
Nathalie Peregrine: Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening. This is the NARLO monthly meeting on the 13th of August, 2012. On the call today we have Darlene Thompson, Allan Skuce, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Gordon Chillcott, Annalisa Roger, Joly MacFie, Glenn McKnight, Gareth Shearman, Garth Bruen, Seth Reiss, and Eduardo Diaz.

We have an apology from Alan Greenberg. From staff we have Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, Matt Ashtiani, and myself, Nathalie Peregrine. I'd like to remind you all to please state your names before speaking for transcription purposes. Thank you very much and over to you, Darlene.

Darlene Thompson: Have we missed anybody on the roll call? Excellent. Okay, Item #2 is Review of Action Items from our last call. The only action item from our last call was to coordinate and get together a Toronto Organizing Committee, which we have done. Garth Bruen is the Chair of it and other members are Glenn McKnight, Eduardo Diaz, Evan Leibovitch, and Gordon Chillcott and myself. That has been done and we're meeting on a weekly basis in order to more that forward. There will be a more detailed report later on about this.

Item #3 is the Policy Statement Update. Is Evan on the phone yet? Silly me, I should not have put that at the very beginning of the agenda. We'll come back to that one.

Item #4 – Policy Advice Development Page. I encourage everybody to have your agenda up in front of you so it's easy to see these points. There's also a lot of links that we'll be looking at, so it would be good if you did have that agenda in front of you with the links. We have a list under "A" of recently-approved ALAC statements, documents or groups. Item B is items currently being reviewed or voted on by the ALAC. And Item C is current open policy forums. Does anybody wish to make any comments or statements about any of these?

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.

Okay, I don't see any hands in the Adobe Room. Item #5, New gTLD Program Update. Annalisa Roger did an excellent blog about this and I was just wanting to give Annalisa a few minutes to talk about what she wrote about in her blog. Annalisa, over to you. Annalisa, are you muted?

Heidi Ullrich:

Hi Darlene, this is Heidi. Annalisa is on the Adobe Connect, and actually I don't even see her on the Adobe Connect now... Oh no, there she is – I do see her. Okay. Nathalie, can I ask you to work with Annalisa to get her off mute, please? Annalisa, can you hear us? Okay. So Nathalie, you're the AC expert. If you can help her get out of mute, please?

Nathalie Peregrine:

Sure.

Heidi Ullrich:

And also, Darlene – this is Heidi. Evan is on his way in at the moment.

Darlene Thompson:

Sure. Alright, well let's move back to Item #5 after Item #6 so we don't waste a lot of time here. Item #6 is the Review of the Toronto Events Planning. Garth, I'll kick it over to you since you are our Chair in that group.

Garth Bruen:

Well thank you. We're having some great movement with the participation. Glenn has put up a sign-up sheet for running the tabletop in the ICANN Village and maybe he can discuss that specifically later. Also thanks to Darlene we've actually managed to enlist a whole bunch of NARALO ALSes in attending the meeting and participating in our various events, and we're pretty happy to have that level of participation.

At the last meeting last week we confirmed I think some of the catering and the entertainment and the flow of General Assembly, and some other things. If there's any specific questions or anything anybody's concerned about please let me know because we're going to have another meeting on Wednesday to discuss more. Thanks.

Darlene Thompson:

Excellent. Glenn, did you want to add anything in regards to the wine and cheese and the tabletop scheduling, and all the great stuff you've been doing with getting people to donate to this event?

Glenn McKnight:

Yes, Darlene – hi everybody, it's Glenn here. A couple things: one is it looks like I have my confirmation and I'm waiting for a more definitive email from our entertainers, which is the [Matee Council], and so that looks good. We have our room, we have our catering – it's not cheap but that's how it goes when you're entertaining people. So yeah, I think it's going along fairly smoothly, and as Garth mentioned earlier about the Doodle I guess, Darlene, do I have permission now to send out an email to all those participating ALSes to sign up for the Doodle I guess?

Darlene Thompson:

Absolutely. I'll put that down as an action item for myself today. I'll make sure you have the list of the ALSes that are coming as well as their contact information.

Glenn McKnight:

Beautiful. Now, on the signage and info, the Google first and CIRA was away last week but we do have a logo from CIRA – CIRA sent it right away due to (inaudible) and I mentioned to them that we'd like to have Byron Hall as a speaker at the event. And I've asked also for Afilias with Desiree. So I think

they should all have prepared their checks and sent them on to ICANN Financial, so hopefully they've done that already.

