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AZIZ HILALI: We can begin. We can start the call.

GISELLA GRUBER: Lovely. Thank you. We'll get the recording started now, and the interpretation will also start as well.

Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to everyone. Welcome to today's At-Large Regional Leadership Meeting on Thursday, the 21<sup>st</sup> of January, at 18:00 UTC.

On the English channel, we have Barrack Otieno, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Wolf Ludwig, Mohamed ElBashir, Siranush Vardanyan, Glenn McKnight, Maureen Hilyard, Alan Greenberg.

On the Spanish channel, we have Alberto Soto. And on the French channel we have Aziz Hilali

No apologies noted this evening.

From staff we have Silvia Vivanco, Nathalie Peregrine, Gisella Gruber, and Ariel Liang. Interpreters this evening on the Spanish channel are Veronica and Sabrina; and on the French channel, Camila and Claire.

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

Thank you very much, and over to you, Aziz.

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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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AZIZ HILALI: Thank you very much, Gisella. Good evening. I'm very glad to be back with you today. We have to prepare our Marrakech meeting. You can imagine the amount of work this is requiring. I'm not going to speak a lot. I'm going to ask Olivier who accepted kindly to chair this meeting because the main part of this meeting is going to be dedicated to the recommendations by the RALO ATLAS. So I'm going to give the floor to Olivier, and I thank him very much. Olivier, you have the floor.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Aziz. First I wanted to check whether the echo is bearable. Is that okay? Gisella, if you could please come back to me and let me know if the interpreters are fine, or if the interpreters can let me know directly. Or maybe I'm still muted. Okay, I'm not receiving any answer from anyone. I gather things are fine.

Welcome, everyone, and thank you very much, Aziz, for passing the floor over to me. I guess we can go swiftly through the pending action items, which are all on the agenda itself.

The first one was with regards to the recommendation of the 28 RALO survey. Heidi is to investigate if there is in-house expertise within ICANN staff for building professional surveys. That is marked as in progress. Is that correct, Heidi?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes. I have talked to Heidi and she is actually investigating whether we have in-house expertise or [inaudible] professional service. So yes, it is in progress.

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OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, excellent. Thank you. The next action item is to do with the implementation in ATLAS II Recommendation 31. The Technology Taskforce is to be in touch with Bogdan Manolea from APTI in Romania on the simple tools and methods to facilitate participation in public comments and the use of crowdsourcing. That's pending and we will be discussing Recommendation 31 shortly.

Dev Anand Teelucksingh—

SILVIA VIVANCO: I'm sorry, I just want to mention I have sent a reminder to the Technology Taskforce to follow up on this action item. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: That's great. Thank you very much for this. Next action item is for Dev Anand Teelucksingh, chair of the Outreach & Engagement Subcommittee to follow up with Jean-Jacques Sahel so that there can be a synchronized... So that there can be synchronized with GSE Outreach. In general it's "they" can be synchronized with Global Stakeholder Engagement outreach activities. That's marked as in progress. Silvia?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes. I also followed up with Dev and he confirmed that he is on contact with Jean-Jacques Sahel. GSE has a map and the map shows the GSE events going on in the region, to all the five regions. The idea is to

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somehow combine the calendars that we have within At-Large and fit into this global outreach and engagement calendar.

So this is in progress because we have to do the [inaudible] from one database into another. But Dev Anand Teelucksingh is following up on this. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much for this, Silvia. I think that Dev has actually been in touch with all the RALOs, EURALO included. He's e-mailed me and asked that in our region we fill the calendar as well, and that will ultimately make it over to the Global Stakeholder Engagement Outreach Activities and the global calendar.

So there's some work going on there. I'll open the floor for questions and comments in a moment. I'm not sure how far the other RALOs have gone forward with this, but as I said, in EURALO we're just at the very beginning of this.

The next action item is for Jean-Jacques Sahel to send the Civil Society document to the Outreach & Engagement Subcommittee and coordinate the organization of an ad hoc call and webinar. That is marked as completed. Okay. Silvia any additional information on this?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes. I followed up with Dev as well and he indicated that was already completed. I think it was a call that took place last year at the end of the year.

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OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay. All right, thank you. The last action item is for Silvia Vivanco and Gisella Gruber to organize the regional secretariat meeting to meet two or three times before Marrakech. I note that this is completed as well.

