raised. So we conclude the discussion on this agenda item. I think that now we can leave formalities aside. And this is something that we discussed in preparation for this meeting. Since we are coming to the end of the year and also fully aware of the complexities that we have to say that during this year, we decided to include on today's agenda some free space, a social slot for all of you to feel free to share a drink or whatever beverage you want. A glass of beer, wine or mate or something, something symbolic, so that we can all have a toast because we have

come to the end of 2021. And of course, the floor is open if you want to make any comments, if you want to say a few words about the end of the year. I'm going to be the last speaker if you allow me. Although it is true that this is going to be voluntary.

I see already Sergio raising his hand, and then I'm going to ask the secretary, Claire, to take the floor after Sergio. She has been doing an excellent job. I want to applaud you, Claire. Despite the difference in language and culture, she has shown that she is an extremely capable person. She's fully in line with our work that she is always paying close attention to what we do and I feel her support. So after Sergio who has raised his hand, I want to ask Claire also to address the rest of the [inaudible]. And then of course, if you want, you can just have a glass in your hand and just take the floor and say a few words now that we are in coming to the end of December in 2021.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: I would like to give the floor first to Claire because both of you are our official representatives here. You are now fulfilling a very important role. So I would like to give the floor first to Claire and then I can take the floor. So if Claire is ready, we would like to listen to listen to her first.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Thank you so much, Augusto. It is my pleasure to be part of this team. It is a lot. I didn't realize this is what I was getting into. But I have had some really great support. Harold has been exceptional. He keeps me on my toes, he sends me messages and reminders. And yes, the

language is a little difficult. I'm trying to learn Spanish, but I'm not there yet. And I will continue to learn Spanish because I like challenges. So this is one of the challenges that I'm going to continue to do. I've had some other support from Vanda and Lilian, as well as the ICANN staff who have really been quite supportive of me during this time. So thank you so much.

As you know, this has been a steep learning curve because I did not have the full year to prepare for this. But nonetheless, I am going to do my very best and I look forward to working with you all in 2022 and I will just raise a glass of wine and say cheers, all the best for the season. And wishing you and your families, those of you who celebrate Christmas, Merry Christmas. If you don't, then Happy Holidays and do enjoy. I'm looking forward to working with you in 2022. Thank you so much, and all the best.

AUGUSTO HO: Sergio, go ahead, please.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Thank you, Augusto. Going to be very brief. First of all, I would like to thank Augusto and Claire for bearing with me because I haven't been able to be here for you. Together with Carlos, we had to serve as representatives of our own political parties. So that took most of our times, almost five months of campaigning and political work outside of what we usually do.

But I want to embrace you all, hug you all at a distance. I think that Lilian in her presentation, she talked about the need to go back to meet again with those that you haven't seen for a long time. I saw Olga and Adrian recently because of an activity they organized. I really got emotional when I saw them because after so many years to have been able to build interpersonal relations in LACRALO. With some ups and downs, of course, but after so many years of putting together this beautiful structure of relations and action. I think we need to celebrate that. I celebrate having met you. I celebrate the level of commitment that I've seen all of you, Vanda, Carlos, Olga, Adrian, Sylvia, Lilian.

I'm not going to mention you all, but all of you are so committed. And you're making a big effort, always giving priority to collective work over individual work. I'm going to have a toast with my mate, that is so typical in Argentina. I also see some other people from neighboring countries who also love this. I also see some of you like Augusto drinking wine, but we also like wine, but I have a toast to you, to your families, to the LACRALO staff that have always supported us with some people who may come in and go that we have a full team. So greetings to you all. We will have an excellent year. I'm sure we will work very hard, and the Board of directors will be working properly and we will be more productive. So please know that love can win it all.

AUGUSTO HO:

Thank you, Sergio. Anybody else who'd like to take the floor and offer a toast?

VANDA SCARTEZNI:

Yes, I would like to do it. I want to thank you all. And let me also thank you for the help that you are going to provide me with the NomCom. I also want to thank you for your trust because I can continue in the NomCom. It is hard work. But the years have gone by now already. And I think that next year will be smoother, because we already have some expectations to be able to meet in June so that we won't have such a tough time as we had this year. Working many days on end, including Sundays and Saturdays was quite tiring. And some people were working late at night. It was not the same for me. I work during the day, from 9:00 to 5:00. So that was quite tiring. And we have a lot of expectations that we had very good candidates this year. So we hope to repeat that next year.

I want to thank Lilian and Sylvia, Harold especially, because he's always supporting us, he's always reminding us of what we need to do. I have quite a busy agenda, so he helps me with reminders. So Harold, he is always there, backing us up. So I want to thank him. I want to thank Claire for her efforts and her great work she has done in such a short period of time. I also want to thank Silvia Vivanco who is always there for us as well as Claudia, Yvette who [inaudible] with us, and without the staff, we are nothing because they are always guiding us in our work.

So I wish you all the best for the holiday season. Our region is not facing so much difficulties as in Europe or in the United States. Many of us have already received two shots and in some cases, three shots. Children have been vaccinated. So comparatively, I think that we are doing quite well versus our colleagues in the United States and in Europe because I think that the problem is that many people did not

want to follow the international recommendations and they didn't want to get the vaccine. I think that is a little bit crazy, in the middle of the pandemic not to get that protection.

