
GISELLA GRUBER:

...get the call started now. The recordings have started.

Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to everyone. Welcome to today's ICANN cross community committee on accessibility, formally known as the accessibility working group on Thursday the 25th of February at 21:00 UTC.

On today's call we have Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Judith Hellerstein, Gunela Astbrink, Maureen Hilyard, Glenn McKnight, Harold Arcos.

Apologies noted from Leon Sanchez.

From staff we have Heidi Ullrich, Ariel Liang, Laura Bengford, Jeff Salem, and myself Gisella Gruber.

If I could also please remind everyone to please state their names when speaking for transcript purposes. Thank you and over to you Cheryl.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Thank you very much Gisella. Hello to everybody, wherever in the world you are. I know many of you have done little more than attend meetings, it must feel like 24 by seven for the last week or so. And I appreciate you all finding time in your calendars for today's hopefully relatively brief but important punctuation of a call.

Primarily today, we'll be looking at our Marrakesh meeting agenda. And we do have however, a couple of very important updates, which I'm rather keen to get onto the normal, in inverted commas, record, so that we can obviously revisit them again when we meet this wider

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community in Marrakesh, but I am very keen to hear from at least two sectors on ongoing projects. I know that Judith will want to update us on what's happening with the captioning program, the captioning pilot program.

And also the application for ongoing, sorry, continuing pilot project funding for the next stage for this coming financial year. And I'm particularly keen to hear from Laura about what's going on with our website. So with that, what I might do is hand it first to Laura because I can imagine how truly busy staff are now because they're getting ready to get on airplanes and head off to Marrakesh. Laura, over to you for an exciting update.

LAURA BENGFORD: Yes, thank you Cheryl. Can you hear me?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: There is a little echo, but I think we can manage.

LAURA BENGFORD: Yes, I'm hearing the echo as well. Oh dear. I'll try to do my best. All right.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: [Inaudible] microphone, there we go [inaudible]...

LAURA BENGFORD: Yeah, I'm dialed in on the phone. Let me dial out, and I'll dial back in [inaudible] Cheryl.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: That's fine. But Laura, I think if you just make sure that your speakers are turned off or right down as low as you can get, that sometimes give feedback. Okay, while we're waiting to get Laura... Do you want to try now?

LAURA BENGFORD: Is that better?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Perfect. Absolutely perfect.

LAURA BENGFORD: Excellent, okay. A little bit of multitasking here. Thank you. This is Laura Bengford. I wanted to just give a quick update to the group. It has been very busy. You all probably know by now, we launched the new At-Large website yesterday. So we're getting really good feedback on that.

But as you know, the accessibility web efforts have been focused on ICANN dot ORG, and our practices and procedures here at ICANN. So what I wanted to just report briefly, and I know we're going to talk about the Marrakesh agenda, Cheryl, but we do have several materials

up on the digital services Wiki that came out as a result of our engagement with Simply Accessible.

I know Gunela and Cheryl, we had an email exchange last week about where we ended up with the At-Large website itself, and there are still some accessibility issues that we're going to need to address. But I think more importantly, and I'll just put a link in the chat here so you can take a look at the many, many reports that we have out there in terms of our accessibility efforts.

So I don't know if anyone is able to click on that and present that. But if you go on to the digital services Wiki, what we have been working on with Simply Accessible is a lot of testing and bringing in tools here at ICANN that will help us do a much better job in terms of websites that we develop and design and roll out.

And more importantly, help us in our remediation efforts. And so, if you look at the digital services pages, and I believe Ariel is going to assist in the effort for us to move some of those over to the accessibility working group place on the Wiki or at least point to this, so we have some good ideas on that.

But the process that we took was really around coming up with guidelines. So help our developers and testers from the get go understand how to design and how screen readers and other technologies that persons with accessibility issues have and be able to address those from the get go. We have the tools in place now.

We have guidelines in place now. And we also have all of the issues that came out of that process integrated into our development process and

system where we have a backlog so we can go out and fix them. The other capability that was important and part of this effort was to be able to measure progress.

And so part of the tools include the ability to continue to run these scans over time so that we could measure progress. The initial scans that we did scan approximately 5,000 pages between the ICANN and the At-Large website, and out of those, we have roughly 300 issues in total and we have them all categorized by what area in terms of the accessibility it addresses.

