

Wolf Ludwig:

First of all let me open up this General Assembly, this time in Stockholm in the eve of the upcoming European Dialogue on Internet Governance in the conference center here. And I hope that the next General Assembly of EURALO will be under different conditions and will be after the Mexico meetings, so next fact to face meeting there we can invite, really invite our members and count on some institutional funding for participation. That is crucial.

But I'm pleased today here to have quite a number of members here, so I'll start with my left here and if you would now for the record. (Inaudible) to who I think some of you may recall is a previous – and every day I say old – previous elect-member from 2007 on what after that unfortunately due to professional obligations she had to step down. Somehow we still missed her, we have one guest Constantine from Moldavia. And we just discussed on the way to here we are counting in the near future to having an ALS application, the first ALS application from Moldavia.

And next to Constantine there is Sandra, we all know from (Inaudible). There's Wolfgang, there's Avri, there's Oksana, Olivier, Yrjo and myself. We are still waiting for Sebastien who is concerned for the meeting but he will arrive with some delay due to his flight connection. And we have one more on our list today which is Rudi. And Rudi, due to some health or need problems had to cancel his participation today unfortunately but he is with us in the Adobe Connect.

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.

So, we received apologies from Christopher, but Christopher's ALS is present here remotely via Eric. Eric has been the last year to the Belgrade General Assembly, so we know each other already. And I have seen another apology for today in the mail, but continuously I cannot recall it anymore. Yeah Monica, but she has more or less transferred her voting right. She will be represented by Sebastien.

Heidi Ullrich:

This is Heidi. I believe Adela signaled her apologies.

Wolf Ludwig:

Yes Adela as well, right. Okay so, this is just for the records and (inaudible) apologies but will be represented by the double head of Sebastien. And we have Manuel I guess representing Wikimedia Switzerland and Wikimedia Austria. Also two members in case we would almost have a kind of a quorum, but as you have seen on our today's agenda there will be no points treated today where really some voting is needed. Therefore we can continue like this.

The next point is the adoption of the proposed agenda. I have circulated this agenda, I think it was last Sunday. I see no response with any suggestions for amending or modification, so I guess the agenda like this, which is a comparatively short one this year, is accepted by most of you. This is the last chance to make it as a problem. I see no hands raised, no voices raised. So standing issues is the adoption of the meeting minutes from the last General Assembly on the 29th of May, 2011 in Belgrade.

This was the meeting minutes done by Olivier, which was quite detailed, so I think it's the most comprehensive meeting minutes we've had so far. And we have actually cross-checked them and so from our point of view it should be... It is [coherent] and it should be accepted. And if there are no questions may I ask the people present here whether we can adopt meeting minutes from the last GA? No questions, no comments, so I take it as approved and I see no hands raised from Eric, Manuel or Rudi. So it's adopted.

Okay, thank you very much. This is just formalities so far; it's a boring part of every General Assembly. So let's start with our Part B with the proposed agenda items.

[background conversation]

Wolf Ludwig:

This is for the record so that you can be added here. Yeah okay. To the minutes of today's assembly. Point six, discussion and adoption of the EURALO Board report 2011-12. You have it on the screen. You have received it by the circular mail, by the mailing list, etc. I don't know whether anybody had the opportunity to look into it. Yeah okay, I'll just make a short...

[background conversation]

Wolf Ludwig:

Oh yes, Olivier was – you can scroll it, on my computer you can. Oh okay so I have to do it and go? Okay, I have it Olivier. I can do it.

Probably you can't but I am...Okay. So I give a short summary. Point one of the Board report is just regular activities; what you want to know about regular activities please go and consult the monthly report on our workspace. They are updated now in English and even Oksana even the last update in Russian, what will be posted on the workspace.

So we didn't waste much time with just recalling what we did over the last year. The second point in the Board report is a recapitulation of our current elect representation; what is Olivier as the ordinary EURALO representative assuming the elect-Chair since after the Cartagena meeting in 2010. If I'm right then we have the second At-Large member, which is Sandra. And these are the two original selected ones and we have Jean-Jacques Subrenat as NomCom elected member. And we will get to know that there is a NomCom selection at the moment and we will know by the end of August who will be the newly NomCom selected At-Large representative from our region.

And quite important have Yrjo still as – Eric Tomson would like to reenter the room accept, yes I would like to accept him. Yrjo is representing EURALO in the NomCom, which is broadly appreciated. And we have with Rudi and Adela and Alexander [Condoroff] – these are at the moment the three EURALO representatives in At-Large Working Groups.

The second part of point two in the Board report is talking about an initiative which I think is also one of the highlights in the last report period. It's when Sandra came up with the ICANN Academy proposal, which was repeatedly discussed at ICANN meetings and there was a working group installed at the At-Large level and the project has quite

progressed over the last couple of months. Having also the curriculum part in between, and it's Avri who has done a lot in this direction. That discussion we will have in about two weeks in Prague and I hope that everything may be finalized to have the first pilot of this project, ICANN Academy, in October at the Toronto meeting.

There's also a link in the report for those people who would like to see any more details on the project. So, I mentioned in the report recently selected [MAC] members from our region, which is Veronica – present here, Bill Drake – not present here, not even excused, and Yuliya Morenets. So this is part two, any questions regarding this one? I see no hands raised, so let's go to the next part which is more or less an update from the previous year EURALO involvement at EuroDIG.

I think as most of you know, EURALO was one of the founding members of the EuroDIG process from the very early days. That's Yuliya coming in and joining our meeting for the record. We are now stronger here on spot side with Yuliya, and Yuliya you will be mentioned also in the record among the attendees. We are just going through the Board report and recapitulating point three, which is EURALO at EuroDIG. The representation of EURALO at EuroDIG was more or less increased in the last years.

Sandra, from the beginning being the secretariat, me joining the secretariat later, and I wouldn't go as far as saying EuroDIG is in EURALOs hands, but at least we have a good standing in the process and we can contribute essentially to the agenda setting of the annual meetings. Yrjo was one of the focal points, Yuliya was another focal point in the programming process this year. Avri is a focal point as well

a [plenary session], etc. So these are the good points, the strengths. And in point four I was starting, and I think we should concentrate our discussion here a little not on point four; after the strengths going to the weaknesses.

In my perception, the first paragraph of point four is still on the positive side; it's just recalling that we had new ALSes joining EURALO in the report period, which is two from the Ukraine. We knew already last year in Belgrade but they were not yet certified. And then we had one application from France, Yuliya representing together against cybercrime. And you may recall Austria, which makes 31 in total. I didn't expressly mention the [date tax] we obviously have in our membership. And what we discussed last year already and we now have to think about do we just leave it like it is or we try to get in contact with them giving them a last chance to say or express that they are still interested or to ask for de-certification.

