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UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Welcome to the call. I believe all of the candidates are on the call now. We are 11 minutes past the starting time, therefore I will give the floor to Gisella and to ask her to start the call and to start recording please. Thank you.

GISELLA GRUBER: Thank you Sabrina, thank you Veronica. I will get the call started now. Heather, if you would be so kind as to start the recordings, and we will now start the interpretation. Thank you very much.

Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening. Welcome to the LACRALO candidates question and answer call on Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> of January at 23:00 UTC.

On today's call we have Carlos Aguirre, Maritza [inaudible], Humberto Carrasco, [inaudible], Alberto Soto, Carlos [Vera], Antonio Medina Gomez, Sergio Salinas Porto, Johnny [inaudible], Alfredo Lopez, Ricardo [inaudible], Vanda Scartezini, Sylvia Herelein-Leite, Renato [inaudible], Carlos Vera, Alejandro Pisante, León Sanchez, [inaudible], and Fatima Cambroner.

On the English channel we have Alan Greenberg.

No apologies noted from Jack and Morris and Dev Anand Teelucksingh.

From staff we have Silvia Vivanco and myself Gisella Gruber.

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*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.*

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If I could also please remind everyone to state their names when speaking, not only for transcript purposes, but also to allow our interpreters to identify you on the other channel.

Our interpreters on the Spanish channel this evening are Veronica and Sabrina. Welcome.

And if I could also please ask you to speak loud and clear, to allow for accurate interpretation. Thank you very much and over to you Alberto.

ALBERTO SOTO:

Alberto Soto speaking. Thank you Gisella. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening everyone. Welcome to our call. Since we are a little bit behind schedule, due to some audio issues, we will move on to item number two on the agenda, that is adoption of the agenda. Humberto, you have the floor.

Humberto, go ahead please.

Alberto speaking. Humberto, you have the floor.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia speaking. It seems that Humberto has dropped.

ALBERTO SOTO:

Alberto Soto. Therefore I will continue, I will move on to the adoption of the agenda in the interest of time. So item number two is adoption of the agenda. And then item number three is staff, that is Silvia

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Vivanco in this case, who will explain our methodology for this conference call.

Item four, every candidate will have five minutes for a presentation and Q&A. Then we will have new questions and answers. And then every candidate will have some time for closing remarks. So...

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. My apologies. Thank you Alberto. My audio had dropped.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto speaking. Oh not a problem Humberto. Don't worry about it. Now I will give the floor to Silvia Vivanco.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you. Good afternoon. Welcome everyone. Thank you for joining this conference call. Today I will be the moderator of this call, and I will explain this call methodology according to the agenda.

We have three candidates for LACRALO Chair and three candidates for the LACRALO Secretariat. First of all, we will have candidates presentations and their replies to the questions posted on the Wiki space. This first round will be in alphabetical order. Every candidate will have five minutes for their presentation.

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And please note there is a timer in the Adobe Connect room. So this will take 30 minutes. Then we will have a second round, Q&A, a round in reverse alphabetical order. Please, I ask participants to start drafting their questions in the chat room and specifying the candidate they're drafting, or else raise your hand in the Adobe Connect and staff will take note of the speaking order.

And we will have, again, 30 minutes for this second round. Finally, there will be a closing remark round with three minutes allocated to each candidate, totally 80 minutes. As you can see on the Wiki space, we have all of the documents. We have the LACRALO leadership selection section. You can see the statements of interest for the candidates.

And without further ado, candidates will now hold the floor. So we will now move onto candidates' presentation and summary of responses. And now I give the floor to Mr. Carlos Aguirre. Carlos, go ahead please.

CARLOS AGUIRRE:

Carlos Aguirre speaking. Thank you Silvia. First of all, I would like to test my audio. Can you hear me? Okay, I see that you can. So hello everyone. It's a pleasure for me to join you today on this call. And try to convey some ideas I thought about and thought up for this call. First of all, I would like to introduce myself. As you can see on the Adobe Connect room, I am Carlos [inaudible] Aguirre.

I am one of the founders in the, of this Latin American and Caribbean region. Back in 2006, some of the participants on this call and myself were there. Many of us worked very hard, and I was elected as one of the first LACRALO representatives before the ALAC.

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Back then in 2006. After that I was reelected, and I must say, that was a very good experience for me. Following that, I presented my nominations to the NomCom for a position of the GNSO. The GNSO evaluated my resume, interviewed me, and once again, I was nominated, or I was appointed to the GNSO, where I served for several years.

That was a very important experience as well. And I served until the meeting in Toronto in 2012. I was involved and engaged in the entire new gTLD process, and that enabled me to become knowledgeable of stakeholders, processes, and stages within ICANN, which is quite significant at this stage.

I teach economics. I have held a teaching position at university for more than 25 years. For more than 10 years, I have held tenure teaching information society law. I am a member of the Bar Association of [inaudible]. I was selected to a position there. And I also wear a couple of other hats, that I'm not going to refer to right now, but you can see them on screen.

