
GISELLA GRUBER:

Welcome to this AFRALO call on the 15th of July. It is 6:30 UTC time.

On the French channel, we have Aziz Hilali, and Fatimata will come in a little bit.

On the English channel, we have Daniel Nanghaka, Douglas Onyango, Dave Kissondoyal, Seun Ojedeji, Sarah Kiden, Barrack Otieno, Mohamed El Bashir.

Alan Greenberg could not be with us. Neither could Tijani Ben Jemaa.

From staff, we have Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, and myself, Gisella.

Our interpreters are Isabelle and Claire.

Please, if I may remind you to state your name so that the interpreters might be able to identify you on the other channel, and that will also be useful for the transcript.

I now give the floor to Aziz.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you very much, Gisella. Hello, everyone. I am very happy to have us gathered again, and I would like to welcome especially our newcomers for this meeting – the new ALSes – [ISOC Uganda], welcome. We hope that these new ALSes will bring something new to our RALO, to our region. We also hope that they will be very active within our region, within AFRALO.

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.

As you know, we always start with public comments. There are not too many. It is summertime. People are also tired after the work that was done over the past six months, especially as it relates to the transition and accountability.

The three main points that we have on the public comments page offers the report from the GNSO with the Generic Names Supporting Organization. The objective is to get comments from the community on the project, the report that was published, as far as reviewing the organization of the GNSO.

The independent group drafted a report after some important work after analyzing the documents and after the different things that were observed on the work of GNSO. Everything is there for public comment.

The second point is something that comes back every month, and it is related to the domain names that relate to regional areas. The object of this public comment is to collect and to possibly modify based upon what is proposed. [inaudible]

If the contracts are related to territories, to geographical areas, the idea is to propose a new service that would be offered by the operators. This is the registry that is called [RSEP].

The last point is the GNSO transition and the transliteration. This comment has an object to get the opinion of the community on the six recommendations that were submitted for the transliteration of the data.

Those are the points that we currently have on the public comments page. As I as I ask [understand] that we need the ALSes, the members of AFRALO, need to actively participate in these public comments.

Before we move on to the next point, we would like to tell you that we planned this meeting on July 15 precisely because in general in August we don't have a meeting. So we wanted to move it a little bit closer to the month of August in order to adjust our timing. Do not hesitate. If you have comments, if you have things to add, go ahead.

As far as the second point, the recent activities within ALAC, Tijani is not here and Alan is not here, so I would like to give the floor to Beran so that he might tell us what is going on or has been going on lately. Beran, you have the floor.

BERAN GILLEN:

I just wanted to ask Aziz whether he could just give me – because I just started [inaudible] – whether he can just give me about 15 minutes and I can give the report a little bit later in the meeting. Perhaps either at the end, if he can just oblige me. Hello? Did you hear me?

GISELLA GRUBER:

I did. I did relay the message, but there seems to be an issue with the connection. I'm not getting an answer.

AZIZ HILALI:

Okay. Why don't you let me know when you are ready, and I will give you the floor? Why don't you signal that to me?

BERAN GILLEN: Great. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI: We will move on to the next point, the [future] activities within AFRALO. Let us move on in our agenda, and we will move on to the recent activities. Is there someone here who would like to talk about the most recent activities at that local level? If nobody is here, then I will move to the next point as far as recent information and the joint meeting that we had in Buenos Aires. I'd like Barrack to now address that point and to talk to us about that joint meeting that happened in Buenos Aires. Barrack, you now have the floor.

INTERPRETER: Hello? I cannot hear you if you are speaking. Is this Barrack? I cannot hear anything. I am sorry. I can hear a voice, but I cannot make out what you are saying.

AZIZ HILALI: Let us wait for the line to be reconnected with Barrack. Gisella is trying to reach Barrack through Skype because there seems to be an issue with his line.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Hello, Aziz. Hello, everyone.

AZIZ HILALI: Hello, Fatimata.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: I have been here. I have heard what has happened, Aziz. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI: Since Barrack's line is not working, I am going to move on to the next point, which actually is in the same item as far as the Buenos Aires meeting. This meeting was very successful. There were many African members who were present there in Buenos Aires. We also had [inaudible] and Pierre Dandjinou, who both contributed to the meeting with their words of encouragement.

I would like to remind you that the theme of that meeting was to give the African point of view as far as the proposal on the future governance of the Internet, the unique identifiers. This proposal was actually a joint proposal from AFRALO and AfrICANN on the proposal of the [suitability of the CCWG] and of the CCWG accountability.

These proposals by AFRALO were very well received during the meeting. We were one of the few constituencies, one of the few groups, within ICANN to actually contribute and to comment on the proposal.