What I think would be the best thing to do if we just collect ALSes on the one side and if we don't care about them anymore whether they are involved, active or not, for the credibility of our regional At-Large organization I think it's not good and therefore we should do something about it. I would like to have a EURALO in a situation that in case of we do any Bylaw modification where you need two-thirds of your members we had last year before we...this means even if many of them are quiet in the day to day circumstances etc and we need them. We can applaud them as they are responsible in participating and voting what is always I think important and essential.

My remark here was of course it's desirable to get more ALSes like we had at the At-Large level on the broader level, we had the common goal to have per region one ALS per country, which is quite simple for North America. But in my eyes even challenging but not so much challenging in Latin America, but what is really challenging in Africa and in Asia and in Europe, to really get together one ALS per country. This is a long term goal without a doubt.

Like (inaudible) cannot be a goal itself as long as you don't have the means and capacities to get them involved on a regular basis. So finding new members in a question of outreach, keeping them involved is a challenge of inreach. And I had some thoughts on these conflicting issues in the report with underlining again for inreach you cannot simply count on online participation. We have our mailing list. We have our monthly calls. This is part of the instruments we have at our disposal for our regular activities, but it may not be sufficient or attractive enough for most of the members. So we have to think and reflect on other opportunities, how we can better keep them involved.

Regular ICANN issues as I said here may for certain of them be a little bit too technical, a little bit too abstract. And in my opinion there is a rather obvious between the At-Large members level and the ordinary RALO members level. At-Large members three times a year have the opportunity to travel to an ICANN meeting, which is an incredible incentive. So they are kept in the loop. But for ordinary ALSes in I don't know Spain, Italy, Finnish is a good example, you are closely involved at the very beginning, at the moment it made in (inaudible), who has really come on permanently involved by Sandra and by Wolfgang.

Others like (Inaudible) who was very active at the beginning represented by Veronica at the time and by [Annette Muehlbach]; it's rather silent at the moment. And this is one of my main concerns, how we can better get them involved. And this has a lot to do with institutional support, institutional funding. And these are the points I stress more or less in the Board report for this year. Are there any question on your side or any comments on your side; I don't know whether you share my perception or my opinion on this? Its Yrjö.

Yrjo Lansipuro: (Inaudilbe)

Wolf Ludwig: No, so far not.

Yrjo Lansipuro: I think that we (inaudible), at least we could make an effort to (inaudible) also an ALS.

Heidi Ullrich: Yrjo this is Heidi. Those on the Adigo bridge can't hear you. Could you please speak up or speak more directly into your computer please?

Yrjo Lansipuro: Yeah alright should I repeat what I said?

Heidi Ullrich: Yes please, thank you.

Yrjo Lansipuro: I think we could perhaps make an effort to make ISCO Sweden interested in becoming an ALS like we have many examples of ISOC chapters also being ALSes.

Wolf Ludwig: Okay thanks a lot Yrjo for this comment. A short remark – I tried at our first meeting in general to talk to ISOC Sweden, and they were, at the time, rather hesitant by saying nobody will really be pushing, but I think it's worth another attempt. The point we have, the two main channels in EURALO. One channel is the technical community more or less represented by the ISOC chapter, and we have the (inaudible) bunch.

Particularly internally where most of the ALSes involved were mobilized by the [leader's] process at the time and got involved in the internet governance issues, etc, etc. And either you pull out after the [reasons] became acquainted or you became involved in the IGF process or in the EuroDIG. So this [port] carries you further. But if you were not really, and then you have a few other exceptions from what is in my perception quite relevant. A good example from Prague (inaudible) is the Wikimedia community. So there are options to reach out amongst the Wikimedia chapters, this is what Manuel was trying. So he started first with the Swiss one and then it was Austria joining. So it would be somewhat surprising because the German chapter of Wikimedia is the biggest one to my knowledge.

I recently heard from the French one whether it would be welcome, if they would try it. And of course I confirmed yes please do it. So there

are different angles by which we can try, but as we are aware, to many daily internet users ICANN does not ring any bell. At-Large – what? We're a part of it so we have to explain. And then EURALO being a regional among five other At-Large structures, this is rather complicated for ordinary people. If you have nothing in your professional life as a researcher or as a student etc to do with this kind of stuff, you are not necessarily attracted by this. And it's also not really appealing to be honest.

For us it became very substantial [internet community] people we must be clear, it's not at all. So we have to be realistic. What I see as potential is again among the digital natives. They have a completely different approach, affinity to this kind of thing. I would love to welcome the first [pirate] parties section among our ALSes. And I was close contact with a [pirate] party in Switzerland; they are not the biggest one but they exist. We have a digital society, Digital [AGEIA DENSI] in Switzerland which is a small group which you have in Germany as well. In Germany it's quite relevant. It's represented by (inaudible) community or [Microspechatel] – they organized one of the biggest [net politics] events in the year in (Inaudible) in Berlin, etc.

There is a lot moving outside. There are a lot of people who are specialized, even among our members, on data protection, data retention, etc. It's a hot subject. I'm almost certain intellectual property will be one of the hottest issues in the next years, it's foreseeable. The people from the academic level of access, people who have so far committed this public broadcasting say we as taxpayers or feepayers, what we have financed for the public broadcaster we ought to have access to the (inaudible). So let's take the BBC models. There

are plenty of other good places. Government data is another example. Public sector information is another example.

And there are always a lot of barriers from the private sector, trying with a lot of efforts trying to abuse intellectual property to avoid open access. And there are some worst cases in the meantime we will talk about this tomorrow in our plenary one, on IP and the digital environment. There are some very valid interests represented by the creators, by the authors, by artists etc, to get some sort of proper remuneration for their work etc. This is the one side what I still can take very serious, and the other side which is the right holders industry. The right holders industry is not the creators part. Mostly the right holders took away the copyright or the authors rights already by the creators and now simply trying to deal with that.

And this will be one of the hot subjects foreseeable in the next two or three years. And if you have to deal with this, this may mobilize some new people from the younger generation like we have had, a rather excellent example is the actor debate. Actor was no word a year ago. And I talked to people “Actor what”...

It came up. We had huge demonstrations in February in countries that I never thought it would happen, like Poland. Eastern Europe was extremely active in this respect and these for me are key examples. These are the new social movements of the digital age. And it would be my goal to get these people, this movement somehow closer to us. Because when we say we are representing the internet users, in the broader sense, then these are the people we need to have contact with. We should try to get them involved.

So I know that this is extremely ambitious but I think it's justified to spin into this direction, convincing to convince is boring. And in many respects, to be honest, our community in At-Large, in the RALOs, to be honest, we concentrate on people who belong partly to the usual suspects; meet sometimes five to ten times a year and we always have the similar kind of today's discourse. This is fine. I think this should be part of the game, but it's not sufficient. And it's far more challenging to do outreach to people, to reach out to people that you have to explain stuff, explain something from the very beginning.

