

WOLF LUDWIG:

Welcome to our postponed February call. I regret to note that due to some time conflicts I had yesterday, and it was good to postpone it to one day later because finally when I arrived, came back from the [main parts] in Davos it would have been too late to have the call yesterday. And this was the reasoning, the consideration behind my suggestion to postpone it to one day later.

But as I must realize there are quite a number of people who are not available tonight for our call – that is Sebastien, Manuel, Roberto, Yrjö, and Adela who are usually attending our monthly calls. And therefore we will be most probably a smaller group than usual.

Okay, to start with, Sebastien is on the call I am just getting to know from Heidi – thanks for this update. Let me give the floor first to Gisella for the usual roll call and apologies. Please, Gisella, you have the floor.

GISELLA GRUBER:

Thank you, Wolf – Gisella here. Welcome to everyone on this call on Wednesday, the 20th of February at 19:00 UTC. On today's call we have Wolf Ludwig, Siranush Vardanyan, Narine Khachatryan, Sebastien Bachollet, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Dirk Kalkman, Greta Philine Jeske, Oksana Prykhodko, Yulia Morenets, Jordi Iparraguire, Avri Doria, Sandra Hoferichter.

Apologies today noted from Manuel Schneider, Roberto Gaetano – who may be arriving late on the call; Yrjö Länispuro and Adela Danciu. I hope I haven't left anyone off the roll call. If I have please speak up now.

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.

From staff we have Silvia Vivanco, Heidi Ullrich and myself, Gisella Gruber. And if I could also please remind everyone to state their names when speaking for transcript purposes. Thank you, over to you, Wolf.

WOLF LUDWIG:

Okay, thanks a lot Gisella for this roll call and listing of apologies. And I had the chance now when Gisella was doing this to have a look on the Adobe Connect in detail, and I realize with a lot of pleasure that we have quite a number of new participants here like Dirk from ISOC Netherlands, Greta rings a bell – it's dotHIV Germany? It's Jordi from ISOC Catalonia and well this is quite impressive and pleasing to me that we have new participants at this monthly call tonight.

As we have lost already some time due to my late arrival let's start with the other standing issues, which is a review of the action items from our last monthly call from January 22. And actually we had five. If you click on the link related to this agenda item you will see the five points. Action items: first of all, all core participants and focal points confirmed at our December call I invited to contact and push for those member ALSes who have not registered yet, ISOC Chapters, German ALSes. Wolf to send a second reminder, last reminder to list end of January – this was done and accomplished.

Action item two, for organizational reasons we need an early deadline for Lisbon GA registrations. It was decided to fix this deadline for the beginning of February, middle of February latest – okay, so that's what we did as well.

Individual members are invited to get their own ALS started and to spring for ALAC certification – this is still pending. Unfortunately as usual there is not much response from this side.

The status number of ALS registrations for Lisbon will be reviewed again at our February call. Members who have not responded at all on repeated until this date will be contacted and asked about their future EURALO involvement. Worst case is a decertification scenario. This is something we have to consider, but fortunately I can state already that the vast majority, more than 80% of our members have responded and we will come back to this later.

After the official registration is completed and planning for the GA agenda in an open and consultative process – this is mentioned and noted for the main part of our tonight’s call for the further planning of the General Assembly. I can just say most of the action items from last month’s were accomplished and it’s good to know, but I’m now giving the floor, handing over to Point #3 of our agenda, which is briefing on current ALAC consultations and initiatives. And this is as usual the floor for Olivier who will give us an update. Olivier, you have the floor, please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Wolf, this is Olivier for the transcript record. And I invite you all to have a look at the policy advice development page that you all have on your agenda. We’ve had quite a busy time again as per usual and as you will notice there are quite a few statements that have been recently adopted, that are currently being developed or that will be adopted, well drafted and adopted in the future.

The recently adopted ones are the Thick WHOIS PDP Working Group... Each one of these on your agenda by the way has a link so if you're interested you can look and see the actual final statement. The Thick WHOIS PDP Working Group was one; the At-Large Internationalized Domain Name Variant Top-Level Domain Program Procedure to Develop and Maintain the Label Generation Rules for the Root Zone in Respect of IDNA Labels – this is quite an involved statement on this as well. And I have to thank the people who held the pens on these. The Thick WHOIS PDP if I remember correctly was Alan Greenberg, yeah, that was Alan; and then the At-Large IDN Variants was Rinalia Abdul Rahim and Edmon Chung.