Let us now move on to the questions previously posted. Let me focus on that. First of all, our goals. I will be brief, because I see I have a minute and 45 seconds left. But, and I don't want to tire you, or maybe you do not have time now and you can listen to the recording later.

I put forward some fundamental points or items that have to do, or entail, the continuity of certain initiatives that have been well implemented to date. First of all, I want to focus on reaching out to new ALSs in countries or regions where we do not have ALSs.

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Highlighting that this is not only up to the leaders in the region, but it also entails everybody in the region. We can all help. Secondly, I would like to focus on capacity building. I helped Alberto and Humberto, but I believe we need a different orientation, so to speak.

I believe we need to focus on the ALSs themselves, and capacity building needs to stem from there. First of all, I propose reaching out to each and every one of the ALSs to get their feedback, to gain ideas. To be transparent in terms of participation. I think that is pivotal.

In that regard, let me say that in our operating principles, we need to be able to remember that organizations need to be precisely organizations and not single person entities. And if that is the case, then we need to create a different opportunity or possibility for people that want to participate as single individuals.

And finally, I want to focus on obtaining funds, money, so as to organize or hold, more meetings, especially with a focus on capacity building for those that are really willing to engage in these initiatives. So we need to differentiate this by means of government relations, engaging with the private sector with NGOs, etc.

So this is the foundation to build this initiative, if ICANN take up a leadership position.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. My apologies Carlos, your time is up. And I would like to remind everyone that we need to observe the time, because we have several candidates on the call. Now I will give the

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floor to Maritza [inaudible]. Maritza, go ahead please, you have the floor.

MARITZA:

Maritza speaking. Can you hear me?

I'm Maritza [inaudible]. I'm from Peru. I'm a Peruvian lawyer. And I am the vice-president of the Peruvian Association of Internet Users. I have been an attorney for more than 10 years, focusing on domain names. I have worked for the private sector, for the public sector. I have held specialized technical positions, and as you can see on my statement of interest, I come from the academia.

I have certain experience as a practicing attorney. And I became involved with ICANN at ICANN 47 as a Fellow in Durban. And then I was a Fellow in London, and in the meeting held in Buenos Aires, I was selected a group leader for the Fellows during that meeting. So I had the opportunity to lead the group, together with a very dear friend of mine from Argentina.

And we introduced new mechanisms to be able to achieve greater participation from people, from the community, from Fellows. Currently, I've been selected to be a coach for our next meeting in Morocco, in Marrakesh.

I introduce myself here, and I express my willingness to participate, to work, to be able to become a bridge to join and to contribute to the work of the community, by collaborating with the Chair. I am a bilingual person, so I feel very comfortable speaking English. But also one of the

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reasons why [inaudible] is a person from this fellowship group selected me to be, to lead this post. And there needs to be a communication bridge between people, English and Spanish speaking people.

I work for a very important lawyer firm. I also work in the region. So my daily work, I work in a cultural diversity. I also work, I would like to work for a region to develop connectivity, but as well this company is following own dot company with capital from Brazil. So I'm also very used to working in cultural diversity.

I also have been trained in other countries, training and in marketing. I have two Masters, and I have a degree in economy and consumer's rights. And I'm also a professor at the [inaudible] school, which belongs to the [inaudible] University, which is the main or leading universities in Peru.

And I'm at your disposal for any question that you may have. I know that we need to stick to the time, and I wanted to comply with that. So with this, I thank you all for your time.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you very much Maritza for your speech. Now, I will give the floor to Humberto Carrasco. Humberto, you have the floor. Go ahead please.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO:

This is Humberto Carrasco speaking. Thank you very much. Good afternoon, good morning, good night everyone. I am from [inaudible] Chile, so I'm very happy to be here, finished with my post-graduate



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courses in [Edinburg]. I'm a lawyer by profession. I am from Chile. I'm also a professor of the [inaudible].

And I am also the secretary general of the [inaudible] Chile, that is my ALS that I am representing in ICANN, and in this case, in LACRALO. Now that I am finishing my term as the secretary in LACRALO, I believe that after being two years in that position was enough, and the idea is to give the opportunity to someone else, a new person, to be on that position.

And the idea is to be the candidate for LACRALO Chair. I just wanted to tell you, that it was my pleasure to be a secretary in LACRALO, but at the same time, that was a not really good experience. I mean, I have to be very honest. In our organization, we have very talented people, and to tell the truth, I was really impressed by seeing so many people working so hard.

And I should say that the ICANN world is really complicated at times. So you need to be, and to have a lot of experience. I've been participating or in fact, I've participated at ICANN for the first time in 1999, in Chile, and then in [inaudible] in the year 2000. And then I had to stop participating, and I went back to ICANN in 2011.

And now I'd like to speak about my plan. My working plan is to continue with some of the ideas we have been developed with Alberto. We have tried to move forward quite a lot with him, I mean, particularly focusing on ALSs. Personally, I would like to focus on that, and I would like to keep on working on capacity building training.