Darlene Thompson:

Excellent, thank you Glenn. Okay, Item B – Travel Planning and General Assembly. Basically, all we did for the General Assembly is we took all the fantastic things that the group told us that they want to talk about, which made up an excellent I think two-hour spot. I think it'll be just perfect for filling that large a spot. The last time I sent out an email saying "Okay, here's what we thought – are there any more suggestions?" there were no more suggestions so we just used that list, and that's what we'll be discussing for the General Assembly. So I think that will be very productive.

Then of course we'll also be having the four capacity building sessions from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM every morning, and half of that we will likely be partnering with the Fellows because they get different speakers in to tell them what do the different SOs and ACs do as well as different ICANN areas and such like that. So we'll have one hour of that plus another hour where we can discuss our own regional [currents], and I will be putting out an email saying "Okay, here's what we've already got, what would we like to add to that?" But that won't be coming for another few weeks because we've got to find out first of all what the Fellows will be discussing so that we're not duplicating efforts.

On the Travel planning end of things, all the ALSes that weren't already going to be there because of holding a position like ALAC Chair, Secretariat, that sort of thing – we got 12 ALSes that agreed to come, so that's 12, and then we've already got Evan, myself, Eduardo, and Glenn who's going to be there. Am I missing anybody else? So that's 16 of our ALSes. That's very good representation in my mind so I'm really looking forward to seeing everybody there. Are there any questions or comments on this?

Okay, moving on to Item C, Niagara – Evan, are you there?

Evan Leibovitch: Yes I am..

Darlene Thompson: Go for it.

Evan Leibovitch: [referring to Item #3] Okay, well essentially the issues that are up and on the go right now are actually listed in the agenda on the Adobe Connect. I can give a little bit of an overview of some of them. There's some that are sort of near and dear to me, but essentially there's a couple of votes going on right now specifically about public comments on the [SSRT final report] which is a statement of the Security, Stability and Resiliency of the DNS Review Team – that's been adopted.

I abstained from that mainly because it was like a thank you message and I didn't think that the ALAC needed to vote on a thank you message. Other than that there's some issues going on about SAC054 which is the Domain Name Registration Data Model. I'm not heavily participating in that. I am working with Garth on issues together related to ICANN Compliance issues, which continue to be a thorny issue, and which I think are actually going to have to start being bumped up the chain into becoming an ALAC priority issue because if ICANN cannot sustain public trust in how it works with its existing TLDs I don't see how it's going to be able to engender that trust with the expansion program.

Anyway, on the Statement Endorsing the IPC's Statement on .com Renewal and Thick WHOIS, that's simply dealing with our long-time endorsement of having a thick WHOIS and essentially joining comments with the IPC in that realm. There's a vote closing soon on the Strategic Plan. Anyway, essentially what I'd like to do is just open the floor if there's questions on any of the open agenda items that anybody sees on the Adobe Connect.

Rather than me sort of give my own priorities I'd just as soon take questions. I know Olivier's on the call, Eduardo's on the call, so maybe if we can take questions from anybody within the region on these items now's the time.

Darlene Thompson:

Actually now isn't the time. We're on Item #6 which is travel planning for Toronto. Evan, I was going to loop back up to Item #3 after we were done with this and I [would have given you time] to talk about that now seeing as how you were late to the meeting. But now that you're on to it, if anybody wishes to comment please go ahead.

Evan Leibovitch:

Olivier has got his hand up. Darlene, Olivier has his hand up.

Darlene Thompson:

I just said Olivier, please go ahead.

Olivier Crépin-Leblond:

Oh, sorry Darlene, I didn't hear you. I heard Evan saying my hand was up but that was it.

Darlene Thompson:

I think he doubled up on me. Thanks, Evan.

Olivier Crépin-Leblond:

[laughing] Okay. I was just going to say, on SAC054, the Domain Name Registration Data Model – Evan mentioned that he had refrained from voting on that. Well actually the DNS [refused the] DSSR RT final report, that I guess you all know (inaudible). The SAC054, Domain Name Registration Model is quite a technical thing. I know that there are some people in NARALO who are very well-versed technically speaking, so certainly comments and thoughts about this report – which isn't that large of a report – but comments are very

much welcome to have a very good answer on this one. And we are going to have a meeting with the SSAC in Toronto so but it will be a short one; so it'll be good to have some comments now and then we can discuss it in Toronto. Thank you.