Are there any comments or questions on any of these action items? Silvia, your hand is still up, so perhaps you have to add something? You might be muted.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes, Olivier. Could you please repeat your question?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yes. My question is your hand is up, do you wish to speak?

SILVIA VIVANCO: No, sorry. This is an old hand. I'm so sorry, apologies.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: All right, thanks. With no other hands up, let's go to agenda item three. These are the ATLAS II recommendations.

As you know, the At-Large Summit produced a total of nearly 50 recommendations which were all drafted in pure bottom-up multi-stakeholder. We basically got all of our ALSes to draft those things and channel them together. Now, some of these recommendations were somehow cryptic, sometimes a little bit difficult to interpret. In fact,

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some of them might have been obsolete by now. I have to remind you, the summit took place in June two years ago, 2014. And we are in January 2016.

But a working group has followed up and it's the ATLAS II Implementation Taskforce or Implementation Team. I can't quite remember the name. What it did was to look at all of the recommendations and then channel them for specific parts of our community, specific either working groups or RALOs or group of people that needed to look at specific recommendations, expand on them and build them up from where they were.

So here, we have four recommendations that were addressed to the Regional At-Large Organizations. Some of them not exclusively to the Regional At-Large Organizations. Some of them were also pointing towards the ALAC and for other parts of... Well, for some of them, other parts of ICANN, for some of them several working groups in addition to the RALOs.

We've got 28, which talks about the RALO survey and next steps, 31, 42, and 43. Now, Ariel is going to share her screen. I think she is already sharing her screen. And we can jump to Recommendation 28.

What she has done is to basically – and you'll have a good idea of what's happened. So you've got the recommendation at the top. And below that, you've got various action items and notes of things that have taken place since the recommendation was drafted.

So for number 28, the recommendation was that the ALAC should work with all RALOs and ALSes to map the current expertise and interests in

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their membership to identify subject matter experts and facilitate policy and communication.

Now, in response to this, I know we've all been through this a number of times, there was a survey that was put together. It basically looked at the different capabilities in RALOs, usually interpreted by individual ALS representatives that responded and that basically says, "Well, what's our profession? What's our specialization, etc.?"

So we are seeing here there's a table of some of the results. You've also gotten links to the different results by RALO, result analysis from the LACRALO chair and secretariat –thank you. And just a few key findings underneath where there is a diversity of professions that exist in the different RALOs, whether there are some RALOs where most members belong to the technical area or engineering, like EURALO, AFRALO, and APRALO.

In one RALO, they are part of social sciences – LACRALO. Most members of the RALO are specialized in Internet governance issues, which is to be expected I guess. LACRALO, EURALO, AFRALO, and APRALO, domain names are in the second place.

And finally, it is necessary to prepare a new survey in the future to obtain more detailed information from members of the RALOs. Also, it is relevant to have as many answers as possible.

Now, admittedly, I guess with some RALOs, there have been other previous surveys that had been drafted, so they might have a bit more information than others. But you can see on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November last year, it was mentioned that it's important to prepare a new survey to

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obtain more information from At-Large members. And professional help may be needed. The survey should not only include ALS representatives, but also members in the ALSes. Because the idea is to find out not only the knowledge of the [inaudible], but the inside knowledge or in-depth knowledge that some of the ALSes might have.

So that's where we are now. I can certainly report on what EURALO has been discussing and talking about, but it's pretty much impossible – well, I don't quite know what the other RALOs are doing. It would be interesting to have an update on this.

As far as EURALO is concerned, we are about to – we're basically working to get some kind of a taskforce that will be looking at this, looking at the past surveys that we have done, and also perhaps asking further questions. So we either build a new survey and ask those questions or we look at the past surveys that we've sent out, analyze those, and effectively start building a database of the knowledge that we have in our respective At-Large Structures. We're basically putting together a taskforce that will work on this. That's the thing in EURALO.

Let's see what's happen in the other RALOs. Alberto Soto, you're the first one in the queue, so you have the floor.

ALBERTO SOTO:

Thank you very much, Olivier. As far as I know, the last time we spoke about this issue, we agreed upon the fact of professionalizing the creation of the drafting of the survey. And we agreed upon the fact that we had to decide how to create a survey, not only because we want to know something from the members of the ALSes, but we of course have



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to learn about the members. And we have ALSes with, for example, 50 members, but we have other ALSes with more than 700 ALSes.

