

GISELLA GRUBER:

I'd like to welcome everyone on today's APRALO monthly call on the 22nd of January at 05:00 UTC. On today's call we have Holly Raiche, Maureen Hilyard, Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Rinalia Abdul Rahim, Edmon Chung, Winthrop Yu, and Yannis Li. Olivier Crépin-Leblond has also just joined us. Apologies noted from Hong Xue and Julie Hammer.

From staff we have Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, and myself, Gisella Gruber. And apologies – Pavan Budhrani is on the call as well. And if I could also please remind everyone to state their names when speaking for transcript purposes. Thank you, over to you, Holly.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Thank you, Gisella. In terms of the agenda which is on our Adobe Connect, from the last meeting I did send out the monthly report that had a report of the meeting and there were no real action items. So we'll go right into the Update of the Beijing Organizing Committee and those of us who have just been on this phone for an hour will not need this update but there are a couple of people who have not been there.

So just to refresh for everyone and to update the new people, what we are looking at are the main items for Beijing. One is plans for our APRALO Showcase and Reception which will be held on the Monday evening, the 8th of April from 7:00 to 9:00. We've had a bit of discussion as to whether that is an ICANN function or whether really it's an APRALO, open-to-everybody, hope-everybody-attends function; and the implication for that was that there were different costs in terms of sponsorships and so on.

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We have decided it is an APRALO Showcase and Reception open to everybody, hope everybody comes, and the details are being worked out by Edmon and Maureen Hilyard particularly. There will be a template letter sent out to all of you from Maureen asking you particularly about the Showcase and how each ALS can participate in the Showcase, so start thinking about how you will showcase your ALS as part of that Showcase evening.

Another item will be capacity building, and that will largely be part of the Fellows and Newcomers, but again the template letter that will be going out will ask you what your particular ALS needs are for training, for education, and so forth. So please respond to Maureen when she sends that letter out.

The other big item that we have planned for Beijing will be what we're calling a Multi-Stakeholder Policies Discussion. That will be held on the 8th of April, on the Monday, from 2:00 to 4:00 in the afternoon, and we've come up with a list of about ten topics which I will circulate to you. We're asking everyone for what their thoughts are as to the two or three main policy items that we should be discussing; and what Rinalia will be suggestion and what I'll be suggesting is your thoughts and a rating as to its relevance and importance to APRALO and to ICANN.

I would mention specifically for APRALO, we will also be holding our meeting, our April meeting at Beijing and it's been scheduled from 1:00 to 2:00 on April 11th, the Thursday. And there was some objection to that until Heidi pointed out it will be a luncheon meeting in which case everybody was happy to attend.

I think that's all on the Beijing... No, there are a couple of, there will be a separate meeting that is being organized by Hong and that is essentially in Chinese, for Chinese. It's being supported by the Chinese government and by CNNIC I think. I think that will be held on the Monday lunchtime. That is something that Hong is working through and she will be writing us about that.

So that's where we're up to with Beijing, and I think the most planning has to come really in relation to the Showcase. We're depending on all the ALSes to have something for a showcase for that kind of reception in which we're inviting everybody. Now are there any questions or have I missed anything? And since Edmon and Maureen are both on this call – have I omitted to say anything that needs to be said about where we're up to in planning Beijing?

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Holly, this is Maureen for the record, if I can just add I think that you've covered everything for me, especially asking if everyone can respond to the questionnaire, the template that actually goes out – that would be really awesome. I just want to ask Heidi just one thing: with regards to opening up and that the budget actually increases, if we have a basic budget that covers what we want just for the displays – which is basically what the APRALO event is about, the displays, some relevant speakers who will be invited... And we would like some recommendations, and I'm assuming that Fadi and perhaps someone from the Board, but if there's anyone else that has to be included we really need to know that. But any expenses that include extra catering

and like the size of the venue, I think I just need a clarification that that is not coming out of APRALO's budget as such.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

This is Heidi, Maureen, you're correct. So currently the travel, the budget for the APRALO event is strictly for flights, accommodations and a stipend. So the Showcase... And also this is all included, all the meeting spaces are all included in that, the linguistics services, the interpretation. And I do want to point out that the Multi-Stakeholder Roundtable, the Showcase – all can offer interpretation and that's within the costs. There's no extra cost to the APRALO budget.