In addition to that we also had the ATRT, the Accountability Transparency Review Team #2 Candidate Endorsement. Three candidates were endorsed. Jean-Jacques Subrenat was one of them, Alan Greenberg was the second and I was the third. Those endorsements were sent to the Board for selection. Selection is performed by the Chair of the Board and also the Chair of the GAC, and two of the three candidates were retained to represent the ALAC – that's Alan Greenberg and myself.

Next, the statements currently being developed by the ALAC. The first one is the statement on the World Conference on International Telecommunications item. That's something that's still on my plate. The way I was going to do this was to first produce a larger report on the WCIT. That report is actually drafted, it's done and it will be released in the next few days. And beyond that then there will be an opportunity to draft a shorter statement on there and then there will be a follow-up after that from the Future Challenges Working Group with

Jean-Jacques Subrenat and Evan Leibovitch taking the lead on this to see how we can expand on the lessons learned from the World Conference on International Telecommunications.

Next we have the Consultation on ccTLD Delegation and Re-Delegation Performance Standards and a Consultation on the gTLD Delegation and Re-Delegation Performance Standards. These two are running alongside each other. The comment period closes on the 28th of February. The statement that is going to be drafted will be drafted by our two Liaisons – the ccNSO Liaison currently being Cheryl Langdon-Orr and Alan Greenberg being our GNSO Liaison. So they should be having this in the next couple of days and of course at that point there will be an email sent out for comments from At-Large.

The next one is the Report of the GNSO Working Group on Consumer Trust, Consumer Choice and Competition. Now, this originally was going to be a statement of the ALAC to the Board; however, this is all to do with the New gTLD Program. And in fact, it says here that I should send a letter, a resulting letter to Steve Crocker as far as correspondence. Actually, it's not to Steve Crocker; it is to Cherine Chalaby who is the Chair of the New gTLD Subcommittee of the Board. There will be a copy sent to Steve Crocker but the primary person to send the letter to is the person who is in charge of the committee that deals with the new gTLDs.

In fact, I shall not only send the letter but the first thing is to speak to Cherine Chalaby and I have a conference call with him sometime next week. I haven't got the exact time of it yet but we will be discussing the issues that were raised in that correspondence and you will notice, I'm

not quite sure whether this has been abated but there are several statements that were in there, several versions. The final version actually says that the ALAC will be putting together a small working group to present a follow-up report to the Board with regards to the consumer metrics.

The feeling is that the consumer metrics that were developed by the GNSO Working Group were a good starting point but did not go far enough to actually real deal with the metrics that would show whether the program, the New gTLD Program is a success or not as far as consumers are concerned. So the small working group will be working I think on a very tight schedule to be able to produce additional metrics that will be presented over in Beijing. And of course you are welcome if you are interested in this stuff, you're very welcome to bring your input on this. Evan should be leading this and I think it will be announced in the next few days.

Next is the Closed Generic gTLD Applications. Evan has drafted a statement; I'm not sure whether he has put it up for comment yet. He has spent several weeks listening to a lot of people on the whole discussion on the At-Large lists, on the ALAC lists as well. We don't appear to have a full consensus on whether we do or we don't like the closed generic gTLD applications but Evan I think has done a good job in being able to bring both sides of the story and both sides of the coin. And I know that some in the EURALO region are particularly interested in this – I also encourage you very much to comment on this once the draft statement comes out.

Now the next thing is the currently open public comments. The Consultation on the IANA Secure Notification Process is quite a technical matter and it was decided that there should be no statement on this. In the past we have actually never really submitted anything relating to internal IANA procedures. We have in the past, though, I'm say "we" as in the ALAC maybe a year or two years ago have submitted a statement over to the US Department of Commerce with regards to the IANA function but not the actual functioning of the IANA.

Next, the IDN Variant TLD Program – now that's another one to do with IDNs. As you know, we have the Internationalized Domain Names Working Group that is working on this and we have several of our members at our IDN Variant Working Group, but it was decided that there would be no statement on this specific part, the Draft Final Report Examining the User Experience Implications of Active Variant TLDs. Although it has user experience implications in there it's a highly technical thing because it basically looks at the different browsers that people use, the different emailing systems that people use to find out if that actually works across from one browser to another, from one emailer to another. And the fact is that it's actually not working too well at the moment. So without (inaudible) well actually we do agree with this, and with the amount of work we have it was decided there would not be a statement on this.

