
SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: We have started our call. Can I ask you to do the roll call please?

GISELLA GRUBER: Thanks Siranush. Let's start the recordings and start the interpretation now.

Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to everyone. Welcome to today's APRALO monthly meeting on Thursday the 23rd of July at 06:00 UTC.

On today's call we have Siranush Vardanyan, Ali AlMeshal, Jee eun Choi, Yassuichi Kitamura, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Amir Qayyum, Fouad Bajwa, Chaitanya Ramachandran, Toshio Tachibana, Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Winthrop Yu, and Suhaidi Hassan. Maureen Hilyard will be joining us in a few minutes.

Apologies today noted from Holly Raiche, Satish Babu, Farzaneh Badi, and Alan Greenberg.

From staff we have Silvia Vivanco and myself Gisella Gruber. And our Chinese interpreter today is Jessie Doherty.

If I could please also remind everyone to state their names when speaking, not only for transcript purposes, but to allow our Chinese interpreter to identify you on the other channel, and to speak at a reasonable speed to allow for accurate interpretation.

And to let you know, Maureen Hilyard has joined the Adobe Connect room. Thank you and over to you Siranush.

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.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you Gisella. Good morning from my side of the world to everyone who has made this call. I'm happy to see Marueen [inaudible] today. Welcome all. And we have a couple of tasks on our table to discuss today, but let's first start with the ALAC consultation overview, and I see Olivier was able to join us, and give the floor to Olivier to provide the overview of what is on the table today.

OLIVIER CRÉPLIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Siranush. Olivier speaking. Can you all hear me?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes we can hear you.

OLIVIER CRÉPLIN-LEBLOND: Fantastic. Oh, thanks, it's a great thing to be back on the APRALO call this month. As you know, there has been a lot going on in the ALAC as well, especially as far as statements are concerned. We've had four statements approved recently. The first one is on the cross community working group on enhancing ICANN accountability. In fact, they had their first comment period that took place on the first set of proposals and [inaudible] just to direct them, which direction to go.

As you know, the CCWG accountability, the cross community working group on enhancing ICANN accountability, but one which needs to do some serious work to be able to link up with the work of the cross community working group on IANA stewardship transition. In fact,

there is a very strong link between the two, because the work on the stewardship transition cannot complete until part of the work of the accountability working group is complete, and the results feed in, into it.

So we added a statement on... There were not even initial proposal, just a first draft of a few thoughts and a few directions that the working group needed, and that was adopted with [inaudible] voice in favor. I invite you, of course, to read this from the agenda page. There is a link directly to it.

Next one is the ALAC motion to adopt a final transition proposal of the cross community working group on IANA stewardship transition. That part is actually just finished, because of course, that working group started before the accountability working group, and so the ALAC had to ratify as one of the supporting, sorry, [inaudible] of the chartering organizations, I will get it right, is one of the chartering organizations the ALAC has had to ratify the final report of this, the actual proposal itself.

And the ALAC did, along with all of the other chartering organizations of that cross community working group. So now this process has been passed on over to the IANA coordination group, that the group will put together sort of coordinated response, that includes not only the response from the naming proposal, and the naming proposal is the one that the ICANN committee has put together. But also the one from the protocols proposal which was put together by the Internet Engineering taskforce, and also from the IP, the Internet Protocol addresses, the IP addresses that was put together by a coordinated regional Internet registry group.

And that is going on as we speak, at the moment, and they're likely to see some, very soon likely to see requests for feedback for that overall coordinated proposal. So watch out for that, and it's going to happen at a lovely time of August, and there will be again, just like the other requests for public consultation, it will be a pretty short consultation, so we'll have to be on the watch out for that.

We just finished a consultation, as I said earlier on the accountability thread, there will be another consultation on this in the future. A lot of work has happened since as well. So if you are interested in the whole discussion on accountability, then please ask staff to join the IANA issues working group calls. We have our own working group that coordinates the work between the people that are on the cross community working group on IANA stewardship on one side, and the cross community working group on accountability on the other.

We really are always making for more input and for help, for the people that are doing a stellar job at the moment defending the end user interests in these working groups. Now that's been passed with the proposed schedule and process improvements for the affirmation of commitment and organizational reviews. There was a slight change of schedule that was proposed, and the ALAC has approved the connection somehow, welcomed the schedule so that we know when we are going to start, and the ALAC we are going to start our review, quite the review has started already.

