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GISELLA GRUBER:

Good evening, everyone, this is Gisella speaking. I would like to welcome you all to this AFRALO call on January 8, 2014, at 13:30 UTC. To begin with, I'd like to wish all of you a very Happy New Year 2014, and my best wishes.

On this call we'll have on the English channel Philip Johnson, Oyetade Kayode, Stephen Adams, Sawsan Aldawodi and Adetokunbo Abiola. On the French channel, Aziz Hilali, Michel Tchonang, Baudouin Schombe, Etienne Tschishimbi, Tijani Ben Jemaa, Fatimata Seye Sylla, Oliver Crépin-Leblond, Pierre Dovonou and Hadja Ouattara.

We have apologies from Mohamed El Bashir and Alioune Diop.

Members of staff assisting with the call will be Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, Yaovi Atohou, Pierre Dandjinou, Fahd Batayneh, and myself, Gisella Gruber. Have I forgotten anyone in the roll call? I think we have Alan Greenberg on Adobe Connect, as well.

So, if I haven't forgotten anyone, may I please remind you to help us by muting your lines when you're not speaking so as to avoid unnecessary interferences on the line. Likewise, it is very important to speak your name at the time of speaking so that you can be identified on the French channel and for transcript purposes, as well. Thank you. Aziz, you have the floor.

AZIZ HILALI:

Good evening, everyone. This is Aziz speaking. I would like to wish everyone a very happy New Year and forward to you my best wishes so that this year will be full of activities, particularly for AFRALO. I would

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also like to welcome Gisella in her return. We missed her very much for almost a year and so we're very happy to have her among us once again. Thank you, Gisella.

We're then going to start straight away. I see that we have quite a number of participants at this conference, and we're very happy about that. I would like to thank all those of you who joined us both Oliver, who's always with us, and Alan, who is participating tonight.

Unless you have anything you would like to add to the agenda, we'll begin shortly. Does anyone have anything to add? All right, then, since there are no comments, the agenda is adopted.

We're going to start with item number two then, which is open public comments. First thing we have is we have ALAC statements which have recently been adopted. Those are the proposed. There are two actually statements for today. One is the proposed bylaws changes regarding the Technical Liaison Group, which was adopted, and then the ccNSO FOI Working Group's interim report on "revocation."

As regards those statements, we always ask AFRALO members to follow, we currently have being developed, reviewed or voted on by ALAC a number of statements or endorsements, the total of which is eight. The first of these is the protection of IGO and INGO identifiers in all gTLD PDP recommendations for Board consideration. That's what we call a PDP. It is what we call a recommendation for the ICANN board. This statement is currently open for comments.

The second point is [inaudible] WHOIS Misuse, which is currently in the voting stage. The third is request for written community feedback on

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the Geographic Regions Working Group recommendations that are currently open for comments. The fourth point is the DNS Security and Stability Analysis Cross Community Working Group Report. This is currently being voted on.

Then, we have statement number five, which is the proposal for Specification 13 to the ICANN Registry Agreement to contractually reflect certain limited aspects of [dot-brand] new gTLDs. That is currently being drafted.

Number six, we have the new gTLD auction rules. We're awaiting confirmation from Avri Doria to know whether or not we need to draft a statement on the auction rules. Following, we have the draft criteria and process for selection of Multi-stakeholder Ethos Award pilot program, which is a program which was recently launched. This is, as yet, not determined. And then, lastly, we have ICANN's draft vision, mission and focus areas for a five-year strategic plan. This is currently being drafted.

That is in regards to item two. I would like to ask at this point whether anyone, specifically those from ALAC, being Alan and Oliver, whether anyone has any comments to add or whether we can move on to item number three? Alan is asking for the floor. So, you have the floor.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Just a very short one. On the IGO, INGO, I don't believe that we're making a comment on this one. This is the one that the board has put out prior to taking any action on the recommendation from the PDP, and I believe we've already commented on this somewhat exhaustively.

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Oliver may correct me, but I think we're sending a letter to the Board reminding of our advice, but that's about all.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you, Alan. Would anyone else like to add anything? Otherwise we will move on to item number three. Seeing as there are no other comments, we can move on to item number three, which is regarding reports.

The first recent and upcoming meeting of ALAC. I see that Beran is not with us tonight. Is he here at all? Okay then, Tijani, you and Hadja may take the floor to tell us about the recent and upcoming activities of ALAC. Would Hadja like to speak instead of Tijani? I think her line has been interrupted and she is being called back, so she is not with us at the moment. So I might start [inaudible]. Yes, go on.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

As you know, one of the main activities was the project that ALAC currently has is [inaudible]. ALAC has been working on this project for a while now. And so, during the holidays, we continued to work on the project, of course. We are all deciding on the plans or the schedule of the summit itself. We are almost done on the selection of subjects. It was discussed within the group and only five people replied. We had to extend the deadline so that everyone had a chance to participate and comment on that.

