FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay, so we're going to get started. This is Fatimata speaking. We'll start with Tijani. Welcome, everyone. Next time if we have some more people participating, it shall be a progress. Tijani, you have the floor. You are going to speak about the [ground] of the AFRALO Capacity Building Webinar. Welcome this webinar.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay, Fatimata. This is Tijani. Can you hear me, Fatimata?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Yes, it's okay, Tijani. Yes.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay, fine. Thank you. Good evening, everybody. I think that it's better to directly go to the Marika presentation. We already said what we had to say about the background during the first webinar. At the end of this webinar, we will have a presentation on AFRALO, which will be made by Aziz and Fatimata. So thank you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you, Tijani. So now we are going to give the floor to Marika Konings for her presentation. Thank you very much, Marika, for being with us this evening. You have the floor, Marika.

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.

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MARIKA KONINGS: Thank you very much. My name is Marika Konings. I'm a Senior Policy Director and Team Leader for the GNSO, which is the Generic Names Supporting Organization. And while this slide is still on the screen on the ICANN structure, it may be helpful to just briefly mention that we're going to cover in the different presentations today two parts of the ICANN ecosystem which is focusing first of all on ICANN supporting organizations, which are the GNSO which I'll be talking about as well as the ccNSO which is the Country Code Names Supporting Organization which Bart will be talking about. And then I think some of our colleagues will be covering the ALAC, which is one of the advisory committees of ICANN of which there are three others, as you'll see here on the screen, each of which are responsible for different areas.

If someone could maybe put up my slides, or are they attached to these? Heidi or Gisella?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes, Gisella. If you could, please put up Marika's full set of slides. This is just the one slide right here.

MARIKA KONINGS: As we're waiting for my slides to get put up – and they're already coming – so basically I'll be covering the GNSO, as I said before, the Generic Names Supporting Organization. The GNSO is – oh, I think this is the wrong slide.

HEIDI ULLRICH: This is the wrong one. Gisella, Marika's come first, and then Bart and then mine. There you go.

MARIKA KONINGS: Okay, here we are. So as mentioned, I'll be talking about the GNSO. So the GNSO is one of the three ICANN bodies that is responsible for developing policy recommendations for consideration by the ICANN Board. In this context, the GNSO is responsible for developing policies related to generic top-level domains. The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) will be covered by Bart after this presentation. It focuses on country code level domains. And then there's also the Address Supporting Organization (ASO), which is responsible for global policies relating to addressing [all] IP addresses.

So I said the GNSO focuses on generic top-level domains, and as you may know those include for example .com, .net, .info, .museum, .pro, and soon to be as well all of the new generic top-level domains that will be added as a result of the New gTLD Program. The GNSO Council itself consists of 21 council members, and they come from six different constituencies and stakeholder groups, and three of those are appointed by the ICANN Nominating Committee.

Unfortunately, this slide is not displaying very well, but what you should have seen here is the GNSO Council structure. So basically to give you a little bit more insight into how the GNSO is organized and from which GNSO Councilmembers are appointed this graphic was developed, and I'll make sure that in the slides that are posted after this presentation

that the graphic is properly visible. So basically the GNSO consists of two houses. One is the Contracted Party House, which contains all those parties that have contracts with ICANN, such as gTLD registries and registrars who each form a stakeholder group in the Contracted Party House. And the other house is known as the Non-Contracted Party House, which includes commercial stakeholder groups as well as non-commercial stakeholder groups. So the next slide actually breaks that even further down into constituencies and interest groups that are contained with each of these stakeholder groups.

So as I said, if we dig a layer deeper, we can see that in some of these stakeholder groups – the ones on the top being the Contracted Party stakeholder groups and the ones at the bottom, the Non-Contracted Party stakeholder groups, actually smaller entities that exist that make up the stakeholder group as a whole.

For example, the Registries Stakeholder Group has a new gTLD application group, which is an interest group within the stakeholder group. The Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group consists of the Non-Commercial Users Constituency and the Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency. They're also known as NCUC and NPOC. As you know, we like to talk in acronyms at ICANN.

So the Commercial Stakeholder Group consists of the Business Constituency (BC), the Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC), and the Internet Service Provider Constituency (ISPC). Each of these groups have their own criteria for who may join, and they all work actively on

developing positions and [views] on the different issues that are under consideration within the GNSO.

