TERRI AGNEW: Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening. Welcome to the At-Building Program 2015, third webinar on the topic ICANN 51 Briefing Webinar on Thursday, the 29th of January 2015 at 21:00 UTC. We will not be doing a roll call, as it is a webinar. But if I could please remind everyone on the phone bridge, as well as the computer, to mute your speakers and microphones when not speaking as well as state your name when speaking not only for transcription purposes, but also to allow our interpreters to identify you on other language channels. We have Spanish and French interpretation. Thank you very much, and back over to you, Tijani.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Terri. Good evening, good afternoon, and good morning for everyone. This webinar will be about ICANN 52 meeting in Singapore. We have here all the leaders of the SO and ACs, who will present us the sessions of their constituency, their activities in Singapore. This will be a special webinar. It will not be about [inaudible], but it will be about telling you what is important in this meeting, ICANN 52, so that [inaudible] know where you have to go and where you have to attend.

I remind you that if you are not in Singapore, you may participate remotely. So everyone can participate in this meeting and this why we are organizing this webinar, so that you can be aware of everything important in this meeting.
We will start with ALAC. The presenter is Alan Greenberg, who is [inaudible] of ALAC. Alan, please.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much, Tijani. I gather we’ve gotten the interference under control. I guess we have. I was hearing all sorts of noise while you were speaking. It seems to be gone now in any case.

The ALAC, I cannot remember in the eight year of participation a meeting that’s more packed than this one. There are just so many things going on within ICANN, some of them very strategic and others important but not deemed to be strategic. I think everyone’s going to have to decide for themselves what strategic means for them.

The first focus we’ll be having, like much of the rest of ICANN, are on the [inaudible] processes that are going on related to the IANA stewardship transition and the associated accountability work that is going on allow ICANN – well, I’ll go into it in a second.

On the transition, we have two different basic models that are currently being worked on by the cross-constituency working group. There’s one where the IANA would be vested in a group outside of ICANN and then contracted with ICANN or possibly someone else in the future, and another model that allows essentially a more internal to ICANN orientation, although it still would allow the responsibility for IANA to go outside of ICANN at some point in the future, should that prove necessary.
The work in these groups have been intensive. I think if I were to say, there’s probably been about 12-15 hours of conference calls a week for the last few weeks. That would not be an exaggeration. So what would be presented in Singapore should be interesting and we’ll see how we go forward from there.

In parallel with the transition, the US Department of Commerce, NTIA, has made it clear that if the responsibility for IANA is to be transferred away from the NTIA that there will have to be significant accountability changes in ICANN, essentially making sure that the multi-stakeholder community has a higher level of control than they do right now.

That work is [inaudible] and will be meeting a number of times in Singapore, both in public meetings to help the community understand what’s going on, plus several working sessions.

ALAC will be meeting with a host of people from the ICANN board from senior management staff. I won’t read them all out here. You can look at it for yourself. Essentially, we are trying to make sure that At-Large and ALAC is really connected into the overall ICANN both management and execution of the tasks. A particular focus will be on global stakeholder engagement where GSE has people all over the world, we have ALSes all over the world and we really feel it would be beneficial to both parties if we talk more, if we coordinate more and actually work together on the ground in these countries. That’s one of the significant efforts we’ll be looking at.

Another one is, if you look at the second to last bullet, the information management, one of the key complaints from all parts of ICANN, and in
fact from ICANN staff, has been although ICANN makes all sorts of information available, it’s almost impossible to find what you’re looking for at any given time. That is a very strong focus from our point of view because it’s one of the real inhibitors of allowing people to get involved. It’s true for both policy issues, trying to find out what’s happening in the policy world or what happened retroactively and just in the administrative issues as well. So they’ll be a lot going on in that overall area.

Go on to the next slide. There will be a significant amount of work going on. We go from the bottom of the slide up, we have about seven different working groups that will be meeting in Singapore to try to further their work, although a lot of work is done on teleconferences. Somehow meeting face-to-face allows a different level of coordination and to progress things a lot quicker. So we will be having a significant number of working groups.

There will be RALO meetings for three of the five RALOs in Singapore, and a number of meetings of the RALO leadership, both within their own groups, and perhaps more importantly, meeting with each other to try to make sure that we are moving forward with common set of goals and that we learn from each other.

The ALAC itself, there’s two very strategic processes that are going on right now. One is a revamp of our website. If you’ve looked at our website, I think it was last redone somewhere around 2007. It is very out of date partly because things have not been kept updated and partly because it’s just not adapted to the kinds of things we’re doing right now. So there’s a major effort going on with that.
The other effort that we’re just embarking on is to look at what do we expect from ALSes. The ALS, or At-Large Structure, is the footing of the At-Large community at the base of the pyramid. That’s where our grassroots activity is, and yet we have not really put a lot of effort in recent years in trying to define what we expect from an ALS, to tell them ahead of time what we’re expecting so we get the right ALSes, and then to be able to give them feedback for whether they’re doing a good job or not. We’re going to be putting a fair amount effort over the next hopefully six months or so into that effort.

