
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Good evening, everybody. We are going to start the recording and the interpretation. Good evening. This is the AFRALO Taskforce. This is Friday, 3rd of October, 16:00 UTC.

On the English channel, we have Seun Ojedeji and Mercy Moyo; and on the French channel, we have Fatima Seye Sylla, Tijani Ben Jemaa, and Michel Tchonang.

We have no apologies.

On staff we have Silvia Vivanco, Gisella Gruber, and Beran Gillen has joined us on the English channel. As interpreter, this is Claire, she is working with us on both channels.

Please tell your name when you take the floor so we can identify you on the other channel. Thank you, Gisella. Apologies from Aziz Hilali, okay. We have the apologies from Aziz Hilali, okay. It's on the list now.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: We are going to begin our meeting. Hello, everybody. We have decided to organize this meeting because we know why. We need to work together. We need to find a strategy to [inaudible] more representation from Africa after what happened during the NomCom selection for 2013. So, now we have something to add for our agenda. We need to nominate the responsible for the taskforce, and then we need to see what we are going to do afterward.

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.

So, do you want to adopt this agenda, or do you want to modify something in our agenda? Okay, it's okay? Adoption of the agenda. Thank you.

Now we are going to move to the next item, the third item. As usual we need to organize ourselves and we need to have a chair, a vice- hair, and a penholder. Tijani, you have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you, Fatimata. I'd like to nominate you, Fatimata, as chair of the working group. And I also would like to nominate the penholder of the group as Seun.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA:

Thank you very much, Tijani. I'd like to accept, but I don't know if I can be the chair, and at the same time – I don't know if you understand what I am saying.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Okay, I understand what you are saying. There are no conflicts of interest. You are going to do reflection work, and we are not going to take decisions. We are going to propose to AFRALO some persons. So this has nothing to do with decision taking, etc. So there are no interest conflicts.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Tijani, this working group is going to – will have to do more than recommendations to AFRALO. We are going to do some recommendations to AFRALO, but I'd like this working group to also be the arm of AFRALO to do some outreach and to contact some person that could be good candidate for it.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: I think this work depends on AFRALO, so I think our taskforce should identify the actions and the things we have to do, so as AFRALO can take decisions to select this person into the leadership of ICANN. And if the reasoning for the implementation of our recommendation – okay, but we are only responsible for recommendation.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay, but I'd like to add strategy. The strategy also is important.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes, and AFRALO will have to see how to implement those recommendations. The AFRALO leadership will do that.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay. I'd like to ask the other persons to give their opinion on that, also. What do you think about that? Seun, you have the floor. Seun, you can speak if you want. You have the floor.

INTERPRETER: Seun, can you hear me? This is Claire, the interpreter. Because we can't hear you. Seun, can't hear you here. Can you hear me? I'm Claire, the interpreter. Do you hear us?

SEUN OJEDEJI: Hello? Can you hear me? Hello? Hello?

INTERPRETER: Okay, this is Seun?

SEUN OJEDEJI: You can hear me now?

INTERPRETER: Okay, now we can hear you. So you can speak, and I'm going to translate into French.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, good. Thank you very much. So, I will tell you first I'd like to thank Fatimata, for [inaudible]. I think it's very good [inaudible]. I just want to comment on Tijani's comment and [inaudible]and also on Fatimata's nomination. I think Fatimata [inaudible] Fatimata being chair of this working group is a conflict of interest. I think that [inaudible] with the NomCom. [inaudible] conflict of interest or not. [inaudible] understand what it is that we are doing, and we have[inaudible] Tijani mentioning that [inaudible] implementation. So, [inaudible] recommendation [inaudible] AFRALO leadership or I guess recommending [inaudible] and

I mentioned that AFRALO should [inaudible] for people. [inaudible] We should know what exactly our [inaudible] conflict of interest [inaudible]. I think I have – I'm not sure. I think I heard my name mentioned. I'm not even sure [inaudible] or what. I need to know. I need to know what that means.[inaudible]. That will be all from me for now. Thank you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay. Thank you, Seun. Okay, Seun accepts the nomination to be penholder. But I'd like to nominate Mercy as vice chair first. We are speaking about Mercy Moyo.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can you hear us, Mercy? Do you agree with what Fatimata just said? Mercy, are you listening to us? Yes? Okay. I see that Michel was asking for the floor. Michel, can you hear us? Do you want to have the floor? Okay. Mercy, you have the floor.

