
GISELLA GRUBER: Okay, we will now get this call started. I'd like to welcome everyone to the Technology Taskforce Working Group Team on Monday, the 21st of January at 16:00 UTC. On today's call we have Dev Anand Teelucksingh and Avri Doria. Apologies noted from Gordon Chillcott. From staff we have Nathalie Peregrine and myself, Gisella Gruber. If I could also just remind you to state your name for transcript purposes. And also Nathalie will be taking action items – if you would be so kind as to clearly state them. No summary minutes will be taken as the transcript will be available within 48 hours. Thank you, over to you, Dev.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thank you, Gisella, and good day everyone. My name is Dev Anand Teelucksingh. On the agenda, we just have a very short agenda actually but just to review the action items from our last meeting in November – the action item was to have a page on accessibility of the tools used by At-Large.

This page has been created but not much content has been added to it. The intent of having a page on the accessibility of tools used by At-Large was prompted by the concerns posted by an At-Large member that the www.myicann.org service that was introduced by ICANN to pull in updates from all the various ACs and SOs was not accessible for visually impaired users. And this prompted a discussion within a few persons in At-Large as to whether the technology tools used by At-Large are accessible.

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So one of the action items that is a standing action item is now for the Technology Taskforce to evaluate and review the tools used by At-Large and well, perhaps let ICANN know so that they can then hopefully attempt to take steps to rectify that situation. So that page has been created but to date no evaluations have taken place as such.

Regarding the action item to add YouTube integration for the At-Large Social Media Strategy, that has been done. The action item regarding working with Matt from At-Large staff to begin publishing content that would normally be distributed by the At-Large staff, that has not taken place. Matt and I have been playing I guess meeting tag, you know, over the past two weeks here so this action item is still open. So the action item to work with Matt from At-Large staff to work on the At-Large Social Media Strategy is still open.

And let's see... Also there's an action item which I'll come to later on in the agenda, which is to document the number of steps it takes to find something on the Wiki.

So the next item on the agenda was the updating of the At-Large Technology Workspace. There's been not much significant updates since the December period, and I think what I will have to do as a formal action item is to now post to the regular RALO list regarding some of the content that's already been put up in the Technology workspace. Some of the content, such as the web conferencing I think is complete to some extent. I'll post a link to the chat here for Avri, for her to take a look at it and to really get some wider feedback, because if this information is too complex to understand is it really achieving its goal of

making it easy for end users to understand the tools used by At-Large and so forth?

So one of the action items is to begin posting some of the completed articles on the Technology Workspace to the wider RALO mailing list. And by the way, Avri, feel free to jump in if you have any comments or questions.

Okay, moving on to Item #5 which is the upcoming At-Large Wiki Training Session at the ICANN Beijing meeting – the Technology Taskforce is going to be having a meeting during the ICANN Beijing meeting. It's going to be tentatively scheduled for the Wednesday at 9:00 AM local time, and the idea is to do a Wiki training session for members of At-Large. Apparently APRALO, that's the Asia-Pacific At-Large Regional Organization, they are planning to have various members come into the Beijing meeting and one of the things that they have been looking at is that many of those persons in APRALO have difficulty understanding how to use the Wiki. And so given that one of the standing agenda items for the TTF is to well be a help desk to At-Large it was suggested that the TTF could hold a meeting in Beijing and then offer training as to how to use the Wiki.

There's also a possibility of also discussing whether to do a status update on the At-Large website. This is the At-Large website – this is not just the Wiki – and to demonstrate any possible progress that has been made. And that could also be done. At this point in time, though, a lot of the work in updating the At-Large website is more behind the scenes. Right now there's a review of looking at what articles on the At-Large website should be migrated to the new At-Large website; and

then once that takes place, it will then be the At-Large staff in charge of the redesign – they'll then be looking at that information to then come up with a proposed template of a proposed layout. Whether they'll be able to do this in time for Beijing is not clear.

AVRI DORIA: Can I ask a question?

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Go ahead, Avri.

AVRI DORIA: This is Avri. One of the things that I noticed, when stuff gets archived it gets even harder to find. Now maybe I'm the only one that's constantly going back to history to try and show why something was derived the way it was derived, but I've noticed on the general website, unless I get somebody inside ICANN to give me a clue as to where to look for things – things that were done four, five years ago are almost impossible to find on one's own.

So I'd worry that the migration of this page only organizes the new stuff, the stuff that people decide is worth keeping, and all the old archived stuff ends up in a heap somewhere. Yeah, it's still there but it's not organized in any sort of reasonable way and it becomes hard... And I think organizing the archives for easy search-ability is as important, well not as important but nearly as important as having the new stuff easy to find. Thanks.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thank you, Avri, and I would agree with you. I think what tends to happen is that because it's so hard to find on the At-Large website, what you have to do is find someone who was there at the time and they're probably able to pull it from their email archives – from their personal email archives as to what was done and so forth, and what happened. And I agree with you – I think having the history behind certain topics as to what has happened and why At-Large did what it did at that time I think is important.

But just to give you the size of the amount of information and website information that's on the At-Large website, there are about 1900 items of individual webpages on the current At-Large website that have to now be migrated to this new design. So that's a lot of information and indeed that is going to be a challenge, and I think that definitely what you've suggested – that the history of decisions and topics made in time is important.

And yeah, so having it also being searchable and therefore index-able I think is important; also having accountability and transparency but also accessibility. Any new persons coming into At-Large I think are going to find it very difficult – it's like jumping into a river that's moving very fast. And unless you have some idea where the topic discussion had started it's going to be harder for them to get adjusted to it.