So I'm looking at the process the GNSO actually uses for developing policy, and it's called the Policy Development Process (PDP). At a very high level, this graphic tries to explain the different milestones of the process which start off with the Request for an Issues Report, then moves on to the formal initiation of the process, the formation of a community working group which is open to all interested parties, community input on the issue at an early stage of the deliberations, which is then followed by the publication of an initial report for public comments.

Following that, the working group reviews the comments received and updates the report accordingly into a final report which is then submitted to the GNSO Council for its consideration. If when the GNSO Council then adopts the report and recommendations, it is then put out for another round of public comments before the Board considers it for adoption.

And once the Board adopts it, it then moves into the implementation phase resulting in policy at the end of the process. As I said, this is a very high-level overview to each of the steps. There are more detailed steps included within the GNSO operating procedures as well as the ICANN bylaws that set out each of the steps that need to be met in order to meet the requirements of this process. And at the end of this presentation, I've included some links to where you can find additional information on the GNSO Policy Development Process.

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So in this context, it's also important to mention the concept of Consensus Policy. So the Policy Development Process that was described on the previous slide is required to be used for the development of so-called consensus policies. So basically what does that mean? In ICANN's agreements with gTLD registries and registrars, it is specified for a defined list of topics that if a policy is developed using the Policy Development Process, registries and registrars are required to comply with that new policy.

So the topics that are actually eligible for Consensus Policy Development are defined in an the agreement in a section which some people refer to as the picket fence. Basically that means that only those topics that are within the picket fence are eligible for Consensus Policy Development. So examples of such topics that are included in the picket fence are topics related to technical specifications, policies related to the security and stability of the Internet, and domain name contact data also sometimes referred to as WHOIS. So as a result, over the last few years policies have been developed on issues such as inter-registrar transfers, a uniform dispute resolution policy, and WHOIS data reminders, just to give you some examples.

Now having heard all this, I'm sure you're eager to find out how you can actually participate and get involved in this process. As I mentioned before, all GNSO working groups are typically open to anyone interested. Working groups normally meet by telephone once a week for 60 to 90 minutes.

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They try to do as much work as possible by their mailing lists and sometimes also meet face-to-face at ICANN meetings if sufficient working group members are in attendance. This kind of involvement does take a significant time commitment; however, there are also other ways to participate and make sure your voice is heard, for example by submitting comments when input is requested either in response to documents that are being posted or requests for input. You can follow conversations on the mailing list which are all publicly archived or Wikis which are also freely accessible or listen to some of the meetings as all of those are recorded and transcribed.

Another option to participate in GNSO related activities is to explore joining a stakeholder group or a constituency and work on policies through the mechanisms that are established within those specific groups.

So just to give you an idea as well on which are the current topics that are under discussion and where new consensus policy may be developed and may become a requirement for registries and registrars to implement, you'll see in this slide there are still some topics being addressed in relation to the Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy, which is actually an existing consensus policy. As a result of a review of that policy, a number of issues were identified that are currently being worked through to make sure that the policy works as intended. There is a process – a PDP – ongoing on the locking of a domain name subject to UDRP proceedings aiming to standardize and clarify the process that needs to be used in relation to the locking of a domain name.

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There is a PDP ongoing on "thick" WHOIS that explores the question whether thick WHOIS should be a requirement for all gTLD registries. There's a PDP looking into the question of whether there should be protection for IOC, Red Cross, and IGO names in gTLDs. There's a working group looking at the importance of metrics and reporting in relation to policy development. There are a number of WHOIS studies that are still ongoing trying to provide further data and information to help move forward some of the WHOIS related discussions. And the GNSO also recently kicked off a process of PDP on translation and transliteration of internationalized registration data. And again, this is just to give you a snapshot of some of the projects the GNSO is currently working on.

If you want to learn more about what the GNSO does and how we work, I have provided some links here to take you to the GNSO homepage. Again, also a link to provide some more information to how the Policy Development Process works. As I mentioned, there are a number of more detailed steps that we've also tried to capture in a number of graphics that you can find on this website. And then if you want to stay up-to-date on developments in the GNSO, any call for volunteers that come out, or any public comments that open on GNSO related topics, I would encourage you to subscribe to our policy update that comes out on a monthly basis and provides an overview of the main issues that are being dealt with or are under discussion in the different supporting organizations as well as advisory committees within ICANN.

