
OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Julia. Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening, everyone. This is a briefing session from the At-Large on the Community Regional Outreach Pilot Program, otherwise known as the CROPP, and there's been a lot of discussion about it.

There's been some hesitation in in different RALOs on RALO calls to discuss the CROPP quickly. Last week, Dev Anand Teelucksingh sent out a message to all of At-Large and all of the RALOs to tell them that the program is now on.

Of course, that generated a lot of questions, and so this call really is for Dev to be able to take us through the program, and through the process by which RALOs will be able to apply for outreach travel for the pilot time, which is effectively from now until the end of June, 2014.

Without any further adieu, I hand the floor over to Dev Anand Teelucksingh. This call is being interpreted in Spanish, I understand. So my name is Olivier Crépin-Leblond. You ask your questions and so on, please say your name beforehand, and also for the transcribers

Dev, you're going to provide us with a short presentation on the short briefing on what the CROPP is and how it works. Therefore, I hand the floor over to you.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thank you, Olivier. This is Dev Anand Teelucksingh speaking and welcome, everyone, to this call. Okay. I have prepared a few slides to go through to try to present all of this information.

To start off, the CROPP, as Olivier mentions, stands for Community Regional Outreach Pilot Program. Just to give a background behind the CROPP, this came out many of the ICANN constituencies, including At-Large. As often [inaudible] travel requests during the ICANN's yearly budget process. As part of the FY14 operating plan and budget, ICANN developed this program to support outreach effort. Let's go through what the key deliverables of what CROPP is about.

The CROPP allocates five individual regional trips, allocated to each of the RALOs, and to the various GNSO constituencies, within the fiscal year 2014. It covers the cost and expenses for transportation, lodging, and per diem of up to three days and two nights. All the travel is booked by ICANN's constituency travel, so those are the key deliverables.

Now, regards to the CROPP operating guidelines, the community has to review and approve these travel requests. There's also a need to have coordinated with the Regional Vice President or the Regional Stakeholder Engagement Vice President, to confirm the travel request is consistent with either the regional strategy, or the overall ICANN mission.

There's a six-week advanced planning and notice. The travel request has to be submitted well before six weeks before the actual travel is to take place. Also part of the operating guidelines is that a trip assessment has to be then filed within three weeks of the return date.

The trip assessment will then describe, as part of the assessment, will have to describe how the original purpose and the outcomes were realized. This would also be filed with ICANN.

The outreach event can be attended by multiple persons. For example, if a RALO wanted to, it could submit five travelers for that one outreach event, but that means that each traveler is counted as utilizing one of the RALO's allocated trips.

So just to continue with the operating guidelines, there's no trip compounding or splitting of expenses. What that means is that RALOs can't, say, give one travel allocation for another RALO for example or to split the costs by saying, "Well, these two travelers that are going to the same event, we could share a room together." That is in no way allowed under this program. There's no compounding or splitting of expenses.

The outreach trips must originate and conclude within the same region. The CROPP specifies that it should be taken by someone working in or approximate through that territory. That means that all the outreach travel must be within that same region.

Now, all trips must be completed before the end of ICANN's 2014 fiscal year, or FY14. Now, that means that the participant must have returned to his or her originating destination on or before the 30th of June, 2014.

Also, the CROPP does not cover funding of what I call meeting logistics. It does not cover Visa fees or conference fees of that sort. It only offers funding for the travel, the lodging, and the per diem.

Finally, if this program is continued in next year, any pilot trip allocation will not carry over. That means you have to use it, and it's not going to be carried over to the following year, if this program is continued.

So as part of the operating guidelines, the CROPP requires what it calls two Pilot Program Coordinators to manage the preapprovals, and to coordinate with the regional vice president.

Once the approvals have been obtained, to actually file the travel request with ICANN for processing, then also to follow-up with the travelers to complete their trip assessments, and to file the assessments with ICANN. This will be handled by the At-Large CROPP Review Team, which we will go into more detail there.

I posted a link to the overpaid documents that's been posted on the website. The overview documents are available in multiple languages, in English, Spanish, and French. In the six UN languages, I should say. I think I've covered the CROPP program itself, so I think I will stop there, and hand it back to you, Olivier, before any questions at this point.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Dev. As Dev mentioned, the floor is open for questions at this point on any part of this presentation so far. I see Ali Almeshal has put his hand up, so Ali, you have the floor. You might be muted.