And this should be, well this was a long explanation on what I tried to reflect under our Board report part four, which makes a bridge to part five. At the very beginning we were more or less concentrating on the ALSes to organize member representation but we had individuals from the very beginning. The floating individuals from the academia, somehow Olivier was part of these floating individuals. And we always said from the beginning, and I think it's very important to be open, what is officially part of ISOC Finland, but there are interesting people amongst the individuals that I perfectly can understand.

I don't want to be forced to become a member of an existing ALS or a new ALS, so you should offer. Being open to internet users means, should include [envisions]. So we made Bylaw modifications last year. We decided we had a working group consisting of individuals. But I clearly said last year I prepared the grounds for the Bylaw modifications. So I want prepare the whole grouping for the individual members. This should be done by the individuals. We have Bill Drake. We have Siranush. We have Tatiana. We have some people from the Diplo

corner who are immediately to issue who told be after the Diplo causes etc, “yes we would like to but...”

Okay, there needs to be a follow-up and we most likely have to create a subgroup for this. Because it’s over-demanding me in my capacity. So this is still pending, this issue, and needs to be solved until next year. Last point I think one of the last points is EURALO officers, we had elections for this in the last General Assembly in Belgrade. This is two year terms so elections will be due next year at our General Assembly in most probably Lisbon.

And the last point of the Board report was a short mentioning, a group funding for the General Assembly in 2013. As you may recall we’ve had request for funding almost every year. We asked for funding for EURALO – so is somebody calling, may I just check.

[break in audio]

Wolf Ludwig:

Sorry for the interruption. We had this request and we were not successful over the last years due to other funding priorities we were always told. And so we tried and tried...

[break in audio]

Wolf Ludwig: ...funding request for the Fiscal Year 2012-13. One was against, like same procedure. Every year we're asking for support for the General Assembly and the second one was suggesting for the ICANN (inaudible) some scholarships to allow EURALO members to go to Oslo in August to the [Strudengreis]; the second one was unfortunately not approved.

This strange reasoning not ICANN related. The [Strudengreis] is ICANN related; I think it's very exciting way to (inaudible). Maybe we really should discuss about this sort of thing, but ICANN [decided it] is not ICANN related. So okay...

Wolfgang Kleinwachter: (Inaudible).

Wolf Ludwig: Okay, thanks for participating Wolfgang. This is Wolfgang who has unfortunately to leave now at this exciting point. So we had two requests, one for (inaudible), one for the ICANN [Strudengreis]. One worked the other one didn't. So for the first time after 2009 we can say we are in the lucky position to prepare now for the next years, having a face to face General Assembly and inviting our members to not a General Assembly in line with an ICANN meeting because there won't be an ICANN meeting here in Europe. So we will do it like we did it as last year.

We'll do it in combination with EuroDIG. And just to recall, one good reason for when you don't get funding from the institution, then you say it 2010, we did it in conjunction with the IGF; and '11 we did it in conjunction with the EuroDIG. So there will be a continuity because it's

our key project in the region and it makes rather more sense to line it up with (inaudible) and then to do it unconnected.

These are more or less, these other words from the information from the Board report. To my perception it is, maybe I have forgotten, I could have written three or four pages on it. But as we know, even two pages sometimes are the utmost that people are ready to go through. And both reports are more or less for the records; if you need them for the file. But for historians one day, any researchers who will go into...but I don't know whether they really will have another relevance. Questions, comments, yes Yuliya. Can you come to the...

It's Yuliya who raised her hand and who is now...

Yuliya Morenets:

First I apologize for being late because I wasn't sure (inaudible). Actually just to (inaudible), and you know even the meeting in Strasburg, I was just working because we are based in Strasburg, I was just working on the street and the youth, they went to (inaudible). And I took one of them and [got on this call] because I would like to support your statement.

And turning the [pirate] parties, I know that were contacted, actually; and it was the Finnish chapter in doing the IGF meeting in Nairobi. So maybe we can somehow press, because we discussed with the approach that, so maybe we can work with them or approach them or maybe you know them better. I know they were very interested in internet governance issues and pretty sure would be interested in being asked to (inaudible).

Wolf Ludwig: By the way they will be present during the EuroDIG. There is Amelia (Inaudible) who is a member of the pirate party, Swedish. And who by the pirate party became a member of the European Parliament. And they have clear evidence, also regional elections in Germany they had over the last months, pirate party was amongst the strongest political forces after the green party. And much stronger, sometimes double to triple as strong as the old liberal party.

So it's obvious in Germany this will be the next political force, this political landscape. And there will be no politics on the national German level in the future without counting the pirate parties. These are the new realities a lot of politicians haven't understood until a year ago. But they now are more or less forced to take it into consideration. And when power is at stake people are extremely, the establishment is extremely responsive.

Yrjo Lansipuro: Yeah I was going to say that. If ISOC Sweden is not interested in becoming an ALS, let's ask a pirate party. Maybe ISOC Sweden after that will be more interested also in becoming.

Wolf Ludwig: Yes, this can be a strategy.

Female: As you were saying, there were a lot of (inaudible).

Wolf Ludwig:

Okay but some of them are saying we do not want to be merely perceived by the copyright debate, we want to have a broader scope of...and it reminds me to my early political days when I was in Germany and the growing of the green party where most of the people said “well anti-nuclear and ecology, environment and protection; this is important but not a political program.” And just imagine five years after they got into the Parliament, the ecology, the environmental protection – these are important but they do not [put it] on the political program. So it’s a process of maturity of any political movement in my eyes and this will be the same with the pirate party. And we will have some very interesting surprises the next years, I can promise you.

And from a political or historical perception, as you said, we have problems to make people interested in the issue. But the digital society, the information society becomes more and more reality in more and more fields of life. therefore I think internet governance will be broader and broader over the next years, and this is one of the driving circumstances that may be (inaudible) at the table for us to solve.
Yuliya?

Yuliya Morenets:

So what you are saying is they don’t want actually, the pirate party, they don’t want to be perceived as being on [domain names and] copyright issues only. So maybe what EURALO could offer for them, in a positive way I mean it’s actually been broader understanding situation and how to bring their view on different topics. So if we go and approach them, maybe we should [state it to them].

Wolf Ludwig:

The bridging issues, bridging topics, we also at EURALO, we moved a long way because we started in 2007 when I suggested to discuss on the EURALO level issues we discussed at the Council of Europe. And I think at the time (Inaudible) told me “Politics, we’re not talking politics here. We are (inaudible) the community! ICANN is not about content!” And we had to kind of bloody discussions in the last years where we really said “you are not serious; access is not only a technical issue, it’s also political. It has a political dimension.”

