
DUBLIN – ALAC Strategy and Working Session Part 1
Saturday, October 17, 2015 – 09:45 to 12:30 IST
ICANN54 | Dublin, Ireland

GISELLA GRUBER: ...So again, for ALAC and regional leaders, please do be there for the wrap-up session. And in the afternoon, the traditional ICANN public forum as well as the ICANN [inaudible] board meeting.

There is another meeting that has been added just before the public forum, which is the Community Recognition Program. Details are on the main schedule. And to end off the ICANN 54 public meeting here in Dublin, the wrap-up cocktail will be held in the L3 Foyer.

Just before I hand over to Heidi, the last meeting for the ALT is on Friday morning from 8:00 to 9:45, and the details are on the Wiki page. And that ends off all the ALAC and At-Large sessions. I'll just quickly hand over to Heidi. Thank you.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Thank you, Gisella. Again, in the interest of time, the Technology Taskforce (or the TTF) will be meeting and they're going to talk in particular about next steps for e-books. There's a project in the Fiscal Year '16 [inaudible] request that Glenn's leading and the captioning issue that Judith is leading.

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.

There will also be another discussion I believe with IT staff about the LACRALO mailing list issues. That is a list that has English and Spanish and there's some ongoing challenges there.

So for all new incoming ALAC members, as well as outgoing members, a really crucial meeting is always the ALAC and Regional Leadership Wrap-Up Session. That session goes through action items. It also talks about any last action, any voting, that the ALAC has to do that's very important to be there. For the Annual General Meeting, which is always the Autumn meeting, that is also the time where outgoing ALAC members, that will be their last meeting. And at the end of that, the board meeting officially is when the incoming ALAC members take their seats. That will all be discussed at that point at that meeting. I believe at that point that might be a final discussion of the ALT, but I'm not sure.

Quickly, on Friday, the ALT meeting – the ALAC Leadership Team meeting – that is for new ALT members only, but you're all welcome to that. Then the development session on Friday, that is only for incoming and current, continuing ALAC members. It's very important. It's a new session for team building. So if you have not had your flight scheduled where you can be at that meeting, please come see At-Large staff. We're working on it. We know who you are. If you have not yet heard from Constituency

Travel, please follow-up with us and we will make sure that you can take part in that as long as you can. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Heidi. Beran?

BERAN GILLEN: Thank you, Olivier. I just wanted to say Dev sent me a link for the ICANN mobile app and I think it's very helpful. You can actually schedule all your sessions there and have alerts and all of that. I sent it on the ALAC list for everyone.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Beran.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yes. I have the app on my Android, so if you need any help with that – because you should sync it with your Google calendar. If you have problems, see me.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: That's fantastic. Thank you very much. We have run out of time. We're very much behind schedule. One last thing. I was going to call upon Raf Fratani. I know you've been really looking at how newcomers are brought into At-Large, and I just wondered

whether we've missed anything for the first one of their meetings here. Raf?

RAF FATANI:

Thank you, Olivier, for putting me on the spot. I think it's important to acknowledge that part of this process isn't just about the formal meetings that we have here, but also the informal meetings that happen on the [sidewalks].

One small bit of advice that I'd give is just to make sure that you engage with everyone. Fortunately and unfortunately, there are powerhouses within the [institute], within the ALAC, and within the wider and it's probably important that you engage everyone in order to get the most out of this.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Raf. And noting for the transcript and for the record that Evan Leibovitch has stepped in the room, which is the reason why there were some cheers. Welcome. Welcome back, Evan. He's coming to help us with the high commission on refugees here. We might soon be booted out of here.

Okay, ladies and gentlemen, we're really eating up into our break time, so let's have a 10-minute break. And I mean 10 minutes, please, maximum because we're 15 minutes late already. There's coffee outside downstairs. We'll see you in...

Let's see it's 28. At 11:38 we'll be back here, [inaudible] two minutes.

Okay, ladies and gentlemen, let's start the recording, please. Are we ready?

Welcome back, everybody. After this very short break, we're running way late. The next topic that we have now is the Hot Policy topic, and that's the IANA transition and the ICANN accountability, and the At-Large involvement in that process. As you will have noticed from the people missing from this room, we have been very much involved with five representatives on the Cross Community Working Group on ICANN Accountability. We also had five representatives on the Cross Community Working Group on the Transition of Stewardship of the IANA Functions.

Two acronyms which you have to know before we start. The first one is CWG. The second one is CCWG. They both mean exactly the same thing. They both mean cross-community working group. The reason why one is CWG and one is CCWG is that we can then refer to the transition of stewardship of the IANA function as a CWG working group and the ICANN accountability as being the work of the CCWG. So CWG IANA; CCWG, ICANN accountability. That's the difference between the two.

