
JULIA CHARVOLEN: Welcome, everyone, to the APRALO monthly call on Tuesday, 25 February 2014, at 5:00 UTC.

On the call today, we have Siranush Vardanyan, Hong Xue, Pavan Budhrani, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Holly Raiche, Ellen Strickland, Maureen Hilyard, Tomohiro Fujisaki, Karaitiana Taiuru, Gunela Astbrink, and Cheryl Langdon-Orr.

We have apologies from Ali AlMeshal. And from staff, we have Silvia Vivanco, Ariel Liang, and myself, Julia Charvolen.

May I please remind all participants to please state your names before speaking for transcript purposes.

Thank you, and over to you, Siranush.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you. I just would like to say that Ariel would want to have two minutes to talk. Please, Ariel, the floor is yours before moving forward.

ARIEL LIANG: Thank you, Siranush. Hello, everyone, again. My name is Ariel, but I chose this as my English name when I came to America for exchange at 16. My real name is Xinyue, which means “happiness from heart.” I grew up in China in a city near Shanghai. It’s very historical, and I hope one day ICANN can host a meeting in my city. I graduated from Vanderbilt University in America, and after that I went to Columbia University for Communications studies.

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.

I'm always passionate about building good relations between Asia and the U.S. So I worked at a Japanese company before as a China analyst. And now I'm at ICANN, and I'm really eager to contribute my knowledge and experience in China, Japan, and other Asian regions to the work of the At-Large community. So I'm very excited to be in the organization and serving this group. I'm looking forward to meeting every one of you in person in the near future in Singapore. Thank you very much and hello, everyone, again.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Ariel, and welcome, again. We will start our February monthly call, and we will start it with the ALS Spotlight, which Ellen Strickland volunteered last time to present Internet New Zealand (InternetNZ). So, Ellen, the floor is yours. And we have PowerPoint on the screen. It is shared by Ellen with all of you. Ellen?

ELLEN STRICKLAND: Hello, everyone. Is the volume alright?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes, we can hear you.

ELLEN STRICKLAND: Okay, great. Alright. Thanks. Well, yeah, I thought I'd take the opportunity to do the Spotlight session on this meeting on InternetNZ. I'm Ellen Strickland. I'm collaboration and community lead for InternetNZ.

I wanted to present to you, really, we're quite an old organization, been around quite a long time. Many of the people who were involved in setting up InternetNZ were involved in bringing the Internet to New Zealand.

But in the last 12 months, we've had a review of our mission and vision. And so I wanted to talk you through our new focus, which is on people. So it's very much from a technology roots for the organization that we've come around to bringing in our focus on people.

So today I'm going to talk about that, our new mission and vision, what that means day-to-day really for us or the work we do to give you all a flavor of what we do.

So our changing focus: the idea for us has been from when InternetNZ was formed until now, the Internet has grown from being a niche thing that some network operators were involved with bringing to New Zealand through the universities and the government to something that's everywhere and affects everyone. And that change – the ubiquity of the Internet and the impact it has on people – has meant that we need to change our focus.

So where we were focused on the technology – on the wires and the packets previously – we are a membership organization so we have over 300 members as well engaged with the wider community. We've talked to them, and they want a wider focus that includes the technology but also on what people do with it – so the uses of the Internet and the impact that the Internet has on everybody's life now that it's everywhere.

So this shift can be seen by looking at our vision and mission. Our vision was that the Internet is open and uncapturable. So it was a focus on the Internet and the characteristics of it, that it's open, uncapturable, how technology works.

Whereas our new vision is more about the impact – so a better world through a better Internet. So shifting that focus towards: what does the Internet do? What does it affect (i.e., the world)?

And similarly with our mission, it used to be to protect and promote the Internet for New Zealand. And again, this was about the protecting and promoting of the Internet, the technical network of networks for New Zealand.

Whereas, we felt that through that complication, shifting the focus again to the people – so promoting the Internet's benefits and uses and protecting its potential. So more about what it does than about protecting it itself – more about people.

So what that means day-to-day for us is we work in a number of ways. Now, importantly our areas of work, and I'll start with the one at the bottom, which is the fact that we are the .nz ccTLD. Internet New Zealand is the parent company.

We have two subsidiary companies: the Domain Name Commission and the New Zealand Registry Services, so DNC and [inaudible] who run the .nz function. As subsidiary companies, that creates that separation so that InternetNZ as a whole is committed to our vision and mission. And the revenue of .nz that comes through those two subsidiary companies

is then put into our areas of work to achieve that vision and mission for people in New Zealand.