We’re meeting with the GAC, either the ALAC or ALAC leadership, depending on what timing was available. We’ll be meeting with the GAC, with the ccNSO, and of course part of the NomCom because we not only have people within the NomCom helping to select leaders for all of ICANN, but we also have a number of members that are selected by the NomCom. Interaction with the NomCom is an important part of our overall activity.

Lastly, we have a few events. These are if not completely parties then they’re things which we feel would be of interest to not only At-Large, but other parts of the community. The first one is after a fair amount of discussion. NARALO, the North American Regional At-Large Organization, is signing a memorandum of understanding with ARIN, the North American numbers group. We think that’s a landmark thing.

We’ve talked for a long time that we should coordinate more and this hopefully will be the start of some interesting endeavors. There will be a memorandum of understanding signed between the Asia-Pacific RALO .ASIA, and that I believe will be done at the APRALO showcase, an
opportunity for APRALO to show what they’re doing, to talk a little bit about what’s going on within the Asia-Pacific area, and to have perhaps a little bit of fun and entertainment hopefully. And that’s the whole story.

Tijani, are we opening for questions after each section or reserving them to the end?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Alan, go ahead, please.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. Then we’re open for questions if anyone has any.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: You’re finished. Okay. If you are finished, [inaudible].

ALAN GREENBERG: Oh, I’m finished. I was asking do we take questions now or reserve all questions to the end.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: I think we’ll take the questions at the end of the session, because if we open the questions at each presentation perhaps we will be over the time. So all the questions will be asked at the end of the session.
ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you, Tijani. In which case, I am finished. I turn the session back to you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Alan. Thank you for this presentation. You still have two minutes, but thank you for being short.

ALAN GREENBERG: I always try to be under time.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much. This is very kind of you. The second presentation will be the ccNSO 1 and the presenter will be Katrina Sataki, [inaudible] vice chair of the ccNSO. Katrina, please go ahead. Katrina, press 7 to unmute.

KATRINA SATAKI: Sorry.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay, go ahead.

KATRINA SATAKI: Thank you. Traditionally, the ccNSO meets on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The meetings are open for everyone and we welcome ccNSO members and non-members, and those ccTLDs, country code top-level domain registries that chose not to join the ccNSO.
So the Program Working Group of the ccNSO, which is the body responsible for putting up agenda, works to ensure that we deliver materials which are important and useful for the ccTLDs.

We have traditional sessions. For example, a meeting with the ICANN board and GAC. This time, they are scheduled on Tuesday. We also meet with our ICANN board members, the members elected by the ccNSO community.

Then of course there are parts which are kind of semi-traditional. We have our own working groups, and if they wish, they can give an update on their work, and if necessary ask for the feedback from the community. We call it room temperature. Before every meeting, ccTLD representatives receive a set of cards – red, orange, and green – to see the feeling in the room. You can ask everyone to lift the card – red meaning I don’t support whatever you’re offer, orange neutral, and green you have my full support, keep working the same direction.

Probably the most interesting sessions in our meetings are panel discussion and round table discussions as well as presentations from ccTLDs around the world. Discussions are dedicated to the hot topics, and of course this time we will cover IANA stewardship transition on Tuesday and ICANN accountability, working on accountability issues and this discussion will be held on Wednesday.

Speaking of presentations from ccTLDs, we usually try to give as many slots as possible to the ccTLDs from the region where the particular meeting is being held. But of course others, others can and actually do participate and present as well.
Traditionally, we have a ccTLD news session where ccTLDs can come and give information about some new development in their registry. We also have a new addition, our presentations arranged by topics. This time we have a session on marketing and a session dedicated to legal issues.

After every meeting, we ask our members – [inaudible] also of course. We ask to fill in our satisfaction survey in which we ask for their opinion on the meeting and their wishes for the upcoming meetings, and of course the Program Working Group tries to use this feedback to make the meeting even better and even more interesting for ccTLDs.

If you’re interested in the agenda of both our meeting days, you can go to the website of the ccNSO. It’s ccnso.icann.org, and on the right side under “highlights” we have a draft agenda for the meeting.

So that’s a short overview from my side. Since I’m dropping off the call, I’d like to take questions now because it’s quite late in my part of the world. If anyone has a question, I’ll be happy to answer.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay, Katrina. Since you are leaving the call, we will take questions about ccNSO presentation. Is there any questions for Katrina? If you see a hand, please tell me because my Adobe Connect is not working.

KATRINA SATAKI: No hands at the moment. So, if there are no questions, thank you very much for the opportunity. I will see you all in Singapore.
TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Katrina. Thank you. We are running fast today. The next presenter will be David Cake who is the vice chair of the GNSO. He will present us the activities of the GNSO in Singapore. David, please go ahead.

DAVID CAKE: Thank you. The GNSO always has a very busy schedule, and of course when I talk about the GNSO, I am talking mostly about the GNSO Council and other activities. The GNSO internally is quite complicated out of ICANN. It has many stakeholder groups and constituencies. I will not be trying to cover all the activities of those subgroups of the GNSO. If you’re a member of one of them, you will of course discover that the GNSO [inaudible] registries, registrars, contracted parties house.

