

YEŞİM SAĞLAM:

Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to everyone. Welcome to the EURALO 15th Anniversary, taking place on Tuesday, 29th of March, 2022 at 17:00 UTC. We will not be doing the roll call. However, all attendees on the Zoom Room, as well as on the phone bridge, will be recorded after the call. Just to go over our apologies, we have received apologies from Adam Peake, Ricardo Holmquist and from Yrjö Länsipuro.

Just a kind reminder to please state your name before speaking for the interpretation purposes. We have English, Spanish, French, and Russian interpretation available. With this, I would like to leave the floor back over to you Sebastien. Thank you very much.

Sébastien, you are muted. A kind reminder for everyone to please read your lines when you are not taking the floor. And Sébastien, if you could please unmute your line.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Sorry for that. I want to welcome all of you, the ones who will be talking and the ones who will be participating. That's great to have you here. It's exactly, day-for-day, 15 years ago we were signing an MOU between ICANN and some At-Large Structures from Europe to create EURALO. That was the beginning of a long work. I wouldn't have been here without my previous chairs, Wolf Ludwig and Olivier Crépin-Leblond, and all of the leaders of EURALO, within the EURALO board or within the ALAC. Some of them were also liaisons to the board.

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.

We will hear from some of the people who were participating to the signing ceremony 15 years ago. Unfortunately, not all were able to join us today but I am sure that we will have a good landscape of what happened 15 years ago.

We have the one who signed the MOU in the first part and some of the other leaders of ICANN at that time. Then we will finish with the current leader—of course, the CEO and president of ICANN, with the Board member, our vice-chair of the Board. But he's, today, a little bit more because he's also coming from our community and he's speaking on behalf of the Board, if I understand well. Then we'll have Chris Mondini, who is in charge of EUROPE from ICANN Org and a very useful colleague to enhance EURALO, also. We will end this part with Maureen Hilyard, the chair of ALAC.

Without taking too much time, now I will give the floor to ... No. First, I wanted to show you this image. Sorry. It's all At-Large who were participating at the Lisbon meeting. It was the champagne time. And as you can see, there are all the representatives from At-Large. And some Board members, on the back, you will see. And as a matter, this day was also the creation of AFRALO. And I am sure that they will celebrate in another way than us.

It seems that you can't see my screen and I don't know why. Staff, if you can see my screen or you can't.

YEŞİM SAĞLAM:

Sebastien, I think you'll need to click on the presenter's view or just, next to that, the book image so we can see the full screen.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: I clicked on the ... Do this and I will try again. I'm sorry. I wanted to be able to—

YEŞİM SAĞLAM: Sebastien, I have the slides ready if you would like me to share my screen.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Is this one better?

YEŞİM SAĞLAM: This one is perfectly fine. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Okay. Sorry. I changed into the screen. Therefore, here you can see the At-Large Participants and the Board members. Then the next slide is just to show you the beginning of the memorandum of understanding. It was done of 29th of March, 2007. Here, you have all the ones who signed the document and some of them will be talking to you now.

I will, before giving the floor, to show you the image of Dragoslava Pefeva, who was singing for Internet Society Bulgaria, and Patrick Vande Walle, who was signing on behalf of Internet Society Luxembourg. I guess now I can give the floor to Rudi, who was signing for Internet Society Belgium. Rudi, the floor is yours.

RUDI VANSNICK:

Thank you, Sébastien. It's a pleasure to be, again, in this beautiful group of people that have been working for a long time on issues that are related to the Internet domain space. I remember that we had the first meeting in Frankfurt in 2005, if I'm not wrong. It was a meeting with a lot of people, discussing the creation of EURALO. I remember that Ludwig Wolf was there, Desiree Miloshevic, Jeanette Hofmann, Vittorio Bertola. Stefano Trump was also there, Wolfgang Kleinwächter, Roberto Gaetano. A lot of people that created, in fact, the kernel of what is now called the EURALO.

In 2007, 15 years ago, remembering that, in fact, our EURALO signing procedure was postponed due to the long discussions on the xxx extension. We started the signing process two hours later than was scheduled because of the big discussion on whether there would be the xxx extension—yes or no. I remember that we were really getting tired when we signed the MOUs that day.

Later, in Lisbon, I also remember that EURALO was playing a soccer game. It's still clear in my mind. I didn't have my sport shoes. And I used those of a lady from the Caribbean, Jackson. It was really a day that I will never forget.

Later on, we had our first ALAC summit in Mexico—a three-day event where I was joined by someone from the American At-Large, discussing the abuse of the domain name space. It was a quite heavy discussion where I remember that members from the ccNSO were not that happy with what we were putting to the table.

I stayed about eight years on At-Large. And for me, that was the period in which I have learned quite a lot of what the ICANN world means. As there was already a lot of very good people working in At-Large and EURALO, I was asked to join the NPOC group in order to launch activities in that space, linked to the GNSO. The experience and the knowledge that I gathered during the At-Large period helped me in creating the new organization, NPOC. I stayed about three years in NPOC.

After 11 years, I considered that I had to do something else in my life, aside the professional activities I had, and I stepped down from the ICANN world with a lot of regrets because I knew that when I was going to step down and leave the ICANN world, I was going to leave behind me a lot of splendid people that I had been working with for several years in At-Large. It was part of my life that I will never forget. I still remember all the faces of the people where we have been working together for more than eight years.

It's also an experience of working with a multicultural world. That helped me in doing what I'm doing today. I have been taken away from the Internet space a few years ago to join a different world—a sport world. For those who know—and I'm sure Sébastien will know pétanque, bocce in English—a sport in which I've been engaged now and I'm part of the board that is rolling out the new bocce rules in Europe and in Belgium.

With the experience of what I learned in ALAC and EURALO, I have been quite successful in the past two, three years. You see the logo behind me—the PFV, Petanque Federation Vlaanderen—for which I'm actually responsible for my province and my region.

I think I have spoken quite enough and there is space for other people to talk now. Again, happy birthday to all of you because you're all part of it. Hope to see you, maybe, in 5, 10, 15 years from now. Over to you, Sébastien.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much, Rudy. Good luck with petanque. I am sure you will do well. Now I give the floor to Wolfgang Kleinwächter. Wolfgang, please. The floor is yours.