Darlene Thompson:

Thank you, Olivier. Does anybody else have comments? Alright, going back to what we were supposed to be discussing, which is the Toronto Events planning – staff, do you have anything to say about the promotional items and such?

Heidi Ullrich:

Hi, Darlene, thank you for that – this is Heidi. Yes, some of the promotional items that are being developed include a lapel pin for the RALO five-year anniversary. That's being developed and a draft design should be shown to the NARALO Toronto Organizing Committee tomorrow. There's also going to be a banner, a NARALO portable banner that you see often at trade shows for both the NARALO Outreach Event on Monday evening as well as the booth that is going to be used in the area where all of the sponsors are for outreach activities; and also a half-page ad or text in the meeting guide promoting the RALO events. So Darlene, that's it.

Darlene Thompson:

That's awesome; thank you very much. Anybody else have any questions or comments about Item #6 at all, the Toronto Events Planning? Alright then, we're going to move back up to Item #5, the New gTLD Program. As I mentioned before, Annalisa Roger has done an excellent blog on this and Annalisa, I just want to give you a few minutes to maybe review a few of your points on the blog as you wish.

Annalisa Roger:

Well thank you, Darlene. Can you hear me okay on this new audio? I'm on the phone now.

Darlene Thompson: You're perfect, you're perfect.

Annalisa Roger: Okay, well thank you so much. Yes, the New gTLD Program is accepting public comments, so one update I would do just about ICANN is that they did change their date from August 12th which was the close – they've now lengthened it to [September 26th.] So it gives the public more time to comment on any of the applications that are in on the ICANN comment website.

The blog that Darlene is mentioning, and I think you have a link for it, is that's my view of the ecosystem that we're all a part of. And the success of the New gTLD Program I was trying to map out is that that affects everybody in and around the internet and especially around the ICANN community. So one thing that's really important for both ICANN and the New gTLD Program is public interest, and forwarding public interest would really speak to the success of everything that ICANN does in all of its work but also specifically for the New gTLD Program.

So if you guys wanted to read that blog, interestingly in the case of .green which is a very public-benefit focused type of string, interestingly we are the only North America applicant for the .green string so it seems appropriate to sort of point that out to NARALO and draw your attention to that fact. And I invite everybody to learn a little bit more about .green and see if maybe they want to make a comment, and I guess that's it. The blog sort of speaks for itself.

We're really excited about the potential for .green and we think it affects everybody, not just obviously North America but it's a global project. And thank you for giving me some time in the NARALO meeting here. Does anybody have any questions? I'd be really happy to answer any questions.

Darlene Thompson:

Well yeah, and thank you, Annalisa. The reason I did bring this up is because that's actually a point in our General Assembly that we'll be discussing in Toronto – the post new gTLD ecosystem. So it is something I would like people to start thinking about. Evan, I see your hand up? Go ahead.

Evan Leibovitch:

Thanks, Darlene. I simply wanted to, for those people that haven't seen them perhaps give a small synopsis of the comments that have been received to date in the public comment area on the New gTLD Program. The vast bulk of them have been people that have been complaining about the three adult - .porn, .sex and .adult – all being done by ICM. I'd say it's fair to say they've been getting the bulk of the complaints, usually people complaining about all three at once.

There is an interesting little broo-ha-ha brewing over the request for .catalonia, which is a region I believe in Chile and Argentina that some objectors are saying this is a geographic TLD and shouldn't be considered as a regular one. There's a lot of support in for a couple of ones – clearly the folks behind .music have been beating the drums and getting a lot of people out there. And I believe there was one unfortunate comment from I believe the Saudi government on .gay but outside of that, outside of those particular issues – I think the adult ones and the Catalonia one are taking up I'd say the vast bulk of the public comment area.

Annalisa Roger:

Yeah, Evan is right and that's interesting – there's also another type of comment that is focused a lot on trademark concerns and disputes, and they tend to be sort of a cut and paste comment that just goes blanketed over hundreds of TLD applications. Interestingly, our project has been passed over by most of those blanket spamming type comments, so I find that interesting and it tells me that maybe even those spamming comments, maybe they are actually spending the time and reading through these applications.