So I think that the action item had to do with finding out a professional person so that he can provide guidelines for us to deal with this survey. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Alberto. You're very correct. This is the one with the action item where Heidi is to contact ICANN staff in regards to a professional survey creation and report back to the RALO secretariats with regards to the progress.

I'm just sharing what EURALO is doing informally at the moment to try and enhance whatever participation we have locally, and so I gather from your response that LACRALO is waiting for the professional help to build that survey.

I do agree that it would be a good thing if all of the RALOs were using the same survey. Obviously it does probably make sense to wait until we have some help on this one.

I note from the chat that Glenn McKnight is saying NARALO had very little participation. No one... Not one group is interested in the survey, so I gather that... It really depends on how one asks the questions, I guess. A professional survey will probably help more. I find it very bizarre that organizations would not be interested in sharing their knowledge or at least utilizing the resources. Or maybe it's another reason.

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Let's see. Glenn McKnight, you have the floor. In the meantime... I cannot hear Glenn. Glenn, you might be muted. In the meantime, there appears to be a problem on the Spanish channel at the moment.

GLENN MCKNIGHT: Okay, I'll try again. It's Glenn.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Hello, Glenn. Welcome. We can hear you now.

GLENN MCKNIGHT: Okay. I think the last time we did the survey I think very little participation... I think it went out in the summer and I think it had very little impact. I think there were seven people that responded. I don't think it was much one could derive on that. We could try it again, but it clearly needs more work.

We did a survey on the recent IEEE events. We had 360 members who [inaudible] very, very expensive survey. We had maybe six people respond. I did an extensive survey for the showcase at ATLAS II. Almost nobody responded.

So I'm not going to hold my breath on the results of this survey. I wouldn't put a lot of stock to it. That's just my personal opinion, [inaudible] experience.

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OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much for this, Glenn. Just as a quick response here, if we do not have responses to surveys, how would it be possible to find out the kind of information that we're looking for here, finding out the resources, the talents, that we have in our community?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: I'm sorry, I'm only via phone, so I cannot raise my hand.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yeah, thanks, Siranush. I'll put you in the queue, Siranush. At the moment, he seems to be muted again.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Okay.

GLENN MCKNIGHT: I'm not muted. I'd just give the job to the chair and secretariat. This is the secretariat call, right? So if we want to be effective with this, we are calling each of our ALSes anyway, even if we have a [inaudible], do a 10-minute, 15-minute phone call and try to glean the information out, if they won't respond to a survey. There's other ways to skin the cat.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay. Thanks for this, Glenn. It's an interesting way forward, getting in touch with the ALSes directly. That's a good point. Siranush, would you be able to respond to the question I asked just now?

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SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Go ahead, then. You can jump the queue, and then we'll have Alan Greenberg after you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you. For example, the idea of calling will not work for Asia-Pacific region. Last time we did a survey and we had quite high rate of responses, and we also had that question for identifying the expertise we have. And we have in percentage, [even] percentage, how many people found themselves professional in one topic or another.

So we already have this response, but if there is a need... And we have more ALSes that actually, for the last year, we had almost seven new ALSes joining APRALO. So we may go back to the new survey and this may work for Asia-Pacific to do a new survey if that will be the decision. That's all.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much, Siranush. Let's have Alan Greenberg next.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much. A couple of things. First of all, I recall that the last survey was attempting to find out what skills the ALS has, but in fact only asked the ALS representative.

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So first of all, we need to decide what we want, and if we're trying to find out what skills are present in the ALS, then it's not going to be sufficient to ask one person to answer on behalf of all of their members, and we have to look at some different methodology.

Glenn made an interesting comment. He said the IEEE meeting he was at had an extensive survey and only a few people answered. I think that's a message there. If you make surveys nice and short and sweet, you may be able to get people to answer. Clearly, it's not a guarantee. If you start asking long, involved surveys that take a lot of time, and perhaps research, for people to answer, your chances of getting good answers are close to zero, I would think.

I think it's a combination of deciding what information we want and then trying to find an appropriate vehicle that can actually be implemented to get that. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Alan. Next is Humberto Carrasco.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Thank you. I believe that there are two relevant topics at stake. First of all, not everybody has time or is willing to reply to a survey or participate in a survey. Therefore, perhaps we might try to find a way of reaching out to people, promote the survey, and encourage people to participate. Maybe we can get, I don't know, something like an Amazon gift card for example – something along those lines – to encourage participant engagement.