So we've spoken with Meetings staff and if you decide to go with just a Showcase, the smaller version – not the ICANN-wide welcome reception – they're thinking it would be in the large ALAC room which it's a large room they're going to be allocating for the ALAC meeting. And immediately outside is a beautiful foyer they said, and that's where perhaps the tables could be. And if interpretation and speeches are needed then everyone would be brought into the ALAC room and that's where the interpretation and the speakers would be. I hope that's clear.

HOLLY RAICHE:

That's excellent news. Maureen, does that answer some of your questions?

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you, Holly, yes it does – thank you very much, Heidi. I think that that does clarify a lot for us. It's just that I don't want Edmon to sort of be overwhelmed with too great a budget that goes beyond what we originally planned, and if ICANN's going to help us with the larger event, the larger invitation event then I'm really fine with that. Thank you.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Excellent. And could I just pick up what Heidi has put in the chat room – the lunch that we're going to have for the APRALO on Thursday, it's probably a BYO so with any luck there'll be, what, a McDonald's nearby? We can all bring McDonald's or whatever. And also a note from Rinalia: she's given a link to the Roundtable discussion so please put your input into that, because at the next Beijing organizing meeting we will be finalizing the two or three... Oh Rinalia, don't say "Yuk" – the two or three topics and speakers for our Multi-Stakeholder Policy Discussion and we would really appreciate your input on that. So just have a look at that link, and I'll probably also send out an email with the topics – if people could just please have a look and a think as to what you think are the two or three top things we should be talking about.

Now, APRALO participation in Beijing – we've done that. Policy Advice Development Page – Olivier, would you like to actually talk to this briefly or not briefly? The Policy page, what is out there for comment, what we've commented on and so forth; I would very much appreciate hearing your voice. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Holly, and it's Olivier for the transcript record speaking. Can you hear me?

HOLLY RAICHE: Beautifully.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Oh, fantastic. I'm using Adobe Connect today to dial in and it's also pretty early in the morning over here-

HOLLY RAICHE: Oh, poor thing.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Anyway, the Policy Advice Development page, right... I'm just going to try to fly through this and not take the 20 minutes that we have allocated. We've got three recently-approved ALAC statement documents – actually we have more that have been approved recently. But the three which are listed here are the Trademark Clearinghouse Straw Man Solution – that was something that was drafted out of this solution that was basically put together by a small working group that included the CEO of ICANN who was leading the discussions.

So we have commented on the solution itself but also on the process by which the so-called solution was found where we felt somehow shortchanged because many of the discussions were face-to-face and there was no funding to do this face-to-face. So our views were not really represented as well as they could have been face-to-face. The

second one, the Protection of International Government Organization and International Nongovernmental Organization Identifiers in All gTLDs – this is the famous Red Cross/IOC discussions which were rather heated in recent discussions on the ALAC calls. The good thing about it is we had already made a statement regarding that subject in the past. As a result of this statement and of course many other statements as well that other parts of ICANN made, and individuals also made, a working group was set up in the GNSO.

And that working group continued to engage the community and also engaged At-Large, and basically asked a whole set of questions and these are the answers that we provided over to the GNSO, to that working group. And I gather that working group will be taking this into account in its work – in fact, I know they have because we were I think the only part of ICANN that was in time with a full set of replies, which meant that the recent meeting of the working group only had that proposal to discuss, which is great.

And then finally the ALAC Demarche to ICANN – this one was a note effectively to the CEO and that was to do primarily with one of the problems in the visas that we had in Toronto. Several of our members on the Nominating Committee, for example, were not able to make it over to Toronto due to visa issues; and we're basically just asking that ICANN takes extra care in choosing the locations for its face-to-face meetings so we're not faced with this thing where we are all working hard in anticipation to a face-to-face meeting and then some of our members can't make it.

