

YEŞİM SAĞLAM:

Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to everyone. Welcome to the APRALO Monthly Teleconference, taking place on Thursday, 17th of March, 2022 at 06:00 UTC.

On our call today, on the English channel, we have Satish Babu, Gopal Tadepalli, Lianna Galstyan, Justine Chew, Jee eun Choi, Maureen Hilyard, K Mohan Raidu, Laxmi Prasad Yadav, Holly Raiche, Aris Ignacio, Amrita Choudhury, Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Vladimer Svanadze, Pavan Budhrani, Shah Rahman, Edmon Chung, Priyatosh Jana, and Ali AlMeshal. We currently don't have anyone on the Chinese channel. We have received apologies from Gunela Astbrink. And from staff side, we have Gisella Gruber and myself, Yeşim Sağlam. And I'll be also managing the call. I'll be on call management. Our Chinese interpreters today are Sandy and Ray.

Before we get started, just a kind reminder to please state your names before speaking, not only for the transcription but also for the interpretation purposes in case anyone joins our Chinese channel. And with this, I would like to leave the floor back over to you, Satish. Thanks so much.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks very much, Yeşim. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. And a warm welcome to the APRALO Monthly Meeting for March. Today, we have a very different kind of an agenda. But before that, the membership situation, the pipeline is in front of you. I had some inquiries from a couple of people on joining APRALO as individual

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members. This was during the ICANN73 meeting. And I said, "Please go ahead and contact staff. But after the ICANN week is over and there is some buffer time." So we may get a few more applications for individual members shortly.

Today's call is basically on two different things. First is about DotAsia, who's a partner organization for APRALO. We maintain close contacts with DotAsia, and its team, and its activities. We haven't had an update from DotAsia for a long time. We have six right now in this call so we're going to have Edmon speak to us.

Most of the rest of the meeting is about the ICANN73 reporting. It's not a full readout because we don't have all the AP with us. But we will try to have a full readout from next time onwards. And we may also ask our Fellows to talk to us about their perspectives on ICANN 73 in a future meeting. So today, we have the liaisons and the chairs talking to us about the various different events and activities of the ICANN week.

We are short of time and we have been discussing time management just before the call started. So I'm acutely aware of the need to stop the call after 50 minutes. So let's going straightaway with the update from Edmon. Over to you, Edmon.

EDMON CHUNG:

Thank you, Satish. Thank you for having me, in terms of, especially, giving an update from DotAsia. If I can share my screen ... I don't know whether that's a possibility. If so, I can share some slides. Many of you already know about DotAsia and some of the work that we do. We usually get to update each other during ICANN meetings in the past. But

through the pandemic, it has been a challenge. In fact, DotAsia has been doing these bilateral meetings with our members every few months. We'd like to get this started with APRALO as well, as one of the members of DotAsia.

I'm going to quickly jump through this set of slides because many of you already know. But hopefully gives you a systematic view of some of the things that we do at DotAsia. Then I'll end with a few areas that perhaps we can explore further collaboration as well because this is one of the things that we are looking to do, especially, in the coming year.

Starting from scratch—starting from the beginning—because this is the first time I'm formally/informally doing this. DotAsia started back in 2007–2008. And when we first started as a nonprofit, besides running the .asia TLD, we engaged in many, many different community initiatives, from creative commons, the bloggers, to Asian film awards, to many different areas that we've been working on.

But every year, we set our strategic directive at our AGM, which is held in conjunction with the APRICOT meetings in Asia Pacific. Last year, our main directive was to deepen collaboration with members. That's why we started reaching out to different ccTLD members around the region. And also, this is today what we are continuing to do, is to engage with our members on many of the different works that we do. As mentioned, each year, this is the direction that we set.

This coming year, at the APRICOT earlier in February, we set our strategic directive for this year to be more focused on our vision. Looking at the world right now, really facing a lot of conflicts and issues,

the vision of DotAsia is not just to run a TLD. But also, back in early 2000s when the Internet community in Asia Pacific was very harmonious, when politics and everything hadn't quite come in, we had a vision that this collaborative community should be continued.

As we go along with the governments and the politics coming in, the tension is being built. But one of the things that we really hope to do this coming year is to build the collaboration and solidarity among the Asia Pacific region. So beyond reaching out to members like yourself and groups like APRALO, we hope to foster collaboration because we believe that collaboration on certain works actually develop that cohesiveness and also that atmosphere around the Asia Pacific Internet community.

So just looking at some of the key areas that we do. NetMission DotAsia is one of the first youth engagement programs on Internet governance. We continue to run the program every year. Many of you have joined our training program, actually. Thank you so much for being guest speakers at the program. We continue to run that.