I know we've done a lot of work to make sure that we are a very collaborative type of entity, and we want to collaborate with corporate as well as government

and every entity because we represent the Green Movement and that's what people in the Green Movement do. So we really come from the green side of thing in policy as well as internet sites – maybe that's why they've passed over us in general. But Evan's right – there's been kind of a repeat.

But people are welcome to make positive comments. If you look at .green, we've been fortunate to receive positive comments from almost all the regions of the world. So yeah, hopefully that's going to make a difference. There is a category you're supposed to pick if you put in a comment. If you put in "other" my understanding is evaluators and the GAC will not read comments that are posted under the "other" category. So if you take the time to make a comment on any of the new gTLD applications please choose a different category but not the "other" category.

Darlene Thompson: That's kind of interesting.

Evan Leibovitch: I have another comment but I'll move it to the bottom of the queue because it's unrelated.

Darlene Thompson: Yeah, I was going to do that, Evan, thank you. Eduardo, you had your hand up? Did you still want to say anything? I noticed you put it down.

Eduardo Diaz: Yes, my hand went down but the central point is, I know that in the list that for .green, there is more than one company bidding for it. And I wonder if you can comment on that and what are your expectations on winning? Because (inaudible) after all this [it cannot go to a bid], right?

Annalisa Roger:

Yes, I'm not sure I heard your entire comment, but yes – there are four applicants for .green. Three of them are from large portfolio applicants within the industry – they're actually all registry operators themselves. We're the only North American applicant; the others are incorporated in other regions of the world, and we're the only applicant that comes from the Green Movement. And we have a focus on the Green Movement and the green community.

One of the reasons we're able to do that is because we're from the green community but also we have subcontracted the technical operations to NeuStar, also a North American company because they have the expertise in the technical operations. We have the expertise in the Green Movement. So we believe our application reflects this as a very strong solution for the .green TLD.

And I'd like to add, too, we've also built a public charity foundation that we're in sponsorship with; and Earthshare which is a nonprofit federation in North America, most of the largest environmental organizations of the world are members of Earthshare and they collaborate and work with corporate in employee payroll deductions, so they have a long history of working with corporate and government in the green space. So there's a lot of knowledge and collaboration there.

And all four of us - .green, Earthshare, NeuStar, the .green Foundation – we are all green companies with sustainability initiatives within our companies. So we're all working towards green at the same time, so we're really trying to walk the walk.

Eduardo Diaz:

The last question is, is it part of your business model to restrict second-level domains or anyone will be able to apply for second-level domains for .green?

Annalisa Roger:

So yeah, that's an excellent question, Eduardo, thank you. The word "restriction" is really commonly used, like Eduardo did, in the TLD world. It's a word that doesn't resonate well in the Green Movement, because in the Green

Movement there are no restrictions as to who can participate. Who is allowed to recycle? Who is allowed to improve their lifestyle? There's no restriction and there's no leader that prevents or judges people on whether or not they can participate. So in that sense, the way that translates to .green is that no, we are all-inclusive. There are no restrictions to who is allowed to join and to participate, and that is one of the reasons we were unable to use the ICANN community definition.

The ICANN community application definition was extremely restrictive, and the Green Movement is not that. So no, we don't have restrictions. However, what we do have is we have a charter and an understanding of what green means and of what .green means, and so everybody who buys a .green name is going to make a clear acknowledgement – like per the checking of a box – that they've read the definition of what green is in the world and they've read the definition of what .green stands for. And as long as they agree that that is the use of what they're trying to do they can buy a .green name.

Now the rest is up to the Green Movement and the people of the world to see what they post on their green website, and trust me, if they're posting things that are not green the public is going to have the tools and the ability – because that's what the internet is all about – to call them out so to speak. So our role as the manager is that we are going to be educating both the registrants and the users as to what the Green Movement means, and we're going to do this in a very positive and collaborative, forward-thinking way, not a punitive way.

However, if somebody is completely egregious and shows harm to humanity or something really against the green meaning, we do reserve the right to take down. So that is in our application.

Eduardo Diaz:

Thank you.

Darlene Thompson:

Okay, next on the speaking queue is Glenn McKnight, go ahead.