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And in that sense, we have a similar experience. We had experience with a lot of participation, and a lot of training, and some other periods which were not so successful recently. So I would personally like to [inaudible] or to survey, so as to see how we can increase participation.

And to try to solve all of the issues and encourage participation. Within my working plan, I would like to address the problem that we have in the Caribbean region. From my personal point of view, I believe we have to make our best effort to try to incorporate them, to make them participate. Although we know that this was subject matter for many discussions, and perhaps I agree on the fact that anyone can have their own opinion, because that is a freedom of speech, and I am in favor of that.

But I am not, I do not agree fully with the way in which that was done. So I believe we have to solve, we have to negotiate, we have to sit all together with the relevant actors. And we have to discuss, together with staff, and perhaps by means of facilitators, so that we can solve the issues that are dividing us.

That is one of the essential points from my working plan. I would also like to address some other topics. One of them has to do with the facts of increasing coordination between LACRALO leadership and LACRALO working group. There is a group which seeks to increase participation from ALSs.

So in this sense, we have to intensify the collaboration at LACRALO, we have been working on that. I believe we have to continue with that. We have to fine tune, and the idea is to achieve better results in the

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end. And having said this, I would like to finish my presentation. I would like to thank you all for listening to me. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you very much Humberto for your presentation. Now I will give the floor to [inaudible]. You have the floor, go ahead please.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER:

This is [inaudible]. Good evening. My name is [inaudible]. Since 2014, I've been participating in LACRALO discussions through my ALS, the ISOC, the chapter from Venezuela. And I was able to realize through my participation at LACRALO, I was able to see certain situations that I would like to work on, so as to achieve a better understand among all ALSs either from the Caribbean region, as well as from the other parts of LACRALO.

I belong to the computing sector. I am very involved in governance issues, because I've been working and participating at the IGF like IGF. I have also participated in many other events in Venezuela. I have also participated in the technical community at the IETF, in two opportunities. And I have also participated in some other areas.

And I have skills in the creation of certain communities. And I believe LACRALO has a lot of things to do, and other things to improve, and to work on. For example, to make the most of the Caribbean region and to work with the LACRALO area, such as to increase participation. So I

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believe, I feel that from the secretariat, we have to promote good relationship and to encourage dialogue among the stakeholders.

I would also like to propose something else. And this is to have the rotation of the LACRALO secretariat. And I would also like to deal with, and I would like to give other regions in different zones, so that the secretariat may have a rotation criteria that is on one hand, when it comes to the secretariat.

And as I said, and as the previous candidate said before, be ready to have new people to be incorporated. I would like to improve the member certification mechanisms. This is something interested, interesting to do. And I would also like to explore the training to see the different skills I have developed due to my work, different skills on that sense.

And I would like to transfer that knowledge to LACRALO and the different ALSs. I know there are economic problems within the ALSs, and there are many needs in our region, unfilled needs. I would also like to speak about the training programs for new members and new ALSs.

That is something that I believe the secretariat can do and to work on, so as to contribute to the region and to have a more integrated LACRALO. Thank you very much for this opportunity. And now, I give the floor to my next colleague.

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SILVIA VIVANCO: This is Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you very much. Now I will give the floor to Alberto Soto.

ALBERTO SOTO: This is Alberto Soto speaking. Thank you very much Silvia. Well, I've already posted on the Wiki page the summary. I have a degree in geography, in mathematics, in computing, and in law. But the most important thing in my career is to put forward the problems and solutions. This is the way in which LACRALO may grow.

We have to recognize that we have problems and we have to create the solution in an educated way, without [inaudible]. We have work on that, but we have a long way to go. So I commit myself to keep on working with Rodrigo de la Parra, and with other colleagues. Humberto said something, and the staff is work, ICANN staff is working on that problem.

And they are now taking into account a well-known international facilitator, specialized in the multistakeholder process. He is English and Spanish speaking person, and we will all be involved in the process. I believe that participation has increased, but we have to keep on working so as to see how we can improve, and of course, it is well-known that not all of the topics are interesting for everybody.

And when it comes to some topics, we have certain participants and for other topics, we have some other participants. So the idea is to achieve better participation, have better resource in discussion. Each ALS should have special participation, but of course, we need to invest our efforts.

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We have been talking about the CROPP program, but please, let's take into account that leaders can only collaborate in the search, but each ALS who has to work for the project. So that is how we have put some efforts on certain ALSs, for certain projects. And we have some projects that were not approved, and some others that were approved in that sense.

Now, when it comes to the team work, well this is what makes us, or help us to manage, our projects. We have to work on that, and we have to work that within our mailing list, because when we all work, we all learn, and we can collaborate. We can receive constructive criticism and to work in that sense.

That is what I'm trying to do. That is what I have posted on the Wiki. The idea is to keep on working with the ALSs, absent email. On several occasions during my term, I had a good deal of responses back from one ALS, which was being decertified, and we stopped that process. So this task has to be a task done by the secretariat, by the chair, and by the ALSs.