Next one is the Policy versus Implementation Discussion. Staff is doing some work to really define what is policy and what is implementation. As you might know, in the past we have been very insistent that some work that was described as being implementation and therefore firmly in staff's hands was actually policy, and therefore needed to be sent

back to the community. So there is some work that's going on in there. We decided to have no statement on this and we will of course be monitoring how this work progresses and perhaps issue a statement further. As you know, the ALAC is not restricted by the public comment period. We are able to comment on everything and anything that is ICANN-related in or out of the comment period, which is sometimes something that we have to do.

Next, the Interim Report on the IDN ccNSO Policy Development Process, and that again is an IDN-related public comment period. The IDN Working Group is currently considering drafting a statement. No reply yet. I note that the original comment period closes very, very soon indeed but the reply period closes on the 21st of March so we do have a bit of time on this one.

The Revised New gTLD Registry Agreement Including the Additional Public Interest Commitment Specification – this is a new gTLD thing, so our New gTLD Working Group is headed by Avri Doria and she has been asked to check with her Working Group whether a statement would be necessary. Again, the comment period, the initial comment period closes on the 26th of February which leaves very little time for filing a statement in the initial comment period but we might do it in the reply period if really there is a statement that's necessary. And I might ask staff actually to follow up with Avri, to try to find out if she has managed to check with her Working Group if there is a comment required on this.

And then finally the WHOIS Registrant Identification Study Draft Report – Carlton Samuels who is the Chair of our WHOIS Working Group is going to let us know if a statement is necessary. In fact, I'm just reading

here, (inaudible) reading the screen in fact yes, just a couple of hours earlier or just an hour ago, I've lost track of time, there was a WHOIS discussion, a WHOIS webinar that took place with several panelists that were there. And Carlton has made it known that there will be a statement required on this.

The discussion was very interesting indeed and I invite everyone who has not managed to be part of that discussion to listen to it in their own time when it will be put online. A transcript will also be made of that session, and the whole session was also interpreted in Spanish and in French so you've got it in the three languages. So that's just work in the next few hours that will hopefully appear on the Wiki. And of course you're very much encouraged to take part in helping out with the drafting of the WHOIS Registrant Identification Study Draft Report.

That's all from me. If you have any questions I open the floor for questions.

WOLF LUDWIG:

Thanks a lot, Olivier, for this briefing so far. As you said, are there any questions, comments directly from the call participants on the briefing points forwarded by Olivier so far? I see no hand raised in the AC, in the chat. I see only one person has raised a hand, it's Olivier – I'll come back to you. Yes, if there's no comment or question you have the floor again, Olivier.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Thank you very much, Wolf, that's exactly what I wanted to have to be able to let everyone know that of course there are new public comment

periods starting up every day, so if you want to check and make sure that you're up to date with At-Large policy development Silvia has very kindly put the link in the Adobe chat. And that's the page which is updated on a daily basis, that Matt does a wonderful job of updating. And you'll be able to know exactly what is going on and be in time to bring the input from your At-Large Structure. That's all, thank you.

WOLF LUDWIG: Okay, thanks a lot for this excellent briefing as usual, Olivier, to bring the community and our members participating on the monthly call up to the current stage of At-Large consultations. If there are no questions raised or comments-

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: It's Sebastien if I may.

WOLF LUDWIG: Okay, please Sebastien, you have the floor. Go ahead.

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Sorry and it will be very short but Olivier, maybe you can talk about the Meeting Strategy Working Group and the call for applicants because I don't want to do it because I am driving and it's quite complicated. Thank you.

WOLF LUDWIG: Okay, thanks a lot. Olivier, you are asked to do it.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Wolf, it's Olivier for the transcript record. Of course may I say that I'm absolutely outraged that Sebastien is not able to speak while driving. I have been no to speak while parachuting. [laughter] But anyway, back to this.

So this Working Group which Sebastien has mentioned is one which looks at the meetings strategy. It's a cross-ICANN working group I understand, it is going to be run by the Board and the At-Large community has to provide some indication... Well, I know for sure that there's several people in the At-Large community who wish to be in that Working Group and who are going to have to send their full application. There is a page for that actually which is on the ICANN website where you need to actually fill out a full application and send it over to the Board.

