
TERRI AGNEW: Good morning, good afternoon and good evening. Welcome to the Technology Taskforce LACRALO Mailing List Issue, taking place on the 25th of August 2015 at 23:00 UTC. On the call today we have Dev Anand Teelucksingh, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Glenn McKnight, Roosevelt King and Alan Greenberg. We have apologies from Judith Hellerstein, Juan Manuel Rojas and Alberto Soto. From staff we have Josh Jenkins, and myself Terri Agnew. I'd like to remind all participants to please state your name before speaking for transcription purposes. Thank you very much, and back over to you, Dev.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thank you Terri. I'm the Technology Taskforce Chair. I'd like to thank everybody attending this call. This is a single purpose call to discuss the LACRALO mailing list translation issues. The LACRALO mailing list, I'll give a very brief background - because I think everybody's well familiar - but just as a brief introduction, we have two mailing lists, an English list and a Spanish list. What happens is that emails in English are sent to the English list, machine-translated, and posted to the Spanish list, and vice-versa - emails in Spanish are sent to the Spanish list and translated and posted to the English list.

The thing is, there are significant issues with the current implementation. Some of it has been very well documented; the key one being that the subject lines get completely garbled when translation emails are posted to the Spanish list. When an email goes to the English list it gets translated, but then what also happens is that when persons start replying the subject lines get garbled and garbled. As more and

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more of these emails get garbled, it gets to something like this - I'm scrolling through the presentation in the AC - which is unintelligible.

So around 2012 these sets of issues pointed out in this presentation were put up on a Wiki page and identified. ICANN has been working on this issue, or really it's been a private project of John Jenkins, from ICANN staff, who's been taking on this task. This call is really to bring us up-to-date with what progress has been made with the new translation engine, and what the key issues are remaining before the new engine can be used to replace the existing LACRALO translation engine.

That's just a brief introduction. I think everyone's been aware of this presentation for some time now. Josh, thank you for attending the call. How would you describe your progress on the new LACRALO translation engine?

JOSH JENKINS:

So we were originally tasked with four major items. One of the key points was not translating the subject line. Unfortunately I don't have the LACRALO page in front of me, and I need to find that again. However, in solving the original problems we accidentally created some regressions, particularly around URLs that showed up in emails. However, as of very recently, just this last weekend, I believe the major brunt of those regressions issues has been solved. I've put this in front of Dev so that hopefully some testing can be done on the new-transbot.en and new-transbot.es to see if this release candidate can go forward.

The previous release candidate, because of the [URL 04:41] was deemed not sufficient, so I'm hoping we can actually start rolling this out to replace the current transbot, which will allow further development based on later talks that I've had with Dev, about new ways of setting this up so that people only go to a base list and then follow that. That will determine who gets what translations, instead of bouncing back and forth between EN and ES lists, and potentially causing mail loops.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay Josh. Because there are so many new persons on the call, perhaps first we need to step back a little bit, because not everybody's been fully briefed on this full Skype chat that we've been having privately. Just to elaborate, one of the things I proposed - and I believe these are the links, the new transbot EN and the new transbot ES lists?

JOSH JENKINS: Correct.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: One of the things now that we've been proposing is this new concept of the LACRALO mailing list. This concept - and I believe this is what we first started talking about - was that we have one discussion list, and then the translation bot takes the email from the discussion list and posts the translated emails to the EN and ES lists. Is this what you're referring to? Or have I misunderstood what you've said?

JOSH JENKINS: Correct. That would be future development that I don't want to get started until we have this release candidate rolled out, so that people can start using the new features.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay, so this new concept, we're not going to touch on that right now. Josh, how would be the best way to demonstrate this? Should you share your screen and run through some of the emails so we can all see it? Would that be okay?

JOSH JENKINS: you want to see some of the recent translations that I've done?

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Yes, if possible. If you want, you could share your screen, if that's possible?