This is a joint work. I would like to have training, specific training for LACRALO leaders, but for leaders within LACRALO. I've been fighting, and I would say this between [inaudible] in ALAC for this to be achieved. And we have once a year training, which before ICANN meetings.

But this is for only ALAC members, chairs and RALO chairs, and secretariat. But this is not enough for me. We have to prepare people so that they can be ready to occupy their position.

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So I believe that I will devote some time to that. And I would like to say something. Mistakes are made by people who work, only that. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you very much Alberto for your presentation. Now Carlos Vera, you have the floor. Go ahead please.

CARLOS VERA:

This is Carlos Vera speaking. Good afternoon. I hope you can hear me. I have expressed the different volunteer positions that we have in the RALO, and in any other organization. All of them are compatible with our activities. These are important to take into account, because we are volunteers and certain level of agreement there should be, between the work as a volunteer and daily life.

And sometimes this volunteer work should supplement the academic activities. And at the same time, we tried to represent the interest of citizens and end users, who should have a voice within our organization. On the other hand, I am in favor of renewal of positions, no matter how good that the person might be or good a project could be, if known leaders are to be created, that is not enough.

Any reelection for a second term, for a second period, it makes no sense when we are trying to look for permanent leadership from the community. Representation, when it comes to the secretary, has to be organized. The secretary should know the role. Should be able to draft and to consult positions, for example, within a General Assembly or

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within a working group, and with a great understanding of the roles, within this environment.

And he also needs to be well aware of the topics. To have knowledge on that. But having knowledge on legal roles is not enough. It is also necessary to take into account end users. The applications of this role. On many occasions, in the RALO, we could see rules which were not properly applied, or were not applied at all, with the advice to different issues.

So in order to be able to represent RALO, the RALO should not be represented by the chair only. The community could be represented by the secretariat, and where there are staff working conditions that should be improved, so that the work that has been done by other people can make the, or can be well represented and where we can have good results with good roles, pertinent information, outreach of everyone.

And if we cannot see that, I think we are on the good and the way to go. When it comes to the chair, we need to have efficient secretary, aware of the guidelines to follow, and aware of the orders of the notes to be taken, the resolutions, and the community, which is something of vital importance.

Otherwise, it won't be successful in the region. That's why the [inaudible] of the secretariat, which is something important to take into account, and that's why I'm interested in participating. And I believe that experience in applying roles, and the pertinence of these rules



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within the RALO, that is one of the most important tasks for the secretariat.

There is, this is a coordination task that we need to develop to support the community. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you Carlos. We will now move on to the second round. I am checking the chat room. I don't see any written questions. So if you want to ask any question of the candidates, please raise your hand. Otherwise, I will give the floor to our speakers, to our candidates...

Oh, I see a question from Sylvia Herlein. I will read it out loud, and then I will give the floor to the candidate. So Sylvia says, "A question addressing all candidates. There is no doubt that there are serious engagement or relations problems between English speaking and Spanish speaking ALSs. How are you going to achieve your goals and fulfill your obligations in a divided LACRALO?" So Carlos Vera, go ahead please.

CARLOS VERA:

Carlos Vera speaking. Thank you for the question. I believe we have to understand how to apply the rules that govern us. If people do not understand rules, then they apply them at their discretion. That's it. This applies to corruption, to lack of transparency. So applying rules at someone's own discretion derives from not understanding, or not knowing, the rules.

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When rules are clearly said, when procedures are clearly said, the secretariat is not a second leadership, or a second head, so to speak. It has a supporting role. Any organization needs an efficient secretariat that is knowledgeable of our rules, so as to do away with people applying rules at their own discretion.

Therefore, we eliminate any arbitrary or personal decisions, and the rules will apply on an equal footing to everyone. And we will not have these current divisions that we face nowadays within our RALO.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you Carlos. Alberto Soto, you have the floor.

ALBERTO SOTO:

Alberto Soto speaking. Thank you. It seems that this is a current or topical issue, but we've held discussions within ALAC and ICANN, and this is a long standing issue. I am not going to take up these minutes by telling you about my initiatives on this issue. I started many personal initiatives.

In 2013, I invited Carlton Samuels in Buenos Aries. I invited him, or said that I would nominate him for the LACRALO Chair. That was my proposal and he said, he declined that offer. And we are working with the GSE team, with Rodrigo de la Parra, and with ALAC staff on this issue.

We are really focusing on this issue, so as to resolve it. According to Rodrigo de la Parra, very shortly we will have a concrete reply on this

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issue that we started working on in Dublin. Now, what am I going to do? León, I think, is asking that. Well, what I intend to do is to continue working with a criteria of inclusiveness. Please read what I posted on the Wiki space. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you Alberto. [Inaudible], you have the floor now. And the question remains the same.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] speaking. I was able to speak with some English speaking ALSs who have voiced their concerns regarding certain aspects, especially working group. This is a problem that we need to overcome, on the basis of rotating nominations or leadership positions within those groups.