So that is kind of the update from the website. It's a lot of progress but we still have a ways to go in terms of remediating those efforts, but the entire team, in going through all of the training, which we do have up there on the Wiki, it looks like we're having some challenges in loading it up. Oh, there we go.

I just wanted to kind of point you to where they were currently. So if you click on accessibility there, and then this talks a little bit about the project, but if you scroll down to delivery, I've been trying to organize them in a fashion that is easy to read. There you go. So you can see, we don't have to click on all of them today, but you'll see the various guidelines that we have there.

There is many tools and guidelines in terms of how we deal with forms and [inaudible]. There is testing guidelines, and we did receive some very good advice on focusing on keyboard image and form. There are some technical guidelines as well as how to caption a video. Some of

these are kind of standard, but some of them are very specific to what they found on our website and how we go about it.

The training videos are very, very large. So they're still coming. I'm having some difficulty, and Ariel and I can work together in getting those up to the Wiki because the files are large because they are training videos. But the idea is that they can be used on an ongoing basis. And then the results of all of our testing efforts.

There is mountains and mountains of data in there, and we've pulled that into our framework so that we can action on those, and in fact, we already have. You may have seen changes recently on ICANN dot ORG and At-Large since we've been trying to all image texts and alternative ways to look at visuals.

And then there is a final report presentation out of our visit a few weeks back. And that has some really good information in it as well. So Cheryl, just turning it back over to you and I know we're going to talk about the agenda. I can certainly put a presentation or a couple of slide decks together and also Simply Accessible is also available to join remotely and share some of their findings directly with the group, if that is what is desired.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Thank you Laura. It's Cheryl for the transcript record. And that is music to my ears, both this update and taking us through the materials. And I'm wanting to thank staff, Gisella and Ariel for managing to get that display in a relatively timely manner. Thank you ladies. I think you'll find that all of us in this meeting will be very keen to go through all of

that material, and I can imagine that you will be ready to take any feedback and additional suggestions that we have.

And I've noted that Glenn, for example, is popped in another requirement into the link regarding, link in the chat regarding captions. So we probably also need to make sure that we have some form of person or in address or repository where other materials can be sort of funneled in an intelligent way so we keep up to date on everything.

I think it would be wonderful if we can have a bit of a presentation put together for our Marrakesh meeting. I think that the attendees at Marrakesh will see what's being achieved here today, and the work was simply accessible and they will be more than welcome to join us remotely of course, providing of course the room is set up for that, and I'm sure Gisella will get that in hand.

I know she's going to be on the ground early next week so she can double check a few different things and get [inaudible]. The opportunity to show the wider ICANN community where just, and I'm putting that in inverted commas, we've come so far on the web space accessibility matters, I think will be quite heartening, but I think what we might also do is make the point that by going through these exercises, ICANN taking these all very seriously indeed, it's increasing the skill sets ICANN wide.

It's awareness raising ICANN wide. And of course, it's building specific resources within the staff matrix in ICANN that will allow all sorts of accessibility matters to be improved in the future. I see Gunela, and over to you Gunela with either a question or a comment.

GUENLA ASTBRINK:

Thanks Cheryl. This is Gunela Astrbrink. Look, I just want to congratulate Laura and Ariel and so many in the team that have worked hard to create increased accessibility for ICANN dot ORG. And we recognize that there is some work to be done, but I think the process has been very positive. And if we scroll down just on the page a little bit for lessons learned, I think they are really useful with all reactions to the building of accessibility in the website.

And one that I'm very heartened to see is bullet point three, building accessible website generally results [inaudible] website. So in other... And I suppose it's something that I've often talked about is that if you build an accessible website, it actually is on the universal design [inaudible], better for everyone because it might be more intuitive to you, it's better to navigate, it makes more logical sense, and it works.

So that's great. And also in regard to that a lot of ICANN staff involved in development, now understand a bit more about accessibility and that [inaudible]. And I think what's important with this process is that not only are we building an accessible website, but we are maintaining them. And that is often the challenge.