And with that, I've come to the end of my presentation. Heidi, do we call for questions here, or do I give over to Bart now and wait for questions at the end or via chat?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Wait for questions at the end or via chat, please, Marika. So, Bart, if you could, please, start yours.

BART BOSWINKEL: Yes. Good evening.

HEIDI ULLRICH: We'll be loading your presentation in just one moment. Thank you very much, Marika. That was excellent.

BART BOSWINKEL: It's coming here. I hope you can hear me.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Let me just ask the interpreter.

INTERPRETER: We hear you loud and clear.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Okay, thank you.

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BART BOSWINKEL:

Good. Previous slide. Yes. Okay, good evening. Good day. My name is Bart Boswinkel. I'm Marika's [colleague] and I'm supporting together with the Secretariat the ccNSO. The ccNSO is, as Marika said, one of the supporting organizations next to the GNSO and the ASO. And as you can see, there are a lot of them, so I will just skip it otherwise we will fall into repetition.

So what is the ccNSO? This is the Country Code Names Supporting Organization. So in principle, the only eligible entities for the ccNSO are the country code top-level domain managers, and these are when they apply and approve, they become the members. To date, we have 137 members out of 258 ccTLDs. And the ccTLDs are all the, in principle, the ISO 3166 [code] top-level domains or two-letter codes. This number is a bit skewed because some ccTLD managers or some entities run more than one ccTLD. For example, AFNIC, the manager of .fr, runs around seven ccTLDs, but they are only member for .fr for France. But as I said, the current membership is 137.

Secondly, the ccNSO consists of the ccNSO Council. It has 18 councilors – three from every ICANN region and three appointed by the Nominating Committee. We have Chair – currently Cowley from Nominet – and two Vice Chairs and, as I said, the ccNSO Secretariat. So going back to the membership, to date we have 137 members, and here you see the distribution according to the ICANN geographic regions. So for Africa we currently have 29 members out of, I think, around 40. This is the growth of the ccNSO membership. As I said, the ccNSO Council – three from the five ICANN regions, three NomCom appointed – and we

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have observers from regional ccTLD organizations like AFTLD and two liaisons, one from At-Large and we exchange the liaison with At-Large and one from the GNSO and we exchange liaisons with the GNSO as well.

So what does the ccNSO do? As Marika said, the GNSO is mostly into policy development work. The ccNSO, as you will see, is in principle for policy development but it's scope is very limited, hence we hardly have any PDPs with our Policy Development Processes within the ccNSO. It's first and foremost a platform for the exchange of information and for networking, and it represents ccTLD community interests in the broader ICANN community, and it does do some policy development work and policy related work. So that's the general scope of the ccNSO.

And what does the ccNSO Council do? So that's one of the two components of the ccNSO. It has an administrative role and a representative role, so it manages the processes of the ccNSO and it acts as a focal point for the contacts with the other supporting organizations and advisory committees. It doesn't represent individual ccTLDs or the ccTLD membership only to the extent it's allowed by the members.

So what do the members do? Now they have in fact two roles. One is they elect the ccNSO Council, they select the two ICANN Board members, they have the final vote in the ccNSO development process – so on the recommendations – and if needed they have a final vote on Council resolutions, hence we say that the Council only has an administrative role but the final power is with the members of the

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ccNSO. What do the members do as well – and this is more in their role as active members of the ccNSO – is participate in working groups. Some of them are listed here. The most important one currently are the Framework of Interpretation Working Group, which deals with the interpretation of the policy and the delegation and re-delegation of country code top-level domains, the Strategic and Operational Planning Working Group which provides input and feedback to ICANN strategic operational planning process, what is called the Finance Working Group which deals with the financial contribution of the country code top-level domains to ICANN, the IDN PDP 1 and 2 – these have been recently closed – and what is called the Study Group on Use of Names for Countries and Territories as TLDs which just provided its draft final report and this one had active participation of members of At-Large as well. And secondly, the members do suggest topics for meetings.

So how does the ccNSO organize its activities? First of all, the ccNSO Council has face-to-face meetings at ICANN events and through conference calls. We have the ccNSO meeting. This is a two-day event with a diversity of topics, presenters, and formats ranging from panel discussion to [inaudible] presentation or interviews, [inaudible] which is mostly a one-day event with a diversity of topics again, and this is more operational and technical oriented, and then working groups meetings again face-to-face at ICANN events and conference calls.