And the Commercial Stakeholder Group includes [inaudible] – the Intellectual Property Constituency and the Internet Service Providers. There’s also the Non-Commercial Users Group, which I belong in that. It includes two constituencies, the Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns constituency. Then on Commercial Users Constituency and the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group also [inaudible] group.

In general there’s a lot more to the GNSO that I won’t be describing. There’s sub-groups to the GNSO [inaudible]. The GNSO [inaudible] beginning weekend of ICANN, technically most of which is before the meeting is open. It’s a very busy period for the GNSO. The Saturday before the meeting and most of the Sunday are used for [inaudible]
meetings [inaudible] preparing for our work later in the week and reviewing work done [inaudible].

What we will be doing on Saturday is most reviewing the work of the various working groups and policy [inaudible], and we have a very heavy schedule. We start with a report from the Standing Committee for GNSO Improvements (the SCI), internal processes of the GNSO itself. That’s a quick update. But then we move on to working groups. We have currently work protection for inter-governmental organizations and international [inaudible] government organizations, access to [inaudible] mechanisms. So mechanisms like the Universal Dispute Resolution procedure, the [inaudible]. That’s our first working group that presents.

Then we also have work IDN variants. The GNSO does quite a lot work and has got a lot of work to do with IDNs. We are also discussing the board – we have a report from a joint working group with the board GNSO about what was called the EWG (Expert Working Group). The Expert Working Group was a various [chunk] or work to do with replacing WHOIS and [inaudible] to do about registrant data. That’s an enormous lump. The report was several hundred pages. It’s an enormous pile of work that the GNSO will have to deal with [inaudible] policy processes. The Expert Working Group is board initiated. They came up with [inaudible] suggestions for the GNSO to look at, evaluate, and discuss. It’s such a large group that we actually have a working group just to work out how to deal with that complicated process.

We also have another working group that’s been going for quite a while now. The Policy Implementation Working Group. This is designed to
change or review the processes by which policy is implemented and turned into actual ICANN processes that deal directly with issues.

This has been quite a long and complicated [inaudible]. We’ve been working on it a long time. So the fact that that report has come out is quite a big thing for the GNSO and [inaudible] quite a lot of our processes, particularly that process by which we – policy work done by the GNSO is implemented, and we may, in the process of that implementation, find that there are some issues with the policy and it may need to be adapted to be more practical or whatever. So how do we do that without [inaudible] the policy work that [inaudible]. That can be a very important way of interaction between ICANN staff and the GNSO and so on. We’ll be discussing that.

We’re also starting to discuss how we will do new gTLD subsequent rounds – how we’ll approach that, how the GNSO feels that they should do some review work and prep work [inaudible] before we think about another round of gTLDs and what exactly that work will consist of, how we’ll do it is another thing we’ll be discussing.

We’re also discussing meeting strategy. So really, we’ve got quite a busy morning on Saturday. All of these discussions, they’ll be in the GNSO Council room. The GNSO Council will be seated, but any member of the GNSO – well, any member of ICANN, but in particular the GNSO – is welcome to attend those sessions in the audience and ask questions and observe. These are very open discussions.

We have some time set aside just for general strategic discussion – in particular, the GNSO Council or other members of the GNSO to bring up
any issues that they feel the GNSO should be dealing with. We have to give ourselves a little bit of free time for freewheeling chat.

We generally do get lunch. We generally have a working lunch in that room. We’ll probably have a lunch discussing a possible working group on new gTLD auction proceeds. We also, in the afternoon, we’ll be starting with preparation for our meetings with the board and with the CEO, Fadi. We also will discuss the motions that we’ll be [inaudible] on Wednesday.

We finish up our quite busy Saturday with some discussion of GNSO [inaudible] improvements. That is improvements to internal processes to the GNSO. A meeting with SSAC. There’s a translation and transliteration of [inaudible] PDP Working Group going for a while. They’ll update us on their work.

Also, Data & Metrics for Policy Making Working Group update. It deals with, for example, how we might request data from contracted parties [inaudible] to a policy process [inaudible] proxy services accreditation issues, which is a working group that [inaudible] how you might formalize and accredit privacy and proxy service providers [inaudible] basically will take [inaudible] registrant contact information, but proxy and privacy services providers [inaudible] registrants from [inaudible] who lived there [inaudible].

Sunday, again, this is Council meeting discussing any general discussions about the state of things. Generally, the Sunday is a day that GNSO Council meets with senior people, so that will include discussions with Theresa Swinehart, with Fadi, with the Global Domains Division head or
staff. We will also be talking about the IANA stewardship transition and the cross-community working group and accountability.

In the afternoon, we meet with the board, then we meet with the GAC. We finish off at about [inaudible] stakeholder group and [inaudible] meetings [inaudible].

The rest of the week, generally on Monday starting bright and early [inaudible] ccNSO and GNSO Council, but we note that there’s a few open meetings [inaudible]cross-community work on the use of country and territory names as TLDs [inaudible] consultation group between the GAC and the GNSO to try and work out how the GNSO and the GAC work more effectively together. That’s an ongoing effort that’s been going on for well over a year now and already seems to be quite productive. Then there’s the [inaudible].