WOLFGANG KLEINWÄCHTER: Thank you very much. You can hear me?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Yes. That's okay. Go ahead.

WOLFGANG KLEINWÄCHTER: I also want to congratulate the EURALO community. 15 years is a long time. Sébastien said in the beginning that it was the start of a long journey, the signing of the MOU was also the end of a long battle. Because the whole thing started already in 1998 when ICANN was established. The old veterans will remember that one of the basic ideas of the founding fathers of ICANN was to have a Board where half of the members of the Board are coming from the At-Large community and half of them from the industry—from the service providers—and the other half from the users.

This basic idea was discussed for many years—in particular, after the first round of elections in the year 2000. A lot of doubts raised—how to represent the At-Large community in the best way in the broader ICANN community. So for the moment, the At-Large was removed from 19 voting members of the Board to a non-voting liaison, which was, at this time, Vittorio Bertola.

And when the discussion further evolved, the idea popped up to have Regional At-Large Organizations and then to send them delegates to the At-Large Advisory Committee, which was established after the Bucharest ICANN meeting as part of the first ICANN reform. So it has triggered the idea of the establishment of a European Regional At-Large Organization.

Rudi mentioned the meeting in Frankfurt, which was, by the way, organized by Annette Muhlberg, which was also a former chair of the At-Large Advisory Committee. She is from Frankfurt and she was the host of the meeting there and was very instrumental in organizing both the German At-Large community at this time but also in managing At-Large as a whole. My understanding is that Annette is also online and probably in the discussion. She can raise some words.

This was what I wanted to remember. This is the look backwards. But I want to add also a look forward and say, “What will be the challenges in the future?” Sébastien has mentioned the long journey, the 15 years. Certainly, one of the highlights of the engagement of At-Large in this broader ICANN community was the IANA Transition, when At-Large representatives played an instrumental role to hand over the oversight over ICANN, and in particular the IANA, to the empowered community.

And the At-Large community is now an important part of the empowered community.

But while we have a lot of reasons to celebrate, we should not close our eyes that there are also a number of problems ahead of us. Just recently—I think it was published yesterday—Joanna Kulesza, together with Maureen Hilyard, the chair of the ALAC now, wrote an interesting article in CircleID, where they raised the point which has got others in tears in the At-Large community of burnout from volunteers because the whole At-Large work is based on volunteer work. I think this is what's recognized by ICANN, by the ICANN Board, and also by the leadership of ICANN—the CEOs, Fadi and Göran.

But on the other hand, there is a problem—and in my eyes, a growing problem—with volunteer engagement in the ICANN community. There is a number of reasons. One point is probably procedural issues so that you see only little outcome. Since the IANA Transition, no progress was made in a number of PDPs. So it's time consuming, a lot of effort you have to introduce, and you do not see the results and the reward from your colleagues and friends. You have this wonderful community of friends in ICANN. It's certainly a rewarding thing. But to see more substance, more result, more concrete outcomes would be much more rewarding.

So I think it's one of the challenges of the future that the At-Large should pressure the whole ICANN community, as part of the empowered community, that ICANN moves forward quicker—in particular, in this very unstable world where we are faced with new challenges.

I'm very optimistic because in my nearly 20 years in ICANN, I have made so many good experiences with engagement, not only with volunteer work but also with a lot of expertise of hundreds—thousands of people who make this community very great. So that means we have a good starting point. But the challenges of the future are big challenges. I hope that we use the 15th anniversary, and probably a face-to-face celebration in The Hague, to look forward by recognizing that what we have achieved in the past. Back to you, Sebastien. Once again, happy birthday.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you very much, Wolfgang. I am sorry. I will change the organization of this meeting, as I just learned that Paul Twomey will not be able to stay with us too long. Therefore, I am sorry for what's supposed to be the next one. I guess it was Stefano. I am sorry for Stefano but I will give the floor to Paul. I need to share my screen—wait a second—with the right speech. I hope I will be able to find it. Okay. And I will give him the floor. Wait a second. Okay. That was to show him in different positions and with signing and with different of us during this signing ceremony. Paul, thank you very much for joining us and I give you the floor.

PAUL TWOMEY:

Thank you, Sébastien and Stefano. I the last person who would want to be seen to be changing the schedules you aligned. My apologies. But it may be worth you knowing that I'm at a private conference that's going

on at the moment about aspects of security of the Internet and cloud computing, etc.

ICANN has been talked about by numerous people here in the last day and not just by myself. I think it's an indication of the success of the community and the role that we've all played in actually building a sustainable institution and framework around the protocol parameters. I'm still amazed as to how many people know about ICANN and what their understandings are. So it certainly has ended up being a testament, I think, to everybody.

I remember the signing of this with great relief, to be truthful. As Wolfgang said, the trying to get a voice for the—I'll use the word "users—" but a voice for the users in the ICANN context and having it reflected institutionally was a long one. There were multiple models tried and several of them found wanting.

The people here on this call will remember that when the At-Large process and the regional At-Larges were put forward, that was controversial—accusations that ISOC was too influential or this, that, or the other thing. It was one of these cases where whatever the model that was put forward, there was always somebody else who was going to say it was the wrong model.

What was also it for me, personally, with being CEO at the time, with entering in the process was trying to encourage the community process to establish the At-Large and the RALOs, but at the same time, being careful not to come up with the answer—trying to let the community work it—and just the amount of time and communication between

people before everybody got comfortable to move forward. So I was personally very pleased, at the time, that we go to recognize the AFRALO and EURALO and we were very pleased with their signing. This has stayed with me very clearly.

I also wanted to say that, for this group and others more broadly, that it's ended up being a very successful model. And it's been a successful model because of the people who are involved. I think the people who—I think Wolfgang was making the point—people who put in the contribution, the people who have made the time and the effort, put up with the frustrations, went out and spoke the voice, went out and said key things to the community, I think were essential.

I think at various times in the history of ICANN, when it's been building its institutional presence, when it's become more and more independent, whatever that might have meant, at those times, the At-Large community has been key because it has been the voice that governments and others looking at whether the decision to move forward and keep evolving the ICANN model should happen, it was often the At-Large voice which was the one that was most interesting to them, not so much the participants. The governments knew what they would say. But it was more the role of the At-Large.

