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OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Julia. And good morning, good afternoon, and good evening everyone. This is the At Large briefing session on ICANN in the Internet eco-system. Today is the 5<sup>th</sup> of November 2013, the time is 17:05 UTC. We have with us Nigel Hickson on this call, who will be able to speak to us about ICANN in the wider Internet eco-system, especially with regards to all of the activities that took place in Bali.

We also have several of the people went to Bali, and I'll be opening the floor also for them to add on my Bali report. It's not really a report, I guess it's just a summary of what everyone has been up to at the IGF in Bali. So we'll first start with that, and then I'll hand the floor over to Nigel Hickson afterward, and we can have the question and answer and then a general discussion after Nigel's report.

So welcome everybody. This call is, I believe, recorded and interpreted in Spanish as well. So what I will ask you is when you do take the floor to introduce yourself every time. My name is Olivier Crepin-Leblond, for the record. And I think we can just get on with it, with At Large and the IGF. So as you know, there were several people who were funded to go over to the IGF from our community.

Primarily to run some workshops, which took place over there. The two workshops of specific note really are the first one from AFRALO, who we can the Internet be an engine for development and growth? And we also had another one which was directly related to this community from

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*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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APRALO, and that was next in IDN, linguistic diversity in the Internet root.

Well, all together, the meeting was very, very well attended, and both of our workshops were very well attended. I think the statistics came up with more than 1,500 people for the overall IGF attendance. And I do know, for the first time, I actually saw all of those people in the room whilst on [?] there were some very high numbers, but I think that after a couple of days, the rooms had emptied themselves up quite a lot.

So on this occasion, I was particularly impressed with the attendance, impressed with the fact that people were going to the workshops, were taking very strong path in the workshops, and certainly both workshops were very well attended. ICANN ran a number of other workshops as well, so there were some ICANN run workshops like what the new gTLD program means for you.

Also the ICANN open forum as well, and then there were also other parts of ICANN, in fact, with people on the panels that were particularly well known to our community. There were civil society and ICANN multi-stakeholder with the discussion of the GNSO, and also a debate on the top level domain.

Now I haven't been to some of these sessions, so maybe we'll be able to do a quick feedback on these. What I was going to ask, to start, since we are working literally in workshops, was to ask Tijani Ben Jemaa to give us a quick helicopter view of his workshop, how can the Internet be an engine for development and growth? Tijani, you have the floor.

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TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you Olivier. Tijani speaking. I will give you an overview of my activity in IGF 2013 in Bali. Not only something on the workshop only. I will stop by our workshop, the AFRALO workshop, we had panelists from all over the world, the five continents. We had a gender balance, more than gender balance, we had more women than men as speakers. The quality of the presentations was very, very good.

People came to us and congratulated us because of the quality of this workshop. The main thing is that after the presentation, the debate wasn't, the reaction of the floor wasn't questions, they were contributions, which is great, really great. So we didn't see that there was panelists and people listening. There was an interaction between the floor and the panel, an interaction, as I said, not from speaker to listener, but as contributor.

Everyone contributed. The theme was interesting because it speaks about the Internet as an engine for the development and growth, and we had the experience... We had first a global presentation by Sophie with an ISOC director, and who spoke about the overall, who gave an overview of the overall aspect of this subject.

And then we had the experience of Africa by Fatimata. And then the experience from Latin America and Caribbean by [?]. Andrew Marks spoke about the Internet as a driver for employment and economic growth in the global south. It was a wonderful presentation because it was more unusual, if you want, presentation. It was more, how to say, exciting manner to present the subject.

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And we had [?] who spoke about the Internet for a sustainable private sector in developing countries. So this about our workshop, we had about 16 attendants with 15 women inside. But I didn't do only this. I was involved also in the ICANN workshop about the new gTLDs. What the new gTLDs means for you. And so I raised the issue of the fact that particular developing countries didn't benefit from this round of the new gTLD program.