We have a few slides here on there. That's not the slide I want. I think we need to start with the beginning, please. And what we're going to do is take from two different presentations that were used recently in webinar. And what I'm going to do is to take you quickly with what's been happening so far, where we are and where we are moving to.

The first one... This is not the right one. This is not the one which has all of the process to start with. I see what you mean. It doesn't have the full thing. Yeah, okay, that's not going to be very helpful. Right. I'm going to share my screen briefly and be able to take you through the process and then we'll refer to the slides. We've had to do a pick-and-mix of different presentations due to lack of time to actually building a presentation, because by the time you finish building presentation, things move so fast, because the process is going on at the moment, that they already become obsolete. That's a little bit of a problem.

I don't seem to be able to share my screen. Okay, that's great. I'll share my screen and what I'll do is share this. Can you see this? Yeah. So I believe that if you want to see it better, you can either see it on your screen or we can make it full size.

So the first process that took place with the CWG stewardship, about just over a year ago, the US government announced that they were ready to end the stewardship that they were

exercising over the IANA functions. The IANA functions... IANA is the Internet Address Numbers Authority, and they are the authority that coordinates three types of identifiers.

First, they coordinate the names – domain names. That includes oversight over the root, the Internet root. Secondly, they also look at... Well, IANA itself coordinates the IP addresses that are provided around the world. These are the addresses of every computer that is connected on the Internet. Thirdly, the protocol parameters, so that computers are able to talk to each other. When I mean computers, it's the wider sense of the term. It includes any device out there can talk to each other, and that of course includes e-mail. That includes the web. That includes all of that. They use special protocols for this.

There are three operational communities that deal with those three parameters. The first one is the Internet Engineering Taskforce that is in charge of developing the protocols. The Regional Internet Registries – ARIN being one of them, but there's also AP... Well, the ones in Asia-Pacific and Latin America, all the different five regions. Those ones are coordinating the IP addresses. And finally, ICANN is in charge of the names as you're all well aware.

The process was that the US government asked for the multi-stakeholder community to come up with a proposal to replace them when they are gone.

So the first thing that happened was – and this is strange, the screen is not changing now. Sorry. I have changed my screen. It doesn't... Very strange. Oh, there's a delay. There's a long delay. Goodness.

What basically happened is that the different communities came together and decided to build together a set of working groups and they spent an enormous amount of time on conference calls. We're dealing here just with the transition of stewardship of the IANA contract.

So NTIA made this announcement, told ICANN to convene different communities. The communities started putting together first an IANA Coordination Group (known as ICG), and this was the group that was to take the three operational community proposals and put them together. You can see here the first one. CWG stewardship, which is the one that ICANN has put together. The CRISP is the one from the Regional Internet Registries. The IANA Plan Working Group was the working group in the Internet Engineering Taskforce.

All three came up with a proposal, passed it onto the ICG. The ICG produced an overall proposal. The plan is for it to then give

it to the ICANN board, and that will be transmitted on as an answer to the NTIA.

There's a little bit of a delay because part of the ICANN proposals, part of the proposal from the CWG stewardship, requires input from another cross-community working group and that's the famous CCWG accountability. And as you know, that is still working to produce that little bit of the report that needs to feed into the process, which means that until the work of the CCWG is complete, the work that relates to this is complete, there cannot be the transmission over to NTIA.

We might be speaking a matter of days. We might be speaking a matter of weeks, perhaps months. It really depends on how the process is progressing as we speak at the moment. And we will hear from Alan Greenberg and our other representatives in the CCWG Working Group later on this week on what the latest progress has been over today, over tomorrow, over the weekend, and over the week.

If we move down a little bit further – and I'm going to use the slides here – the proposal of the CWG Stewardship, if you look at the [inaudible], NTIA has a contract with ICANN where the contract is between NTIA and ICANN and there's an oversight from NTIA (the National Telecommunication Infrastructure Administration, the US government) to look at whether ICANN is

doing the job that it needs to do to run the IANA functions correctly.

With the US government gone, there needs to be a replacement of some sort of some kind of a mechanism to be able to find out if IANA is doing the job correctly or whichever operator is doing the job correctly. And therefore, the proposal was to create a number of groups all around first separating ICANN from the functions operating part, from IANA, because at the moment, IANA is actually part of ICANN. And therefore, creating a post-transition IANA which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ICANN, but that then provides the gap for the possibility in the future, if the IANA functions are not run correctly, for ICANN to end that contract with the post-transition IANA and then delegate it to another organization, or perhaps re-delegate it to IANA if there are improvements, etc.

For this, because it's not ICANN that has to make the choice of the separation of any changes in the contract, there are additional groups that were created.

As you can see, the first one is the IFR, the IANA Functions Review Team. That would be a process that would be called up if there is a major problem with the IANA functions. And that process would be actually triggered by the CSC (the Customer Standing Committee). These are primarily registries and

registrars that work directly with IANA and that provide the updates for IANA to put in the root and make the necessary amendments.

