GISELLA GRUBER:	Okay, Fatimata, we are going to begin, to start recording. Welcome to the monthly AFRALO call on this Wednesday, July 3rd at 1830 UTC. We have on the French channel Tijani Ben Jemaa, Fatimata Seye Sylla, Yaovi Atohoun, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Etienne Tshishimbi, Baudouin Schombe, Atlioune Traore and Aziz Hilali.
	And on this English channel we have Adetokunbo Abiola, Mohamed El Bashir and Mistura Aruna. And today there are apologies from Victor Ndonnang and Pastor Peters. And from At-Large Staff we have Silvia Vivanco, Heidi Ullrich and Julia Charvolen and Gisella Gruber. And the interpreters tonight are Claire and Camilla.
	Please state your name before speaking so the interpreters can identify you on the English channel and for the transcript. And please speak slowly for the interpreters. Thank you. Fatimata, you have the floor.
FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA:	Thank you Gisella. Good evening everybody. Thank you for your participation in this meeting. The first item is the public consultation.
GISELLA GRUBER:	Fatimata, please can you speak a little louder so the interpreters can hear you better. Thank you Fatimata.
FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA:	Now, it's better?

GISELLA GRUBER: Yes. Thank you Fatimata.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay. I was saying that the first item of the Agenda is about open policy issues. They are in the Agenda. We can read them together. The first one is proposed renewal of .info gTLD registry agreement with a comment period of 24th of June and a reply period of 24th of July. Then we have proposed renewal of .biz gTLD registry agreement. Comment period on the 24th of June and reply period on the 15 of July.

Then we have the Thick WHOIS initial report gNSO policy development process. Comment period on the 14th of July and reply period on the 4th of August. Consultation on the thought of policies and user instructions, [inaudible 00:03:58] request. Comment period on the 16th of July and reply period on the 7th of August.

Initial report on protection of IGO and NGO identifiers in all gTLDs. Comment period 17th of July and reply period 7th of August. Proposed renewal of .org gTLD registry agreement. Comment period on 21st of July and reply period on the 12th of August. Draft final report on universal acceptance of IDN TLDs. Comment period on the 25th of July and reply period on the 15th of August.

gNSO structures charter amendment process. Comment period on the 28th of August and reply period on the 18th of September. That's all. Do

you have any questions? Olivier is asking for the floor. Olivier, you have the floor.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Fatimata. I just wanted to give you some precisions about open public consultation for the renewal of .info, .biz and .org. ALAC decided not to do any public comment, so AFRALO Members can do comments on their own, but the ALAC decided that because of the work we have and because the three renewals of the contracts are not signifying any modification, any changes important for the Internet users.

So we decided not to do any statement on this account. For the statements on which we are currently working, and on which we need your opinion, there is one, which is the draft final report, ccNSO [inaudible 00:06:27] group on the use of country and territory names. For the territory and country's name it is a study currently made. It began two days ago. I think it was Edward Diaz's responsibility of… He has the pen for this statement.

I'm sorry, I have problems speaking French. You have some time to send him your opinions, so please do it. Then there is another issue that Fatimata mentioned – the IDN draft final report on universal acceptance of IDN TLDs. It is the international acceptance of internationalized domain names on Chinese, Arab, Korean, Japanese characters. So it is also an open comment and it is important for you to read it. The statement has been written so it's just a comment you need to do.

On international government organization and non-international organizations, IGO and INGO, we have two persons who are drafting a statement. And finally, to conclude, a technological question on user instructions for Internet number resource requests. And for that issue there is one person drafting the statement and the comment period is ending on the 16th of July.

And two or three days after that date we will have an initial text on which you will be able to do your comments. That's all I have to say. Thank you very much.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Olivier. It was very useful and very important. Your explanations are very important. Are there any other comments on that item? If there are none we move to the third item of the Agenda: Reports. Recent and upcoming activities of ALAC. [Tidi? 00:09:21] is not here. Yaovi, do you want to take the floor?