Or at least the planning for the review has started already, and you'll see the proposals on that page. I'm not going to go through the whole set of proposals, but it's interesting to see them when we will be

starting the self-assessment, and then looking at competitive bidding to try and find a contractor to then conduct the review, and then move forward with the implementation.

Now it is our second At-Large review, and the first one was quite a lengthy process that was led with an expert hand by Cheryl Langdon-Orr, who is on the call, so she might wish to add a few more words on this. I did forget to say that APRALO has also [inaudible] on the cross community working group on ICANN accountability and IANA stewardship transition led by Cheryl as well.

So if you do have questions in your region, then she's your point of contact for that. Now the next adopted statement was on the GNSO. So the generic name supporting organization privacy and proxy services, accreditation issues working group. That's a GNSO working group in which we have, we as the ALAC, have some members working in that working group, and there are many issues with anything related to WHOIS, which is the sort of service which provides you with the details of a, the owner of the domain name, or the registrant of a domain name.

Originally WHOIS was all put together for technical reasons, so if you had a technical problem, you could just email someone or get in touch someone, and tell them that their domain name wasn't working, or something was not working in their computer systems. Since that time, many people use WHOIS to try and find out who actually is running a domain, especially when they deal with e-commerce for example.

That also introduces problems as far as privacy issues or concerns. Let's say you have someone who is an individual who registers a domain name, they might have an issue with releasing their full address details, because they might end up being stalked by some crazy people or something, so they might wish to use a privacy or what's called a privacy or proxy service, a company or organization that will register a domain name on their behalf, and provide a different email and contact addresses in the WHOIS data.

And will forward that over to the registrant on their behalf. So far, there has not actually been any kind of exactly science has to how this was to be done, which resulted in some privacy and proxy services that were actually pointing to nothing and had no record of the actual registrant.

And in the recent, or maybe no so recent, developments in the world, there has been a lot of push for registrants to actually be contactable, but also identify by the [inaudible] for example, and so ICANN has engaged them to pull some kind of accreditation system for privacy and proxy services and organizations. That's the long story about it. The ALAC adopted a statement on this [inaudible]... Very interesting, lots of issues with regards to privacy, and it's always a tradeoff between security and privacy in some way.

But sometimes it is [inaudible], as we will see a little bit later. Now currently we do have one statement that is in process, and that's a review of the generic name supporting organization. As I mentioned to you a couple of minutes ago, the ALAC was about to engage in its own review. The GNSO usually is the first one of the ICANN supporting

organizational and advisory committee that is the one that goes through a review process.

So they've already reached a stage of the contractor actually having performed an initial review and done all of the work of asking dozens and dozens of people about their point of view on how the GNSO should improve its processes or its working groups or the way that it works, or maybe even its own structure. What are the weaknesses? What things need to be done to make the GNSO a better part of ICANN?

And the initial report of that contractor had been released. I think the comment period is actually closing, yesterday. It was a few hours ago. But we are going to have a vote coming up in a moment, in the next 48 hours, I think. There will be a vote starting.

And as the pen holder, I'm currently still putting together the final touches to this statement, which looks at each one of the recommendations that are made by the contractor, and provides the ALAC support or nonsupport for the proposals that are there. An interesting number of questions. The main concern so far it seems is the most of the review is concentrated on GNSO working groups, and a few procedures on how the GNSO carries its work.

It doesn't appear to have actually looked at the overall GNSO structure of having a bicameral house, which effectively one side, one part, 50% of the GNSO council is made up of contracted parties. 50% of the GNSO council is made up of non-contracted parties. With the difference of the non-contracted parties are people, the organizations that are involved with the domain name industry, and that effectively make money out of

this. The other, the non-contracted parties are those that might make money out of domain names, but they definitely do not have a contract with ICANN.

And they include in there, the commercial and non-commercial interests. So, that's one of the issues perhaps, that the ALAC might flag out, because there have been some concerns about this. The non-contracted house is a lot more fragmented than the contracted party house. There are a few other points, and you'll have the report, or rather the response out, in 48 hours, I think about 48 hours, or 24 hours, very soon.

So I'll invite you to have a look at it once it's finalized. At the moment, the ALAC has decided not to submit a statement on one public consultation. That's one about specific top level domains, new generic top level domains that asked for the ability to use country and territory names at the second level. So let's say, if we look in there on the list, we've got dot global, dot [inaudible], dot bridgestone and dot firestone.