Now, there were two ways of then having ALAC approval or endorsement as one would call it. One was to do a similar system as what we did with the ATRT but unfortunately it's quite a longwinded way of doing things and at this very moment in time we haven't really got months or I don't know how many weeks to be able to create a working group, etc., etc. So the way that this will be done this time around is for candidates to send their application over to the Board and if I understand correctly, Sebastien, we should be able to then have the feedback from the Board regarding how many candidates from our community and who are the candidates from our community who wish to apply as ALAC-endorsed candidates, candidates from At-Large.

And at that point the ALAC will be choosing the candidates and basically putting them either in an order or will be endorsing... I would think, I would really push, and this is something that I have just discussed with the ExCom so far, with the Executive Committee, that I would push for five candidates, one from each region basically and then leave it over to the Board to decide whether they can accept as many as five candidates that are endorsed by the ALAC or whether they'll have to go for less than that.

The reason for five is really for the regional representation. I think it's really, really important for us to make sure that voices from around the world are heard. That's it, thank you.

WOLF LUDWIG: Okay, thanks a lot, Olivier. Sebastien, do you want anything?

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: One point, yeah, it's Sebastien – you can hear me?

WOLF LUDWIG: Yes please, go ahead.

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Okay, thank you, just to say that I fully understand the wish to have five representatives from At-Large but the question is if we want to do the same thing for each SO and AC we will be in trouble and we will not be able to have management. And I need to add one thing, just to let you know that I will Chair this group – so it's not just the Board but it's also

someone you know well who will Chair this Working Group. Thank you very much and I'll wait for your applications, thank you.

WOLF LUDWIG: Okay, thanks a lot for this, Sebastien. Any further questions, comments to what Olivier reported, explained, and what Sebastien added? I see no hand raised in the Adobe Connect and therefore I guess it may be clear.

In that case let me continue with our tonight's agenda. This was Point #3 as usual. The fourth agenda item we have is the suffrage. As some of you may have realized as it was recently discussed on the ALAC list, and Avri asked me to put it on the agenda of our tonight's call which I did here. And now it's Avri who has the floor, who has expressed a particular position on this and she has now the opportunity to explain this to our community. Please Avri, you have the floor. Go ahead.

AVRI DORIA: Okay, thank you. This is Avri speaking. I hope I can be heard?

WOLF LUDWIG: Yes.

AVRI DORIA: Okay, thank you. I was giving it a pause just to see if anybody shouted that they could not hear. Okay, the issue is one that I have been essentially annoying people with for about two years now, since the last selection of Seat 15. And I want to make it clear that my drive for

greater suffrage has nothing to do with the judgment of the person who occupies this seat. It had to do with the belief that we need greater suffrage.

At first I started appealing for suffrage for all At-Large members to be able to vote for the person that sits in the Board seat. By the way, I did put a connection there to the suffrage request I'm making to the RALOs but I'm not sure everybody can read it. I sent staff a copy of this in PDF just in case anybody needs it so I hope it's there.

Anyway, so I basically spent I guess close to two years, maybe a year and a half now asking when can we discuss the issue...

WOLF LUDWIG: Hello, Avri?

AVRI DORIA: ...of suffrage, when can we?

WOLF LUDWIG: Okay.

AVRI DORIA: We finally got to a point in the Rules of Procedure Working Groups and subgroups where this was the topic but I wasn't able to get very far at increasing suffrage either to all At-Large members or at least to all the ALSes was rejected. One thing that group was passing a request up to the ALAC asking to please let the community, let the At-Large community discuss the proposal of widening suffrage.

At various points in the conversation, as someone who is an ALS member and not in EURALO – I mean I am in a EURALO ALS but in the NARALO ALS, I'm actually on its board of directors and have taken a very ALS-centric view these days on what rights should we as ALSes or we as members of ALSes have in the actions of ALAC. And so that's the perspective that this is coming from – very much a sort of bottom-up request saying "Hey, what about us?"

