
TERRI AGNEW: Good morning, good afternoon and good evening. This is the EURALO Monthly Call on Tuesday, 28th October 2014 at 19:00 UTC. On the call today we have Wolf Ludwig, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Pedro Veiga, Narine Khachatryan, Christopher Burch, Alan Greenberg, Dick Kalkman, Jordi Iparraguirre and Jimmy Schulz. We have apologies from Sandra Hofferichter, Greta Jeske, Roberto Gaetano, William Drake, Jean-Jacques Subrenat, Sebastian Bachollet and Oksana Prykhodko.

Christopher Wilkinson is also on the call. From staff we have Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, Ariel Liang and myself, Terri Agnew. I'd like to remind all participants to please state your name before speaking for transcript purposes. Thank you very much and back over to you, Wolf.

WOLF LUDWIG: Okay. Thanks a lot. Let me suggest we continue with the next Agenda Item, which is a review of the AIs from the last meeting. You can see the link on the Agenda. Are there any questions? Are there any comments? Then let's continue with the next Agenda Item, #3, which is the usual briefing on current ALAC consultations and initiatives. This is Olivier's point as usual. Olivier, please go ahead.

TERRI AGNEW: I believe we may have just lost Olivier. We'll go ahead and try and get him back.

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WOLF LUDWIG: Okay. I have to apologize. I'm not in the best of shapes. I'm still sick. I should...

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Hello? I'm sorry about this. I'm not ready for this part yet because I need to turn my iPad on, but if you come back to me later on in the call I can do it.

WOLF LUDWIG: Okay. This is the monthly call and is quite unusual with plenty of surprises. Me not having access to the AC, which is usually one my most important tools to Chair such a meeting, besides my head constraints and Olivier traveling, and also have problems getting access to his tools. I think we have to... I'm just getting the note from Silvia, that the At-Large policy development page, for your information, is posted in the AC room. I think most of you or all of you who are in the AC can have a short overview on what is presently on the table. There's the recently adopted ALAC statements, enhancing ICANN accountability 2.0.

The next point, the Board Working Group Report on the NomCom, introduction of two-character domain names for .jet, .global, .nustar, .kiwi, .berlin, and the public interest commitment. As most of you have been at the last ICANN Meeting in LA, and I think except [this stuff, Bruh 05:30], who hasn't been with us, all of the rest on this call I think have been to LA, if I'm not wrong? As far as I can recall from the roll call of the participants of tonight's call. Let me suggest to wait for another moment until Olivier is back. Do we have any feedback from Olivier?

The line sounds quite silent. This is obviously taking some time. I'll make a quick change to the Agenda.

I'll pick out Agenda Item #4, the EURODIG planning process for Sofia, June 2015. We have had a short briefing on the EURODIG planning process at our September call already, when we were informing about our first planning meeting and of August in Sofia. There we met with the host team and discussed the first milestones for the next organizing process, and as usual the next EURODIG period always starts with a call for proposals. That was launched at the end of October, last week, and is open now until the end of December.

In January we will do a compilation of the proposals received and do a presentation of these proposals for the next planning meeting at the end of January, at Sofia again. At this open planning meeting, which besides the host team, comprises the local communities, and some other interested people who may come to Sofia. There we will discuss the first program outlines. We will discuss and decide on an overarching theme for EURODIG 2015, and after this planning meeting the whole programming process will continue until April, when the final program needs to be decided.

This is an actual state of planning for Sofia in June 2015. Call for proposals, the next steps, and as usual we'd like to invite all interested people to participate in this call for proposals, because it's the basis for the agenda setting for next year. Do we have any questions on this Agenda Item, on EURODIG? Any comments? I hear no voices. I see no questions on Skype. I think I can consider this Agenda Item #4, EURODIG planning process, done. As Olivier doesn't seem to be back for his

briefing on current ALAC consultations, I will try to continue with #5, which his feedback from ICANN 51, October, in LA. Besides me, I think there has been Olivier of course, and Jimmy, in LA. I'd like to ask Jimmy, as a new incoming ALAC Member, for a short summary and feedback from his personal point of view, on the ICANN Meeting. He was already part of the Leadership Training the days before.