As for the rest of the events, we are at a quite advanced stage already and we're going to hold a meeting tomorrow for the different events of

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the summit. If you're interested, you are welcome to join us and comment on what we're doing.

That's not all, of course. We have many other activities related to the summit. As you know, before London, we had certain goals to fulfill. Firstly, we had to choose on which domain ALSes needed training, and so we more or less concluded those subjects. We're not going to discuss the schedule here, of course. The last thing, certain subjects should be discussed right before the summit so that people will not forget what they have learned.

Those are some aspects about the summit that we are preparing. Tomorrow we'll have a teleconference regarding the organization for meeting for the summit, and of course, you can attend the teleconference, like I said.

The second main event at At-Large within our scope will be the selection of a board member. This member will be appointed by At-Large and ALAC.

AZIZ HILALI:

We're going to discuss that later.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Yes, of course, you're going to share a report from the committee. The third point of interest for ALAC during this period is the CROPP project. That is the Community Regional Outreach Pilot Program. It is a pilot program – it's quite self-explanatory – for outreach activities. And it is also part of the agenda so we are not going to take that now.

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I would at this point like to discuss the preparation of the Brazil meeting. It's not about the preparation of the meeting. It's more about where we stand regarding the Brazilian meeting. There are many committees being formed and the aim of this meeting is to gather governments and non-governmental sectors, business members and so on from the region, or registers and registrars for the ccNSO. It's different from everything else.

The At-Large community felt that things are not really done in the open. We don't really know what's going on and so At-Large, as such, is not taken into account because we're considered part of the Civil Society so we should join the Civil Society. That may be the case, but it is not one of our concerns right now.

This meeting at Brazil belongs in the framework of a huge work which is underway right now. It is a transformation which started from the Montevideo segment and then it will go on with the Brazil meeting – one that has recently been created, of course. It being initially created by ICANN. Many other parties are also involved. So it one of the points of interest to the ALAC right now.

I think I have said pretty much everything that has come in to mind right now. Hadja is now with us again, so maybe she would like to complete. I'm done, Aziz.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thanks, Tijani. Thank you for all those comments. You even tackled items that will be taken on next in the call because we have in item number four with items for information, the Brazil meeting, the CROPP

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project. So if you have questions on those subjects, you could save them for later because each of these subjects that Tijani just mentioned will be discussed later. I think Hadja is still not with us. Is she? Is Hadja here?

I think we'll go on. Move on to item 3-B, which is recent and upcoming activities of AFRALO members. Here we will once again, as we say at every teleconference, we would like every member from AFRALO, every ALS, to contribute with their activities on the Wiki page. We have created a special Wiki page dedicated for this purpose, and the idea is to have all the activities of the different ALSes online. I would like to thank Silvia for having created this page. She called it Spotlight and that allows every ALS to have their activities on that Wiki page.

We had decided that at each teleconference we would give the floor to one ALS so that they would tell us about the activities of their ALS. I think Philip, who is the secretary of AFRALO, and who comes from ISOC Liberia, has been chosen to tell us about the activities he has recently led in Liberia. So he'll have the floor at this point, if he's still with us.

PHILIP JOHNSON:

Thank you, very much, Aziz. Happy new year to all of you. First, let me give a little explanation on ISOC Liberia. ISOC, and also take this time to welcome one of our board members who also is with us here from ISOC. I think he is on the English channel. So welcome Stephen Adams. Stephen Adams is a member of the Board of ISOC Liberia.

ISOC Liberia was founded in 2007, and ISOC did try to attempt to become a member of the ICANN At-Large group in 2008, and it didn't come to acceptance and accreditation by ISOC, the Global Internet

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Society. We reapplied to become member of the At-Large organization in 2010. After all of the activities and all the due diligence applications reviewed by all the ALSes at that time, it was passed and ISOC Liberia became an ALS in Liberia.

Members of ISOC Liberia are a group of Liberian Internet [constituents], Internet users. The [inaudible] have been on building an [inaudible] Internet community in Liberia through awareness, through workshops, outreach programs in the country.

A brief explanation on some of the activities we have carried out included an Internet training and awareness center. At this point, we are able to have many university students who, for the first time, in 2007, were able to log on to the Internet. We then hosted another program in collaboration with AfNOG called [inaudible].

AZIZ HILALI:

I'm sorry, Philip, to interrupt you. You have only two minutes to speak about your activities, so please you have to speak about the activities developed in Liberia.