JOSH JENKINS: We can do that, yes. Mostly I've been stealing emails that you've sent recently, so they may look very familiar to you.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: All right. Let me see if I can do this then. Let's get the links put up on the chat, for the new transbot EN list and the new transbot ES list. Does anyone have any specific questions they want to ask Josh right now? I know there were some questions on the Technology Taskforce call yesterday. One of the questions that came up was why is it that the

translation of the current email translation is not so good, especially when we cut and paste with...

I know it's based on Google Translate, but why is it that the translations are not as good... When we cut and paste and email and paste it in translate.google.com, versus what we're getting currently right now with the existing translation engine? I see Olivier has his hand raised.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Dev. Dev paraphrased my question yesterday on the Technology Taskforce. Indeed, from what I understand, the back-end seems to be a Google API, and is that identical to the API that Google uses in its own front-end of Google Translate, with the back-end being the same Google API? Or are they different back-ends?

I've done a test in the past already in cutting and pasting the text from an email that's in Spanish, putting it into Google Translate and it seems to translate quite nicely. But the same email is also translated using the software that we have there, and with the Google API it doesn't translate that well. It uses a different choice of words, it doesn't rearrange the grammar and stuff. I wonder, is there a pre-processor on Google Translate that direct use of the Google API doesn't have? Or is it a totally different technology? My question. Thank you.

JOSH JENKINS: It is the same technology. The tricky bit there is that miming coding tends to destroy Unicode, sometimes in terrible ways. As part of that, the transbot tries to pull apart the miming coding, to a point that it is

usable, but it's not using the HTML portion of that. It's using the plain-text portion of that. So when you're copying and pasting into Google on your browser, you're taking HTML text and putting it into an HTML context, so it can translate those entities directly, and you're going to get a potentially better result.

When you're taking that HTML text and pushing it into a plain-text context, then you start getting mime entities that you have to deal with, and that's where we have a lot of the issues. I've tried to solve many of those in the current release candidate, and that's part of why I'm happy with where things are currently, compared with previous release candidates. However, it's something that will need ongoing work, because every email client handles mime differently, and on top of that, when they do updates and changes, they potentially change how they do their handlings. So it's something that's potentially going to need further development. Hopefully that answers your question.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks Josh. Now I get it. I understand a lot more. It's more of a formatting problem than an actual translation problem, if I understand correctly?

JOSH JENKINS: Yes.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: The formatting messes up the words, and the nit doesn't get translated.

JOSH JENKINS: Correct.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Josh, may I ask you, I want to be able to explain as well. I think I understand, and I'm not an engineer or a software expert, and sometimes we get, as staff members, questions about why this LACRALO mailing list is not working and why Google Translate does not work. IN simple terms, for someone that doesn't understand about this HTML or such, I can say that the software that handles email for different users is damaging the quality of the translation. Is that an accurate interpretation of what you've said?

JOSH JENKINS: I think whoever just stated that... I apologize, I'm bad at names. The previous question? The way they phrased that at the end, where the formatting is messing up the question, that's 100 per cent correct. That's any type of automated tool that tries to do this is going to run into the same issues.

SILVIA VIVANCO: The formatting of the emails?

JOSH JENKINS: Yes. It was Olivier. I'm sorry. He's phrasing that that it's formatting that we're running into, because like I said previously - and I know this is a

little technical - but when you take the HTML in a HTML context and put it into a different HTML context, it's easy for the browser to understand that. But when you're trying to change that context, which is what the translation bot is trying to do, that's where you start running into issues, because then you have mime and codings that start creeping in. So it's the formatting of the email from the back-end mail transfer.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Is there anything that the user can do to avoid that? Or not? If we could, as a user, do something to enable or disable something?

JOSH JENKINS: If the email is getting particularly garbled, one thing to do would... I'm going to do a test for this today, if I share my screen... But one thing that the user can potentially do is just do a plain-text email. On your HTML client, turn off HTML for that given email, if it's particularly complex, and that should increase the translation.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Thank you.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thanks Silvia for the question. Alan?