JIMMY SCHULZ:

Okay. Thanks. Can you hear me all? That's fantastic, because the last time I turned on my mic the audio went down. Thank you very much Wolf for the introduction. LA has been my first ICANN, as being a member of ALAC, but it hasn't been my first ICANN I've attended, so not everything was new to me. Being part of the whole thing was quite a challenge, a great experience, and very interesting. I learnt a lot, especially in the Leadership Training. Three parts that were quite important there was a classic management training, which might be helpful for those who've never done that in their life.

For me, very important was the part of learning more about how ICANN works internally, because I've only been an observer in the last couple of years, not caring about how the ICANN really works. That was very interesting for me. The third part, in my opinion, the most important part of the Leadership Training was that you got to know so many people from other constituencies, who you wouldn't get to know if you just attend an ICANN Meeting, because there are participants of every constituency in the Leadership Training, and that was really valuable for me, and I think to all the others too. We started our own Facebook

Group to stay in touch and communicate. This has ongoing and sustainable value.

Concerning the ICANN Meeting itself, of course I'm interested and already part of all the major ongoing discussions, but for being a new ALAC Member I was surprised that the schedule I got every morning was quite tight and didn't leave a lot of room for having lunch or doing anything else besides ALAC meetings. It was surprising to me because I didn't know that beforehand, but I understand now why. On the other hand I had a lot of really interesting meetings – very valuable to me especially, on the technical side, which I'm really interested in. That was really helpful. On the other hand there were some redundancies which we might someday discuss.

It's my first ICANN Meeting as being a Member of ALAC, so I don't know, maybe it's supposed to be that way, but I heard some of the PowerPoint presentations I think several times, and maybe someday we could think about reducing that redundancy. But everything was perfect. Thank you Wolf.

WOLF LUDWIG:

Can you say a little bit more about the redundancies?

JIMMY SCHULZ:

For example, the slides of the results of ATLAS II, I think I've seen them the whole week five times. We've been discussing them in five different meetings, and it was always the same.

WOLF LUDWIG: Okay, I think I got your point.

JIMMY SCHULZ: I understand that we had to present them to different groups. I understand that. I know that, but it's repeating every time the same thing. Maybe there's a way to organize that better.

WOLF LUDWIG: I understand your point.

JIMMY SCHULZ: Any more questions?

WOLF LUDWIG: Any questions to Jimmy? Please speak up. If this is not the case, let me go to the next point, which is this European Coordination... I have a strange echo on my line, which is rather disturbing.

HEIDI ULLRICH: We're trying to sort this out.

WOLF LUDWIG: You have the echo as well Heidi.

HEIDI ULLRICH: I hear that. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Wolf, it's Olivier. I'm sorry about this. I'm outside. I just wanted to add that we often have very busy schedules at those meetings, and hopefully we'll have a bit less during the next meeting that will take place in February, and hopefully we'll be able to have a bit more time having lunch at least. I think that's the important part. Just to say that as seen from my point of view, the meeting was very successful indeed. There was a lot of discussion on the IANA stewardship transition. We met with the IANA Coordination Group, that deals with the collating of all the different materials from the different operational communities.

Of course, we're also involved in the Naming Community Proposal for a CCWG, that also met for the first time in LA. The whole week has also been focused on the ATLAS II follow up, and this is why we went through that presentation maybe a couple of times too many, but the important thing was to show it and get it over to the Board for them to start working on some of the recommendations that we'd made during that Summit, and also for the Board to be aware that we are working on the other recommendations with a plan to be finished and to have them presentable to the Board by the next [unclear 20:28] discussions.

In addition to that, as you know, I've passed on the ALAC Chair position to Alan Greenberg, who has now taken over for this year. I'm remaining as Vice Chair, so I'm still around and not dropping off. I'll still be around and continuing on the work. There's no real big difference as far as leadership is concerned in At-Large. I hope I'll have a bit more time to devote to EURALO as well, so as to empower our users here. That's it

from me for the time being. Whenever you want to come back to the policy development part, I'm ready to speak about that as well.

WOLF LUDWIG: Thanks Olivier. Let me suggest that you just continue with the ALAC policy part as well.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, thank you very much. At the moment there appears to be only one policy advice work taking place, being put together, and that's entitled "seek community input, draft document from GAC Sub Group on Geographic Names". We have three penholders on this. There's been a lot of discussion on the issue. This is all to do with the geographic names for the new gTLD. There is concern from some countries that these are not currently restricted in any way. There's an issue of sovereignty that they bring forward to this. The discussion is whether there should be a restriction or not, and what type if so.