But NetMission is more than just a training program. In fact, once the ambassadors graduate from the training sessions, we deploy them to implement the Youth Internet Governance Forum at the APriGF, the APIGA in Korea—various different youth initiatives around Asia Pacific and also the youth initiatives around the world as well. So this is another ...

And building on NetMission, actually, we continue to service as the secretariat for the APriGF, the Regional Internet Governance Forum for

Asia Pacific. And since this is now—this year will be the 13th installment, so it's more than 10 years of APriGF, starting from Hong Kong, all through different cities around Asia Pacific.

As I mentioned, these two works is now the core work that DotAsia does. We started off touching on many different projects. Today, we are very focused, helping to dig deeper and build further with our youth initiative in Internet governance and the Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum, serving as its secretariat.

There is one additional project that we work on, which is the Ajitora Tiger Project, which actually was started when the SDGs, Sustainable Development Goals, were put in place at the United Nations in 2016. Aji is an education program that highlights how the Internet impacts sustainable development. But Aji also plays a different role. It also bridges the work that we do in the market development side, as well as the community side. So on one hand, Aji works on our community work, and on the other hand, our marketing work.

Speaking of marketing, as a not-for-profit, we don't really do much advertising. More so, we're actually working on branding work, and especially social media work, and different types of highlighting the Asian-ness of the different cities around Asia, some public interest posting, like social distancing and so on—more of a branding exercise. That's where Aji, as the little tiger, comes in as well.

So summarizing, on one side, we have Internet governance, especially starting from youth engagement, on one side. On the other side, this little click icon represents our work on the market development side.

And in between is Aji, the little tiger, that is our person now for both sides.

Then, of course, the fourth pillar. These four icons represent four pillars, the fourth one being the governance of DotAsia ourselves, you being one of the members, and some of our board members, and also former board members here today as well.

So I'll quickly just note a few works that, last year, we've been doing with different members in terms of collaboration in social media, in youth programs, in Internet governance. We've been able to reach out to many different members from DotAsia and start different projects with them, including IDN activities, including some security activities like trainings, linking them up with different cert teams. In Hong Kong and Taiwan, for example, we're working with the TWNIC and ICANN engagement forum and also the HK and ICANN engagement forum. Different youth initiatives and social media work as well.

And that's one of the things that we hope to explore. What might be suitable to work together with APRALO?

One highlight—a couple of highlights, actually—before I close. One particular highlight that I think is relevant is the TWNIC-DotAsia collaboration, which we mentioned at our AGM, but we'll formally announce in the APAC DNS Forum later on—actually, next week. It's actually an expedited response on anti-phishing efforts, which we ourselves and TWNIC will recognize each other as mutual trusted notifiers.

This is to build on the work that ICANN community is looking at in terms of the concept of trusted notifier but building it in a bilateral form. We hope that, if this works out well with TWNIC, we would expand to other ccTLDs in the region and potentially other gTLDs as well. So this is one thing.

The Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy is something that we continue to support that mission, of course.

And the final item that I want to highlight in terms of projects is a new initiative that we started last year, together with APNIC Foundation, which is the Eco Internet Index. It tries to measure the Internet's impact on climate change and the carbon footprint of the Internet. I won't go into details but it includes three axes as the composite index, including economy, energy, and efficiency of the Internet infrastructure. This pilot study only includes six regions in Asia Pacific. But in the coming year, we hope for it to expand to 15 to 20 countries around the region. So we brought it to the APriGF. We brought it to the IGF discussions as well.

Final two slides. Sorry for taking a bit longer than allocated. After 10 years of work—and many of you know, we have been supporting the DotKids initiative. That is going to be launching this year. We finally signed the registry agreement with ICANN. We will continue to support it, to get it up and running. But eventually, DotKids, we hope in a few years' time it will be come an independent organization governed by children's rights and children's welfare organizations around the world.

One last item that we're actually working on. There is a Community Reserved Names Policy out for public comment for DotAsia registry. This

is a new way for protecting DotAsia domain names. I think APRALO.asia is being used, things like [apsync.asia]. So sometimes people forget to renew the DotAsia domain and it might be picked up by someone else. So for specifically community initiatives, we are opening a new policy to put these names into a reserved names list so that even if people forget to renew, it won't go back into circulation and we could work with the particular registrant to reactivate it. So this is the policy that we're putting in place.