So those areas of work that we use are through Internet issues and policy work, through community funding, and through platforms and events to try to achieve that mission and vision.

I'll just break down quickly within those. You can see we have five broad areas of Internet issues and policy. Those include: Internet governance, Internet connectivity, Internet use and users, Internet technology, and Internet rights and laws.

The work we do on those issues varies. We're involved in a lot of submissions to government here, to engaging in broader Internet governance processes – things like the IGF and ICANN through At-Large.

So doing a range of both proactive and reactive work to ensure that the best policies are being promoted to get those benefits out of the Internet and that we understand and help promote the understanding of the issues that are happening, to help that when you have good research and a good understanding of issues, you get the best Internet you can get.

So that's the work that we do across issues and policy, but a lot of what we do isn't just what we do with InternetNZ. It's actually working in partnership with other people to do things and then also to help other people to do things.

One way we do that is through community funding. We have two primary community funding modes. One which is a strategic

partnership, which is our big funding amount, where we work find organizations that have some similar things that we want to achieve, ways that we overlap. And we have partnerships with them that are about achieving some specific areas of focus, doing some work together that achieves our objectives and also to just supporting that broader ecosystem.

Those are NetSafe at the moment, which is an Internet safety organization. It works a lot with education and government and children and families about how to be safe using the Internet.

We work with a trust who do a project called Computers in Homes, that's about access.

Another partner is Creative Commons Aotearoa. Many of you will be familiar with Creative Commons. They work in the area of open access and open education using the Internet.

Sorry, Siranush. Yeah, I have one more minute. I'll speak to these community grants. That's more smaller amounts of money that we give out regularly in areas. So community projects, research, conference attendance.

Lastly, we have platforms and events. Some of you might have heard of NetHui. That's one of our really big platforms where we bring together as our Internet governance event. But we do a bunch of other side events and sponsorships and support others to do things.

So in essence – looking at the last slide – we've come to a place where for InternetNZ the Internet is everywhere, so we have to be

everywhere, too, working with people who are impacted by the Internet because it's about people and technology. So our work has become broader, but we think it matters more.

Thank you. You can see our website, our Twitter account, our Facebook. And any questions, e-mail them.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you, Ellen. Thank you very much for this lovely presentation. Just for everyone to know that this presentation will be posted also in the APRALO wiki ALS Spotlight space, so you can later go back and see the PowerPoint presentation and the information posted there. One more time, thank you, Ellen. And if there is any volunteer who would like to be a Spotlight leader for the next one, please raise your hand or tell us about that.

And now this is the very important time for briefing on current ALAC consultations and initiatives. And, Olivier, you are here, I think. The floor is yours.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Thank you very much, Siranush. Yes, indeed, I am here somehow. We have quite a few things which are currently going on. I invite you all to have a look at the At-Large policy development page, which has a very long list of open statements at the moment, some of which are going to be discussed and voted on, hopefully, after the discussion we have on the ALAC call later on. For some of you, it's tomorrow; for some of you, it's later on today.

With regards to the different statements, if I just look at the list of the ones which are going to be dealt with today, one is the Policy Advisory Boards for gTLDs Proposal. This is a proposal to open a public comment period that would be discussing or bringing in community inputs regarding a proposal for policy advisory boards for gTLDs that are dealing with sensitive strings.

In effect, it's the proposal of the mandatory need for a special board to be able to legislate and provide input, if you want, for choices of words in extensions which are regulated in some countries, like, for example, .medicine or .bank, etc.

The next one is the ICANN Board resolution from its meeting on the 7 February in Los Angeles. There is a special resolution which has been passed. This is one of the big stories out there. This one actually, sorry, there are quite a few of them. This one, indeed, is to do with the proposal of the removal of the Board Technical Liaison Group. So, effectively, that there used to be someone selected on the Board that was a technical liaison that rotated between the ITU, the IETF, and the World Wide Web Consortium (the W3C). The ALAC advised against the removal of such a liaison when it came down to the NomCom, since this person is also appointed to the ICANN Nominating Committee.

Anyway, to cut a long story short, the proposal which was made to remove that liaison mentions specifically that this had nothing to do with economics and with cost savings. And then the rationale that was given for removing the liaison afterwards was given as being fully pushed by the economics of it and great as a cost savings. So obviously,

there was a discrepancy between the explanation as to why that liaison had to be taken out of the Board and why it was done at the end.

Dev Anand Teelucksingh is going to draft – well, I understand he is going to draft – a statement. We’re not going to vote on it today because, as you will notice, the statement is not up there yet. But I invite you all once that statement is up, that first draft is up, to comment on it.