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Yes, thank you. Can you hear me?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Yes, very well.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Okay. Thank you. I want to thank the ALAC Chair who already gave some information, because as he said, those are ALAC activities. Those statements that we need to do and some comments on those items too. What I can add is that for the Rules of Procedure for ALAC, we were informed some time ago that the new rules are finished; the document is finished.

And we have been voting on that issue, but this document of the new Rules of Procedure will be operational if there is another document, which is a document explaining some aspect of this Rules of Procedure. And those four documents need to be adopted. So if those documents, which are ready…

The first document is the description of what are ALAC Members; when we speak about the liaison, when we speak about a person named by ALAC to represent ALAC. So we are speaking about those different persons in the ALAC organization.

Then the second document is something else, and the fourth document speaks about the ALAC structure – what it is and how a RALO works, etc. So those documents are ready and the ALAC is waiting for your comments on these documents. So the accreditation of new ALAC structure, for example, how it is working for other regions.

And there are two ALAC structures which are currently being created; one is the ALAC from Tokyo – that doesn't exist anymore – and the other is… So those two ALSes are not being created, they are being cancelled. Then there are all the Working Groups that work in ALAC. There is At-

Large, too, which is working on the next summit of the At-Large structure. And we are going to speak about that after this teleconference.

Then there is the Working Group on technology of ALAC, which organized meetings during this month. And there are other tools, which are being tested for a better communication or a better participation with the Members, as we can use them.

There is also some work on the documents in the Wiki, how to make the Wiki easier to access. All those discussions are on this Working Group. So all of us need to participate in these meetings, and if you have some concern you can contact us so we can send you some information.

There is also a Working Group on generic normal names. There is some work in this group on the adoption of accreditation and the creation of new domain names. So in this group there is a set group thinking about the reserve we had at the country-level, and our colleague Tijani is working on the document that he drafted. This is a document that is being discussed at ALAC level. We also want to reflect on the reason for the result we have for the developing countries.

So it was just to tell you that in a general meaning we can say that all of the Working Groups are working a lot at the ALAC level because we need to have more participants in our region. And ALAC is also reviewing the proposal of the different RALOs for the elections of the 2000 period.

We are analyzing the proposal of the RALOs and ALAC is also working on the next Durban meeting because normally in those ICANN meetings

ALAC is going to meet the Board to discuss about the users' concerns and ALAC meet the Working Group of the different groups that sit in the ICANN organization.

And during this meeting, ALAC needs to have some internal meetings also, to discuss different issues. So ALAC is getting prepared for that meeting of Durban. This is what I have to say about the recent and upcoming activities of ALAC. Thank you. Tijani, if you want to add something you can do it.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Yaovi for your summary. I see that Olivier is asking for the floor?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Fatimata. I would just like to remind you all in the first place that I commend Yaovi for this great work he has done. I am very pleased to see how well he can sum up ALAC's activities also. And I would also like to remind you that you do not need to be Members of ALAC in order to belong to a Working Group. You can participate in these groups because they are open to all.

So if you're not part of a Working Group yet I do encourage you to join one. There is a site where you can see a list of all the Working Groups there are. And we would really, honestly need more people so that we can do all this work we have in our hands.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Olivier. Tijani, do you want to add anything?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes, thank you Fatimata. I would like to say a second word to what Olivier has just said. All our Working Groups are open and we await further contributions. We are open and we do have a mailing list which includes all Members of AFRALO. So I'd just like to point your attention towards our Working Groups.

What Yaovi has just said regarding… I'd like to add two things. In the first place that ALAC is also a Member of the Working Group at ICANN, among which there is a Working Group for the entire ICANN. It is a good group. They do wonderful work. I'm not saying they're the best but they do work very well. They are going to meet at Durban and so I expect that we will be able to go faster after the meeting.