ALI ALMESHAL: Thank you, Olivier. My first question, does this cover the ICANN meeting itself, like attending the ICANN meeting, which is done on a regional basis? At the ICANN meetings?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Ali. Go ahead, Dev.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thank you Olivier. Ali, no, it does not cover travel to ICANN organized event. Travel to ICANN face-to-face meetings, like the three public meetings, this program doesn't cover that.

ALI ALMESHAL: What I understand as you explained that this will end up by June 2014, which is the fiscal year of ICANN. So, what we have now is only six months remain to utilize this pilot program. Am I right?

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: This is Dev. That is correct, Ali.

ALI ALMESHAL: Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Ali. Next, is Glenn McKnight.

GLENN MCKNIGHT: Hi, Heidi is responding also in the chat box, but my question was on exhibitor space. I know that Dev mentioned registration fees. But, apart from that, if we requested from the conference, since we can't get inside the conference, because, it won't cover the registration fees, I thought if we had space outside at the conference we can promote At-Large and ICANN in general. It looks like Heidi's saying it will not cover that as well.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thanks, Glenn. Yes, that is correct. It does not cover things such as exhibitionist fees at the event or booth fees at the event. It only covers the travel, lodging, and the per diem up to three days, two nights.

GLENN MCKNIGHT: My other logistical question is those who go to these events, we'll need to get our brochures, any kind of collateral in advance so we can actually distribute it. A lot of times, if there's an event, the event organizers will permit us to put literature in – called a “swag bag.” So if our purpose is to promote, that could be a non-cost item for us. I just want to suggest that we have a good stock of material for the person going to this event.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay. Thanks, Glenn. Indeed, I think I ICANN At-Large [inaudible] because we have to submit the requests sometime in advance. The At-Large staff could mail those brochures, [slides] or whatever, any of those kinds of materials, to you in advance before the trip takes place, so you'll have it in hand before the traveler goes on the trip.

GLENN MCKNIGHT: Great.. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much. Next, we have Alberto Soto on the floor. Alberto, you have the floor.

ALBERTO SOTO: Good morning, everyone. I have a question. You mentioned five trips to be allocated. Does it mean it's one trip per RALO or five trips per RALO?

The second question. We have a very short time left. Within LACRALO, we had a plan and we still have 17 countries that we want to cover. This would enable us to incorporate ALSes. But we need prior coordination initiative with all the countries that we want to bring aboard, especially those in which we would want to have new ALSes, so we are left with a very short time left. I understand this has to do with budgetary issues. That's it. Thank you.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thank you, Alberto. To the first question, the CROPP program covers for travel of up to five travelers to any outreach event. It's up to the RALO wants to decide how it to allocate those trips. If it wanted to allocate, for example, one person to five outreach events, it could do so, or it could send two persons to an outreach event and three persons to an outreach even, or all five persons going to one event. But it's five travel slots and it's for each of the regions. Each region has those five travel slots.

In regards to the second question, regarding the outreach to the countries, it's really again up to the RALO to decide what would be its priority. If it had in mind six or seven outreach events it has identified, it really is up to the RALO to identify which outreach events would provide the most benefit to that RALO in terms of increasing the membership in that RALO or reactivating that dormant ALS, for example.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Dev. Our next person is Fatima Cambronero. Fatima, you have the floor.

FATIMA CAMBRONERO: Thank you. I posted my question in the AC room, but I'm going to say it on the phone. The question is: is the Brazil meeting included in this program? Because it would be within the timeframe. However, I don't know if we can take it as an outreach event or not, and if it would be covered by this CROPP program. That's my question. Thank you.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay, thank you, Fatima. The answer would be yes, if the outreach travel can specify a purpose and goals and whether those purpose and goals would be met by going to the Brazil meeting, then yes.

From the timing standpoint, once travel occurs before June 30, 2014, it's within the fiscal year of 2014. But again the CROPPP asks the question, state the purpose and the goals for it, and then the trip assessment has to then say how those purpose and goals were realized.

So, you have to then look at the outreach request in terms of not just simply possibly attending an event, but having some particular goals of the outreach in mind, that a new [inaudible] structures to join the RALO, for example.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Dev. Next, is Ali Alimeshal. Ali, you have the floor.