PHILIP JOHNSON:

Thank you, very much, Aziz. Thank you, very much. All of these activities are the reason that we took advantage of the AFRALO Spotlight. So to get a brief explanation of our recent activities in Liberia, in collaboration with Yaovi, when Yaovi contacted me and said "Look, I am on my way to Liberia to do a global stakeholder outreach," I told Yaovi this is a very good opportunity and believe the ALSes on the ground would be able to



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assist you.” [inaudible] everything to have global so that we could have a global stakeholder outreach. That was done. We contacted the [inaudible] stakeholders. We were able to facilitate a meeting with the Minister of Communication. We were able to [inaudible] in meetings with the Liberian regulatory authorities in Liberia. Then we had a conference including ISOC members and all stakeholders, particularly youth groups at one of our partners called iLab.

This was a very successful project. I was able to – at the conference, I did a presentation on the At-Large and the role of RALOs within the ICANN Internet ecosystem. This is some of the outreach programs that ISOC ALS is currently engaging. We have other featured programs including an awareness we want to create in establishing a re-dedication of [.LR]. We are calling on our stakeholders now to begin discussion on the re-delegation of Liberia's ccTLD which is one of the hottest topics now that we will be engaging with other stakeholders of Liberia. [inaudible] will be posted on the Wiki as we go through them. I encourage all of the ALSes to make comments, ask questions, and make some suggestions. You can also provide recommendations on how to go about to go ahead or go forward with some of these projects that we want to engage in Liberia.

I thank you very much for this opportunity to spotlight on ISOC Liberia ALS. Thank you, very much.

AZIZ HILALI:

Okay. Thank you, very much, Philip. Now I'm asking all our colleagues from the ALS, please contact us to speak about your activities. We want

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you to give two minutes in each teleconference in each conference call for an ALS to speak about their activities. Today we have a lot of items on the agenda, so I'm asking to please respect the time you have to speak.

Now we move to the next item: items for information, number four. First, we have the work on which the AFRALO team worked. It is the AFRALO statement on the Brazil meeting on the future of Internet governance that is going to take place in April. We have drafted a statement. Normally I need to give the floor to Mohamed. Mohamed wasn't able to participate to the telephone call, so I'm going to give the floor to Fatimata, who worked with this committee. Fatimata, are you connected? You have the floor, Fatimata.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA:

Thank you, Aziz. Yes, during the last meeting, last month's meeting, we have implemented a small group of people. We worked with Mohamed as well as Pastor Peters and myself, and we have worked. Mohamed proposed a draft, and I have and made the work on the Montevideo declaration because the members of the group wanted to understand it better. The work of the team was made by Mohamed and the draft was sent. So now maybe we can look at it, we can view it so everybody can read it.

We made a proposal, a draft statement speaking about the concerns of Africa, about the mechanism of governance –of the Internet governance – and the problems we have, the issues that exist in the African region

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and the users in our region. So this is a briefing of the work we made about this AFRALO statement on the Brazil meeting.

I'm almost voiceless today, so I won't say much about this. Thank you, Aziz, and I think I'm finished.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you, Fatimata. I'm going to repeat what I said. Thank you, Fatimata. It was perfect, as usual. And you respected the time, your three minutes. I'm going to send the link. I just sent the link for the Montevideo declaration. You can read it or consult it. If you're not connected on the Adobe, you can read it on the Wiki page, the AFRALO Wiki page. You will find link to read it.

Now we are going to move to the item B of the item four – Community Regional Outreach Pilot Project (CROPP). We already spoke about that. It was the conference call of December. I am going to give the floor to Fatimata or Tijani. Who wants to have the floor, Fatimata or Tijani?

TIJAN BEN JEMAA:

Can I propose an action item to send the statement made on the list because there are some people who are not here and it's better to send it to the list.

AZIZ HILALI:

Okay, this is a good idea. To the Wiki list. To the mailing list, I'm sorry. Silvia, can you write that down. And Phillip, please. Could you please

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take care of that and send the declaration on the list Tijani is proposing on the [AFRALO list, on the AfriNIC].

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes, AFRI-Discuss.

AZIZ HILALI: Okay, perfect. Please, Fatimata, could you mute your microphone, your computer. Okay, CROPP. Fatimata, you have the floor.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: About the CROPP. Okay, Fatimata. I think we have already spoke about that during the last meeting and we stated that there is a program, an outreach pilot project. Each region has the possibility to have some support of travel. There are five persons from AFRALO, from each RALO, who can take advantage of this possibility in their region.