And also, I was involved in the, how do you say, the orientation sessions, the morning orientation sessions, that was led by the [Diplo ?] Foundation, and I spoke in the second day about the Internet in general. We spoke a lot about there was some of the information society people there, so and there was especially young people, newcomers. It was a good experience for me, and I also participated in the round table with Olivier, about the capacity building by the [Diplo] foundation. This was my activity in 2013 year. Thank you.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Tijani. Yes, it takes a little while to unmute. Thank you very much Tijani. That's very good report. If you are interested in reading the actual overall report of the work that took place, I just put a link over to the full workspace of the At Large activities at the IGF in Bali. Click on the different titles of the workshops, that will send you to the actual Internet Governance Forum website, which then has a link over to the workshop reports, which I believe have all been filed in.

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Next workshop is the [?] linguistic diversity in Internet roots. And I wonder if, I note that Rinalia is on the call. I wonder if Rinalia can share a few minutes of what her workshop, on how her workshop went, and what the subject of her workshop was. Rinalia, you have the floor.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM:

Thank you Olivier. This is Rinalia for the transcript. The APRALO and ICANN workshop was on IDN linguistic diversity of Internet root, and it was a special workshop because it was actually a collaboration between the community of Internet users in the Asia Pacific Aus region and ICANN. So it wasn't just APRALO, it was APRALO plus ICANN, the organization and corporate body as well.

This presented a procedure that marks a milestone in enhancing multi-lingual and cultural diversity. [?] That special group of panelists... A special group of panelists that started with [?] who is the chair of the Board variant working group, and he basically – the strategic importance of the project itself with the global language community, followed by Andrew Sullivan who was the lead consultant who helped develop the procedure for developing and maintaining [label ?] generation groups within the root zone.

And Andrew is actually a member of the Internet [?] Board. Followed by [?] who is the ICANN president for the generic domains division who oversees the IDN TLD implementation in ICANN itself, and [?] presented on the status of implementation of that project. After that presentation, we had a panel of Internet [?] representatives from APRALO. We had [?] but he had Internet difficulties participating.

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Also, we were told that there was a data cap on his registry in [?] so we particularly understood that there was some complications. So we had [?] who is the [?] and director of the Institute for Internet Policy and [?] in Beijing, to provide her input and use from the end user side. And [?] who is the director of the International Center for Clear and Open Source Software India.

And essentially the point to raise was that the ALAC was not a stakeholder. The process itself is dependent on the public comment process to provide input into whether or not what is being generated is relevant to the demands of language communities, and it's important to strengthen the public comment process and ICANN to be able to figure out a mechanism to reach out to smaller language communities, because the larger language communities are already mobilizing to participate in the process that the smaller language communities may not have heard and [?].

And after that, we had script, and the scripts are quite relevant to the Asia Pacific region, and it's basically Arabic, [?], and [Hun ?] script which applies to Japanese and Chinese languages. So [?] who is on the [?] and also professor of computer science in [?] language in [?] Pakistan, on behalf of the Arabic script community. After that [?] who is project engineer from the [?] Development of Advanced Computing in India presented on behalf of [?].

And Edward [Chow ?] who is CEO of dot Asia and vice chair of the Internet Society of Hong Kong present on behalf of the [Han ?] script community. Overall, I would say the quality of the workshop discussion

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was very high, and we had Steve Crocker who is Board chair of ICANN present as well as the members of the Board [?] working group.

And we had community members from all over the region in that session as well. So I'm hopeful that this will contribute to a better and more successful implementation of the project itself. Thank you Olivier.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND:

Thank you very much Rinalia. And thank you for your insight as to the discussions you had in that room. I was present there as well and I thought it was very, very high level, and definitely a good step forward for the idea and program. And I also saw some of the non-usual suspects. So it's always good to get more people involved.

But the two workshops, they were absolutely great. In addition to those, as I said, there are a few other workshops which are listed on the page that I quoted, and some of them to note from our strong ALSs are the small island developing states roundtable, discussing the broadband access dilemma. There were some workshops which were about the protection of vulnerable children online from another one of our ALSs.

And also an important workshop on the Internet of things, which was run by one of our ALSs as well. So there you go. There are quite a few workshops you'll see linked from that page, which I've sent over to the Adobe. I see Fatimata has put her hand up. Did you wish to add something to the workshops Fatimata? You have the floor. And at the moment I'm afraid we can't hear you.