In Brazil, we have fewer deaths now. So now we have more people dying from the usual flu than from COVID-19. So although we are not going to celebrate massively the New Year or the carnival, and that discourages the people a little bit, we still have our stores open, we have terrible traffic jams again. So what I'm trying to say is that hopefully we will be able to come together and hug one another in 2022. I wish you good health to you all. And I really miss you. I just look at your faces here on the screen and your houses that I'm not interested in seeing that, I'm interested in seeing you, people. So hopefully we will be together at least by June.

I hope that we can have our assembly in person. If not, I would suggest that we postpone it so that we can all be together again. I hope that if we cannot meet in person, you vote for postponing it instead of having it virtually. So Happy Holidays to you all. And I hope you can start the 2022 with the right [inaudible]. Yellow if you want money, red if you want passion in your life, and white if you want peace in your life. So that is the color of the underwear that we need to buy for the holiday season depending on what we wish for. So that would be all. Kisses and hugs to you all. I miss you a lot. All the best to you and your family. And I'm drinking beer. Getting warm now.

AUGUSTO HO: Thank you, Vanda. I don't know if anybody else would like to take the floor. We still have a couple of minutes.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Augusto, if you allow me, I just want to express my appreciation to each and every one of you. It has been quite a challenging year but we are still here. We are optimistic, we are still together. And it's been an honor to serve you and to be part of LACRALO and to help you and your organizations to become stronger and more relevant for the world of the Internet. And I also want to thank Claudia Ruiz, my colleague who is based in LA and is also supporting LACRALO. I also want to thank our interpreters in French, English, Spanish and Portuguese. They are always working so professionally. So greetings to them all. And all the best. And I'm quite optimistic for next year. Thank you.

AUGUSTO HO: Thank you, Silvia. Any other hand? Harold, you have the floor.

HAROLD ARCOS: Thank you. First, thank you. And also mention the three people who have been induced to the Hall of Fame. Lit is here with us, who all of you directly or indirectly know as he is one of the fathers of the Internet in the region. We have a lot to thank him. Then Alejandro, Carlos, Lito, congratulations. You have a purpose. And over time, you succeeded in achieving your purpose. And this is what the Hall of Fame is about. Thank you for that. So good news for the Internet, because you will still be around us.

Since 2002, we see you, regional leaders, and people we believed were [inaudible], but we've had the chance to meet and see how you are and how you write documents in Confluence, for instance, and that is very valuable. Would like future generations to see that as well and understand why it is important to participate as global users of the Internet, because what mankind is going through is very relevant and has to change. So thank you for that.

Personally, I want to thank for our health, for the possibility to see each other over this screen, that we have the possibility other people do not have for various reasons. We can see each other, we know each other. And I thank for that, because once we see each other, the rest is just a matter of organizing the agenda.

So as Sylvia says, huge, and warm welcome hug to the staff. A key part in the support. Silvia, Claudia, thank you very much for your support. And certainly our interpreters who close the language gap but open their hearts. They are actually more than interpreters. They are people, they are individuals, they always have this support. So it is a fortune for us to be working here.

For 2022, I wish that not just us here but to the worldwide, the global family will have the chance to meet in a space where we can express. And it's good to see that the Internet is well and alive. And finally, let me make a toast to all of us. I wanted to share expressions of gratitude. And let me wish you the very best for you and your families. Let me wish you the best for this season.

AUGUSTO HO:

Thank you very much, Harold. I think there are no more hands raised. So we still have a few minutes left. I will take just a few to say the following. First and foremost, irrespective of our religious beliefs, I want to thank our God Almighty, for letting me and letting us be here with health, trying to find a way that even with odds against us, we are still moving forward.

So I want to ask for the best for you, even though we have faced difficulties. For me, and I think also for Claire, we started sort of blind because we didn't have a chance to meet you personally. And we hope that sooner than later, that will happen. It hasn't been easy, because we'd really like to see you and meet you. Vanda said she missed us. I would like to say that as well. But I'd say I'd like to meet you. But over the Internet magic, we can organize different meetings through other channels, through other ways that led me—and sorry if I take only personally—let me know about you and your life.

I need now to thank people such as Sergio, who from the very beginning adopted me. Super Harold, that is what he is, he's a super person. He's always been there to support not only myself but anyone who has asked for help. So super Harold, thank you very much for your support.

Vanda's experience who very quietly I learned from her, she's a model for me for the region for her knowledge, for her experience, and her contributions to the group. Sylvia Herlein, I didn't have the chance to meet you, but I know about your knowledge. Lilian, with her Caribbean spirit, very contagious, and your skills in communication. Again, thank you for your support. [inaudible] I think very deeply Silvia Vivanco and Claudia Ruiz, who have made a team, given support to all of us. Despite

the adversities, they have been patient to this rookie. And I want to thank for that.

And I'm sorry, I apologize if I forget anyone. Those who have been induced, Congratulations, you are a reason of pride for the organization. And finally, the silent work of the interpreters who give us this opportunity to communicate. So thank you to the interpreter team that allows us to communicate. We are almost on time. So let me raise my glass to ask for prosperity, comradeship, and love. The very best for 2022 to all of you. Cheers. Happy Holidays, dear colleagues. Bye. Stay safe. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]