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. May I suggest we let Josh show us what he has? There's no real point - although it's intellectually interesting for us to understand why it's so messed up right now - it is messed up, and Josh thinks he has something better coming. Let's look at what he has and then work on moving forward, as opposed to trying to analyze how we can make the current tool work better, or understand even why it's doing it. Intellectually interesting, but Josh already seems to understand, so let's let the person who knows what he's doing show us where he's going.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thanks Alan. Indeed. What I've done is I've put the links to the archives of the translation engine. Josh, are you able to share your screen now and show us how it's working?

JOSH JENKINS: Am I currently sharing my screen?

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: No, but you are presenter.

JOSH JENKINS: Here we go. This is one of the previous emails that I have translated. This one came from Dev. I'm going to send this to myself. Now, one of the things I'm doing here is a special copy-paste that removes the formatting, so this link here is no longer an actual URL link. I'm doing

that to try and reduce complexity of the engine. If you want, I can do an additional test that also includes that.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: That would be good. Yes.

JOSH JENKINS: As a separate test, here is a relatively large plain-text piece that went out recently. I'm sending this to my internal translation test list. The new transbot EN and new transbot ES list use the exact same translation engine, it's just this will not spam everyone with these tests. Let's go ahead and send these. Then we wait.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Let me ask you a question Josh. One of the concerns I had is I get an email from transbot [unclear 19:12], saying, "You're getting an email because we're unable to translate your post automatically and it violated one of the formatting rules to make translation posts possible." Does the administrator get these messages and know there was a message that wasn't translated? Or is it dropped silently and you're not aware of it?

JOSH JENKINS: No. The administrator does not get that message, however... As an example, previously, here's something Dev's just sent to everyone, and the response. This has this in it. Right now, that line: "This message has formatting issues and was not translated properly," is the only one that

the administrators would possible see. As a potentially new AI, that could be added, so the administrators also get a copy of this. There are already additional AIs on the list. The subject line into generic... This one I believe is solved where periods aren't used on [URL 20:42] side at the end.

[Parsing 20:47] HTML formats should be much better now. We'll see in a second. So this last part is the one I was trying to reference. The message is generic, and there's no idea what part of the message the error is referring to. That's something I want to tackle next, because I think that would be key. If there is an issue, output the line that had the issue as well. I know where in the code to make these changes, but I'm trying to step softly first.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay. Before you scroll around and see it, just to look at the numbers, a lot of these persons are now seeing this for the first time. Just to illustrate now, if everyone is able to see the text, I'd say the translation is much better. I hope people are able to see it. I think what people should do is go full screen and then be able to see Josh's screen more clearly and see the text. You can see the translation is much cleaner. The subject line is not translated - it stay s the same. That means when people start replying it will stay the same, regardless of whatever language you'd like it in.

I don't speak Spanish, but it looks much more cleaner than what would normally be happening before. I have to say, this part is actually

working quite well. Is everyone seeing this? Alan, I see your hand raised. Go ahead.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Just a question. Josh, you seem to be using two sets of mailing lists, the new.transbot.en and .es, and then a tb.test. The new.transbot mailing lists, the live ones seem to be different than what you're using, so I'm confused. On the live ones I see the last messages being May or June, and you're obviously sending messages in August. Are there two sets of mailing lists on the same...?

JOSH JENKINS:

The new-transbot.en uses the exact same translation engine as tb-test3.en, but the transbot-test3-en, tb-test3.en, that is an internal development list. If I go over here to my deleted items, you can see I have pages of emails I've sent to myself in order to do this development, rather than let everyone see this ongoing...

ALAN GREENBERG:

No, that wasn't the question. The question is, the archives I see live don't have all these messages in them. Did you just turn off archiving?

JOSH JENKINS:

Any archiving from today would not have happened yet.

ALAN GREENBERG:

I see nothing since May.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: If I may interject, I think I know what the confusion is. Josh, this tb-test3.en, is there a link where we could look at the public archives of that list? I think that's what Alan is saying, because the newtransbot.en list, and the internal testing one, which I understand you were doing for testing purposes, what's the URL for that?

JOSH JENKINS: I may not be archiving that one.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay. The thing is, let me ask a follow up question then...