They are not asking for [inaudible]. The idea is that we have to inform our community to tell them to tell the government, to tell the ALS about this CROPP and about that project. We have to use those plans and it has been implemented [inaudible] and we, as AFRALO, we have to take advantage of it.

We have to look at each event around in our region if there is some events we are interested in, and today, maybe there are some regions that are not represented in ICANN and I think it's good for us to recruit people in some African countries who are not well represented.

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We have presented that project. So now, if you want to submit your project to travel, you can do it this week. I'm going to leave the floor to Tijani. Tijani, if you want to add something.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Fatimata. Tijani, do you have something to add to what Fatimata said?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes, just to add that we need to work quickly. We have only two months to use, to use those mission or to organize this mission. We have to organize it before March. So we have to be, we are in a hurry.

As Fatimata said, if we don't receive your proposals, your projects, before a week, we are going to try to present some projects and to send it to you and send it as quick as possible because we need to take into consideration the two months needed for the organization.

AZIZ HILALI: Tijani, thank you. I wanted to ask you a question. Can you ask the ALS, can you tell them what they have to do to benefit or to participate in this project? What are you asking the ALS to do, exactly.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay, I'm going to tell you. The ALS and all the members of AFRALO have to try to find projects for awareness in African countries to [inaudible] because we are going to do some evaluation at the end and

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we need to see the results to see that the results are confirming the utilities of these projects. So it's important that each mission has research.

The most important of this research is that the public participates. So the awareness of the people, the awareness of the organization and association who are not ALS, this is about that. So we need to imagine events that we can organize in the African countries. This mission is for two days only. We have only two days. ICANN is paying the travel and the hotel.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you, Tijani. I think everybody heard you. Now the ALS have to react. Now we are going to the next item. It is community additional request for the fiscal year of 2015 budget. Tijani, you have the floor. You have two minutes. You have only two minutes because you took a minute more for the last item.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Okay, the additional request for the budget for this year, 2015, you know that we are working on that – for three years we've been working on that.

This year, the door was opened between the 6th of January and the 7th of March, so the request must be sent to the finance department between the 6th of January and the 7th of March. Why the seventh of March? It is because it is in the finance department's project to get approved these additional requests during the Singapore meeting. So

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the events taking place in July or August won't be stopped by the fact that the budget is only adopted at the end of June.

This is the idea, if the budget is adopted at the end of June, we can't do any projects. I'm giving you the possibility to do these projects because these additional requests are going to be adopted during the Singapore meeting in March. So it's the good news.

The good news also is that, last year we had fast track approved in March and then we had the normal track approving in June. We don't have any more normal track. Everybody is working on fast track so we can do projects at this track.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you, very much, Tijani. Are there any questions about these two items? The items about CROPP and the item about budget, are there any questions? It's strange, there are no questions and it's about you, your region and it's about money.

Okay, if there are no questions, we are going to move to the next item, Board Candidate Evaluation Committee (BCEC) for the selection of the board member chosen by ALAC. And I'm going to give the floor to Fatimata because Mohamed is not here. Fatimata, are you still here? Fatimata is a member of the group and she represents AFRALO in this group. This group has to select a board member chosen to take the place of Sébastien in the ICANN board.

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FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you very much. I'm going to speak about the Board Candidate Evaluation Committee. We have received some candidates and we are studying them for At-Large. We have [inaudible] person selected by At-Large and there some criteria that are pre-define, and currently we are working on this evaluation and we are going to send the results to the other committee, in which Tijani is working. We are working with Mohamed to select this member. I don't know it's a confidential work, so I won't add any more to say.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you very much, Fatimata. Now we are going to move to the next item linked to the first one. This is the Board Member Selection Process Committee for the selection of the board member chosen by the ALAC. It is called the BMSPC. Tijani or Baudouin, you have the floor. Baudouin, are you still here? Okay, Baudouin is not answering, so Tijani, you have the floor. Please can you speak about this committee, Board Member Selection Process Committee. Tijani, you have the floor. Go ahead.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Aziz. First, Gisella can you hear me?

AZIZ HILALI: Okay, Tijani, we are going to fix the problem. Don't worry.



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TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Okay. I said that the CROPP was for only two days. I was mistaken. It's three days and two nights. So, a day, for travel and two days to stay in the country in the place where there is a meeting.

Now, we move back to the BMSPC. When the selection process committee will be finished, it will publish its decision on the 28th of January. We are going to take that and go back to work and to organize our meeting to discuss the different options we have, because they are asking us to add some new candidates. Then we will have to identify additional candidates and when it is made, each candidate needs to have the support of three RALOs at least, and each candidate which has three RALOs support can be added on the list. Then the BCEC is going to go back to work. The BCEC is going to give us the [vote] possibility and we will vote.