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Okay. It looks like we have a technical problem with Fatimata. If you manage to get through, just interrupt us. So just continuing on the summary of all of the activities....

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Hello, can you hear me now?

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Now we can hear you, go ahead Fatimata.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Yeah. I would think we had to, African related activities that we attended to. One is the workshop [?] stakeholders activity, and it was, provided space to discuss what was good practice and to share in this information that can be transferred to other [?]. And both Tijani and I were on the panel there. And also, we attended the [?] alliance meeting for the five regional registries. And of course, just follow the overview that was given to [?] who had produced innovative solutions for the Internet community.

One general remark that I would like to make was that it was really difficult for us to be in two workshops, two very important workshops at the same time. And of course, we didn't have a chance to follow Rinalia's workshop and also people who were there did not have a chance to follow our workshop, and I just think it's really something we should plan next time, if we can. Thank you.



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OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Fatimata. ICANN usually sets up these workshops, so I guess the scheduling was not optimal when we definitely had a couple of clashes with our workshops all being crunched up in a couple of days. I'm getting an echo, I'm not quite sure whether...

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Same here.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes. Olivier, this is Heidi, we're working on that echo.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, thank you Heidi. I think it's just gone now. Okay, fantastic. Tijani, you put your hand up again?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes. Thank you Olivier. Tijani speaking. It's only to thank Fatimata to reminding me about the African workshop. I am so sorry to forget about it, and to forget to keep updated about it. Fatimata did and thank you.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Okay thank you very much Tijani. So indeed, the workshops were a real success. Then, of course, we also had the table, the booth, which was occupied by At Large, should we say, and I guess that are primary presence over there was in the persona of [?] who spent an enormous

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amount of time at the booth, and actually organizing everyone going to the booth, and being there to answer questions.

The area in which the booth was might not have been the most optimal area. It was worth noted that we were in a slighter quieter area than some other booths. But then I think the reason for this was the other booths were the local organizations, and they were reserved for the best location. And I can actually agree with this because it is good to see local organizations being at the center of the activities.

So all together I think we had a good turnout as well at the booth, although we weren't in the busiest part. Speaking of about local organizations, I did go and see several Indonesian organizations that could be potential At Large structures. I've got their details and I've also passed their details on, and discussions have already started now, so as to be able to see.

There is one interesting organization called the ITC Watch, which is an Indonesian ITC partnership, and they actually have many of their members that are organizations such as civil societies and local end user organizations as well. And there was another organization that I spoke to that came out of the lot, and that's called Air [?].

Air [?] is an organization that brings connectivity to remote parts of Indonesia and Internet training to people around Indonesia. So I'm really hoping that we will be able to have an application from these organizations, and we'll be able to establish a presence in that country as well. So that's the on the ALS side of things.

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A part from this, as you know, there has been a lot of things going on in Bali, and I guess that the largest thing, the elephant in the room, as one can say, was the entering of ICANN in the Internet eco-system, what... I guess that I can pass the floor over to Nigel Hickson who is the Global Stakeholder Engagement Vice President in Europe. And he was there, and I guess that he will be able to provide us with a good amount of details as to how ICANN entered the Internet eco-system, and where are we going forth from now. Nigel, you have the floor.

NIGEL HICKSON:

Thank you very much. For the record, this is Nigel Hickson, vice president for Europe Global Stakeholder Engagement. And good afternoon or good morning to everyone. I'll try and be brief and then we can have a discussion. I think first of all on the Internet Governance Forum, it seemed to go very well. And from the conversation we just had earlier that At Large played a significant role, I mean both in terms of the workshops, [?] of hosting many people in a personal capacity, but also for the ICANN community in general, and of course the sterling work that was done in manning the ICANN booth, which clearly everyone is very grateful for.

I think the IGF is one of those occasions where we really do pull together as a community, staff on board, and all of the community come together and it's really great to see. In terms of the objectives for the IGF, I think we went in trying to sort of fulfill the general objective of maintaining and promoting the multi-stakeholder approach, and I think that came out in spades.