With the exception of the working group meetings, all other events are open to whoever is interested. You don't need to be a member of the

ccNSO or even a ccTLD manager. You can attend each of these different types of meetings.

So another way of looking at how the ccNSO organizes its work is first of all and most importantly, the ccNSO activities are conducted through what is called working groups. And working groups do not have to directly relate to a policy development or under the umbrella of a Policy Development Process. They can be for different types of activities.

As I said, the Strategic and Operational Planning Working Group (SOP) which is not policy related is organized as a working group, and the Framework of Interpretation as well. Some of these working groups are permanent – so standing – like the Strategic and Operational Planning Working Group, and some of them are by definition temporary like the Framework of Interpretation Working Group.

As you can see, the old [inaudible] charter and [with volunteers] from the ccTLD [inaudible] to the ccNSO Council. And some of them are cross-community like, as I said, the Study Group. Although it's not really a working group but participation of At-Large and the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) and even the Framework of Interpretation Working Group includes also participants from At-Large and the Governmental Advisory Committee.

The second way in which the ccNSO organizes its activities is through a Policy Development Process which is defined in the ICANN bylaws. And again, this is probably one of the main differences with the GNSO. First of all, its scope is very limited. So that means it can only be used for a

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very limited set of issues. And secondly, because of this and because of the different functions of the ccNSO like providing a platform of exchange of information, etc., it's [inaudible]. To date since the existence of the ccNSO, there have only been two Policy Development Process, and one of the two is currently running.

This is, as Marika showed, you a graphical representation of the Policy Development Process. There is also a graphical representation of the ccNSO Policy Development Process, and in order to show the difference it is structured a bit differently. But it has again different stages, and if you're more interested, have a look at the graphical representation and it shows you the different flows, etc., as well.

As I said, we do have study groups. They are lightweight charter. They advise to the Council and standing Council committees. And they're mostly with an administrative focus, and again they report to the Council and through the Council have an impact on the membership.

Finally, the ccNSO has a defined process for statement and position papers. Again, it could be a Council, a ccNSO statement. There is a drafting team with subject expertise and drafting. If it's a Council statement or position, then it needs to be adopted by the Council. If it's a broader ccNSO statement, it needs to be adopted by the full membership. And it is a response or input to public consultation by ICANN itself or others SOs and ACs and sometimes by external bodies like the NTIA in case of the IANA contract renewal.

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Looking at Durban, as I said, we have a Tech Day, which is on Monday. It's open to members and non-members. The ccNSO Members Meeting is always on Tuesday and Wednesday. You can have a few of the different sessions, and there will be various working group meetings. And that's for me. And this is where you can see the agenda. Thank you. Heidi? Over to you.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes, thank you. Actually, Fatimata is chairing.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Bart, this is Fatimata speaking. Are there any questions for Marika and for Bart? We'll go quickly. We'll be crystal clear. Are there any questions at all? To me, it was very clear. I would like to thank Marika and Bart very much for their presentations. Apparently, Yaovi is raising his hand. He has a question. Yaovi, you have the floor.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Thank you, Fatimata. I would like to thank Bart for his presentation. My question is addressed to Bart. About the conflict of domain name of first-level nation country domain name ccTLD, for example, is there some conflict about this country code domain names? When this issue appears, what is the role of the ccNSO in deciding this kind of problem.

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BART BOSWINKEL: Let me repeat the question if I understand correctly because you were breaking up. Are we talking about a ccTLD, say, conflicts with regard to individual ccTLD domain names? If that is the case, then the role of the ccNSO is very, very limited. The ccNSO doesn't set policies for registration or conflicts within a country. That is the role of the ccTLD itself. That is the main reason why the policies of the ccNSO is very limited, and that's a main difference with the GNSO. The GNSO sets the policy for the registration, etc., under the GNSO generally speaking. The ccNSO by definition does not. Does this answer the question?

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Yes. I have problem to listen to your answer too, but I wanted to know about the conflict at a country level, the management at the country level.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay, thank you, Yaovi. And Marika explained that the ccNSO is not intervening on the management at the country level. Okay? And the ccTLD has to solve the internal problems at the country level. Tijani is asking for the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Fatimata. Olivier also raised his hand. I don't know if he wants to have the floor, but if he allows me I want to just say that when we are speaking about delegation – Yaovi, if you were speaking about delegation – he didn't answer your question. But I think the ccNSO doesn't intervene in this kind of issue.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you very much, Tijani. Now we are going to give the floor to Olivier and Tijani for their presentation.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Fatimata. Olivier Crépin-Leblond speaking. Can you hear me?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Yes. Okay, it's okay.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, great. Now I wanted to ask for the floor earlier because I wanted to congratulate Marika and Bart for their presentations. As ALAC Chair, there are things that I don't know and I learned a few things tonight, so I'm very satisfied.

[UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE]:   The presentation was available, and now it's not available anymore. It's uploading probably. Gisella says It's coming. It's coming.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, the first slide you remember it's the same as my last intervention on the seminar, the AFRALO workshop about the At-Large structure. It was a diagram with the At-Large organizational diagram. I want to recall you that AFRALO is one of the five regions in the world which a group, the At-Large community, those five structures [inaudible] the

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development of the policy at the international level, at the global level with [inaudible] level with this structure.

We talked about that structure during the last webinar, so today we are going to speak about the policy development. And if you want, next slide please. We see how we prepare the policies at the At-Large and at the ALAC level. One of the main works of ALAC is to answer the public comments that exist. Bart and Marika talked about those public comments. There are a lot of public comments, and it's clear that in ICANN bylaws whenever there is a policy development, there is a working group working on the policy development, and then all the ICANN community are to be asked about that and that ALAC and the ICANN part that will present the opinion of the Internet user. We ask our community. We ask them, and we present their opinions to ICANN.

And the first thing ALAC has to do is to check the public comments that are published on the ICANN website and to see what are the comments on which ALAC can do comments, which are the work in progress on which we have to comment. So you have seen that during the AFRALO meeting every month there is a part about the public comments. And it's the ALAC function, and all the members of ALAC have to speak about those comments and answer those comments.

So the first step is that ALAC is going to decide if there is a statement necessary or not. And whenever this statement is necessary, the staff will create the Wiki page. And this Wiki page is set up and [inaudible] ICANN use that. Okay. I hope it works on your [inaudible]. So we will create a Wiki page on the website, and then we have to identify a pen

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holder who will draft this statement – the person which will type the statement.

[INTERPRETER]: There was a problem. Now it's okay.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: So we are going to identify a pen holder who will be responsible for these public comment statements. This person is going to ask for comments through a working group. The working group is going to address directly this work, and then the first draft of the statement will be drafted. And this version is going to be posted on the Wiki page, and the staff is going to send the At-Large website request for comments for the community for this first draft. It's five days, but it's a minimum of five days. Normally, we try to give some more days to the community because people in the ALS representatives are not available if they have to ask first their community what they think about that, so five days is too little.

Normally, we try to have some more days. So the comments will be posted directly on the Wiki page, and anyone can post comments on the text. And once the comments are posted and are incorporated in the rest of the text, the ALAC is going to vote. And they vote for five days – a five-day vote – and its aim is that all the ALAC members and At-Large members are agreeing with the statement. And then when there is a majority, the text is sent to the Board or sent to the public comments

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process, which is open. And the ICANN staff will receive a copy too. And in some cases it will be sent to other [persons].

It is clear that At-Large can comment on any subject, so there are no limits for this process except that these issues must be ICANN issues, of course – ICANN subjects. But the Board and the staff are working in that public comment system, so this is the way the policy works. From the start to the end, we have 21 days. It's not a lot of days, and this is the reason why we are always in a hurry.

So next slide is the slide on At-Large policy advice and the statements and issues. We drafted 20 statements. The more important, the key issues for 2013 were first the Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA). It was a contract that needed to be renewed, and we made a comment on the contents of this contract. It is very important because through this contract of the RAA the registrars work with ICANN.

Then the second issue was the WHOIS – that directory which made a lot of problems to ICANN – so a lot of work was made on the WHOIS, the service of the directory. And there is another new directory which is not implemented, which is a review, which is a study to replace this WHOIS service that doesn't meet the problems of the Internet or the issue of the Internet today.

The next one is the Public Interest Commitments (PIC), the contract of the new gTLDs. That is very important for us in ALAC and At-Large because it is a complementary part that means that new domain names won't allow bad use for the Internet user.

Then there is the Internationalized Domain Names that is very important too because until now all the domain names were in Latin characters and now there are domain names in different kind of characters – Arab, Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Greek – and there are some problems: the variance of them, the name that can mean the same thing but can be written different ways. And that is very difficult to solve because the same word written two different ways will be a word that can be used in a bad way because the user will lie and using this same word written a different way will [inaudible].