ALI ALMESHAL: Thank you very much. I think I will give chance first of all to Siranush. She posted a question on the chat room. If you look into her, then I'll drop my inquiry if you don't mind.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thanks, Ali. I was about to respond to Siranush after, but I'll take Siranush's question. Just to repeat the question: "I received a question from one of the At-Large structures in Armenia for [inaudible] 2014 in the Asia-Pacific. Can it be conceived as a regional event for an Armenian participant to apply with the travel request, or it is considered not a close location?"

There's a follow-up question. "If yes, and the event is more than two days, how will the rest of expenses be covered? Thanks."

Okay, Siranush. Very good question. The thing is that travel has to be within the region. I believe – I could be wrong, but I believe Armenia is considered – just to clarify, what is Armenia? Is Armenia part of Europe?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: APRALO.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thank you Olivier. So, yes, for the [inaudible] in Armenia, the travel would be considered within the same region. That answers that first question.

If the event of more than two days, how would the expenses would be covered? The answer is that it won't be covered. I suppose a way to offset that would be to consider having two travelers going to the event, one approaching for the first half of the event and another traveler arriving in the middle of the event. That's probably one approach. But, the CROPP funding only covers up to three days, two nights. So, that is that. I hope the answers the questions, Siranush.

ALI ALMESHAL: This is Ali again, if you don't mind, Dev. Maybe I've lost the first part when you started the presentation. Just to confirm my understanding, the process itself. So the process is that the ALSes will send their request to the RALOs, [inaudible] requesting this type of funding and help. Am I right?

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Yes. We'll be going through the At-Large process itself, in the next few slides.

ALI ALMESHAL: But the process starts from the ALSes, yeah?

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: The RALO can send any person it wants to attend, to do the travel on behalf of the RALO, for outreach purposes. [inaudible] person that's approved by the RALO.

ALI ALMESHAL: Maybe I'm just a bit confused. I said the initiation of the process, will it start from – if an ALS is related to RALOs, they send out that request, "We need to send somebody to attend or participate in a related event." So the ALSes will send to the RALOs and the RALOs would evaluate through the CROPP and the process will go on?

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay. I'll say yes, but the way it works is that the RALOs have to be involved in submitting the travel request. The ALS will consult with the RALOs, saying, "This [inaudible]. This event is a good outreach event." If the RALO agrees, then files the travel request.

ALI ALMESHAL: Okay, thanks.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Ali. Next, we have Tijani Ben Jemaa. Tijani, you have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Olivier. Thank you again for your presentation. I'd like to comment on Fatima's question. Fatima, thank you for your question, because you raised an important point. I think that for those global meetings, ICANN have its policy in these global meetings and ICANN will have its delegation for outreach.

I think that this program is mitigated for the RALOs to outreach. To try to have new ALSes or to try to awaken dormant ALSes etc. It is for the purpose of the RALO and not for the purpose of the outreach for the ICANN.

I don't think that the Brazil meeting is a good opportunity. It should be any time and any place would be a good opportunity to do the outreach, but I don't think you will have the right population to make our outreach for the purpose of the CROPP. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Tijani, for your comment. Next is Cheryl Langdon-Orr.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thanks. I just want to respond to the question Siranush raised, but then pick up on a response to Ali's question. From an APRALO perspective, I think it's important to recognize that APRICOT is one of the highly probable issues in places that is happening during the small window of time we have, that would be appropriate for CROPP funding.

That's a short-lived of events anyway, and yes, you need something that is at least twice the length in duration, than the CROPP funding covers. But there are – whilst APRICOT itself runs certainly longer than three days and two nights, it does have more or less [inaudible] events. So attending for part of the time may be a rationale of the region [inaudible]. An inquiry from an ALS to go to that is great, but going through now, pick up on what Ali was also asking.

The question for me from a regional perspective would be what benefit would there be for someone from an At-Large structure, attending this event, for example in this case, APRICOT. And more, what benefit will there be from a regional perspective for someone from the region attending this event?

So that brings the benefit to the region on behalf of ICANN [test] I. This is not what I would have suggested – because we're talking about outreach. This is not merely a mechanism to get what would be, I suspect, glorified capacity building for individuals from At-Large structures to attend a albeit worthy event, because they or their At-Large structure would benefit from being there.

It's very much a matter of how will ICANN, and APRALO benefit from someone being at the event. I think we need to keep that in mind. So, the regional benefit of test I think is pretty important.

