
GISELLA GRUBER: Good evening everyone. Welcome to the AFRALO call on Wednesday, June 11th 2014 at 18:30 UTC. On the call tonight we'll have, on the English channel, Phillip Johnson, Barrack Otieno, Alan Greeberg and Adetokunbo Abiola. On the French channel we have Aziz Hilali, Alioune Badara Traore and Baudouin Schombe. We have received apologies from Pierre Dovonou, Fatimata Seye Sylla, Hadja Ouattara and Olivier Crépin-Leblond.

As members of staff we have Pierre Dandjinou, Silvia Vivanco, Heidi Ullrich and myself, Gisella Gruber. Our interpreters for this evening will be Claire and Camilla. May I remind you to please state your names when you take the floor for transcript purposes, but also for the interpreters to identify you on the other channel. Thank you very much. Aziz, you have the floor.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you very much. Welcome everyone and thank you for being here. We're going to start this teleconference right away. It's our monthly, June, teleconference. May I ask if we have any pending issues? The main item to be discussed is ATLAS II. If you have any other questions or items you'd like to add to the Agenda, this is the time to state them. Try not to add too many items please. If there are no comments or items to be added, we have the open public comments. I suggest then that we start with ICANN and ALAC.

The first open public comment on the Agenda, if you're on the Wiki right now, you'll see the entire list of open comment periods. As you know,

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there are three columns, the first of which is the title of the open public comments, and the other two are the close of the reply period, and the closure of the comment itself. Firstly we have a proposal for the use of mandatory policy advisory boards, regulated industry center and consumer trust sensitive, new gTLD strings.

Secondly, we have the FY15 draft operating plan and budget. We have a very important item, which is the accountability of ICANN and how that was dealt with. Then there's debate on the strengthening of ICANN and its accountability, which is a discussion that should revolve around the way in which ICANN is accountable, even though it doesn't have a history of contractual relationships with the NTIA and the United States Government.

We're then going to deal with the procedure of UDRP. Then we have the community's comments on the effectiveness of the procedure. This is about hearing what you have to say, what your comments are, regarding ALS applications. All these procedures have been together and have been analyzed, and they are very interesting indeed. We have then a report on the support, which is very important for us as Africans, for the accreditation of new gTLDs in the section.

You might be working with Yaovi, who sent this on the AfriStar list. On that list he asked people to discuss these items, which were so important to Africa and to other regions as well, of course. Then we have a cross-community working group on Internet governance [submissions 05:00] and the development of policy, and the blocking of domain names, following the UDRP. Then we have the different regions

of the registrars, [unclear 05:33] within the compliance of the procedure in the gNSO.

Then we have the five-year strategic plan for FY15 to FY20 for ICANN. Then we have a study to evaluate the solutions for the [submission 06:03] this day of internationalized contact data. Finally, we have the .web registry agreement amendment. This provides further clarification. Then we have changes to the Registry Agreement. That is the full list of items that are open for public comment. If there are any comments or suggestions, please, you're welcome to take the floor. In the absence of comments...

Interpreter:

Are there any comments on the English channel? Let me know and I'll relay that to Aziz.

AZIZ HILALI:

I thought I was on my own, because I couldn't hear anyone speaking. Has everyone heard properly the interpreters? Have they been relaying the message onto the English channel? In the absence of comments we can move onto Item #3, regarding ICANN's recent and upcoming activities. I see that Tijani is not with us right now, so I'm going to give the floor to Beran. I'd like to thank Beran firstly for discussing and explaining to us ALAC's recent and upcoming activities. Beran, you have the floor.

GISELLA GRUBER: Beran is only connected to the Adobe Connect, and so on the French channel should be able to hear you, but I've just sent her a message on the chat and didn't get any reply.

ALAN GREENBERG: I think I hear her occasionally.

GISELLA GRUBER: Apparently Beran is speaking on the English channel. Beran, you can try to explain it to Alan.

ALAN GREENBERG: Beran, try starting to speak. Hopefully the interpreter will hear you.

AZIZ HILALI: If Beran can have the floor, she is going to speak first. If not, in the meantime, Beran can get connected on the telephone. Alan you have the floor.

ALAN GREENBERG: I wasn't trying to speak. I was just saying that I could hear Beran speaking.

GISELLA GRUBER: I'm sorry. Beran is not on the English channel. I've asked her through the AC if she needed a dial-out. She said she's on the AC but the audio is not working, so what can we do?