The next one is the Related-Issue of the Compliance Submission Process. That was drafted by Alan Greenberg. In essence, what this submission says is when there are cases of maybe several hundreds – or several thousands, sometimes – of the same type of breach that takes place, then the Compliance Department could batch things together, rather than having to look at each one of the issues in turn, one after the other.

Because at the moment, even the bulk submission process allows bulk submission of complaints up to 100 at a time, but each one of those complaints are then taken up individually by the ICANN Compliance Department. This one is one that is likely to be voted on, I believe, during the ALAC call.

The next one is the Proposed Review Mechanism to Address Perceived Inconsistent Expert Determinations on String Confusion Objections.

The ALAC had drafted a statement about this in the past that effectively pointed out that in some of the string confusion expert determinations which were made, in some cases the adjudicator that was chosen by the International Chamber of Commerce had said that the strings were

similarly confusing, and in some other cases, the same two words were not similarly confusing according to another adjudicator.

I think there was a case of .com and .cam in a couple of occasions that were deemed to be confusing and other cases to be not confusing.

Anyway, the Board has made some review mechanisms available now, and as you'll notice, the first draft was extremely short. It basically says that we are actually fine with the solution that was brought forward. We're happy about this. However, we really did regret that it has taken ICANN this embarrassing thing to react to the overall situation.

So then the next one is the Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information Working Group SO-AC Input Request. This is related primarily to internationalized domain names (IDNs). The first draft is not up on the wiki yet. The process currently is that I think the IDN working group is drafting a draft on this.

Effectively, when you've got an internationalized domain name (IDN) let's say it's in Chinese script, then when you do a WHOIS request on that Chinese script, the first question I guess is then: what information should the WHOIS answer be in? Should it be in Chinese? And then of course, if in Chinese, then it's absolutely useless for people that are only able to read Latin character sets on their computer or, indeed, able to read Latin.

So how is the translation and the transliteration of that contact information handled by the WHOIS system? And then the whole process by which this happened is actually provided by this working group that is currently working on it.

And then finally, the Second Accountability and Transparency Review Team Final Report and Recommendations. As you know, the ATRT 2 has submitted its final report and the ALAC is commenting on it.

There is a first draft that is on the wiki at the moment, and it basically points the Board to place equal emphasis on recommendations and observations because in these days, there are quite a number of recommendations. The ATRT 1 recommendations have not been fully implemented yet.

And so with all of the amount of work that is out there and the number of things that are going on at the moment, it might be quite likely that only the recommendations would be taken into account by the Board and the observation might be looked over. This is just to remind the Board that everything from A to Z in that report is highly important and needs to be really pushed at all levels.

And that's all for the policy development. Of course, I always invite you that you don't need to wait for the monthly call to have a look at that policy development page. This is a page that changes on a daily basis, and you'll note that there are several statements that were drafted since the last APRALO call.

And as you know, because there is a 21-day period, it might well be that some statements opened after the APRALO call and then closed, the ALAC made its submission before the next APRALO call.

So I invite you to have a look at them. They are all listed there. If you have several years, you can actually go through all of them all the way down to the bottom of the page.

That's all for now, and I thank you very much. I'm open to any questions, if there are any.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you very much, Olivier, for this thorough explanation and detailed presentation of all kinds of policy statements and endorsements discussed and those which are open for public comment.

For everyone, in our agenda posted in wiki, we have all links to all specific statements which Olivier touched upon. So if you want to go and have a detailed idea of what he was talking about, just go and see those links.

Thank you very much one more time, Olivier. And I will also come back later for you on point 5, so don't leave us yet. In our agenda item 4, we have updates from Metrics Working Group. And, Maureen, I would like to give the floor to you for this update.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Siranush, for this opportunity to bring the work of the ALAC Metrics group to this meeting. I think I mentioned last time in our last meeting that the ALAC Metrics group has been tasked with devising some sort of measurement to assess the performance of our ALAC members.

I'm not quite sure whether you all know who your ALAC members are on the APRALO, but they are myself and Holly Raiche, who is on this call at the moment. We do have a third member. We have been actually

elected by the ALSes – that’s you guys. And we do have a third member who has been nominated by the NomCom, that’s Cheryl’s area.

But back to the metrics. We’ve been working on this particular metrics situation since before Buenos Aires, so we’ve been on it for nearly six months already. And it’s taken us this long to come up with a model that we want to take to Singapore to present to the ALAC in Singapore.