There's been very intense discussion on our Wiki page, which I invite you to have a look at. At the moment the statement is due to be given on the 15th of November. That's the closing date for this discussion. I think probably we'd have an earlier closing date for our own discussions. I note here that 24th of November, which I believe was [suggested 22:53] yesterday, was the closing date for the comments, but you can probably still look at it now and bring your comments in, if you have any. I think that the team that is putting this together is putting this together is currently working on putting a final draft together. So you still have a couple of hours perhaps to bring some input on this.

On the closed statements and passed statements, we've had quite a few again. Most of these were either closed or voted on during the ALAC Meeting. You have a Board Working Group Report on the NomCom. That was filed before the ICANN Meeting. We had a statement that was drafted during the ICANN Meeting on public interest commitments. Once again, a real concern from our community with regards to the PICs, which new gTLD applicants have filed. There are two types. There's one that's in the RAA and RRA, and there's also another type that's said to be some kind of voluntary PIC.

These are the ones we're really interested in, because some strings, like .bank for example, have a side to them that could be used for fraudulent activity, criminal activity, and this of course is something we'd like to avoid as much as possible. The problem comes from how ICANN is structured, to be able to police that space, whether it is ICANN's role to police it or not, whether it has the ability to have its Compliance Department make sure that any domains that deal with illegal activity get taken down by the registry or the by the registrar where the domain was registered.

At the moment this is a bit unclear. I invite you to read the statement. We're basically asking for things to be tightened. We had a meeting with the GAC, and we raised that point as well. Unfortunately there is concern that some strings have already been delegated and have already been launched. The question then as to does one backtrack and change the terms in which those domains have been launched? Or does one ignore them and just go for the ones that are not allocated yet? A bit of a problem at this very moment. This is the policy development work we've been doing. I'm open to any questions, if there are any.

WOLF LUDWIG: Any questions? I cannot see in the AC whether there are any hands raised. If there are no questions, thank you Olivier for this quick briefing. Let me make a proposal, as Alan is on the call tonight, and I guess he may be on our future calls, I'd like to suggest that Alan is taking this part over from Olivier as the new Chair, if he wants... In case Alan isn't available we can always come back to you Olivier, as one of the Vice Chairs. What do you think about it? Any comments from Alan or Olivier?

ALAN GREENBERG: Wolf, it's Alan. You're speaking about the policy advice, the part we just did? I think it's quite reasonable for an ALAC Member from the region to do it. I'm happy, if I'm on the call, to do it, and I plan to be on the call whenever I can, but I think for all regions it's reasonable that one of your representatives into the group is a reasonable person to do that.

WOLF LUDWIG: Okay, if you're free Alan, we can continue with Olivier, because we're quite familiar with his way of doing it. I think we'll appreciate if he continues on this.

ALAN GREENBERG: Or Jimmy may want to take over?

WOLF LUDWIG:

Okay, if there are no further questions or comments on this, I think we're almost through with Agenda Items #3, #4 and #5. If there is no further feedback from ICANN 51 from people who have been in LA, besides Olivier, Jimmy and me, the next Item is #6, which is to me an increasing point of concern – Members' participation at EURALO. I must admit, I've had moments over the last few years when we had our first face-to-face GA in June 2013 in Lisbon, where after many years we had the first opportunity to get most of the Member ALSes in a face-to-face meeting, and being together afterwards during the Lisbon EURODIG.

I was hoping that was an incentive and opportunity for a better community building at EURALO. It was always my conclusion that lacking participation in EURALO was due to a lack of personal encounters and a lack of personal meetings. I was hoping that with any face-to-face meetings participation may increase or improve. We had our next opportunity the year after, next June, in line with ATLAS II in London, where again most of our Members were present, participating in ATLAS II and in the ICANN London Meeting. Again, we had our GA.

There was a lot of feedback from the Members that, "Okay, we like to be here, to be closely involved," etcetera. I was hoping there would be more engagement afterwards for our monthly calls, and there were quite some indications from some people that they would like or intended to do it. Unfortunately, besides one precise feedback from Christoph Bruch, I think Christoph is on the call tonight, and I'm very pleased about Christoph's participation. I think there should also be a little bit more participation from other Members who've been in London and Lisbon and who've announced they will participate more actively, particularly also some EURALO Board Members.