Now by and large, whenever the notion of full suffrage for the At-Large members comes up there's "Oh, we tried voting and we got rid of voting because voting can be gamed," and I admit it can be gamed. I've been at ICANN long enough now to know that everything can be gamed. Every decision you make opens a new opportunity for the gamers to game it. So but basically over the last year and a half it's become apparent to me that at least on this path, at least on the elections for 2013 I'm not going to succeed at opening up the discussion of full suffrage for our At-Large members.

So my request has then become "Can we at least allow the ALS representatives?" or perhaps sometimes people have said "Well, we have ALSes that don't participate," so for some definition of activity can we at least have the participating ALS representatives vote as opposed to trying to condense that into a single vote by a RALO chair? So what I've basically come to... Oh yeah, and the other thing was when I brought this up as an individual, as an ALS member I was always asked "Do you have RALO support? Do you have RALO support for the dialog and the discussion? Do you have RALO support for the discussions you're looking at?"

I've been told by Olivier that this topic is now on or will be on in Beijing. I'm personally afraid that waiting until Beijing gets us to a point of it being too late to do anything for this round and somehow or other after two years of pursuing it I will find that through bureaucratic processes that this process has been won by the status quo and that it will never actually get changed this pass.

So what I'm asking for is a process that starts earlier, that starts earlier than Beijing so that in Beijing we've already got a rich dialog going on and we can actually perhaps get something done on it. And so I'm asking EURALO to support a full and inclusive At-Large community discussion on the electorate as defined by 27.7 related to this process and I'm basically also, once that goes what I'm looking for is I will argue for ALS suffrage during this selection – the 2013 I guess it is – with further discussion on full suffrage for At-Large members at the next selection, the 2016 or whatever date. I'm not sure I've got my dates right.

So that's why I'm coming to... I've already gone to NARALO. I unfortunately wasn't as prepared for NARALO as I was here – I didn't have it written up yet though I had written a blog already. So that's basically my request, to please support an immediate beginning to an At-Large-wide discussion on suffrage and hopefully to support at least suffrage for ALS representatives with continuing discussion on full suffrage. Thank you.

WOLF LUDWIG:

Okay, thanks a lot Avri, for your explanations. And just to recall the whole version of Avri's document, Matt Ashtiani posted Avri's

document on the chat. If you go to this link you can have the full document now which I tried before. Please take some time and have a look at it in detail.

My next remark is as it was announced, as it was adopted to our tonight's call agenda, which I appreciate very much, Avri. Just give me the opportunity for a personal remark. As some of you may recall, during the last selection process which was in Summer, 2010, we had a consultation process at EURALO. At the time we were the single RALO in At-Large at the time doing a consultation on this. We followed up the whole selection procedure. There was a short listing of three candidates and there was agreement beforehand that it would be at the end RALO Chairs at the time it was defined to me who will have a vote in this affair. And I said from the very beginning I wouldn't feel comfortable having a vote on something without having consulted my community.

And we agreed at a very early stage at the time that we will conduct a consultation on the EURALO list, which we did. So actually we had, during the voting procedure we had two consultation rounds – a first one with a first preference, then there was one candidate getting out; the other two didn't have sufficient maturity therefore there was a second voting required to decide about the person for Seat 15. And out of the second consultation my vote was directed to the final voting, and finally it was Sebastien Bachollet who was elected by ALAC after this procedure.

Just to repeat again, I think this is a basic requirement of a democratic procedure, for a transparent procedure, and I would feel extremely

uncomfortable doing anything without at least a consultation of my community. And therefore I strongly support Avri's point of view and I suggest we should take a sort of position from EURALO now that my first suggestion would be we support Avri's proposal to have a discussion on the At-Large level, at the RALO level immediately in Beijing already before it's too late.

This in my opinion is a question of democratic procedure and rule, and I therefore strongly support Avri's position on this, that we should from EURALO push the other RALOs to have a discussion on substance on this in Beijing before it's too late; and then to have, out of this discussion process have a clear opinion as EURALO again on how we would like to proceed with this direction at the next occasion. And my position would be consultation was a good starter. Consultation is according to a Swiss democratic tradition a must to be done in any such cases, and I think consultation should be the minimum. But the suffrage for all ALSes could be a best case.