In the second place I'd like to mention the Strategic Working Group. You know that ICANN has changed its strategic view. We have gone from what we have to a finer strategy; a new plan that we have. So I also encourage you to see what has been done within this framework of this strategic plan. And we can make comments on that. ALAC will be commenting on that. And we're working on that subject. That's all.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Tijani. Someone wants to speak?

ETIENNE TSHISHIMBI: Yes, this is Etienne.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Go ahead Etienne.

ETIENNE TSHISHIMBI: I just would like to ask whether there is one language in Working Groups or whether there can be several languages for a Working Group?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Etienne, that is a wonderful question. Tijani has raised his hand?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes, I'd like to reply. Most Working Groups work in English. I would even go as far as to say that all Working Groups work in English. But I encourage entire African community to work in English and to try and speak English and understand, because if we really want to be effective and efficient at ICANN we need to speak English and work in English.

I'm sorry for saying this. We have talked to Christina regarding interpretation for this Working Group. She had a broader view but the reasoning of the groups was valid and in fact there are processes, and in fact if there are three Members asking for interpretation then it will be provided. But if there are less than three people then there will be no interpretation provided.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Etienne. Thank you Tijani for your answer and thank you Yaovi for your question. I see Yaovi is still raising his hand so I'll give him the floor. Try and be short and brief.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: I'd just like to complete what has just been said, and it is very important. Tijani said that if there are at least three people that speak another language then interpretation will be provided. But I will say that if we want to encourage people to join the Working Group then I would at least suggest that they start by listening. You can be a volunteer by simply listening to what is said and what goes on in groups. Thank you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Yaovi. Would you like to go on, on activities?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: From my personal point of view, wherever I was in the French channel in conferences, which were mainly connected in English, I don't understand much of it. I'm not sure whether it's the interpreters. And ICANN [in my head? 00:22:15] because we had other interpreters before who were not fixed, but in the French channel you cannot make head nor tail of what is said – even with translation.

So if you want to work and participate in a Working Group you need to understand English. To make your voice heard you need to speak English. Thank you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you. I understand this is well-understood advice and will surely be taken into account. Perhaps everyone should learn a new language. We could all try and muster a second language, at least. So thank you Tijani.

And without further ado I'd like to move to the following item on the Agenda: that's recent and upcoming activities of AFRALO Members; that's item #3(b). Do we have any other Members who would like to participate? Yes, Yaovi?

YAOVI ATOHOUN: I'd just like to say that we're going to publish on the Wiki an activity that we have organized, which we have been working actively on; that's for the National Forum on the Internet. So we're going to publish this information on the Wiki as soon as we're ready. Thank you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: If anyone wants to share what their ALS has done then they can go ahead and publish it or take the floor now. Aziz has raised his hand.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you Fatimata. I just wanted to say that we had agreed not to spend a long time on this item. And I would like to ask ALSes to go to the Wiki page. It's very easy to do it. You can upload your information on the page as a comment. It's very simple and that helps you upload your information.   It's very easy, I promise.   So please post your information there, post your updates there. We'd like to see what you've done.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Aziz. Tijani?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: My ALS has recently – I think it was a week ago – organized an entire day on the domain name industry.   ICANN was represented by its Vice President for the Middle East.   We also had participation from a Moroccan registrar and then at the same time we also had the Vice Chair from our ALS.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Tijani. We will see all this on the Wiki page, yes?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes, I'll publish it on the Wiki page. I'd just like to say two more things. We will be having a workshop on ALSes and we have organized other activities as well.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Tijani. Baudouin?   Can you hear me?

BAUDOUIN SCHOMBE: Yes, I can hear you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: You raised your hand? Go ahead, you have the floor.

BAUDOUIN SCHOMBE: My ALS is participating at the International African Forum.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Baudouin. That's very interesting. We will have all this on the Wiki page, right? Please do publish it. Thank you. So the Wiki will be ready in no time and I'm sure it will be filled with updates because we have three activities, which will be uploaded on the Wiki.