Traditionally, Tuesday for the GNSO is a day where we listen to our separate parts. While it’s a very busy for participants in the GNSO, the GNSO as a whole doesn’t do very much Tuesday, so there will be meetings for every one of the constituencies and stakeholder groups [inaudible] on Tuesday. We do sort of come together at the end of the day to swap notes, but generally it’s a day for us to work separately while we’re together.

Wednesday there are a few important general work going on. For example, there’s a proxy and privacy services accreditation issues work group is having a public meeting. There’s a working group on principles. There’s a meeting of the policy and implementation working group
presenting a report. And there’s a cross-community working group [inaudible] GNSO involved.

But the most important thing on Wednesday is that is the day where the GNSO Council has their public meeting at 3:00. It’s a public meeting which we will pass motions and generally have our formal meeting [inaudible] date. That’s quite important [inaudible] GNSO. [inaudible].

Thursday, [inaudible] has a wrap-up session. The [inaudible] wrap-up session is much less structured. We’ll make an agenda in response to things that have happened during the week. We’ll discuss a range of issues, but that again is – well, it’s a Council session. It’s open to anybody who wishes. Then, like everybody else, that’s pretty much [inaudible] and that’s the end of our work.

That’s pretty much [inaudible] GNSO during the week. Do we have any questions?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Dave. We will collect the questions at the end of the session. I hope you’ll stay with us until the end if you don’t mind.

DAVID CAKE: I guess. It is very early here.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: You want to go. So we will take questions for you. Okay. Is there any questions for Dave about GNSO activities in Singapore? I have one for
you. “Dave, I heard you speaking about the upcoming round of the new gTLDs discussed in GNSO activities, but I didn’t catch if it is the GNSO Council or if it is the discussion group, because what I know is that the discussion group will not meet in Singapore.”

DAVID CAKE: I don’t think that group is meeting in Singapore, but they will be reporting to Council what they [inaudible] at this point. I don’t think that they have – and they are not yet at the stage where they have formal report or anything like that to give to us. I think really in Singapore [inaudible] progress [inaudible]. We won’t be getting any sort of – I don’t think we’ll have reached conclusions on what we are doing [inaudible]. I know that there is a lot of interest, [inaudible].

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Dave. Any other questions for Dave? I don’t see any hands. Are there people not on the Adobe Connect that want to ask questions? Please speak up. No, I don’t see anyone. So thank you very much, Dave, for this comprehensive and very detailed presentation. Thank you very much, and if you want to leave, you can go. Thank you very much.

DAVID CAKE: Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: The next presentation will be about the GAC and the presenter will be Olga Cavalli, who is the vice chair of the GAC. Olga, please go ahead.
OLGA CAVALLI: Hello, Tijani. Can you hear me?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: I hear you very well.

OLGA CAVALLI: Thank you very much for the kind invitation, and congratulations for the initiative. I think it’s a very interesting one. We may copy the idea someday for the GAC. So thank you very much.

I did prepare a presentation because it may be interesting for the attendees of the webinar and also maybe later someone wants to review what we think are the most important sessions for the community in the GAC activities. This is why I prepared this presentation, thanks to the great secretariat that helped me put all the information together. I will try to move it forward if works. Yes, it worked.

The GAC agenda is quite intense. At the end of my presentation, you have the link to the full agenda. Of course you can review it. Have in mind that the GAC meetings now since a while are totally open to the community, to any participate of the ICANN meeting or the local community, so you can come and stay with us.

It’s only one session, which is closed which is when we draft the communique. After that, everyone has the opportunity to review the communique online or during the session that it’s presented by the
chair. That’s the only one, but it’s closed because it’s considered work done by different countries and not by persons themselves.

The rest is open for you to engage. What we did is select those sessions that we think would be the most interesting for the ALAC. So these are all of them and I will go one by one.

GTLD safeguards is Saturday in the afternoon. What is the safeguards? If you remember, when the new gTLDs were issues in 2012, the GAC did a lot of comments about how could we safeguard the security or the knowledge of how some gTLDs could use for the banking industry or for the insurance industry or for the health industry. This is the process that is started then with the GAC advice and we are in contact with the NGPC. The NGPC is the group in the board that deals with the new gTLDs. It’s the New gTLD Program Committee. This is a session about – we had some progress in the WHOIS, which is a big concern for many governments. The information that goes into the WHOIS, how valid it is. Also, we are thinking about security framework for new gTLDs in the future.

So this may be an interesting session for those in Singapore. Remember that GAC also has remote participation in the sessions, and I guess with all the languages – correct me if I’m wrong – but maybe that the interpreters may confirm this availability of interpretation. This is the first one on Saturday afternoon.

Then you also have on Saturday afternoon the session about Framework of Interpretation (FOI). As I see in the chat, there is some information in the chat. Bart has included there the same link that I included in my
presentation of the final report of the Framework of Interpretation report, why the GAC is interested because it talks about delegation of ccTLDs and that's important for governments as well.

So there is a discussion, an exchange of ideas with the ccNSO ongoing, how to accommodate this wide variety of arrangements that have different management of the ccTLDs. So this could be also an interesting meeting for members of the At-Large community to attend.