So I can appreciate the frustrations and the difficulties, the slowness on occasions. But I think you should have confidence that you've built a sustainable European At-Large organization. You've built a sustainable At-Large organization for ICANN itself. But most importantly, at the key times, it's been your voices that have been probably the most influential in having—especially the United States government—at the various

periods of time to make decisions to let ICANN become increasingly what we wanted it to be.

So I wanted to say congratulations to everybody involved, express, yet again, my sense of relief about what happened 15 years ago, and say thank you, particularly to Sébastien for putting this together. I look forward to staying on and seeing some people. But unfortunately, I'm playing hooky at the moment to come and do this call so I'm going to have to slip back. So thanks very much.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Paul, thank you very much. Much appreciated that you were able to join us. Thank you for your kind words.

PAUL TWOMEY: I'm looking forward to seeing people later in The Hague, hopefully.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: We hope all of us open. And particularly we hope, also, because we will have our general assembly—hopefully face-to-face in The Hague—for EURALO. And it will be another time for celebrating this anniversary. But I thought that it was good to do this on the day of the real 15th anniversary. Once again, Paul, thank you very much. I will now give the floor to Stefano Trumpy, who was representing Società Internet Italia. Per favore, Stefano.

STEFANO TRUMPY: Okay. Grazie. It was very nice to see one of the first ... Just a moment. Okay. You can hear it now good?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: It's okay, Stefano. The problem was with the interpreter, who was talking in French, but I guess it was solved. Go ahead, please. Thank you very much.

STEFANO TRUMPY: Okay. Paul, we met the first time in Berlin in '99. I was sent there with the possibility to start attending for the Italian government in the GAC. So this was Berlin '99 and I missed only the first meeting of ICANN in Singapore a few months before. At the time, it was not yet clear the path of the ICANN and the roles. One of the very important roles was the At-Large members. Can you hear me good?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Yeah. That's okay, Stefano. I guess it's people who have their mic open when you are talking. I hope that it will be solved. Go ahead, please. Thank you, Stefano.

STEFANO TRUMPY: Okay. I remember that in the first couple of years, there was the idea of electing members of At-Large in five regions of the world. I remember that I tried, also, to be a candidate for Europe. But then, I met a young man in Italy. That was Vittorio Bertola that has been already mentioned. So I had 250 votes and Vittorio 100 more than me. So I said, "I have to

get this person in our chapter of the Internet Society that founded by me in the year—”

YEŞİM SAĞLAM:

Sorry. My screen just froze so I'm not sure if we have lost Stefano or if it's only at my end. Just checking.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

No. I guess it's all of us. I guess there is a problem with the bandwidth. Okay. What I suggest, if you agree, I will go to the next speaker and give the floor to Joan Francesc from the Catalan Chapter. I wanted to ... Okay. I might try to have ... Go ahead, Joan.

JOAN FRANCESC GRAS:

This Joan Francesc Gras speaking from ISOC Catalan Chapter. Greetings to everyone, especially to the people with whom we shared that day. Today seems to be stories [inaudible]. 15 years later, we meet again to celebrate our birthday. It was [a huge one,] and for me, it's very important, was the first [inaudible] of the .cat domain visited ICANN Public Meeting. It was my second public meeting, [the first] one was in Marrakesh. I remember [Wolfgang explaining the situation.]

In this place, I have for first time Internet, language, community, and culture. We, the team of ISOC CAT and the puntCat, we discovered the [inaudible] to file for universal internet rights. We say in Catalan—there are [inaudible] who say, “[Speaking Catalan].” It translates, “Who loves his origins loves his identity.” And our identity is our language. And from our culture and our language, we encourage EURALO's continuous

[inaudible] diversity and [respect for the government sensibilities], cultures, and ways of seeing and expressing the words and feeling like a single community.

While it's very much [rich] and therefore, we can still do many great things under the umbrella of EURALO, we still have local action for the [natives at the local] level with EURALO is important for the general governance of ICANN and also for the respective actions of each member done locally, remembering the beginning globally and locally. EURALO continues shaping the future of Internet in the European region, no face-to-face—we hope in the next meeting can be face-to-face—and remembering ISOC Internet is for everyone, for every way of thinking the world, every culture, and every language with [inaudible] and with [inaudible].

I don't have more words, Sebastien, because remembering to 2007, we very new people in town. They are doing a lot of things on the ICANN Board and others.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you very much. Well done. Stefano is back. Stefano, do you want to take the floor to end your presentation? Or we can go ahead. Up to you, Stefano. Go ahead.

STEFANO TRUMPY:

Then, after this period of the organization of the At-Large, the idea changed a couple of years later. Then there was this organization that should define and try to bring organizations for reporting the At-Large

scope. So at this point, Roberto was the representative of the Italian Chapter of the Internet Society in the At-Large of ICANN. We were the first association that signed for that.

While I was representing for all the later years, until 2015 in Dublin, where I was constantly the representative of the Italian government in the GAC. But of course, in 2007, I was participating with Vittorio Bertola. I signed the EURALO, as you see in the picture that we are all the founders of the EURALO. This was a very good experience. And we are proud to be among the founders of EURALO.

When I finished my role in 2015 in Dublin, then I had some purpose or interest myself, also with going ahead with the Italian Chapter of the Internet Society. I think that the role of EURALO has been very good. I thank Sébastien Bachollet for this 15 years of history of EURALO. That is, in my opinion, one of the important parts of ICANN, again. So I am very glad to see other people that I know very well, like Wolfgang Kleinwächter, like Roberto Gaetano, and many other persons who I have a good relations in any one of the meetings.

So this is my end of history. I'm greeting you for this meeting where maybe where maybe a number of the presence that are present, I didn't meet again after 2015. So this is a very good and very well exchange of views. This is, I think, very important for all of us. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you, Stefano. And thank you for all your kind words and the help you gave us. I will share my screen. I didn't show the picture of Joan. Here, you have. I will, if you'll allow me, skip the next speaker. He has

nothing to say about this anniversary. As somebody asked me how old I was, I was only 15 years old. We will go ... Paul is already done and now we will go to this. I will try to share this. Stop here. Share again. Sorry for ... I will show you two. That was recorded by ...

Okay. And now another.

YEŞİM SAĞLAM: Sorry, Sébastien. Sorry for interrupting but we didn't have audio for the previous one. Would you like me to—

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Okay. Then go ahead to the next one. I am sorry about that. I don't know why. It was working when we tried and we tested. Okay. Go.