We went into the details of things, and I think that this was thanks to all the work that was done by several members in our region. I will cite some of the names: Seun for his work and Tijani also for his work, who did excellent work. I would like to thank them personally.

As we came back from Buenos Aires, we gave this statement to the four groups: to the ICG group, to the CWG, to the CCWG, and to the CRISP Team. These statements were passed on and will be taken into consideration. The statement was also posted on the IANA ICG page.

I would like to congratulate all of the members that were involved in this work. I would like to thank you all for everything that you've done. This work represented a tremendous task, and it is a testament to all of your efforts.

Do some of you want to address this point? Or if Barrack can be heard, we will give him the floor. I'm not sure if he's available, if he's connected. Or we can also ask Beran to speak at this point.

Hello, who is speaking, please?

MWENDWA KIVUVA: Mwendwa Kivuva.

AZIZ HILALI: Go ahead.

MWENDWA KIVUVA: Okay. I attended the Buenos Aires meeting. It was good at least we have the resolution of AFRALO, but I wanted to make a statement that we should improve in our time management skills so that we can be able to achieve more when we are on the physical meetings. Like the meeting we had in Buenos Aires at AFRALO, I believe that we could have actually

used our time better and got more out of the physical meeting. That's just some part of feedback. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you, Mwendwa. Indeed, there was a delay for the CRISP part of the work. I think that thanks to what you said, we were able to get back on track. I would recommend that we can still address this point during the next committee meeting. I agree with what you said.

I think that Douglas would like to speak. Douglas, you have the floor.

INTERPRETER:

Douglas, if you are speaking, I cannot hear you. I cannot interpret for you because I cannot hear. I am not sure what's going on. Ah, yes. Thank you.

DOUGLAS ONYANGO:

[inaudible]

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you very much, Douglas, for your participation. I would like to say that when we have such a statement, the number of topics that are chosen goes this way. You first have a call with the different topics from the ALSes. Then we constitute a working group, and these working groups work on the statement. That's where the work happens, the details are worked out. That's where the proposal happens.

Then you have a drafting committee that puts it all together. The project is sent to the entire community – the African community and the other communities – and we send it out. Afterwards, we propose this at the next ICANN meeting so that it might be discussed so that it might be adjusted if needed.

Thank you, at any rate, for your participation. If there aren't any other people who would like to speak, I would like to talk about the ICG, the transition coordination group.

As you know, this group collects all of the proposals, and I would like to know what Mohamed has to say. I am looking forward to what he has to say because there are very important things going on right now. Mohamed, you have the floor at this point. If you could speak about the ICG work, that would be great.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR:

Thank you very much, Aziz. I would just like to provide a quick brief summary of the current status of the ICG work. By the way, the AFRALO statement was well received by the ICG, and it's currently published as one of the received comments from the community.

Currently, the ICG is working on assessment of the names community proposal. There are about 15 ICG members who volunteered to do the assessment. Today actually I'm supposed to be maybe leaving after this [inaudible] ICG because there is a two-hour ICG conference call that will be starting in five minutes to review the outcome of the assessment and the comparison between the three proposals.

Currently, we are working on the final complete proposal, and hopefully I can say that the proposals up until now didn't have conflicting parts. We have very few issues that might need to be returned back to the community for updates, but overall the [progress] is working as planned and hopefully in the coming ten days maybe we might be putting draft of the final proposal.

This is it for me for now. Happy to answer any questions.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Mohamed. Are there questions related to what Mohamed has just presented? If there aren't any questions, we will move to the next point.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: There is a question.

AZIZ HILALI: The Cross-Community Working Group on the IANA Stewardship Transition Proposal, the CWG. Our young colleague, Seun, represents AFRALO within the group. Seun, I give you the floor now, if you'd like to present. Seun, you have the floor.

SEUN OJEDEJI: [inaudible] meeting. There was a lot that happened during that meeting.
[inaudible]

INTERPRETER: Seun, excuse me. I'm sorry. I'm having some connection issues. Would you mind starting again? I can hear you now, I think, but would you mind starting again because I missed the beginning of your intervention.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, [inaudible].

INTERPRTER: Yes.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, good. I was saying the CWG proposal was ratified by [inaudible] organization during the Buenos Aires meeting. We [inaudible] of the CWG and also for the [inaudible] ICG. I think we have also added the [inaudible] of our proposal are presented by [inaudible].

ICG [inaudible] on the IANA trademark on the domain name of which the co-chairs of the CWG [inaudible] to the ICG about the view of the CWG [inaudible]. That view is that the [inaudible].