It’s all based on the fact that ALAC has a set of Rules of Procedure, and in those Rules of Procedure, it actually states what the expectations are of ALAC members. And it actually asks for metrics to assess the performance of ALAC members who are essentially volunteers. But unfortunately, it doesn’t define what those metrics are, which is why we have our working group.

What we’ve actually come up with and which we will take to Singapore as a starter are two quite simple forms of assessment. One is a numeric measure of attendance of ALAC meetings and working groups, and the other is a report by the ALAC member on their contributions to the work of ALAC within the ICANN system.

So what we decided on is that we wanted to put a qualitative and a quantitative measuring system as a trial to see how that pans out.

I think that I have to mention that participation and contribution were two words that were very much discussed during our consultations. And most people were feeling that ALAC members should be more accountable for their positions on the ALAC and should be informing their RALOs and other stakeholder groups more about what they’re doing.

So we just thought that if we can pose these two measures, we'll present them to the ALAC members in Singapore and then we'll see what happens. We feel that it's a simple measure, and we hope that it's going to be acceptable to them.

Thank you. Any questions?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you, Maureen. Thank you very much. I just would like to add that not only ALAC members should be accountable, but I think that each and every ALS who is becoming a part of any RALO and become a member of this huge community should be somehow accountable. So this Metrics Working Group will serve not only as an example but also the space for all others to follow.

Cheryl, you have the floor. You have your hand raised.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Thank you. I do realize that later in the agenda you've got a small moment for the APRALO Rules of Procedure. Although it does state "charter" and I thought we were already chartered, so I'm assuming it's an update on our activities.

But just as a point relevant to what Maureen's reporting currently is we are enshrining within the APRALO Rules of Procedure draft a set of measurables and metrics, which echo what is in the ALAC Rules of Procedure. But we would be assuming that leading by example our region could, indeed, show how various forms of reporting and

accountability can add value to the volunteer work that we do. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Cheryl. Thank you very much for this addition. And we'll move forward now to agenda item 5. This is fiscal year '15 budget request deadline, which is Tuesday, March 4. All the RALOs received the information from Olivier that the deadline is set for all RALOs to review any ALS request and to send it to the staff.

I would like just to ask some clarification from Olivier for everyone to know: what type of special projects should be there? What kind of requests should be submitted from ALSes on behalf of RALO? Olivier, if you can say a couple of words related to that, please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Siranush. So the FY 15 Budget Development Workspace has been opened up. It's linked from your agenda, and you'll notice that the deadline for filing budget requests is 4 March 2014, which is not far away at all.

It's a very compressed schedule this year, because ICANN is putting together in line all of their computer systems and softwares which finally bring all of the budgets under one single system.

The second thing that they're doing is rather than last year having more than one round of requests for early requests which were supposed to happen between June and October and then any other requests which

were supposed to happen or be implemented after October of the fiscal year.

Reminding you of that – sorry, I said June; it's July and October – reminding you a fiscal year starts in July and ends in June. It's a strange thing, but that's the way accountants work. In effect, because it's all going to be one round, all of the requests have to be filed very early and a decision will be made on all of the requests for the complete fiscal year in advance of last year's calendar.

So effectively, this time around, as I said, 4 March is the deadline for requests to be sent to the Finance and Budget Subcommittee. And I emphasize this: the requests should be sent to the At-Large Finance and Budget Subcommittee (FBSC), effectively, e-mail the staff e-mail account, so staff@atlarge.icann.org. Then they will add this request onto the wiki page, which is pointed to by the APRALO agenda. If you're proficient – as you should be – in editing wiki pages, then you can add your requests immediately under the APRALO subheading.

And now with regards to the type of requests that could be used, well, pretty much anything, I guess. But anything which does not already get covered in the Community Regional Outreach Pilot Program (CROPP) system, which is I understand a pilot program that is a pilot for fiscal year '14. But we do have to assume that this program is going to be a successful program and is going to continue in the next fiscal year.

So you will already see that a couple of requests have been filed in there. There's one request from APRALO for an IGF workshop in Istanbul in early September 2014, and I guess that's an entirely valid type of

request. And I know that APRALO has been very active in producing workshops or presenting workshops for the Internet Governance Forum. So that's the sort of thing that APRALO could be filing for.

You'll notice further down the list an Internet Engineering Taskforce (IETF) meeting in Dallas in 2015. That's the sort of request that might be covered by the CROPP program, but the Finance and Budget Subcommittee will have to make decisions on this and perhaps discuss things with ICANN finance and with the CROPP program people in advance to be able to determine whether this is the sort of request that should be sent for the extra budget requests.