I [inaudible]. This is not merely a way to get people to go to something that might be a benefit to themselves or their ALS. It's to be the other way around. It's got to be something that by having someone there in the name of their region, we will expand not so much build our own capacity, but in an outward fashion do a very good thing. Thanks.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Cheryl. That's pretty helpful. Any other comments or questions? I note that Rob Hoggarth is on the call at the moment, and he has mentioned a number of things.

One is the answer Dev provided in regards to Brazil. It appears that Brazil could be used. The CROPP could be used to go to Brazil for that conference. You will see now in the next part of the call the way that this is structured, there will be a committee, a review team, which will be looking at all the requests. We'll be able to find from there, whether there is a significant outreach component to the travel. Seeing no other hands up at the moment, let's go on to the next part of this call then. So back to you, Dev.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thank you, Olivier. So the next part we're going to talk about what – we've learned about the CROPP, The Community Regional Outreach Pilot Program. Now, we will look at – actually, we don't need to change that slide quite yet. We're jumping ahead of the queue. Could you bring back [inaudible] presentation? Then this form will be the final part of this slide. Okay, thanks.

So how does the At-Large committee processes work is similar to how the RALO budget requests were reviewed by the ALAC Financial Budget Sub-committee, an At-Large CROPP Review Team was established by the ALAC to do three things.

One, to review and approve the RALO proper requests, to ensure the objective of the travel requests are in line with ICANN's strategic and

regional engagement strategies, as well as At-Large's outreach strategies. Two, to confirm with the relevant Regional Stakeholder Engagement vice presidents that the purpose, goals of the travel requests are consistent with ICANN's strategies. And to then submit the travel request to ICANN, once approved by the CROPP Review Team.

The CROPP Review Team has ten members. Two members will be from each RALO, one member being from the At-Large Outreach Sub-committee and the At-Large Finance and Budget Sub-committee. So, ten members in all.

This slide shows the list of all of the CROPP Review Team members showing the region, the name of the person, and from which group he or she is coming from, whether it's from the Finance and Budget Sub-committee or from the Outreach Sub-committee.

Continuing now, regarding the terms and obligations of the travel requests, it includes all of the CROPP program guides that we mentioned earlier. It must be within the same region. It must occur before June 30, 2014 and so forth.

But one key requirement for the CROPP Review Team is the travel requests need to be submitted eight weeks before any such travel takes place. I've summarized all the terms and obligations on the wiki, and there's a link there for all persons to go to. It includes, essentially, all the program guidelines, and mentions that the travel request has to be submitted eight weeks before any such travel takes place.

So let's see how the travel request works. RALOs in coordination with the RALO leaders – members of the Finance and Budget Sub-committee

and the Outreach Sub-committee – will complete the At-Large Travel Request Form eight weeks before any such travel.

Now, within two weeks the CROPP Review Team will then review the information in the form, ask any clarifying questions as to the purpose and goals of the proposed trip and/or the details provided, confirm with the stakeholder engagement vice president from the region regarding the purpose of the trip and get their approval and then submit the RALO travel request once approved by the CROPP Review Team.

The reason why it has to be within two weeks is because the CROPP program has a six week – the request has to be filed with CROPP six weeks before any such travel. So submitting the request eight weeks before gives the CROPP Review Team two weeks to do those three tasks.

So the At-Large Travel Request Form also has been completed and it's available at that link. And now we can bring up that slide. Julia, can you switch over to the other slide? Oh, no, not that one. It's the previous one you had shown. Thank you very much.

So this is the form that I've done. I decided to show a PDF of it just to walk through the questions. It asks the number of travelers for the trip proposal. Remember, it is up to five persons. Each RALO has five regional travel allocations and you can use all of those five on one trip if you need to. So the first question asks the number of travelers. You specify the traveler's names and e-mail addresses on each line and then you have to also specify an alternate traveler.

The reason why you specify an alternate traveler is in case the proposed traveler is unable to go at the last minute, then the alternate traveler will be booked and will go to the event in his or her place.

And specify the departure date of the travel and the return date, keeping in mind the CROPP funding is limited to three days and two nights only. And the travel itinerary, you specify [inaudible] country where the traveler is leaving from and the destination city and country where the travelers are going to. It's very similar to [inaudible] who attend face-to-face ICANN meetings. It's [inaudible] the same constituency travel information that you have to provide.