And if you can embed accessibility in the understanding of development staff, that really is very positive, and also about the procurement in the future. Procurement is something that I've done a lot of research in, so all in all, I think this is great. And my suggestion is, if there is a presentation in a more [inaudible] meeting, other than the accessibility working group about the changes to ICANN dot ORG, if there is, it would

be great to also discuss that accessibility has been a key part in the development process.

So I would like to present that as a question. Thanks.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Thank you Gunela. And I must say, I'm highly suspicious that you'd be very pleased to hear the mantra of universal design finally being a listened to a little more widely. It's been what? How many years now you've been encouraging so many organizations [inaudible] to remember that very important thing, that it's not just for the, in inverted commas, educators and smaller communities.

It is in fact building a better model all around. So I'm hoping, because I know Gisella took great care to try and find the time which hopefully will be humane for you to attend, [inaudible] I thought it would be more like 25, but yeah, 24 years of work. Look, it's an overnight success. It's bloody taken 24 years to get here Gunela.

But I do think Gisella did her best to try and find a time for our accessibility meeting in Marrakesh to be one of the humane times for you to attend. And if possible, some of those points you've just made with us today, if you are able to attend remotely, I would certainly like you to echo again with the other group.

Jeff, over to you.

JEFF SALEM:

Thank you. Jeff Salem for the record, user experience designer here at ICANN. This is my first time meeting with the accessibility working group, so I just wanted to very, very briefly touch on a subject and that is accessibility versus usability. The distinction between the two, even though there is a lot of overlap.

And so, I guess I would articulate the differences, accessibility are, it's more of a quantifiable, you can certainly test it more quantifiably. There are kind of known solutions, as we're seeing here, to problems. Where usability is more kind of a subjective [inaudible]. And so usability relies heavily on user testing.

And so while we are, I think, very buttoned up now, or on the path to be very buttoned up accessibility wise, I just wanted to basically say that, over the next year, we'll be focused on usability as well. And as we're building a foundation, a new foundation for our sites to build on, over the course of the next year, we're going to be developing processes and standards for implementing usability testing in the future.

So that all of our website enhancements are informed on quantifiable testing. And a little less subjectivity on where we want to...

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Jeff, thank you so much for that. This is Cheryl for the record. This is something that's saying to me that what is happening is what was articulated by our chairman, Steve Crocker several years back when we started talking to him by the very early days of the accessibility working group.

And his view was, well, was kind of a no-brainer, all of this just has to get bagged into the DNA, the organization. And this type of usability aspect of this whole process is part of that happening. And that's been excellent. I think we might have a couple of issues with audio, and I'm sure Gisella is sorting that out.

And with this, recognizing this, I don't want to hold up, so if people are missing a little bit of this meeting, there will be the recording, there will be the transcript. So I'll ask you to go back over and get the material sorted out. It looks to me like we somehow lost the AC line into the system, rather than the phone lines are still up and running by the sound of it.

So I'm going to just continue on. I'll have to give you a couple of minutes to [inaudible] Gisella, the gremlins [inaudible]. Okay. So yeah, Maureen is concerned that she's definitely [inaudible] AC, and not in the phone line. Laura is learning the hard way why we have to have redundancies within the system. We can't just rest on our laurels.

Thank you very much Gisella. I can only imagine what was happening in the back room there while I was [inaudible]. As ever, Gisella has got us well organized almost seamlessly. The idea, of course, is well hang on, you've got an Adobe Connect room, [inaudible] it is, [inaudible] should be fine. We always need to build redundancies into. So this is good.

I'm looking forward to hearing a lot of this again. I [inaudible] listening to excellent news and progress more than once, so those of you on this call will get a second helping of a lot of what we heard in this update during our Marrakesh meeting, but I think it will be a very pivotal point

in our, I guess, also to increase awareness as to why accessibility matters, and put that in quotation marks, for ICANN.

With that, I just wanted to take a couple of minutes, I know we're a little bit behind schedule, but we can reduce some of the time devoted in some of the other agenda items. I've got [inaudible]... To ask first of all Judith, and then I'll move to asking Glenn, to just articulate some of things they've been mentioning in the chat. Judith, if you can give us a brief update on the captioning pilot, both where it is to date, and where we hope it will be going through to [inaudible] support in the near future. Over to you Judith.