YEŞİM SAĞLAM: For the second video? Okay. Sure.

VINT CERF (VOICEOVER): Hello. My name is Vint Cerf. I'm vice president and chief Internet evangelist at Google. My purpose today, however, is to wish EURALO a happy 15th anniversary. I can't think of anything more important today than having the voices of civil society speak to the forces that are rending the Internet apart—that are fragmenting it for a variety of different reasons, some of which are understandable, but which deserve considerable attention, yours in particular.

We're seeing many negative things happening in the online environment. The Internet is a neutral platform. But it can be used as an amplifier for both good and bad activity. Today, the bad activity is increasingly prominent. And course, countries around the world seek to protect their citizens by enacting legislation and adopting regulation in order to protect their citizens. But in fact, some of these actions may be harmful to civil society and to the freedom of expression and interconnection, which the Internet has promised, and produced, and delivered over the past nearly 40 years of its operation.

So as you celebrate your 15th anniversary, please be assured that your work is important, and it is needed, and it must continue. I know you're all committed to that and I thank you for it. Sorry I can't be there in person. You'll put up with virtual Vint. But I look forward to seeing you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you very much, Vint. Thank you for recording this video for us. Sorry for that being [shared] but I put the link to the YouTube for the first video that you can go and see it. After Vint you have the AFRALO ceremony of signature for their own MOU.

Now I would like to give the floor to Roberto Gaetano. Roberto, please.

ROBERTO GAETANO:

Thank you. I think that most of you know me. I have joined ALAC. In 2003 in Montreal was my first meeting. I was the one of the five appointees from NomCom that integrated the 10 selected internally people to compose the first ALAC.

One thing that is maybe funny to point out, a lot of people like to put in their CV a line that says, "I make things happen." And that is considered important for recruiters. I can say the same in my ICANN life but with an addition. I make things happen when I'm gone because, as a matter of fact, I have worked for many years in trying to build EURALO. I remember when we were looking for At-Large structures, I was contacting, for instance, consumer protection organizations and all types of organizations because we wanted to have a pluralistic view and have a very diverse composition in EURALO. So we achieved this. It took us a long time to achieve it.

So my term ended in 2006. I think it was Sao Paolo. And EURALO was formed immediately afterwards, in Lisbon, when I was already gone. I was part of the Board. I was, again, selected by NomCom but this time for the Board. Vittorio Bertola took my place as liaison and I was on the Board. I considered one of the most important things that I should do coming from At-Large was to make sure that At-Large was getting more importance within ICANN.

One of the discussions that was there at the time was that unlike supporting organizations, ALAC didn't have a voting member on the Board. As a matter of fact, I was a voting member on the Board but I was no longer ALAC. I was taken, anyway, from the community but not representing ALAC. So I started working hard, also, with the people and with my fellow directors to try to convince them about the importance of having the voice of the users. It has not been an easy task.

Then we had something that was already mentioned. That was the symposium in Mexico City where the request for having two voting

members coming from ALAC was formalized. There were a lot of discussions on the Board. Finally, the Board passed a resolution to establish a seat—I think it was number 15 but I may be wrong—selected by ALAC. They managed to do that in 2010 when I left the Board in 2009. So again, I make things happen by going away and let things happen.

So this is for the fun part of the story. I think that, over the years, there have been a lot of things. The situation has evolved a lot. ALAC and EURALO has really done a lot of work, has earned a reputation, and is now considered a fundamental part of the ICANN structure.

And this was not always like that. The early times, when we were starting with the regional organization, it as hard to have our voice—the voice of the users—the voice of the internet community at large heard. We needed to work twice as hard as the others to make sure that our contributions were appreciated. I think this is not at all—nothing that I have done much. This is the whole community, that by working, and contributing, and participating to working groups, has done over the years.

One other thing that we have started early in EURALO was to consider how we could involve individual members in EURALO. Then, on that, I also started working on that because I think that ... Myself, I don't have an At-Large Structure that I belong to so I needed to find a place for myself. So I contributed to create the individual user community in EURALO. And I'm glad to say that the individual users in EURALO have also individually contributed a lot—again, in working groups and in the work of ICANN—and contributed to the reputation of At-Large.

So a lot of things have changed. A lot of things have not moved a lot. My first meeting, as I said, was in Montreal. And immediately afterwards, still in 2003—I think it was the end of 2003—was the Tunis meeting, the [inaudible], where as an ALAC member, I had my very first discussion with my good friend, the late Marilyn Cade, over a topic related to intellectual property. That was the issue about privacy versus security on the WHOIS.

To the best of my knowledge, the discussion has changed a bit but it's still on the same basic, I would say, contraposition of two different idea that were the ones that the two of us, as good friends but also having different ideas on how to develop the model, have argued for many, many years. So that's basically all what I wanted to say. Thank you for your attention.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you very much, Roberto. Before I give the floor to Göran, the CEO and president of ICANN, I wanted to ask all the participants. If you want to take the floor after the next speaker, please raise your hand and we'll have a time for your own contribution. I know that there are people who are already sending me requests to speak. I may be starting with them. But please raise your hand.

With that, now we are turning to the one in charge of ICANN today. Some of the previous speakers are still involved. But let's go to Göran Marby, please.

GÖRAN MARBY:

Thank you. I wouldn't say that I'm in charge. I actually remember the first time we met in Marrakesh, at the dinner table, Sébastien. I told you that I don't see myself as the ICANN CEO. I see myself as the ICANN Org CEO. And you wondered, "What is ICANN Org?" I will always cherish that discussion. But I'm really honored to be here. I've been listening in to the conversations.

I want to say that you were very early. I think that one of the things we struggle with today is the Internet is global and local at the same time. Sometimes, we don't pay enough attention to make sure that the globality and the locality works well together. We see that in discussions like IDNs, universal acceptance, but also local regulation, where Europe and the European Commission is very active, as you know. We see that when conflicts are happening, or actually war in Europe right now. This locality and globality needs to be attended to.

I like this concept that you've created, not only in Europe but in other places of the world, to take into that account. There are things that will be very local, especially on the legislation side. In a funny way, I just realized something. That belief also led me to do something with the organization.