JOSH JENKINS: But here's the 2015 for newtransbot.en.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Let me just confirm something then before I hand back to Alan. So this internal testing engineer you're doing, tb-test2-en, it's the exact same translation engine for transbot.en and newtransbot.es. Correct?

JOSH JENKINS: Correct.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: All right. I just sent a message to it, and this is where my main concern lies, Josh, because what happened is I get a message from transbot, a reply, saying, “Unable to translate your email to ICANN list.” So my concern is that when people are getting these emails saying their emails have been rejected, I think what needs to happen is that the administrator or staff needs to be aware of the message.

Because what could really happen is that a person sends a message, the transbot replies and say it’s been rejected, and there’s no real way of knowing two things - one, if a person sends two emails within a short time and gets back this, “Unable to translate your email,” it’s not specific enough. That’s what that first item is in that bug report I just did. It doesn’t identify which email generated the error. Either the email tech needs to be included in part of it: “This is the email that wasn’t translated,” or something like that. That’s just one suggestion. Alan, I hope I tried to explain it, but if not...?

ALAN GREENBERG: Just to be clear - but I’m not going to push the point as it’s not important - the message you just sent, Dev, showed up in the archives that I’m looking at. All the messages that Josh says he’s been sending to the same list, the new-transbot are not in the archives. I’m just wondering if he’s using shadow lists that are not on the same server, or something like that?

JOSH JENKINS: Yes, I’m using a shadow list. This tb-test3.en...

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: No, not the text one - the ones that have gone to new-transbot, and you showed some of those in the mail log you just were showing us. Those weren't showing up. That was the question. It's not really important. Let's skip it.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay. I'm not refreshing my page. You're right. MY message did go through, and the translated text had formatted, but it does repeat the text. It did go through. I just didn't refresh the page properly. Olivier, your hand is raised. Go ahead.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Dev. For those of us who are not in any of those test lists, we've seen Josh send an email out over to the list. Is it possible to see the results of how it's come out, in Spanish?

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Good question Olivier. Josh?

JOSH JENKINS: I have it on my screen now. Fair warning - I'm using an additional URL scrubber for security reasons, so these URLs will look badly mangled. This is normal, this is not the translation engine, it's just additional security that I have on my particular email. The resulting URL you can almost see in here as HTTPS, Twitter.com, ICANN At-Large, which will

match up with what was originally sent. All this other URL and long strings is completely something else. However, how does the overall translation look, other than that? The URLs did come through. Dev should have a copy of this that has the URLs in their original format.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: I do.

ALAN GREENBERG: I've pasted the URLs of the two messages of each one.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thanks Alan. Silvia says that the Spanish text is good and understandable. Okay. Sorry Olivier, do you have a follow up question?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you Dev. Just to make sure on this then, on the new engine, the subject is also translated? Because unfortunately, LACRALO test 1 translates to LACRALO test 1, or maybe doesn't translate? I don't know. The second question was, if one decides to write in French, what would then happen at that point? Would the whole thing cough, or would it just display in the original language?

JOSH JENKINS: The subject line was specifically asked to not be translated, because of what happened to the subject line over time, as it was translated. So it's not being translated. This subject line doesn't particularly have

meaning. One thing that you can potentially do, you'll see the subject line is here in the middle of the text, you can add the subject line into the text itself so that people can read the subject line translated. But the subject email of the email itself will not be translated for this. So replies for this should follow in line.

Secondly, as far as the French portion of this, in order to do the future bit that we're not technically discussing in this meeting, it will be necessary to do language detection, at which point it will pull from French and move to either English or Spanish, if those are the only two available languages for the list. But as a further example, just because I've been playing around with this, you'll see on the screen now the German translation. Anything that Google can translate to is still available, because it's Google.

The same is true for French. Right now, you can only do either English or Spanish, because that's all that's understood. With the future format that once is released we'll try and move into, it doesn't matter what gets sent into the list. It will come out as the strict correct language on the other side. I hope that answers your question.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: That's great. Thank you very much Josh. Very helpful. Very impressive as well.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Yes. The reason why I made the suggestion was because once the subject line changes, you lose the threading in conversations, and worse,

when people reply and it generates a new subject line, it gets worse. What will happen is the emails get scattered all over the place. This was my suggestion when we started de-bugging this. It was like, “Okay, maybe the best thing is to just keep the subject line as-is.” Therefore, all the conversations and replies come in under the same line. Just to mention Josh, in case you’re not seeing this, Heidi says that German is readable in German text. Alan?