MERCY MOYO: Can you hear me? Can I speak through the phone? Can you hear me?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mercy, we hear you perfectly. You can speak.

MERCY MOYO: Okay. Before I accept this position, I just want to know the expectations. What are we supposed to do? It's quite tricky for me to accept this position without hearing a background. I was thinking that Fatimata was

going to explain to us what the whole taskforce is going to be doing before we go on to the nominations. Thank you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA:

Thank you, Mercy, for your question. Yes, you are right. I have not talked about what we are going to do, because I thought that we had discussed that. I'm going to come back to this issue. According to the results. Okay. Seun said that she is agreeing. Okay.

I think that what we are going to do after Tijani's proposal is that we are going to reflect on strategies, because at the selection level for the ICANN's leaders, we want to meet to have some representation from Africa, to have more representation from Africa.

So, for the leader's nominations in 2013, there were no African people. And when you look at the leadership configuration, we see that the African people are not really present. It is true that we had a fight two years ago to have an African representation at the ICANN staff level, with Pierre Dandjinou present. It was a fight that we won, and it was very important. And it was thanks to Fadi.

But now, when it's about to select people for the NomCom, we have very good candidates, but nominees, they don't present themselves for the functions they could have. So we can't see any people from Africa at this leadership level.

So this is why I have proposed to create a working group to tell AFRALO what to do, to do some recommendations as LACRALO had to do at the moment they were in the same position as us some time ago. And they

fight, and they thought that they needed to have more people, and it's the same for us.

We need to have more African people in the ICANN leadership. It's [a long work]. We have to look for the good person. We have to work for information and outreach, too, to know what is the position that are to be fulfilled. And we need to look at the NomCom work. We need to look at the positions that are free. And then we will tell AFRALO what we have to do.

Tijani, do you want to add something about that? Do you want to add something, Tijani, about this function? We need to reflect on the strategy, also, about the profiles we have and we know that we have good resources in Africa.

And we know that we need to work on those resources to be more present in the AFRALO leadership. We need to explain in AFRALO the process of the nomination process, for example. We need to be able to tell them that not only is the NomCom working, there is a [inaudible] bureau working outside of the NomCom doing some recommendation that is also important, and people from AFRALO need to know that.

Okay. Seun, you are asking a question. Seun? [inaudible] We need to look for direct [inaudible] leaders. Tijani is proposing something that is simple. And then I will accept to be chair. Tijani is proposing that we only [work] for recommendations. For me, this was the second option. That is to say that our working group needed to work on strategy measures and also try to do some work. But it is true that we don't have

the mandate to do that kind of work, so maybe it's better to let AFRALO do that.

I think that Tijani's proposal is very interesting. Tijani, you have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you, Fatimata. I think that AFRALO should accept our recommendation to do the implementation, so our working group can't reflect and do the implementation without consulting AFRALO.

So this is a reflection group on the action on what we have to do, then AFRALO will accept that, and then they will mandate our group to do the implementation of these recommendations or we will create an implementation group. Maybe AFRALO will decide that the chair and the secretary of AFRALO are going to form that group. But the decision is from AFRALO.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA:

Yes, you are right, Tijani. I agree with you.

INTERPRETER:

Seun is asking for the floor. Okay, Sean, you have the floor. Seun, I have some problems with your line, so please, try to speak clearly and slowly. Seun, you have the floor.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Okay, thank you. Can you hear me? Hello?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. Seun, speak clearly and slow. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: I'd like to make a comment on what [inaudible]. I think perhaps we need to [explain] why we got to this level. I think we got to this level because it was mentioned [inaudible] that there needs to have more representation. AFRALO needs to have more representation of AFRALO [inaudible] within ICANN.

I think saying that we provide recommendations, it will be followed by [inaudible] recommendation. The kind of [inaudible] the strategy that will be implemented, and I don't know if we [inaudible] recommendation level. I don't know how much effect that really makes in this whole – I think [inaudible]. Hello? Fatimata, can you hear me?

[inaudible] is just to provide recommendation. I don't know to what extent that is going to help us achieve our goal. I think we will actually [inaudible] for leaders. I [inaudible] be in action. Action [inaudible] group, and not a group that will be doing recommendation [inaudible]. So that is why [inaudible] Tijani's recommendation. I think it should be more action [inaudible]. We can communicate our activities to the AFRALO leadership, and then we have [inaudible] get a new group or something. It's not just a recommendation, [inaudible] recommendation group. I think [inaudible].