I still believe there is a problem on the table, and I think this problem needs to be addressed and discussed during our next calls, on what we can do about this. This is just a personal assumption. Silvia is just forwarding a comment. No, it's also about EURALO representation in the relevant At-Large Working Groups, etcetera. It's also about participating at monthly calls, because this is our monthly forum to discuss and coordinate, from a regional point of view, about our issues.

This also could be the forum where we can comment and respond, etcetera, on upcoming issues from At-Large and where we also could coordinate on who may represent EURALO in the different Working Groups. Basically, it's about our Members' participation at EURALO and at monthly calls, and not just participating only when there is a [unclear 34:47] to a General Assembly, and afterwards there is ongoing silence again. I think it cannot be, for various reasons, the way of a functioning RALO. This is my perhaps a little provocative assumption at the moment. We should in my opinion continue this discussion over the next calls. We can leave it for the moment like this.

The next point on the Agenda is #7, ideas for EURALO planning and work 2015. If I look back over the last years, it was more or less the issue that if there was a pushing from the Leadership then there was something going, but I can hardly remember anything, that there was an initiative from the Members' side, to support EURALO's planning for the upcoming year. I think this should be a more broad-based process, also including the EURALO Board. The EURALO Board never functions so far as it's not a structural problem at EURALO, and I think we should discuss all this in more detail.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Olivier has raised his hand.

WOLF LUDWIG: Olivier, please, you have the floor.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Wolf. There are two things I think that we can do, and which are going to be done actually At-Large-wide. The first one is a program of capacity building webinars, which we're going to have and which will start shortly. There will be regular webinars telling people about different parts of ICANN, different topics that might be difficult to grasp or understand. We're hoping that this will bring more interest in the different regions, and of course we have to push it in the EURALO region.

The second one is to do specifically with EURALO. I think we could have one of two things that other RALOs have done. The first thing that they've done is take an ALS and get that ALS to speak about what they do, how they relate to end users and so on. Every month there is a different ALS that speaks with the community, and that explains what they do. That certainly brings interest from ALSes, to be able to describe what they do. The second one is to have a short, 15-minute presentation of capacity building during the monthly EURALO call, which would definitely bring some interest from people to join.

I know there are a number of people on the call here, and I think we could add a few more if we were to have such webinars. That of course

means we've got to have a shorter rest of the Agenda, but I'll leave it to you Wolf. These are two suggestions that could be made.

WOLF LUDWIG:

Thanks for your comments Olivier and ideas. The capacity building idea, I think the people who usually, over the last 12-24 months, participated at EURALO monthly calls, those people would not need any capacity building, because they are all the insiders. We could offer a capacity building element, but I'm very skeptical whether more of our usually non-participating members would be attracted. But I'm open to any new trials, etcetera. Capacity building is not necessarily for the usual participants. I see a comment from Christopher Wilkinson: "There is [unclear 40:37] Agenda and issues, ICANN and post-Net Mundial. What are the European ALSes doing to promote [unclear] and participate in these issues?"

Good question Christopher. I must admit, I don't know whether many of our ALSes have taken note of this. I don't think that many of our European ALSes, except very few ISOC Chapters I know may be aware of and may promote or criticize on these issues, but it hasn't been, to my observation, any big issue at EURALO. It's been an issue at the last ICANN Studienkreis Meeting, where the usual suspects again participated. We had a long and critical discussion with Fadi in Sofia. We had a hot debate on the role of the World Economic Forum taking over from ICANN and the lack of inclusiveness of the WEF, and WEF having no idea about a multistakeholder model and so on.

So there are few that are aware of this, but I think for the vast majority of our ALSes it's not an issue. That's just my personal observation. If there are no more questions and comments, I really think we have to reflect. I think this could be some of the Action Items. #6 and #7 have to be elaborated on in more detail, with more ideas on how to make EURALO calls more attractive. This needs to be discussed during our next calls. This is my suggestion for Action Items from this call, and to be discussed at our next calls.

Is there Any Other Business? If there are no more hands raised, let me conclude this call, which was quite difficult for me to Chair tonight without access to AC and under my current conditions. Thank you to those of you who made it possible to attend, and I hope we'll have you at our next monthly call in November. Thanks again. I wish you a nice evening. Bye-bye.

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