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN:

Sure. This is Judith Hellerstein for the record. So the captioning pilot started, we started in English. We had one month only so far because we, unbeknownst to us, the cost of the ICANN meeting in March, we cannot do a captioning pilot during March. So we're asking for an extension of the pilot so that we could have April and May, and not end in April.

It's always a little confusing. We started much later than we had planned, but anyway. So the first month we went, we I had gotten full requests. We made three of them, and I don't, I know the surveys were not done at the time, but they were done by email. And I'm only noticing, I think, I'm not sure if the surveys were done for each group.

I know in [inaudible] of the survey, but I wasn't sure, I know there was supposed to be a webinar, and I don't know how that went. And I don't know how the other one went either. So those were supposed to be

scheduled, but I don't know whether they happened or not, but maybe staff can tell us about that.

But of the NARALO meeting that we had, it went really well. We had AC problems, audio connect problems in that meeting for some people, but because we had the captioning, everyone could follow along. And even though the Adobe Connect audio dropped several times, everyone thought that the captioning really helped them to keep getting engaged, and they could actually follow along.

So it was very helpful to people, and they responded, we got very good results in the survey. And I know staff has run some statistics on the survey. And so my only, I have looked at them, they're good. Question... So that's pretty much that on the survey. We have put in a special request for a continuation of the pilot, and we also want to expand the pilot to Spanish and French.

We had gotten some requests for Spanish despite telling everyone it was only in English, people still requested Spanish. So we would love to try to make that happen. And I guess that's pretty much it. If they want, if people want to get, during the pilot their working group captioned, they have to email staff, and ask for that, and they can put it on a list.

And we just, who is on the list by the end of the month. So that is the procedure. So please spread that around to all of At-Large and that way people can get it captioned. Thanks.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Thank you Judith. Cheryl for the record here again. I'm very pleased. I know there was a delay in getting started, and I know that with all of these pilot things, particularly those that are dependent on existing meetings putting themselves forward to part of the pilot program, things never go quite as quickly as one might have drawn in your project plan to begin with.

But I for one, am perfectly pleased and delighted with the progress so far with the captioning program, as a pilot. And I am hopeful that in fact the, on continuing something to extend into other language, and to continue on this pilot as a proof of concept will come through. I think regardless of whether that does come true, and I have no reason to believe that it wouldn't, but I think regardless the pilot to date has already shaken out, I think, significant benefit, both certainly from the meetings that have been captioned so far.

And of course, captioning per se is not a total stranger to ICANN, because it's captioning during its major meetings. But I think that probably makes the, inverted commas, sell of the concept even a little bit easier. I think, it's a timely point when I was going on about the redundancies and the importance of redundancies surrounding meetings communication, etc. to hear that specifically the NARLO call in the pilot did have gremlins in the system, and that the continued captioning in the pod allowed for a more seamless run to be run because it could pick up the slack for everyone involved in the call, regardless of whether or not they had connectivity and audio issues.

And of course, that's something that many in our community are aware of, but we do have to have proof of concept and thank you and those

who are assisting you specifically in this captioning pilot program to keep this good work going. Now Gunela, I wanted to go very briefly to you. You popped a couple of things into chat, including, I must remind everybody, a link to the survey from the NARALO meeting, which Judith talked about.

And I'd also like to ask if one of the staff, whether it's Ariel, or Heidi, or Gisella, can answer Judith's question as to whether or not some of those other meetings have gone through the captioning pilot? Is there any information from staff first of all?

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Hi Cheryl, this is Heidi. No, we would need to get that information, and I'll see if we can get that during this call. Thank you.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Heidi, Cheryl here. Whilst I would appreciate you getting this information, I'm not going to die in a ditch over it being on this call, but we will be revisiting the captioning pilot program during our Marrakesh meeting. So perhaps it could be something that is at our fingertips for that presentation, which will only be a very brief review. It won't take any longer than it has today, but I think it would be good if Judith can quote some of those additional, whether or not [inaudible] or otherwise.

So it doesn't matter if it doesn't happen in the next 10 minutes, but as long as we can have it to Marrakesh, that would be great. Judith is that an old hand before I go to Jeff?

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: It's a new hand. So, my question then is, if for some reason, those do not happen because there were no webinars, the webinar didn't happen on time, or something like that, what is the procedure? Because I know we paid for three months. What is the procedure then, if we don't use all three, and could we have used them for something else because we were not told they were not happening?