Glenn McKnight:

Yes hi, Glenn McKnight for the record. I had a chance to look at the .green application, and what was very striking with Annalisa's application is that she comes not only with the passion and the knowledge of the Green community but she's reached out to organizations and worked with organizations like Earthshare. She's unique because she has, being an ISOC (inaudible) and a RALO member she has an understanding of our community; but she has a deep understanding and passion for the Green community.

So I very strongly advise people to look at her application and respond favorably because I think it's a great application. It would be a disservice for opportunists to use the word ".green" and never do anything that's altruistic or philanthropic, or do anything that's really clearly in the application that I've seen that Annalisa's team has. And she's smart by finding people who are the right people who have the technological knowledge to do what they're doing, like NeuStar, and I think you bring some really nice [packages] to this initiative. So I strongly support people read the comments and go to the comments from Earthshare and others. Thank you.

Darlene Thompson:

Great, thank you, Glenn. Next I see Olivier.

Olivier Crépin-Leblond:

Thanks very much, Darlene, it's Olivier for the transcript. I was just going to add one small thing which is one forthcoming battle I guess is the one around the use of generic words for private gTLDs; in other words, there are several applications that are there being filed by an organization that will not open that gTLD to the outside world. So they will use it primarily only for their own services as a little private gTLD. I see Evan was going to raise the topic. .book for example is one of them – it could go either way.

There are points of view in each direction. People say "Well, people should be able to do whatever they want with the new gTLD that they're applying for."

Others are saying that it really is a de facto way of providing those organizations with a trademark, with a new uncategorized trademark over a word. So if XYZ Company applied for .book and got .book, then “books” would be equated to XYZ in the future. But anyway, I’ll let Evan continue and describe things in a better way than I do. Thank you.

Darlene Thompson:

Thank you, Olivier. Go ahead, Evan.

Evan Leibovitch:

I don’t know if I can do it better but I hope I can just add to some of what Olivier has mentioned. This has the potential of being a very significant issue. In the Adobe chat I’ve posted a link to the area in the At-Large Community input area where we received a complaint about .book from Internet New Zealand, which is an ALS and also a registry; and I believe they’re also involved in the ccTLD for New Zealand. And they complained about two issues, one of which is the idea – well, they suggested that generic words like “.book” should actually come under a different level of scrutiny than a coined name such as .Exxon which is probably a valid point to make but probably about three years too late.

This is an issue that might have been very well taken had it been done in the early times when they regulations and the Applicant Guidebook came out, but now that barn door is open and ICANN has received money from people making applications based on the guidelines that they came out with. Backtracking not hat probably would feed nobody but the legal community, which would do very well from this. So I’m not quite sure about the propriety of talking right now that a generic word should be treated differently as a TLD as opposed to a coined trade name. It’s a valid point but way too late.

A clear second point has to do with the purpose of the TLD. One particular applicant of many for .book is Amazon, and Amazon in their application for .book as well as for a number of other TLDs has indicated that they have no

intention of selling second-level domains; that Amazon would maintain ownership of all second- and third- and similar-level domains. This has gotten a number of people up in arms. I was reading a couple of domainers blogs where they are absolutely up in arms about the inability if Amazon wins to be able to trade in second-level domains under .book. And this has gotten some people very, very upset to the point where they're saying it's an issue of public interest that we should be fighting Amazon on this.

A couple of things: first of all, Amazon is still working in a contention set where they have to work with other bidders on the same strings. Amazon is a bidder on a number of different strings including .app, .book and a number of others, but even should they win there are concerns raised about Amazon taking the TLDs that they would own and then essentially locking them away; that is, not making them available for purchase through the regular registrar/registrant system.

I have responded to that on the webpage that I gave the link to, and my point is I think people are looking at this far too narrowly. Amazon has not said what they're going to do with it; they've just said that they will retain ownership. That does not mean that they would not let other people and companies use second-level domains, just that Amazon would retain ownership. This is an innovative way of dealing with a top-level domain and I don't think it's against the public interest to merely have an experiment that would work like that.

Right now, all the TLDs are working on the conventional you buy from a registrar and it goes through the registry and so on, and they buy and sell and trade; and there's a couple like .museum that are a little more restrictive than that, and .cat that's a little more restrictive than that. And then you have ccTLDs that restrict based in some cases on national ownership, or sorry, on residency. But at the same time there are complaints in some circles about the threat by Amazon and the domains that it owns to not resell second-level domains, and I'm just retorting back that number one, ICANN has no business in peering into what the TLD owners do with their domains, assuming they get them fair and square; and secondly, I think it's being horribly restrictive to think

that just simply because Amazon wants to own all the domain names that they're going to withhold use of it from the public.