So in the [Arab Spring] told us clearly how quickly it gets political when a dictator doesn’t want to let his people have access to communication channels, etc. That’s the kind of debates we had years ago. I think there will be a rather, from the user perspective, a rather simple common sense and keep it opened up. Governmental information to public sector information to scientific information to also all information. Information is the currency of the digital age. And this has mostly to do with whether we can create the framework on the ICANN, global regulatory level; remoting to [access conditions]; or whether we bump into a situation where the IP right holders industry, via government, if you would have the (inaudible) party based, or if you would have had ISOC, which I think is now most probably at actor.

So these are in my perceptions the key political debated we will have, at least on the European level. I cannot predict the political debate, well it’s ICT for development which is more relevant in Africa and what is for Asia may be more relevant as we said before. The digital gap inside Europe is still an issue, and therefore we need better representation

from countries from Eastern Europe, not to have always this middle European central discourse. But talked about data retention and the bloody conflicts we have with the commission, but not even mentioning [access] issues you are dealing with in some of your basic infrastructure, what is in Bulgaria and still in Romania and in Moldavia and the Ukraine etc. Those are different political debates that we need to have. Any comments? Yeah please.

Veronica Cretu:

This is Veronica Cretu for Moldavia. Wolf thank you very much for the brief presentation of the current status of the EURALO. In line with this I have a few comments, questions. The first one would be about the long term vision of EURALO in terms of quality and quantity. We want to attract the ALSes and probably I missed something in regards to even if we have new ALSes, what is in there for them at EURALO; what does that do; what new do we provide them; what is in there for an organization from let's say an Eastern European country to join; why should they join?

So probably EURALO should have a more strategic or should position itself as an entity that brings (inaudible). And it should market and promote it differently. This can be a Facebook page, it can be a video, a promotional video on YouTube, it can be having focal points in the country from where we don't have ALSes that would organize I don't know a demo workshop or a corporate group or something that would increase awareness about the issues that are being addressed at the EURALO level.

One of the other questions is do the current ALSes, how often EURALO asks for feedback from the current organizations? How often do we ask them about what they think and how they perceive the interactions with EURALO? Whether the further development of EURALO are based on the feedback received from ALSes and what extent their feedback will be taken on EURALO. And how often they directly report to EURALO, share their good practices and best practices? Again that's a valuable platform to exchange and to learn from each other.

If these kinds of things are not in place, probably there is a danger in the region that whoever is now a member of EURALO might lose interest in the future. So these are – and linking or providing a platform for discussing the most emerging issues related to the current development such as open data, open government data, data protection. The future of the internet, ICT solutions for different sectors, not only the ICT but for different sectors. What is in there again in terms of the emerging issues that can be addressed by EURALO on a platform and can bring value to the ALSes? I think there should be a very clear kind of strategy in the longer term vision on how this platform can really become a valuable one for the countries which are missing, and for those who are in place, how it can be even more valuable and more interesting.

So these are just a few thoughts.

Wolf Ludwig:

Well let me say it was a bundle of very good and very substantial questions. And I'll start with the last one. How to attract new ones and how to keep old ones attracted or involved. Come back to the other questions of surveys – yes we had such surveys. We had two surveys to

my memory. We had one late in 2008 and it was more or less an informal [re-composition]. You had to participate in the 2008 survey to show that you are an interested ALS to get the ticket for the At-Large Summit in Mexico. So there was a big incentive that we had a very high quorum of people participating in this survey.

The second one was in 2010, just before the Brussels meeting, was another At-Large survey. Heidi correct me if my time memory is not working well, but to my memory it was in early 2010. And I got a lot of questions; if we participate can we go to the Brussels conference. And that's (inaudible) to the proper conference, and clearly that's (inaudible) involved. There is no link at all between survey and ... and participation form EURALO was lousy. If there is no incentive why should I participate in the survey.

[background conversation]

Heidi Ullrich: Wolf, this is Heidi. The people on the Adigo bridge cannot hear the person who is speaking. Could that person speak clearly into the computer?

Wolf Ludwig: We are just entering into some technicalities, how best to draft and decide or set up a survey. And Veronica who is a specialist in this respect as I know, made some very good points and my counter questions would be, or my criticisms would be, I think the design of the

last survey was the wrong one. Simply because it was designed by an institutional perspective. We want contact enforced with the first and second and the third contact in your ALSes; what are your favorite means, favorite availability; what are your eating habits; what are your favorite movies – I’m exaggerating now a little bit but...interest to get a clearer picture about variety and particularity of the ALSes.

So this is a survey, if you sent it to me and if I am not the subject of the survey, I am the object of the survey. So I think come on. I’m not sure that I would like to tell you this information. So be a little bit smarter in the design of the next survey. If you toss your survey over the heads of the people, and if you do not ask them the relevant questions, or if you ask people the wrong questions you get stupid answers. Every journalist learns this is the first two years in interview techniques.

Veronica Cretu:

(Inaudible) design of the survey is based on a longer term vision. So this is [how] can we know what kind of input you need when we design the survey for (inaudible), probably because of some different issues but that were (inaudible) at that very moment in time.

Wolf Ludwig:

And it comes back to just object questions asking about the long term recent strategy of EURALO. And I can simply tell you but of course (inaudible), but I cannot entertain after evening. So I think if you had a strategy of EURALO must be more or less a summary of partial visions, ideas and strategies of all members. So I could say “okay I will draft now a strategy blah, blah, blah. I give it in consultation and you add or delete

whatever you want.” This could be something not approved to be inclusive.

I’m not sure at the present moment that the people would respond to it. And our key problem in the moment is lack of responsiveness. When I send things via the list I do not know if people delete it immediately as they see it. Most information I get if I send out [a list] to people, they tend to respond mostly. That’s the only way I mobilize. Last year when we had the Bylaw modifications then you make an appeal via the mailing list and nobody’s responding. If you send them a personal email or if you send them an... [Or with Annette] and me together, we called them over the weekend.

There were some but I didn’t have (inaudible). So we must extract from what are our full priorities and what are the priorities of people in their daily life. And of course EuroDIG is not a priority in the daily life of most of our members to be honest. And EuroDIG as well, be realistic. So it’s exciting that we have out of EURALO as many people from our members, we could almost say it’s a monster because it is a good return rate so to say. You are doing a survey and you have one-third return it’s not bad. There are worse return rates. And better ones. But one-third shouldn’t be – I have difficulties, another problem.

If you are dealing too much with this and you are getting stuck somehow, so we need broader discussions. And therefore for me it’s my dream to have a face to face General Assembly where at least 80% of our members will be present. Then we have to think with an ordinary General Assembly like this most [boring stuff], I would say we forget about the official part as soon as possible and have a concept, an idea

and a strategy how to (inaudible) this General Assembly. Let them decide what the agenda will be like, but we send the agenda and you have to agree with it; or (inaudible) a piece of paper, there are three regularities we have to do more or less.

So that agenda we what you suggest, anything that you would like to talk about. An idea how to make it better (inaudible).

