

TERRI AGNEW:

Thank you. We'll go ahead and begin at this time.

Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening. Welcome to the single issue call LACRALO ALAC member election 2015 candidates presentation teleconference, taking place on Friday, the 28th of August 2015 at 21:30 UTC.

On the call today, on the Spanish channel, we have Andrea Perez, Carlos Vera, Juan Manuel Rojas, Harold Arcos, Ricardo Holmquist, Carlos Raul Gutierrez, Alberto Soto, Gilberto Lara, Adrian Carballo, Fatima Cambroner, Vanda Scartezini, Humberto Carrasco, Natalia Enciso, León Sanchez, and Alejandro Pisanty.

On the English channel, we'll have Alan Greenberg and Roosevelt King.

Currently no participants on the Portuguese channel.

I show apologies from Sergio Salinas Porto.

From staff we have Silvia Vivanco and myself Terri Agnew.

I would like to remind all participants to please state your name before speaking, not only for transcription purposes, but also to allow our interpreters, we have Spanish and Portuguese interpretation.

Our Spanish interpreters today is Sabrina. And our Portuguese interpreter today is Bettina.

I will now turn the call over to Alberto Soto. Please begin.

ALBERTO SOTO:

Alberto Soto speaking. Thank you Terri. Dear colleagues, clearly there must be some kind of issue that has been going on for some time. We have just received an email from León Sanchez, accusing us of lack of transparency, despite the fact that the ombudsman got engaged in this process, and that we followed all of the applicable rules or procedures.

So in view of this motion that we have just received, unfortunately we will have to cancel or call off this call, because we rescheduled the call, and we justified this decision in advance. That is, the decision to reschedule the call. And we have justified our actions, our decisions, but unfortunately, we continue receiving the same accusations.

So unfortunately, we will have to call off, or cancel, this meeting. We will have to send out a new call for this process, and it is highly likely that the elected candidate will not be able to travel to Dublin, which is our objective. We have spent a lot of time on this, and unfortunately, we will continue devoting more time to the same issue.

Tomorrow we will inform you of a new date. We have to vote on Mr. Pisanty's motion, and then that begin [inaudible] motion, and unfortunately we cannot continue devoting time to this, there is plenty to do. León Sanchez, you have the floor. Go ahead please.

LEÓN SANCHEZ:

León Sanchez speaking. Thank you Alberto. Just a point of clarification. Nobody is accusing you of lack of transparency. You are being asked to

stick to the process. It would be a shame to follow a faulty process that led us to this situation in which we are today. And it would be a shame to repeat that same process so that after the vote takes place, it can be challenged, because the process has not been respected or observed. My view is that if we hold this same call on Tuesday, Monday next week, with the same candidates, we would stick to the process, and we give everyone the opportunity to have a voice, and we do not infringe the process.

And the issue is not this 90 minute rescheduling. My point is to have a process that sticks to the rules as much as possible, so that does not happen again. As I stated in my email, I believe that the responsibility of coordinating this process is the chair responsibility and the secretariat's responsibility. The staff is there to support the process, but at the end of the day, the decision making lies in the hands of the chair and the secretariat.

That's why people were convened for this process, so that this process is observed or respected, so that if somebody at 23:58 UTC wants to participate, he or she can have that opportunity. And as you can see, some people are protesting here. My apologies. Some people are making their voices heard.

So as I was saying, we, because of the practicality of a practical issue, the entire process may not be valid, and we will not have a candidate by the time we're going to the Dublin meeting, which is the most serious problem, because we are speeding up the process by rescheduling the call and holding it 90 minutes in advance.

I call upon Lance, so that he does not withdraw his nomination or candidacy. Of course it is up to him to decide that. I think he needs to be included. And also, I would like to include more questions in the questionnaire. One of the requirements to be an ALAC member is to demonstrate the ability or the skill to speak English fluently.

And I believe that has to be included. Of course, it doesn't have to be the sole or single requirement to rule out a candidate, but we do need to take this into account, because speaking English fluently means that you can better engage and participate within ALAC. This is my contribution, my comment Alberto.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. Thank you León. The questions had to be posted on the Wiki. So that's the way, or that is the procedure you should have followed.

FATIMA CAMBRONERO: Fatima Cambronero speaking. Can you hear me? Is my audio okay?

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto speaking. If you can speak closer to the microphone, that would be great. Thank you.

FATIMA CAMBRONERO: Fatima speaking. Thank you. I just want to follow up on León's comments, regarding sticking to the process and observing the

timelines. As happened before, if somebody wants to be a candidate, that person needs to have that right, is entitled to that right, and have a right to make his or her voice heard, so that we can then decide on the best candidate.

And this is what I tried to convey myself on the mailing list. Unfortunately, I had other work commitments at the same time, so I couldn't go into these details, but I'm thinking about respecting timelines and processes. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. Thank you Fatima. Humberto, you have the floor.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco for the record. Thank you. I appreciate León's point of clarification regarding what, regarding his comment. It was my understanding that he wanted to do invalidate the whole process, but it is not.