There you have the link to the final report.

Also, of course the most interesting thing that is happening now in the ICANN community and the ICANN ecosystem is both the IANA stewardship transition and enhancing ICANN accountability. Just have in mind that the GAC is part of the chartering organizations of the two groups. Some of us are full members of one of the groups. I am a member of the accountability group and some of the colleagues from the GAC are members of the IANA transition group. The generic is pretty much involved and now we have a challenging time to finalize the position about the names thing and also the accountability group is working in trying to define different things collectively as governments. So if you want to join us, we will have a meeting for the GAC on this. If you want to review the governmental perspective, this is Sunday. Oh, I forgot to put the time. I can send by e-mail, I'm sorry. It’s Sunday, the 8th.

Following my presentation, this is my favorite one. I personally have been engaged in this issue very, very deeply. This is an open session to the community. It’s [inaudible] to the protection of geographic names in
new gTLDs. The group has developed a draft document that was put for comments of the community. We have received more than 30 comments from different stakeholders of the whole ecosystem.

So what we will do in this session, which is one hour on Wednesday morning, is review the comments that we have received, review the purpose of the original document and we will invite four of the different documents that were presented that are the ones that do [concreate] proposals on how to move forward. The others just say don’t agree and stuff. What we want is to review the situation and not to repeat the same mistakes again. For that, we need to not only revise the rules, but have in mind some constructive views to move forward.

So we will invite the ALAC, the ccNSO, the Brand Registry Group and the Internet Business Council of Africa. The session will be chaired by me as chaired of the working group that is working on this. You’re more than welcome. I know that many people in Latin America have been very active and interested in this. You’re welcome to join us.

At the end of this slide, you have the link of the website of the GAC where you can see the draft document that the working group prepared in all the languages that ICANN uses. Thank you very much to the translator for doing that for me.

All the comments that we received, there are more than 30. We will upload soon maybe before the meeting in Singapore – we will upload a summary of the comments that we have received, which is the one that we will present in Singapore.
Then we have on Saturday evening the GAC and ALAC leadership team meeting. I think that Tijani and Alan already talked about that. We are happy to join you. Again, remember that the only closed sessions of the GAC are the ones that when we draft the communique. All the other sessions are open.

In this link, you have the full schedule of the GAC, which as your schedule is full of activities, but maybe some of them could be of interest of the At-Large community. On the GAC website, we have a lot of information. Part of it is available for the general public. Part of it is only for members of the GAC, but it’s only general work.

Then you have our e-mail list. If you have any questions, of course you can always send me an e-mail. You are all my friends and you know how to reach me. That's very easy. Thank you very much. Of course, if you have questions, let me know. I will stay on the call until we finish.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Olga. That's very kind of you. Thank you for this presentation. Very clearly presented. We will get questions for you at the end of the session.

OLGA CAVALDI: Great, thank you. I’ll be here.
TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you. The next presentation will be the SSAC sessions in Singapore, and it will be done by Mr. James Galvin who is the SSAC vice chair. James, please.

JAMES GALVIN: Thank you, Tijani. Thank you also for the opportunity to come and speak to this group and tell you about our SSAC sessions. I will speak about three things – recent publications, the meetings that we’re having this time in Singapore, and a quick look at our work in progress that we have right now.

With respect to publications, since Los Angeles, we published the third in our three-part series on the transition of the stewardship of the IANA function. The first two, SAC 67 and SAC 68, were factual presentations and documentations regarding, first, what are the IANA function? And then second, what are the actual contracts and various legal documentation that exists that talks about various functions?

The last document since Los Angeles, SAC 69, is SSAC’s view on issues related to maintaining the security and stability of the IANA functions while the stewardship transition is in place. I offer that to you for consideration for folks who are tracking that activity carefully.

The second set of things to talk about are our meetings in Singapore. We are having several joint meetings, an opportunity for SSAC to come and meet with some of the other groups. Some of these things have been talked about already. SSAC will give a briefing to the GNSO on Saturday. We’ll be meeting with the ALAC on Sunday afternoon. On Tuesday, we’ll be meeting with the Commercial Stakeholder Group, and
also on Tuesday afternoon, we’ll be meeting with the Registrar’s Stakeholder Group.

All of these joint meetings are open meetings. The meetings of the various groups are all open, so folks are welcome to be present while SSAC is having a discussion with the specific members of those groups.

Last, of course, we shouldn’t forget that SSAC has its own public meeting on Thursday morning. We have adopted [inaudible] the Thursday morning at 8:00 AM slot, which most people dislike, but we got it by accident one day and hung on to it. I apologize for it being first thing in the morning, but it has worked out pretty well for us over the years.

Of course we shouldn’t forget that the DNSSEC workshops were originally founded and created by SSAC. They operate semi autonomously now. They have their own program committee and progress forward, but of course we’ll have the full workshop on Wednesday all day, and Monday afternoon there’s a beginner’s guide for people who are tracking that activity or want to get some information to be brought up to speed.