Veronica Cretu:

(Inaudible) I suspect there are always at least two good finishes for any situation. If you see that you can see once or twice or three times that the mailing list doesn't work than it's definitely a problem. And the problem is people respond to the individual emails, that the mailing lists are not perceived as a tool that make you accountable, that make you be responsible. So maybe it was in the early days, I'm sure if you can weight interactions...

The problem with mailing lists is that there are too many mailing lists since people are (inaudible). The mailing list is an outdated internet for communication.

Male:

And just to keep the people informed, not to (inaudible).

Veronica Cretu:

Because once you start to reply back then people get annoyed. And probably, not probably but I'm convinced that there should be other tools and other means for communication identified. Maybe there can be a blog that is for EURALO where members can have varying access

and blog on the Wordpress where you can have easy access and we can share briefings from what has happened in your organization, what event you organized and how it worked. You share a best practice or you share an experience; a framework (inaudible).

So a site from where you would want desperately to publish the results of our work because you know that it's going to be read, it's going to be tagged in some other social media channels and so on and so forth. About the agenda for the General Assembly not being defined, I was on the Board of Directors of an international consortium on reading and writing for critical thinking for a couple of years. And there were many situations from different countries that we (inaudible) and that we had the same challenge, people would not respond.

We would pick what we would look for in reports, we would want feedback and there was no feedback. So we started contacting people by phone and asking whether they would be interested or not. But then, the very first year we introduced a dynamic approach to the General Assembly where we allowed kind of ALSes, they would be our ALSes, to be in charge of workshops, of sessions that were based on their own practices and their own experiences. And they wanted to, this was a motivation, an inside motivation. Then things started to change.

So we would have people lining up and desperately wanting to be part of the General Assembly, to have the floor, to have a room for a workshop so that they could promote. But in the General Assembly we need to also invite (inaudible) donor communities, different (inaudible) that they can see what efforts are being put in countries Y or Z, so that

they see how can they further support what (inaudible) are happening, what potential partners they have in the specific countries. So it was also a linkage between the people who are doing work on the ground and people who can support that type of work.

So, at the end of the day it started to bring some change. So leaving the agenda open, it has to be a constructive approach to this openness. We open it but to the degree to which people can decide on what exactly they are going to do, but we still keep them accountable for whatever they're going to deliver. So there are things, I'm sure there are different other good solutions, at least there should be pretty good solutions for the current situation.

I think we should evaluate the situation and (inaudible). If something doesn't work for six months, go for another idea, find another solution. We shouldn't wait for years. I hear a survey has been done in 2008 and done another one in 2010; too late. It's a very long period.

Wolf Ludwig:

Very good comments I think that should be, but is (inaudible) not only here at EURALO, I'm sure other RALOs are in similar situations we are. There is a certain tendency, we are not talking about shortcomings or problems, we are talking about positive things, etc. But I'm very much in favor that we, also on the secretariats level next opportunity in Prague, we will do another routine kind of agenda where we really concentrate a little bit, because I know from North America that they stay similar problems. Both [Pamela] and I, we had an email exchange and it's difficult at the moment. It's always the same troupe of people

who respond, who stay involved and many others we would like to have.

So there is something we have to do about, we cannot solve problems by ignoring them. There are a lot of good ideas I think on the table and we need to think about how we can in a more authentic way deal with them, the circumstances have changed. Yes, Olivier Crepin has raised his hand so he has the floor.

Olivier Crepin-Leblond:

Thanks very much. It's Olivier for the transcript. Just, I think this is a problem that is faced in all of the regions. It's one of these things where they have to both find new members but at the same time keep the members already there involved. One of the problems that one is faced with is the amount of things that are taking place simultaneously in At-Large. There are so many processes if you don't read your emails for a week or emails that are (inaudible) – they can't hear me.

[background conversation]

Olivier Crepin-Leblond:

I think what's happening is it's being cancelled by Wolf's loudspeaker because it's echo cancellation. Can you hear me better, no? Okay yeah. So basically it's a problem which is faced by all the regions and the problem is that if you don't check your emails for a week you end up with so (inaudible) connect and press the delete key rather than reading the whole thing. It's very hard to keep up with everything that's going

on. Especially for those people that are not experts in what is being discussed at ICANN, which could be names, primarily names, we'll say names and numbers but it's primarily names.

Some of it being very technical, some of it not really relating to the actual needs and the interest of the people, of internet users themselves. And I think that one of the ways to perhaps, to involve members more is to really promote this idea of working groups where the members are able to take part in those working groups where they have an actual interest in the mater being discussed. And they don't need to read absolutely everything that's taking place in At-Large and in ICANN, but they can then get involved with at least one working group in a subject where they both know what's going on, they can track what is going on because they don't receive 50 or 60 emails a day, but at the same time they can bring in the input from their community.

And I think that's quite important and that is generally a good first step in being able to understand what's going on. I'm getting a call. Thank you.

Wolf Ludwig:

Thanks a lot for your comments Olivier, do you want to continue? Okay. Any other comments? Yeah, it's Veronica.

Veronica Cretu:

Okay thank you, just a comment on Olivier's comments on the technical issue. Sometimes it is indeed a challenge to understand what the technical matter and issue is all about. And it might be the case that EURALO, in this case EURALO, can look at trying to identify solutions to

bring the second solution to the young user community and then understandably (inaudible). Maybe there is somebody in our community who can – and that would be one of the values that can be deliver (inaudible) by the RALO.

Taking that super technical issue and putting them through the examples and practical illustrations of how does this or that affect the way you do, the way you work, the way you interact with people, the way the community develops, the way the future can look like if this or that is going to be (inaudible). So again if we have a blog where people who write tonight and they can really easily just do this in a passionate and interesting place and we have that platform, we might have something, that niche that can be developed better by the RALOs; just one solution.

Wolf Ludwig:

Thanks Veronica.

Olivier Crepin-Leblond:

Wolf it's Olivier here, if I could just quickly respond to this suggestion. There are beginner's guides which area written, which have been written. I don't know whether you've had any time to read through them. We often ask, we as in the ALAC, often asks the community what other guide would you like to have; what is the next thing that you would be interested in that would help your members in understanding what is being done in At-Large.

And unfortunately there hasn't been any input on that. The Wiki pages are there, they're built, so I have a concern that even the first message,

the message asking this question is not getting through. And as Wolf says, he emails each person in turn, each ALS representative in turn to get an answer and sometimes that's the case. But the input has been, there's been very little input as to what the ALSes actually wish to learn more about. What is it that they're missing for them to be involved? Thank you. The story is missing.

Yuliya Morenets:

Thank you, just quickly, personally I think it's a great idea, but I would, from my point of view, not to recommend to create another blog or another social media tool because we have already even a Facebook page or a Wiki and we just need to invite people or somehow activate people to write there. And the problem, the people that don't know these two, we have the discussion about the website I think last week actually and it's also an issue how to make the website more exciting actually.