There's a whole process of escalation from the CSC being unhappy all the way down to the separation, or all the way up to the separation, should I say, and that process is documented elsewhere. What's important is that this whole process is relying on high accountability mechanisms so that ICANN cannot act in a rogue way. In other words, if the IANA Functions Review Team decided we need to separate IANA from ICANN, the board of ICANN should not be able to overrule this and say, "Forget that. We're continuing as we have been so far."

Therefore, the whole process relies on strong accountability mechanisms, which I'm pointing to now, and that's the work that we're waiting for right now.

Just a few details. The post-transition IANA is established to perform all the existing pre-transition IANA functions. Bearing in mind IANA does not do any policy work. It's just implementation. It's just technical work. Receiving [updates] from registries and basically saying these are going to be put in the root and the root will be amended accordingly, with a whole number of processes to make sure that the update was received in the proper way, the proper format, etc.

The PTI, because it is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ICANN, but it is a separate entity, needs to have a board. So the board exists just to make sure that PTI meets all the statutory requirements as an affiliate and is a very small board. It would have the ICANN executive responsible for PTI. Currently, the manager in charge of IANA. It would have the ICANN Chief Technical Officer, because this is a technical function. It would have one IANA managing director. That's a seat that would work on this. Then there would be two independent directors that would be the eyes and ears of the community, making sure the discussions on the PTI board are fully transparent and fair in scope.

The Customer Standing Committee is a little bit larger. It's another committee that is created primarily with registry operators, but also non-registries. The two generic top-level domain registry operators, two country-code top-level domain registry operators, one additional top-level domain representative that is not from the gTLD community or the ccNSO community because there are some country codes that are not actually involved with ICANN, so this would provide them with their voice on this committee.

There would be a liaison from IANA itself, and there's also a liaison from each one of the ICANN supporting organizations and advisory communicates, and that includes the At-Large Advisory Committee. So we would have someone on there. That

is the Customer Standing Committee that would be raising the flag if something doesn't work for IANA.

Then the Functions Review process, which would then build a Functions Review Team, would only be invoked either on a regular timeline, perhaps every three years or every five years – I think the discussion edged towards having a full review of the IANA functions every five years in line with all of the other reviews that take place at ICANN.

But if, of course, the Customer Standing Committee flags up the fact that there is something majorly wrong happening, then the Functions Review would be triggered and that might either go towards an amicable resolution or it might go towards a separation of IANA from ICANN.

The membership of the Functions Review Team is a little bit larger. You can see there are two country code support organizations. There's one ccTLD that is non-ccNSO that's not from the supporting organization. There are two registry stakeholder group representatives, one registrar stakeholder group representative, one commercial stakeholder group representative, and one non-commercial stakeholder group representative. These are all from the Generic Names Supporting Organizations. They're the sub-groups of the Generic Names Supporting Organizations.

Then members from the Government Advisory Committee. There would be one person from the Security & Stability Advisory Committee, one person from the Root Server Operation Advisory Committee. These are the people that run the 13 root servers across the world. One person from the At-Large Advisory Committee. One liaison with the Customer Standing Committee, because they are the ones that will invoke the IANA Functions Review Team, so it's better to have someone in the IANA Functions Review as well to say, "Let me explain to you why we have invoked this committee to start its work." Then one point of contact with the post-transition IANA with the actual organization itself that will perform to be able to also give the counterpoint as to why maybe something has happened in the way that it did.

That's the easy rundown. I know it's a little bit hard if you haven't been following this, but that is arguably the most critical thing that is taking place on the Internet today. This is why we felt it was a good idea to take you through this.

The next steps, as you see on this diagram, look very simple, but they really aren't. It's the submission to the... It's been submitted to the different chartering organizations. The plan has been submitted to the ICG (the IANA Coordination Group), and that then has to wait at the moment, as we said, for the

accountability work to conclude, or part of the accountability work to conclude for it to be sent over to the NTIA.

Let me stop sharing my screen now and go back to the presentation which you had on the screen, Ariel, please. I think the first one is done. Let's go for the second one, the accountability one.

We've spoken about this ICANN accountability process that's taking place. The working group started after the cross-community working group on IANA Stewardship Transition started, so it's a little bit delayed in finding all of the details that it needs to have. This is a presentation that was presented, as I said, in a recent webinar. So please disregard the date as such.

There is a second draft proposal that has gone out to everyone for feedback and for comments. I think it was – is it 80 or 180 comments were received? A lot of comments were received. Oh, 93. Okay, well, I've got wrong numbers, but it's a lot of comments.

What the working group has been doing in the past couple of weeks is to go through each one of the comments and consider them and amend their proposal according to the comments that were received. This is why you can recognize the members of that working group by the tired look that they have on their face going through 93 comments in I think less than a week in total.