The statements currently being developed, now there are several of these that are at various stages of voting. The first one, the IDN Variants, so International Domain Name Variants Top-Level Domain Program: the Procedure to Develop and Maintain the Label Generation Rules for the Root Zone in Respect to the IDNA Labels. This is the second public comment draft and ALAC is voting on this. I have to thank both Rinalia Abdul Rahim and Edmon Chung who are our leaders for the IDN Working Group to have worked out a statement and proposed it, and the vote is currently underway. It's a very, very thorough statement. If you're interested in internationalized domain names I suggest you can click on this on the agenda page and you can have a read of that; and of course join the IDN Working Group if you're not already part of it.

Amendments to Article VI Section 2.3 of the ICANN Bylaws: DNS Root Server System Advisory Committee, RSSAC – this is another advisory committee that's currently changing its bylaws. We are considering a statement at the moment. There will be a discussion later on in the ALAC call which will take place, for Asia I think it's tomorrow – for me it's later on today. And we will discuss whether a statement will be needed or not. If any of you has an idea, a point of view, then you're very welcome to make it here after I've finished my list.

The Preliminary Issue Report on Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information – again, also ALAC is considering a statement.

A Statement on WCIT Outcomes – ALAC is drafting a statement. Actually, I'm currently holding the pen to draft a statement on this. What I'm planning on doing is to first release a report, a more detailed

report on what happened – what were the main sticky points and what were the points where consensus was reached; and then come up with a set of recommendations with the community on what ICANN should do. Now's the time to seize the opportunity to make use of the outreach potential that At-Large has, and so there's several things which our community can do to go out there and bridge the gap between those who understand the multi-stakeholder model and actually have been actively engaged in the multi-stakeholder model; and those that might not have actually been engaged in it that might have tried to dip their toes in it but not been welcomed to the table as well as they should have been – or at least, not even been fetched to come and joint the table. Anyway, I've probably said a bit too much. This is forthcoming very soon.

The report of the GNSO Working Group on Consumer Trust, Consumer Choice and Competition – the ALAC is drafting a statement at this time. Evan Leibovitch is holding the pen. There is a first draft that is out there and there's going to be just an amendment of this draft, and hopefully within the next week that statement will come out and the vote will start.

And then the WHOIS PDP Working Group – ALAC is currently voting on this.

There are more public comments that are underneath, and we are considering making a statement on each one except those that are marked "no statement." Some of them are a little technical or are very niche. I'm not going to read through all of them – you can see there's quite a few. What I do ask is if you think that any of these really

requires a statement then you drop a note to me or drop a note to Holly or to Rinalia or whoever's going to be on the ALAC call later on today or tomorrow for you, and that will be of great help. Of course, if anybody wants to volunteer to draft a statement, to be the penholder – so you basically hold the pen and you do a first draft. You propose it out there and then you will receive a lot of replies and a lot of help by others who will tell you “Oh, you need to change this, change that,” and you will also have some help to incorporate the comments in the draft. And as I said, you've got your name up in lights and later on, for posterity for having held the pen on an ALAC statement. It's very exciting.

Thanks very much. Any questions, I'm opening up to them now. Thank you.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Thank you, Olivier. Does anyone else have a question? Because I have a question. People are allowed to raise their hands... Gosh, they didn't, bad luck.

On the Straw Man, I've certainly followed all of the discussion on the list. Have we had any response over the not so much what we had to say about the Straw Man proposal but about our virtual exclusion from what appeared to be closed-door discussions?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Thank you very much, Holly, it's Olivier for the transcript record. There is a little bit of a delay between Australia and Europe at the moment. Yes, there is no reply yet regarding possible exclusion from those talks. I mean the thing is, the line that's currently being held is “Well, these

talks were open, they were open to everyone and you were all invited in participating.” However, there were several rounds of these talks that took place, and the first round that took place in Brussels had not even included At-Large.