Then there is another very important issue. This is the stability and security of the DNS of the Internet naming system, and this is very important for the user. If you are interested by the policy development workspace in ALAC, you have the link to the website page.

And then we also work with several working groups. There are over 16. I'm going a bit quick because I know that time is going by and the clock is ticking. We have over 16 working groups. They are open to all members, which is very important. You could be a delegate for your ALS or you can either have someone in your community in your ALS with an expert or who is knowledgeable in certain issues. And so working groups are very [inaudible]. They are open to all. So we have over 16 working groups. Five are regional At-Large working groups. And there are actually working groups where one can work on the different policies from the ALS to ALAC itself. There is a bottom-up procedure, as we call it.

So we have Tijani Ben Jemaa who will be an expert and addressing us in just a minute. So the next slide is AFRALO, so I will give the floor to Tijani Ben Jemaa and Aziz Hilali.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you, Oliver. Fatimata, you have the floor.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you, Olivier. I hope everyone can hear me. Thank you once again, Olivier, for your presentation. It was very interesting and very enriching. Without further ado, I'm going to give the floor to Tijani for the next part of the presentation.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Fatimata. As I said in e-mail and as I suggested a moment ago, I would prefer it if Aziz could make this presentation, if you agree. Fatimata, do you agree?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Yes, of course. Thank you then, Tijani. And, Aziz, you have the floor for this presentation.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Fatimata. And thank you, Tijani, for giving me the floor. I'm going to try and do my best because I know you're all listening. AFRALO, as you all know, has its main role as Olivier just said of being one of the

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five regional At-Large organizations, and it's the one which represents Africa. And it is the main forum for end users to be informed, and so we convey all the information and all the knowledge that they will need in order to participate.

As you see in the picture, most people who come to AFRALO meetings, and through AFRALO you can stay informed so that you can take part in the different activities that ICANN organizes. And in that way, of course, you can participate and get through the African voice. We represent approximately 17 countries, and in this picture that you see on the screen, you see the main participants of AFRALO. It's the people who are present at our Dakar meetings in 2011, and they all benefited from a program that we had created which was on Capacity Building, and it was a huge success before our ALSs. Besides this training that they received during that period, this provided for their participation in all the activities in the Dakar meeting.

Now regarding the main activities of AFRALO, there is a key item which Olivier just mentioned for ALAC which is the participation in public comment periods where ALAC makes statements, as Olivier just said. But we address different issues through our representatives who are either a part of AFRALO or individuals who are members of the different ALSs. So AFRALO works in order to make sure that Africa is represented. And as AFRALO officials, we have the mandate of representing Africa public comments period and different [processes], but our focal point is always the continent of Africa. We have to assure transparency. That is

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why we have been organizing Capacity Building sessions since the Dakar meeting, like I said.

The training is made up of six sessions from 7:00-900 a.m. And our idea was to have an assessment of these training sessions by our participants, and their comments allowed us to realize that there is a lack of training in the entire organization and particularly at the level of acronyms and the terminology use. So we have decided to go on doing and organizing these training sessions on a virtual format, which is why we have webinars. And ICANN staff helped us organize these sessions, such as the one we're having today, which is our third session.

And as Olivier said, anyone working at ICANN and volunteering at ICANN can always go on learning from the stakeholders and from the constituencies. You always learn something new. And so we will have the chance of assessing these three webinars that we have organized, the last of which is today, to see what the way to go on is, how we choose to continue. We hope that this has been a beneficial experience for everyone at AFRALO, and as a previous experience [inaudible] of the ICANN Academy that we're trying to set up.

We have created a tradition at AFRALO which is meeting at every ICANN meeting, and we have done it since Dakar, which like I said was a huge success because we had many people participating with their music, with participation of Technologies Ministry of Senegal, with the Chair of ICANN, the CEO of ICANN, and all the authorities of the organization. in parallel, every time there is an ICANN meeting in Africa, we will seize the chance to include the local community by organizing different

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outreach activities. So for the next Durban meeting, we tried but it was very hard to organize these sorts of activities.