There are various slide decks which you can get. Oh, and we have, as we speak, Alan Greenberg that's come back in here. Maybe Alan could provide us... We're dealing with the accountability work at the moment, so maybe you can provide us with a summary of the accountability work as it was presented to the community a week-and-a-half ago and where it's moving now.

ALAN GREENBERG: We do have a session this afternoon, don't we, later on?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: We can go on this afternoon with it.

ALAN GREENBERG: Yeah, we'll go on this afternoon. Rinalia is here and I think we'll break to the next session and go back to the accountability in the scheduled time later on.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay. So we've covered CWG IANA. We'll cover the CCWG accountability later on. Any questions on CWG IANA, whilst Rinalia makes herself at home? Sandra?

SANDRA HOFERICHTER: Thank you, Olivier. I know you have been involved in that process very closely. Maybe you can give a very, very short overview or quick comment about what the actual issue at the moment is, where the community is fighting against the board? Maybe just a very short snapshot for the people in the room right now. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks, Sandra. We'll have Alan Greenberg respond to this.

ALAN GREENBERG: I won't quite answer your question. It has been an interesting few weeks with some heavy emotions going between the CCWG and the board. There are some very strong feelings that the board did not act in the most tactful or proper way in terms of introducing their comments.

As we stand today, as of a minute-and-a-half ago, I think we are moderately close. But perhaps we can ask Rinalia when she comes up to see whether she agrees or not. Close to an agreement.

But yes, the issue of how this process has been carried out is worthy of more than a two-minute intervention, and I think I will go over that a little bit later today, if you will allow me to defer it.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Alan. If I can just say, in one sentence, the issue primarily has been that of control. Who has the last word? Is it the board? Is it the community? And the proposal of the community made it that the first proposal was that the community could overrule the board, kick the board out, do anything it wants with the board. Even when the board was making decisions, the community could appeal. But all of the [decisions] of the community I think were not appealable. The board could not kick back and could not fight. It was a bit one-sided, and of course there was some flashpoint regarding that. But we'll go into further detail this afternoon.

Kaili Kan?

KAILI KAN: [inaudible] share the [inaudible] e-mails to learn. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yes, we will. Thank you. I guess I can hand the floor... No, we're not going to let... Evan, you have a mic already? Do you wish to say a few words? Then I'll hand the floor over to Alan Greenberg. Evan Leibovitch?

EVAN LEIBOVITCH:

Sorry about this. My time here is brief just for the next two days, so I have to make it useful. I've had the comfort... Oh, Evan Leibovitch, former ALAC, now roaming around. I've had the luxury of being able to see the processes here from a distance. I've been able to look at things from a bird's eye view and see some of the things from a broad brush.

One of the things that keeps being brought up in the public is the idea of ICANN going back to single-member participation. I remember, Olivier, having a very long talk with you traveling from a crater in Costa Rica back to our hotel about what ICANN went through in version one when it had direct membership.

Since you've got some of that historical background, could you give a little bit of analysis on that particular realm of this of how people are asking to go back to a single-member thing, and if there's a way to improve upon this; or if, based on your last experience, it won't work? Thanks.

ALAN GREENBERG:

I'm going to give a very brief answer. The only common thing between what happened in 2000 or 1999-2000 and now, the word "member". The implementation [of the] concept of member is so radically different now than was [inaudible]. That is an interesting lesson in history and it could be an interesting

lesson that we might use in the future. It influenced the kind of member we're talking about, but it's not related really at all.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much, Alan. I hand the floor back to you, Alan Greenberg.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much. I have the great pleasure of handing the floor over in a moment to Rinalia Abdul-Rahim who is an At-Large board member. That is the board member selected by At-Large to sit on the board, that we are the only advisory committee within ICANN – and ICANN has three supporting organizations, which in the way ICANN was reformed in 2013 have voting board members (two each). The advisory committees normally have liaisons. That is somebody who sits with the board, takes part in discussions, but has no ability to make motions or to vote.

As a result of many discussions and the last At-Large review, we now have one voting board member. There's a long history as to why we have one as opposed to two that the SOs have, but nevertheless, that is what it is. That may change some day. Rinalia is the person who is occupying that seat right now. I am delighted to have her here for I think the first time to have our

sitting board member come and just discuss stuff, ask us what's of interest and perhaps tell us a little bit of what's of interest to her. I hope to have an interesting discussion. I have a couple of things I can raise, but I'm not going to seed the discussion. I'll turn it over to Rinalia for any introductory words, and then we'll open the floor I think.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you, Alan. Good morning, everyone. It's always a pleasure to be back in the ALAC room. Before I go into the discussion part of it, I think there are new ALAC members in the room. If you wouldn't mind introducing them to me, that would be great, Alan.