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Mainly of course because of the Brazil connection, which obviously we can discuss which sort of dominated the whole of the IGF I would say, whether it was the elephant in the room or not, I'm not sure but it – the whole, the discussion around the Brazilian approach, the proposed conference, the ICANN involved with that conference, the involvement of other stakeholders, and how it will play out where sort of a dominant theme of the IGF.

And of course, Fadi Chehade referred to it in his various speeches, both to the various public sessions at the IGF, and with his meetings with the community, and with other stakeholders. Just a word of where we are on that, in case that's of interest, as you know from the history of that, of course not everyone was at the IGF. Essentially what happened is Fadi Chehade took up an opportunity a number of weeks ago to have a meeting with the president of Brazil, which she had just come back from delivering a speech at the General Assembly in New York where he criticized the US in terms of their surveillance activities and particularly the surveillance activities in terms of intercepting calls, her own calls and colleagues in Brazil.

And at the end of her speech, she called for a new model on Internet governance based on the actual approach, the government's approach. Obviously Fadi thought that this was not very helpful, and he took the opportunity to having a meeting with her to discuss her speech with her. The result of which was the offer for Brazil to hold a multi-stakeholder role rather than the multinational conference on Internet governance next year.

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And this offer and preparations for this conference in terms of how it's going to be organized, etcetera, dominated a lot of discussion in Bali. Suffice it to say that I came off a call earlier today that we had some update on it. Brazil is forming various committees. The community have formed a sort of collation group to help Brazil with the secretariat from the NRO, and things were moving forward.

And obviously, the various topic pronouncements in the next couple of weeks and obviously discussions in Buenos Aries about this as well. So I'll think I'll leave that there. I'm happy to take any questions. Do you want me to go on and just touch on the ITU?

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: It's Olivier speaking. I think that you can move on and yes, touch on the ITU and then afterwards we'll just open the floor for questions and people will be able to ask questions about everything. I'm just mindful of the time, so back to you Nigel.

NIGEL HICKSON: I'll be very brief because [laughs] there is a lot of material, but essentially the background, of course, to the concerns that many of us have in terms of what Brazil were pronouncing at the UNGA, and what India had pronounced previously in various forums, was a break down in the multi-stakeholder approach. As you know, there are various ITU conferences coming up, the World Telecommunications Conference in April and the ITU [?] this is before [?] conference of the ITU in Busan in October/November next year.

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And these conferences, especially the latter conference, have the ability to, if you like, for the ITU to adopt, not through the ITU itself but through the membership of the ITU sort of recommendations that Internet governance be placed on a multilateral level at the UN.

And so we think the stakes are fairly high in terms of the debate on Internet governance whether it should continue in its present form. And the ITU meetings coming up in WTTC, which is likely now not to be in Egypt, apparently, but perhaps somewhere else in April, and the planetary [?] in Korea are going to be important meetings.

In addition to that, we have the review of the world summit of the information society with an ITU sponsored conference in April as well. And a discussion going on in New York at the moment in the second committee on how the final review conference should be held, whether it should be a ministerial summit or whether it should just be a regular UN meeting. So a lot of discussion on the Internet governance international at the moment, and we'll be able to reflect the gain on some of this during the sessions in Buenos Aires. I'll stop there. Thank you.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Nigel. And so now I open the floor for questions from our community and from anyone on the call effectively. And whilst people gather their thoughts, the first question I was going to ask you Nigel is really, the move of Fadi discussing the Brazil summit and discussing the follow up to the [?] conference, somehow surprised

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everybody in Bali in that it wasn't, well it looked as though it was an ICANN led initiative.

And I just wonder whether you can elaborate on this, and whether it is an ICANN led initiative or whether, who else is involved?

NIGEL HICKSON:

Olivier, I think that's an excellent question. Let's take them both very briefly. So the [?] statement was a statement that came out of an ISOC meeting, so this is a meeting of the ISOC community. The ISOC, the RIRs, the [?], etcetera. This was a scheduled meeting in Montevideo back in October, and there was a statement from that meeting that may be concerned a restatement for support of the multi-stakeholder approach, but also this telling statement that in the future, Internet governance should be based on a sort of equality of input from various countries rather than being based on input from the US.