Let's say we have dot global. So if you had company X, Y, Z. So it would be X, Y, Z dot Australia dot global, let's say. Or X, Y, Z dot Jordan dot global, to take the other end of the APRALO region, you would basically require, at the moment, a green light to be able to do that, because the government advisory committee has objected to this in the past, and in the applicant guidebook it doesn't allow you to do that.

Now there is a request from many of the applicants to be able to use country and territory names. The ALAC doesn't really have a very

concerted point of view on this. So in general, not actually submit a statement on this.

Finally, two public comments that require a decision at the moment. One is the GNSO translation and transliteration of contact information, policy development process. The recommendations that have been put together by this working group, and they are ready for Board consideration. And as always, before it goes to the Board, it goes to the community. So the community can comment and would probably introduce some changes to this.

Translation and transliteration is all about the record, the WHOIS records of the information, the information in the WHOIS records. As I said earlier, in a WHOIS record, you might have the address of the registrant, or you might have a telephone numbers, or details of the registrant themselves, but now with the introduction of internationalized domain names, when you have domain names that are in Chinese character set, and in Cyrillic character set, and in various other scripts, Hindi, etc.

Then in what language would you actually have the contact information drafted in the WHOIS records? And how do you translate any of the details there? How do you, and it says here transliteration, because WHOIS only works in ASCII characters, you know the Latin characters. How do you then change a word that is in Chinese, let's say, and write it in this Latin character set, and keep some kind of a consistency in your database?

That has had a lot of work on that. So, we still have to check with our internationalized domain names working group to find out if we're going to submit a statement on that. And there is a little bit of time until the closing date on this. And finally, the Next Generation generic top level domain registration directory services to replace the WHOIS preliminary issue report.

And that's an interesting one because we've spoken a lot about WHOIS in the consultations that we've got on the table, that we've dealt with in the past month, and as you can see, there is a lot of broken things in WHOIS. About a year, two years, just recent, in recent years, a working group was setup by ICANN to try and see if we could actually just get rid of WHOIS all together, and redesign a new system from scratch, basically.

Clear the table, start from new, and see what one needs in a registration directory services to replace WHOIS. And that was, that could use some work. It took a little while to somehow focus on having a good deliverable, and now we actually have this, the next generation. Where do we go next and how does that move forward? That report is already now for comment, and the commenting period closes on the 6th of September.

I would really hope that the ALAC, having had several of its members on that working group, will be able to comment, and perhaps even support this. I personally feel, this is my personal feeling, we're trying to do so many things with WHOIS today, it's like putting plasters on a wooden leg. That will not revive the leg and get the leg to work better again.

We really need to have a system, whereas we have more control on this, and that uses the technology that we have available today to us, rather than WHOIS, which uses a technology developed in the 1980s or maybe even before the 1980s. And of course, computing has changed a lot since.

These are the public comments at the moment on the table. And I always invite you, sometimes in the beginning but sometimes at the end of my intervention, to have a look at the policy advice development page that tracks the public commenting. So you don't need to wait for your monthly dose of this stuff.

You can look at it on a daily basis. And trust me, that's where all of the action takes place. So I hope to see a lot of you comment on all of these statements, and the ones that will turn up in the near or far future. Thanks for this. Any questions?

SIRANUSH VARDALNYAN: Thank you Olivier. Thank you very much, indeed, for this detailed presentation and the introduction to what is going on. And the question from Maureen related to how we actually can get to know the background information on the statements that makes the input from At-Large. You had mentioned about the webinar, but can you elaborate on that?

OLIVIER CRÉPLIN-LEBLOND: Yes, thank you very much for this Siranush, and thanks Maureen for this question. It's interesting actually, there is no exact set of ways to get

the background on many of these public comments or public consultations. If you look at the actual public consultation page, now each one of these statements, you can click on one. Each one of the pages to build the statement, actually has a bit of information first about the public comment.

So it has a brief overview, it's got a description, an explanation of the reason, of the purpose of the public comment. It tries to provide some background information. That information, that background information is copied from the ICANN public comment page. So it's not geared specifically to the Internet end users. And it is sometimes difficult to find out how that really effects end users.

Some of these public comments use very, very complicated language with lots of acronyms and it might sometimes be very puzzling. When we have something, a public comment that really specifically effects end users, I think that the aim is, for those of us that are in the know, that's to ask if there are any questions.