ALAN GREENBERG: I haven't met them all, but I will point to Kaili Kan is our new ALAC member from China, representing the Asia-Pacific region. I'll let him take the floor. Then after that, I don't know where the other ones... I see Tim Denton over here sitting. And I'm not sure who else. Harold over there. If we can quickly go around the table and you can spend a minute or two telling us about yourself.

KAILI KAN: My name is Kaili Kan, a retired professor in Beijing and new appointee by NomCom to ALAC for the Asia-Australia Pacific region. Thank you.

TIM DENTON: Alan, you know me and I've already said hello. Oh, all right, one more time.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: For me.

ALAN GREENBERG: Rinalia has not met you.

TIM DENTON: Hi, I'm Tim Denton. I come from Canada. I have been a federal regular of telecommunications and broadcasting, which is now in the past. I sit on the board of American Registry of Internet Numbers, the Canadian Chairman of Internet Society chapter, and a few other things. I've been in the ICANN structure 15 years ago and the registrar community, which is 15 years and many contracts behind. [inaudible].

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. Harold?

HAROLD ARCOS: Good morning. I'm Harold Arcos. Welcome, Rinalia. I'm Harold. I'm a reporter, a [social] communicator, I'm a researcher. I do research in the area of telecommunications. We have developed at our ALS Internauta in Venezuela where we have participated in the process of development of public policies that we work in the promotion, information and [training] on end user rights. And we are here to help you, from Venezuela. I have just been appointed to become an ALAC member.

ALAN GREENBERG: And is Wafa here or not? No, has not arrived, okay. So we have one more ALAC member from Tunisia. Sorry?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Seun Ojedeji

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: [inaudible].

ALAN GREENBERG: Well now he is. Seun, if you could give a one-minute or half-minute introduction of yourself for Rinalia, just to make sure she knows who you are.

SEUN OJEDEJI: My name is Seun Ojedeji. I work for Federal University [inaudible] Nigeria as a [chief network] engineer. I hope that's short enough.

ALAN GREENBERG: Seun is a new ALAC member selected by AFRALO. I think that's all we have at the moment, so it's over to you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Thank you. I interacted with Seun. I've enjoyed his engagement in CCWG. In particular, Tim, welcome. It's nice to see you. Kaili, [inaudible] ALAC. Harold, Buenos dias, mucho gusto.

Okay, in terms of topics to discuss, Heidi asked me if I had anything in terms of agenda items. I didn't have a specific list. I wanted it to be an open discussion. But I do have something to say to you with regards to the conversation between the board and the ALAC and At-Large on Constituency Day. Just to prepare you in advance that the board will likely ask you some questions specific to the ALAC and At-Large position on the CCWG

proposal, whether you think that your views are being heard in the development of the proposal and what your position is currently, whether it has changed from previously and where you think [it] going forward, in terms of how you would position yourself in terms of a chartering organization of CCWG.

That's something that I wanted to tell you. Beyond that, I'm open. Whatever issue you'd like to discuss, I think we can do that.

ALAN GREENBERG: Siranush?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Hi, Rinalia, again. Before you came, when we were going through the agenda, I think that there were some assumptions that we may talk about the upcoming GAs, general assemblies. So if you may collaborate a little bit on this, what are propositions or how RALOs can be better prepared for submitting requests for general assemblies. Thank you.

ALAN GREENBERG: Rinalia, do you want to answer or do you want me to say a couple of words first? Okay. The overall issue of general assemblies and summits is certainly one of interest. For those

who are not familiar, we try on a regular basis to bring representatives from each ALS to an ICANN meeting or to some other related event because it's very difficult for us to expect people to understand what's going on and take part when they've never seen what's going on when they haven't meet the people at all and everything is purely remote. It's particularly difficult for people when the language is an issue, because much of what goes on in ICANN is in English and that's not always the language that they speak.

We found it helps. What we have tried to do is we've now had two of them, so I can say it's a regular thing, is in 2009 and then again in 2014, we had a summit where we tried to bring a representative from every ALS – and we now have 200 of them, so it's a major activity – to an ICANN meeting. And we brought representatives to the meeting in London in 2015.

Prior to that, we did a similar thing with a much smaller group of ALSes in 2009 at a meeting in Mexico City. In between each of those events... And although these two are five years apart, the next ones we don't know exactly when the next assembly will be – the next summit will be. We try to make sure that each region has one assembly with the people from their region at a location in their country.

So right now, in Dublin, we have representatives from most of the European ALSes present here for a general assembly.

The potential problem is we requested in our budget request this year three general assemblies. We got one. If we continue on that pattern and only get one general assembly per year, take about seven years until we get the next summit, because typically we have no general assemblies in the year before the summit. We have to do better than that.