So this was a quiet, I suppose, a shift in policy. So the Montevideo statement, and then as I said, soon after that an opportunity came for Fadi Chehade will meet the Brazilian president, and hence the Brazilian conference. I mean, it's true to say that I think essentially, from what I understand by talking to Fadi that essentially he's, it's very difficult. You can't have a meeting where a president has just given you an offer to hold a multi-stakeholder conference on Internet governance and you have to do something.

You are to take leadership and gather some people around you or you let the opportunity slip. And Fadi obviously decided that this was something of significant importance. So it is true to say that ICANN took

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the initiative, but now the initiative is back in the hands of the community, this collation that's been formed to help Brazil sort of set the agenda and discuss the invites, the objectives, etcetera. It's a multi-stakeholder group, there is going to be further information on it, and ICANN is not in the lead.

I mean, ICANN will play a part, but this isn't going to be an ICANN Brazil conference, it's going to be a conference hosted by Brazil but with many different players involved.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you Nigel. Just one question on this actually. So ICANN is not going to take the lead, and I guess there will be this collation setup. Will the work of the collation be transparent as such? Because at the moment, it's quite hard to obtain any information about what exactly is going on. Have there been a follow up since Bali?

NIGEL HICKSON: [Laughs] Another good question. So essentially, in Bali, for those that were there and were in the right meeting, and I know it was difficult to be at the right meeting at the right time. There was a sort of, a number of people came together in the meeting and sort of signed a piece of paper saying they were interested in forming this coalition. Now, as I understand it from a call earlier, the secretariat for this coalition is the NRO and ADL from AfriNIC is leading that, and there will be a website launched in the next week or something like that.



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There will be a website and that website will allow people to understand what the coalition is about and join the effort.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you Nigel. It's Olivier speaking. So any questions from anyone? I see some people typing. I note Glenn McKnight has mentioned on Internet governance, ISOC has called for papers. Glenn, would you be able to expand on this please? I'm unable to hear Glenn at the moment. I can hear myself though.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: We can hear you too.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Can you hear me once or twice?

NIGEL HICKSON: Once is enough.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Once is enough for me as well [laughter]. Okay, I don't think we're able to get Glenn McKnight on there, oh yes. So Glenn has put a link over to the final report on ISOC. Any questions for Nigel? Now is the time really to discuss this. I mean, one of the questions, I guess, that has come to me is whether the type of activity that is going on right now, I guess, and that was started in Bali.

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Is this within ICANN's remit? Is this part of ICANN's mission? And I'm sorry to be asking hard questions Nigel.

NIGEL HICKSON:

No, no, it's a question for everyone I think really. For me, I mean, clearly yes, you could... I mean ICANN couldn't, I'm sure, our CEO might have said, "You know, we're just responsible for the domain name system. It's a relatively small part of the Internet governance agenda. If member states decide that they want to abolish ICANN, that's fine. We'll let member states control the DNS in the future."

It will be a shame for the At Large community because you wouldn't have one anymore. But that's not the view that Fadi took. I think many of us in this game, we're only in this... We're in this because we believe passionately that the multi-stakeholder approach is good for the freedom, it's good for the open Internet, it's good for innovation, it's good for economic growth, and we'll do our best to sustain the multi-stakeholder approach.

And sometimes, yeah, sometimes that means standing up and going outside of our remit. And well, personally I make no apologies for that at all. I mean, you know, because we've all got to fight to be positive and try and outline why the multi-stakeholder approach is the best way forward.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND:

Thank you Nigel. We have Tijani Ben Jemaa next who wishes to ask a question or a comment. Tijani, you have the floor.

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TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you Olivier. Tijani speaking. You asked the remit of ICANN. Olivier, I want to remind you that a few years ago, and still now, we have very [?] to ICANN. And those are not a few, there is, I would say, a lot of the, how do you say, the Internet community was against ICANN. And they have big concern about the control of the Internet.