AZIZ HILALI:

Okay, thank you, Tijani. Thank you for [inaudible]. We are going to follow this work. It is very important for us because it is representative of all the RALOs on the ICANN.

So now we are ready to move to the [inaudible]. It is about the working group on the At-Large Summit II. We have three persons in the working group representing AFRALO: Tijani, Peters and Baudouin.

Who wants to take the floor? Tijani always speak a lot, so if it can be someone else. Peters, do you want to go? Fatimata is asking for the floor.

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FATIMATA SEYE-SYLLA: Aziz, I want to tell you that I'm going to leave. I'm sorry, but I need to leave.

AZIZ HILALI: Okay, no problem, Fatimata.

FATIMATA SEYE-SYLLA: Thank you, Aziz.

AZIZ HILALI: Bye-bye, Fatimata. Camilla, can you ask if Peters is still here and if he wants to speak about the At-Large Summit?

CAMILLA: Mr. Pastor Peters, are you listening? Are you on the conference call? Because we want you to speak about the At-Large Summit II. Can you hear me?

CLAIRE: This is Claire speaking, the interpreter. Pastor Peters, can you hear me?

AZIZ HILALI: Okay, Tijani, you have the floor.

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TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay, thank you. I think that I already speak about the summit. I said that the work that we are doing now is about the events, the schedule of the summit and, as I said, we have a [inaudible]. The conference call is Friday about that and there other things that we are preparing about capacity building and to do with [inaudible] later.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Tijani. Now we are going to move to give the floor to Yaovi. Yaovi is in the ICANN staff and he's working a lot on the outreach mission throughout the African region. I'm going to ask Yaovi to be very brief. Yaovi, you have the floor.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Okay. First, I want to speak about the outreach activities, the outreach mission for Africa. My colleague and myself, we try to do some outreach in different countries. We've been in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Uganda. Have been in Niger, too; Liberia. And on the international level, have been in presenting [Ghana] and Rwanda.

And what we tried to do during those meetings, we like to meet the main stakeholders who work in the ICANN center. For example, we work with the minister, ministries of the person in charge of regulation about the communication in those countries. Users also. We try to meet the university areas and people.

What is interesting is that we try to work in each country. We have noticed that there are not very a lot of activities from ICANN. So we are trying to work in each country to communicate about ICANN. We try to

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meet the people from ministries and we try to do some outreach about the importance of the ICANN work and the chance to participate in this work, so in [inaudible] Liberia, we worked about that.

My colleagues and myself in our mission, when there are problems, we try to speak about ALAC and to do some comments on different documents on the outreach, ICANN, and on the fact of re-delegation of country domain name, and we noticed that it is a very important item or topic. We tried to have [inaudible] with some association as in Congo, and the different stakeholders trying to reach a consensus about the situation. I'm speaking about Liberia with the At-Large structure in Liberia is working with our mission. We want to go on working like that in our mission when it is possible to work with the ALS structures.

So what we could do in all of our outreach mission is to speak about At-Large and its work. We have noticed that Nigeria made a request and does want to participate in AFRALO work. So in each of our mission outreach, we try to speak of those structure and if there is no At-Large Structure, we try to create an association to work with the users in that country.

Another aspect of our mission is to meet business people and to do some outreach with them. We try to work with the business people and do some outreach. We are drafting a document to say how we can implement this kind of work and the work on DNS. As we don't have much time, I think I can conclude here. But I want to tell you that we tried to collaborate with ALAC and AFRALO in those missions, and we are trying to organize the next mission and to speak about the CROPP in those missions and to take advantage of the CROPP and to see how we

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can make the best [inaudible] of this CROPP. If you have any questions, you can just ask me. I'm finished. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you, very much, Yaovi. Like you said, I think there might be questions. We would like to thank you for everything you do. I've forgotten the name of the third person who works with you. I excuse myself for this. Thank you very much for everything that you do.

Now, are there any questions from the ALSes regarding what Yaovi just said? If there are no questions from anyone else, I have one myself. As ALS from Morocco, I would like to say that we should also add to the list of countries we are going to reach out to, governments, Morocco should be added because we've tried ourselves to reach out to the government on ICANN's work, and we've barely managed to convince the government on this point.

Now, further, I would like to say that as an academic, that I wrote to [inaudible] because I am very interested both as academic or as scholar and as ALS to know about the AfrICANN, we would like to know what AfrICANN for an academic institution or a university could do for the domain name industry.

Yaovi, can you explain this in a nutshell, please?