So we need to focus on LACRALO procedures, rules of procedure, and on the [inaudible] or current ALSs and the ones we do want to recruit and integrate. To that end, it is necessary to reach out to them, but not in a political fashion, but in a direct and clear way. So that clear steps are taken, because if we end up in something extremely political, we will have political but not practical solutions, and we need to focus on practical solutions that will achieve a result that all stakeholders can appreciate.

In Brazil, for example, the job is much bigger. It's a much bigger task. All of us need to focus on that, even the members from the Caribbean. That's my point of view. Thank you.

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SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you. Now we give the floor to Humberto to reply to the same question.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto speaking. Well, this is the million dollar question. We would all like to have the answer for this question immediately, but that is not the case. It cannot be done. This is a long standing issue. There are many open wounds, and we still be transparent regarding interest.

There are many secret agreements among certain parties that are not really transparent. Agreements in terms of elections, and we don't have to be afraid. We have to be honest and transparent about those things. And we need to say whatever we think in person, face to face.

If that does not work, well, maybe we need to resort to a mediator, we need to amend bylaws, rules, etc. But we need to work honestly. We need to be honest. We are together in the same region, whether we like it or not.

This is like having a neighbor, and suddenly you cannot move houses and you have to come to terms with that neighbor, and you have to engage in a good relation, because that's the way it is. And this is what we need to do. We are reasonable people. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you Humberto. Maritza, please go ahead.

MARITZA: Maritza speaking. Thank you. Regarding this question, I believe that it is clear that we need to strengthen communication channels, and the secretariat support the different ALSs, and the chair working directly with staff, is of paramount importance. I have been able to observe, in terms of lack of communication, that when people do not speak English, maybe translations are not correct, or there is a communicational issue.

And this is what I see in terms of English speaking members. This is what they indicate in different chat rooms. So this participation issue on different communication channels is something that needs to be resolved. Clearly, we cannot speak about teamwork, collaboration, consensus, if clearly we do not start off on the same foundation.

So clearly the secretariat's role would entail proficiency in English, so that they can communicate with people from the Caribbean who clearly are English speakers, with Portuguese speakers who also speak English very well. So that entails being a communicator and engaging in that role.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you Maritza. And finally, Carlos, go ahead please. Carlos Aguirre.

CARLOS AGUIRRE: Carlos Aguirre speaking. I believe that when you tried, and tried, and tried again and again, when something is not working, clearly if you cannot achieve a result, you're not doing something properly. And I

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believe that when this is the case, there are several issues to be considered. And I believe there has to be rules that must be observed.

And I agree with Humberto, in terms of being serious. I think that working seriously is fundamental. There are people in the Caribbean that are willing to work. Maybe not with a lot of protocols, so to speak, but there is also a group of people from South America that do want to work. And I agree with Maritza in that it is essential to have, or to be proficient in English.

So I believe this is a complex issue with several actors involved. However, we do need to insist on communication and dialogue. And as Fatima was saying, we need to ask the Caribbean what it is that they really want? I believe that the incumbent leadership failed there, and hence we have a divided region. But we cannot give up. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you Carlos Aguirre. I have a question from León Sanchez, “How are you going to tackle the clear division between, among the ALSs or between the Caribbean ALSs and the rest? What practical solutions do you foresee or can you think of?”

So in the interest of time, maybe we can focus on practical solutions to tackle this division. So if I may, I would like to consolidate both questions so that you answer both of them together. So that’s the way we are going to proceed. And now we reverse the speaker’s order. So Carlos Aguirre, you have a minute to reply.

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CARLOS AGUIRRE: Carlos Aguirre speaking. Of course Silvia. I think these are follow-up questions on the same issue. I think we need to focus on dialogue, on rules, on clear rules of procedure, on language skills. And everybody's position has to be clear. I believe that we need to engage in dialogue, dialogue, dialogue full-time, not part-time.

Honestly, this is a serious regional issue and it hasn't received a total or full dedication.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia speaking. Maritza, go ahead please. Please focus on practical solutions or initiatives.

MARITZA: Maritza speaking. Thank you. Regarding practical solutions, well, we should ask them directly why is participation low? Why is there no participation? Why are people not working together on a project? As other candidates and I myself indicated, this has to do with strengthening communication and increasing participation in the working groups on these different initiatives.

So this support is fundamental, and the secretariat, the chair, have to focus on this and strengthen ALSs, focusing on the multistakeholder model.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia speaking. Thank you Maritza. Next speaker please.

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HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. Yes, I think I agree with Alberto. In Dublin, we said or we indicated to staff that we need to resolve the issue with the Caribbean. I believe we need to have a face to face meeting with the stakeholders, not only the leaders but different groups in the region, ISOC among several others.

And we need to hold a meeting and resort to a mediator and reach an agreement. This entails face to face and online or virtual meetings. And we need to engage in this effort and we need to be honest, to tell the truth and be transparent. And once everything is clear, we can reach an agreement.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you Humberto. Next speaker please.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] speaking. Okay. As I was saying, the issue goes beyond misunderstandings or translation issues. Let us leave that side. I have spoken with some stakeholders that feel that they are left aside because there are battles for power. And that has to change. And that is reflecting in engagement and participation metrics. Something that, unfortunately, has not been adequately addressed.