AZIZ HILALI:

Beran, can you hear us? Okay, we are going to move to the next Item – recent and upcoming activities of AFRALO. I'm going to give the floor to some of our colleagues, who want to speak about the activities they've organized in their own countries or their own regions. Maybe Barrack or Pierre want to have the floor? Okay, nobody's asking for the floor, so we're going to move to the next Item. I'd like to speak about my own ALS.

We've organized, during three days in May, the 21st-23rd of May, three days of work with some conferences on IPv6 migration. It was a big success because we had some participants from everywhere, and private participants too and from the administration too. Gisella is telling me that Beran is back on the English channel. Beran, do you want to have the floor? Beran is not connected anymore, so we're going to move to the next Item. Items for information, Item #4.

The first Item is about the Community Regional Outreach Pilot Project. As you know, ICANN has organized the CROPP in which each of the RALOs can ask for funding for activities or trips. For the African region, for outreach projects, you have to apply, make a request, eight weeks before the trip. The only request we had was for Tijani's participation for the African Summit, which took place in Djibouti. He has represented AFRALO and he chaired a panel, and then he made a conference in the name of AFRALO, about AFRALO's activities.

If there are questions about that, I'd be really happy to answer. If not, I'm going to move to the next Item. There are no questions. I'm speaking alone today. We're going to move to the next Item. This is the second At-Large Summit; ATLAS II. You know that ICANN and the ALAC team, with the responsible head of each region, are working on the organization of this At-Large Summit. They're preparing this Summit, which is going to be very important for us in ICANN.

We'll have all the ALS representatives, and we'll be more than 150 ALS and ALS representatives in London, to represent all the work. Silvia sent us the link on the chat on Adobe Connect. This is the Agenda of the ATLAS II Summit. It's very important, and I'd like to ask Silvia to give us the exact number of African ALSes who are going to be there. We're going to have a General Assembly for one hour and a half, and we've already sent you this agenda.

We're asking you if you can make some comments, or if you have some other items to add to this agenda of the GA. Pierre, our VP of the African region, is going to lecture and speak to us about the achievements of the strategic projects, and the strategy of ICANN in Africa. Then we're going to have some presentation about the activities made by AFRALO from Dakar to London. Then Fatimata, Tijani and Mohammad are going to speak.

Fatimata is going to speak about the CROPP. Tijani is going to speak about the problems and functioning principles of AFRALO, and Mohammad is going to speak about AFRALO's challenges and the ways to improve the ALS participation in AFRALO. The Phillip is going to speak

about the project of membership, implemented by ICANN, to represent the civil society in our community. Are there any questions? Silvia?

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Regarding the number of AFRALO ALSes we have 23 confirmed. I just wanted to invite everyone to a conference call on Monday, 16th, at 13:00 UTC. This call is especially for all of you to ask questions about ATLAS II. We'll go through the agenda, day-by-day, so you can see what the activities are, and the schedule, the rooms. This is very important, so please all of you, join us on Monday 16th. I just quickly want to say that we have many activities, five plenary sessions on Saturday 21st.

We have an orientation program for mentor/mentees on Saturday as well. Then everybody will break into the thematic groups. There are five themes. This will go on on Saturday and Sunday. We'll be meeting in different groups during the entire day. On Tuesday at 19:30 we have our parties, our Fayre of Opportunities, and on Wednesday we have the AFRALO General Assembly.

Of course, throughout the week we have many very important and interesting meetings, and all of these details will be presented for all of you, so you go with the entire the schedule very well in your head, before getting the plane to London. Please join this call. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI:

Okay, thank you very much Gisella. Thank you to all the ALSes. I'd like everybody to be there on Monday. Personally, I have cancelled a class that I had to give, because I wanted to be there at that teleconference

call. Silvia told us it's very important, and I think it's very important too.
Okay, Beran is with us. Beran?

BERAN GILLEN: Hello. I just wanted to quickly ask a question. Do we know, out of those 23 AFRALO Members, how many of them have actually secured their visas for London?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Probably we can get that information. I don't know it off the top of my head, but we have a database and we can check and get back to you on that. Thank you.

BERAN GILLEN: Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI: Beran, we asked you to do a small briefing about your ALS activities?

BERAN GILLEN: Okay. Thank you. I just wanted to give a short update. I've attended several meetings since the last AFRALO meeting in May. We've had some meetings on the Organizing Committee for the ATLAS II, as well as the Public Relations Working Group. We've also recently had, yesterday, a mentor/mentees meeting as well. This is all part of the ATLAS II organization for London, in which Aziz said there will be 150 ALSes attending. I did want to add that we've been having a bit of trouble with

the mentees that haven't been responding, especially with the African region.