Now, what you do have to additionally provide is information about the event: the event name, the event website, and where the actual – the name of the venue where the conference will be held as well as an address of that venue.

What also has to be identified is [inaudible] sponsors. The reason why we're asking this question, why this question is asked for the CROPP program, is that all the event sponsors have to be identified to comply with ICANN's travel guidelines.

So continuing on – and this is where the information and what the RALOs really need to decide. What is the purpose of the trip? So the purpose has to be consistent with any regional strategy or ICANN's overall mission in terms of outreach, and also include information about the role you would have at the conference. Are you a speaker at the event and so forth?

What are the goals for the trip? The goals have to be consistent with any strategy as well.

Also, how would your participation to the event contribute to the outreach strategy?

Then you have to identify the proposed outcomes. The proposed outcomes have to be clear deliverables that could be measured and documented. I just gave two examples here. One, getting more organizations to apply to be in the RALO or raising the public profile of ICANN in the regional media.

The other question [inaudible] any other information, you can add that in that box there. By checking the box, you also have to make sure the RALO understands the terms and obligations and that refers to that same document I referred to before, reminding that one of the obligations includes that the travelers complete a post-trip assessment within three weeks after the trip which describes how the original purpose and outcomes were realized. This also is filed with ICANN, so that at the end of this pilot program we can see whether – ICANN itself can see whether – this program should be continued or expanded or whatever.

I've gone through the form now. I think I've walked through the process. I can open the floor now to questions.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Dev. Dev has gone through the document, the sheet, that the RALOs would be filling up. So the floor is open for questions if you have any about the process, about the way things are

submitted, where it goes from there, etc. I don't see anyone putting their hands up, Dev. It sounds like you've explained it extremely well.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: I do see two comments in [inaudible]. I see somebody has raised their hands.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Well, let's first [inaudible]. Tijani Ben Jemma, and then you can deal with the comments on the chat as well. Tijani, you have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Olivier. Thank you, Dev, for this wonderful explanation. I don't know if all the CROPP Review Team members have already submitted – or not submitted, but informed – the CROPP staff that they will represent their RALO so they will get the authorization to go on the wiki and upload the requests.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay. Thanks, Tijani. I think there were a few allocations from the Europe region. So I believe [Oxana] is the new representative, as the previous candidate declined the nomination to this Review Team. All of the – [inaudible] our follow up with [Bob and Janice] to make sure that [Oxana] is on the CROPP Review Team mailing list and registered with the CROPP program.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Tijani. Dev, you said you wanted to touch on a few questions which were in the chat.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Yes. Thanks, Olivier. Let me just look at the chart here. I did see a question from Alberto Soto. Regarding the question from Alberto Soto regarding the eight-week deadline.

So the eight weeks, you need to submit the travel request eight weeks before to the CROPP Review Team. Then the CROPP Review Team will then do those various tasks within two weeks and then file it with the CROPP program to comply with its six week minimum time before the travel takes place. So it is eight weeks.

Okay, let's see. I'm seeing in the chat Antonio Medina has a question but isn't in the AC room. Antonio, do you have a question?

ANTONIO MEDINA: I am not in the AC room. I am only connected on the phone.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Antonio, go ahead with your question.

ANTONIO MEDINA: Thank you, Dev. Good morning, this is Antonio Medina. I would like to congratulate Dev on his very clear presentation. I am not in the AC room, but I have been able to understand the scope of this proposal of this pilot program. I have two concerns.

First of all, about the review team membership. The review team members can also apply for these trips, and also – and this is a comment rather than a question – it would be important to send a summary to the LACRALO list. A summary of this presentation, a summary of what has been discussed on this call so that we are very well informed and we can focus our efforts on the ALSes that need to benefit from this program. Maybe we can activate dormant ALSes, if you will. So this maybe a very good incentive for them, that is to participate in this program.

If I may, I would like to state the significance of the Brazil meeting for the record and maybe the ALSes in the region could apply so that we can attend that meeting. Maybe we will address this in our next LACRALO meeting so that we can review our participation mechanism, but we need this encouragement and participation. We need to participate in one of the most important meetings in the region that will take place next year. Thank you.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thank you, Antonio. To answer the question, yes a CROPP Review Team member can also be one of the travelers that could go on the outreach travel. Again, it's the RALO really deciding in coordination with everybody – the RALO leaders, the RALO members on the Outreach Committee and on the Finance and Budget need to coordinate and decide which event is the outreach event within fiscal year 2014 is the event to go to and how many travelers it wants to send to that event in terms of realizing the goal of its outreach purposes and goals. With

regards to your other comments, indeed I suspect it will be a topic for discussion on the LACRALO monthly call.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Dev. I don't see anyone else having put their hand up at the moment. Is there anything else you'd like to take us through?