This is the end of the presentation. And I think there are a few areas that I think we'd love to explore closer collaboration with APRALO, in DNS abuse, work with the APriGF, IDN and UA issues, and potentially also connecting with local ALSes on the Eco Internet Index that we're working on. So with that, thank you for giving me the time. Opening it up to see how we can actually collaborate.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks very much, Edmon, for a very informative presentation. I, unfortunately, don't have time for questions. But I will say this—that the information is available on the DotAsia website. You can go there and see the different activities.

This last slide is very important. And we can straightaway see areas that we can collaborate with—for instance, DNS Abuse and IDN/UA. The others also may be interesting. So we will discuss these points within our community and we'll get back to you on where we can work together. I'm sure there are certain areas.

And already, we have had an agreement that we signed between us. I think it's time to renew that as well. And 2023, we're going to have a GA, General Assembly. It's likely going to be co-hosted with the APriGF. In this case, DotAsia will be there in strength. So maybe we can consider signing that agreement at that point in time. But thanks very much for your presentation.

Let's go back to the agenda now. The next part of the meeting is about updates from ICANN73. I'll encourage all speakers to stick to the time. Everybody has eight minutes. Over to Edmon for the Board perspective.

EDMON CHUNG:

Thank you. I guess wearing a different hat at this section of the discussion. So, first of all, I'm a new member of the Board. This is the first ICANN meeting I'm fully a Board member. I guess I'll give you a little bit of a perspective from my personal view as a member of the Board. I just want to make sure it doesn't come across as this is the Board's position on some of the matters.

I'll touch on a few of the topical areas and a couple of broader matters that I think was highlights for me in the ICANN73 that just happened. First of all is the Prioritization Framework. I think the Board is very keen on not only the community consultation and the Prioritization Framework that is put in place. And it will be highlighted in the 2023 and 2024 planning cycle, then the implementation in 2024. I think the Board is watching with a really keen eye as that develops.

That also informs the Board's own prioritization processes. I think the work there and the input, especially the active participation from ALAC,

has been quite exciting to see. And also, I can note that it is already referenced. Some of the feedback is already referenced in the Board prioritization process as well.

The second topic this is high up on the agenda is, of course, DNS abuse. Much was discussed in the European Commission commissioned study on DNS abuse. I think the Board and the Org watched with interest. In general, I think we are looking to defer a lot of the work to the community. But that being said, we do look to actively engage in that.

One of the interesting things that the Board observed is that as we discussed about DNS abuse, actually over the last two years of active discussion, we've actually seen a drop, a little bit, in terms of the DNS abuse. We don't know whether it's just coincidental.

But whether it is, something that personally I think, a lot of times when a legislative process or policy is being put in place, actually, the response from the community—the response from registries and registrars in this case—already starts addressing some of the issues. So we think it's very interesting to see that. And we are quite excited that a small group in the GNSO has been formed to look at this. And I encourage APRALO and ALAC to continue to participate in that.

Third and fourth area that I want to touch on is, of course, the SSAD ODA. I need to look at my notes to make sure that it is the System for Standardized Access and Disclosure of Registration Data. So the SSAD ODA is definitely a hot topic. I think the ODA is now out—the operation design analysis report is now out. And we're expecting a small group to

respond further from the GNSO. But I think, again, APRALO and ALAC is welcome to provide their input as well.

In response there, also, there's some question, and the Board is watching very closely, on how the community responds to the ODP as a whole—the operation design phase as a whole—and whether that's useful, whether that's something that increases transparency or whether you think that increases [things] without providing enough value.

But again, the SSAD ODA. Then of course, the SubPro, the Subsequent Procedures for New gTLDs ODP is underway, both of which the Board is seeking feedback, actually, from whether the ODP is creating value, whether it's actually making it more transparent, how the Board and the Org prepare for implementation as we receive and adopt the community policy.

One more thing to highlight on the SubPro that I think is important is that discussion about, as the ODP get underway, some of the loose ends of the Subsequent Procedures, like the closed generics and the applicant support program—especially the applicant support program—whether some progress could be made as well. I think the Board has been pretty clear that those efforts should definitely go underway. It should not interfere with the ODP itself.

Especially for applicant support, I wanted to highlight that, back then in 2012, it was actually not a GNSO policy. In fact, it was developed by ALAC and eventually endorsed by the ALAC and GAC, which made it into

the implementation program. So this is definitely something the ALAC should focus on, I think.

Then three more items and I'll end. The GPI Framework, the Global Public Interest Framework, which links to the ODP as well. This is the first time we're trying to use the GPI framework. So that's something feedback from the community would be very useful. And we'll look at whether the GPI Framework works well.