INTERPRETER: Seun, this is the interpreter. I'm having a hard time hearing you. Would you mind speaking just a little bit louder?

SEUN OJEDEJI: Hello? Can you hear me loud and clear now?

INTERPRETER: Yes, it's better.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, good. Thank you. I was saying that the proposal has been submitted. We got a few clarifications from the ICG on the IANA trademark and domain. We [inaudible] the ICG indicating that there is no specific [inaudible] of CWG as relates to IANA trademark and domain, and we will get back to them on what the CWG's view about that issue is.

At the moment, the CWG [inaudible] on that. However, we are discussing [inaudible] that will help us to determine and make a decision about that particular issue. Actually, we posted a [inaudible] that will actually provide [inaudible] advice to the group. We have requested [inaudible] provide us a brief overview of what it discussed to actually have [inaudible] assessment of the IANA trademark and domain.

[inaudible] was also asked to provide [inaudible] one of the three main items that we requested to make [inaudible]. We hope that once we get that response from them, [inaudible] request such activities will be carried out by [inaudible] and hopefully it will help us to determine what our views are as it relates to IANA trademark and domain.

As some of you may have read the proposal, [inaudible] PTI composition was not specifically mentioned. We are still also discussing that within the group. There have been different suggestions on what the composition, especially whether the manager should actually be a voting member or whether they should be on the board of CGI or not.

We are also discussing what happens [post-submission] [inaudible] submitted. Are we going to [inaudible] are you going to follow [inaudible] implementation? Are we going to be part of the drafting of the different documents like the bylaws and the different [inaudible] and so on and so forth?

And most importantly, we are discussing the relationship between ourselves and [inaudible] to ensure [inaudible], especially as we all know that some of the comments [inaudible] support comments [inaudible] comments from all [inaudible] add a clause of [inaudible] the proposal subject to the CWG accountability report. We [inaudible] as well, and then see how much [inaudible] reports actually address [inaudible].

There has not been much activity aside that within the CWG. I think it has been quite less voluminous in terms of [inaudible] on the part of the CWG. I think it will continue to most likely reduce from now. We hope that we will have more report [inaudible] after we've actually heard from the [inaudible] committee.

That is my update for now. If there are any questions, I'd be willing to answer them. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you very much for this update. I have a question to ask you. What is the agenda for Paris? The CWG is going to come to Paris, and what is the agenda that you have to draft? What is the deadline of this group, and when is this group going to finish its work? Seun, you have the floor.

SEUN OJEDEJI: [inaudible] asking about the [inaudible] on the trademark? Because in terms of our work, we have actually submitted our proposal to ICG, as you know. The work now is actually at the level of ICG, so it depends on how fast or how long does it take ICG to [inaudible] their work.

Overall, we think that we have done our own part by delivering on the proposal within the timeline that [inaudible] set. We hope that ICG actually [inaudible] to complete their own part of the proposal according to the timeline that [inaudible]. I think they [inaudible] actually provide updates on that.

Did I actually answer your question, Aziz?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yes, but [Aziz] was speaking about the Paris meeting, the meeting in Paris that is going to begin [inaudible] after tomorrow.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Ah, okay.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: He was speaking about that. You have the floor, Seun.

SEUN OJEDEJI: The meeting tomorrow, I mean, the meeting that will start this weekend in Paris, that is actually for the cross-community working group on

accountability. They are meeting. I am not a member of the working group or a participant either. Tijani is a member, but I can give an update on what I know.

They are meeting to discuss a way forward on the reports of [inaudible] from the last public comments and also from the Buenos Aires meeting with the community. The major goal of that meeting is actually to come out from that meeting with a proposal on what model of accountability, especially in terms of whether it's going to be a membership model or it's going to be [inaudible] model or it's going to be the volunteer model [inaudible].

[inaudible] will finally actually become the single proposal for the CCWG. Then they will introduce the second version of their report. We call it report, not like a proposal. It will report which [inaudible] the second version, and submit to the community for the next set of [inaudible] of public comments.

The CWG [inaudible] according to their timeline hope to have their proposal ready for [inaudible] by ICANN 54. That is also a very big hope that [inaudible] organization will sign off on the CCWG proposal. So the meeting in Paris is actually for the CCWG and not of the CWG. The CWG has completed their own project by submitting to the ICG.

Thank you. I hope I have answered your question.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you very much. This is very useful because Tijani, who is following the work in the CCWG and who represents AFRALO, is not with us

today, so thank you for those information you gave us about the CWG. I remind you that Tijani is not with us because he is participating to the ICG meeting.