So maybe staff can address that issue as well.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Cheryl again for the record. Judith, excellent follow-up question, and that is something that's important to the administration and the reporting on the pilot project. So again, I'm not suggesting that that needs to be answered in the next 10 minutes, but that is certainly something we would like to have the information about in advance of the Marrakesh meeting, so thank you for that.

Gunela, is there anything that you wanted to put to the audio record that you popped in chat?

Gunela is typing, she may not have audio. No? Okay, fine. Well, thank you for your continued contribution Gunela. I know, along with Judith, you've been a mainstay of what a lot of what's going on with accessibility out of the North American regional area. But I did want to say to the audio record, that of course, as you put in, and yes, I'm about to stress that it must be [inaudible], is that within the regional outreach pilot program, the CROPP program funding this year for North American

region, NARALO announced amongst its trips, has put in specific consideration for outreach for persons of disabilities groups within their region.

So that certainly was good to see as part of the CROPP program review team, but it certainly means that as with that, as you're saying, two trips being hopefully supported, we will start also encouraging into our community at least as At-Large structures, more persons where accessibility is of prime importance for them to contribute to the work of ICANN.

Sorry about the background noise of dogs playing, but they are only puppies and I can't really go and yell at them. They're just babies really, they're only seven months old. So, with that I'd like to move on to the next agenda item, which is looking at our Marrakesh meeting agenda. It is in front of you, as you know, agenda so these things do need to be put in advance so they get enshrined into the websites and the printed materials, etc. that go along with these meetings.

So this is a fairly generic and early version of our agenda. I think the text in the agenda is going to be flexible enough that we can probably pop pretty much into what we want into any of those spaces. So if we can, I'd like to quickly review now what we have, thank you very much for pointing that out, on screen on the shared screen, what we had planned for our Marrakesh meeting agenda.

I know that we're going to have a flexible presentation about working with Simply Accessible and with the websites upgrades and updating. We know we can [inaudible] a bit more about [inaudible]. I wanted to

open up also so we don't we forget accessibility also means in other forms of communication publication. And I know that, I'm very confident is that the ICANN staff involved [inaudible] will be more than keen to work with us on those things.

But I also, excuse me, also wanted to raise, at the Marrakesh meeting, some of the ICANN meeting accessibility issues, the general meetings. We certainly should look at where some challenges may still be happening in face to face. I won't raise them now, but I can assure you there is still a few holes in the administration system in terms of what, for example, happened when a person with particular specific needs articulates those needs on the application to attend an ICANN public meeting, and then what happens with that implementation.

So we still have a little bit more work to do, but [inaudible] have a full frank and fearless discussion about that [inaudible] Marrakesh will be an ideal situation for having a full, frank, and interesting conversation on some of the face to face meeting aspects. And under there, where I've looked at online, I specifically wanted to make sure we have that captioning pilot program get a little [inaudible] there for reporting and discussion as well, and it may be Judith that out of that [inaudible] interest for parts of the ICANN community beyond At-Large to be engaged with the captioning pilot program, particularly to get some continued support over this next financial year.

Pardon me. We will have [inaudible] onsite and time permitting, I'd like to spend almost half the meeting, if possible, a third if not, looking at exactly [inaudible] aim and objectives are as an ICANN wide community of interest accessibility. And I guess we should start also saying

accessibility and usability thanks to the work of people like Jeff. With the final moments, it's something that's almost [inaudible] hanging under our head, and I don't think we'll have a full 10 minutes of it. We have, of course, got our cross community Wiki space.

It is [inaudible] in terms of inter-development, but there have been a lot of very good reasons, and that comes down to the [inaudible] which is the humans involved. Both staff and volunteers have been stretched to the max on a number of major projects, not the least of which [inaudible] are coming towards a breathing space which the launching of the At-Large website that's going through some human time from the staff perspective.

So I'm looking forward to working Ariel into a little bit more, now on to the cross community Wiki space, when she has five to 10 minutes to spare in her busy day. But I would also point out that, from a volunteer point of view, many of the people who put in the hard yards on these things have been stretched to the max with the cross community working group on both the transition away from NTIA and the stewardship and of course, the one on accountability.