The Geopolitical, Legislative, and Regulatory Development—the discussion forum—this is the first time we had it at ICANN meeting proper. From the Board, and especially myself, I think it was very useful. I was hoping that there would be more discussion. I understand that there was a very long presentation. Perhaps further comments or feedback from the community would be useful.

I think the Board would also like to hear more from the community how different people fought on the ground, especially the legislative happenings in the different jurisdictions—what the responses are from the local community, from ALSes, and from At-Large overall. That would be very useful.

Finally, it's the IDN and UA. That's my favorite topic. Of course, I'm very—I think, not just myself but the Board overall—is very encouraged to see the work from ALAC, and the survey, and some of the work from UASG as well. We're quite encouraged by the increasing awareness, although there is a little bit of a concern of the diminishing return that it seems. If you look at the last few years, the system that are UA-ready

seem to be leveling off. But it's still a long way to go. So we watch with a little bit of concern there.

But we are expanding the team at ICANN. I want to note that there are two positions open since getting on the Board and also now chairing the Board UA and IDN working group. We have expanded the ICANN Team. We are adding two positions to the IDN and UA team at ICANN.

So that's all I have. But I have two more things that I want to cover, which is more on the heartfelt side. As we began ICANN73, the situation and the war in Ukraine was a big impact, I think, around the world, and of course, to this community as well. The Board and myself actually watched all the interactions that was in the GAC meeting, that were in the ccNSO meeting, that were in At-Large meetings as well—the support to Ukraine. And also the concern, equally, to maintain a unified Internet across the world is something that is dear to my heart, and I think to many of the Board's heart as well.

The fund that is put together to support Ukraine is not just for Ukraine. I want to highlight that, especially sitting here in Hong Kong and at an APRALO meeting. The fund is intended, in the future, if the community thinks it's useful to ... It will start with Ukraine but we are very cognizant of the situation in Afghanistan, in Myanmar, and of course other places, as natural or human disasters hit. So that's something I'm actually quite proud of that we could take as small step forward. I hope this is the beginning of a larger work that ICANN and the community can commit to.

So with that ... Oh. There's one more thing. The face-to-face meeting. I think that's high up on people's mind as well. Right now, everything is set for The Hague. I do think that we sorely miss the face-to-face interaction. I do think that this all-virtual meeting does slow down, a little bit, the work at ICANN as we are unable to have these ultra-high-bandwidth interactions in person. So we are looking to get into hybrid mode, at least in The Hague, and probably fully back in-person in Kuala Lumpur in September.

So that's all. Sorry. Again, I surpassed a couple minutes of my allocated time. But hopefully it's useful for you.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks very much, Edmon. It has been very, very useful. I wish we had time to get into some questions, at least. But unfortunately, in this meeting, you don't have the option for questions. But we have several [plans] that we can work with. And thank you very much for joining us. As the Board member from our region and also as one of the founders of APRALO, it's very good to have you here. We hope that you will, hopefully, turn up for more meetings, just so that we can exchange—get an update from you on some of these areas. Thank you very much.

We'll now move on to the update on ALAC. Maureen, over to you. Eight minutes.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Yeah. Eight minutes. I've got to stick to it. Thanks for that introduction, Edmon. Just a few things. First of all, ALAC week always starts off with

talking points. This is really important for At-Large because it's that summarized version of policy issues that At-Large members come across during the main session of the ICANN program.

Of course, this was provided by Jonathan, your vice-chair of policy. He is one of the leads, of course, as you know, along with Olivier Crepin-Leblond, of the Consolidated Policy Working Group, which meets every week. Always looking forward to seeing more people from [APRALO] attending their meetings.

At-Large played a big role in the first plenary of the meeting, The Global Public Interest Framework, because it was initiated by us and moderated by our NARALO ALAC member, Marita Moll. The session initially looked at the explanation of the Public Interest Framework and then developed into a conversation with a number of community members about the framework and how it might be applied. Marita said that this is going to be an ongoing topic.

Very similar, I think, to the DNS abuse topic, which was also—which was the second plenary, which was also something that I believe we spearheaded within the ICANN community—an interest in DNS abuse. This was taken over more by another section of the community because it looked at understanding the difference between the mitigation processes that are applied for domains that are being used maliciously and those domains that are legitimate but are being compromised.

Graeme Bunton, who moderated the session and who's the head of the DNS Abuse Institute, was very appropriate for this because the Institute actually focuses on helping the Internet community identify and report

DNS abuse. There's a new reporting tool for the community to use as well and that's just starting—just coming up soon.