So let's continue this discussion over the next couple of weeks and I strongly support Avri's motion on this; and I would like to have a vote on this for tonight, a sort of action item that we support Avri's motion and we will have a further discussion on it. Any further questions or comments? I see no hands raised. I just have a question now to Olivier or At-Large staff: I don't know to what extent the agenda for Beijing is already accomplished, if there is still some space to have an item on this added to our Beijing agenda. This is something I cannot judge; I can only propose. Olivier has raised his hand and Olivier, you have the floor, please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Wolf, it's Olivier for the transcript record. And actually I've put a link in the chat to the Sunday of the Beijing meeting. There's a link over to our agenda on that day and there is a meeting in there from 16:00 to 16:45 that will be discussion of Article 27 of our revised Rules of Procedure. So we have 45 minutes of face-to-face discussion on that.

WOLF LUDWIG: Okay, thanks for this explanation and hint, Olivier. I think this will offer an opportunity at least to take up this discussion at Beijing again. And I see some comments from Heidi here on the chat. Gisella, you would say something on this? No? If this is not the case, just for the record, Silvia, I would like to have something like this noted from today's call among action items: we discussed the issue and EURALO is in favor of such a discussion and such a scenario, etc., and it needs to be followed up during the next calls and in Beijing.

If there are no questions, no comments on this issue let me continue with our tonight's agenda items, which is now Point #5, Briefing on the EuroDIG 2013 Preparation Process. Under this Point #5 you have the link to the EuroDIG website. There was a first open planning meeting in January in Lisbon, a broad consultation process with the community and there will be one next week in parallel to the IGF open consultation in Paris. And now it's Sandra who has the floor. Sandra is muted; I don't know whether she could understand but I was introducing Sandra. It's now you, you have the floor.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Thank you, Wolf. Can you hear me?

WOLF LUDWIG: Yes, please, very well.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Okay great. Yeah, you mentioned already that the first opening meeting took place in Lisbon end of January. For those who are interested, you can find a full webcast of this day on our website. And in the meanwhile the community gave the order to decide on an overarching theme for EuroDIG. We found out that having an overarching theme is a good thing as we had for Stockholm last year. The theme for this year is “Internet for Society: How to Serve Public Interest,” which means that the public interest will be the focus for this year’s EuroDIG discussions.

Furthermore, the core team also drafted a preliminary program which was published just today for comments and input, and during our next meeting in Paris on 28 February, right after the IGF open consultation we will discuss, further discuss this program with the community. We will also discuss names of experts and organizations which should be involved leading to have a finalized program by the beginning of March or mid-March, something like this.

I just posted the link, the direct link to all the necessary information; also how to register to enter the UNESCO premises in Paris. You can find us on that link. Furthermore, I’d like to draw your attention to one, if you want to have a side event in EuroDIG this is mostly welcome and

will be supported by the EuroDIG hosts and also by the EuroDIG team, but we give you to send your request until the 30th of April to the EuroDIG Secretariat so that we can figure out the logistical details. The hotel offers various possibilities to have a side meeting. The EURALO General Assembly will take place the day before EuroDIG but there is space and room for more.

And the second thing I want to draw your attention to is that we can offer special hotel rates for our participants. We can offer rates in three categories: five-star which is the EuroDIG venue, the Altis Lisboa; four-stars and three-stars hotels. There is a special hotel registration form on our website, you can find it under the link “Accommodation” or “Practical Information” but we ask you to make your booking by 30th of April as well because after that rooms are only available as per availability. And on the whole I was told that this time of the year is the busiest conference time in Lisbon. There are other meetings going on so we should register pretty early, or you should register pretty early for your room.

Well, that’s from my side. If you have any questions feel free to contact me also after this call. Thank you.

WOLF LUDWIG:

Okay. Are there any questions from your side? I was just typing in one remark because there was a question from Oksana already. First of all, Sandra has forwarded the link to the planning process. The programming process is still open until the Paris meeting next week and then we will discuss and issue a consolidated version of the program so far. As far as the hotel bookings are concerned, you do not have from

EURALO's side, you have not to care about hotel bookings by yourself. It will be done by myself – this is part of the General Assembly planning and we have made a pre-reservation at the Altis already for 25 people and now since we have a confirmed list of participants since last Sunday, I will come back later under the General Assembly agenda item, etc. So this is not an issue you have to care about.

If there are no further questions regarding the EuroDIG planning procedure... You will have regular updates on the EuroDIG website. Please, for any news you can either subscribe to the info letter of EuroDIG where you get the current and repeated updates on any further organization steps. And you will get a next briefing on the programming process in the next monthly call in March.