I've been allocated about five mentees from South Africa, DRC and Tunisia and other countries, but I haven't been getting feedback from the mentees. Is it that they don't understand the mentoring program, or what it's about? Or maybe they don't have enough information about it? I'm just going to post a link on the chat right now about the mentoring program, and perhaps hopefully that would help some of the mentees who are dialed in now, to be able to find their mentors and be able to make good use of them before the meeting.

The whole purpose of the mentoring program is for you to basically familiarize yourself with ALAC and the ICANN meeting, and have any questions that you may have answered. Also, log into the Wiki, read about At-Large and the ALAC, and you'll be able to prepare yourself better for the meeting on the 23rd. We've also been organizing meetings for the ATLAS II, prior to the beginning of the ICANN meeting. ATLAS II will be starting on Saturday 21st, and we'll be having a series of sessions that will last the whole day, in which we'll have thematic sessions and will be covering different topics.

It's important that all the African ALSes we have dialed into this call are aware of these sessions and that they choose which session they're going to be attending. In addition to that, we also have some social gatherings that we've organized. We have the Fayre of Opportunities, which Silvia's already spoken about, and we also have a dinner on Saturday night.

We also have a very important meeting on Saturday afternoon for the mentors and mentees. I urge all mentors and mentees to attend that meeting. It's going to be Saturday, in the Windsor Suite, between 1:00 and 2:00 PM. All mentors and mentees should join us there at the meeting, because we'll be meeting for the first time, hopefully, face-to-face, and be able to plan our meeting throughout the course of the week. I believe that's all I have for now, with regards to updates on the ALAC and ATLAS II. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you very much Beran. Yes, I want to add that each RALO is going to have time to present its region, and then we'll have a kind of show, like a showcase, which is going to take place on Tuesday 24th June, 18:30 to 20:30. I want to tell you there are two persons who have accepted to be the leaders of the action of this event – this is Didier from the [ARTC 28:25] and Peters from Nigeria. They have accepted to be responsible for this action.

Then we will have a brochure that you should have received from myself. You have to update the description of your ALS, or for the new ALS, you have to fill this form out for us to update the information about your ALS. We want to edit a small brochure with ICANN staff. I'm negotiating with Heidi and Silvia. I want to have some copies with us in London, in paper format, so I can give you some. For now, the ALSes who've updated their form, the only one is the African Youth Foundation, ISOC [Benee 29:44], [Cameroon] Federation of [Consumator 29:51], Internet Society of Nigeria, and [something] from Nigeria, and the Internet Society from Nigeria too.

I'm sorry. Yes, and we hope that the ICANN staff is going to help us to edit those brochures. We are going to have a game... We chose as a slogan, "AFRALO Within Africa for the Development," and the Fayre, as I told you, and the music. We ask all the ALSes to send us some music, because during the Fayre we need some music in the background to represent each region, but only a few of the ALSes have responded, sending us some music. It's a pity. The last Item... Tijani's with us now.

I know that Tijani... There is also the quiz. Fatimata helped us with that. There are some questions with rewards. I ask you, can you please be there on Saturday and Sunday. These two days will be very important for us, with a lot of activities. There are some other sessions with different topics. Each of you has chosen a topic, so you need to participate in those activities. We need to mobilize the African region and we need to take these activities seriously.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

I'm sorry to be late [unclear 32:34]. I don't know what was already said or what was not said. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you Tijani. Are there any other items about ATLAS II? Let me remind Tijani, we talked about the Fayre, about the brochure, and about the music... Are there any other items you'd like to add, Tijani?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Yes, Aziz. Within the framework of the opportunities, we could give an idea of what we could do about the showcase, to show activities of an

ALS, of a region. It's a moment for networking, for an exchange of information and experiences. Also it's a moment for relaxation. This is one side. It's going to take place on Tuesday, because on Tuesday we were able to have a change of the date. Each thematic group is going to discuss on the topics, that you know. Each group is going to come out with a statement; a document of some type.

Afterwards, the moderator of each thematic group is going to compile the declaration of statement of each group, for an At-Large Summit declaration. These are the thematic groups, and I request you not hesitate to show your differences, if you do have your differences, or to give your approval if you agree. This is our Summit. It's all of our Summit. Africa should be involved in the document that's going to be coming out of the Summit. There are many opportunities that we've talked about already.