We are talking right now, the ALAC leadership, talking to senior people in ICANN if we can put together a multi-year budget proposal to try to make sure that we do get the funding for the general assemblies and the summit. It's very early in the process, but at this point, we have the support of a significant number of very senior ICANN people to try the process. It's never been done before. It will be interesting.

I am optimistic, however, that we will not have the problem we had last year and we'll somehow make it work. Rinalia?

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM:

Thank you, Alan. This is my personal view. I believe every RALO should have a regional meeting every year, and I believe that there should be a summit every five years so that there could be a global gathering of all the RALOs and the ALSes. The challenge,

as always, is does ICANN have the financial resources to support it?

And of course, if you follow the CCWG discussion, budget is [inaudible] contested. Different parts of the ICANN community want to be able to have a say in terms of what goes in or what's approved, whatever it is. So there is scrutiny with regards to who is asking for what.

I really do encourage you to have a coordinated approach in asking for regional meetings, or GAs as we call it, General Assemblies, as well as the summit and to start it now.

And I think that the approach that Alan and the Leadership Team has done in terms of approaching the ICANN Leadership Team and talking to them, asking them what is the process in terms of how do we approach this, very good and solid approach, I think in the future, in moving forward, we would need [inaudible] about the summit and this needs to go to the board because [we] cannot a summit without board endorsement or agreement on that, and it has to go through a process and assume that it will take time to get this agreement.

Then on the general assembly, I think that Alan has in mind a process that he wants to initiate with the budget development process of ICANN itself. So it has to go through this. We'll see

how it goes, and if it needs help along the way, we'll see how help can be given.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. I do want to credit to Olivier beside me, who has been the one who has pushed this to the stage where it is at today, so I thank you Olivier.

Question for Rinalia. I think you said you support a general assembly for each RALO every year. Did you really say that?

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: I certainly did. That's my understanding. Before I came to ICANN, I led a global multi-stakeholder organization, and the way we did it was that every region would have a meeting every year. But of course we had to raise funds for that. And that is the only way to actually build the community, to have a community of active volunteers. Because you need it to communicate. You need it to establish trust. You need it to build capacity, so that there is global engagement in policy matters. Otherwise, there is a disconnect.

I've seen the data because I've asked staff to put together data on when has the At-Large community gotten together in the past since 2009? I could see clear gaps in that, and that is also part of the contributing factor on why the volunteer pool in the At-Large

limited. In order to grow that, we really need to be more in touch with community members figuring out what the interests are. Can you form active clusters and build them up from the regions upwards?

That's my personal belief, but to get support for that requires more talking with people in decision-making positions, and also to help the board understand why it's important for the meetings to occur. That message needs to come across and it needs to come across from you.

ALAN GREENBERG: I just wanted clarity that that was what you meant. Of course, though, there will be some need for some additional staff to do help us do that, also. Just a minor little point. Siranush?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, chair. Just my concern here. I know that personally you support the GA [approach] once a year, and just related to APRALO, we had our GA last year or even more than that, and because the previous Singapore meeting which was in our region was on [inaudible] and we had no chance to do this. And the next Asia-Pacific will actually be in the next upcoming fiscal year when we should provide the request, but it will take place in October '17, so two years from now.

So it comes to the point that almost more than three years APRALO has no chance to meet with ALSes and it's really difficult to keep them excited and involved as much as we would like and as much as they would like to be. Remotely, it's really very challenging. Just a concern shared from APRALO perspective.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Hear, hear!

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. Of course, if anyone can keep people excited, it's Siranush.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: There's a hand at the back.

ALAN GREENBERG: There's a hand at the back. We also have a card here, which I think is Holly's, though all I can see is a blank card. I don't know what order they came up in. Okay, we'll go with the back, then Holly, then Alberto.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: For the record, [inaudible] from Thailand as well. Regarding [inaudible] talking about to have the summit every year, but the

[inaudible] things before we [had] the summit every year. The [inaudible] on the region need to be encourage the people to participate, because example, for Thailand as well, we don't have even the information what happens in the region as well. Even how can encourage the Thai people to participate or even to [inaudible] sub-regions, encourage [inaudible] people to be the Internet user. But we don't know exactly how can we participate on these kinds of things. [inaudible] not only the summit, but need to have some saved money to [set up] some activity, [inaudible] core issue that this region would like to raise our voice in the Asia-Pacific, for example. That's the kind of [inaudible] or even to the activity need to be initiated. Thank you.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Believe me, I understand, because I've done this before in terms of building regional networks up. Just to confirm, when I say summits, it's one every five years. Regional meetings, once every year for every region. Just to clarify that. Over to you, Alan.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. We have Holly now, and now Alberto. This meeting officially ends in five minutes and we may want to go on to some other topic. So if you can keep your comments brief, please.