Now I ask you, do we have questions for Mohamed or for Seun on the stewardship on transition of the IANA function? No hands.

MWENDWA KIVUVA: Yes, I have a question.

AZIZ HILALI: Douglas, you have the floor.

MWENDWA KIVUVA: Hello?

AZIZ HILALI: Yes, Douglas, this is you speaking? Do you want to ask a question?

INTERPRETER: Can you hear me? Yes.

AZIZ HILALI: Okay, you have the floor.

MWENDWA KIVUVA: My question was about the IANA [inaudible] and the IANA trademark. [inaudible] Bashir or Seun, how did the CCWG [settle] the issue of the IANA trademark? I did not get [inaudible].

AZIZ HILALI: This is a question to Seun, so Seun, you have the floor. You can answer. Thank you, Douglas, for your question. Seun, you have the floor.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you very much. I think that was – was that Douglas or Mwendwa? His voice sounded like that of Mwendwa.

MWENDWA KIVUVA: It is Mwendwa Kivuva.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Oh, okay. Thank you, Mwendwa. Like I said, the CWG [inaudible] CWG has not actually determined its position yet on the IANA trademark and IANA.org. We are currently meeting to engage the [inaudible] provide analysis of [inaudible] advice that will help us actually have an informed decision. We are currently expecting [inaudible] to provide the composition of that, and then we can then determine what [inaudible] or not.

For the CCWG for accountability, they have no [inaudible] view on the trademark issue. I think it's out of scope for them as it concerns IANA trademark and IANA.org domain issue.

That is the current [inaudible]. I hope I've answered your question.

MWENDWA KIVUVA: [inaudible] Thank you very much. Thank you.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you, Mwendwa.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Douglas, and thank you Seun for your answer. Thank you. Douglas, you are still asking for the floor. Your hand is up. Okay, thank you. Beran, you have the floor. Beran is going to speak about the ALAC activities since ICANN meeting. Beran, you have the floor.

BERAN GILLEN: Okay. I just wanted to give a short update on what's been happening within the ALAC since our last meeting of AFRALO. During my last update, I did give a short explanation on the new ad hoc meeting something working party that we created, of which I am a co-chair.

This meeting strategy working party will be looking at how At-Large as a whole would take onboard the new meeting setups of A, B, and C, respectively. The new strategy would actually start from the Marrakech meeting in March. That will be a Meeting A.

There will be three different types of meetings. Meeting A would be six days. It would be structured in much the same way as what the ICANN meetings are right now.

Meeting B would be a much smaller meeting which is targeted for mostly Africa and the Caribbean region so that we are able to actually hold the meetings in countries that would not necessarily be able to hold 2,000-3,000 guests. This Meeting B would be normally in June and would be for mostly the African and Latin American and Caribbean regions.

What we're doing in At-Large, Meeting C, would be then at the end of the year. It would be a seven-day meeting which would normally coincide with the annual general meeting of ICANN.

What we've decided, or what we're actually discussing within the working party now – which is currently open. I'm going to just post the link for the drafting team on the wiki. Anyone that's interested can actually join the working party. It's an open group.

What it is, is we're actually discussing right now within the working party how we're going to approach the meetings, especially Meeting B because this is a completely new dimension of how ICANN meetings are normally held.

Meeting B would be a four-day meeting, and it would be mostly targeting within inter-community and intra-community work, which means we would be working within our ACs and SOs. Mainly, it would be targeted at policy work within ICANN.

We would also be looking at outreach. Where At-Large comes in on the outreach is we need to decide how we would actually do this outreach within the region that we're holding that meeting. Are we going to go

out to those ALSes? Are we going to reach out to the ALSes within that region?

Say if it's Africa, are we going to hold talks within the meeting? Because there wouldn't be a Board meeting. There wouldn't be a public forum. These are some of the things that we're looking at. How would we create this outreach into the community where this meeting would be held within such a short period of time?

Discussions have been going on. If you follow the link that I have posted, which Heidi has also posted, you will be able to see some of the work that has already been started and some of the discussions that are being held with regards to the different types of meetings.

Another thing that we've been discussing within the ALAC is the review. The ALAC review will span a period of four to five years. It will last until 2019. Now what this review will entail – I think we should all get involved because we all have things that we want to meet better within At-Large and the only way we can do it is by getting our voices heard within this review.

What is this review? The review is a total complete review of the At-Large: its structures, its processes, and how it actually works. Right now an example would be we would be looking at how ALSes are certified, for example, and what are the questions that we need to be asking ALSes to ensure that they are the right people that we get involved within our communities.