Usually what we have is someone assigned, an assignee for drafting this public comment response, and that usually is a person who knows quite a lot about the thing itself. I think it would be a good thing if you have any questions, you can ask that person about maybe some sort of background on it. There are, there is an aim for those public comment periods that we specifically affect end users, sometimes we have a webinar about that public comment.

We have had webinars about the ICANN accountability, and about the IANA stewardship topics. Because they were so complex and because

they aren't going to affect everyone in such a statement, so we have managed to do this for this. But we generally, at the moment, neither have enough time nor enough resources to conduct webinars on each one of these public comments, unfortunately.

We would love to be able to do so, but it's all about time, and we all volunteer, so [inaudible] for this. There are some issues, or further questions you have about any of these public comments, the first point of contact is on the one hand, perhaps, staff who could direct you to someone who knows a lot more about this. Or, if you have their email address, the penholder of the proposal.

[CROSSTALK] of the public comment response on behalf of the ALAC. That's it. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you. Thank you very much Olivier. And I would just to like to also mention to everyone on this call that, in the agenda there are links, direct links, to each of [inaudible] statement, public comments requested. So if you are interested to comment on the specific topic, there is direct links, so there is no need to go and search in the Wiki.

There are all in the agenda, and thanks to our staff who posted all of this. Any question to this topic, to Olivier from the participants? I don't see any hands raised. I would also like to mention that we have requested from the staff to send a link to all active working groups, or ad-hoc working groups which we currently, that currently exist. And I will be going send this information to our mailing list.

So those who are interested to join a working group are more than welcome. And we need more people from APRALO to join working group and to provide feedback or input to those working group activities. I don't see any questions on this as well. So let's move to the next agenda item, which is APRALO [AP Hub] corporation. Many of you know that we have started this corporation last year, and we are currently organizing a series of webinars.

And I would like to give the floor to Kelvin to talk about the upcoming webinar, which will take place on July 30th. Kelvin, the floor is yours.

KELVIN WONG: Thank you Siranush. Can everyone hear me?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes we can hear you.

KELVIN WONG: Okay. Hi, this is Kelvin Wong from the APAC Hub. We've been working hard with ICANN At-Large staff, Silvia and Ariel. Ariel is unable to join us today, as well as the APRALO leadership, to find hot topics that will be useful for the [inaudible] on the APRALO. And so this is, we've been having the, as Siranush just mentioned, we've been having this for a while.

And so the next webinar is going to be next week at UTC 05:00 hours. And it will be on DNS basics and DNS security and stability. This will be given by [inaudible] of ICANN, director of SSAC and RSAC advisory

support. He will be taking us through some topics. He will start quite generally from DNS space. I think this will be very useful for everyone to give, well for a good understanding of this domain name system that we're talking about.

Then he will talk about root servers, domain name registration process, resolution process, and of course, DNS security and stability. Slightly more technical, but hopefully everyone will get some knowledge out of this. So like Siranush mentioned before, [inaudible] actively here. We aim to make this more interactive as well.

We'll have some quizzes interspersed within the webinar, and at the end of that webinar, we hope to administer a survey and look forward to your active participation as well. That's all from me Siranush.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you Kelvin, thank you very much. And I really would encourage to join to those webinars. These are unique opportunities for ALSs to know the first hand information, and I would like to thank APAC Hub for such a wonderful job. They are really doing a great job to make this happen for our ALSs. So please, join and learn from those.

And I also like to mention that all webinars are posted online, so they are recorded and they are available, so you can go back to the previous webinars, the topics of which are IDNs and Internet governance. And you can hear, at least, the transcript and records and get to know what we are talking about. And yes, there is, every time there will be a survey of, and we decided that during the webinar, at the end of the webinar itself, there will be a survey.

Please, for those who participate, please just fill the survey, very quick. One or two minutes maximum. Any questions on those webinars? No questions. Okay. So, one more time, it will take place on 30th of July [inaudible], so it's time which is, I think which is good for Asia Pacific region, so please join.

We will not be having Chinese interpretation at that time, as it was not used during previous two webinars. But if there is a case that you need Chinese interpretation, please let me or staff know about that, and we will make it happen. Any questions?