We're now going to move onto item #4 on our Agenda.

ETIENNE TSHISHIMBI: This is Etienne speaking, Fatimata. My ALS is organizing a workshop that's related to what Yaovi just said.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Wonderful, congratulations.

ETIENNE TSHISHIMBI: We had asked for everyone's participation here and we expect to see you all there.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Etienne. We'll see all that information on the Wiki page. Congratulations. Do we have any other activities? If you have activities you would like to report I would please ask that you publish them directly on the Wiki page. Now, this is item #4 on our Agenda that we'll move to. Item (a) is AFRALO events in Durban.

We had already shared with you a list of events and this time we said we would like to innovate regarding who Internet players are – so that would be universities, that would be other associations and individuals, of course. So our big challenge was to find funds because we didn't have any budget coming from ICANN to organize these activities.

We have also thought of a showcase of course, that we're going to hold. And if we want to get all the local players involved, this is a new challenge. So we also asked to get ICANN support in order to have participation from all local ALSes. So we will be providing information to them at the end of the showcase.

Our aims were to inform, to raise awareness, to get a congregation of Internet players and to get further adhesion to AFRALO at the end of this meeting. So what we've done to get funds were a number of activities,

and we have the pleasure of announcing that Google just provided funds for us to be able to get 20 people to participate, so we've selected university people so that scholars and students from the further universities – we have the Johannesburg University, the University of Cape Town – and we have at least two universities from Durban who will be participating as well.

It was very hard to get participants to come and the local ALS couldn't help us either. That's a shame but we are working on this and what was even harder was to raise funds, because we are not in South Africa. If we are not there then how would we recover those funds? Who's going to manage those funds?   Who's going to take care of reservation, airfares, meals, etc.?

Because the people in Durban would not have to take a plane but still, the people from Johannesburg and the people in Cape Town are quite far from Durban. So we looked around and we know that having organized activity, we got results that we had not asked for, and as we had asked, AfriNIC got involved here and AfriNIC will manage said funds. And they have contributed with a small percentage for us to be able to face these costs. That was a great relief to us.

It was also an opportunity we had to contact NYU and they teamed up with AfriNIC and Olivier participated in this agreement. At the end of our last meeting in Beijing we had already agreed on the fact that we thought to have RALOs work with their regions. So that's where we're at. We're preparing a list of participants.

We're also going to have a dinner, but main tickets that ICANN will be providing so that more people can participate. That was a concept on which we agreed. Now, as regards the showcase, Tijani might perhaps tell us about the schedule that they have set? You can see that it's been published and you can see what's been foreseen and what's not.

The participants are going to take part in all At-Large meetings. They are going to take part in the ICANN fellows training and we are discussing with the organizers and I think everything is going to go smoothly. I see that Baudouin wants to take the floor? I will give the floor first to Baudouin.

BAUDOUIN SCHOMBE: Which are the ALSes which are going to Durban?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay, I'm going to explain again. You didn't understand. Because we hadn't the ICANN funds for the ALSes to come, we thought that if we work with the local people in South Africa, maybe we would be able to invite some students, some local participants, some final users of the Internet to do some outreach in South Africa.

So the project was based on that idea. We didn't want to invite other ALSes. We wanted to work on that idea because we had to work in the two months… It was very difficult. God helped us. We worked a lot. We used our relationships also.

I'm sure that if it was taking place in another country where the ALS was more dynamic, it should have been easier; but for us it was very difficult and we are still working each day and every week and [inaudible 00:36:15] has helped us a lot – supported us a lot. And [Chice? 00:36:22] also. So we have been using our relations, so… But, Baudouin, it's okay? Which ALSes are going to be in Durban?

BAUDOUIN SCHOMBE: Well, I heard you answer but I wanted more precisions.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay. We sent the concept paper on the mailing list. Did you read it?