So it was a pretty bad start, and it’s only thanks to a number of people who had known, who were in the GNSO and knew about those discussions – and funnily enough, even from some sides of the table who might not even agree with many of our points – they actually notified us and said “You know, we really think that it would be a fairer thing for you to join this as well. I’m not sure whether you’ve known about this but we noticed that you weren’t there last time.”

That is a terrible thing to happen, but apparently it was just an oversight. So there doesn’t seem to be any will to exclude At-Large or the ALAC, any conscious will to exclude them; on the other hand, it seems to be something that was put together rather fast. And whilst it’s appreciated that you know, there are several issues which have been lingering around for a long time and that are not moving forward – this one, for example that we were speaking about, the Rights Protections Mechanisms, another one that deals with WHOIS policy – we are particularly mindful of the fact that if you do push too far on a top-down basis you’re not going to have enough bottom-up anymore.

And on this occasion what the statement says basically is we appreciate the fact that there’s been some push but at the same time, the bottom-up multi-stakeholder was somehow not broken but we were put at a disadvantage in the overall scheme.

HOLLY RAICHE: Thank you. One more question?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: And just, Holly, before you ask actually there has been no reply yet and no formal reply has been received yet but we will push for one obviously. Although we did not ask specifically “Please answer each one of our points” I will be sending a note to ask whether there is a follow-up on that. And of course I will be speaking to the CEO at some point before the Beijing meeting so we’ll be able to ask if there’s any point that he wishes to make on this. Thank you.

HOLLY RAICHE: Thank you. One more question, and it has to do with I think your statement on WCIT. Now, on our Beijing call we are looking at identifying two or three topics that are of particular relevance to APRALO and ICANN, to have speakers on the topics that we think are most relevant. [As I was] saying in the Beijing meeting I’ve just attended a very informal briefing by one of the Australian delegation members, and I have to say I took a deep breath and thought “I’m not sure there’s anything that comes out of that briefing that is actually relevant to either APRALO or to ICANN.”

From what you say, the one thing that perhaps comes out is about a multi-stakeholder methodology. Is there anything else that comes out of it or should we be looking at... Can you think of other issues that come out of WCIT that are actually relevant for APRALO and for ALAC?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yes, thank you very much, Holly, it's Olivier for the transcript records. The WCIT has dealt with a whole range of issues which went from internet access all the way down to mobile communications, all the way down to fixed line communications and telecommunications. It really is a telecommunications agreement between member organizations and governments – sorry, I should say member governments and [member] organizations, that's what it is. They do have some sector members but you can count them, there's not that many of them compared to the number of governments that are involved in there.

So it's an inter-government discussion which they call a multilateral discussion. So if you speak about multi-stakeholderism and the World Conference on [International Telecommunications], and by extension anything that happened at the International Telecommunication Union – the ITU – effectively you're speaking about two different models. The ITU is not multi-stakeholder. So you've already got your answer. You don't need an hour to discuss that.

Now on the other hand also, if you want to discuss the WCIT outcomes, only a small segment, a very small segment of what the World Conference on International Telecommunications discussed about issues of domain names and numbers, which is what ICANN does – ICANN's mandate is to coordinate the domain names and the numbers. It's a tiny little speck of dust in the overall spectrum of the discussions, and it's something that was settled very early on. There were proposals by some countries to perhaps have countries assume some of the responsibilities that ICANN is assuming. These proposals were turned down and were quickly put to the side, so the overall outcome does not affect the function that ICANN is doing.

Furthermore, I would also say that you know, the discussion on WCIT is highly politically charged as well. You might have seen some of the follow-up afterwards. Some people in the US are asking for the ITU to be defunded. Other countries... Oh yes, “They don’t like us and we’ll cut them off.” Others from other backgrounds are basically saying “Well, we didn’t get what we wanted at the WCIT but we will get it because we’re going to have some more conferences where we can put our ideas across this year and the year after, etc.”

So it really is an ongoing discussion and it is highly politically charged, and you do have to be mindful that China and the internet sometimes don’t mix that well together on a number of things – sorry, China and open internet is difficult to mix sometimes for various reasons, some of which I can understand. And we obviously then need to exercise caution on these things.