Yes, [inaudible], it will be provided upon request. So if you need, just let us know. Yes [inaudible], the webinars are open to all, and any representative from your ALS or any person who is interested on this topic is welcome to join. There are open, they are recorded, and they are available in the Wiki as well.

Okay. I see [inaudible] is posting something, so let me... Yes, [inaudible], it's, you can circulate the details of this webinar to ICANN Fellowship meetings, and those who are especially from APAC region can join. Those who are out of the region also can join, if time was for them. But them, it's really open and people are welcome. And this is a good approach.

ICANN Fellowship is a case where this information about DNS and some basic DNS and DNS ecosystem information is very important. So please, share the information with them, and invite them to this webinar. And you can put the links, direct links to the webinar, which are posted in

the chat space. So welcome. Disseminate this information through the region network, you know, so they are more than welcome.

Great, great. Thank you very much. Any questions for that? And also you can inform people about the previous topics, and the records, as I mentioned, is posted. So if you give the links to the APRALO capacity building webinars series, then people can go and open those information and can at least hear what the presentations were about.

So, no questions, I see no questions, no post in this stage. So I move to another topic. For those who are not aware, we are already open for individual membership in APRALO, and it is in our rules of procedures. But we know that there are some limitations for individual members, especially in the voting process. So those who are individual members, they cannot vote whenever it comes to some voting system, or we are voting for any candidate for any position in APRALO.

And there is a limitation for them. So there is a Wiki space open. Thank you Silvia for posting this. There is a Wiki where we have already started this stuff on what are the challenges and how we are going to overcome like, on which [basis] we should choose one individual member to join and not the other one to join. How is the procedure, what we are going to send, what application they are going to fill in.

I would invite you to visit this space, and we would like to hear from ALSs, those who represent ALS to provide your feedback, how you see individual members joining APRALO, because APRALO is huge and if we start to accept many individual members, the number can be more than

3,000, 5,000 and above. So we need to have some strategy, we need to have some way of coordination, how we are going to do it.

And I would like to bring your attention on this, and talk about this. I see Cheryl and [inaudible]... And Cheryl, the floor is yours.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Thank you very much Siranush. Cheryl Langdon-Orr for the transcript record. I have some thoughts, as some of you do know about this, and I also have every intention of writing a very short proposal or discussion paper, for the consideration of APRALO as to how I think, in what, I might say, is considerable experience, but also having had the chance to look at compare and contrast what is available or does or doesn't work particularly well, regarding voting and voting thresholds and mechanisms.

Not only in other regional At-Large organizations, but in other organizations including non for profits in general. So as I said to a couple of you, including you Siranush, during the Buenos Aries meeting, I am very keen to put a draft on the table for everyone's consideration. I'm afraid that the work load currently, at least for me as a repertoire and an active member, in both the CWG on IANA stewardship, but more importantly at the moment, the CCWG on accountability, which is at one of its busiest points as we get ready to publish our second draft for public comment.

I'm really not going to have time to put pen to paper before that goes to bed. So I'm not going to be able to do that until, at the earliest, next week. So if you will beg indulgence, or if I may beg your indulgence, I

should say, I just wanted to let you know that I have no intention of [inaudible] issue, nor forgetting about it, but I just don't have the human bandwidth to do the job that I would like to do for putting a little paper for everyone's discussion and consideration. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you Cheryl. Thank you very much. If I understand you correctly, you are going to prepare the draft proposal, kind of how to, including individual members, and we would really appreciate, because you have huge experience on that, and please, we would love to see that proposal, and to share with ALSs to comment on that.

Thank you very much. Ali, Ali the floor is yours.

ALI ALMESHAL: Yes. Thank you very much Siranush. This is Ali AlMeshal for the record. Maybe I will just take this little bit back, [inaudible]... Maybe I'm not getting it right, but let me just raise that one. So the way it works in the ICANN and either the At-Large or all over, there is a two way communications.

So if we are recruiting as an individual member, and they are not part of any community, that they represent within their countries. So I can see that it will be a sort of, a one way communication, not a few ways communication, because whatever they do, whatever they participate and within the ICANN community, they will not be able to go and share that within, they will not be able to go, instead of, what we are doing

within the ICANN. So how would we benefit from these individual members?

If they are not part of a community within their country? Thank you. This is one of the concerns that I have brought on the Wiki pages.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes, Ali, thank you. Siranush here. Yes, this is really an important issue you are raising, and that's why we need to have some specific criteria for why we are accepting those people. So, those people should show their involvement in their local community, otherwise everyone can come and say, okay, I would like to be an individual member.