There are activities to be [sponsored 36:12], that we're going to be monitoring all together. The other activities are also going to be taking place. We are going to London to attend Meeting 50 of ICANN. You will have time to attend [no 36:33] At-Large meetings. There is the program. Each on your own, you will be able to discuss with me. I'm available all the time, if you need me, even though I'm not in your group, to see what direction you would like to give to these At-Large discussions.

I believe we'll have huge opportunities [unclear 37:09] to see how ICANN works, and to show how Africa's voice is heard. We're going to meet in London. I expect to meet you there.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you Tijani for all your comments. Are there any questions? Do you have questions to ask, or shall we move to Item #6? Hello Didier, you have the floor.

DIDIER KASOLE: Before moving to the next Item, I'd like to understand what "the non-serviced area" means?

AZIZ HILALI: "Non-serviced area"?

DIDIER KASOLE: I don't see where I marked it in the discussion... Item #5. When you presented Item #5, which concerned the At-Large Summit, after the Agenda... There was no Agenda. We talked about this in the beginning. We talked about public consultation. [unclear 39:21] Item is about report of the domain name...

AZIZ HILALI: Yes, I agree, I understand what you're talking about, Didier. That was an Item that ICANN announced for public comment. I recommend that you go to the ICANN website. I can give you a link. There you can make comments on this Item. If you are on the AC I'm going to send you a link. This is a link for the public comment about ICANN wanting to help the regions or the countries that have domain name industries that are badly serviced, or that are poor, simply. Some of them [unclear 40:39] ICANN staff.

Now we are waiting for comments for this Item. You may also send emails to Yaovi, for him to explain to you further details about this project. Is that okay, Didier? Okay. If there are no other questions we can move to the sixth Item, concerning the news of the ALSes. There are three requests. I'll give the floor to Phillip. He's with us on the English channel. Phillip Johnson. Phillip's dropped. As you see on the Agenda, there are three new ALS applications. We've already got 30 African ALSes, which have been accredited.

With these further three ALS applications, we are going to be 33 African ALSes. The applications are for the Open-Source Software Foundation for Africa, from Nigeria; that's OSFON from Nigeria. Then we have to know whether someone knows this foundation, to see whether anyone supports their application. Then we had ISOC Chad and ISOC Mauritius. Tijani, I wonder if you can tell me if we've received any information on any of these?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you Aziz. I cannot answer your question, because I'm not sure whether we have any of that information you're asking for. I know we're carrying out the due diligence, and I've met the gentleman who submitted his application for Nigeria. It's someone I know. He's a very good person. He's very nice. I'm sure his organization is very serious. I know there's a lot of support for his ALS to go through, on the Internet. I think we should move forward with those ALSes, which are already at the due diligence stage. I think all three applications could go through at this stage.

AZIZ HILALI: Right, but do you think we could reach a decision today, or should we wait for these processes before we can take a decision?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Of course. We'll need the due diligence, and I think we have at least one of those.

AZIZ HILALI: Silvia, do you think we have any of these due diligences? I think we have the one for or OSFON. Can you please confirm that, Silvia?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Hello, yes. I need to confirm with one of my colleagues, who's carrying out the due diligence. I will get back to you on this question.

AZIZ HILALI: Wonderful. Thank you. I suggest that these three applications be postponed, and we can add that to the agenda for the General Annual Meeting that we'll have in London. Tijani, is there anything you'd like to add?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: No, that's what I wanted to say. I think at the face-to-face general meeting, everyone will be there, so that will be a good chance to decide what to do about these applications. I think it will be much smoother.

AZIZ HILALI: Phillip says that we've already received the due diligence for OFSON, so we'll leave these three applications pending, and if at London we can, we'll take a decision then. Otherwise we'll do what Tijani said. The people who submitted the application for the Nigerian ALS found it serious. We're going to leave these three applications for the London meeting and take this back at this stage. If there are no other questions or comments, we're ready to move onto Item #7, which is any other business. I do have other business to add to this Item.

I'd like to know if anyone has any comments to add, any Items they'd like to add. Are there any hands raised?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Mine.

AZIZ HILALI: Tijani, go ahead.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes, since I wasn't here earlier I wanted to discuss with you the [workshop 46:11] and AFRALO's participation at the African Internet Summit.

AZIZ HILALI: Yes, we discussed the CROPP and I was telling participants that we can ask for up to five trips for now, and that the only request was your

request for a trip to the African Internet Summit. Tijani, if you'd be so kind to tell us what your experience was? You have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you Aziz. I took part in the African Internet Summit, within the framework of the CROPP. CROPP only funds three nights and two days in the country, but not the entire project, because the Summit lasted for five days, so I had to pay for the rest of my stay. We organized a workshop for AFRALO, and I presented ICANN's new season. I tried to get everyone from the constituencies in ICANN to speak about the evolution of ICANN, this new season of ICANN. That's the buzzword of the moment.