At-Large itself, we produced two policy sessions. One, of course, was taken by our own Cheryl Langdon-Orr, who every week for months, has led a very small and cliquy group to discuss the At-Large Prioritization of the Workstream 2 recommendations. But not only did they explain the different categories of recommendations but they also described how they developed and used their own ALAC or At-Large prioritization assessment tool to help speed their prioritization process along. This is something—Yeah, open and transparent. Yes, of course—to help speed the prioritization process along. And I reckon it could be a very welcome tool for use by other communities in ICANN.

The second session, of course, was Hadia Elminiawi's roundtable. She had three roundtables that were discussing the protection of rights of registrants and end users for a secure and stable DNS. It was good looking at it from those perspectives, where we're looking at rights and interests of end users that are incorporated into the ICANN Bylaws, firstly, and secondly, looking at why it's important to protect the rights of registrants. And the third one was to look at policies that uphold the rights and interests of end users and registrants. And Edmon was part of that roundtable discussion, as well as Holly and others.

But as well as that—I'm flicking through the sorts of things that we did and were involved in—but we also met with three ICANN groups. The first one was important to us because it was all about volunteers and volunteerism. What we wanted to impress on the Board was how they

really need to find ways to help us to retain our volunteers who do the work for At-Large within ICANN.

We focused specifically on us because most of the active participants don't even work in the industry. We've always said that. We are genuine volunteers with all the extra responsibilities that we have to ICANN on top of all the other stuff, plus the global pandemic.

But I think the real pressure can be shown by what's happened this week, for example—extension of the NomCom positions until the end of the week because there are positions that haven't had any applicants. This is the NomCom. It's unheard of. But it's very disturbing and exactly what we were talking about at the session with the Board. So Marita and Joanna, who made the presentations at that session, are preparing a follow-up paper that the Board requested on some more specific suggestions so they're going to present that very shortly.

We also met with the GNSO but I know Justine is going to be after me so she can talk about that.

But we had an interesting session with the GAC. That was moderated by Joanna and Chang Shi Young from Korea, from the GAC. Working with the GAC is a work in progress. I found that the GAC members are becoming a little bit more engaging.

But there's a real difference between talking to the GNSO and talking to the GAC. But as Manal explained, each year, they have nearly a 50% changeover of personnel. So it must be really difficult for some of them to get up-to-speed with what is happening around them when it's probably their first meeting and then they hear about SubPro, DNS

Abuse, SSAD, ODA. And they must wonder what planet they're on. So there's got to be that level of understanding, too. And the capacity building that we're working on and talked about with the GAC about working on with them could be something that we could develop a little bit further.

But to finish, I did want to mention that at every ICANN meeting, AFRALO, and ICANN Board, and stakeholder group members from Africa meet at every ICANN meeting. It's a tradition so it just happens. And at each ICANN meeting, AFRALO also presents a policy issue paper that reflects the concerns and interests of the AFRALO community. This ICANN meeting, it was on DNS abuse capacity building.

This is something that we could look into for the Kuala Lumpur meeting, which is in our region. I'm really hoping it will be in-person but I think it would be appropriate for us to have a regional meeting there. As it will be my last meeting as the ALAC chair after four years, I think it would be very, very appropriate if we can have a regional meeting. Okay. Thank you. Thanks, everybody.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks very much, Maureen. On the last point, I think it is good to consider the policy paper and the meeting at the next meeting. The APRALO Policy Forum can take this on. We will further discuss this idea at that forum. Moving on to our GNSO liaison. Justine, over to you.

JUSTINE CHEW:

Thank you, Satish. Thank you. I think it's Yeşim who is managing the screen. I have two events to report on. But the contents of the two events more or less coincide so I'm just going to give a breakdown for both.

The first one was the ALAC-GNSO Council bilateral meeting that Maureen touched on earlier. This is a meeting that hasn't happened for a while. We haven't had a bilateral with GNSO Council for many—several ICANN meetings at least. So it's good to put this back on the agenda. I think it helps with ... It always helps to have intersessional conversations with the groups that we're working with. GNSO is important because they are responsible for policy development for gTLDs. And a lot of the gTLD policies actually affect Internet end users in some way or other.

The second event is actually the GNSO Council meeting. Council meets once a month. So this particular month of March, it happened during ICANN73. And if you see on-screen now—and the link, by the way, is in the agenda wiki—you will see I actually do a report for each month, each Council meeting. And also, now I've added bilateral meetings with GNSO Council. The idea about this reporting is just to highlight things that are of interest or of importance to ALAC, as far as I can see, anyway.