If there are no questions raised regarding Agenda Item #5 let me continue with Agenda Item #6, update on the ICANN Academy Follow-Up and Surveys. There have been communications recently on the surveys themselves and I now give Sandra the opportunity again to give us a short summary on this. Sandra, you have the floor.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER:

Thank you, Wolf, it's Sandra speaking again. The ICANN Academy started this year with the outcome of the survey which was open until the 14th of January. This survey was now forwarded for comments to the ICANN Academy Working Group. I must say there was not much response on the survey so far and I will have to think of how to reactivate this Working Group because currently it seems a bit sleepy. But I am also waiting for further, let's say instruction or further information on how this issue is dealt with on the ICANN staff side.

As some of you might know, Filiz was our previous contact point on the staff side. She left ICANN by the end of the year. She was actually the one who brought this project forward very much and so it was a good relationship, a good working relationship. But now I'm not sure how the ICANN Academy will be in importance for the future or if there are other plans, if the new structure in ICANN will also set up a new structure for [capacity building]. I'm very curious to find out more about this so I'm in constant contact with Heidi and with Olivier and they know already my concerns, and well I think we will find a solution soon.

And I hope I will be able to organize or to prepare another fruitful meeting for Beijing where we can either finalize the work so far or find a course of action on how to proceed further with this survey, with the outcome and with the tremendous work which has been done in this Working Group so far. Thank you.

WOLF LUDWIG:

Okay, any questions? I see no hands raised. Anybody who is not on the Adobe Connect who would like to make a comment or to raise a question regarding the follow-up of the ICANN Academy? Otherwise we will have this on the next call agenda again. This is a standing issue for the last months because Sandra is the Chair of this Working Group, etc., and there was some more let's say enthusiasm already in this Working Group but from Toronto upwards it was decided to have the survey first. From our side as far as I could see there were three inputs commenting on the survey questions, etc., and now this has to be

pushed further again until Beijing. And we will come back on this to you on our next call.

If there are no further questions on this agenda item let me continue with more or less the main agenda item on our today's agenda, which is GA Planning 2013, which became a standing item as well over our last three calls. First we drafted a master plan, how to proceed for the organization process of the GA. Then we, after the draft master plan was adopted by the monthly call in December we sent a first announcement on the GA first reminder, a second reminder and a last call. And as it looks at the moment it's quite well because the status of member registrations you can find under the list, under the second sub-item of Point #7 where you can see all the names and ALSes of EURALO representatives who have responded until the deadline for registration, which was last Sunday.

Until the last week we received 27 responses and registrations, 27 plus to be precise – there is one registered representative, Manuel Schneider, who will represent the two Wikimedia chapters of Switzerland and Austria. So out of 33 presently certified ALSes at EURALO we have more than 27. There are only five ALSes missing who have not responded at all over the last seven to eight weeks to our announcement and call for registrations. Twenty-seven makes us more than 80%. This is more or less my best case scenario for the next General Assembly which is the first face-to-face General Assembly after three years, again which is a good result and which gives us now the opportunity to start our further GA planning right in time.

And in the time between I repeatedly consulted with At-Large staff on our budget estimations, and the budget estimations, the link to an Excel document you can find under the third sub-agenda item of #7: Preliminary Budget Estimation. It is an estimate version 6 from 14th of February where we considered the high level of registrations, what this may imply for flight booking, for hotels, etc., and per diems. The question was raised before which is now regarding the further practical procedures like flight arrangements by ICANN, etc.

I would just like to ask you to have a look at the EURALO ALS representatives to the 2013 GA. Here you can see, you can check whether your ALS is properly listed, whether the representative for your ALS is here on this list. Next to the ALS you have the date of confirmation and then you have the airport referred, which we asked for during the registration procedure because this list now offers the basis for the further follow-up by ICANN Constituency Travel. On the basis of this list, they will make first some clarifications and they will come back to the people listed here on this list to find appropriate and possibly cheap flights.

Now let me say this – we are in a sort of a slight dilemma. We are sort of a victim of our own success. Due to the fact that 80% of our members registered for Lisbon and are willing to come to Lisbon, our tight budget is getting tighter and tighter on the travel issue and therefore we have to ask for your understanding that we have to try our best. And we have told Constituency Travel already that we will try to make low-budget flights by the cheapest airlines possible wherever possible. There may be some destinations where this option doesn't work, doesn't exist, etc., but you will have in the next I guess two to

three weeks any response or any invitation by ICANN Constituency Travel to make the first arrangements for our bookings.