The third set of things that I’ll talk about is current work that we have in progress. I’ll just briefly mention what those are. We have continuing work on what we’re calling public suffix list. This is about dealing with the issue that browsers primarily have as a concern when addresses are entered into the address bar of browsers. They like to know whether the TLD is a valid TLD or not, and there are various security
consequences and implications about maintaining that. It also affects their certificate processing.

SSAC is creating a comment about how to do that, how those things should be done and some advice about what they should look like and the kinds of protection that are important for those things.

SSAC has for six years – well, five years. This will be year six when it comes around here in the fall – held a workshop at the Internet Governance Forum and we are preparing an advisory relating to the session that we had at last year’s IGF, and that advisory will be forthcoming soon.

Like other groups here, David Cake mentioned it for the GNSO group. And there are others for whom this is important if you’re in other groups. SSAC is also undertaking to examine the New gTLD Program. In fact, we’re reviewing the program that has recently passed. And considering whether there might be some additional mid-course corrections or other issues that need to be addressed, we’re actually, as part of this work, reviewing all prior recommendations that SSAC has made over the last two years and reviewing the actions that the board and staff had taken, and considering whether there’s additional advice that we might make with respect to them. Is there more that needs to be done? Was the action that was taken sufficient or not?

Our plan, if there are specific recommendations that we made, we will address specifically the question of whether these recommendations should be completed prior to any new opening round and we will try to document and justify why we think that’s important. We will cover an
issue which has I think plagued many of us over the years now while this program has been enforced, responding to the question of whether everything that should have been done had been done prior to the launching of new gTLDs. We’ll speak directly to that issue so that the community can properly evaluate those activities.

Another work item that we have in progress is to deal with the general issue of registrant protection and credential management. This is, in part, a natural extension of some prior work that SSAC has done. In fact, 40 and 44 where we talked about the registration process and some protection mechanisms that should be in place.

This work actually started in advance of the recent issue that ICANN had, but the recent intrusion that ICANN had was in fact directly related to credential management. It was a spear phishing attack, and as a result of the success of that, they were able to get access to some internal credentials and expand the set of things that they were able to get access to.

It’s a problem. Everybody’s at risk of such things, but in the larger category of credential management, especially as we move towards registrants wanting greater protection, registrars of course have significant credentials available to them that they have to manage. So we’re going to speak to this larger question and offer some guidance and principles that are relevant in this space that we hope the community will adopt going forward.

The last thing that I’ll mention is SSAC does not normally have standing work parties, if you will, standing committees, but we have created a
new one in the recent past, which we call the Board Advice Tracking Work Party. The purpose there is at one time there was a website which the board was using to carefully track all the recommendations that it received. SSAC and ALAC, in fact, were the first two bodies that were able to beta test that, because they went and they collected all the recommendations over the last few years and put them up there and documented all the actions.

That website is currently out of date right now. In fact, I think it might actually have been taken down. I’m not certain about that. In any case, SSAC took a spreadsheet copy of that work and we’re going to go forward maintaining ourselves a record of these things. We’re helpful that David Conrad, as the recently added CTO, he has at least mentioned that it is his intention to recreate that website and our work in tracking our recommendations and the actions. He’s hoping to leverage that at some point in the future here when he gets an opportunity to take on that action item as an active work item to restore that particular website and make it useful for the community at large. But we’re going to do our part by maintaining our own tracking record of our recommendations and actions that are taken.

That’s it for me. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, James. Thank you for this presentation. Now we will open the floor for questions. Any questions for our presenters?
TERRI AGNEW: As a reminder, if you can please state your name before speaking not only for transcription purposes, but also for interpretation. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much. Olga, please?

OLGA CAVALLI: Thank you very much. This is not a question. It’s a comment about something that Dave wrote in the chat. It’s about the use of two characters at the second level in new gTLDs. For those that are not aware, the new gTLDs are released. Some registrars are requesting the use two characters at the second level and these requests are being for public comments. Dave has included the link in the chat.

What we realize in the GAC is it’s a [worrying] thing because many governments don’t have the chance to look at it quickly, so we have requested more time for that comment period, and also we have requested that the information is more easily available for those trying to check it very quickly or easier. This will be very important, especially for developing countries that don’t speak English as the native language and also for those that are not so much involved in the ICANN process.

I just wanted to thank Dave for bringing this issue up and we will talk about that on our agenda in Singapore. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Olga. Now we have a question from Cheryl Langdon-Orr. Cheryl, please?
CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you very much, Tijani. I have a couple of questions for two of the presenters. Actually, two comments and one question. Let me go first to the question that I’d like to put forward to Olga.

With the Wednesday 10:30 slot on geo names, I didn’t see you have being listed anybody from the cross-community working group between GNSO and ccNSO, which of course where ALAC is concentrating a lot of its work on use of geo names in TLDs. Is it your plan, Olga, to invite anyone from that cross-community working group to also present? I know you’re aware of the overlap because the work group wrote and raised a concern, but I think it could be beneficial if we used the opportunity of your workshop to focus and amalgamate some of those cross-over points.