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: I would just emphasize that the RALO leaders, the RALO members and the Outreach Sub-committee and the Finance and Budget Sub-committee, you need to start the work now if you haven't started yet to identify the outreach events in your region, decide and open a strategy on which event will give the most – the expression is bang for the buck. Meaning which one will give the most benefit to your region and to ICANN? I see somebody's hand is raised. Tijani.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Dev. Tijani, you have the floor. Tijani Ben Jemaa.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you. I would like to support the proposal of Antonio regarding this presentation to be communicated. I think that the link to this presentation must be on the wiki page.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Indeed, yes, the presentation is already up on the wiki and I'll share the link – well, and I'm sure a transcript of the call will be up very shortly afterwards.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Dev. Any other questions or comments? I was going to just repeat a couple of things which were said on the ALAC call which I think – I'm not sure whether everyone here was listening or was on the call at the time. There were questions with regards to the length of the project itself. It is only six months. It is a pilot. It does mean that because it takes eight or nine weeks, depending really, for a request to be processed, it means that there is no possibility to make requests for anything taking place in January, unfortunately. No events taking place in January. Even all the way up to mid-February will be very, very hard due to the time scales. But anything after mid-February is possible and you do need to effectively file those [inaudible].

One of the things that was done was to make sure that both people from the Outreach Sub-committee and from the Finance and Budget Sub-committee are the people who effectively are shaping those requests once they've been verified, etc. And the reason for this is because they follow the advances in all of the strategy of ICANN and the strategic direction, etc. And as we know, those requests all have to be aligned with the ICANN strategy, with the At-Large strategy and demonstrate some return on investment.

The bang for the buck, as Dev so eloquently said it, and I don't even know how that translates in other languages, but effectively that's what they will all be judged on.

Five requests per region. You are able to ask all of the requests for the same trip. So you could have five people going to the same location. On the other hand, it will probably not be seen as being a valuable use of a request to have three requests times three days [inaudible] make it nine days for one person. That's probably not going to be looked at in a positive way. It's better to go to many different events or have more people go to an event rather than [inaudible] everything for one person. Tijani, your hand is up again, so you have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Yes, thank you, Olivier. I'd like just to advise all our community to think of the deliverable that they have to give – at most, three weeks after the [inaudible] before thinking about the project. Because telling that I am going to attend this event is not enough. What will you do in this event and what will you have as a return? You have to report on this after the travel. And if you don't do, your travel is not valid.

So think about what is the output of your travel before thinking of the project of your travel. Very important. It is not enough to go and attend a very important conference. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Thank you, Tijani. Alberto Soto is next in the queue.

ALBERTO SOTO:

I agree with Tijani. That's why I suggest that we should make the most of this pilot program, not to attend a meeting such as the meeting in Brazil where ICANN will be represented and where we will not achieve

outreach of what we are doing. So [inaudible] in our RALO, we had a plan that was not approved in the budget, that could be partially implemented thanks to this pilot program. So we can make the most of this pilot program to reach our objective. That is to incorporate as many ALSes as possible within the region in countries in which where we are not represented.

So I have already thought about a document that I have to submit explaining what I have done on a trip that I have incorporated one, two, or three – or hopefully more – ALSes. So that would be in line with the CROPP project.

INTERPRETER: Antonio Medina was asking for the floor, Olivier. This is the interpreter.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much. Then let's have Antonio Medina next. Then afterwards, we'll have Fatima Cambronero. So first, Antonio Medina.

ANTONIO MEDINA: Thank you. Like Tijani and Alberto Soto, I am thinking about the benefit for the LACRALO community. The moment we decide to apply for a trip, and definitely people representing us will have to submit a very detailed report on the impact on the benefits achieved by means of our participation in that event. Like Alberto Soto, it's very important to attend or to be present in those countries within the region where we have very few or no ALSes, so as to promote and encourage participation in that region.