So I think with this new policy, or new, how to say, behavior of ICANN, we are going toward having more confidence with those people, more trust. We are showing them that ICANN is not an US company. ICANN is a multi-stakeholder, no it is a worldwide organization, and also it is not controlled as they were thinking by the US. So I think it is a very good thing to go in these kinds of activities that will make ICANN better feel and better consider it.

And it is very important because we are working, if you want, ICANN is operating [?] tool for everyone. So we need that everyone has trust in ICANN, and this is why I think this kind of activity is very, very good, and it is under the remit of ICANN because it is making ICANN improving its place in the eco-system. Thank you.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND:

Thank you Tijani. It's Olivier speaking. I see more hands up. So next is Rinalia Abdul Rahim, you have the floor.

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RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you Olivier. I have a question Nigel. Nigel, can you clarify the role of the strategy panel that hasn't been populated with regard to the organizing for the Brazil summit?

NIGEL HICKSON: Sorry, I do apologize, I was on mute. Good afternoon to you. I will do my best. So essentially, as you refer to, there was a fifth strategy panel that was not setup on the sort of future of Internet governance sort of looking forward. And Fadi has been in touch with a number of senior players to setup this fifth panel, which could be called a commission or a panel or something.

And the thinking is that this commission or senior panel, which might well have an independent secretariat, that's the idea, that this commission would work in parallel with a number of other bodies that would probably come up with blueprints for the future of Internet governance that will be submitted to the Brazil conference.

And this is all not absolutely certain yet but what we expect to happen, in the next couple of weeks, when further details of the conference are published, if you like. There will be a call for input, so part of the published for the conference will be, you know, write a paper on what you would like to see the future of the Internet governance be. And so organizations, like ISOC of course, or other organizations will be invited to submit papers.

And this commission that is being setup will have the opportunity to input a paper as well. So that's [?] and hopefully some further details will be announced in the next few days on that as well.

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OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Nigel. It's Olivier speaking. Any other questions or a follow up question from Rinalia?

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: I have one follow up comment actually. I think in trying to organize such an important event, it takes, to do it well, you need a good leader and time. And I don't think we have that much time to prepare because normally if you want to have good representation, typically people will take a year, and here we have less than six months operationally.

NIGEL HICKSON: I think that is a very good point.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: And but the timing is not in our hands to an extent. You know, it's dictated by the sort of progress at international events.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Yes. Thank you Nigel. That's the feedback that I have received as well because I think quite a few people [?] and said, my goodness, March or April, or even May 2014 is just so close to be able to set something up

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and to arrange something, especially since the southern hemisphere is taking holidays for most of January, that's their summer holiday.

So there is a time when months go by very quickly, but you're absolutely correct, the international events, and I guess the speed in which Internet governance and Internet governance is evolving, which at the moment seems to be happening on a day to day basis due to various factors of course.

Well, let Fadi and everyone just say, well something just has to be done quickly and fast. So that's a bit of a problem. I note that Cheryl has put in the chat that of course, not only does this whole collation need to work together, but there is this whole attitude from some parts of society, not sort of being conducive to work that well with the Internet technical community itself, and of course, with ICANN as well.

It certainly is at the moment a collation which has been brought together, but I'm not quite sure of the strength of it, and I do hope that people will be making strides to try and to bridge the different communities together. I know that certainly in At Large we have many different member organizations, or At Large structures.

And I hope that individuals in our At Large structures will be able to go and try to bridge that gap with the technical community and of course with ICANN, and with ISOC, and with the other ISTAR organizations that are there. Certainly being sort of part of the same At Large organization, maybe being seen as being the [?] from other civil organizations, civil society organizations that do not wish to join ICANN have certainly helped us in a way, I guess, to develop or a diplomatic

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sense, and work together when we don't, sometimes, don't agree on things.

So I hope that this organization, this collation will be able to move together, and really looking forward to the, I guess, the support and the follow up from the regional Internet registries, the RIRs. And especially the AfriNIC. Is that correct Nigel?