Also, those face to face meetings, as the prior candidate was saying, needs to be held in person, face to face, so as to finally bridge those gaps once progress has been made by working virtually or online. Thank you.



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SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you. Alberto Soto now, you have the floor please.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. Thank you. I will focus on practical steps that I have already taken. I mentioned that, I mentioned my offer to Carlton, so that he would be the LACRALO Chair. I appointed an interim secretariat, where Humberto was not able to attend the meeting, and I appointed, sorry. I didn't appoint anyone. I sent an email all of the Caribbean ALSs, and somebody ended up in the secretariat.

I will deal in more detail with that later. And somebody attended only just one meeting, and then stopped participating. I spoke with Carlton with Dev in Buenos Aires in 2015, and I asked them that before Dublin, the three of us should work in order to hold a Caribbean summit within the, or as part of the 2017 budget.

And I received no further reply. It takes two to tango. So I will continue working so as to resolve this issue. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you Alberto. And Carlos Vera now, you have the floor. Go ahead please.

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CARLOS VERA:

Carlos Vera speaking. Thank you. I believe that, at this stage, and in front of a problem that is a longstanding issue and very hard to resolve, ask the Caribbean and try to find out what is the problem with them. It's a sort of offence for them. I believe that what we need to do is to work or focus on supplementary actions or collaborative actions, so that we can work as a team together, and prioritize the institutions.

If the institutional rules are clear, information is systematized, if rules are observed, then rules will be applied properly on an equal footing, and not at someone's discretion. This has been one of the main sources of controversy within the RALO, in terms of the Caribbean stakeholders. And it shouldn't be the case. We should have a unified RALO.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you Carlos Vera. I see there are several questions in the chat room. I am trying to consolidate the questions under a topic or idea, in the interest of time. Sylvia Herlein and Fatima have the following questions. No candidate thought about asking the Caribbean ALSs what is it that they really want? Whether to remain or in the region or separate.

Sylvia Herlein says that we are worried about a relation with the Caribbean, and interestingly enough, there is no one from those ALSs on this call. So I believe that the issue at stake is the relation with the Caribbean, and the specific question is, hasn't any candidate thought about asking the Caribbean directly about this issue?

Carlos Vera, you have the floor.

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CARLOS VERA: Carlos Vera speaking. Thank you. I think that candidates to the chairs have to address this question, rather than candidates to the secretariat. If we focus on the different types of characters or idiosyncrasies, the Anglo-Saxon one and the Latin or Latino one, well we see that there are reasons for this divergence within our community.

And once again, I believe that reaching out to the Caribbean is of paramount importance, not only to resolve a problem, but also to have an institutional organized and orderly RALO that we so much need, and that would resolve this problem, together with our initiative, our creativity that the Anglo-Saxon community members also have, of course.

And that needs to be blended with our Latin idiosyncrasies.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you. Alberto Soto, you have the floor.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. I focused on several practical solutions. And one of my ideas was to engage in a dialogue with these two persons that said, yes and then did not fulfill or live up to their commitments. The NARALO chair visited us in Dublin and said that people from the Caribbean had reached out to them, and that NARALO would receive them without any issue.

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First of all, there are no legal possibilities that that would happen. I think I am addressing a question posting by Ricardo. Moving from one region to another, will be addressed on a webinar call that we will be holding shortly. This has been posted for comments on the Wiki space with no comments to date.

So they cannot leave the region. We need to do our best to integrate them. And I believe that I have implemented or put in a place a lot of initiatives, if I continue in the chair, or as chair, I will continue working very, very hard.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you Alberto. [Inaudible], you have the floor please.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER:

[Inaudible] speaking. Going back to this issue, let me say that some procedures are so dated vis a vis changing needs and current needs, especially in the Latin American and Caribbean community. The fact that they are not here on this call is just one more symptom of this problem. We shouldn't be wondering what has happened.

We should be wondering what is it that we didn't do as a region so that they feel fully integrated. So we need to have clear rules, updated rules, and apply them. And all members, ourselves included, have to be fully committed. Thank you.

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SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia speaking. Thank you. Humberto, you have the floor. Go ahead please.

Silvia speaking. Hello? Can you hear me? Humberto?

Silvia speaking...

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto speaking. Hello, I hear you Silvia. I can hear you.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia speaking. Go ahead please Humberto.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Could you please repeat the question?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Yes. We have consolidated a question. Has any candidate every thought about asking the Caribbean region why?

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto speaking. Well I wanted to confirm that that was the question. Okay. On several occasions, I have sent emails to the people from the Caribbean region, and no reply has been received from them. So, the only thing or the only person I was able to speak to was Dev, and there is another person from the Caribbean who is in contact with me, and he told me that in the last meeting in Dublin, he proposed to approach the Latin American people and was almost insulted.