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Of course, yes, people do not have time or are not interested, but we need to create or arouse that interest. And of course, yes, we do need to come up with short surveys that are not very time consuming. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Humberto. Next is Alan Greenberg.

ALAN GREENBERG: Sorry. That was a hand that should've been lowered.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay. Thanks, Alan. It seems to me that the survey works for some regions, but the survey doesn't work for other regions. And calling works for some regions and calling does not work for other regions.

So really, maybe what we have to do is to use several ways to reach out, where a single method doesn't work – each RALO knows better how to interact with its ALSes. We can build the survey, because we definitely, from the survey, need to know what is the information that we want. But then the survey itself can be administered in a different way. Some RALOs can call their ALSes. Others can e-mail the ALSes separately and ask a subset of the questions or the questions in an exchange of e-mail. Others can just point the ALSes to the online survey. I think that's probably what we have.

The reason for having the survey to start with, though, is to basically have the list of questions written down so we have consistent answers

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across the different RALOs that we know from that what information we want. I think that's the summary of what we've been discussing here, or at least what I understood from it. And that first step, obviously, needs to work with the help that we can see if Heidi is able to bring that help forward.

Glenn mentioned create a special interest group to provide feedback on the survey approach. We can certainly do that. I thought that the Outreach & Engagement Working Group could probably work on this. But if the secretariats wish to put together a special little group, then that's fine.

Okay. I don't see anyone... Yes, Siranush, you have the floor.

**SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:** I would like to agree with what you have suggested. There should be for sure a survey and each RALO can decide how to promote, how to inform, how to find out the way to reach ALSes. So this will be the best way.

**OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:** Okay, excellent. Thanks, Siranush. Let's move on. Time is ticking very quickly in this call, unfortunately.

The next one is Recommendation #31, ICANN and the ALAC should investigate the use of simple tools and methods to facilitate participation in public comments, and the use of crowdsourcing.

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There was a lot of work done in this. It's still marked in progress. There was work done by the Social Media Working Group, by the Technology Taskforce, and the RALO chairs are of course involved in this as well.

The action item at the moment is that the Social Media Working Group and the Technology Taskforce are to continue their investigation of better tools. They have been looking at many different tools that are out there, but I can't say that we've found the universal panacea – quite far from it. We've seen some of the ones that are helpful and the other ones that are less helpful.

I just wonder whether we should have this as a hard stop or something that is ongoing in saying that the Technology Taskforce, in particular, is constantly looking at new tools and is constantly trying to find new ways to get people participating.

I open the floor here for this recommendation, if you have any thoughts on this one, whether this should yield further results before being closed off or whether you think, as the RALO chairs and secretaries who are closest to the At-Large Structures, that saying that the Technology Taskforce will continue investigating new tools is a good ending point for this recommendation.

There's one thing to note, by the way. The facilitating the participation in public comments is something that is likely to improve as soon as we have our new website up and running with some much, much improved policy development tools. Certainly the commenting development will be good because there will be some searchable inventory of past comments, etc. So hopefully some better interaction on this.



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Let's see. I don't see anyone putting their hand up. Let's do a little quick poll with a green quick. Should we close this as saying ongoing with Technology Taskforce? Let's first hear from Alberto Soto.

ALBERTO SOTO:

Thank you. The issue is the following. When there is a public comment period, a new public comment period, there is a time window. The time window varies. In some cases, the time window is very brief or very short.

So my suggestion is that ALAC members should let us know anytime there is a topic which is likely to be posted for public comment. They should let us know well in advance because that would give us time for our own people to be trained to attend a webinar on the topic for public comment so that they can contribute their comments. Many times they do not post a comment because they are not knowledgeable on the topic being discussed.

So if ALAC members give us some notification in advance, we can engage in capacity building and participation at a later stage. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Thank you for this, Albert. That's a very good point that you're making. I think that probably relates much to the relationship that the RALO has with its ALAC members, and perhaps between the ALAC and the RALOs. That's a very good point that you're making. Question being how to cast this in stone. I think it's more a procedural implementation within the regions.