Clearly, when we work on this calendar, we saw that there was a two day, or a three day time window between the nominations period, and the voting period. So clearly, we thought that the call for candidates could be removed during that time window. And I apologize to the community for this mistake.

When we were speaking with Silvia Vivanco, we realized that you know, the timeline was going to be in the middle of the weekend. Therefore,

we decided to hold this meeting on a Friday. So I apologize for that, and I accept full responsibility for that, and I apologize to the community.

I would support León's motion that is to respect the period for nominations until the allocated or appropriate deadline, or timeline, today. Voting was going to start on August 31st at 0:00 hour, so my proposal is to start voting on September 1st at 0:00 hour, so that we can hold this same call on Monday, the 31st with any other candidates that may want to join the process.

That's my comment, my suggestion.

ALBERTO SOTO:

Alberto Soto speaking. Thank you Humberto.

Alberto Soto speaking. We should check with staff whether we can have a meeting or a conference call on Monday.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Right now, I am...

SABRINA:

The interpreter apologizes. Silvia Vivanco's audio seems to have dropped.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. We can have Spanish interpretation on Monday the 31st, but not Portuguese interpretation. We have a call at 16:00 UTC, at 20:00 UTC, at 18:30 UTC, so maybe 22 or 23:00 UTC could be the right time. Terri, can you please help me with the calendar? Maybe you have the calendar handy or convenient?

I am checking my calendar and I see that Monday at 22 or 23 UTC...

TERRI AGNEW: Silvia, this is Terri. I think from either of those times will work.

SILVIA VIVANCO: This is Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you, thank you Sabrina for confirming this.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. We should hold the conference call at 23 UTC, 23:00 UTC, Sabrina is confirming. Thank you.

Alberto Soto speaking. Someone was speaking, who was that?

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS: Juan Manuel speaking. 23:00 UTC would be 6 PM in Columbia, so I wouldn't be able to make it. So maybe 22:00 UTC would be better. It is 6 PM my time and I cannot make it.

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ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. Juan Manuel, then we can hold the call at 22:00 UTC. Silvia, please, if not we lose Juan Manuel. He will not be able to make it.

Alberto Soto speaking. Okay, I see Carlos from Costa Rica saying 22:00 and Silvia too. So we will hold the conference call on Monday at 22:00 UTC. So there are questions posted on the Wiki space, and questions for the candidates. And you see their answers also on the Wiki space. So please take your time to read that.

And I see that Fatima is saying, or typing, that Juan Manuel is the only candidate that replied to the questions. I cannot access the Wiki. I have been having some issues accessing the Wiki. I don't know what the technical issue is. Any question, any other comments?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. If I may, Alberto, Terri is telling me that unfortunately, next Monday at 22:00 UTC, there will be a CCWG briefing with the Board. So there is a scheduling conflict. So maybe...

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. If everyone agrees, and Juan Manuel is here, we can have Juan Manuel's introduction or presentation right now.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco for the record. If I may? I think that we can get started at 22:30 UTC next Monday. Juan Manuel, do you think that would work for you?

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS: Juan Manuel Rojas speaking. I need to start my... I have a class. I'm a teacher, I'm a professor. So I need to start my class at 23:00 UTC. Maybe we can hold the call on Tuesday?

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. What about Tuesday, Silvia? What about 22:00 or 23:00 UTC Tuesday, let me check.

Juan Manuel, do you have any issues?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. We are checking that with the interpreters.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS: Juan Manuel speaking. I cannot make it on, sorry, at 23:00 UTC.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. Let me check that with Silvia.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. I'm checking that with Sabrina.

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you Sabrina for checking that. If you can send us an email once you know?

This would mean that we would have to reschedule elections and some other steps.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. Okay. So here is my proposal. Let us conclude the nominations period today at 00:00 hours, and once we know for certain when we can hold the conference call, we will send an email, or emails about that, scheduling the conference call. And the day right after the conference call, we can start the voting.

So that would mean delaying the voting process one or two days, at the most.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto for the record. Harold says that he is okay on Monday or Tuesday, he has no scheduled conflicts. Juan Manuel, what about Wednesday at the same time?

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS: Juan Manuel speaking. Wednesday at 22:00 UTC or at 23:00 UTC would work perfectly well for me.

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ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. Okay. I'm the one that has a scheduled conflict on Wednesday. This is Alberto Soto for the record. Unfortunately, I'll be travelling at that time.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. But I can chair the call Alberto.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. That is great, fine by me. Harold, do you have any scheduled conflicts on Wednesday, in case we cannot make it on Tuesday?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. If I may, maybe the scheduled conflict... So we will send out a Doodle poll. We will include the two candidates, and the possible new candidates. So basically, the candidates will be, the moderators, and the chairs, and the interpreters will be indicating their availability in that Doodle poll for Tuesday or Wednesday.

We will send the Doodle poll right away, send it out right away, so that we can schedule the call as soon as possible.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto for the record. Okay, excellent. If there are no further comments, or questions, or suggestions, we would then be bringing this conference call to a close. I see nobody raising their hand.

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So unfortunately, we will have to wait for the Doodle poll to be sent out.
Thank you all very much for joining us, and have a good rest of the day.
Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]