ALAN GREENBERG:

Just to further comment on the subject line, right now we’re having two problems. First of all, things are getting translated with HTML and various encodings, and then the encodings are not displayed properly on the subject line. The subjects are displayed in most mail readers as just text. The second problem is, if you translated the subject, even ignoring the problems with accented characters and encodings, as people responded back and forth in alternate languages, it would keep on getting translated back and forth, and getting mangled.

It would be a broken telephone type thing. So the original was in English, will go to Spanish. When the Spanish got translated back to English it would be subtly different, or maybe very different, and that would keep on going. So there’s no way you could preserve the threads if you do any translation on the subject. So you have to keep it the same. As Josh pointed out, if as a practice and we put the subject line in the text, then that could get translated. Thank you.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thanks Alan. Just to clarify a question Josh, how are HTML emails handled with the new translation engine? I think Olivier was the one who raised the question, of that when somebody sends something in HTML, what happens? Is it that the HTML is preserved when the email is sent, or not? The reason I ask that is because I know a lot of people use HTML in their emails, even when staff does it as well, for sending out emails to the ALAC Announce and for announcing meetings and so forth. This might be important to really figure out whether it works or not.

JOSH JENKINS: Right now the way the transbot works is by pulling from the plain-text portion of the email. This means that generally HTML will probably not be preserved precisely. If you see in the email here, there are new lines and URLs, and these would come through, because this was sent as HTML, as the correct HTML text for that. They do come through, out the other side, but in doing so they're getting translated down to plain-text. I haven't yet tried to do HTML processing. That would be a separate ask and a lot more complicated.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Just as an example I posted something in HTML. Here's the Spanish link. You can see how it looks. Alejandro actually responded, because he is on the transbot.en list. Go ahead, Olivier?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: I've got another question. If you're on a roll then please continue, and don't let me interrupt. The question I had, and we'll reach it when

we've got time, is in messages that are in mixed English and Spanish, so for example you'd have the message five lines in English, five lines in Spanish, would the transbot then put everything on the Spanish list output in Spanish, and everything on the English list output in English, so you'd have effectively the original message in English and the translated message in English underneath? And on the Spanish list you'd have the original message in Spanish and the translated message in Spanish underneath? How would that work? Thanks.

JOSH JENKINS:

I think we might have an example of this on-screen. There is a translated portion of this message, and then here is an English section of replies that seem to be un-translated. They're still in English. Let's see what you sent originally. Yes, so here are the English replies that were part of the original. Here's the English that was in here. In the translated version, the replies are not translated. The plain-text broke some of this formatting, as you can see, however the actual message was translated.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Thanks for this Josh. That is of course if you... How does this work here? Does it not attempt to translate anything that's in quotes? Or translate original messages that are encased in there? Or does it work based on the language? I'm thinking of specific messages, which are the same text in Spanish and in English, but not as one text that's quoted or anything - it's just an announcement both in Spanish and in English.

JOSH JENKINS: I'm not trying to be mean here, but it's a relatively lazy implementation. It's looking specifically for these chevrons that indicate this is quoted text. When it sees those it will not translate that text any further. It will leave it as-is.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Just as a follow up, what you might end up with then is if someone actually answers and email in English to another email in English, then you would effectively have, on this Spanish list, the original bits of email. When you intersperse your text with the other emails, you've got a few chevrons and an answer, and a few chevrons and an answer, you might end up with part of the discussion in English and part of the answer in Spanish. That would be a bit strange. But I guess these are just details that will be able to go into the implementation. They're just thoughts at the moment. Thank you.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thank you Olivier. Alan, go ahead.