YAOVI ATOHOUN:

Hi. We took note of your concern when we received the letter. Of course, the African [inaudible] is going to work toward reaching out to governments, and we'll add Morocco, of course.

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We are currently drafting a document within the African staff and we're going to take into account these questions that you just asked. You will be able to find answers to all your questions in this document once it's ready. We work with colors a lot in our mission, so once the document is completed, we're going to forward a copy to you and ask for opinion to get more information, also. Thank you very much.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you. Tijani has the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you, Aziz. Thank you, Yaovi. I would like to ask a question. You spoke of future registrars for Africa. What are the practical measures that you think of taking so that you can help them? And I mean measures that haven't been established yet.

YAOVI ATOHOUN:

Okay, I'm going to answer here, but I think I may be assisted here. We have thought of this as a double-fold matter. On the one hand, we're preparing a document like I said before, and for those rules or measures that haven't been established yet, we will work on a program that will allow us to have the necessary technical capabilities to manage all of this.

We're also working with [inaudible]. In the African market, so once we found solutions to some of our issues, those solutions should encompass all registrars, both existing and new ones.

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With this program, we should create a more favorable environment for them to work that will be combined with all the rest of our work and have a positive impact on the market. Have I answered your question?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Mostly asking about the insurance aspect here.

YAOVI ATOHOUN:

Okay. We've prepared a document. But we think we should be working with them rather than prepare documents on our own, so we're currently working with registrars and these issues have not yet been concluded. But we're discussing, for instance, agreements [measures], contracts. Once we've reached a conclusion, of course, we're going to share them with you.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you very much, Yaovi, and thank you, very much, Tijani. Thank you both for these comments and clarification.

At this point, I would like to give the floor with great pleasure because we have Fahd Batayneh with us today, and I thank him for being with us. And we appreciate the fact that he accepted to make a presentation for us.

As I said, we have the honor of having Mr. Fahd Batayneh and he's the GSE Stakeholder global, so global stakeholder coordinator for the Middle East. He would somehow be the equivalent of Yaovi, butt for Middle East. He accepted to come and tell us about the Middle East

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situation. Arabic, as you know, is one of the main languages. We are going to give him the floor so that he can tell us about the strategy they have for Middle East. That should give us an idea of other regions and compare them with Africa.

He's also going to tell us about IDN and all of the work on the Arabic team to carry out IDN and DNS, everything for the Middle East. So, Mr. Batayneh, you have the floor. Hi, Mr. Batayneh, you have the floor. Can you hear me? Are you there?

CAMILLA: This is Camilla, the interpreter. Can you check that your line is not muted? We can still not hear. Mr. Batayneh, are you there?

FAHD BATAYNEH: Hello, can you hear me? Can you hear me now?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Hi, this is Heidi from staff. Yes, we can hear you clearly. If you can continue speaking, the interpreters will interpret you.

FAHD BATAYNEH: Okay, you can hear me. Thank you, Aziz. Hello, everybody. I'm pleased to be on my first [inaudible] region of course is the Middle East. I just joined ICANN three months ago as a stakeholder engagement for the Middle East.



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As many of you may know, the region that we cover, consists of 22 Arab states, in addition to Turkey [inaudible] and Pakistan. My first update will be on the Middle East. The Middle East [inaudible] working on. The task force is [inaudible]

CAMILLA: Sorry, sir. This is the interpreter. We cannot interpret because we're receiving the sound properly. It is too choppy and we cannot interpret.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Maybe slow down and speak very clearly, please.

FAHD BATAYNEH: Okay. Sorry about that. Okay, so my first update will be the Task Force of Arabic International Domain Names. This was established as part of a strategy of [inaudible] for being in the ICANN [inaudible]. That is currently a document [inaudible] document for the Arabic.

Of course, I don't want to get in to too many details, but the Task Force has been attracting attention to the fact that, as I mentioned earlier, 17 out of the 20 of the members of the Task Force are actually new faces.

Now my update is on the capacity building – on the Task Force on Capacity Building Activities. We have defined the [inaudible] an integral part of the of the capacity building [inaudible] and many Internet governance [inaudible].

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To date we have 21 applicants and in the next [inaudible] we will be sending welcome e-mails to all those who actually volunteer for the course. Of course, there are two tracks within the Task Force. One is folks who will be training and the other will be folks who will also be developing content tailored to the needs of our region.

Now my third update [inaudible] Middle East Strategy Working Group face-to-face meeting. We will be having a face-to-face meeting in Dubai early in February. The dates are the fifth and sixth of February. We will be discussing several issues that we are currently working on.

One of the issues that we will be talking about will be discussing the FY14 implementation plan, what has been accomplished and what is still to be accomplished. We will also be planning for our FY15 implementation plan, as well.