No. We want this individual members also to bring back the information which they can share in their local communities. So, this is a criteria which should be one among those why we are accepting this or that person. But this is a good point, thanks for again mentioning. And it is yes, there are some concerns raised by APRALO people, and this is posted already in the Wiki. So please go and look into those comments. Maureen?

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you Siranush. Maureen for the record. I just wanted to raise, first of all, my apologies to Cheryl, because we [inaudible] in Buenos Aries, and I did say that I would be contributing to the preparation of a paper, and I know how busy Cheryl. But I must admit, I have actually been keeping a watching eye on the comments that have been going on up on the Wiki, and I think it's really important that people, that you

know, [inaudible] about how they feel about individual members, just as Ali and Satish and others have done, on the Wiki, because we do need to be able to represent those who [inaudible] within the statement that we actually include into our rules of procedure.

At the moment, individual members are recognized in our rules of procedure, but there is a process and the actual statement that looks at sort of like formalizing it and how do we recognize their contribution. So knowing too that most of the other RALOs and it's a way forward for us is that they all can participate as individuals within the Wiki groups and all sorts of activities that we run, but it's just the voting.

And the voting could possibly be that individual members will have one vote. So again, we need to look at what is there. So your comments [inaudible]... Public comments, as Olivier was talking about, the ICANN issues, this is an APRALO issue and [inaudible] how our members feel about something that we're going to include into our rules. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you Maureen. Siranush here. I think there is, Silvia also posted that some RALOs have this experience. We have the team which discusses and post some comments in the Wiki. We went to NARALO and EURALO experience, but I think that we found out that none of those experiences may work for us, those some criteria can be a part of our approach.

But I think that we need to come up with a specific APRALO way of course. Cheryl, please the floor is yours.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you very much. Thank you. I think I'm Cheryl. Thank you very much. Cheryl Langdon-Orr for the record. [Inaudible]

A couple of things. Those of us, particularly those of us who have been drafting this current set of APRALO rules and procedures and the variations of the things that went before, are well and truly aware of the mechanisms shortfalls and advantages of the systems running in the other regional At-Large organizations.

So this is not news to those of us with an interest in this area from our region, but thank you for the links anyway. As Siranush said, there are particular issues and unique aspects for our region, which means we just can't take up one of their no doubt lovely democratic systems, from either Europe or North America, and just plug and play it into our own. This will not work.

However, I am confident that we can come up with something that will work. A couple of things. I would like to just say, before we move on to our next agenda item, because I don't want this to take up too much time. The third one is that in terms of questioning the purpose of having individual as active members that Ali has raised in the Wiki, and I think the other thing that Maureen will undertake to do, note that it's now the royal we, me and Maureen, we will respond to each of the questions, queries, or concerns raised in the Wiki.

So please put more in and let us both use those and their wisdom the best we can. But the regional guidelines, and indeed the basis for our memorandums of articles and our understanding our MOU, with ICANN,

is definitely, as you say Ali, a two way communication street. ICANN itself has however, gone on a great deal further in terms of its engagement of outreach programming and protocols and indeed, strategic plans, is now acting in a very different way.

So it would keep quite reasonably, a current as opposed to 2007, 8, 9, or 10 ICANN, for us to make sure that we do have active individuals. But of course, there are the elephants in the room like how we would balance those, etc. So we do we have to be clever and regionally appropriate with our solution. That said, I do want to remind you all, we don't actually have a choice on this.

This is a specific recommendation of the first ALAC review. It is a requirement that the ALAC finds a way for individual representation. Let me perhaps say that in a different way. The representation of individuals into its work, and we assume that it is done by the RALOs, but if we don't get it done by the RALOs, then ladies and gentlemen, the ALAC will have to find a way of getting it done directly.

And that would not be my preferred method. So let's see if we can get this right. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you Cheryl. Thank you very much. This is really important information also for everyone to know. This is Siranush. And I would like to come back to what Heidi asked, that who can be an individual member who can join, because many of those community leaders are already members of ALAC itself, certified ALSs.

And you are right. It's not the issue that we need to ask people from other elected, from already registered ALSs to come and join us as individual members. I would just give you an example. We have two members, individual members, who express their willingness to join, and they both are from the country where we don't have any ALS. There is no ISOC there. So I'm talking about Iran.