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When you come down to the point of having some webinars on the topics that are under discussion, that's a very good point, too. I know that for a couple of the longer types of consultations, such as IANA stewardship transition and ICANN accountability, there have been several webinars, actually, relating to the topic.

I think you should also be aware that there is the ability that in your monthly RALO calls, it is possible to have a short amount of time – 10 minutes or 15 minutes on a specific topic – if you have the time for it. I know that some RALOs have done that and have held some webinars on a separate topic to bring more people not only to the call but also let them know about a hot topic at the moment. We'll have more information on this page.

But to my question on whether we... I mean, these are recommendations that we can give to the RALOs, I guess, on the one hand. And recommendation to the ALAC. And at the same time, we can also close off this recommendation by saying that as far as tools are concerned and methods to facilitate participation in public comments, the Technology Taskforce has an ongoing brief for watching out for this.

Alan Greenberg?

ALAN GREENBERG:

Thank you very much. The work that's going on on ALS criteria and effectiveness, one of the things that's come out of that is that we, as the ALAC, as staff, as ICANN have to feed more information in an understandable way out to the RALOs and the regions and the ALSes.

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At that point, if there's a particular subject that touches people's fancy, then we need feedback from the RALOs saying this is something of interest. There's enough time left. Can we put on a webinar or something like that?

Finding out who's going to do that is always going to be a challenge. There are limited resources that are available from both volunteers and ICANN staff.

But the initiative has to come from the RALO. We put on webinars on a regular basis and the attendance is often very, very poor. We're not going to put on huge numbers of these unless we get some sort of confirmation that there is interest and it'll be a useful use of our resources. But given that, it's something we should do to get more detailed involvement.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much, Alan. Quick question for you. What about if, by luck, the public comment period starts just a couple of days before the RALO call? Is the possibility of having a last-minute, 5-, 10-, let's say 15-minute, update on what's going on more in-depth than just reading very quickly through the whole list of public comments. Just focusing on one topic, is that a possibility?

ALAN GREENBERG: Sure it is. I mean, it depends on whether we already have an expert, if that person's available for that timeslot. But I would think, typically, sure.

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OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, thank you. Alberto Soto, you're next.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you. As a matter of fact, we are doing that. We usually work in coordination with the GSE team, and if that coordination is not possible, if we have enough time, we ourselves reach out to knowledgeable speakers. So in our experience, this is working and we are reaching out to certain speakers for certain topics. We didn't want to – or we did not invite Holly as a speaker due to time zone constraints, but we did find another speaker – knowledgeable speaker – for one of our future calls.

This is the way we do it. We first try to reach out to the speakers, and if not, we resort to a LAC or the GSE team. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for sharing this knowledge, Alberto. That's helpful. We need to move on to the next recommendation quickly. That's number 42. There, ICANN should enable annual face-to-face RALO assemblies either at ICANN regional offices or in concert with regional events.

In response to this, the Finance & Budget Subcommittee has worked – and I have worked – on an overall table standing roadmap, which there is a link to I believe somewhere. No there isn't. Okay, that needs to be added. There is a link... It's a Google document. I have shared it with the Finance & Budget Subcommittee with the RALO secretariats a few days ago. Please bring in your input, your feedback, on this. It's helpful. I've had much input from some people.

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That's not the table. Thank you very much. That's a very old version of the table. It's an online document. Whatever you're going to open up that's in here is obsolete. It's a Google doc. Anyway, we'll have to add the Google doc after this call and you can have a good look at the different parts. I've sent the link to the secretariats.

Are there any comments or questions on this? The idea is to have a rotation of the calls and then a summit, and to take this out of the extra requests or the additional requests. As you know, last year we made two requests or even three requests and we're only granted one. We're trying to avoid this situation in the future. We're also trying to provide more advanced notice and planning for us, because for some regions, since the budget gets voted and agreed on in June, certainly the first region that has a face-to-face meeting at the end of the summer in October often loses out because they have so little time to prepare for their general assemblies. It's quite unfair for that region.

I don't see anyone putting their hand up. Let's move on.

That's number 43, the next recommendation. RALOs should encourage their inactive At-Large Structure representatives to comply with ALAC minimum participation requirements.