It's fair to say that because of the CROPP, it's less likely that small trips will be accommodated, since those will be pushed to the CROPP program. But all in all, there are still plenty of other ideas which could be used: production of brochures, production of – well, all sorts of things.

If you run out of ideas as to what could be asked for, in the past, you will notice at the bottom of that page there are links to reference material. And you will see the fiscal year '14, '13, and '12 budget development workspaces. So you'll be able to see what APRALO has been filing for and other RALOs have been filing for in prior years.

Again, I emphasize the very short turnaround on this. So may the discussion start, and good luck. And the Finance and Budget Subcommittee will be meeting a day after 4 March, and then we'll just be making sure that the requests are all in line and all fit within the categories correctly, are all well-drafted.

And then ICANN At-Large staff will be filing those with the controller@icann.org address. Please, do not file yourself. Do not send an e-mail to controller@icann.org. I know that in some cases, there might be some pointers to it. Do not be tempted to send the e-mail there. It's for ICANN staff to send that e-mail to controller@icann.org.

That's all. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Olivier. Really very helpful. Just for everyone to know that there is a template posted on the space which Silvia posted the link here.

And just to be sure for the process, those ALSes should submit their requests to me or directly to the At-Large staff at staff@atlarge.icann.org. Olivier, please? I mean, the process is ALSes are submitting to me their request and then as the chair I am submitting it to At-Large, or they can directly send it to At-Large staff?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Siranush. Well, it really is for the RALO leaderships to send the requests to staff@atlarge.icann.org. Obviously, there needs to be some vetting from the RALO leadership and some coordination from the RALO leadership. These are RALO requests. They're not ALS requests. Maybe in the future with the number of ALSes, there might be a chance to accommodate the ALS requests. But ALSes should really contact their RALO leadership for any suggestions that they have.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you. I just wanted everyone to know that the procedure is that it's not solely an ALS request. It should be a request from RALO like a CROPP project.

Cheryl, please?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you. Just to embellish on that slightly: whilst it could be an ALS activity, if it wasn't sent through to the Budget and Finance Subcommittee via the RALO leadership and therefore, we assume, with the opportunity for the RALO to have commented or annotated or quite clearly endorsed it, I think the Budget and Finance Subcommittee would probably take a slightly lower-ranking view on that as a process.

So coming up through the RALO – even if it's not a regional-wide concept for the expenditure, even if it is just an ALS or even a couple of ALSes who might want to produce something. For example comes to mind, documentation in a local language. They may wish to have some documentation done in a local language, and that would be a worthy thing for this type of activity. If it didn't come up through the RALO, I'm pretty confident the Budget and Finance Subcommittee would take a fairly dim view of that.

Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Cheryl. Olivier, please? Yes, Oliver, please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Siranush. I absolutely agreed with what Cheryl has said. In fact, what the At-Large Finance and Budget Subcommittee would do is probably to ask the RALO leadership and say, "Well, do you know about that request?" And that might mean a delay in the processing of the application. So, much better for the ALS to send that over to the RALO, and the RALO would be able to push it through.

Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you. Thank you, Cheryl and Oliver, for this explanation. It's very helpful for all of us to understand the process.

And moving from that budget requests to the CROPP requests. I just would like to give a brief update that I am aware of two requests in the process of preparation coming up. But, Cheryl, do you have any other updates besides that?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you, Siranush.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: I know Satish and [inaudible] are working on....

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Yes, please. Please, I would like to know which two you are referring to, so if you could clearly state to me.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes. I was talking about Satish Babu and [inaudible] are preparing the request for QITCOM 2014 in Qatar. So they are planning to send a request related to that but no other information from anybody else.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you, Siranush. If you'd be so kind as to just send a note to Ali and I regarding that so we can be prepared to process that posthaste. That would be greatly appreciated.

I just want to give you a very brief update on the CROPP, to an exciting adventure that is CROPP. We have to, as a region, make sure it is seen as a successful program. I've said this before, and I'll say it again. As a pilot program, it is to the benefit of all of our regions in the future for this style of funding to exist.

So to that end, we are struggling – as you can tell from the tone in my voice – to find people coming forward with appropriate funding. We have had some proposals which were inappropriate. In other words, they were for attendance at ICANN meetings, which is specifically outside of the CROPP project.

Part of this is a timing issue. APRICOT is here today. I spent about 45 minutes talking with Kuek and one of his new staff members, Kelvin, who has the job for the Regional [inaudible] of Asia Pacific looking at outreach and engagement. So he will be working quite closely with us in the future.

But I [inaudible] bemoaning the fact that it's really hard in the timing we've had for this pilot to get much that will fit for Asia Pacific. The same could be said with Africa, although I'm delighted to mention to you that we have had now one request come through from AFRALO.