So a WCIT discussion? Well, I don’t know if it’s something that’s really important to local users. I would have thought that perhaps IDNs was something that was particularly important. I would have thought that several other issues which affect ICANN directly and which are actually coming out of ICANN are things that might be of interest to our locals.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Thank you very much for that, and certainly it sounds like that topic kind of went down to the bottom but you know, I will listen to other people and we can be proved wrong – never mind. Are there any other things that we should be aware of before we perhaps let you go back to bed or have a cup of coffee or something? Or sorry, Rinalia, you have your hand up.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Holly, I realize Rinalia had her hand up for a while actually, and I apologize for having ranted.

HOLLY RAICHE: Apologize to her. Rinalia?

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you, Holly, two things – and Heidi reminded me about that, actually. It's just a note to APRALO that if the community feels that they need more briefing or information about our IDN statements that are up for public comment then they should ask for a webinar because this will help further their understanding about the topic. And we will only organize this webinar if there is demand from the community; otherwise we will proceed as normal.

The other thing is across the various discussion lists I've noticed heated debate about WHOIS, and Holly, you are an active participant in that.

HOLLY RAICHE: Yes, that's true.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: What would be very useful for the community is that if there is an objective analysis of the various viewpoints, that would be really, really useful. And I was wondering if there is a mechanism of getting to that. And finally, I note that Siranush is online and I know that Cheryl is online as well – perhaps an update on NomCom issues? Thank you.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Thank you, Rinalia. Welcome Siranush, and Cheryl, your hand is – even though I don't see it I've been told it is up, you're welcome to the... And by the way, thank you Olivier. Cheryl... Her hand is not up, okay.

Well in that case did I remind people by the way that on the APRALO lunch that is scheduled for Thursday, Heidi has reminded me on the chat that in fact we [need to] bring in our own lunch, even if I'm not going to share my BigMac with Rinalia because she doesn't want to.

Next on the agenda, let's just see... Somebody's taken my agenda down. In this case, I think the agenda... Are there any other items? Oh, I know what I was going to do: there is a third item that was on the agenda last meeting and we didn't get to it, but we can get to it now. Every so often I have trouble finding things on the website and it's just a little bit of trouble getting there. So Heidi and Silvia and I had a very instructive probably hour on the phone where in fact they came to agree with me.

I am proposing, and perhaps, Maureen, you might take this and see where it might fit in – but perhaps as part of either a General Assembly or even perhaps as something that we can do at ALAC to go through the website and find out where things are so that all of us can contribute. Because particularly for the new members of APRALO and the new members which we actually have both from EURALO and NARALO, it may be useful to have a session in Beijing – even an hour, just so we can all be on the same page on how to find stuff on the website. I know that I had a lot of trouble.

Now, Maureen's telling me Cheryl had an action item. Maureen, the floor is yours.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Holly. I won't take long about it but I did remember Cheryl had mentioned earlier that she had another action item or another item to bring up. But I think it'll be great... The website issue is something we perhaps might be able to just have the ALSes provide some feedback for us perhaps in the questionnaire I'm going to send out. It's probably timely, thank you.

HOLLY RAICHE: Thank you, okay. And if Cheryl, your hand is up? Just a check to see does your hand up mean that you just are happy with that or do you have...

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Cheryl here. I'm happy with that but I did want to point out that the Technology Taskforce, as Heidi said, is holding a training session in Beijing. Therefore why not throw our people into it?

HOLLY RAICHE: And Maureen that goes back to you, and maybe it's something that... When people get the template letter from Maureen I will certainly be putting down "This is what I want" and I think everybody else can, too. This would be part of either capacity building... My only question on capacity building is that some of that is actually scheduled at the same time as ALAC meetings. And if we actually want to involve existing ALAC

members and existing APRALO members who are attending then we need to schedule something as part of that meeting and not something that is separate from, say, a Fellows' meeting or a Newcomers' meeting. So Maureen, I guess, can you make a note of that? And maybe this is an agenda item for ALAC which is...

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Holly, I will – I will make a note of it and yeah, and keep everyone in touch. Thank you.