So okay, so going back to the Wiki training, one of the action items I will have to do as Chair is to perhaps contact the RALOs, the Secretariats of the RALOs and ask them for suggested... Let me phrase this carefully – “What are the suggested things that you do on the Wiki that are hard to do?” Or to put it another way, “What would your members like to see

to learn more about using the At-Large Wiki?” So once we have that information then we can craft a session that’s tailored to answer those questions from At-Large members.

So okay, let’s see, going back to the agenda... Item #6, update on the At-Large Social Media Strategy. Well, as I mentioned as part of the action items, I have to work with Matt to see who within At-Large staff is actually going to be coordinating the releasing of information that will be published as part of the At-Large Social Media Strategy. I think it’s just a case of the technology is already there; it’s not really a technology issue anymore. As I mentioned in the presentation in the ICANN Toronto meeting, we evaluated several technology tools already; we’ve chosen the best one; we’ve implemented it. So now it’s just really a case of now for At-Large staff, or whether At-Large staff wants to handle it to actually start using the At-Large social media to post content.

There is one thing I noted as part of a technology tool. There’s a tool called [Deliverit], I’ll just post the link in the chat... And what that tool does, it allows you to auto-post your content from an RSS feed to the various social media websites. And it also supports Google Plus which is probably one of the only tools I know that allows this type of cross-posting to not only Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn but to Google Plus. So it’s a tool that perhaps we can just keep in mind and probably do some testing to see well, if we decide to do a Google Plus page then we can adopt it. So it’s just something to note for now.

Oh, and I see Juan Manuel Rojas has also joined the call – welcome, Juan. Although we might be finishing just soon, but... So that’s all I have to say on the At-Large Social Media Strategy. The action item again is

for me to work with Matt to look at the content that'll be posted by the At-Large staff but on the social media networks, but that action item is still pending. And I think we are coming down to Any Other Business. Avri and Juan, do you have any thoughts or questions or anything you wish to, or any peeves regarding any At-Large technology tool you want to bring up? Now is the time to do it.

AVRI DORIA: Not me.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Not you? Everything works. [laughing]

AVRI DORIA: No, this is Avri again – it's not that everything works but it's just that I have nothing I feel like bringing up at the moment.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay, but your comments on having a [searchable] archives I think is noted, too. I should have mentioned, actually, maybe I should mention something on the Any Other Business that I didn't include in the agenda and I probably should have, was the ideas of improving the organizational content on the At-Large Wiki. Let me just put that link there... I think many of us on the Technology Taskforce feel that the way the Wiki is structured could be improved because it is so difficult to find things and so forth.

So I've included all of the tips and all the suggestions from the Technology Taskforce that have been collected so far. What we do have to do as a next step is to, and this is also another outstanding action item, is to measure the number of steps it takes to find a particular item. So actually, Avri, I suppose as someone who's brought up trying to find the history of things, perhaps you could suggest certain – not right now but on the list, just certain things that you think should be easy to find by At-Large but it's not.

And the next thing we have to do is ultimately the Technology Taskforce is probably going to have to look at one of these things and see, in coordination with At-Large staff, which reorganization of the Wiki – I should say, which idea to implement because I think At-Large staff, and perhaps I shouldn't really... I'm thinking At-Large staff would welcome help, assistance in this regard but I think it has to be really coordinated so that really the At-Large staff can, what's the words... The At-Large staff can incorporate it in their workflows. If it's something that's going to be working totally separate, like if the Technology Taskforce was to try to reorganize and implement the idea on its own I think what would happen is that you're going to have things out of synch.

So we really do need to coordinate closely with At-Large staff to see which idea can be implemented and to try to implement it in a structured way. So and also, sorry, I know I'm now talking more about this – they're going to have to look at and prioritize which idea should be implemented, because I don't think we can really implement every single idea at once.

Okay, I think that was it for... I'm seeing things posted in the chat here.
Ah, okay Avri, I note that comment that...

AVRI DORIA: You had asked for an example of "When you want to find something give me an example." So as I say my current obnoxious topic of the day is suffrage and we discussed it all and dealt with it. So I'm saying "Okay, great, where's all that discussion so I can build on it as opposed to repeating it?" And I have no idea where to start.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Right, okay, I think that's a useful point to try to see how that could work. I see Juan Manuel Rojas is typing...

AVRI DORIA: It's just that you said "Give me an example" so I came up with one quickly.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: That's a good one, that's not a problem, thanks. I see Juan is typing something. Juan, if you're connected.... Oh, okay. Okay, well Juan, if you're on, do you want to speak? Okay, great. I assume you're referring to the tool, the At-Large Social Media Strategy, but I'll let you speak... Alright, well okay. Alright, well unfortunately it looks like Juan is not able to actually... And it seems he just lost connectivity unfortunately completely as well. Okay, I'll communicate with Juan and perhaps he can post it to the mailing list.

Okay, so to recap, the three action items are... I see Juan has now come back in. Let's see if he can quickly make his comment, or if not, Juan, if you want to type it in I'll just read it in... Okay. Okay, Juan, well perhaps what you can then do is to email me or email the Technology Taskforce list and then we can discuss it after the call.

Alright. Okay, I'm just looking at the summary action items that At-Large staff has typed and actually I have to say it's pretty complete actually – thanks for this. So those are indeed the action items that have been posted in the AC room, the Adobe Connect room in the “action items” part, so thanks for that. And I think unless Juan wishes to type... Actually, okay. Well, I think there being nothing else further to say I think we can then adjourn the call. I'd like to thank Avri and Juan for joining the call and At-Large staff and I look forward to actually completing some of these action items in time for the Technology Taskforce meeting in Beijing.

So I think at this point I would like to thank everyone and bye for now. The call is now adjourned.

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