The thought of an entire TLD having a single WHOIS entry for Amazon, which would be responsible for everything happening under that TLD offers some very interesting concepts of a TLD that could be potentially without squatters, without trademark infringers, with a certainly enhanced level of public trust. Anyway, I'm probably talking too much on this but the issue does have the potential to flare up. It's important that the region be aware of it. As far as At-Large is concerned it actually constitutes the only real objections that At-Large has received on the gTLD process, and At-Large was one of the designated bodies to receive complaints and this is the only one that it received before the deadline. Thanks.

Darlene Thompson:

Thank you, Evan, that's really interesting. Glenn and Evan, you still have your hands up. Did you have something further to add, Glenn? Glenn, are you muted?

Glenn McKnight:

Yes, I was muted. I do not have a question. I'll put my hand down.

Darlene Thompson:

[laughing] Not a problem. Does anybody else have anything further to add to this topic?

Evan Leibovitch:

Annalisa and Jolie are both typing. Did either of you have any comments on that?

Annalisa Roger:

Well, thank you Evan. Yeah, Jolie had mentioned a question. He asked in the chat if somebody whose name is Green, Mr. Green or Mrs. Green, if they could buy a .green name; and my answer, what I was trying to explain is as long as they acknowledge the meaning of green as the social benefit, health and towards sustainability, and they acknowledge the meaning of .green, then yes, absolutely. And many words have more than one meaning, and so for them the meaning is their name but chances are they're probably interested in a healthy lifestyle and a healthy planet and maybe even the green economy and green business. So I actually expect a lot of Mr. and Mrs. Green's out there to jump at the chance to buy a .green name.

Oh, a polluter called Green he's asking now. Well, you know, a lot of polluters also have sustainability efforts. So what I would suggest is they don't put their polluting side on the .green name. If they did, that would cause a problem because what .green represents is all things green toward sustainability, and that's what the internet user is going to be looking for. And the internet user knows how to use the internet and they know how to find other sites that the polluter may also be running, and the interested internet user who's interested in green will do their searching just like they're doing today but the .green site is supposed to be your best foot forward towards sustainability.

What are the actions you're moving forward? The truth of the matter is, no human being and no company is actually green. We are all in the process of our journey towards living and doing business in a greener way. We're all learning and trying to get greener and trying to find that balance of sustainability. That's what the .green is representing. So I hope that answers.

There's a lot of companies, and I mean a lot of us as individuals – we think we're green but we drive a car. So we're all looking towards being more green. That doesn't mean it should prevent us from having a .green address right now because we are doing quite a bit. So I hope that kind of explains, but I love the interest and the questions.

Darlene Thompson:

Evan had a question there, which I believe you already covered: “Is a green commitment voluntarily stated or will it be verified and enforced?”

Annalisa Roger:

It’ll be voluntarily stated by the registrant, and as far as the “enforced,” that’s the Green Movement – that’s the beauty of the Green Movement. And the internet is the most important tool that the Green Movement needs and already uses to verify and enforce, and the way we do that with the internet is people use YouTube. If you’ve got a big polluter out there, someone’s going to grab their cellphone and they’re going to be filming the big polluter polluting and guess where they’re going to post that? They’re going to post that on the internet, and then you’re going to get the bloggers and then you’re going to get the news people; and the enforcement is going to come through market share.

Nobody’s going to want to support somebody who is saying one thing on one hand, and then on the other hand all the evidence suggests to the contrary. So I think that the .green is going to forward what is already happening in the world. Corporations are already, they’ve already joined the Green Movement and they’re making tremendous strides in green. They’re also big industry and there’s tremendous room for improvement, but rather than penalize them and cut them out of the process which means we’ll never go green as a planet, we’ve got to embrace what they are doing, what those efforts are. And we’ve got to buy those products that are done right, that do make a difference. And products that are bad, if those are not getting sold I promise you these companies will stop making them and they’ll stop acting that way.

They will definitely focus their business and their money-making ventures on things that the green internet community wants. And .green’s going to show that to people. As more and more people are clicking on .green names companies are going to realize “Let’s put more products there – we’re getting more traffic.” So it’s going to be a big ongoing thing. It’s a big ‘green’ area [laughing]. But yeah.