I can certainly share that in EURALO we are now looking at an outreach – an engagement, sorry, not outreach – an engagement taskforce that will be working with the RALOs. There is some likelihood that if we do come up with some... Why am I saying RALOs? With the ALSes – At-Large Structures. And if we do come across some inactive At-Large Structures, get in touch with them and they respond that they're not

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interested in getting more active, then it's quite likely that there will be some kind of a process to ultimately de-certify them, that there's no use carrying dead ducks around in the region. It's part of streamlining and enhancing the region's activities.

I don't know if any other regions have anything to share. Wolf Ludwig?

WOLF LUDWIG:

Just as a complementary information to what Olivier said already. In the past, in 2014, we unfortunately had to decertify four ALSes already. We tried to contact them repeatedly and gave them deadlines to respond, and after they didn't respond, we finally told them, "Okay, now it's over. You had your chance." And [inaudible] decertified just ahead of the London summit.

Meanwhile, we have another three candidates on our list which are not inactive, just didn't participate in the general assemblies or at the At-Large Summit II in London and they didn't show up for our last general assembly in Dublin.

So from at least two or three of them, we know that – we got a message that said they do not have the capacities due to personal changes, etc., in the organization. So we are working on this, and most probably we will have during 2016 some more cases what will be decertified. Thanks.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Thank you, Wolf. Next is Judith Hellerstein.

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JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: We started the process of decertification and we—

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Judith, I'm sorry, there's a terrible echo. Okay, try again.

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: So we started the process of decertification and we've already decertified about four ALSes. We had done outreach to the members and several of them have responded back to us saying they don't want to participate anymore and asked to be decertified.

We're still waiting. We sent other ones we haven't heard from and we sent them several reminders and we're still waiting. If they don't respond, we will then work on the process of decertifying them as well. So [inaudible] can hear me. I'm in the airport.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much, Judith. We can hear you. From what I understand, you get in touch with each one of the ALSes and you discuss their position with them and say, "Are you still interested in participating?" If they're not, then you start the decertification process.

I note Glenn McKnight has put his hand up.

GLENN MCKNIGHT: I'm calling in from my cell. I'm getting echo again. Can you hear me okay?

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OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yes, we can hear you.

GLENN MCKNIGHT: Okay. As Judith has mentioned, we didn't start the decertification process for people unless they explicitly stated they wanted out. And we asked them for an e-mail and that's what the [four] is.

We are nurturing as much as possible other people who are much more distant and detached, and we're finding out many of the people actually moved on. They've left the organization. And we're hoping to get new blood from the organization. But I think they were ignored for a long time.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay. Thanks for this. Let's move on. I don't see any other hands apart from Judith and Glenn. It's good to see that there is a process moving forward in the different RALOs. Perhaps we can have an action item. I think it would be interesting to share this perspective amongst our RALOs, maybe on the secretariat list. The action item is not an action item on the ATLAS II recommendation, but it's an action item for the secretariat call, that we could share this experience, what we are doing to comply with ALS minimum participation requirements and what our plans are.

Let's move on. And I apologize for the amount of time it's taken. We now have Wolf Ludwig who is going to provide us with an update. Actually, not an update because it's all through the secretariat call. Wolf



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is going to present you the work that he has done within EURALO and with EURALO on the public interest paper. Wolf Ludwig?

WOLF LUDWIG:

Thanks, Olivier, for the floor. For our last general assembly in Dublin, for the first part of it, we prepared a [content] based session concentrating on the public interest. I prepared a working paper, [inaudible] paper for this discussion to our member.

You may be aware that the term “public interest” repeatedly comes up in the [inaudible] call. And there are some constituencies for which term the public interest is quite important. And there are other constituencies, especially the business sector, who sometimes argue there is not such an animal like the public interest, or at least it is not defined and it has no particular meaning.

And for our members, and for our region, I prepared this table and I tried to phrase the origin, the meaning, and the political context of this term of the public interest by the past of the European region. And I also underlined in this paper that public interest is not so much a legal term or definition, but a political one.

On two pages, you can click here on the agenda and you can download the PDF. It’s a summary of two pages which was condensed from a long paper I had to write for [inaudible] last year.

The [fifth] table was discussed in Dublin GA in detail. We had an introduction and a sort of panel discussion including Bill Drake. Then this paper was approved by our members and it was said that we should

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continue this discussion on the regional level, and to create a working group.

Another idea was, as my paper is only concentrated on the European region, it would be interesting to know from other regions what connotations and what historical links does the term public interest have in your region. If there are any similar links or similar developments regarding this term, or whether it comes from a different angle, it would be interesting for us to know the situation and the context in your region.