ALAN GREENBERG: Just a caution. We're not likely to end up with something perfect. I've seen examples of people who are bilingual and they sometimes read the wrong list and answer in the wrong language. Someone who reads English and Spanish will sometimes take the English message and respond to is in Spanish, but it goes to the English list, of course, because it's responding to an English message. Josh's new future implementation might well address that, but right now it's going to be

imperfect, and if we can get several times better than we are right now, then we're so much closer to where we want to be. Let's not try to aim for perfection at this point.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thanks Alan. I agree. I'm seeing the real progress made in the machine translations, in terms of it's not badly formatted and so forth. That's the problem with people replying to the wrong list in a different language. It is a problem. That's why that future implementation will probably solve that issue, where we have one list and a language announcement list for each separate language. That would probably alleviate the problem. Okay, so Josh, let me ask you a question.

If we were to say, "Okay, we want to replace the translation," - hypothetically - "Of the existing LACRALO mailing list with this new translation software," are there very complex steps? Or a long process? Or is this something that could be done very quickly?

JOSH JENKINS: I'm waiting for someone to ask me for that, because it will take about five seconds of time. It's very quick.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay! What I think we do have to do, let's do some more quick testing. First of all, I think Alan has been added to the newtransbot.en list. Staff is on it, Silvia for sure, and myself, and Alejandro and Leon were also on it, and I believe Humberto was on it as well. The question is, do you want to add more persons to really test this? Would Glenn or Roosevelt

- first of all, thank you for listening in on this conversation - but would either of you be willing to be able to send messages on the English list and test out how it turns out?

Okay, great. So we can add Glenn to the list, and Roosevelt is also willing to be added to this transbot list. Excellent. Let's do that, as an AI, to add Glenn and Roosevelt to the translation engine email list, so we can just do some final testing. Going back to the Wiki page, it's set up to identify bugs and issues and so forth. If there's a bug you can write it in there. Because the archives are public, you can even specify, "When I send this email, this happens." Let's do that very shortly then.

If this really only takes five seconds, then once we do the testing, on the next LACRALO call we can maybe introduce this and make some special mentions of the punctuation and formatting and so forth, and a reminder to please write in the appropriate language for the appropriate list, that type of stuff, and then switch it on? Does that sound like a reasonable plan? So I would say literally within a short time we can get this done? I see Alan is saying to take a week to exercise it, and if nothing shows up [unclear 46:33] let's convert. Okay.

ALAN GREENBERG: You're probably right. We should do it following a LACRALO Meeting though.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Yes, we should, because we need to sensitize persons, to explain what's happened, rather than switching it. Because then people can get

confused when they start seeing these rejection emails. Okay. Let me ask another question, Josh, because then this comes back down to the specificity of the error message. Is there a possibility of somehow identifying - and maybe I can do this offline, on the Wiki - but is there a way of identifying the exact lines in an email that got rejected, as to where it went wrong?

Because right now we just get an error message saying, "The message was rejected, and the reason why was because a sentence punctuation must be followed by a space," for example? Of course, this is a very short email, but you don't know what happened. I imagine when people are replying and it becomes a long thread, it gets very confusing as to why that message gets rejected. That's just an observation I'm thinking as I do the testing. Any thoughts on that, Josh?

JOSH JENKINS:

Yes, that is possible. I'm going to try and get that out as a quick patch, but I'm not necessarily sure if I want to change anything, especially if we're going to be hammering on it for testing. Because I don't want to leave it in an unstable state and cause some tests to fail that would otherwise succeed, just because I'm trying to add in additional features. I know where that section of code is, and I have some ideas on how to change that, but I'm considering that a relatively important item, but not necessary for releasing this.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH:

Okay, I get that. Any other comments or questions on the translation? I think there's just one other aspect I want to mention, and seeing no

questions, I'll speak. Josh, you've been working on this literally in your spare time. I want to thank you for your efforts on this. In my mind, to me, this should not have been. Is it because you need any particular support?

One of the concerns I've been raising is that this needs to be a more ICANN-handled project where bug fixes can be filed and so forth, rather than you yourself going and doing this. Is there something that we should be doing? Should we write a letter or anything? What are your thoughts? Should this be an ICANN-supported project?