OLGA CAVALLI: Thank you, Cheryl. That’s a very important question. We will meet with the cross-community working group on Monday, if I am not mistaken, on this regard. The issue with the Wednesday is that we have only one hour, and what we have done in the working group is to focus on those comments that do have a concrete proposal on how could we enhance the rules or how could we move forward in a different way?

There are two comments from the cross-community working group, one from the group and one from the chair of the group – one of the co-chairs. Honestly, I think that the cross-community working group has a different focus. It’s not exactly the same as what we are trying to do which is protecting geographic names that are not in any list of the ISO
or the United Nations or the protected list in the Applicant Guidebook. So the focus of the working group is different. But we are in contact with them anyway and we plan to meet with them on Monday.

Their comments really just say that we are overlapping with their work, which I honestly don’t totally agree, but we can discuss and talk about that and we are open to that. But don’t make any concrete proposal. We can discuss if they are interested in joining. We are more than welcome to include them. It’s only one hour and we will have very short—

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: I understand. I’m not going to speak on behalf obviously of our co-chairs, but I’m certainly going to ask Bart if you’re on the call, Bart – yes, I see you are – to contact the co-chairs and suggest that, in my humble opinion, it would be very wise to have one of them/us in the room so we can clearly identify where convergence and divergence of or roles is because we don’t want to, as you know, overlap. We want to work smarter, not harder, and work in a complementary fashion. So I think it’s an opportunity we shouldn’t miss.

OLGA CAVALLI: Sure.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Certainly I, for one, look forward to this and I’m hoping I’ll be able to squeeze it into my schedule because I’m very keen to see how this goes. Thanks very much for that, Olga. If I can now move to—
OLGA CAVALLI: Just one clarification.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Sure.

OLGA CAVALLI: We hope to engage with the group in the dialog that we have. We met with the group in LA and we will meet with them again on Monday in Singapore. I will share with the group this idea of including them as speakers and we keep in touch.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: It’s good to have our cross-over points. The other two are comments. First of all, to what Jim was just presenting. I got rather excited about the fact that the tracking the documents, response tracking, is now not going to be lost. I think that’s fantastic and I wanted to bring that out as a comment. I also wanted to suggest to the ALAC leadership that we should probably emulate SSAC in this, because as Jim outlined, it was [inaudible] advisory committees which were be [inaudible] of this approach and if and when the tracking – the board document tracking website – gets resuscitated and rebuilt, it would be very nice if we had an ability to plug-and-play our stuff in as well.

I just wanted to put that out there for our leadership to consider, because I think it’s hugely important and a beneficial thing for the community – pardon the pun – at large.
My final comment goes all the way back to Alan. I can remember all the way back to Alan, despite the fact that I was driving around the roads of [inaudible] at the time. You mentioned, Alan, the difficulties, the challenges, of finding documents and things that people like you and I know exist and can be damned if we can find them, which is extremely annoying for us – and we’re not the only ones.

The positives that I’ve seen recently, and it is something I’ve featured in my most recent updates for the GNSO liaison reports is the new portal, for want of a better word, aggregation page is probably better, that GNSO has put up. I believe it’s now linked off the GNSO main website, which is gnso.icann.org, but if not, if possible – and you know I can’t put links in because I’m using the mobile Adobe Connect, but if staff could grab the link to my liaison report, all the live links are now there for a new way of providing easier access to the different information on policy work that’s going on in the GNSO. It’s really a very much, as they’ve described, one-stop information web page.

I think this is a really, really useful tool. I want to promote it, and I’m planning to promote it, for wider At-Large and ALS use. I think it’s very, very handy and I think it’s one of those ways, Alan, that we may very well be able to get the edge communities, the foundations, as you put it, in the ALSes to keep themselves abreast in an easy an digestible way of what’s going on in the policy world. If, of course, we can get something similar coming out of the policy [inaudible] more work teams and less policy development out of ccNSO and any cross-community activities, that would also be great. But this initiative of GNSO is well worthwhile and I wanted to promote that, following on from what you said.
Yes, David, I did wonder whether you would make that comment, but you didn’t, so I did. Thank you very much, Tijani. I’ll stop monopolizing the microphone now.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Cheryl. Thank you for those questions and remarks.

ALAN GREENBERG: Can I comment?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes, please. Go ahead.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you, Cheryl, for that pointer to the portal. I did happen upon it a little while ago and I could not at all find what I was looking for, but I may have come upon it when it wasn’t fully populated, but I will take a look at it again. Thank you.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Go back and have a look now, Alan. You’ll be much more relieved, I’m sure.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you Alan and Cheryl. I think that Jim has a comment on your intervention, Cheryl. Jim, please go ahead.
JIM GALVIN: Yes, thank you. Just to build on what Cheryl said with respect to our board tracking. I would encourage that the ALAC leadership, if you’re going to consider doing that, I would recommend that you reach out to David Conrad to let him know. Steve Sheng is our staff support who has the lead – is SSAC staff support who has the lead on managing this. I’m sure there’s an opportunity for two sets of staff to both get together.

SSAC’s goal specifically in this is simply to close the loop for ourselves to ensure that recommendations are actually acted upon and see if there’s further work on an ongoing basis. Obviously one of the things that came out during this new gTLD program, especially during name collisions, was this idea that recommendations had been made years ago that were never followed up on.