So in essence, for ICANN73, both GNSO Council meeting and the bilateral, the issues of considerable interest common to both groups would be the SSAD ODA. Sorry. I'm being distracted by chat. The SSAD ODA. I don't think I need to go into what the SSAD ODA is all about. I

would invite you to have a look at the notes. There are obviously resources out there that you can look at a bit more.

In terms of the work of the small team—the GNSO Council small team on SSAD ODA—as I mentioned in the chat, we have a rep in that small team. That rep is Alan Greenberg. The work of that small team proceeds. They’re still trying to work out what is the best way forward with the SSAD recommendations, given the results of the SSAD ODA—the issues coming out of that. So that’s still happening. There isn’t anything concrete that has come up from the small team as yet. The general conclusion is that there are more questions than answers at this point in time.

The second topic is on Subsequent Procedures, which is undergoing an operational design phase now, or what we call the ODP. That’s where the ICANN Ops SubPro ODP team is looking at the SubPro outputs, at the request of the Board, obviously, and trying to fill in the bits in order to be clear about what they need to do for implementation. We can just summarize that way. So that is still happening.

ALAC doesn’t participate directly in in the SubPro ODP. It’s an ICANN-run thing. But they do have a GNSO Council liaison on that ODP small team who reports back to GNSO Council. Whatever is reported back to GNSO Council, I report back to ALAC and At-Large. So again, that is happening. It’s still ongoing work.

But two interesting things have come out of it, which I think we need to pay some attention to, which is one on additional work out of SubPro. There are certain topics within the SubPro outputs which the PDP

Working Group itself said—paraphrasing, again—that more work needs to be done. The topics include things like applicant support, challenges and appeals, the standing predictability IRT—the Implementation Review Team—the framework for that, to name a few. The GNSO liaison is coming up with some concrete steps and also the list of the topics for GNSO Council’s consideration as to how to move forward.

So that is something that ALAC and At-Large will get involved with, especially in terms of applicant support. And I can say that for a fact. As to how ALAC participates, that’s yet to be seen because the SubPro outputs does say that it’s meant to have—this additional work is meant to be done by nominated experts in the area of grant-giving and also fundraising. So we’ll have to look into that specifically.

The other aspect of it, which is still up in the air in terms of how ALAC or At-Large is going to participate, is the issue of closed generics. There’s a dialog that’s being attempted to be facilitated by the Board between GAC and GNSO Council on how to move forward with closed generics—how to allow them, or how to not allow them, or whatever. It’s a dialog between two parties, facilitated by the Board. ALAC is not at the table. So we will have to find creative ways on how to provide the At-Large perspective in terms of closed generics.

The rest of it is pretty much administrative stuff. I won’t take up too much more time. Feel free to read the notes and I’m happy to answer questions from anyone outside of this meeting as well. Thanks.

SATISH BABU: Thanks very much, Justine. Really interesting developments, indeed. And we also appreciate the fact that you've kept meticulous notes, which is good for us for future reference. We now go over to our brand-new liaison to the ccNSO, Lianna.

LIANNA GALSTYAN: Thank you very much, Satish. This is Lianna Galstyan, the new ccNSO liaison. Actually, I had no chance to participate yet because my turn started during the last day of ICANN73. Anyway, here's the update about the meetings that happened for the ccNSO. That is the Country Code Names Supporting Organization.

The Council meetings happen once a month. For the ICANN73, there was a program committee that put together the whole program for this particular meeting.

Before the start of the ICANN73, there were TLD news sessions, which is a traditional way of starting the meeting. The first day, on the 2nd March, was the news—like updates of the members. Several representatives of different countries brought up the news that they have, either in their maintenance, on their policy. So some news that they have in their TLDs.

And on the 3rd of March, there was a session with the capacity building. That is done by the ccTLD managers. And I had a chance to represent the capacity building program that we did at .am for Armenia. That is the School of Internet Governance for journalists specifically. It was quite interesting to learn the programs that are being done for various TLDs.

If we go next, this is the whole sessions for the week. Traditionally, it has a tech day. It has a members meeting day. There are talks on different programs. As it's been mentioned in different stakeholders already, there was a lot of discussion about the DNS abuse. I will not repeat on this. If we go later—the next slide.

So the tech day. Since 2006, that's a traditional topic, giving various good practices, capacity building, different information sharing about the technical aspects because always TLD managers, they participate. It's an interesting thing for them to learn. So that was on the 7th of March.

As mentioned, a lot of DNS-related work has been updated. And Graeme Bunton, as Maureen said, the CEO of the DNS Abuse Institute, has been invited to make the presentation and give an update—what's happening in this sphere. So he had his whole report and everything is available on the website. The links are here in the presentation. He mentioned the challenges that the registries and registrars go through and presented the basic algorithm in case they find out the DNS abuse and the reporting system.