We today have the pleasure of including some members of my team in Europe together on this call because we realized, and I realized, we needed a more regional setting—also, how we support the community. Therefore we recreated the regional offices with a managing director—as I mentioned, here in Europe, we have Chris—to better support the ICANN community, the different communities, and also to make this sense of working together a little bit differently.

I think that I also want to say thank you to Sébastien for the interaction we've had now during COVID. I think that the regional meetings that we're rolling out around the world, we actually took some hints from how you do this in Europe. So now we do the same things in all the parts of the world. But you were a leader in this one. And I think that during COVID, we've helped each other to sustain participation also within ICANN.

I just checked last year. And I can probably check how many interactions with At-Large participants. And I know that David Olive only supported more than 4,000 conference calls last year, which is an amazing amount of calls and shows that despite COVID, there's a lot of interaction, and a lot of knowledge being shared, and a lot of discussions being held.

I also have to admit that—you can't probably hear that because of my perfect English—but I am European. I am Swedish. And being the ICANN Org president and CEO, that heritage cannot be taken out of me. Someone said about the differences is something that takes us together or something like that. I'm paraphrasing. I think that the differences in the European region is a strength for the European region because I always think that if everybody became Swedish, the world might function better but it will be much more boring. So it's a good thing that we're all different.

I would like to take the opportunity, also, to acknowledge some of the substantial contributors to EURALO. Why not start with Roberto who was the first chair of the GNSO, first ALAC liaison to the Board, first Board member selected to NomCom, and also being a person that often

has told me how to think about ICANN and I really appreciate that. That taught me a lot.

Vittorio Bertola, who was the first chair of At-Large Advisory Committee, 2003 to 2006; Annette Muhlberg, who was the second chair of ALAC, 2006 to 2007; Olivier Crépin-Leblond—and excuse me for my bad pronunciations—5th chair of the ALAC, 2010 to 2014; and of course, Sébastien, first ICANN Board member selected by At-Large from 2010 to 2014.

I actually, for the first time, went back and read the MOU between ICANN and EURALO. The one thing that impresses me, reading it, it's survived the test of time by the continued relevance of the stated responsibilities of ICANN EURALO within this document. I hear from the comments it was sometimes a hard journey to receive that. But everyone that's involved should be very proud of that document. Again, if you look during this COVID-19 pandemic, it's really showed its worth.

I think that you are extremely successful—really successful during this transition—as Paul mentioned. Again, it's more of a personal experience. I came into ICANN six years ago, which was at the end of the transition period.

Some of the discussions from at At-Large in general, from EURALO, because I knew some of you, was something that I've brought with me. I didn't involve myself in the negotiations internally. But the spirit of ICANN and the spirit of having this responsibility we all share about all the identifiers, working with our partners in ISOC, working with the numbers community, working with the root server operators, working

with the CC community is something that I learned very much by you telling me.

Europe right now is—not only because of the war in Ukraine but also because of a lot of the discussions about, which Vint mentioned, the neutrality of the identifier system but also sometimes the misunderstandings about how the system works and who makes the decisions. That unfortunately, also, has implications on proposals for legislations or actions by the European Commission. Your voice is extremely important when it comes to this. Your voice is probably even more important than my voice in this because you represent the end users.

You've seen the proposal about the resolvers. You've seen the NIS2 proposals. You've seen discussions from the European Commission about even talking about alternative root server systems. I think that we might debate the little things. We might have discussions about little things. But I think we all share one thing. The interoperability of the internet is extremely important. The ability for people to meet on this thing we call the Internet—on one system where everybody can communicate with each other—is very, very important.

I think we have to be together to work, to make sure that politicians, legislatures, and other ones have an understanding that there is no way you can divide this into something else because then it will not be the Internet.

Again, thank you so much for inviting me and I'm looking forward to see you, [inaudible] that we're going to take when we meet up next time in

The Hague. We're going to have a face-to-face meeting with a large portion of remote participants. I, for myself, cannot wait to do that. Thank you again, Sébastien and everybody, for inviting me.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you, Göran. Yes, definitely we wait for the cake in The Hague. But thank you for your words and the names of the different leaders of EURALO and the different places at the beginning of ICANN. Now, I want to give the floor to Leon Sanchez. Leon, I was the first but you are the best. And you are vice-chair of the Board. Please take the floor.

LEON SANCHEZ: Thank you, Sébastien. It's an honor to be here, as usual. I say this with great humbleness and emotion. It's great to represent the At-Large community, to be the voice of the end users, and to incorporate the views of the end users in every decision we make in the Board. It's also an honor to be amongst all of you who have built history, who have built this organization, and who have taught me so many things. I am forever grateful to each and every one of you who have been kind enough to share your knowledge, your historic memories, and your advice when I have come back looking for advice with some of you.

I feared to leave someone outside so I won't name anyone in particular. But you know who you are, guys, and you know how I value the things you do, how I value the work you do for our community, and for me personally, and the support that you have given me through the years, and the support that I hope I can continue to enjoy in the coming years.

I am also here on behalf of Maarten, our chairman. Maarten asked me to step in for him as vice-chair of the Board and provide with a message from Maarten to EURALO. As you know, Maarten is normally joining the EURALO activities and he's really, really sorry that this didn't work out with his agenda this time. Otherwise, I ensure that he would have been here. And as I said, he asked me to deliver a message to all of your on his behalf. Now I'm going to quote this message. He wrote it for me.

It reads, "Dear Sébastien, Dear EURALO colleagues, it is with much pleasure that I celebrate the 15 years of contributions to ICANN from a European user's perspective with you. Whereas I cannot be here in person, I am with you in spirit. Thanks again for all you do and please note my explicit appreciation for the inclusive way you do it. Enjoy your celebration. I'm hoping to see you all in June, or as many of you as can join, in my city of birth, The Hague." So this is Maarten's message.

My personal message, of course, is also celebratory and congratulating all of you for this 15th anniversary. It is easier said than done. 15 years seems like a short time in this ecosystem. But again, it is a product of the effort of many, many persons in our community; many battles that have been fought, that have been won; some others that may have been lost but we're still in the battle to make things happen in some ends. And of course, you can trust me with being an ally to you in all these battles.