Regarding what Dev said about investing in one event that is sending five people to the same event, well, I believe that is not the objective of the program. So this has to be defined within LACRALO, so that we can send at least one representative to one of these – or each of these – five events. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Antonio. Next is Fatima Cambronero.

FATIMA CAMBRONERO: Thank you, Olivier. First of all, I apologize for the background noise. I am in a very noisy part of the city, so I apologize for the background noises. To some extent, I disagree with Alberto regarding the meeting in Brazil because if one of the requirements for this program is to have meetings within the region, then we – our RALO, LACRALO in this case – is going to obtain a high benefit from participating in this meeting and we don't need to send five people to that specific meeting. We can send only one person to that meeting, and that person can be in charge of this outreach goal.

Now, if we want to reach out to more ALSes if we think about Brazil and the population of that country, they have a very low number of ALSes, so we have to incorporate as many ALSe as possible in Brazil. I believe we can continue discussing this.

Also, we have to identify other events that will enable us to meet this outreach goal such as LACNIC meetings or LACNOG meetings from now and June 2014. Also, this is in line with ICANN's strategic objectives for

Latin America and the Caribbean. So we have to be in line with other objectives in order to meet the strategy objectives.

So I believe that we have to be present at a RALO in the meeting in Brazil regardless of ICANN's official presence, if you will. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Fatima. Yes, these are obviously discussions which I think all of the RALOs are going to be discussing in their own – within their RALO itself. Really, as I said earlier, the program itself has been designed to be as wide as possible given the [inaudible] that we have between February and June 2014. So I guess these are issues which you will be able to discuss at local level, and of course with your representatives. And I'm sure that the CROPP Review Team will be discussing those as well, as they look at the applications that come through.

Dev, any additional points?

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: No, I don't think I have any additional points to add.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay. I guess that this really marks the official launch of the whole program for At-Large. The requests are now – well, the review team is basically now waiting for requests to come in. As we said, time is of the essence, so send them as early as possible with a reminder which is incompressible. It's eight to nine weeks to process those applications, so from the moment that this reaches the CROPP Review Team.

Also, there is a one-week break after Christmas and then until New Year. So we're looking at a holiday season break where even ICANN takes a break for that one week. Tijani Ben Jemaa, you have something to add?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Yes, thank you, Olivier. Olivier, I'd like to propose that if there is a very important event in one region that they consider very important they will miss it if they don't apply for it. Even if it is less than eight weeks, if it is seven weeks or I don't know – something like this – I'd like them to apply immediately so that perhaps we can do the work very quickly inside the Review Team so that we can send it to the staff before six weeks, before the event.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Okay, thank you, Tijani. For those events that are on the fringe, it really would be a hit or miss. But if you think that could be helpful, then I'm fine with that as well. The question being we do need to get the CROPP Review Team to meet on a conference call to discuss an application and that usually takes one week's notice in order to do it. Next week is the last week before the holiday season week. So it would make it a bit difficult to convene a call at such a short notice and have a decent turnout on the call itself. I realize this is a time when people are very busy as well back home. But you can try.

I think the committee itself will try its best and I know that on the ICANN front there are a number of things that need to be performed – a

number of cross-checks, etc. That does take a significant amount of time. We can try and squeeze the deadlines, but not that significantly.

Seeing that no one has put their hand up for any further questions, if you do have further questions, please ask staff – Dev and myself – for this. You’ve got the link to the different pages now about the CROPP program. One of the action items will be that staff will post the slides on the CROPP briefing session onto the CROPP Review Team wiki page. So if any of your colleagues in your RALOs and colleagues in ALSes have questions, they will be able to look through the slides on the CROPP Review Team wiki page.

Just a reminder, do not submit your CROPP requests directly to the overall ICANN CROPP page. We have our process – our internal process – and we have representatives who are allowed to sign in and to send the request. I think anyone else will not be able to log in on that page, and therefore will not be able to see the request.

I’m saying this because such mistakes and errors have happened in the past when submitting additional requests for the RALO requests, if you want, to the budget last year and then the year before and if they’d introduce a little bit of confusion because those submitting the requests weren’t quite sure why it wasn’t working.

That’s pretty much it. We’ve got the link to the At-Large travel form that is now on the screen and that’s your starting point, effectively. Thanks for all of you to have attended this call. Have a very good weekend for everyone. Thanks and this call is now adjourned.

[END OF TRANSCRIPT]