SILVIA VIVANCO: Thank you, Seun, for your comments. I just want to ask you to very quickly put in writing your comments, since we had a very difficult line and your line was coming out not very clear for the interpreter. So, please, put a few lines with your comments. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay. Thank you. I will type it.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Gisella, Fatimata has been disconnected. Can you call her back, please?

BERAN GILLEN: Hi, yes. I'd like to have the floor, please. This is Beran Gillen.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Beran, are you asking for the floor?

BERAN GILLEN: Yes, I am.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Just a second. I'm going to tell Fatimata.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Just a second. I think we are going to stay in this position, because we can't have the mandate without consulting AFRALO. It is not our

decision. So AFRALO will have to say that this group is going to work in that or that area.

I agree with what Tijani said. But I think that from now on we can say we can tell AFRALO to accept the recommendations we are going to, and we can go beyond that and ask AFRALO that the proposal that we are going to make need to be implemented by the working group, for example. I think we can work on that, improve that.

But we can say that the working group is going to satisfy AFRALO's needs. I think it's a good strategy and it's normally the strategy used in ICANN when there is a working group working. They do some proposals, and those proposals go to the [responsible], which will take the decision to do that or that.

Beran is asking for the floor, then Tijani. Beran, you have the floor.

BERAN GILLEN:

Thank you. I just wanted to [inaudible] what Seun was saying. Basically, without this mandate to implement, we would just be [inaudible], to be honest. We need to be able to implement what we come up with, or else we would still be in the same position come next year.

So I just wanted to add to what Seun said, basically. We need to have that mandate. If that means we need to sit with AFRALO leadership to get that mandate to implement, I think we should do that immediately before moving forward with the working group. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Beran, are you finished?

BERAN GILLEN: Yes, I am. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Fatimata. Beran, I agree with you. But [we are not going to do some recommendations], and we need those recommendations to be implemented, of course, but there is a process that we have to respect because we work with AFRALO, under AFRALO's [decisions].

So if AFRALO accepts what we are doing, what we are proposing as actions, and then we will implement those actions. Of course, those who know me know that I am an action man and [inaudible] move through the normal way, [through the normal staff within] ICANN or the working group can decide to implement those recommendations.

They can do some recommendations, and then the group under which the working group is working will accept or not. So we are going to work to do some recommendations, then they will be accepted or not. So, if the recommendation is accepted and implemented by AFRALO, the same working group will maybe ask to implement its recommendations. This is the way it works.

I agree with you, but this is the way it works. The recommendation needs to be implemented, and this implementation is decided by AFRALO. This is how it works.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you, Tijani. I want to add something. Tijani says that we need to work that way, and I have asked to create this working group, because I want to have in 2015 the possibility to do something and to have some results. So it's not a taskforce that we have created just like that. No, it is – I think [the] AFRALO chair asked us to create this working group, so what we are going to do will be to present leaders to AFRALO. And I am also almost sure that our recommendations will be implemented.

When we are speaking about recommendations, it means that we are going to recommend some actions but we also can say that we will recommend that the person who has been thinking about strategy wants those strategies to be implemented.

Did I answer your question, Seun? Michel is asking for the floor. Michel, are you asking for the floor?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Fatimata, I want to answer Seun's question. Okay, Seun is asking if we are recommending people or process.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay, Tijani. You can answer.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much. I want to answer Seun's question. We are not recommending people. It's not what we are going to do. We are going to recommend action program, and this program will be implemented.

And we will need to be controlling implementation, but it will be AFRALO's responsibility. Okay?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA:

And I want to add something. Because AFRALO [has asked] Beran and everybody, the person participating to this call, [inaudible] AFRALO [inaudible] that we are going to work through this taskforce.

Okay. Seun, you were disconnected, so you weren't listening. Can you hear us, Seun? Okay, Tijani explained that what we want to do – okay. I hope that you have heard everything what we said. And do you agree with that? What do you think about that? We are a working group, so [it's] now – we are really lucky.

Seun is asking to summarize. Okay, we are going to summarize, Seun. Our working group will reflect on strategy and will do some concrete proposals in very short time to implement actions to have results shortly because we need to have some [leaders], some results, and we [have thought] that this working group will do some recommendations for the action that we want to implement. The president of AFRALO is working in that working group, and I think that our recommendations will be implemented very shortly, very quickly.