HOLLY RAICHE: Rinalia, you talked about building the community. Now, I know the task upon us is to come up with a solid plan. What I'm hearing from you is the board at least appreciates the importance of, and I think the [inaudible] comment just emphasize this point, if you're going to get volunteers, then in fact we need to say you have to have an outreach where people can understand what's going on before you can get the volunteers. Should that be part of what we say to the board in terms of we need general assemblies? I don't think we're going to get five, but we should get more than one.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Holly, I didn't understand your last point. Could you say that again?

HOLLY RAICHE: Really an emphasis that there is a need to have probably as much funding will bear on having general assemblies that provide the outreach and that provide, if you will, the pool of volunteers you were talking about.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Okay. I just wanted to say that I've seen some work amongst the staff that's oriented towards supporting SO/AC in doing outreach. So I think that there may be some resources within the system that could be made available to support you, but they're coming from the staff side. And when that is offered, be open and seize the moment.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. Alberto?

ALBERTO SOTO: Rinalia, we have had a general assembly in 2009. The last one was in London. And the next one will probably be in 2018. What happens if we have a real need to hold a general assembly to solve essential issues for our region?

So maybe it should be held next year. I mean, in the [inaudible].

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: I do not know, because that would require looking at the existing budget and whether it's possible to draw any funds, and whether that would require drawing from reserved funding, which would require a special board decision. So I actually do not yet know. I'll have to find out what the process will be.

Also, I think that you might have to [run it through] the ALAC first to see whether that is consistent with their approach in championing every region having a meeting.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. Yes. Making a budget a request of that magnitude within a budget year when it was already rejected in the budget process, it would be a challenge. It's not only money, however. It's also staff resources and things like that, which make it an interesting challenge. But nothing is impossible.

Leon?

LEON SANCHEZ: Thank you very much, Alan. Rinalia, you spoke about sponsoring and gathering resources from [external] sponsors, maybe. Would there be a way... I mean, it's just an idea. Would there be a way for cases like those that are [inaudible] highlighting urgent cases where obviously there's been no consideration or no funds in the budget for this type of exceptions. Would there be a way in which ICANN could actually help the community, the At-Large community, to get in touch with sponsors so we could maybe collaborate in a way to find out to raise those funds and not take it from the budget, but instead from sponsors that could be channeled through ICANN?

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: Okay, Alan wants to answer it.

ALAN GREENBERG: I didn't say I wanted to answer it; I said I would. In the past, ICANN has been exceedingly reluctant to work with us to approach people on our behalf. To be candid, they need sponsors for this meeting also, and they don't necessarily want to waste the favors that they can garner on something that we're trying to do. There's no rule against it, however.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: I would say that there are networks of relationships that you have as the At-Large community within the ICANN system. In my previous experience in another organization is that you would know an organization within your region that would be willing to host a meeting because they have the facilities, and they would say, "You can have my meeting facilities with no charge. I would be open to that." So that's a partner.

The other bit of it is looking at how do you get travel funding, and then to see whether [there's] a development agency in the region that is focusing on the topic that you are interested in and pitching it to them to see our community is addressing this

issue. It builds capacity of civil society or Internet users in this area. Would you be willing to provide travel support?

That means that the RALO has to be organized and know what are the networks of possible sponsoring organizations and not be reliant on ICANN. The more independent you are, the more you can do on your own independently.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. We have a queue. We have Tijani and Siranush, and I think we'll then have to adjourn the meeting and go on. And Sandra. Tijani?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much. I would like to add to what Alan said, that ICANN don't want us to contact sponsors that ICANN is using. This was the case one or two years ago. I don't know if this policy changed, but ICANN don't like us to be in touch with the sponsors they are losing. Thank you.

ALAN GREENBERG: I'll intercede that sometimes we do it anyway. Siranush?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Just related to local sponsors within the region, quite honestly our region is very good in getting support from local RIRs, as you

know, due to our MOUs with APNIC and APTLD. We really are getting a strong [inaudible] in the sense of them covering our fees for the participation – I mean for the local annual meetings. Actually, from now to our ICANN APRALO region meeting in APRALO regional meeting, there are to APRICOTs will take place. I don't think that for the region to travel to New Zealand, just for example, for this year APRICOT, it may take even more money than to organize the whole APRALO members to come to some European country. Honestly, this is really very cost-effective, even the people from Pacific Island to travel to New Zealand.

This is really cost-effective, but what I'm hearing from Holly here, I would like to take this note from him as well that we may approach to the donors or sponsors... Like, in China there are a couple of huge companies who may come with any support and who are not supporting ICANN meetings at all, I think. But [if there will] be an interest to support the travel of people coming to and gather without knowing the content and purpose of that actual meeting itself.

So it is challenging [part], but there are some possibilities, but with limited resources of course from regional sponsors.