HOLLY RAICHE: That would be great. Thank you very much. Now there, at this stage we have gone through all the agenda items. Does anyone have any other business that they would like to bring up?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Yes, I do.

HOLLY RAICHE: Cheryl?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Okay, Cheryl for the transcript record. A very small piece of any other business but one that I'm particularly keen to have a short deliberation on and a couple of At-Large Structures are attending this call, so they'll be in on it.

There is going to be a discussion introduced in the ALAC meeting later today but will be ongoing through Beijing and possibly heaven forbid, but possibly even may go beyond – oh, I might as well just give up and say “and beyond” – and it’s got to do with the... It’s a twofold issue which boils down basically to an audit/ratification of existing At-Large Structures, those who have been recently accredited – obviously they’ve had their due diligence and everything else done and are all fresh and bright and shiny and nothing has changed. But some of us moldy oldies like the insecticide of Australia have been here practically since the year [dot], before there were RALOs. And there’s going to be a very near future need for all of our At-Large Structures ICANN-wide to prove their ongoing right to exist, I guess.

It seems to me for a couple of reasons the energy that will be coming out of having the Beijing event or the APRALO gathering, and the fact that I know that on one hand I can name a whole bunch of our At-Large Structures who will be shining examples of not only meeting all the criteria but going above and beyond the call of duty – I’d like to put forward three or four At-Large Structures from APRALO to pilot an audit system and to be part of developing in a small work team a fair and reasonable audit ability and due diligence recheck.

I would like to think that I should have no problem putting ISOC AU forward. I would like to think I should have no problem putting (Inaudible) forward but I was rather hoping that we might get a couple of others to forward as well. That’s something I think is hugely important. It’s going to balloon up on ALAC very, very quickly and we might as well lead and show how it can be reasonably done and solve several problems in one [go]. Thank you, Holly.

HOLLY RAICHE: Thank you. Siranush, your hand is up? Go ahead.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Do you hear me?

HOLLY RAICHE: Yes, very well, thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes, excellent. So a couple of updates from yesterday's NomCom call. We had discussed a couple of issues such as how we are going to assign NomCom appointees to GNSO and ccNSO Councils. We have some requests and the items from the ccNSO and GNSO Councils. So we were discussing those and we were also discussing external recruitment to help in connecting the best candidates for the Board; a couple of outreach events that are coming. So we have several meetings in Paris taking place. There is NOG, (Inaudible) NOG meetings and UNESCO meetings so there is a (inaudible) and party planning to take place there.

There is some Asia-specific people, APRALO people who are travelling – our NomCom person is travelling to Singapore for (Inaudible) so there will be a couple of presentations from NomCom during that period. And we were discussing also our Beijing staff to have a chance to meet with all constituencies. So we will have also our record card which I will send as usual to you via email. That's all for now.

HOLLY RAICHE: Good, thank you very much, Siranush. Is there any other business or can I let people off ten minutes early? We can do that, okay.

The last item would be finalizing for the next meeting. If I could ask for Heidi or Gisella, a Doodle to be sent out and I imagine that will be... Is that Tuesday the 18th or Tuesday the 23rd?

GISELLA GRUBER: Heidi, it's Gisella here for the record. Just to confirm you'd like a Doodle sent out for which call?

HOLLY RAICHE: Just for the APRALO. Well, it's usually the fourth Tuesday of the month, isn't it?

GISELLA GRUBER: Yes, correct. The next call is scheduled on Tuesday, the 26th of February at 05:00 UTC.

HOLLY RAICHE: Thank you very much. So that's 26 February, at what time, sorry – 05:00?

GISELLA GRUBER: Gisella here, 05:00 UTC.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Thank you very much. And I hope that we talk to everybody, but in the meantime if you'll please have a look at the items for discussion on the multi-stakeholder session in Beijing and give your thoughts to that. And when Maureen actually sends out a template letter seeking your input would you please respond to her so that we can continue planning our Beijing meeting? So thank you everybody, and we'll end early. Thank you.

[End of Transcript]