And they are active members of the Fellowship program. One of them is active member of NCUC, but they do not represent any organization in their local community, but they can be some kind of link to the local community, for Asia Pacific, to take the information back to their own country.

Cheryl, if you can add on this please.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Certainly Siranush. Thank you for the opportunity. Cheryl Langdon-Orr for the record. And I was just typing, will probably continue to do so, and ask the question, and that is of course, if, under our rules of procedure, if you are a member of a certified, and it doesn't have to be within our region, any certified At-Large structure, you cannot, you cannot be approved as an unaffiliated individual member.

Notice we talk about unaffiliated individual members. And so that means our membership of an At-Large structure, would mean you could not be certified as such. So if you are a member of an ISOC chapter, that is also a member of as a certified At-Large structure, it would mean you could not be certified as an unaffiliated individual member, under our current rules within APRALO.

It is not the case in the other regions. But what we do need to do is to make sure, because those are our current rules, but if that's what we're operating under, that we also have a system where due diligence and background checks are done, or at least some statements are made that attest that applicants for unaffiliated individual membership are indeed, not in any way a member of another At-Large structure.

So as many of us in the ISOC world, not all ISOC chapters are At-Large structures, but many are. I'm a member a three or four, I think by last count, different ISOC chapters. If I was in a country where my ISOC chapter was not an ALS, that's okay. But if I'm also a member, as I very well could be, of another chapter, so let's assume that I was in a country that doesn't have an ISOC chapter that's an At-Large structure, but I have another membership with Australia, I could not be allowed, under our current rules, to be certified as an unaffiliated individual member.

So it is quite limitation. And I think it's actually important limitation, because it's one of the ways we can control gaming, and gaming is an issue. And just on closing with that, if I may, it would mean that, for example, I'm aware of one or two individuals who are multiple individual members in other regions. In other words, they are individual members in more than one region, RALOs, that can't happen in ours. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you Cheryl. This is good explanation of some challenges that not anyone can join. And I think [inaudible] got the clarification? Yes, thank you. And I will be sending the link, the direct link, to the our mailing list

also for everyone to comment. And please come up with your suggestions, and again, thanks to Cheryl for preparing the draft proposal. And your comments will be really appreciated to be included in that proposal.

So please, comment on this because we need to know what you think. My assumption is that, to some extent, for example, we currently have two people from Iran joining, who expressed their willingness to join as an individual member. But for the future, these two people may come up with a solution in ISCO chapter there. So they can come back as an ISOC chapter to join as an ALS.

So this is also the way how we can facilitate or encourage people to establish and to join Asia Pacific as a new region, because why we accepted those two ladies from Iran is that we don't have ALS from Iran as well. So this is also the way how we can outreach APRALO activities, and bring back an ALS from that country.

I see several posts in the chat space. Yes, Cheryl, is giving the information that those who are affiliated with any ALS cannot be as an individual member. So yes, thank you very much. And once again, I will send you the link to this Wiki page to our members. Any questions from the participants related on this?

So if no, then let's move forward to our next agenda item, which is really very important, but we always have less time to talk about this. Participation in ICANN and APRALO activities. Do you know, for everyone to know that we aren't keeping the metrics...

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Seeing as... Cheryl for the record. Seeing she was about to go into the wonderful world of metrics, I suspect that the ball was about to go into your court anyway. There were go, and she's back.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes Olivier, you are right. Every time it's 60 minutes, I'm dropped. So I'm back again. Sorry for the technical issue. We, as I mentioned, we are gathering the metrics of participation. And we also shared the survey among our ALSs, and we also gather those survey results, survey is posted also in the RALO, in the Wiki.

We are organizing webinars, but we found out there is really low participation and we need to know why. We have sent notes to our members, to identify the reason. We get back from several of them, and we found out some challenges they are facing in their own local... Either it's technical issues, either more on a personal issues.

But this is good to know, at least for us to identify why there is a low participation, or why there is lack of interest, because we need to encourage participation. And I would like to give the floor to anyone here in the call to talk about this, how we can encourage the ALS participation, what are the steps we can take, or what are activities we can implement as a leadership team, or as an ALS to encourage the participation.

I know that sometimes it is challenging, but if you are not participating in certain, in ICANN meetings, it's sometimes difficult to follow up. But this is how we can use the power of the Internet. Anyone would like to

comment on this? Anyone would like to brainstorm on this? This is a brainstorming session, so we welcome your ideas.