We just want to make sure that these things don’t get lost. Yes, I would encourage ALAC to do the same thing. And other groups, too, of course. Thanks much.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Jim. Now Holly Raiche was waiting very patiently. Holly, please go ahead.

HOLLY RAICHE: Thanks. It’s really a comment, but David, Olga and Jim all raised new gTLDs and I know as did Alan. I’m just wondering if there isn’t room for some kind of cross-community communication. I just remembered – I think it was the last meeting in an open session. So many people put
their hands up when it came to comments about the new gTLD program and what should happen. Is that all going to be collected? I know, Jim, you’ll be collecting it, but I know we had comments and I think GAC had comments. I’m just wondering if there’s a way to combine all of that because it was an important topic for all of us. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Holly. Thank you very much for this comment. Now, no other questions? If there is no other questions, I have question not about the sessions of Singapore, but about the geographic names, Olga. May I ask you about the [inaudible] AMAZON which are very [inaudible]. Can you tell me [inaudible] those names?

OLGA CAVALLI: Sorry, I cannot hear you very well. You want to know the status of the Amazon TLD, or what else did you say?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Since we are speaking about geographic names, the protection of the geographic names, I’m asking you about .SPA, .PATAGONIA, and .AMAZON. What is the status now?

OLGA CAVALLI: .PATAGONIA withdraw their application on the 9th of July of 2013, the day after the United States government that said they were going to neutral in the GAC discussion, because there was only one country
against our request of GAC advice against .PATAGONIA, .AMAZON and other new gTLDs that were using geographic names.

So the day that the United States government said that they were going to be neutral or not opposed us, Patagonia withdraw their application. So that was finished mid-July. Not last year, the year before.

Amazon went on. We did make GAC advice on .AMAZON in the Durban meeting, and at the Durban meeting, if you review the GAC [inaudible], we decided to work on the rules, not to repeat again and to refine the rules in a way that this will not happen again. This is why we created this working group that I chair.

About .SPA, I think there are still negotiations done by the applicant and the government of Belgium ongoing, but I can give you more details. If you want, I can contact my colleague from Belgium and I can let you know. But I know that they were going into deliberations.

.AMAZON, the GAC advice was issued and the board decided not to proceed and there was a time that the GAC board went for a specific consultation with the legal advisor and the advisor also supported the GAC advice. So [inaudible] ICANN is saying no to Amazon, but for the moment, there is no more news that I can share with you. There is nothing new on the horizon. If it’s something of your interest, we can share it with the ALAC once we have the time.

The purpose of the working group and the purpose of the session is to see how can we think about refining the rules and avoiding that this will happen again. The problem that we face is that for some people
geographic names just don’t have – they’re not owners of the geographic name.

For example, Argentina and Chile are not the owners of Patagonia and have no right to claim for that. Or the Amazonian countries don’t have any right over Amazon and the governments, we don’t think the same. That’s part of the discussion.

The problem is not the discussion itself. The problem is that we will have a new round of new gTLDs and if we don’t refine the rules, we will have the same problem with, I don’t know, [inaudible] or .LIMA or .MACUPICCHU or .NILE or whatever. That’s the purpose. It’s a positive purpose. It’s not we want the veto power. We want to have rules that avoid the uncertainty for the countries, for the governments, and for the applicants. They spend a lot of money in the application and we want to avoid uncertainty.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Olga. Thank you. Any other questions? We still have time. I don’t see any hands. Cheryl, please?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you, Tijani. Not so much a question. In fact, not a question at all, but very much a request. Knowing how busy all our schedules are and how crowded the calendar is, in several of the presentations today there was highlighted a couple of things, and obviously the geo names in GAC’s work is one of those obvious ones, but also in the other
presentations there was times where activities are going on during Singapore that certainly would interest the At-Large community.

If they are not clashing directly with primary meeting activities of the ALAC, I think if we could possibly list them somewhere in some form of calendar just so those of us who are in the At-Large community, or of course regional and ALAC leadership, will know what’s on when. As you know, it gets very, very busy during these meetings and to be able to quickly look at one’s phone or one’s hard copy and go, “Oh, if I can get to the GAC room right now, I can catch up on this activity,” I think would be very valuable.

I’m not sure how our over-worked and under-appreciated staff are going to pull this off, but if it is as all possible, it would be very handy I think. Thanks.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes, thank you. The staff is very busy also. Since we have the material, I think should be possible. Thank you very much, Cheryl, for this proposal and this comment. Any other remark, any other questions? We still have time.

Seeing no one raising their hand, thank you very much. Thank you for the presenters. Thank you, Olga. Thank you, Jim. Thank you, Dave is gone. Fatima is gone. Thank you, Alan. Thank you very much, Alan. You were very patient since you were the first presenter and you are still with us. Thank you, everyone, who has made this webinar. Thank you for the staff and interpreters. This webinar is adjourned. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Cheryl.

TERRI AGNEW: Once again, this meeting has been adjourned. Thank you very much for joining. Please remember to disconnect all remaining lines. Have a wonderful rest of your day.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]