NIGEL HICKSON:

Yes, that's right, the regional Internet registries are playing a significant role in forming sort of a secretariat for this coalition. And as I say, on the summit website will be released in the next week or so to that end.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND:

Okay. Are there going to be discussions about the subject? It's Olivier speaking again. Any discussions about the subject during the ICANN week?

NIGEL HICKSON:

Yes, yes, I understand there will be some sessions. I don't know the details but I was on a call and I was told there will be a session on the whole coalition initiative, I would have thought, well I don't know. I would have thought anyone can join, but I don't know the details.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND:

I think on Monday there is a session. A number of people are speaking about Monday afternoon session on this. But it also looks as though the

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SO and AC forum will have a significant portion of its forum being the discussion of where ICANN should go, or where ICANN is going. You briefly mentioned ICANN's plan for engagement in the Internet eco-system.

Is this a trend that we are going to see in the next strategic trend?

NIGEL HICKSON:

Well, I'm not sure. There is a session in Buenos Aires on ICANN's engagement strategy, there is a paper in preparation that is going to be produced for Buenos Aires. I don't think there is any... We have a role in the Internet eco-system and we have to respect that role.

I mean, the Brazil thing is somewhat of an one off I think, and I don't think you can necessarily say that Brazil aren't involved with the Brazil conference and get into a completely different area. We'll have to see.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND:

But we heard, it's Olivier speaking. We had heard that this was just not an one off though, there... Brazil is just one of many different future conferences, I guess, that will take place. There were some questions about replacing the IGF. Is this a trend to replace the IGF?

NIGEL HICKSON:

No. No, I mean I think we have to absolutely clear. This is... The Brazil conference is a conference that Brazil is hosting to introduce the future of Internet governance. Now, the IGF, I think for many of us, is the predominant discussion forum for Internet governance issues, but it



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doesn't necessarily mean that the IGF is the only place where you can discuss Internet governance, and perhaps take some positions.

The IGF, I think, has a role of its own, and there is no, certainly there is no intention as I understand it, normal discussions I've had with ICANN staff, etcetera, this has got anything to do with replacing the IGF.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you. Tijani Ben Jemaa.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Olivier, do you hear me?

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Yes, we can hear you. Go ahead Tijani.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay thank you Olivier. It's only to say that nothing can remove or replace the IGF, because the IGF is the decision of the world summit and information society, decided by the UN, and it is under the guidance of the secretary general of the UN. Only a decision of the general assembly of the UN can remove it or replace it. So there is no way to replace the IGF. Thank you.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Tijani. That is absolutely clear. I was going to reserve just a couple of more minutes, I guess, before we break up just

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having noticed that we have Chris Lahatte, the ICANN ombudsman on the call. I'm not quite sure whether he is able to speak or not, but I was just going to check with him on his impressions of the first IGF that he has, that he has attended.

And I understand that there have been times when Chris was even thinking of future IGFs perhaps. Chris Lahatte, are you able to speak?

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Olivier, can you put me on line? It's Sebastien. I am not on Adobe. Thank you.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Okay. I'll pass it to you immediately afterwards Sebastien. Let's see with Chris. He might be on a mobile device and I'm not quite sure how that works. Okay. Impossible to have Chris Lahatte at the moment. Let's go over to Sebastien Bachollet. Sebastien, you have the floor.

SEBASTEIN BACHOLLET: I'm sorry I'm on the mobile, and I will try to be short. I think toward what Nigel answered, really [?] be aware that we also have to convince some part of the ICANN community [?]. Because I think that without the remit of ICANN, because I think [?] of the [?] within the organization. The work that we are supposed to do it, I first would start with ICANN but also inside [?].

I just [?] a paper on the [?] about the subject in French and English, and I will send you the link. I think it's a very welcome subject, and I'm sure

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that are going to know when we talk about that once again. But more important, [?] and ICANN listen. And ICANN, I show you that the [?]... I will stop here. Thank you very much.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Sebastien, and thank you for this position and other details. Do we now have Chris, oh Chris is just about to be called. We are reaching slowly the end of this call, but I just thought it would be interesting to hear Chris Lahatte's point of view, as someone who has been to the IGF for the first time as well, also someone who, I guess, being also part of ICANN was able to see all of the things happening behind the scenes as well.