Therefore, another idea was that we could probably – if there is enough interest from your side, we could also create an At-Large working group on the public interest. But this depends whether you consider this issue as an important one. Or you may think, okay, nice, interesting, but we have other things to do, we have other priorities. So I do not want to impose anything on you.

As mentioned before on the European level, at EURALO, we will continue this discussion and try to extend this working table. But if there is sufficient interest in your side in other regions, then it might be a good idea to think about the creation of an At-Large wide working group on the issue.

These are my introductory comments so far. I'm open to your questions.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Wolf. Alan Greenberg?

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ALAN GREENBERG:

Thank you very much. Looking at it another way, there was a really interesting session on the IGF this year on the global public interest. I'll put a link to the transcript in the chat. At the beginning of it, if you look at the transcript, there was a short introduction by Jeanette Hoffman that gave the perspective of background of the concept of public interest, and from a regulatory perspective which is very relevant to what the interest is within ICANN.

The meeting was quite useful in terms of ideas evolving through it, of how to go forward. And as some of you may know, there's already a commitment from ICANN to create some sort of cross-community group to look at either defining the public interest or at least understanding it more. That should be kicking off relatively soon.

In addition, the CCWG Accountability is putting in a requirement that we go forward and try to get a better idea of what the public interest means.

Personally, I don't really think we want to define it as a fixed [inaudible] definition, but I think we need to understand it more. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Thanks very much, Alan. Any other comments or questions? Wolf, did you wish to respond to Alan?

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WOLF LUDWIG: No. Thanks for your complements, Alan, what is a very useful and [inaudible] session at the last IGF in Brazil, which is also focusing on this issue. And it's a very important complementary piece of information. Yes, thanks a lot.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. That session, by the way, was led by Bill Drake. So there's a common thread through all of this work.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Excellent. Thanks for this information, Alan. Let me conduct a quick poll here, then. Is there support here to put together a working group on the public interest? You can answer by either typing in the chat or a little green tick. Alan Greenberg?

ALAN GREENBERG: My I guess gut feeling is to hold off a little bit, because once we find out what the plan is going to be for the ICANN-wide effort, we can have this focused to be to set up its charter or mission or scope to complement whatever is being done at the ICANN-wide one. So it may be worthwhile just waiting a little bit. My understanding is that is going to be kicking off sometime early this year. There will be a session, as you mentioned in the chat, at Marrakech and I think we're going to see something forming. Once the CCWG Accountability winds down just a little bit, not sucking all of the energy out of people.

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OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Alan. From what I understand then, how I interpret it is anybody who is interested in the input, bringing their input to the paper that Wolf is working on, please get in touch with Wolf directly and we'll continue in this. In the lead up to Marrakech, I know that Wolf will be in touch with public responsibility department to take part in the session in Marrakech on the public interest.

And I guess that once we've passed Marrakech, there will be a much clearer idea of where we can go, and if a working group can be built at that point.

So, thanks for this. We have two minutes left and we have a couple more things to do. First, we have to look at the FY17 requests. That's an important thing. I'm not sure whether we can have an extension, a five-minute extension? Gisella? In the meantime, I'll [inaudible].

As you know, at the end of the week, we need to have the fiscal year requests brought forward for this year. The additional budget requests. The idea here is to have a RALO Leader Development Session at ICANN 57. That would be... Let's see. Which one is ICANN 57? That's the meeting in Puerto Rico, the third meeting of the year. So it will be the annual general meeting in October/November. Sometime around that time of the year.

I guess this was really the case of wanting to review this request and whether there is full support here and see if there can be any... What do you call it? Any improvement on it. Okay, could we please have this request on the screen shared? My Adobe completely died. Have I been cut off? Am I the only person left in the world? That's a joke.

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SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Olivier, this is Siranush.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Please go ahead, Siranush. In the meantime, I hope that we'll have that document uploaded.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: I'm sorry, I'm only via phone, so I can't see the file. If you could send it to secretariat, please, that would be great for me to see and preview the document.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, thank you. Silvia, has this been sent yet?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Hello, Olivier. I do not believe it has been sent to all the secretariats, no. I don't [inaudible].