Also, the other speakers have been invited for this session. For instance, the representative of .bank and .insurance. He presented the deployment of domain-based message authentication, reporting and conformance—I'm not going to read this—short name, DMARC. And then, in the end, a roundtable was organized about the DNS abuse. Basically, that the end, there was an agreement that there's a need to collaborate among the TLDs and to find out the challenges associated with that.

Next, please. 8th of March, that was quite a busy and long day. Unfortunately, I could not join any of these sessions myself because that was my son's birthday. I could not join. But basically, there's two parts.

There's the ccNSO meeting with the GAC. That was a good conversation with the GAC representatives, practically going through the processes—the ongoing processes of the ccPDP3, particularly on review mechanism, and also PDP4 that is selection and deselection of IDN strings—ccTLD strings. Everyone mentioned the importance and the collaboration among the GAC and the ccNSO. And of course, DNS abuse is still ... There was a report of the current status and the next steps.

For the DNS abuse session, that was primarily on this issue. It's important to mention that during the previous ICANN meeting, ICANN72, a steering committee of DNS abuse was formed with a specific mission to find out and make a roadmap of collaboration—what will be their work. And at this meeting, the steering committee actually presented the roadmap, what they come up for. At the end of the meeting, the ccNSO Council was expected to adopt. And just to give a report on the 10th of March Council meeting, where they adopted this roadmap. It has, particularly, four directions.

That is the information sharing, giving the best practices, etc.—so sharing information there. The second one is identify the channels for messaging amongst the ccTLD managers. Then the third direction is the metrics with an overview of the existing metrics.

And of course, everything that has been mentioned is aligned with the ccNSO rules. That is to say the steering committee has nothing to do

with the policy development because we should remember that ccTLD managers, they are an independent organization and everything that is recommended is just the good practice as a recommendation, [not] a binding thing like the GNSO, which is contract compliance.

So if we go next, I will be quick. There was a ccNSO governance session, practically talking about the new rules [for teams] and bringing the idea of conflict of interest. So that's the ccNSO councilors and members to mention about the state of interest and mentioning if they have the conflict of interest this way or another, even if that does not imply material or financial aspects. Still, they need to give the update. And the new rules of voting for the members. [That's in discussion] and to come to a change for the rules established in 2004.

The last slide, that is the ccNSO Council meeting, as a concluding one, at the end of the meeting itself—I mean ICANN73 meeting. So the new leadership. The chair has been re-elected, Alejandra Reynoso from Guatemala. And the vice-chair is Jordan Carter from New Zealand. They've been re-elected for another one-year term. And a new vice-chair joined, Adebisi Oladipo from Nigeria. We call him Biyi. So he joined the leadership team.

And all the councilors, they've been assigned or have volunteered to give their short report, coming back to the Council, of all the sessions that had taken place. So this Council meeting, they made their report. And also, the next meeting is scheduled for April 21. And from now on, I will be on these Council meetings and bringing back a report to the At-Large as the liaison. Thank you for your vote. With this, that's the end of my report. Thank you very much.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks very much, Lianna, for the report. We hope to hear more reports from you. The next one is Universal Access. You have to go to the next slide. We are short of time so I'll quickly jump through this. There were two sessions during the prep week—one was about the IDN program, the other was on universal access—with the updates. Next slide, please.

We had a panel discussion by the UASG—Achieving Universal Acceptance: The Way Forward. This was moderated by Ajay Data and speakers were from ALAC, GAC, and GNSO. The discussions included things like our past and future programs. Whether ALAC can join the Universal Acceptance Day celebrations, which are to be organized from 2023, around the International Mother Language Day of UNESCO. So we will be referring this question to the CPWG for more input. Then, ALAC's support to local initiatives and ambassadors. And UASG—whether it can support to ALAC in UA-related programs. Next.

We had the ALAC bilateral with the GAC. It was a very nice meeting. There was 10 minutes on UA/IDNs and the speakers were Nigel and me. We discussed the following issues: the alignment between GAC and ALAC on digital inclusion through UA and IDNs. The benefits of closing the UA gap—what is the point in closing the gap? Different programs that we have planned and we were planning for the future. And the fact that UA and IDN programs go hand-in-hand, although we sometimes look at UA independently. But the transition of that is IDNs.

And that we were actually contributing. ALAC was contributing to both these programs, and particularly in the EPDP on IDNs, which is currently

going on. And we have proposed that ALAC would be keen to explore collaboration with GAC on the ongoing work of Universal Acceptance and IDNs. Next slide.