If you have any further questions in this respect please let me know or please let At-Large staff know. And again, on the point of hotel bookings we don't have to take care of it by ourselves, by yourselves. For ordinary EuroDIG participants this list of hotels is helpful, is important, etc. and they have to take care of hotel bookings and arrangements by themselves. But this is, in your case, in EURALO's case part of your invitation. We have made the pre-reservations already now since we have the list of the names. I will send this list with the names to the Altis Hotel to make sure right in time that you are all booked at this hotel.

So you don't have to care about this. You have to make clear with Constituency Travel about your best travel options. You need to make sure that you arrive in Lisbon in the early afternoon on Wednesday, 19th June to be at the Altis Hotel which is about 15 to 20 minutes from the airport by a public shuttle bus; and to arrive in the Altis Hotel in our meeting room on the 12th floor before 5:00 in the afternoon when the General Assembly will start and will be opened.

So this is on the practical issues. There will be a mailing by the end of this week, perhaps by next week just recalling, reconfirming these practical issues that everybody, even people who are not attending the call tonight are informed about this. And when we discuss the budget estimate with At-Large staff we realize that there is even some space for the outreach cocktail party after the General Assembly from 8:00 onwards, etc., and we are preparing this following part already with

potential speakers, etc.; and to reach out to the local community in Portugal, in Lisbon which is a technical community and which is the universities of Lisbon because we should take the opportunity, being in Lisbon on the spot to find and to attract new potential members joining EURALO.

So these are the practical issues – are there any questions from your side so far? I see no hand raised on Adobe Connect. The next point which I think is quite essential, which we discussed, briefly discussed on the last call in January already, which is the drafting of the GA agenda. This will be a regular annual General Assembly like we had them over the last five years. Every second year part of the agenda is election and re-elections for Chair, Secretariat, and the Board after we have approved the Board report, etc. and the formal necessities and the formal regularities.

And I would like to have a second part at this first face-to-face meeting after three years on content, on substance, taking the opportunity to have such a high quorum of participation from our members. And I would feel quite uncomfortable to prescribe an agenda on content and therefore I suggested at the last call that we start a call for items to be discussed via our EURALO list. And if we get suggestions we'll try to consider them, we'll try to include them on the agenda setting for Lisbon and we can discuss this issue regarding the content part and the substance part on the next two calls. And I think we should finalize a draft agenda by end of April which means we have still around eight weeks to think about content and substance, etc., which will be put on the agenda.

We agreed I think to my memory, we agreed on the procedure to ask the members on this on the last call; therefore this is already decided. I don't know whether you have any suggestions on this already or you can also suggest anything on our mailing list. But from today onward we will concentrate after the formal part, the practical part of the GA organization is to a good extent accomplished already and we can now concentrate on substance which I think may be much more interesting to some or most of us, or most of you than the practical or business, which was my job and which was At-Large's job.

Any questions regarding procedure, etc. and follow-up of the GA organization? I see no hands raised, no questions, no comments. Well, I take this for your generic silent approval to what was done and what was referred so far, and what has to be done and followed up in the next couple of weeks.

Just for the record I would like to add several action items: Wolf will send a follow-up on practical information procedures – flight arrangements, etc. – by circular mail in the next week which is for the practical issues. And then on the draft GA agenda, the content part besides regular formalities and re-elections will be verified by a survey or a call on items on the list.

And by this I think we are through our today's agenda. Again, is there anything from your side regarding Point #8, any other business? I see no hand raised. Obviously there are no questions, and I guess everything is more or less basically clear. If any question or point comes up after this call please contact me directly or please post a question or

make a comment. You can also suggest an issue to be discussed at the General Assembly on our mailing list.

I think we are through our today's agenda, and with a small delay of 15 minutes – okay, we started 7 minutes after 8:00. I think we are through and we can accomplish our today's February monthly call and I thank all of you for your attendance and interest, etc., for your inputs. And I'm looking forward to greet you again on the mailing list or to have you again at the next monthly call, end of March here. Thanks a lot to everybody and I wish all of you a nice evening. Bye-bye.

[End of Transcript]