We are not going to recommend people, because the working group will be implementing a decision. So is it clear now, Seun? Did you understand?

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Hello? Can you hear me?

INTERPRETER: Yes, Seun, I can hear you. This is Claire, the interpreter. Yes, I can hear you, Seun. You can speak.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, good. Thank you. I [inaudible] Fatimata. I think it's [best] we [add] to this taskforce a recommendation group. I think it should be good that we clearly document, define our scope of work. Let's see it in black and white so that we know what we are doing.

I was actually, from the onset, was thinking that this group was going to, while we recommend actions, that were actually also going to go ahead to also carry out those actions. But since it's going to be strictly on recommendation level alone, I think that is fine.

But I think we should just, then, document our scope of work. We understand that it is only when things are getting done, that is when we actually see results. I will suggest that even though this group is a recommendation group, that we actually be allowed to also review the outcome of our recommendations as to follow up on it. Because we need to be able to, after five months or after a certain period of time we should be able to evaluate and find out whether those recommendations that we made were actually implemented.

So that's just what I want to make known. Thank you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay. Thank you very much, Seun. It was very clear. We have understood. Tijani, you have the floor.

TOJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay. Thank you, Fatimata. I think that we can do a chart of our working group, something short, with the mission and the timeline. That I think will satisfy Seun. We can document our mission, try to put some time limits. That's good. So we can contribute to have more leadership and more candidacy for the year 2015.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you, Tijani. I think it's a good idea. It's a good proposal. It's about the fourth item of our agenda. Next, I'd like to, because Mercy didn't accept her nomination – I don't know. Mercy, did you accept your nomination as vice chair? Michel is asking for the floor. Michel, you have the floor.

MICHEL TCHONANG: Okay, good evening, everybody. I had a lot of problems and have been disconnected a lot and I couldn't take the floor. As it is a working group, I'd like to take the floor. I will be very brief. Related to the deadlines, I think it's a very good thing, because if we have no deadlines, we are not going to achieve our goals.

The second item I wanted to address is that if we are not working on the activities that we want to implement during the work of our taskforce, we won't achieve our goals. When we were speaking about our proposals that needed to be validated by AFRALO, it is a very important

issue. I think we'll discuss that in the working group, because it should be very clear from the beginning, and we should be sure.

First, we should understand that we are a working group making some proposals and only that. And AFRALO needs to give us the warrant that our work will be done for something. It's very important to know that our opinion will be taken into account.

A proposal that I wanted to do regarding the representation of the African region is that there will be a meeting in the United States in October. We should try to register all the groups that are existing now at the moment into ICANN, and to identify all those groups. We need to be there. We need to be present. I don't know if AFRALO can take care of that, but we can propose to have a focal point into each group.

And during each meeting we can have an informal meeting with this working group and with this focal point to know how is the situation of all our group and into ICANN. This is my opinion about the organization of our work. Thank you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA:

Thank you very much. I'd like now to propose something regarding our next steps. Apparently, Mercy is not going to accept the position of vice chair that I had offered her. Are there any volunteers in our work group who will accept to be the vice chair?

MICHEL TCHONANG:

Fatimata, I propose to check the persons who have no responsible function in other groups. This is my idea.

[FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA]: Beran, would you accept [inaudible]?

BERAN GILLEN: Yes, I would. I would like to accept the position.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you very much, Beran. So, now it's [done]. I think Tijani has made a proposal for our methodology. I think we can present the methodology and the timeline.

Okay, now I would like to add – I'm going to post the information about the positions that are open for this year. I'd like to ask who is going to be in L.A. in October from our group? Yes, Mercy, you are a member of the group. Yes, of course, Mercy, no problem. Mercy is asking if she is still a member of the group. Of course, Mercy, we want to work with you. We want you to work with us.

MERCY MOYO: Okay, thank you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: And you are representing South Africa. It's very important. So my idea was the same as Seun's. And Tijani was saying that our working group can't execute, but I wanted to do the strategy and to execute.

Okay. Thank you, Mercy. We are counting on you. And now, who will be in L.A.? Seun? Okay. Tijani? Okay. Who will be in L.A.? Who else? Michel, you are going to be in Los Angeles? Beran, are you going to be in Los Angeles? Are you coming with the baby, Beran? Beran, are you listening?