I would like to highlight the huge amount of work that you have been performing during this pandemic and the challenges that we've all been facing, but especially you as volunteers in our community and in the European context, which is really diverse, and how you have

successfully managed to make things work throughout this diverse universe of end users and how you have managed to successfully make the end users' voice heard in the ICANN context. So I congratulate you for that. I applaud you for that. And I am sure that we will find ways in which the volunteer work may be value and recognized properly.

It is, of course, also great that we are going to meet in The Hague. As I usually told you, I never lost hope that soon we would be able to meet face-to-face. The Hague seems to be this opportunity for us to go back and meet face-to-face.

Some of you have asked me whether there will be any kind of confirmation from the Board, as to whether we are meeting in The Hague or not. And I've told you—and I would like to remember you—that there is no need for the Board to confirm what has already been confirmed. We are meeting in The Hague. Göran has told us that we are meeting in The Hague. And unless something really bad happens that would prevent us from being there, we will be there. It is great to go back to meeting face-to-face in Europe, where many things start and are pioneered within the ICANN community.

I can think of a number of tasks that you have successfully pioneered—for example, having the individual end users form an organization by which they can have their voices heard within the regional At-Large organizations. Some others have followed your lead, not only in that respect but in many others.

So Sébastien, again, thank you for having me. Thank you for trusting me to be the one person from At-Large in the Board. Thank you for all your

teachings, all the lessons, all the knowledge that you've shared with me, and all the work that you do for the end user community, not only in the European context but also in the worldwide context. Because the voices of the end users may be diverse but I'm pretty sure that the common topics that we all share come from a global community. And they are well represented through EURALO and through the other RALOs.

Of course, I also congratulate AFRALO. It's the anniversary of them as well. Also remember that we have colleagues in Ukraine who are suffering from terrible consequences. So I would like to seize the opportunity to wish them well, to let you know that we are supporting you, that we are thinking of you. And as I always say when I have the opportunity, "[Speaking foreign language]." That you very much again, Sébastien.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you, Leon. Yes, definitely. Your last word, it's with us, too. I am sure that we share it. And thank you for the support you give us and then the trust you put in us, also. It's important. Now I would like to give the floor to Chris Mondini. And I would like to appreciate this, even if he will not choose it today, but his language skill is very useful in our diverse community and we appreciate to be able to have him in a different-language gathering. That's good for the diversity of Europe and in EURALO. Chris, the floor is yours.

CHRIS MONDINI:

Thank you for the kind words. I'm sitting in Brussels. I'm managing director for Europe with the ICANN Org and I lead stakeholder

engagement here. But I just wanted to take a moment, really, on a personal level, not only to say congratulations on your anniversary but also to thank you because I assumed this role at the beginning of 2020. At the time, I had worked with ICANN for, I think, nearly eight years and was very excited to make the move across the Atlantic. I had worked in other ICANN offices.

Then the pandemic struck. So suddenly, I found myself being European managing director, essentially from my sofa in Washington DC. This lasted for a number of months. I have to say yours was the community that made me feel the most welcome and the most connected to the region from the very beginning.

I was already very struck by the enthusiasm of your community for multiculturalism; for, as you say, Sébastien, multilingualism; for inclusiveness. I really felt that when I finally made it here a number of months later, that I had already a wonderful network across the region of committed ICANN stakeholders that were providing advice, providing links to their local Internet communities. And that was a really invaluable personal benefit for me so thank you.

I also want to congratulate what I think is very evident improvements, increasing the voice of At-Large, generally, on the policymaking process. I have a sense now that At-Large is really sought after for its advice on policies before ICANN. I think there's a really structured, coherent, regular approach that's getting stronger and more prominent with each passing year. And among the different ICANN structures, I think the pandemic and Zoom-based meetings is one that this group has taken

the most advantage of. I really have said it before. I credit you with keeping the community feeling connected through these times.

Another thing I'd like to congratulate EURALO on in particular is the roundtable series and how, in particular, you address topics which bridge ICANN's work and mandates to other important, interesting topics in the Internet and technology today. That can range from accessibility issues, security issues, blockchain issues. But there's an important bridging function where you help us to reach out to people that have interest in those topics. You help them to understand how it affects the functioning of the domain name system and how, then, they can participate in policies around that. I think that's been, again, something that we've seen successfully launched during the pandemic.

We have a lot of good work ahead of us as we move back into hybrid and in-person gatherings. I know that we, on the engagement team across Europe, stand prepared to help re-engage and revitalize relationships with all of the At-Large structures. And I also want to congratulate how seamlessly and collegially everyone here works with the ICANN support staff—the policy team, the meetings team, and of course the engagement team. Adam Peake is on a plane to New York as we speak. Otherwise he would be here. But I'm representing him and my colleagues as well. We are delighted to work with you.

Finally, I mentioned this bridging function. I think it's important, as many people have mentioned, we are a global community of stakeholders. Whether it's a trying time, like a pandemic or a war, we are still committed to working together for the global benefit that our function provides for people around the world. So you're a light, a

beacon of hope in troubling times. Again, congratulations on this anniversary. Happy birthday. I look forward to seeing many of you in person as the year unfolds. And thanks for the opportunity to be with you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you very much, Chris. I would like you to convey our thanks to your team because it's also part of the success of EURALO. And of course, I take this opportunity, also, to thank all the team from At-Large who help us and support us. I will say this also in the way of supporting, if you're translating in French, they support us. And particularly Gisella, who is very, very instrumental in what we are doing.

Now I would like to give the floor—last but not least—our chair of ALAC, Maureen Hilyard. Maureen, the floor is yours.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you so much, Sébastien, for inviting me to this celebration. I really do appreciate being here. When I think back to 2007, I can honestly say that at that time, I had not even heard about ICANN, let alone EURALO, I am sad to say. But I'm very happy to be here, and to be able to congratulate you for your 15 years of association with At-Large, and to be able to hear from those who had a great influence on the development of At-Large over those years.

I do want to give a special mention of thanks to Wolfgang for mentioning our article that Joanna, Marita, and I put together to raise the importance of volunteers and to give recognition to the amazing

people, many of whom are on this call today, for their commitment to the work we do in At-Large.

I just wanted to mention that at the same time you were foraging great things within ICANN, in 2007, I was coordinating with the local telecoms to connect the individual schools and hospitals on each of the 13 outer islands in the Cook Islands to the Internet. Up until 2006, their only communication with the world was via a phone link. And on some islands, it was one phone that they shared. So the Internet finally enabled them to reach out, not only to the main island of Rarotonga, but beyond.