Hello? Can you hear me? [CROSSTALK] Okay, thank you. I just felt that you can't hear me and no one is responding [inaudible]... But thank you for listening. I know this is a challenging session, this is challenging topic, but this is really very important. We are about, well we are already 40 ALSs. And we are covering about 25 countries. But there are more than 73 countries in Asia Pacific.

So there is a lot to do. But first of all, we would like to encourage enhanced participation of those who are already the members, and then go to add more. So for those who are already in and don't see the benefit, we need to know why.

We need to know how we can improve, how we can work out to make this participation better. How, what kind of information you need for us to provide. So there are a couple of topics identifying the survey sent, and based on those topics, we collaborated together with APAC Hub, the topics for webinars.

But we really see low participation from our ALSs, even in those webinars. Where the topics have been sent and identified by you, as an ALS. So sometimes it's difficult to find out the reason why. I know that timing in Asia Pacific also is a challenging. Sometimes, we find out that some countries also had technical issues to join. This is also the issue for many countries, but other than that, is there a lack of information, is there a way that people don't know how to become a part of any discussions that we can share.

If you ask us, we can give you the response, because we don't know if there is lack of anything. So, I see no one would like to talk about this. But I would encourage that, there is a metrics, and we are keeping these metrics. And for you all to know that yes, we are keeping those metrics. And we would like to you participate not just being present at the meetings, but also providing input.

That is why I will also be sending the list of active working groups, for you to find yourself in which working group you would like to be a part. This is also participation. If you are participating in one working group, it's not just clicking that you are part of it. It's providing your input. It's benefitting from your participation. It's benefitting mutually. You benefit from your participation, and other participants benefit from your participation.

And your local community benefits from your participation as well, because many people in your local community has not this opportunity to be a part of those discussions. You should be a lineage to what is discussed in ICANN to your community. Maureen? Please.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you Siranush. I just wanted to raise, for example, for the attendance metrics for APRALO, [inaudible] we thought about, according to these metrics, there are about 14 of our ALSs, who actually haven't attended any of our meetings. This is a real concern for us because it just means that we're not doing as a RALO group, when everyone isn't participating.

So I did note that there are some of the ALSs that are actually listed, and the contact names of those, of the people who are down, they're not actually correct. We actually have representatives of some of these organizations actually attending meetings, but not the person actually listed.

So I think one of the things that we've got to ask our ALSs to do is to make sure that the information that you've got on your ALS page, is actually up to date, and so that we will be transferring names across, or there is [inaudible]... names down that is the one that's going to be [inaudible] by their [inaudible].

Or we may put a number of people of down because, I know for example, there is ISOC Japan, they have a number of members who attend. So Heidi, I notice that ISOC Malaysia, your name is down, and there is another down as well. [Inaudible] but is actually down on it. So, you know, these are all sort of like [inaudible] and we need to make sure that they are accurate. That's all. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thanks Maureen. That's actually a really good point, because those who are mentioned in their application as primary and secondary contact, they are only people who are subscribed to APRALO mailing list, and who are getting this information. And in case, if this person is leaving, and hub is not notified about the new person, the information is somewhere in the air.

So the ALS doesn't get the information if the person leaves the ALS, and no one is notified about that. So please, if there is any change in

primary or secondary contact, please notify staff with the new contact, or there is a Wiki space for each and every ALS. And everyone has access to those Wiki status. Please go to that Wiki space and make the update of the information there.

If you can't do that, or have challenges to access Wiki, send the information to myself or the staff, and we will be happy to make those changes. So please keep in mind at that point, if the person is leaving the information is lost. So and ALS is not benefitting from that. Thank you very much.

If there is no point on that, we are already five minutes over. I think any other business? If anyone like to say anything or...? I don't see any hand raised. Just to sum up this call, I would like to remind you again that the information has been sent to the mailing list about the upcoming webinar on DNS system. So it will be on [inaudible] and you are more than welcome to join and share the information with the group you are a part of, with the mailing list, with the Fellowship program, so yes. Join us in, on July 30th.

And for those who are leaving for vacations, I know August is a vacation for myself, so I wish all of you to have really good vacations. And see you again back in August, for the July 30th meeting. Thank you very much and the meeting is adjourned. Thank you very much for joining and enjoy the rest of the day. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]