BERAN GILLEN: No, I won't be coming with the baby. I'll be in Marrakesh, but not in L.A.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay, Beran is not coming. Michel is asking for the floor. Michel, you have the floor.

MICHEL TCHONANG: I'm in the process of preparing my trip to Los Angeles.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We didn't hear you very well, Michel.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay, Michel, you will be in Los Angeles. So, what is important, I propose that we meet there. Gisella was giving me a slot for Thursday. I will be available. This will be – Gisella, can you give us some more precision about that – about the time slot during the Los Angeles meeting, to have a small informal meeting? Gisella, please, can you hear us?

GISELLA GRUBER: Okay, Fatimata, I'm here. There was a question for me? I'm sorry.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, it was about the meeting for Los Angeles. We want to know when it will be. Thank you.

GISELLA GRUBER: Tuesday, between [12:00] and 13:45. I can do a Doodle to know that everybody will be available, and then we will look for a place for you to meet. It will be without recording, but we can ask a person to be the penholder and then send an e-mail to the rest of the group and tell them what has been decided during the meeting. Okay?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Gisella, Tijani is asking for the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Will we have remote participation?

[GISELLA GRUBER]: No, we won't have remote participation because it is organized at the last minute. So we don't have any recording and any remote participation. There will be a penholder taking notes, and then this person will send an e-mail to the rest of the group.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLE: Beran is not coming to Los Angeles.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: My concern, Fatimata and Gisella, is that there will be few people able to go to Los Angeles. So I'm asking myself, this meeting is not going to be very useful if nobody is there, and if there is no remote participation, no recording.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They'll be able to connect on Tuesday because we can use Skype. Mercy, for example, are you going to be on Skype?

MERCY MOYO: Yes, I'm on Skype, but I want to know the time.

[GISELLA GRUBER]: Mercy, so you will have a precise schedule. And we will give you the schedule and the time of the day so you can be on Skype and participate to this meeting. Okay?

MERCY MOYO: Okay, thank you.

[GISELLA GRUBER]: We will do a Doodle to know the best time of the day. The problem with Mercy is she can't always have an Internet connection to work with us, So we need to tell her at what time. And Beran, will you be on Skype,

too, to participate to that meeting? Will you be able to participate to that meeting on Skype?

BERAN GILLEN: Yes, I can be online. If you just give me the details, I'll be able to join you online [inaudible].

INTERPRETER: Okay, I'm going to tell them.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: We need to discuss our chart so we can adopt our chart with the people who will participate to the meeting, or maybe we could tell these people what will be the agenda of that day.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Today we are getting late because we have explained our mission, etc. So now what I recommend you, if you agree with that, I know that the action item regarding the definition of our mission and the agenda, I recommend that to be ready before we go to the L.A. meeting. And I'm going to send you again all that document on the Wiki, I will post them on the Wiki page. The penholder needs to do that work. Seun, are you asking for the floor? Seun, the penholder needs to do that work.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Hello? Can you hear me? I just want to know the role of the penholder. That sounds very quite [funky]. I don't know what the actual role of penholder. I presume that staff would usually have a transcript of our

discussion of [inaudible]. Is that correct? Or maybe I'll just figure this out with staff later, because I need to know what my role is going to be. All right, thank you.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Okay. Tijani, you have the floor.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay. Thank you, Fatimata. Seun, you will be the penholder, so you can summarize the meeting and try to highlight the important items and the action items that need to be done. That's all. It's not very difficult. This kind of work in a working group is not very formal. It's not very difficult. Don't worry. You just need to summarize the different points of view to document these different points of view, and that's all.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you, Tijani. Is it clear now, Seun? Do you understand what you need to do? In the report that Seun is going to send us, we will have what will be the group's mission and there will be our timeline, also – the timeline that we are going to propose, and the agenda.

I'm going to do a proposal of the agenda, and you will ratify that. So we can finish that part of our work before Los Angeles, so before next week, the end of next week. What do you think about that? Is it okay? I can see no reaction. It's fine, okay.

Is there another item? Do you want to ask other questions, or can I consider that our meeting is finished?

Okay, this meeting is finished. Thank you for your participation. Thank you, Claire, for the interpretation. Thank you, Giselle and Silvia. Thank you to organize this meeting. Thank you for your commitment. I think we are going to do a good job. Thank you. See you soon. Thank you, Tijani.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you, Fatimata.

CLAIRE: Thank you all. Bye-bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]