How do we keep them involved? Do we look at one person, organization? Do we look at individuals joining? Do we look at just a

group of people? What are the criteria? Then we look at the processes. Are these processes rigorous enough?

There are so many questions to ask, so many things that need to be done within this review. I'm imploring everyone within the AFRALO – the ALSes especially – to get involved and give your two cents with regards to the At-Large review.

Another thing that also happened at the Buenos Aires meeting was the ALAC passed a motion to actually vote on the CWG stewardship proposal. It was a unanimous decision to adopt the proposal. We did have a few caveats that we put on the proposal. It basically has to do with the PTI board and its formation.

I don't know if Heidi and the team can maybe help post the link for that motion, what was adopted. The documentation for the motion itself, if Heidi or the team – one of them – can post the link on the AC, I would appreciate it.

Basically these are some of the things that are ongoing within the ALAC. I would really implore everyone to actually join. This new meetings working party, it's quite interesting what's going on especially, and also the review team because this is ongoing and it will be going on for the next four years until 2019 when implementation is complete.

Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you very much, Beran. Thank you for what you said about the different meetings from the Marrakech meeting. We are going to

change the system of our meetings. This is a good thing, so the African people are going to be able to host these meetings.

Barrack, are you connected? Can you do the update of the Buenos Aires meeting, please? Barrack, you have the floor.

BARRACK OTIENO:

Thank you, Aziz. Now a quick update on the Buenos Aires meeting. The meeting was largely focused on the IANA transition. Actually, most of the sessions in the different ACs and SOs and At-Large not being any different, we got into the IANA transition discussion.

I think an important point to emphasize besides the future [inaudible] that may have been [inaudible] by some members is that AFRALO is the only regional organization to actually present a statement on the IANA transition, which was debated in many sessions within and outside the ALAC. We were actually commended for presenting that statement. I know Aziz has already thanked Seun and Tijani, who actually led us in developing that particular statement for the work that they did.

But even after that, we had our meeting. Fadi went to our meeting. That is that AFRALO/AfrICANN session. We had quite an interesting session in which we celebrated Aziz because the meeting coincided with his birthday, but at the same time we also appreciated Fadi for his continued support and also Nii who is a member of the African community who has been honored with the ICANN Multistakeholder Ethos Award.

These were just some of the highlights that we had in the AFRALO/AfrICANN meeting. In summary, the focus was on the IANA transition, and we were the only regional organization or RALO to present a statement. Congratulations to all AFRALO members, but most importantly we thank Seun and Tijani for leading us in developing that particular statement.

Thank you, Aziz.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you, Barrack. There is only one item to address, which is the item on AFRALO report. I'm going to ask Barrack if he can address this item.

The last report we received was in March, so we are late. We need the April, June, July reports. It is very important because in each meeting, ALAC needs the activity that we are organizing. They need to know that.

So what was [done] was at the Buenos Aires meeting some proposals from [inaudible] who proposed a new format for the drafting of those reports. I'm going to send you the link through Adobe chatroom so you can check that link. I think it will be easier to draft those reports. The secretary can draft it more easily and post it. I assist on that issue because we are working with ALAC, and ALAC needs some information from us to do its work. This was the first item I wanted to address.

The second item that I wanted to discuss with you in this meeting is that we are going to concentrate our next meeting in September. I remind you that in August we have no meeting. In September we are going to try to organize a working group to prepare the Marrakech Showcase.

During the AFRALO meeting, a lot of African people and colleagues asked us to have a big event through this showcase.

We want to begin working on that, so we find some sponsors. I'm going to ask you all if you have the possibility to please ask or find some sponsors. If you find some sponsors, please write me an e-mail and I will send you the request we have prepared. You will send it to these sponsors.

I wanted also to speak about some activities that we will organize for Marrakech. Beran spoke about the different kinds of meetings. Marrakech will be an A Meeting. Maybe it will be the last one of this type in Africa, so I'd like to have a very nice and a very good meeting.

There is another item. Maybe it will be the first ICANN meeting ICANN as autonomous entity. I'd like you to think about the different ways to make this meeting a success.

Last item, it was decided with Fadi and all the ICANN working group there will be a first-level meeting with all ministries. There will be an African meeting also, and I'd like my colleagues to speak about that with their ministries. I'd like to have all the ministers participating with us in this Marrakech meeting.

Okay, I'm finished. We are done. Unless you have other things to add, we are done. If there is no item that you want to address, I thank you all for your participation. I'm going to ask you to assist to the next meeting in September. We have no meeting in August. Thank you, everybody. Thank you to the interpreters, and thank you, Gisella, Heidi, and Silvia for your participation and your support. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]