I tried to get the people who'd already signed up and who had their trip already paid for to participate, because I didn't want to have to pay for any other trips. I asked Pierre Danjinou to tell us about the African strategy. I tried to get Janvier, who's the Chair of ISOC Cameroon, who was there with Barrack. I asked Janvier to speak because other than Barrack he was the only ALS who was there. He explained the new season from the ALSes' viewpoint.

Barrack then spoke about the new season from the ccTLD viewpoint, because he's the Secretary of the [AFTLD 48:34. That's the Association of the African ccTLDs. He discussed the new season from the ccTLD point of view. I also asked Emmanuel to discuss the GAC viewpoint of this new season, because Emmanuel is a Member of the GAC. I had asked for an official GAC Member, who's [unclear 48:57]. She's the Nigerian representative.

Unfortunately, she couldn't stay until the time the workshop had been organized, so she asked for somebody else to stand in for her. The only one who could do that was Emmanuel, who had been a GAC Member. She was a former member who'd been in charge of the development of the new policies. I also asked her to speak in her stead. Then we had regional engagement within the framework of the new season. That was AFRALO's session within the African Internet Summit.

Then we had the [evolution 49:41] of Ethics in Djibouti. I got to moderate in the discussion, and I think that provides a great chance for us. I'd like to thank the people from AFRINIC very much, because that was a wonderful opportunity for us. If you're good at what you do, then your people know you, but if you go and work at other meetings where there's greater participation, where it's broader, where it's more visible, you get the entire community to know who you are. It was very, very interested to go to the Summit.

It allowed me to get in touch with lots of new people to discuss the possibility of accrediting new ALSes. I talked to people from Nigeria... From other countries where there's no ALSes. I hope we'll get some new applications. Thank you Aziz.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you Tijani. It has to be said of the CROPP that it only funds three days and two nights. When your meeting is far away, it's indeed very hard for you to participate for the entire meeting, with this length of funding. In fact, I think we should give our advice that the CROPP, as a project, if I haven't misunderstood what it aims at, be extended. I think

we should advise, through a statement, the possible changes that could be made to this program. Do you agree, Tijani?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Yes, Aziz. I think we should add that visa disbursements are not reimbursed. I further addressed the CROPP staff, at the end of my experience, which belonged to FY14. I wrote to them at the end of the year with a detailed statement of all my disbursements and everything had to be reimbursed. I suggested that for FY15... They have in fact extended the length of the [unclear 52:32] for FY15, and they have agreed to reimburse visa expenditures for FY15 and to extend participation when there is no broad participation.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you Tijani. I think we should discuss this at the general meeting, as I understand we'll have the funds to do it there. Perhaps it would be a good opportunity to discuss how we can convey ICANN's message. Are there other comments from people who, like you, participated at this project? This brings us then back to Item #7, which was any other business. You've just heard Tijani discuss his own other business.

Now, as for the rest of the participants, Tijani just mentioned visas. Are there any of you that have issues with visas? I heard that there were two ALS representatives. They were Janvier from Cameroon and someone from Tunisia who had trouble. Do you have the new number to call in case of trouble? There was someone from Egypt as well.

GISELLA GRUBER: Aziz? For the time being there's no update on visa issues. We're going to follow up to know what's happened with these three cases you've just mentioned, but unfortunately there's no news for the time being.

AZIZ HILALI: I followed up with these people via email. Heidi, Olivier and Janvier are the names of these three people. ICANN staff might have someone responsible speaking their language, who could represent their interest. I don't know whether Janvier got his visa or not. It had been refused for reasons we couldn't understand.

GISELLA GRUBER: I'll take care of this right away. Nigel Hickson and Jean-Jacques had to meet the British authorities. We'll give you an update on that via email. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI: Great. My second item to be added to the any other business is our General Meeting in London. Since we're going to meet at the General Meeting in London, wouldn't you agree that we could cancel the monthly meeting for AFRALO in July? I don't think there will be any more participation at the calls and at the General Meeting, within the framework of ATLAS II.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you Aziz.

AZIZ HILALI: That brings us to the end of the call. I'd like to thank Silvia, Gisella and Alan Greenberg, who stayed with us throughout the call, and Heidi, and the interpreters for having been with us. I thank you all for having participating and I'll see you soon.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you Aziz. Bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]