To put cooler colors, well it was one of my suggestions and to give information to people – even if I – I was going to this meeting and people don't have it – well I was turning because people did not know what this is about, EURALO and what it's about (inaudible). Just people who are technical people actually, they were making installations. So it's the thing, it's an issue. And (inaudible) we make it more technical people in this case they will write stories because we have stories already.

So from my perspective once again, if we create another (inaudible).

Wolf Ludwig: I think we have slowly by slowly there is Oksana and Rudi who raised their hand, first Oksana and then Rudi afterwards.

Oksana Prykhodko: (Inaudible).

Heidi Ullrich: Wolf this is Heidi. If you could please have Oksana speak closer to the microphone.

Oksana Prykhodko: (Inaudible).

Wolf Ludwig: Okay thanks a lot. The next one is Rudi.

Rudi Vansnick: Thank you Wolf. Do you hear me? Hello do you hear me?

Heidi Ullrich: Yes we hear you.

Rudi Vansnick: Okay fine thank you. Thank you Wolf. Rudi here for the transcript. I think it's quite important that we know the material, the stuff we are working on is not funny and fancy and sexy stuff. It's very typical to the world in which we live and work in. And having beautiful colored website would not help us that much I'm afraid. I think that it's

important that we try to participate in first of all the different working groups and panels we have to understand what the At-Large is trying to do and to fulfill first of all. And secondly that we understand what is expected from members of the At-Large, and I'm not only speaking for EURALO I'm speaking in general.

Actually we have in front of us a huge work to do as today there was a review day of the new gTLDs. There is a working group which is going to work on the comments and objections and I think it's the first time in the history of ICANN and At-Large that we have such a responsibility now to fulfill a job that in fact should be done by fulltime people and not just by volunteers. So I would suggest to all those being interested in participation in EURALO that they first have a view on what the working groups are doing, have been doing and then maybe they can suggest to us to do it better than we did up to today.

I think that's quite an important feeling for someone who is in EURALO from 2007 and I have been seeing, I have seen many things going, I've seen many people coming, but at the end I'm just a bit disappointed that it is always the same people we see popping up in conference calls, in working groups and are doing the job behind the scenes. So I would like to see more new people involved in the working groups and in the panels we are discussing on. Thank you.

Wolf Ludwig:

Right, thanks a lot for this comment Rudi. It's effective; the problem I see, the conversation since 2007 has not changed much. There are fortunately some new people. We have Yuliya and we have Oksana in, Veronica is from the first generation, I'm from the first generation, Yrjo

is from the first generation, Sandra is more like the second generation; she's still much younger and more beautiful. Then we have Yuliya. We have a problem, that's what I – my concern is we spend a lot of time reconfirming ourselves what we are doing and what is more or less working.

If there's a new ALAC working group created I couldn't spontaneously say how many At-Large working groups exist at the moment. I know that there is a list on the workspace. I know that I have to look at it, but nobody really... I think I would like to continue this discussion by the way around evening dinner. Those who are here in Stockholm we will meet afterwards and we will continue a little bit.

To round up this agenda item, because we have to come to the end, I would like to say again something provocative because I'm a traditionalist. I'm in my age, I'm allowed to be conservative in certain respects. And I simply say it's an illusion if you believe that you can have a community functioning for three years only online. I can tell you and do hundreds of surveys. There was a different dynamic at the beginning. We are created in 2007. The first General Assembly face to face, June 2008 in Paris. Then we had the next General Assembly in Mexico.

And people who meet each other once a year, they end up in a completely different way of discussion, discord, exchange follow-up afterwards. That's what we know here. When we are three years, three times a year at ICANN conferences, the people you communicate with in between or afterwards etc, it's completely different (inaudible). That's the first class people, the privilege, the ALAC members or the

funded members, the liaisons who have the privilege three times a year to go to substantive conferences. And then you have the working class people who are always in the observer position who do not have the possibility to do that...

I'm exaggerating a little bit at the moment, but I think that if some kind of plausibility in this conception, and we always expect the people, who are not as privileged as we are, are at least as interested to follow our debates. And I think that's a little bit exaggerated in our expectations. Hopefully I was provocative enough. Olivier raised his hand to counter me. Please Olivier.

Olivier Crepin-Leblond:

Thank you Wolf. It's Olivier for the transcript. Actually we have had two chances of finding out if face to face meetings generate more involvement afterwards. We had the AFRALO event that took place in Dakar, and we had the LACRALO event that took place in Costa Rica. And judging from the follow-up and what's been happening since, we have found that there has been a rise in the interest and in the number of people attending the conference calls, attending the working groups and being involved, actively involved in At-Large in both cases.

So, this is something which is (inaudible). You're effectively stating the obvious. And I think that this is being understood by ICANN, maybe not at the speed at which we would like them to understand it. It's a long process because as you understand one always has to look one year in advance. So the demands, the requests for funding for such assemblies and for such meetings have to be done for Fiscal Year 13 and unfortunately as far as EURALO was concerned the fiscal year – well we

still are technically in Fiscal Year 12 this year, so we would have actually applied last year, but last year of course we did not have the actual feedback from what happened in Costa Rica and in Africa.

So this is where we're just at a pivotal moment at the moment. But I do believe that there is a shift in thinking on ICANNs part with regards to funding face to face assemblies. Thank you.

Wolf Ludwig:

Okay thanks a lot Olivier. There's Avri at my side. I have to (inaudible) on again. So there's Avri on my side asking a question or making a comment or...

Avri Doria:

Or maybe both. This is Avri for the record. So I basically tend to actually disagree with what you said. I think we've seen in the industry lots of communities or developers, of all kinds of people (inaudible) there's a bottom-up interest, something the people care about, they don't have to see each other face to face. They go years of working together online, on seeing each other in Skype calls, of doing stuff, and they're happy when they get together, but it's not the getting together.

The other thing I'd like to say, and that's the question, is I expect you're right. After one of these big parties where everybody gets together there's a very quick rise, but I'd really like to see the curve over time to sort of see do you get a quick spike, I expect than you get a gradual falloff and within – is it six months, is it a year. I guess the last thing, I wasn't going to speak but I always end up speaking, is the one thing that didn't get mentioned and I don't know whether it will peak interest, but

as the 2000 new named and stories and issues start coming out, will that create some bottom-up interest. Without the bottom-up interest ain't nothing going to happen.

Wolf Ludwig:

I head over to Yrjo.

Yrjo Lansipuro:

Yeah this is Yrjo for the record. Yeah let me be a bit provocative also. Perhaps we're trying to say a little bit about everything. I mean there are so many issues in ICANN and it's a great machine actually that produces these statements and comments and so on and so forth. But I mean it seems that thus we're trying to do too much and maybe it would be better to concentrate on those issues or really the end user perspective, which we are supposed to represent, is really important. And then use our small resources to actually study them and to say meaningful...