BAUDOUIN SCHOMBE: No, I didn't.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay. We're going to send it again to you. Who is asking for the floor? Okay, thank you Tijani. Please can you tell us very briefly what we are going to do for the showcase?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: As I said, we are going to organize a showcase. AFRALO was the first in organizing this showcase thing. In Nairobi it was the first one. In Dakar we did something else better and different and in Durban we want to do something different and to improve regarding Dakar showcase.

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In Durban we want local community to participate. It wasn't easy but we achieved that goal thanks to Google. It will allow us to help ALSes to travel to Durban. And it was very important help for us because those people are going to be able to participate. So from Cape Town, from Pretoria and from another city. Those people are going to come to the showcase and our showcase will have different steps.

First, the welcoming part with Fatimata. Then Olivier is going to make a speech for the opening. Then we are going to give the floor to Sebastian Bachollet, to the Board. Then the Special Advisor of the CEO will take the floor, and then Pierre Dandjinou, the Chair of Africa. Then Steve Crocker is going to speak. He will represent the Board. Then Fadi Chehadé will speak on behalf of the CEO. This is regarding the speeches.

Then we will have the ALS presentation. Aziz made a lot of work because he joined all the presentations made by the ALSes. He drafted a booklet that will be printed and that we are going to give to everybody. So it's very important to us, this meeting.

Then we will give the floor to the local community and we will choose one student, one teacher and one [ONG? 00:40:29] representative who will take the floor and speak about their experience and difficulties related to ICANN. And they are going to speak about their expectations.

I think it's very important because we will have the community feedback and it will help us understand how people from ICANN, people from Africa, how they think about ICANN. How they live the ICANN work. This is the new address we made for this showcase. We have also

organized some music and some dancing from the local people and I think it will be very nice.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Tijani. I want to add that Gisella has also helped us a lot to organize this showcase – because she's from South Africa so she's helped us a lot to choose the musicians, to organize the [cocktails? 00:41:48]. So thank you very much Gisella. Are there any other questions? Okay, let's move to the virtual training.

Okay, virtual training, virtual capacity building. We are speaking about that until the Toronto meeting or even before. We started this virtual capacity building two sessions ago. It was release mostly. We are going to organize a third virtual capacity building session. When is it? Do you know the date for this virtual capacity building?

On Monday the 8th of July at 1830. Please, all the ALSes have to take part in this session. English or French speaking, please, you have to participate because we have asked for that capacity building and we are testing the training and we need your feedback. So please, we need you to participate. Okay, I see Aziz is asking for the floor and then Tijani. Aziz?

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you Fatimata. I raised my hand to say what you said at the end of your last comment. It's going very smoothly, very nicely. I wanted to remind everybody that those sessions have been asked for by AFRALO;

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that we are the first to organize these kinds of sessions. Those sessions are going to be generalized and we want to be the first ones to organize this, to have this idea.

And these sessions are organized to prepare the summit that is going to take place in June, in London, next year. Because there will be a summit with all the ALSes, so we wanted all the people participating in this webinar to have the priority to participate at the At-Large summit in London next year.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Aziz. Tijani, you want the floor?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes. It's very nice but we have very low participation and I'm very sad about that because the participation is not enough. We have made a really important effort. Thank you to Staff and thank you to the ICANN expert who participated in those sessions and are supporting those capacity building sessions. But I'm really ashamed to see that ICANN are responsible for organizing those sessions because it's a lot of money and it's a pity because there are not enough participating in those capacity building sessions.

With regards to the summit of London, I think it's really important that all the ALSes participate at this summit, and they don't know a lot of things so it's important for these people to be aware, to be competitive

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and to participate in this London summit. It's not just to travel to London. We need At-Large to give its opinion on the ICANN issues.