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: When an entity is offering sponsorship, be aware of what the motivation is before you accept. They are saying we don't care

about what topic you're doing. You should question that motivation, yes, okay. But I encourage certainly speaking certainly seeking for these sponsor donor agencies. And Tijani, ICANN if ICANN has position saying that you should not, I would say that's not a limitation on independently approaching because it depends on the sponsoring entity whether or not they're interested in supporting your activity, so really it's not up to ICANN.

ALAN GREENBERG:

To be candid, there are organizations that have come to us, and they're major sponsors of ICANN events, but they have also come to us and said, "We have a little bit of money. Can you use it?" It's not a bad situation, not as bad as you imply.

Sandra, Olivier, and then I'm cutting off the queue. Thank you.

SANDRA HOFERICHTER:

Thank you, chair. I'm very sorry to hear that there are quite a few regions which have no general assembly coming up soon. Europe meanwhile is in the lucky position... And we had on in London and we have one here which is very fortunate, but I want us to remember that Europe was in the same position for quite a lot of years in the past, and we did manage to at least organize

general assemblies back-to-back with any regional event. European Dialogue on Internet Governance was one.

We could use existing infrastructure and facilities. We could not invite all participants, but as many of the usual suspects are participating in the regional events anyway, we had quite a good number of people on site. Others could at least join remotely. And there are always programs like ISOC or CROPP program of ICANN which allows additional travel where we do not have to approach ICANN to sponsor a general assembly.

I know that a number of research organizations in Europe, [inaudible] RIPE NCC, they are also very helpful and they do have funds. So I would encourage the other regions which have now a [inaudible] of general assemblies to use regional events to piggyback on them and to organize general assemblies there and keep the community involved. That's really... It might not be 100% what we want, but it's really, really a good way to keep the engagement in the region high and to stay connected with your communities.

It was also the case for Europe where we had to go through a long time of no ICANN-funded general assembly. Thank you.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. Olivier?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much, Alan. I was going to point out that the points which Rinalia has made are actually also recommendations that have come out of the last At-Large summit. Recommendation #41 and 42. 41 was that the ALAC should work with the ICANN board in seeking additional sources of funding for At-Large activities. There's some work that has gone into this. The Finance & Budget Subcommittee is working on this and there's more to come.

The second one was ICANN should enable annual face-to-face RALO assemblies, either at ICANN regional offices or in concert with regional events.

So it's there. We just have to continue developing those two, and I guess that will be presented to the board at some point. And of course we'll be accused of just coming to the board to ask for money, but thankfully the board members are not coming to us to ask for money.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Yet.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yet.

ALAN GREENBERG: Well, I'm glad to say we didn't run out of topics before we ran out of time. Rinalia, I thank you. I think we're meeting now for a few minutes, and when does the ALAC reconvene?

GISELLA GRUBER: 1:30 in this room.

ALAN GREENBERG: Okay. And have you figured out where there's food for people to eat in case anyone is actually hungry?

GISELLA GRUBER: Yes. I did mention it earlier as well. downstairs on the ground floor exhibitor's area, there's a booth where you can buy sandwiches and drinks, etc. That's also where the coffee area is. There is a sign giving you the times of the coffee breaks, because in between there's no available coffee.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much. Is there anything else? Any other notices that need to be made before we break? Alberto, very quickly.

ALBERTO SOTO: Speaking, yes, very quickly, coffee and [inaudible], both of them meet their times, so we should start and end on time, because otherwise we will have no coffee.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Just last input, regarding the recommendations already mentioned, we share the need to be more active regionally, but we also feel from the Latin American experience that we cannot continue waiting to discuss the recommendations and [inaudible] end point. This goes in parallel to other discussions. This discussion will [inaudible] and we will be able to use the budget.

But for the time being, we can work with the ICANN road shows. We can ask them to hold them at the regions because these are opportunities, at least from this vice chair, to generate spaces. That is to have similar activities in other RALOs in the region. I think this is important.

Also, another tool we are having already is the remote participation that we have been using in Venezuela as an excuse to group those who are interested or to meet with the ALSes. The physical meeting, the original physical meeting, is extremely important. Of course it is. However, there are other tools we're already having to strengthen all of this, so that this does not get

[inaudible] that our effort is not spread out, because as we all know, if we are not constant, then all of the effort goes away.

We are already having in ICANN, I think it is important to bring each of them to the RALOs, to each of the regions. Because the budget discussion has its own times, but interest has its times as well and we need to cater to those needs, to those demands, as well to continue being active in the RALOs.

This is my input and I wanted to add it to the comments.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much. We're breaking for lunch right now. We resume at 1:30, and it will be 1:30 sharp. We will be starting. Please be here.

GISELLA GRUBER: Yes. Just an update. You can leave your computers here, but please take other valuables with you and please note that we're not responsible if anything should happen.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]