Just as a simple history, the Middle East strategy is a three-year strategy. Yet we decided that we could develop an implementation plan on a yearly basis depending on what has been going on in the previous year and what we should do for the subsequent year.

My second update would be on the Middle East DNS forum. After we had the first DNS forum, that was during the Durban ICANN meeting during the ICANN Buenos Aires meeting, there was the Latin American and Caribbean DNS forum. So the Middle East is following in the same steps. The first Middle East DNS forum will be taking place in Dubai during February 3 and 4. Of course the invitation is open for anybody who would like to attend. Since North Africa is within our region, we expect many folks from North Africa to be attending the forum.

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Again, I'm giving an open invitation for those who would be interested in attending the Middle East DNS forum. We expect to have experts in the various fields of the domain name industry, whether the business side, registry/registrar side, accreditation side. I mean, you name it.

So those are the two updates I really wanted to provide you folks. If you have any questions, I'll be more than happy to address them. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you very much. You're welcome to our teleconferences, whenever you want to join, of course. I wanted to say that our two regions are the ones that are the most lagging as regards the Internet when compared to the rest of the world. And [inaudible] the ones with the greatest growth, which means that there is lots to do in the coming years.

Now, according to my statistics, I find that Arabic currently grows by four figures as regards to Internet, so there is a huge intersection, as you said, between Africa and Middle East, North Africa and the Middle East, as well, so we should work together. That is why I would also like to invite all African ALSes to collaborate with the Arabic region because these two regions have mainly the same issues at this point. Are there any questions at this point for Fahd?

If no one raises their hand, we're going to move straight to the fifth item, which is items for discussion. Firstly we're going to deal with new ALS applications. It is interesting to see that we recently received many members, which is, of course, much better for AFRALO. We have

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already validated – or in any event, we have advised ALAC to validate two members last month.

We have ISOC Kenya, which was put forward for ALAC validation as advised by AFRALO. Olivier would like to ask whether or not ISOC Kenya has been voted on. And there is also an application from [Age Numérique] from Ivory Coast. If I open the floor, maybe Philip can tell us something about ALS application from [Age Numérique] from Ivory Coast. Is there anyone who would like to comment on this application? This is the question to everyone else. Should we decide to advise the ALAC regarding this ALS today, or do you want to do this online as usual.

You have the floor, Philip. Like I said, if you have any comments you would like to make, I forgot to add, you can do so, and you have the floor. Okay, Tijani is raising his hand so he has the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

I just wanted to say that we better do this online. Personally, I didn't have enough time to consider this application in detail, and so I think we should better do it online because not everyone is present at this teleconference and it would be better if everyone could express their opinions. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you. So if everyone agrees with what Tijani just said, just like we did for ISOC Kenya and all other ALS applications, we are going to have this discussion for this Ivory Coast ALS application online. If anyone else has any other comments to add? Yes, Tijani, go on?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: I would like to answer to your question regarding Kenya. It has already been accredited.

AZIZ HILALI: Wonderful. But I just saw that Oliv9er wrote on the chat that the vote is not finished. Olivier, are you with us? Would you like to say anything?

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Yes, I'm here Aziz. The vote has not yet been concluded. I think there is 48 hours left or so. Maybe Heidi can give us the exact time left?

AZIZ HILALI: Okay, thank you Olivier. I just wanted to hear your voice. Now, moving on to the next item, the person who was supposed to speak about OneNet is not with us. We're going to defer that to next month on teleconference.

We'll move on then to the joint AFRALO, AfrICANN meeting in Singapore. May I remind you that for each ICANN meeting or joint meeting of the entire African community, whether AFRALO or AfrICANN [inaudible] who is in ICANN's public meetings to discuss subjects. Tijani is here, but Fatimata is not; and in fact, Fatimata is the one who had to tell us or ask us whether we had any subjects or issues to propose for our joint meeting for Singapore. I think some proposals had already been made online and there had also been some [preparations] on the mailing list or Buenos Aires.

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Tijani, do you remember what it was that we had to [inaudible]? I don't even remember what it was that proposed anything.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

I'm sorry, Aziz. I cannot remember anymore. But the subject that we subject that we [inaudible] has to be a current subject, firstly. It has to be something that regards ICANN, so something we can discuss within ICANN as well, and something that will allow for a statement to be presented to ICANN's board. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you, Tijani. I think, unless my memory fails, I think on the AfrICANN mailing list, we discussed the secondary meeting principle, which is something some had opposed.