So if you want to be able to give your opinion you have to be aware of ICANN activities. So if you are aware of ICANN's activities you can say: "That's bad," or, "That's good," or, "That's very good." But if you are not aware you won't be able to send the African opinion to the ICANN Board. If we don't participate, if we are only present but without participating, it's a pity.

So I want to say to everybody that your participation to this webinar is very important. It's for you. It's only for you. It's also for Africa. So that Africa won't be absent in the different decision making, in the decision group. And in those groups, if we want to have some impact we need to know things.

AZIZ HILALI: I think Fatimata has been disconnected and I want to insist on what Tijani said. Please try to participate to the third webinar on the 8th of July, next Monday at 1830. It's very important because ICANN accepted to organize this capacity building session.

ICANN accepted to implement this webinar and if there are not enough participants, if an activity which is going to die, it's a pity. So I want to join Fatimata and Tijani's voices to tell you – please try to participate in this webinar.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Aziz. Hello?

AZIZ HILALI: Yes, we can hear you.

ETIENNE TSHISHIMBI: Etienne speaking. I wanted to ask a question because the first webinar, I couldn't participate in. Sometimes it's difficult to be sitting in front of our computers, so are we going to be able to participate on the phone?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: I think we insisted in that on this issue and I sense Tijani's emotion. Please, if you can't participate, ask a Member of your ALS to participate. Now, we are going to move to the next item because we are running late. So, Tijani? Do you want to speak very quickly about the IGF Bali, the Forum on the Internet Governance? Please, one or two minutes on this Tijani?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay, my Chairwoman. Now, as you know, the next IGF is going to take place in Bali, Indonesia.   And AFRALO has presented a request to organize a workshop, which was accepted by the IGF Members because this proposal is very important. Aziz can explain it to you because he's a Member of this group.   There are 400 Members and of those 400 Members, 60% were accepted. Around 200 Members were accepted.

> So our workshop was accepted and it will speak about the Internet as a driver for the development and the growth and I think it will be okay. And as it was in Baku and in [Venice? 00:51:11], it will take place in Bali, I think.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay, thank you very much. Thank you Tijani. Are there any questions on this issue?

ETIENNE TSHISHIMBI: Etienne speaking.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Are there any questions?

ETIENNE TSHISHIMBI: I just wanted to ask the name of the workshop?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Internet as the driver for growth and development.

ETIENNE TSHISHIMBI: Okay.

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FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: So we are on the (d) sub-item, Working Group on the second At-Large summit. Yaovi spoke about that. Do we need to come to speak some more about this item?

YAOVI ATOHOUN: I just wanted to add that there is a summit taking place in London after the Mexico summit, and I wanted to ask the sub Working Group in this Working Group, we have some AFRALO Members in the first Working Group and on the second Working Group we have AFRALO Members.

On the third and on the fourth Working Group we have some Members of our sub-region but there are not Members of our sub-region on the Public Relation and Return On Investment Group.

So I wanted to tell Aziz that if somebody from our region wants to participate it would be good for them to participate in those groups because our region is not represented there. Thank you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you very much Yaovi. Is there anyone with questions for Yaovi? Otherwise we're going to move onto the next item, which is Meeting Strategy Working Group. Tijani has already talked about this. Is there anything else you would like to add in a minute?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: No. I'm just saying that this group is working for awareness and support and their meetings take place regularly.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you. Are there any questions for Tijani?

AZIZ HILALI: Just one.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Go on, Aziz.

AZIZ HILALI: I'd like to ask a question for Tijani regarding what has been decided for Africa. Regarding ICANN meeting, as regards every region that cannot host an ICANN meeting, because for instance in Africa there aren't many countries able to do this.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: You mean regarding the [rotating? inaudible 00:54:24]?