At the same time, because of my work with the Ministry of Education—I'd formerly come from the correspondence school in New Zealand—I was able to persuade the correspondence school to totally digitize their programs to enable students in their isolated island environments to actually work and communicate directly with their teachers using the Internet. So although I wasn't doing the great things that you guys were doing within ICANN, in my own small way, making a difference, I think, within our small island community.

But I think, too, that coupled with this, recently, what has also been a major development in my part of the world has been the total change on these small islands to totally renewable energy so that they now have clean electricity to power their lives, 24/7. It's something that, really, people in Europe probably don't even really worry about. But I can remember being on those islands when we were limited to six hours of electricity a day, which was powered by expensive and polluting diesel fuel. So this is major for them.

In relation to the work that I'm doing now, the most significant experience for me at the time was that in 2006, I was invited by the prime minister of the Cook Islands to represent the Cook Islands at a meeting in Samoa, at the Pacific Islands Chapter of the Internet Society, PacINET.

And at my first experience of Internet governance, I was able to meet Vint Cerf. He was a special guest at that event. He encouraged me to join up with Pac ISOC and to help them do their work—to do its work within the region. So he was very instrumental in starting me on this journey that took me, via the Diplo Foundation, the Internet Society, and then on to my first ICANN Fellowship in 2010. Here, I seem to remain.

What I wanted to say here is that I have truly appreciated working with people who want to make a difference for Internet end users around the world. I just feel very privileged to have been given the opportunity to lead the At-Large community through what has been a very harrowing time during the pandemic. But if anything, I truly believe, as has been said earlier, that we've grown into a stronger organization, especially during this time of trial, because it's remained populated with people who are truly committed to the work that we're doing.

I've really appreciated working with some very amazing and committed people from around the world who've raised its value within ICANN. And I thank all the members of EURALO who have contributed to this work and the growing reputation of At-Large.

Thank you very much, Sébastien and everyone, for giving me this opportunity. And again, congratulations and I really look forward to your continued contribution, at least for another 15 years. Thank you. Bye.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much Maureen. I thought for two hours, this meeting, and not just one and a half hour. May I ask staff if we can have a little bit more—like 10 minutes more—for the interpretation? I have already a few people who want to talk. Please try to stay with two minutes in your intervention and I will give the floor, first to Jean-Jacques Subrenat. Jean-Jacques, can you join us?

JEAN-JACQUES SUBRENAT: Hello. Can you hear me now?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: We can hear you.

JEAN-JACQUES SUBRENAT: Can you hear me? Hello? Can you hear me?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Okay.

YEŞİM SAĞLAM: Sébastien, we are just checking if Jean-Jacques is on the phone bridge. We are waiting for our operator to confirm. Apologies for the delay.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Jean-Jacques has a problem. He cannot hear people on the phone bridge at the moment.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Okay. I don't know if you asked for the floor but I would like very much to give the floor to my colleague, the other chair of a RALO, who is already celebrating the 15 years today. Seun, can you take the floor or are you too far from your computer?

SEUN OJEDEJI: Yes, I can take the floor.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much. Go ahead, Seun.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Hello? Can you hear me?

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you very much. Okay. Can I go ahead?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Yeah. Go ahead.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay. Good. Thank you very much, Sébastien. And of course, hello, everyone. Sorry. I can't do video where I am. I just was typing in the chat to celebrate, and of course, congratulate EURALO. EURALO has been our birthday mate as well—been the 15th year for AFRALO as well. Hopefully, we will also find time to do this sometime later in the year. But again, we'd just like to celebrate.

Of course, it's good to look back and see some of those experiences that we shared on this call from Roberto. And of course, it's good to see some faces, and of course, see what Sébastien was looking like several years back and what he's looking like now.

But again, it's just a good thing. Of course, I'd like to, on behalf of AFRALO community, congratulate EURALO, all the past leadership of EURALO, and of course, the entire community of all the countries who contribute to the development of Internet end users. And of course, we thank you also for the collaboration that we usually enjoy between AFRALO and EURALO. We hope to keep it up. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you, Seun. And bring to your members our, also, congratulations for your 15th anniversary from EURALO members. Jean-Jacques Subrenat, let's try again.

JEAN-JACQUES SUBRENAT: Yes. Can you hear me now? Hello?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Yes. Go ahead, Jean-Jacques.

JEAN-JACQUES SUBRENAT: Oh, good. Thank you. Thank you Sébastien. I'd like to tell you that I'm not going to reminisce about my souvenirs or my memories of ALAC, the ICANN Board, etc., because I think each one of us has very little time. So I'd just like to congratulate everyone and bring up a few points which are a bit different.

We know that the At-Large community in ICANN has been used, and very willing to do so, to spread the word about ICANN and to make known ICANN's processes. In other words, it was, to speak simply, an exercise in outreach. But I think that today, we are in a different world—partly different. As the philosopher Edgar Morin wrote in his recent book ... By the way, he's now just over 100 years old and he's still one of the sharpest thinkers and philosophers of our time. He claims that we have, in fact, entered a different world—another world. So what are some of the challenges facing us in this other world—in the new world?

Of course, it's all about communications. That's what brings us together in the ICANN At-Large community. But also, it is things more general, for which ICANN was not created but which we will have to address sooner or later. It was already high time that we did so. For instance, the freedom of speech. I know that we are not an organization devoted

specially to freedom of speech. But it is the enabling of freedom of speech through technical means.

Another great issue or challenge of our time is, of course, the place and the value of the rule of law in society. Some people call that the difference between democracy and authoritarian rule. But more generally, I would term it the question of the rule of law. And we see what is going on in Russia just now, for instance, which is really not abiding by the rule of law.

So I think that the At-Large community, and certainly EURALO, because it is in the middle of the current crisis, has a word to say. We cannot make decisions we are not equipped for and we don't have authority to decide anything in ICANN. But I think it is up to us to bring to bear upon our leaders, meaning the Board, that we cannot indefinitely stay away from substantial issues of right and wrong.

Of course, the duty of ICANN is to maintain the instrument so that it works for everyone. But when it is grossly misused, we have to at least—without militarily attacking anyone, of course—but at least do our utmost to preserve the rights of those who are being attacked.