That said – and I'm keen to find out what possibility you were talking about, Siranush – I would like to propose, if it's your wish, to have Ali and I do a small conversation with Kuek to see whether or not he and his staff are aware of any upcoming opportunities which would clearly fit the criteria.

And we'll try and proactively encourage some people to put in funding applications because for us to not make use of this opportunity, I think, would be a tragedy. So if it's your wish, I would suggest that Ali and I make a time to talk specifically on this and to try and get some options sorted out from the Asia Pacific perspective, and then we will go out and more directly solicit some travelers who may be able to attend.

Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you, Cheryl. Yes, it's good to know that this QITCOM 2014 was taken from the list which Ali has sent to APRALO mailing list, and he also is involved in those two guys consulted him what should be specifically pointed out in the application in the request form. So he gave some suggestions to Satish and [inaudible], and they are in the process of finalizing the request.

If there are any other suggestions related to any major event in the region where people can apply for, please share with all.

Thank you very much, and let's move to agenda item 7. Sorry? Who is there? I couldn't hear.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Sorry. It's all very good to have lists of opportunities sent. We can't act unless an application is received. So we have to move it from lists being sent to applications received. So that's why I'm suggesting we may need to be proactive.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: A great conflict this year, challenge this year. And thank you for these updates. Holly, are you there?

HOLLY RAICHE: Yes, I am.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Please, give a couple of minutes talking about multi-stakeholder forum which we are planning to have in Singapore on Monday, 24 March.

HOLLY RAICHE: Yes, okay. There are actually two events that I've been planning. One is a workshop on what we're calling TOR, which is onion routing, which is

the use of domain names that are not part of the ICANN system and why that's become a particular issue with the new gTLDs.

That session is immediately before the multi-stakeholder forum. It will be chaired by Evan, but we will be very lucky to have the actual chair of the, I think it's Stability and Security, the SSAC, Patrick Falstrom. And Garth Bruen who is also a real whiz on this subject, he's also a member of ALAC, will be talking. So that's going to be a really interesting session from 3:00 to 4:00 in the afternoon.

Then from 4:00 to 6:00, we're having the multi-stakeholder forum. The first part of that will be about privacy/proxy services. And in particular, when the latest amendments to the RAA were passed, part of what was passed was a specification for privacy/proxy services. There's a working group to work through what that will mean, and that working group actually will be meeting (in my time) tomorrow morning.

The people in that forum, so far, are the chairs but will include Michele Neylon, who is a registrar. No, sorry, not Michele. It will include James Bladel, who is GoDaddy, Steve Metalitz, who is the IP constituency in the GNSO, and Kathy Kleiman, who is also, I think, the NCUC. We're looking for somebody from law enforcement, but we're not so sure because we've already got three speakers and that's going to be a lot of the discussion.

Followed by that is the discussion on the Expert Working Group, which is really looking at, in the future, is there a better way to manage registration data? That's going to be run by Carlton, and Michele Neylon

is going to be on that. Two others: Stephanie, and I've forgotten her surname, and Fabricio.

That's going to be for an hour as well, but between those two, it's going to be really all about registration data: its availability, its publicity, its lack of publicity, its accuracy – a range of issues that have been sort of bubbling along for just years. From my money, it's going to be a very interesting three hours.

Any questions?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you, Holly. Are there any questions? Silvia also posted the names from all the records and the roundtable topics to be discussed and speakers in the chat space. Thank you, Silvia.

So no any other questions, looking forward to these discussions in Singapore. And moving to agenda item 8, update from APRICOT 2014. As I understand, there are several people from APRALO now in person in APRICOT in Malaysia. And I know that Cheryl was going to have several meetings there and also to present and represent ICANN and APRALO during the meeting with APTLD there. So, Cheryl, please? Any updates from APRICOT?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Thank you, Siranush. Very briefly, there's a lot going on. There's been some very interesting sessions, including panels on Internet governance that was part of the APTLD meeting, which ran Thursday, Friday, and Monday here in Malaysia. And then yesterday evening, which was

Monday afternoon, was the opening ceremony, which I noted in the chat. Siranush, you obviously attended via webcast.

It's getting into sessions then later in the afternoon and through today. And of course, it's very much network, network, network. A number of people who also have relationships with At-Large Structures ranging from New Zealand through to, of course, [inaudible], Hong Kong, mainland China, and a whole bunch of other places, including locally here in Malaysia, are also here in other capacities.