Darlene Thompson: Excellent, thank you Annalisa. If anybody else has any other comments maybe you can put your hand up. If not we'll move on.

Annalisa Roger: I really want to thank everybody for the interest and this time, and please, definitely don't be scared to look at the applications, and not just .green – any others that you might be interested in. The most fun part is going to the comment page and reading other comments that other people have already put in. That's really neat. I think that's going to show the trend of where some of these TLDs are going to be going. Thank you.

Darlene Thompson: That's a great point. Thanks, Annalisa. Alright then, moving onto Item #7 – Election Update. Okay, first of all we'll look at the ones that are uncontested. First of all, we have our appointment for the Regional At-Large delegates to the NomCom. Glenn McKnight ran for this uncontested, so about a week ago I actually forwarded this to the ALAC and so we're actually ahead of the other regions in this. Three of the other regions have chosen a candidate but they haven't sent them in yet, and one region needs to go through a vote, which is LACRALO. So these have to all be done by August 15th, which is Wednesday.

Then what happens is from August 15th to the 20th ALAC reviews the RALO recommendations and any additional list of nominations accepted. Then the ALAC selects and endorses a vote between August 20th and 24th and on the 25th we should find out who the five people are who are actually placed on there. So again, it is an ALAC vote that this has to go through. It is the ALAC who selects these people. We just put forward our recommendations and that has been done, so we are now in just a holding pattern waiting for that decision.

Olivier or anybody else, did you have anything to add to that?

Olivier Crépin-Leblond: No, thank you, Darlene – I was just going to say bravo.

Darlene Thompson:

[laughing] Okay, I didn't mean to cut you off there. Next one is Secretariat – that was done by acclamation, Darlene Thompson. Now, if you'll notice on the agenda there is the NARALO Elections page. In there you will find all of the SOIs of the ALAC and Chair positions which we do have coming up for election this week. When we say SOIs in this instance we are talking about strictly statements of interest: "I am interested in this job and here's how I think I am qualified." There are no COI requirements in this, as in conflict of interest requirements. So it's just "I want the job and here's why I think I'd be good at it."

So I would suggest that you review those SOIs and it also gives a timeline of where we're at on it. The election will open later today; staff is working on it right now. It will be open until the end of the day Friday, so that gives everybody lots of time to review the questions and answers from candidates which is the second link in Item #7 where you can go through. And if you looked at it last week and think you're done you're not – there's been a lot of answers added over the weekend and even today, so I'd really recommend that you have another look at that page before making your final election vote.

So for Chair we have Evan Leibovitch and Eric Brunner-Williams running, not for Chair, I'm sorry – for ALAC we've got Evan Leibovitch and Eric Brunner-Williams running, and for Chair we have Garth Bruen and Seth Reiss running so we've got a good selection there. As well, on the vote you'll be able to vote for the people that are running or vote also as you can abstain, as well. So that was also suggested around the region. I'll be kind of interested to see if anybody does vote that way but we put it there just in case.

I think that's about it. I see Glenn, Glenn McKnight – you have your hand up. Go ahead.

Glenn McKnight: Yes, I do, thank you. I think the idea of posting some questions in a Wiki is a great idea. I've been reading some of the comments; they're quite interesting and I encourage some of the candidates who haven't at this point to wade in. It's great to get the opinions and vision of the candidates, the nominees, so I look forward to reading their comments.

Darlene Thompson: Well yeah, and it really helps because, I mean for those of you who don't go to the ICANN meetings and may not know these people personally you don't have a lot to go on. So that's your best bet to find out what everybody is all about and to get their standings on this. Now of course you probably have formed opinions over the years or because of the online comments, but this really gives the candidates an opportunity to say "Hey, here's what I stand for and why." So it is an excellent venue – you're right, Glenn. Glenn, did you have further?

Glenn McKnight: Nope, thank you – I'm going to put my hand down.

Darlene Thompson: No problem. Does anybody else have any further comments or questions on this? Alright then, moving on to the Update on the NARALO Survey. Glenn, you're on again.