I would like to thank the staff for their cooperation here as we were trying to organize activities which were customized to the local community for [schools] for ALSs and for the different organizations which probably represent end users of the Internet in South Africa. And we have invited people from all over the country to come, and we have the support of Google for this – the support of ICANN also – in order to organize that activity. So we have organized the showcase at which we will have South African guests who will be present at ALAC meetings and who will be able to tell us what they expect from ICANN and what they think about it and so on.

The other sort of little tradition that we have created is that AFRALO has since Brussels in 2006 inaugurated these AFRALO-AfrICANN joint meetings. We have held several meetings, as you can imagine, and they are a forum that we generate in order to debate and discuss the different issues we are interested in. Even if people don't regularly participate at ICANN, they can still provide their advice. And at the end of our joint meeting, we read a statement that we draft and we submit to ICANN.

To this date, we have submitted ten joint statements and, in fact, we have decided that the Durban meeting would be formed by African colleagues who will ask for us to make this statement that we have submitted to ICANN. We were asked at our Beijing meetings to make follow up with that.

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And then we have the IGF as well. We participated at two or three IGF panels already as AFRALO members and we have discussed ICANN through the different RALOs. And then the presentation, we hold monthly teleconferences. And the [inaudible] to our training session at Dakar, we realize that ever since we had that training session, the participation from the ALSs increased since that meeting in their participation and their presence. And they contribute with their advice, and they let us know what they think, and they maintain communications with us. And then after Fadi's request, AFRALO created a Wiki page where the different ALSs can upload the information of the activities that they hold with their local communities.

We also hold votes and elections. The Chair of AFRALO is Fatimata Seye Sylla. The Vice Chair is Tijani Ben Jemaa. I am the Secretariat. And ALAC members are Titi Akinsanmi, Yaovi Atohoun. And our next Chair will be Mohamed. If you go to our elections site, you will see as of next week the announcement of those who have been chosen for the next term.

So to end with, we will try and continue to help shape the voice of the Internet through AFRALO and At-Large. We shall continue to work on training sessions, such as the one I just explained. And we seek to in spite of our disability, so to say, which I always go back to – there is a majority of ALSs who wish that debate and discussion groups where key issues are addressed should have translation for the African community to be able to participate, then in order to be able to participate at the different working groups that I just mentioned. So that is the end of my presentation. I have nothing else to say.

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[TIJANI BEN JEMAA]:   Can you all hear me?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Yes, we hear you, Tijani. Thank you very much, Aziz. You have just passed your exam, if it was an exam like you said. So thank you very much. You see now on the screen that we have a place now for anyone who would like to ask questions to Olivier and Aziz. Tijani, you raised your hand. You have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Fatimata. In the first place, I would like to highlight the fact that the public comments period is open to all, not only to those participating in the organization. So whenever there is a public comments period, as individuals, as Tijani, we can make comments.

We can also make comments as members of our ALSs. We can also make comments as members of AFRALO and then as members of ALAC as well. So any organization can make its comments, any AC or SO make a comment, and any individual can make a comment as well. So we can always participate. This is a way of having a greater opportunity of participating. So do not think that public comment periods are exclusive to members. Anyone can make a comment. Any individual can make a comment.

And then as a way of outreaching, we also have different procedures in AFRALO which we would like to update soon. And then in order to

contribute effectively and efficiently with ICANN, we are doing our share of the work that's about ICANN's activity which were not mentioned here today, or not in enough detail. And your participation at teleconferences is the key here. For African ALSs, if they are to be the representatives of African end users, if an end user wants to make his voice heard, he will meet his ALS to actively participate at our monthly teleconferences. That is, the bare minimum. If you don't know about the teleconferences, if you don't know that you should participate, then you're not doing enough.

You should also participate at public comment periods, at working groups. And your participation in working groups, believe me, is very important because that is where the substantial points of view of the different users are heard. How can our point of view as Africans be transmitted? That is also through our participation. That is why I would like to stress the importance of participating. That is how that will be the real impact we can have on the development of the Internet. Thank you, Fatimata.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you, Tijani. Any clarifications? I mean, you were very useful, but now I would like to see if we have further information. If there are no other questions for Olivier, everything was clear. So thank you, Olivier and Aziz and Tijani. And thank you, Bart. Marika left, but Bart is still with us. Thank you, Olivier and thank you everybody. And, well, as Aziz said, we are going to do an assessment, and we'll see what we are going to

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do next. Thank you very much. I'm going to finish here. Bye. Thank you, everybody.

[END OF AUDIO]