But I thought what might be notable for our group here today is the very successful – and it was a very successful – ICANN update session that was conducted by Kuek and his team, but also including staff from ICANN policy development. We had our much-loved Mary Wong there and the new gTLD group that was updating specifically on topics to do with IDN, including universal acceptance of WHOIS, including matters of the Expert Working Group and their new report, and on various registry and general ICANN issues.

It was a well-attended meeting. The room was quite full. But what was exciting is that within the region and running this at this APRICOT meeting, about half the people in the audience were not already engaged directly with ICANN policy and activities and, therefore, we can also assume not engaged with us.

And I think that means there's an opportunity for us to outreach at least after the event to encourage and engender even more ALSes. Or if there are ALSes and they are somewhat dormant in the ICANN world, perhaps encourage greater participation.

Other than that, the rest of the week is yet to come. I will be attending the APRICOT-based Women in ICT meeting tomorrow evening, and I'm sure next time I'll be able to do a more fulsome report.

Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Cheryl. I think that this is really a good sign of starting collaboration with APTLD to invite the member of APRALO to provide updates about the upcoming MoU signing process. And I think that this is really good time for starting collaboration between APTLD and APRALO. Thank you very much.

The next action item, again with you, APRALO ROP Charter, Cheryl. Please, a quick update on that, please. Sorry.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Well, thank you. It does need to be a quick update, and it won't take long for the Rules of Procedure. Your Rules of Procedure Working Group – which is chartered, so I think we can probably drop the word “Charter” off this agenda item, thank you – has got the draft document out for its own edits and sanity checking. That is going to be happening until, I think, the middle of next week.

And then shortly after the middle of next week, once we've made any changes that the work group notes in the current draft, we will be passing on to you – Siranush and the rest of your leadership team and then on to the list – a final draft for looking at, talking about on the list,

and on the actual wiki page that it will be publicizing. And of course, what we hope is a more final discussion at the Singapore meeting.

So we're tracking. It will be in the hands of the region for full deliberation by no later than the 8th or 9th of March.

Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you very much, Cheryl. And there will be a document posted. We asked also Silvia in the chat to post the link to that Word document. And March 6 is set as a deadline for any comments for that within the working group. And then it will be shared with others. Some steps will be discussed also during our next monthly call in Singapore. Thank you, Cheryl, very much. And yes, Cheryl, you have your hand up.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: I apologize, but I'm just panicking a little. The fact that in the chat Maureen is asking Silvia for the link to the Word document. We put it up on a Google doc, Maureen. If that link wasn't distributed as I got on a plane, then the committee has not had it for enough time. And if that's the case, I would like Silvia or whoever to rectify it posthaste. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes. Thank you. The link is posted.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes, the document was posted and was sent out, so no problem.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Siranush has said in the chat that she was dropped.

SILVIA VIVANCO: She dropped. Okay.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Holly, do you want to keep it going until she gets back?

HOLLY RAICHE: Oh, okay, okay, okay, right. The Singapore Showcase, now it's Siranush. But, Silvia, do you want to talk about the Singapore Showcase until Siranush is back?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes, sure. Okay, so basically we have at this point organized almost all of the items. The invitations were sent by Siranush to the VIPs that we have present in the Showcase. We are awaiting responses, but staff is aware and they are coordinating the agenda for Fadi and Steve Crocker. So the agenda is done.

In terms of logistics, we have the drinks, the catering, and the folkloric performances already arranged. And thanks to the contributions of APNIC and DotAsia, we had a surplus of about \$1,000. With that extra money, we were able to, through the Singapore office, to find a second

dancing performance that is going to take place at the end of the Showcase and to have some extra drinks to be served during the cocktail time.

So at this point, we are just finalizing the details with meeting staff to have the appropriate screens and the changing rooms and just minor details with meeting staff. So at this point, we are on track.

And I really want to thank everyone, the organizing committee, for your hard work. Your organization really is spectacular, fantastic, and we are looking forward to having a great time in Singapore.

Thank you and bravo. Excellent, APRALO. Thank you very much.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you, Silvia. Thank you very much. I am back. Thank you for this update. Thank you for this excellent support, also. And, yes, I also would like to say thank you to APRALO Singapore Showcase organizing committee members all because they put a lot of effort in fundraising, and we really are very happy to have about \$6,000 fundraised for this Showcase. And I hope that everyone will enjoy a lot of fun and a lot of shows during the Showcase in Singapore.

Gunela, you have your hand, please?