AZIZ HILALI: Because currently we have the [inaudible 00:54:27] and this hasn't been solved yet.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: In the general framework of the organization and engagement, we are looking at large projects. We aren't yet in a precise point. We're not looking at it in too much detail.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you, we're going to move onto item #5: items for discussion. And the first sub-item is AFRALO African joint meeting in Durban. As usual we have organized another joint meeting but this time there is new teachers because last time at our meeting in Beijing we were trying to understand certain aspects.

And Olivier, in fact, did ask the [inaudible 00:55:24] all the joint meetings we organize and all the statements that we make – he asked what was done with them. So I'd like to ask Aziz to comment on this, briefly. But you have one minute, okay?

AZIZ HILALI: Yes, okay. It'll be hard to do it in a minute. Just as a reminder we agreed that we would send an email to the entire African community – AfrICANN and AFRALO – to ask questions. The replies from people were that they would now like to…

Seeing as we have made a statement they would like to know the state of affairs of that statement regarding each point that was mentioned – whether there has been a follow-up on the statement, whether any of these has been applied, whether we have checked these points with the African community.

So what we would like to propose… And this is an item I would like to have on the floor for us all to discuss – what we proposed then is to have a discussion of the African community in Durban, but given that we wanted it to be a debate we were thinking of inviting Pierre Dandjinou and Steve Crocker so that they can explain to the African community what the process is when a community makes a statement.

That is, what is the way that this statement follows and how they are taken into account; how our advice is considered. And then on our side I have volunteered to do something that we should do, which is to prepare a sort of inventory of everything that was done since we first studied with this tradition in Brussels.

So, since our Brussels meeting I think we have held at least eight joint meetings and we have drafted at least eight statements, which were then presented to ICANN at Singapore, Prague, Costa Rica, Cartagena, Brussels, Beijing, Dakar… I thought the project that we have for this schedule that we would like to follow at our Durban joint meeting will be sent to the [suppers? 00:58:00] so that they are up-to-date.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Aziz. Has everyone understood properly what he just explained? Yes, there appears to be consent. Okay, can we go on? Are there any questions or comments? Good, so we'll go on then. We'll go onto the following item – that's AFRALO Vice Chair nomination and elections. And here this will be with regards to the election of all people responsible for AFRALO.

We had already opened the floor for suggestions when we were online previously, because I, as Chair and Tijani as Vice Chair, are coming to the end of our positions at the end of this year, I think. So we should start considering whom our replacements should be.

Aziz [inaudible 00:59:12] will come to an end next year, and on a personal basis I have had enough nominations, which have been supported from others but there has also been another nomination for the Vice Chair position. For the Chair position there has been no other nomination.

So, given that there was a nomination for Aziz to be proposed and that nomination was accepted and supported by many Members, and there have been no other nominations, no other candidates, if there have been other nominations we would have held an election. It was also the case of…

I wouldn't say it was the case for the Vice Chair position, from what I just said, but from the Vice Chair position I presented a nomination, a candidate and there was a second candidacy presented, which was Mohamed. I was supported. And then there was a second nomination, which was [Abudullah? 01:00:32] nomination.

He nominated someone and then after that, of course, when there are two candidates we are supposed to hold an election because we have to decide who will have the majority of our support from AFRALO Members in a democratic way, through a democratic procedure. Then they will be Chair. So we both said this on our mailing list; that we would have to

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hold that election. And so when someone wants to participate in an election we have to ask them to make a statement of interest.

This time, of course, there was a favorite candidate. You can ask questions to your candidate through that meeting and we can decide swiftly, which was not understood the same way. And our second candidate decided to withdraw from the election so we have no candidate, in fact, because one did not apply and the other withdrew.

So, given that Mohamed is still there, we are going to choose him, if everyone agrees? That's what I have to say. Given that Aziz will take the place of Chair, we're going to have to start thinking from now who will be the Secretary until the end of Aziz's position and his term because there is still another year before the election.