In this sense, I would like to quote a recent message by our colleagues, Oksana Prykhodko, from Ukraine, who said some very sensible things about the way ICANN and other technical bodies talk about the unilateral invasion of Ukraine, which they term a “war” or simply “a difficult situation.” I think the proper terms need to be used also in this case. It is a unilateral aggression against a sovereign state.

So it is our duty as a community, especially in Europe, I think, to impress upon the community and our Board that everything must be done to maintain the access of the community—for instance, in Ukraine but not only—to the full and free use of the Internet. The future of the world depends, to a great extent, on the capacity of the Internet to remain what it is today, meaning open to all. If we had a divided Internet or an Internet cut up into sections, it would no longer be the Internet. It would be a long list of intranets. For instance, China is, for all intents and purposes, an intranet. We must avoid that.

To end on this sorry, sad note, I want to bring back a smile—to congratulate Sébastien but also his predecessors. Olivier did a terrific job, also, as the chair of ALAC and EURALO, etc. And I think that we owe a lot to the staff, contrary to us, who get some moral satisfaction of being volunteers in the confines of ICANN ... Yes, they are paid for it but they do it very well. And from the bottom of my heart, I thank them as well.

So let's look forward. Of course, look backwards to our memories. They are very fond, most of them. But let us also look to the future challenges and let us not shy away from them. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you very much, Jean-Jacques. I don't know if there is some named [cell] phone number three. It is maybe someone with no name and no.

JEAN-JACQUES SUBRENAT: [Cell] phone number three is me.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Okay. Thank you very much, Jean-Jacques. Therefore, it's the end here. Okay. Thank you. As I don't have any more hands and we are already out of the time allocated, maybe I don't know why Annette, you didn't raise your hand up. May I ask you to say a few words? And I will give the floor to Olivier before to conclude. But Annette, I think even if we sometimes disagree, we sometimes agree, too. I think it's good if you can take the floor, please.

ANNETTE MUHLBERG: Yes. Thank you so much, Sébastien. I'm really happy to see and meet you all here. Also, I can say I've very proud what we achieved. It was in—oh my God. Let me think—2005 we started to make the first step. In 2006, we actually had this Frankfurt declaration for the Internet users and we started to draft these bylaws. There was no process in place before. I think we can all be very proud to be the first drafting these and supporting.

Also, at that time, I was the charge of the At-Large Advisory Committee of ICANN. And the global—not only the European Regional At-Large structure started but also in Latin America, and then Asia and so on, and so on. So it was a global start for the Internet user representation. I think, yeah. This is great to see that it worked and that we made it. So now, there are processes in place. Yeah. I think we can be proud of this and it's good to meet you all here. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much Annette. Thank you for your involvement since a long time to this organization. We appreciate your input. Sorry, Olivier. I would like to give the floor Oksana and give you, I will say, the last word before mine. But if you'll allow me, Oksana, please take the floor.

OKSANA PRYKHODKO: Thank you very much. Do you hear me?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Yes, very well. Thank you.

OKSANA PRYKHODKO: Sorry for not having a video and very happy to have at least a voice connection. First of all, my warmest congratulations on the 15th anniversary of EURALO and best wishes for 115 years more. I am very proud to be a part of EURALO community for 12 years. I would like to say that I was born in Soviet Union and it was very difficult for us to understand multistakeholder model and not to fake this multistakeholder model but to achieve real cooperation between all our stakeholders.

I would like to thank you all for all official and unofficial support. I received a huge amount of letters, of real help, of real propositions of help. Thank you very, very much. And I would like to say that I already have proposed to create ad hoc working group. I received a lot of unofficial messages of support. And we have at least one proposition for

naming it—Internet Governance and Multistakeholder Model in Terms of Emergency. I would be very happy if we can do this work in this working group and I ask for your support again. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much, Oksana. If I may take care of you as much as you can. Our thoughts are with you in that terrible moment. We appreciate your participation and your involvement. I will come back to you on your proposal. Olivier, please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Sébastien. I have to hold my mic close because I've been told from previous calls that this is not working too well. I just wanted to say it's an absolute pleasure to have worked with all of you for so many of these years. I wasn't there when EURALO was created but I saw that happening from outside.

There is one person, however, that you might have not seen in the list and that's Wolf Ludwig. I did get in touch with Wolf during the course of this call. Wolf is unwell. He has some health issues and so on so he couldn't join us.

But he did write to me and say, "Wow. What an event, the 15 Years of Celebration. It's something from my previous life I remember well. But I'm currently in COVID isolation at the moment. I wish you and all the EURALO folks all the best for your remarkable anniversary in which I had the pleasure of taking part some time ago." So we just wish him well and hope that things will be okay for him. But I thought it would be

good to translate his greetings over to here. Hopefully, he'll be able to watch the recordings when he gets better. Thank you.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you very much, Olivier, and thank you for reaching out to Wolf. It's a good idea. I will end the meeting soon. In parallel of EURALO and the creation of AFRALO, we also organized the election for the first time by the RALO of ALAC. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate the first chair of ALAC elected by the RALO, Cheryl Langdon-Orr. I am very happy that she is with us during this ceremony. I am sure that we will have opportunities to discuss and meet her, hopefully in The Hague in June.

Long journey but still some work to do—a lot of work to do. Some people are still involved. Some left ICANN and are doing other things. But I am sure that all are happy with what we are doing at EURALO and at the At-Large level.

I wanted to end this call by saying all the people who will be in The Hague, I hope part of them will be the At-Large structure from Europe leaders who will be participating to our face-to-face general assembly. We are working on the program and hoping that it will be organized. Therefore, please be ready to participate in that meeting in The Hague.

With that, Leon is asking to have a group photo. I hope that staff can do that.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Leon?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Who is talking? Okay. If staff can take care of doing that photo—will take a photo of this group—it will be great. Okay. And once again, thank you for your cooperation. Thank you for your time. Thank you for this celebration and see you soon online, of course, but also in The Hague all together, if possible. Take care. Have a good evening, good day, good night. And once again, thank you for the interpreters and thank you for the staff to help us. Champagne and a cake will be in The Hague. Bye-bye.

YEŞİM SAĞLAM: Thank you all for your participation. This meeting is now adjourned. Have a great rest of the day. Bye-bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]