For action items – and I would like Silvia to add this to our action items list – I would like us to take note of having Philip, the secretary, to send on the list, the AfrICANN mailing list, both AfrINIC and AFRI-Discuss, a call for subjects on the mailing list for a statement for our joint meeting. Once the subjects have been proposed, we're going to create an action committee who will draft a statement that we're going to try and adopt at the Singapore joint meeting.

Would anyone else like to add anything to this item? No? Okay, so we're finally at point five, which is individual memberships for AFRALO. This is something we already discussed in December. This is a matter that we have discussed for a long time, now –since 2008, in fact – which is individual memberships for AFRALO. At the last teleconference, Philip

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had been charged with the task of holding a discussion on these matters. So Philip, you have the floor.

PHILIP JOHNSON:

With regards to individual memberships in AFRALO, I recently put that in our meeting list a document, [inaudible] AFRALO. If you reviewed the document and AFRALO and the MOU, it says something about membership and I have not – some other [inaudible] a section that had individual memberships. That means no [inaudible] Internet user where individual membership of AFRALO. You see, first, before an organization becomes member, you have to be accredited by ALAC as an ALS, then become a member of AFRALO.

I think this becomes a discussion probably lead to some amendments on our [funding] documents. I do not know. This is open discussion. And I will look up the suggestions from any member of AFRALO to give some suggestion or recommendations on how we can go about it.

I know but one organization RALO. NARALO has an individual, not-affiliated membership. But I do not about the details about how can an individual, non-affiliated individual become a member of NARALO. That would be further discussion. So open for discussion. If you have any suggestions towards this we can provide it. All right, thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:

Philip, I cannot hear you anymore.

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AZIZ HILALI: In the meantime, I'd like to give the floor to Alan.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you, Aziz. North America does have individual members, and I can't go into anything at this point. I've got another conference call I've got to go on to right now, but I would be glad to work with Philip or anyone and tell them what we did.

We've had them from the very beginning. The process to have them is not very difficult. It's a decision the RALO needs to make, of course. It's also not been a very extremely successful program for us, and I think you would need to think about what you're trying to accomplish and whether, indeed, it's the right thing for AFRALO or not.

But the process, Aziz, I'd be glad to work individually with Philip or anyone else who wants to discuss it. I have to go right now to another teleconference, but if anyone wants to contact me on e-mail, I'd be glad to help. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Alan. Thank you for having stayed with us for this hour. Is Philip back?

Okay, so what we have decided, because Silvia is asking me what the action item that she needs to take down is for new ALS applications, we decided that AFRALO – Philip actually should send – e-mails on the entire AFRALO mailing list to ask for their advice, for ALSes advice with regards to subjects for the joint statement. Now, is Philip back with us? He got disconnected, he says.



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We are at the end of this meeting for January 2014. Are there any other subjects for discussion? This is the last item on the agenda. If there are no other subjects for discussion, I would like to thank you all. Oh, Philip is back? Philip, you have the floor.

PHILIP JOHNSON: Yes, thank you, Aziz. Thank you very much. I think that I can work with [inaudible] to put this on the mailing list for discussion, for further discussion of individual membership within AFRALO. In a few weeks, we'll have a vote on the mailing list and I request all members of the AFRALO to comments/suggestions and to work toward to go about this. Thank you very much. Back to you, Aziz.

AZIZ HILALI: Wonderful. Thank you, Philip. While you were disconnected, we also said that we should re-launch ALSes and I say that actually because we would to have their advice regarding [Age Numérique] from Ivory Coast application. Now, Olivier has the floor.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, very much, Aziz. This is Olivier speaking. Can you hear me?

AZIZ HILALI: Yes. Loud and clear.

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OLIVER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Aziz. I just want to apologize for not having been able to speak about ALAC's statement both approve and underway of preparation. I was on another call. But if anyone has any comments or questions that they would like to make at this point, I am ready to take them.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Oliver. Gisella not told me that you were no longer connected. We go all the statements that have recently been adopted in December and we also read through the list of statements currently being prepared, the DNS and so on. We repeated once again the request for ALSes to participate at public comments regarding the African region.

Now, if there is nothing else to add, no one has any further points for discussion, would anyone else like to take the floor before we finish? If no one has anything else to say, I would like to thank you all for having attended this teleconference. I don't think we overdid it. I'd say we followed the rhythm of our meetings exactly.

I would like to thank Claire and Camilla, our interpreters, for their work. Thank you, Fahd and thank you Alan for having been here. Thank you, Oliver. Thank you, staff. Thank you, Silvia. Silvia, Heidi and everyone. I hope I didn't forget to mention anyone. Thank you all, and have a great evening.

GISELLA GRUBER: Thank you, Aziz. Thank you, everyone. Bye-bye.

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[END OF TRANSCRIPT]