So, should we think, then, of having another election for the Secretary post? Because Aziz will be leaving his position vacant. That's what I had to say. Would anyone like to take the floor? I see Yaovi raising his hand. Yaovi, you have the floor.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Thank you Fatimata. I would just like to say that the election that we have to undergo right now, I would like for everyone to be aware of the fact that when the next ICANN meeting is held we will have seen a change in our summit. I think? Or will it be after Argentina? In Buenos Aires we will see the change.

So I'd like to second, of course, this initiative and right now, so there is merely one candidate? And if there is only one candidate then I think there should be no question of as to what we do. That's all.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Yaovi. Now, does anyone want to take the floor in the English channel? Are there any objections? Mohamed, you raised your hand? You just put it down. Yaovi, you're raising your hand. Okay, Mohamed, do you want to speak?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes. Okay, first of all I'd like to thank everyone who supported my nomination and I think I would just like to say that it was, for me, unfortunate that when [Aziz? 01:04:49] had the election because I think also election and voting is a democratic way of really expressing our views and it was also going to be a good exercise for AFRALO.

But unfortunately that did not happen and it's a normal thing to have elections. At our RALOs they are doing the same in terms of selecting their leadership positions and the representatives. I would like to thank you for your support. I just wanted to say that it was going to be a good exercise for us as AFRALO, [inaudible 01:05:42]. Thank you very much.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay, thank you very much Mohamed. You see that we have to start thinking of finding a Secretary. Okay, thank you all. Is there any other

business you would like to address at this point? Nothing to mention? Someone is speaking but the sound is very faint.

BAUDOUIN SCHOMBE: I'm sorry, I won't be able to join everyone at Durban.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Yes, we're sorry too. We would have liked to organize the same activities and the same programs that we had at Dakar but we were not able to this time. Let us get ready for our London meeting. I see that we have already gained some ground here at this organization. So if there's anything else to do I would say we should have to work more with the different Working Groups.

And yet, Baudouin, if there's an opportunity, we're surely going to let you know about it. Thank you. Okay, so thank you everyone. I think we have exhausted every item in our Agenda. I am very, sincerely thankful for your participation here. I would like to thank the Members of Staff as well and the interpreters. I would like to thank everyone. I think Olivier has already left but I would still like to thank him.

Thank you Claire and Camilla, thank you all the Members.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: No, no, I had not left. I am still here.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Oh, right! I would have been very sorry if you had left.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yes, that's why I'm always listening in on you. We all know what Fatimata's feelings are so we stay here.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you all very much. Tijani, would you like to add something?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: No, I wanted to thank Gisella for her great work and her help in organizing the showcase and I would also like to thank everyone else at ICANN; all the rest of the Staff, because I know they work very hard. Heidi, Silvia… I would like to thank them all very much. And Julia and Matt. So thank you all, and Nathalie as well… Everyone! All of the Staff – thank you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Everyone's work, like I said, all of the Staff at ICANN help us work together. Every day we have meetings everywhere at every timetable so thank you all. We respect all time zones. Thank you all for this great work you do. You are angels. We love you. And Olivier is always here after having [coasted? 01:09:36].

AZIZ HILALI: I'd also like to add another point. I'd like to thank everyone because I forgot…

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Yes, Aziz, go on.

AZIZ HILALI: Yes, I would also like to thank all those who supported my nomination. I thank them for their trust. I hope I will be up to standard and I hope I will be able to do everything I have to do, and Fatimata, I hope you will always be with us at AFRALO, because as someone said – I think it was Gisella – we are a team and AFRALO will always be a plural organization and it will always be the RALO to whom we trust all this stuff with. We are pioneers here.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you Aziz. Thank you everyone. We are going to go on working. Safe travels everyone getting to Durban. Thank you very much. And Baudouin, next time, if it's in Africa, we're going to try and get everyone there. I hope Aziz and all the others will find a way to attract and raise more funds. Thank you all. Bye bye.

UF: Bye bye, thank you very much.

[END OF TRANSCRIPT]