So the GAC Communique mentions this fully. I will not go through the entire thing. [inaudible]. "In this vein the GAC welcomes the proposal from ALAC for a collaborative initiative with GAC." So they have heard us and we have found a place on their communique.

An Nigel has repeatedly said, during the ICANN73 meetings in different sessions, that governments have to step up and do many more things to support UA in order to cover the existing gaps. That's all from the UA update. Back to the agenda, please.

We have only two minutes. I will ask Justine to give her update quickly on the APRALO Policy Forum. Justine?

JUSTINE CHEW:

Sure. Thanks, Satish. This is something that I wanted to present in the last month's APRALO call but since it was cancelled, I couldn't. I just want to focus on a couple of things here.

The survey that we put out back in December ran for quite an extended time because response was poor. And it ended up being, response was still poor. That's the reason why it's a guide for [2020] agenda. But I just wanted to put this out there, just to get some kind of endorsement by way of non-objection kind of thing.

And I would draw your attention to just a few things, which is that based on the few inputs that we did get, it's suggested that we should

concentrate on UA and IDNs. I would actually want that as a topic for an APRALO session in Kuala Lumpur as opposed to DNS abuse or anything else, specifically because UA and IDNs are quite high—particularly high on the agenda for our region, anyway.

Also, based on the suggestion on certain topics that we could run capacity building webinars or maybe monitor on would be also outcomes of the EPDP on IDNs—outreach in terms of the new gTLD rounds around IDNs, applicant support, community TLDs. So in that sense, we have to monitor developments on the SubPro ODP, which will eventually turn into the extension of the new gTLD program.

Also, so end user action on DNS abuse. Here, I would just like to draw your attention to something that I didn't mention earlier, which is that GNSO Council is also trying to make sense of what policy development could do in terms of mitigating DNS abuse. I'm not going to through specifics about it.

But if you are interested in, there's an opportunity for At-Large and ALAC to participate in this directly, unlike some of the other things. If you are interested in this, please do attend the CPWG meetings because Jonathan is heading that effort and we are expected to give some very important input to the GNSO Council small team on DNS abuse on what we think DNS abuse involves and how we think policy development might help mitigate those abuses.

So in terms of ... We need to be careful not to duplicate things that are being done in CPWG. So we need to find ways of maybe finding a niche within what is done in CPWG or doing something that's not particularly

addressed specifically in CPWG but may be of interest to our region. I've mentioned some of the examples, as you see in the bottom orange box there.

It's also important to keep an eye on how we do things in terms of simplifying engagement to allow ease of understanding and increasing opportunities for discussions. So it's not just a one-way conversation that I'm telling you things. I would like people to tell me things as well. So that's something that we wanted to keep in mind. I don't have specifics about how we're going to do that yet because, as I said, I'm trying to get an endorsement or the non-objection to this plan going forward into [2012].

And we will certainly be looking at conducting a periodic review on how the APF is doing in terms of engaging the participants in it—the members in it. And will be all, on top of the existing things that we're already doing, which is the Register of Skills And Interests, or Project RoSI, as I call it. Also, the hot topics survey, which was different from last year. And something which is not within the APRALO policy platform per se, but is something that's being done by APRALO, which is the mentorship program.

So unless I hear any stringent objections to this guide, I think we might try to arrange our agenda around using this as guidance. And I'm happy to put this forward to the APAC list for wider consideration as well. Thank you.

SATISH BABU:

Thank you, Justine. I think there is a general endorsement for the plan of action that you have described. So let us move it to the list and see if there's any other comments. But otherwise, we can go ahead with this, I think.

Now, the last ... There's really only one agenda—one last item. This is about the APRALO General Assembly scheduled for 2023. We had decided, or rather, had a [inaudible] decision that we will cohost it or co-locate it with the APriGF in 2023. Actually, we planned 2022. But because of COVID, now that event is going on it 2023. So now we find that the APriGF is also co-located with APNIC.

There was a stakeholder engagement meeting last week of APriGF. I mentioned that we had this planned. They were very positive about it. They wanted to talk further. And we do have several common people involved in the different groups. So we will try to dialog with the APriGF and then we'll come back to update this group here about the [inaudible].

So that's all on the agenda. The next meeting is on 21st of April. And thanks to everybody for joining this meeting. And it's back to Yeşim. Apologies for exceeding the time but it was inevitable. So back to Yeşim to close the meeting.

YEŞİM SAĞLAM:

Thank you very much, Satish, and thank you all for joining today's session. This meeting is now adjourned. Have a great rest of the day.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]