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So that's why I do insist that we have to meet face to face, at least we have the leaders, because we have some history with them. So, and there is no secret in this. I mean, in the [voting?] rounds, no one from the Caribbean voted for me.

So I asked them several times by email, that I would like to go and meet them face to face and ask them, and I would like to, I mean, address them face to face. That's why I haven't [inaudible] for this election, because I know that I will not receive any reply. So perhaps this will make this our solution more difficult.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you very much Humberto. Maritza, you have the floor.

MARITZA:

Maritza speaking. Thank you very much. Well, saying that there is no presence here from the Caribbean representative, well this is some indicator. And of course, I believe we should ask them what had happened. This, of course, has to do with strengthening the communication channel. That is the way I believe to achieve a better result.

But in fact, what we have to do is to take effective measures by means of a survey or a face to face meeting, but that is something that we have to do jointly or the secretariat with the chair and with the support of staff as well. But I repeat, this result, this indicator has to do or reflect a previous situation, and we have to find out what that situation is.

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And of course, communication is something important. We need to improve communication so as to be able to learn what happened and what they really want. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you very much Maritza. Carlos Aguirre, you have the floor.

CARLOS AGUIRRE: Carlos Aguirre speaking. Well I believe that in the region we have people who divide the region, we have to be honest and clear on that. So when it comes to the answer to Fatima's question, whether we have asked the Caribbean people, well I think we have to ask ourselves, for example, we haven't asked people from the north of Brazil, well we have no ALSs, or ALSs in the north of Argentina.

We haven't asked certain ALSs, because we know that there are past regions in our Latin American region, and there are ALSs that we haven't asked or contact. So I think we have to contact those people, and we have to reestablish connections there.

I have a very good relationship, an excellent relationship with Carlton Samuels. And that is back in 2006, when we exchanged emails, we called ourselves brothers. So we have a very good relationship, an excellent relationship. And I believe that there is a lack of sincerity in the relationship that we have.

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SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you very much for your reply. We are running out of time. We have to stick to the time. We still have 15 minutes, or 20 at most. So we now would be in our final round of questions. And this final round, I would kindly ask the candidates to provide your final statement in three minutes.

And I read now [Rinata's?] question, which was, sorry. She had concerns about ALSs from Brazil and whether there is a plan for the Panama meeting. So please, in your final words, if you can please answer that question, I would appreciate that. Each candidate will have three minutes to answer, and we will be finishing the call. And now we will go back to the alphabetical order.

Now I will give the floor to Carlos Aguirre. Carlos, please, I would like to ask you to speak up, and you have three minutes to deliver your speech. Carlos Aguirre, you have the floor.

CARLOS AGUIRRE:

This is Carlos Aguirre speaking. Well I have already answered that question, but as I said before, this is something that we have to do. I believe we are looking for ALSs in certain countries, but we have also to pay attention to regions, or we have to look at the internal regions in each of our countries.

We have a past region and many ALSs that need representation. They want to have their voice heard, and we are not listening to them. And that is something that we need to do, that is work we have to do to accomplish. So we have to be professional about that.



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And that professionally, someone has to do with devoting the necessary time. Unfortunately, those who have other obligations or occupations, those who have to work to make their living, well for them, sometimes we need to give priorities to their life. And they cannot make the most of the time.

But I believe we have to be full-time to solve this problem. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you very much Carlos. Maritza you have the floor. Go ahead please.

MARITZA:

Maritza speaking. Well, so as to come up when it comes to the support of the secretariat, and the support to the different initiatives, to make the most of that, we have to break the barriers, we have to support initiatives, diverse initiatives so as to work based on consensus in favor of the community, of the documents. I have already posted on the Wiki page. And of course, listening to the different stakeholders.

Not only to our fellow from the Caribbean, but also from our fellows and colleagues from the Brazilian region, and the Spanish speaking community. Because we are representing a group of end users, but of course we can have more end users in other regions.

So we need to strengthen that, and we cannot consider that or address that in a segregated way. We have to work all together, perhaps we have to do a mapping, we have to do a survey, have face to face meetings, or training programs, to give priority to this, so as to break

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this barrier. Not only the language barrier, but also the connectivity barrier and to support each other. So we have to work on that. [Inaudible] we have to pay attention to everyone, and that is a role that the secretariat should have.

And of course, I am at your disposal for any additional questions which you would like to make. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you Maritza. Humberto Carrasco you have the floor.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO:

This is Humberto Carrasco speaking. I know that I have three minutes to speak. Only want to say that, you have seen me, of course, you might agree or not with some of the things we have done together with Alberto. I only wanted to say that I would like to make the most of the experience I have gained to solve, to resolve the issues with the Caribbean region.

And I will make the most, I will my best effort for that. I started in Dublin when I took that call. Those who participated to that call, as witnesses of that. That is my desire. There are so many things that we need to solve within, when it comes to participation. Sometimes it's really difficult to be [inaudible] to be aware of this, because since we are volunteers, of course we have to give to prioritize our working life.