JOSH JENKINS:

It's not something I'm necessarily... I'm going to waffle a bit on this answer.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH:

Perhaps I'm asking something I shouldn't have. I guess this is a conversation I need to be having with Alan and Olivier, to see what our next steps are, in terms of whether this should be a properly supported ICANN project, rather than... I don't know if Alan and Olivier want to talk about it on the call. Alan?

ALAN GREENBERG:

Okay. I'll be blunt, as I sometimes am. In the long-term, this has to be something that ICANN has to be supporting widely in a venue far larger than LACRALO. At this point, we want something done that's effective and solves some of our problems. If Josh things it's better to keep it as his private project and not get other people sticking their thumbs in it,

and that's a better way to go forward, we will certainly honor that. On the other hand, if you want a letter written to get you more resources, or free up your time, or whatever, just say so.

JOSH JENKINS:

To be clear, the part I'm waffling on is whether or not ICANN should take over the project, because that's not something I can speak to. As far as taking my development time or someone else's, I'm perfectly happy letting other people do the development for this. It's just more of a who's going to do the development for this. I've tried to pass this off at least once in the past, and it took a year and a half or so to get not a lot done. So I took it back. We don't have a lot of internal resources that do this type of development here at ICANN. I'm one of the few.

Whether or not someone else takes it over, that's a separate question from whether ICANN should be supporting it. I cannot answer that portion of that question, but I have no problems handing this to someone, if they're going to actually take this on and take it over. Whether that happens to be the ICANN Development Team, or third party, or something else, is a separate question.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay. Alan with a follow up?

ALAN GREENBERG:

Yes please. Josh, at this point you seem to be on a roll, and I think we'd be foolish to try and change directions and implementors and anything else at this point. At some point, when we have something stable that

we think needs to be spread to other lists, or perhaps enhanced further, let's talk about it. But I'm getting the message right now that if we do anything formal, it's likely to slow things down rather than speed them up, at least in the medium term. So if you're happy to continue like this right now, then let's continue. If not, maybe we should talk privately.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Indeed. I fully agree. Any other comments or questions? We're coming to the top of the hour.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Hi. I'm just wondering if we should set some regular updating or regular reporting so that we can make sure that this is going to move forward? I'm happy to work with Josh or anybody to move this forward.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Thanks Heidi. I think yes, I do intend to have this as a regular reporting for the Technology Taskforce. I'll have this as standard, and I can give an update on the Technology Taskforce, and if Josh feels that he needs to have a special purpose call like this one, to show something, or there's some serious issue, we can arrange a special purpose call to do it. In addition, what we can do is also set up a Skype group of all the testers - that could also work - and I believe Josh is on Skype, so we can communicate that way and talk amongst ourselves, and just make sure we're on the same page. Is that all right? Would that be okay?

HEIDI ULLRICH: That's fine. I like the Skype chat. That's going to be useful, but also at Dublin.

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Okay, you means in terms of getting this ready and implemented before Dublin? Okay. Thanks Heidi. Looking at the progress made, maybe this can be implemented before Dublin. Let's do the testing. Let's really start kicking the tires on the new transbot.en list. We'll do any bug reporting on the Wiki page, and if there are no significant problems then let's have a LACRALO call, perhaps in time for the monthly LACRALO call next month.

Then we can have a presentation on it, go through what should be done in terms of style, formatting and punctuation, and then turn it on then, right after the LACRALO monthly call. The LACRALO monthly call is usually the third Monday of each month, so that will make it sometime around September 21st or so. I think that sounds like a reasonable time frame, to see if we can get this implemented. Yes, September 21st. Thanks Silvia. Okay. All right, anything else? Going once, going twice, going thrice.

Okay, well, Josh, thank you very much for your efforts in doing this. This has been a long-suffering issue, and at least there is now some light at the end of the tunnel on this issue. Kudos to you, and really, huge thanks to you on this effort. All right. With that, thank you all for attending this call. This call is now adjourned. Take care, and have a good morning, good afternoon, good evening.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: And good night!

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: And good night!

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]