The other thing is that I tend to agree more with Wolf in that it's really important to see people face to face; otherwise they are just voices on the telephone. The other thing is that if we still have to rely on remote participation so much, let's somehow get the technical things right. I mean here for instance I mean there's no phone in the room, we are sort of moving the computer around and we can't hear and so on and so forth. And if this is, this organization – I understand we cannot be funded to all those meetings we would like to get to, but at least let's invent a failsafe mechanism for remote participation and remote conferencing. I'm sure they exist. Thank you.

Wolf Ludwig:

Okay well I must admit last year in Belgrade it was better, there wasn't interruption. But at least there are the basic facilities in the room. Okay, one last (inaudible) if I go now to a differentiated level again. There are other types of communities but they are very particular. I've been to Wikimedia and this kind of things. It actually takes Wikimedia people and Wikipedia people, they are different as socialization etc. Here we are quite a mixed combination of ages, which makes the whole thing in my eyes very exciting. So you have the immigrants and you have the natives. And the natives, they are much more used to this online, media online. They do not have to (inaudible). I don't know, it's Olivier.

Olivier Crepin-Leblond:

Thank you Wolf. It's Olivier for the transcript record. Actually what Avri said is very valid indeed, but I think that it works more easily in homogenous communities. Communities having a common goal, a common viewpoint and that "birds of a feather flock together" effectively, and people having similar view on things. And some communities are more tight knit than others. The problem that we're faced with is one where we encourage the diversity and so when you look at the list of At-Large structures in Europe, some of them have absolutely nothing in common with each other. So it's a lot harder to get people of very varied backgrounds to, and not only backgrounds as far as the geography is concerned but also the knowledge, the experience, the field that they're specialized in, they're not all techies or they're not all lawyers or they're not all of the single type of person.

And the problem that one then faces is the problem of communication. Where when you use email, when you use conference calls you don't get that feeling of the person. And so if you are of a different background of that person, let's say an engineer and a business person, or someone from civil society and someone from the private sector speaking to each other on the phone they might not strike the same note as actually seeing each other face to face and being able to go for a beer afterwards, after they might have disagreed on a point going for a beer and finally understanding what each side is actually saying.

This is one of the capital problems that we have. I have found that the interaction outside of the meeting space of our different ALSes both at Dakar and in Costa Rica was highly beneficial. Yes, it might have not solved all of the problems that took place in the meeting rooms. But it certainly brought people to talk to each other. Now how long will that last; that's an excellent question. I don't know. And this we will only find out as time goes. But I do hope that the slope if you want will not be a very steep one. I do hope that it will have lasting effects. But of course every now and then it has to regularly be reignited if you want and bring people closer together.

There is one problem though with this, which is that as the different RALOs grow it becomes more costly and more difficult on a logistics level to bring everyone together. And we're seeing this with the At-Large Summit, the Summit which took place in Mexico City brought approximately 100 ALSes together. We now have reached 140 ALSes. So even if you looked at the same costs you'd be looking at a 40% rise in costs and this, if we continue climbing, if we get to 100, then of course the cost would be doubled what it was before.

So one has to also look at that and find out if this model is sustainable or not. And this is the reason why I suggest the working group strategy where working groups could meet, smaller working groups face to face if that was required on specific points. But I don't have an answer to this unfortunately. It's not one of these things where there's an easy fix to make it work. We think that a face to face meeting helps. And trust me, there's a lot of work taking place in those meetings. What it certainly does is to help people experience an ICANN meeting and actually understand finally what goes on at an ICANN meeting and what this whole thing is all about, and effectively the depth of an ICANN meeting not being just a discussion about domain names, but there's a lot more that goes on beyond that.

And definitely a segment of people going to ICANN meetings really does believe that they can actually make a difference, make a difference for their communities, make a difference to have that move forward. And I'm not saying that it's only people in At-Large. I've seen some GNSO constituencies do excellent work as well. But as seen from (inaudible) it just looks as though ICANN is just a bunch of domainers trying to make a quick buck and in fact that's very far from the truth. Thank you.

Wolf Ludwig:

Okay thanks Olivier. I have a last one from Yuliya.

Yuliya Morenets:

Thank you Wolf. Just quickly being a EURALO member for six months or a little bit more I would say that I completely actually agree and we need physical meetings and especially for newcomers to understand

how it works, to meet the others, it's very interesting to be online, but for example when we are at the (inaudible), here to present users of course, but we need to also meet to understand and (inaudible) experience and the expertise of others.

So I would say I would support the statement that we do need physical meetings and that we can between these meetings of course communicate online and use all ITT tools because we are here for this actually and we are in this internet community. So thank you.

Wolf Ludwig:

Our final comment, it wouldn't be Veronica otherwise. So I hand over to Veronica.

Veronica Cretu:

Okay thank you Wolf, but very brief on the working groups that Olivier has been mentioning for a couple of times. One of the issues is diversity, which is both a challenge and a positive thing. Diversity comes with a set of different (inaudible) which makes the whole thing really complicated. But at the same time is very interesting. As there is this approach of working groups then probably in the working groups there should be a more systemized approach where a working group has a problem, identifies solutions and has a clear timeline for identification of their solutions. And that's then the working group reports to the RALO on what works, what didn't work and what are the next steps.

And a working group can have a problem for less than a month. So you can have a month in which you can identify a solution. So if there is a more structured – I'm talking from the position of a former ALAC

member. I remember the (inaudible) of the working groups which at some point (inaudible) and then continues to deliver the expected outcome. So working groups have to be organized and there are possible ways to do that.

So if there is a more constructive approach to how the working group functions then might be some change, in terms of the outcomes and of the process. Thank you.

Wolf Ludwig:

Okay thanks a lot for this comment Veronica. While we didn't have working groups on the EURALO level so far, so we have no real experience because we try to handle issues, our original issues on the broader level. And while to be just to all the (inaudible) comments also from Eric I've seen in the chat room saying well (inaudible), etc. Who are the reactors in various levels in the IPV6 or in whatsoever. But it somehow depends on to what extent you are in your professional lives dealing with the subject. And I know members who do these kinds of things in their private lives. They have ordinary honorable profession, like being a lawyer or teacher or whatsoever and they do this in their own time. And I think we also have to differentiate between this option that you have the privilege to do internet related, internet governance related things during your life like (inaudible). Many of you at the table can do it as this privilege and there are many more who – and if you start at this point again I think our judgments are closer.

Of course there are a lot of communities who function online, but if you are a business interest, if you do this on a business level I think the more it comes to the volunteers level and the (inaudible) volunteers level the

exception again would be the Wikipedia community which is a complete volunteers community who functions perfectly. So there are the pros and cons etc and we could continue this debate.