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Maybe it should've been shared before. Fine. Well, let's just very quickly go through it. So effectively, it's based on the success on the past work that we've done on this. There's certainly the work of the RALO chairs, the vice chair, and secretaries from the five RALOs are requesting a one-day RALO leadership development session for the [10] RALO leaders attending the Meeting C. It would be an additional day that could take

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place before or after the meeting. I think in Dublin it was after the meeting. It was on the Friday after the meeting – Friday or Saturday. On this occasion, we would be looking at having a session on the Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> of November between 9:00 and 12:00. And it would be to bring the RALO leaders together. There might be some new RALO leaders there. There might be some experienced RALO leaders there.

The whole strategic idea behind it is to further globalize ICANN and help the regions and the RALO leaders in the work that they're going to pursue. I think it's particularly important for those new RALO leaders coming in. It's always a bit of a cultural shock arriving there.

This is a pilot, so it would be a good experiment to find out if it would be helpful. It wouldn't include any travel support or anything. It just includes the funding of an additional day of hotel, basically.

There's some deliverables, obviously. That's all to see if the RALO and the critical cross RALO activities have improved. You can see that there are a number of metrics that are given there. The first one is improving the quality and quantity of intersessional [inaudible] and collaboration, increase collaboration and participation of the ten RALO leaders in their regular teleconference. And thirdly, increase awareness of the unique and common challenges faced by the RALOs. These are the three main metrics. Then there was a whole section on resource planning, timeline, assumptions, etc. So the preparation for this.

And there would be a need for a team-building trainer. That is someone from inside learning, probably, that would spend eight to ten hours on

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this. That might include a conference call beforehand or anything to lead up to the day.

There's a meeting room, and the whole work would be both interpreters in Spanish and in French as well.

Alan Greenberg, you have your hand up.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Thank you. A couple of things. Olivier, you said this would be an extra day, and then you said November 4<sup>th</sup>. The meeting runs to November 4<sup>th</sup> at this point. The C meeting is a seven-day meeting, Saturday through Friday.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

I haven't go the exact... Thanks for pointing this out, Alan. I don't have the calendar in front of me. I don't know if there is any preliminary agenda. I must've made that... It's Heidi that's been working on the specific [inaudible] with her team. I don't know whether that means it's a Friday, or if it's a Saturday then at that point.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Well, there's a couple of things. We have been told – and the rule may hold or it may change – that we are not allowed to do anything outside of the window of the formal ICANN meeting. So when Heidi and I have talked about that, we were talking about it from the perspective of a similar event this coming year for the ALAC members. We were told that if we want to hold it, we have to give up one of the days and do it



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instead of a regular work day. I don't consider that satisfactory, but that was the current answer.

So it's not clear right now if this development session, whether it's for the RALO leaders or the ALAC, would be on an eighth day following the seven day meeting or we would have to give up one of the meeting days to do that. That's not at all clear right now.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: What I would suggest, then – I don't see anyone else objecting to this session – but I would suggest that we then follow up by e-mail and follow up with staff and finding out what the exact timing is here.

I do realize we are six minutes beyond the official end of this call and we do have to wrap up due to the interpretation.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Olivier, just one comment.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Please go ahead, Siranush.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Very quick. I'm very in favor of this session, [inaudible] budget request. But I heard you said ten people, RALO leaders. In APRALO, we have chair and two vice chairs. So we would prefer the whole team to be at that session, if possible.

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OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay. Thanks for this, Siranush. We'll have to work this one out. Noted as well, then, and [inaudible] difference. [inaudible] point this out with Heidi on how that would work. Thank you.

Alan, you still have your hand up.

ALAN GREENBERG: That's an old hand, but I'll say what I was going to type. In the past, when we've looked at things like this, some people have said, "What? Another day? The meeting is too long already." And other people have said it's well worthwhile. So getting a feeling from you people whether indeed it is worthwhile or not is something that's worth talking about.

Regarding Siranush, it's true that some regions have more than two leaders, but we only fund two each meeting. So whoever is there are the ones that would be included. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Alan. I'd like to close this topic and go to number six, any other business, hoping that there isn't any. I certainly haven't got any on my side.

No further business, so thanks to the interpreters for having extended by an additional seven minutes. Aziz, thanks to you. We are all going to meet in Marrakech next. We look forward to it. I think the only thing I have to add is this call is now adjourned. Thank you and goodbye.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you very much. Bye-bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]