And we give priority to that, to our jobs, but of course, we have to be intelligent. We have to make the most of this experience. We have two

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different courses so that participants can be certified or to help participants to improve your level of English, and to have bilingual participants.

That is what we have to do. We have to work on the amendment of our document, and we want to continue with that. We want to do that. So I ask you to believe in me. I am what I am. I'm not [inaudible]... I mean, I'm being very honest with you. So I hope you can vote me. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you very much Humberto. [Inaudible] you have the floor.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] speaking. Well taking into account what Fatima and [inaudible] said when it comes to promoting and rescuing ALSs, well this requires research. Something that is, unfortunately, not been done. In the case of the secretariat, well this is something that has to be prompted for the ALSs in the region.

And especially, we have to take into account the different functioning progress. For example, the leadership program should be taken by the RALO leaders, or the ALSs leaders so as to be part of, or be able to be a part of this.

I believe that research is necessary, not only by the secretariat and the chair, but also by the members of the region. For example, from ISOC Venezuela, we always supporting and happy to support other ALS. Perhaps that is something that can be done in the whole region.

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ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. Hello, can you hear me?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. [Inaudible] are you online? It seems that [inaudible] dropped. So we will ask the staff to reconnect [inaudible].

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: This is [inaudible] speaking. Hello, can you hear me? This is [inaudible] speaking. Can you hear me?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. [Inaudible], you have the floor. Go ahead please.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] speaking. So as I was saying, the idea is that we have mechanisms to promote and certify ALSs beyond language. We also have to promote the necessary tools so that leadership may have, also that ALS may have their own trained or skilled leaders. That is what we have to do, regardless of whether it is the secretariat or the chair. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Alberto Soto, you have the floor. Go ahead.

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ALBERTO SOTO:

This is Alberto Soto speaking. Well, more than promising, I would like to speak about what happened. When it comes to the North of Brazil, we have been working with [inaudible]. And we are looking for, and I know if we can continue even though I might not be reelected, I hope to keep on looking for organizations to certify ALSs in the north of Brazil.

When it comes to Panama, I am personally working with [inaudible] from our recently incorporated ALS. And in preparation for that, they have a PowerPoint presentation with information. And it would be before the Panama meeting. When it comes to the Panama meeting, we will work that in the future.

And when it comes to my final statement, well I don't think that if I say something, I will gain votes. The only thing I can say is that I will keep on working. When we certify ALSs, the ALSs assume a commitment, a participation commitment. So we have to see which is the best way for them to participate, but of course, it has to be in favor of everyone.

I'm not asking you to vote me, or in favor of me, but I want you to vote based on consciousness. We have to be honest and responsible when casting our vote. And please, take into account that only people who work make mistakes. This is good, but at the same time, we also have a right to criticize on our own ground. Thank you.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you very Alberto. Carlos Vera, you have the floor.

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CARLOS VERA:

Carlos Vera speaking. Well first of all, I would like to thank my colleagues and to congratulate my colleagues. For being candidates in the RALO so this implies the potential that we have within our region. I am really sorry about the issue with the Caribbean and their participation is not here, or that they're not comfortable with our procedures.

On the other hand, I think we have to value the effort that we make to incorporate new ALSs, and I believe it is important to make an effort to have more people within the ALSs which are already accredited. So that they can work. So there should be a commitment within the ALSs, so that they can stop being interpersonal ALSs, and so that we can see within one ALS, two, three, four, or 10 people working there, to become leaders.

No leadership is good is no new leaders are created. So we have to permanently create new leaders. So we, I believe we have to be brave enough so as to create new leaders for our replacement, so that they can create new projects that will replace the old projects.

And finally, to question ourselves and question people who are working, I believe we are in the right way. And I wish that every day, we can have an election in our RALOs so that participation from all of us would be continued, and not only on this special occasion.

I am saying this ironically on one hand, but I'm also taking into account the demands of the leaders that we have. But we need the support from the community and the input from the community, and this input is of vital importance, together with the support of the secretariat. The

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secretariat is a support for the community, support for mediation, support for international relationships, and we can work together with the Chair very effectively, within or without [inaudible] the Board.

So thank you very much for that.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Silvia Vivanco speaking. Thank you very much Carlos Vera. So we are now getting at the ending of our meeting. Before closing the meeting, I would like to ask the participants and the community members, to continue with this debate, since the elections according to the calendar have been published on the Wiki page, we'll start on Tuesday and until February the 9<sup>th</sup>.

So we have two full weeks when you can participate, you can discuss, you can go to the Wiki page, or to the LACRALO mailing list. So please, continue with the debate, exchange ideas for the region. So I would like to invite you to continue with the debate, and to improve the, by using the communication tool, so that we can continue with our debate before the elections will start in February.

So having said this, I would like to thank all of the candidates for their excellent presentation, and especially to the LACRALO community members for their active participation and enthusiastic participation within LACRALO. Thank you very much for your attention. Good evening, thank you all.

**[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]**