Glenn McKnight: Wow. Hi, everybody. Glenn McKnight for the record. Well, I've been working on the survey to create a slideshow and I mostly finished it. I will be posting it on the NARALO Wiki but I need to find from you guys what's the suitable time for me to do a short presentation. It's a PowerPoint presentation on the findings and a summary, observations, good and bad points. So you have to tell me a time during the ICANN Toronto whenever we're meeting so I can actually slot it into my timeslot.

Darlene Thompson: Darlene Thompson here. One thing that I would suggest is maybe during one of the Secretariats' meetings – it might be very applicable. What do you think?

Glenn McKnight: Are you asking me, Darlene, or the group?

Darlene Thompson: Yeah.

Glenn McKnight: I'm happy to do it at any session where there's a receptive audience. So you tell me the time and I'll be there.

Darlene Thompson: Well, the Secretariats' Meeting, that's actually a bad name for it because it's actually Secretariats and Regional Leads, and usually most of the RALOs are there and the North American RALO should all be there as well. So I think that that would be a really excellent place, so you just need to let us know approximately how much time that you would need and then staff can slot it in appropriately.

Glenn McKnight: I would say 15 minutes maximum.

Darlene Thompson: And I see Olivier agreeing with that. So unless somebody else has another comment...

Glenn McKnight: Thank you.

Darlene Thompson: Alrighty. I think Items #9 and #10 are actually from our telephone conference, are actually repeats from last time that I should have taken down. Glenn, do you have anything further to say about the NomCom meeting in Prague?

Glenn McKnight: Yeah. The slate went forward for the Board of Directors as well as ALAC and GNSO and ccNSO. That was good – that's a good sign. We do have some issues that we're working through. There was an issue that I really can't talk about because it's gone through various different levels of ICANN. So even though we've left Prague we've been working still quite a bit since Prague. And we're working through the logistics of the issue but at this stage, again, I know it's probably public knowledge in some circles but I'd rather not say too much about it at this stage.

Darlene Thompson: That's great, though, Glenn – thank you very much.

Glenn McKnight: Thank you.

Darlene Thompson: Garth, I see your hand up? Go ahead.

Garth Bruen: Yeah, I do want to comment on the item even though it is a repeat, because there have been some updates and Evan did mention the issue earlier in the call so I wanted to follow up on what he said. We have some major, major problems with Compliance and we've been extremely patient with them, but it's not really going anywhere. Basically about a year ago, more than a year ago now we developed a number of case studies that went through the Compliance process,

and what we found in the end result is failure of the process, failure of some of the technology, failure of the contract and apparent failure of some staff members to follow up.

And unfortunately the Head of Compliance has been too busy to talk to me on the phone for four months. And this is where we are at this point, and some other strange things have happened in the meantime. There was a threat which apparently has not been carried out to suspend the bulk Compliance reporting system and specifically the suspension of the process would be while the new gTLDs are being deployed. And like I said, there has been no follow up or communications on our case studies, and I'm going to put a link to the case studies in the chat so people can read them at their leisure if they want to.

And Compliance just has not answered the questions either in writing or in multiple meetings that we've had at ICANN meetings or on the phone as to what's going on in these cases, and I'll let it stand at that. Thank you.

Darlene Thompson:

Excellent, thank you Garth. I assume that's for Item #10. Did anyone else have any further questions or comments on that? Alright, so that's moving on to Item #11 – Any Other Business. Anything else that anybody would like to talk about or bring up? Garth, your hand is up or is that an old one? Garth, can you hear me?

Garth Bruen:

Yeah, I put it down. Thanks.

Darlene Thompson:

Okay. No problem. Does anybody else have any other business?

Glenn McKnight:

Yes, it's Glenn. Sorry, you may have broached this, Heidi – did you talk about the banner? I had to take another call for about five minutes earlier in the

meeting. I just want an update: did we agree on a budget for the banner and has a banner been ordered for our event?

Heidi Ullrich:

Thanks, Glenn, this is Heidi. I did write into the chat that the staff are looking at doing some comparison shopping at quality and cost right now. And I do need to write to the group asking the text that they would like on that banner, so thanks for the reminder. I'll do that today.

Glenn McKnight:

Okay, thank you. I'll put my hand down.

Darlene Thompson:

[laughing] Thank you. Are there any other comments, any other business, anything else? Alright, then, at five minutes before the hour we'll be adjourning this meeting. And this will be my last meeting chairing because we will have a vote and we'll have a new Chair, yay! So have a great day, everybody.

[End of Transcript]