And certainly what is the place of an ombudsman on IGF? Are we able to speak to Chris? The dialing does take more time than it's supposed to take. Just a couple of more things whilst we wait for Chris Lahatte to be on the call. I was going to mention the outreach that was done over at the IGF.

Not only do people spend much time in conferences and in the different workshops, but certainly there was a lot of discussion going on in the different corridors of the IGF building, if you can call it IGF building, but also in the evening. I wouldn't call them parties, let's call them receptions and certainly I think that being there as a good was very positive indeed.

In fact, it's interesting. I think all together they must have been a total, was it about 15 maybe 20 people from ICANN and staff? And I had a couple of people who came to me and said, "My goodness, what's

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happening with ICANN? How can they afford to send hundreds of people here?" [Laughs] And I thought, "Wow, that was rather surprising."

And I guess that's probably because there was always at least a couple of people, and every single part of the conference center there were a couple of people who were involved somehow with ICANN one way or the other. And that's I guess the great power of volunteers being able to cover a very large floor.

Chris are we now on the phone bridge with you? Or are we on the phone with you? Well, maybe that was wishful thinking, maybe I've just dropped off the edge of the world as well. They're dialing back. Okay, well, I think that we're, and Chris is on the Spanish bridge. Yes that's very, very helpful indeed for Chris Lahatte to practice his Spanish.

I'm sure that will be very handy when he gets to Argentina. [Laughs] That's definitely not going to be the right way. I'm not impressed with the calling at the moment I'm afraid. Getting him on the wrong channel is not a good thing. Look, I'm really sorry for this Chris, but we're going to have to close in a moment.

Nigel, just a few last words on, sort of closing words on where we're going now? What's next effectively, the next steps?

NIGEL HICKSON:

We're a period of a lot of development happening very quickly. I mean, for those that [?] and I appreciate everyone who will be in Buenos Aries, I think there will be a level of clarity there, both in terms of the Brazilian

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conference and the work of the coalition, and indeed this commission, that ICANN is helping to facilitate. But there is going to be a website where a lot will be made clearer in the next week or so.

That's on the sort of ICANN side of things, but of course, we're also watching very carefully what happens in New York in the UN general assembly in terms of the final stages of the [?] review. So a lot is going on. We'll have a session in Buenos Aries updates on all of this, and of course we're more than willing, after Buenos Aries, to have a further update like this if it's useful.

I've got to run, but thanks for the opportunity and hope to see several of you in Buenos Aries.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Nigel, thank you for joining us and providing us with all the details, and of course looking forward to seeing you in Buenos Aries. To follow up with you, I guess this whole committee will be involved one way or other, whether on the floor in Buenos Aries or remotely or even in their own part of the world, since I do believe that there is going to be a lot going on worldwide.

So thank you very much Nigel. I guess, are we able to now finally get Chris Lahatte?

CHRIS LAHATTE: Yes I am here.

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OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Ah, quick impressions on IGF and any future ideas that you have with regards to your involvement with IGF.

CHRIS LAHATTE: Yes. One of the things, I think picking up on something Cheryl has said, I don't think there has been a really sophisticated understanding of the multi-stakeholder model. What appears to me is that the role of the ombudsman within that model I think is something which none of the people have any real knowledge about all.

And in some small part, I think the ombudsman is essentially a bit of a peacekeeper in the middle of that, and that's one of the reasons why our model works so well. So this is the sort of message that we need to get across when you have a complex structure like that, you also need to put into place some governance and peacekeeping facilities. I think that's primarily the message that I want to get across at further IGFs.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Chris, and thank you for those words of wisdom, and I guess that fits very well, the fact that we to end this call. So I thank everyone for having attended. Of course, I thank Tijani and Rinalia very much for their report and help on their workshops.

And I thank both Chris Lahatte but also thanks to Nigel Hickson for the great work. We'll see everyone next week, sorry, in two weeks' time in Buenos Aires. Thanks to the interpreters as well, and thank you all. Good morning, good afternoon, and goodbye everyone. This call is now adjourned.

**[END OF TRANSCRIPT]**