GUNELA ASTBRINK:

Yes, hi. Thank you. This might not totally fit into the Singapore Showcase, but I just wanted to mention that with the At-Large Accessibility Working Group that is brand-new, we were talking about

having a guest speaker from a disability organization in Singapore. And I'm just wondering if there has been any liaison done between that group and APRALO in regard to the organizing. So it's just a general question. It might be too late now, but if there is any information, that would be great.

Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Gunela. Cheryl, you have your hand?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you very much. I thought I'd respond to that although, Siranush, I'm sure you'd be responding in an identical way. Just to let you know, Gunela, that in fact the regional vice president did write to Siranush and myself and some others and ask whether or not it would be appropriate to have a – or some – local disability group representatives come to our accessibility meeting.

And we said most definitely, yes, that would be extremely useful, as we would be able to ask for a public meeting – which that is – benefit by their particular input while we're meeting in Singapore.

But I don't believe there was time being allocated on the Showcase schedule, now, for a speaker from the sector. Siranush, I think I've got that right, but you might want to just double-check on me there.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes, thank you, Cheryl. Just another – I just received and I saw it in my mailbox that I have an e-mail from Kelvin Wong, the person who is dealing with these disability issue from Singapore office. And he sent an update that he contacted [inaudible], the person whose name was given by Gunela to him and he also invited him for the Showcase and for the taskforce meeting.

Actually, it's not the proper to invite him to newcomers or to fellowship meetings where we intend to invite those. But other than that, I don't have any updates whom else they contacted, Singapore staff, as they are not present today also during this meeting. But I think they are in the process of finalizing who will be able to come because there were several suggestions given to them.

Yes, there will be no speakers at Showcase, as it's also a time issue and also a challenge to find the proper person to do that. But Kuek and his staff still are working on finding appropriate group to come for Singapore meeting to see if that will be possible.

Gunela, that's all I know until now. Any other questions to that? Yes, Gunela.

GUNELA ASTBRINK: Yes. Thank you very much, Siranush and Cheryl, for that update. I understand the situation and, hopefully, there will be some other people attending that particular working group meeting on accessibility. And I look forward to working with the particular people to, hopefully, make that happen. Thanks.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Gunela, if I can suggest you to send an e-mail to those people whom you know directly and ask them and invite them on behalf of APRALO to this taskforce meeting, that would be great. And if you can cc this to me and Cheryl just to be aware of who is planning to come to that meeting. They are more than welcome to come.

I think Singapore staff is really busy with all other things around, but if you can help us and, yes, also copy staff, that will be a real help, Gunela. We'd really appreciate it. Thank you very much.

Yes, and I just apologize for having five more minutes of your attention here. There is an agenda item 11, ATLAS II in London, and I would like to touch upon that a little bit.

I have sent a request to APRALO list and asked them to participate in ATLAS II Working Group. And I'm really very happy to receive a very quick response to more than ten people who volunteered for different working groups in ATLAS II. So thank you all for your participation. Thank you all.

I would like to thank those who already volunteered and put their names forward and would like to all those who are not involved put their names forward. We need all your support there in those working groups.

And I also would like to thank staff who is quickly sending appropriate follow-up for the requests to be included in any working group mailing list and that type of thing.

Yes, we will keep more volunteers coming because we also invited Eduardo Diaz and Carlos from communication working group co-chair to our Singapore monthly call, and they graciously agreed to come there. And we will have more information provided to APRALO team.

And also we would like to invite Olivier to be on our Singapore monthly meeting, too, because after Singapore, all our efforts should be put to London. There we'll have not only a summit, but also we'll have APRALO General Assembly there. So a lot of stuff coming up and a lot of discussions will take place. So your participation is very, very important for all of us.

Any additions to that? Olivier, Cheryl, Holly, Maureen? If no, then let's move forward. Yes, Maureen, please.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

No. I said there was nothing from me. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Okay, thank you very much. Yes, and just agenda item 12 is next monthly call, which will be in Singapore. It will be on March 26 from 8:00 to 9:00 local time. So those who will be in person in Singapore are more than welcome to come there. This is some kind of mandatory for them to come. But all others who will be not in Singapore, they are more than welcome to join that through Adobe space and through remote dial-out.

So I think that will be also the date for us for the Singapore Showcase. That evening on March 26, we will have our Showcase. So that monthly

meeting will be very important for all of us. Yes, thanks for posting Wednesday 26th agenda in the space, Silvia.

Any other business? No? If no, then I just want to thank everyone for your participation. And we'll provide some updates through our mailing list for all other APRALO members who were not able to join the call. And we'll post also our monthly report in the space for our upcoming ALAC meeting.

Good night and thank you very much for your participation. And enjoy APRICOT.

[END OF TRANSCRIPT]