I think it's substantial to regularly reflect how we can keep our basis, our members involved. There are improvements needed etc and we have to continue and to reflect on this respect as we said before. We are running short of time. We started some minutes later but let me try to come to a conclusion. I have a little bit skipped the agenda items but we (inaudible) dealt with all of them. We gave a short briefing and approval of the budget fiscal year. We explained what we asked for, what we got, there is basically not much to be improved from here at this side as approval came from the ICANN side. So this point is clear.

Most of the time fortunately we spend this point late on our agenda how to do EURALOs inreach and member involvement and I really think it was good that we spent most of the time today on this one. I don't think that there is a briefing of the EuroDIG really needed as it is an exciting program on that side, EuroDIG starts tomorrow morning. There is a comparison from the secretariat be made between improvements from Belgrade to Stockholm. I think one of the highlights really this year we never had such VIP involvement at EuroDIG like we have this year; starting with the Queen from Sweden speaking on Friday morning.

We have (Inaudible) Vice-President from the European Commission. We have (Inaudible) General Secretary from the Council of Europe. We have (Inaudible) from the Parliamentary Assembly. We really got some big shots on the European level this year to Stockholm. And this is remarkable compared with previous years. So this year we tried to

organize in a bottom-up way being as inclusive as possible with the proposals etc, but also including the political instances etc.

So there will be much better opportunities for remote participation from tomorrow for all the EuroDIG sessions except for the (inaudible). So everybody who is interested to participate is welcome to do so over the next two days. And I'm sure we will have some very exciting debates until Friday evening.

If there are no urgent questions for about EuroDIG etc, the last point on our agenda is reaching the 10 years ALAC anniversary. I don't think there are really, we had a working group on this. Well not a working group but a work team, more or less the extra phone calls describing about how we will design it. I think it's a good thing to have this anniversary event. Actually had the pleasure to have (inaudible) elect-chair here on the table, would you like to, Olivier, say a few words about this issue. You have the floor.

Olivier Crepin-Leblond:

Thank you very much Wolf, it's Olivier for the transcript. The events taking place in Prague are effectively going to be a set of things actually. There's actually a workspace there and as I turn over to this page to remind myself, there is an anniversary event that is taking place on Monday at the end of (Inaudible).

Wolf Ludwig:

From 4 to 7.

Olivier Crepin-Leblond:

So effectively there will be a number of speakers that will come. It's 10 years since the actual At-Large Advisory Committee was created. It's disputable, some say it should actually be next year, 2013 rather than 2012. What's actually happened is the Board gave the green light at the end of 2012, so this kind of kicks off the celebration to say well we've survived 10 years. Some people thought that the ALAC wouldn't survive more than a couple of years. In fact, some people thought that At-Large altogether would not survive in this community.

So what we have is a retrospective that Wolfgang (Inaudible) will be able to provide us to help how it all came to be because as with everything a lot of people worked in the shadow I guess before it all existed to have meetings such like the meeting like we're having here today. And they all provided documents and finally came up with the concept of having a committee. Many of you don't know but prior to 2002 there was an At-Large in ICANN, but it was actually differently structured.

In fact it was not structured and well and event took place that basically had At-Large captured and some directors ended up on the Board and a whole number of things that actually took away the ability of At-Large to have directors directly connected by people voting around the vote. The main problem being that people were voting, there was no way to actually find out if it was a real person or if it was just a name or an email account. And with the strength of Yahoo and Gmail accounts you can imagine how skewed the results could be.

Anyway, the whole structure of At-Large Advisory Committee and the RALOs under that was conceived around that time. And Wolfgang will

be able to tell us about how it all came together. We've also got the chance of having all of the (Inaudible) Chairs. So we'll have Jacqueline Morris and Cheryl Langdon-Orr and I'm hoping that we'll also be able to have...

Olivier Crepin-Leblond:

Well hopefully, I mean maybe we can have him remotely or something. But we were hoping that we could have all of the previous Chairs and we will have a few of them who will be able to tell us about what their challenges were. Because each Chair had a different set of challenges depending on what they had to do at the time and how advanced the ALAC development was. Then we'll have the Chairman of the Board, Steve Crocker who's going to address us. And then a few concluding comments from yourself Wolf, and from Yrjo who is next to me here. And after that there will be music and a social event just for people to mingle. So we hope that there will be a good turnout. And it's an event which is being sponsored both by ICANN, or funded, co-funded by ICANN on one side and Afilias who has very kindly also brought some money forward.

So I think it will be very successful. I hope that you'll all be able to join. Thank you.

Wolf Ludwig:

Okay. Thank you very much Olivier for this explanation and info on the last agenda item (inaudible), some points suggested so far the next GA 2013, just to say we will have according to our Bylaws we are obliged to have one General Assembly per year. The next one will be, as we

indicated already, secret until Friday. It will be in line with the next EuroDIG host, which will be (inaudible) and Lisbon. Date is not confirmed yet, so we will work on it as you said before. I would be very interested to organize the next General Assembly, and this is now an Action Item for the record.

To try the next General Assembly in a different way. Last General Assembly I did mostly by myself, last year with Olivier. Next time I would like to step back a little bit and I would like a working group consisting of members discussing and decided how this General Assembly should (inaudible) whatever. You are free to do whatever you want. (Inaudible) at the dinner service I used to do this kind of stuff and so this would be my idea, my suggestion and to be taken up for the Action Items for not necessarily for the June call, but from July onward.

We could start discussing planning, trying to create this working group. I would like to recommend please we have to keep the (inaudible) in this one. And I would also like to have Yuliya involved in this one, not so much the old hands etc. We will stay observers, we'll make nasty comments etc at this kind of stuff be sure about that. Okay, any questions? Olivier he is probably invited (inaudible) a party.

So if there are no questions anymore I would like to thank all of you for your participation. Physically here in the room I think we had an interesting discussion about perceptions, different perceptions and ideas about inclusiveness and involvement, engagement etc. I would like our remote participants Adela, Eric, Manuel, Rudi, Siranush, etc so we had quite a cozy group of 13 people if I counted correctly for today. So I would like to thank staff for their support to make at least this

bridge possible that under lousy circumstances we put through some kind of interaction communication.

Okay, it was difficult and I think next year it should, even if we have it face to face, we should either decide okay we don't need any remote participation option etc, but in case (inaudible) should make sure. As we underlined before that we do it in a way that it's really facilitating and productive etc and under better circumstances than we had here. Thanks everybody for your participation and I wish a good night and hear you or see you soon again. Bye-bye.

Heidi Ullrich: Thanks everyone. Thanks Wolf.

Wolf Ludwig: Thank you bye-bye and we will (inaudible) now and having a dinner together somewhere and continuing our discussions etc or not (inaudible). Okay.

[End of Transcript]