And there have been heroic efforts and that's why our poor little Wiki has just labored away, as she was last time you looked. That we'll take a moment to say, we really need to do a venture on that. So if there is any comments and suggestions for the agenda, I'm sure we can tweak the agenda, not in its published form but in its actual form to compensate.

I do note in the chat that the face to face meeting isn't going to be captioned, and it goes back to with what Judith was saying, under the pilot could come to our face to face meeting. These are growing pains, team, we will get there. And I'm not personally truly disappointed about that.

And I'm going to ask Gisella to [inaudible] participation will be set up. Gisella?

GISELLA GRUBER: Hi Cheryl. Can you hear me?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Yes we can.

GISELLA GRUBER: Remote participation for the accessibility work group call in, sorry, I didn't use the name, in Marrakesh, I will send out the details to the working group ahead of time. And the win one picks on the main schedule on the, sorry, on the main ICANN schedule, on the website, all the details will be available there and live streaming will be available.

As I said then, I will send an invitation to the accessibility working group as well, and we will have an Adobe bridge so people will be able to join remotely, as well as through the Adobe Connect room, and we will have the cameras, as we usually do, in our ALAC sessions. Thank you.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you. I appreciate that Gisella. It's Cheryl for the record. Glenn is pointing out that the work that Satish did in Brazil is really good, as it shared the practice technology. Glenn, I am not aware of the Moroccan special needs group being invited. And I am aware of the complexity of inviting groups with room sizes and with other facilities, not the least of which is to have all of the security checks, etc. for everyone coming in.

They will have to be pre-walked in, etc. I am not aware of that. I will ask however, Heidi and Gisella to ask out African contingent who are working on the ground with the various outreach activities, whether or not that is something that has been looked at and we will get back to you on the answer to that question.

Not that I know of anyway. [CROSSTALK] Sorry, what was that?

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: I have a question as well.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Yes, I was going to get to you. I was just clearing the backlog of what was happening in the chat. Over to you Judith.

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: All right. So, I don't know... It's Judith for the record. So what Glenn was also mentioning was that the IP or the council working group on international Internet public policy, held an open consultation last week on accessibility issues. They held two consultations. One was a virtual, online, open consultation. It was held over two months, they got 49

responses. 21 were from governments, six were academia, a bunch were for private sector.

They had an extremely robust conversation there. On the 16th, on the 15th they had a physical open consultation, where they had two series of panels all day long. All those panels, the webcasts, the full transcripts, are on the website that I put in the chat. And they had... Not only did they have captioning, but they also had sign language.

And so they did a [inaudible] of Andrea [Sacs] helped them set it up. Everyone knows that Andrea is like the queen of accessibility. And so, I would suggest people take a look at the website I put in the chat where you could, with that link you can download the transcripts. You can watch the live screen.

You can download the presentation. All those links should not require any special accounts. They are meant to be open to everyone, that is the whole purpose of that group. And that open consultation which was a huge effort, and so I would have people take a look at that because it's a lot of great responses, and a lot of great effort has been put into that.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you for that update. If there was a question in there, I think... Was there a question in there as well Judith?

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: The questions people are asking in the chat about best practices. And so that, I would point them to that open consultation because they is a

lot of best practices there. I guess my only, the other thought. The only question would be a staff question on, why we can't have some of the meetings in the, at Marrakesh, in the pilot? And they have contracting issues, but I don't know.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: That will be noted by staff, and I'm sure we'll get the answer to that question, Judith. And it is a sub-part or an additional part to the action item of getting back to you and us on some other questions you raised earlier in this call.

It is, after all, a matter of contract issues and things like that. Gunela, over to you.

GUNELA ASTBRINK: Yes, thanks Cheryl. This is Gunela Astbrink. The issue about, there are a couple of issues. First of all, planning well in advance to invite disability groups to attend. The only one that I recall where this happened was in Singapore 2014, where there was, I think, two representatives from a Singapore disability advocacy organization. And there was a need to have a sign language interpreter, and that was done.

I know that took a little bit of organizing, but we did that, well staff did that. I think Kevin Wong did a magnificent job in organizing that. So it really needs planning ahead. It needs also to find the suitable organization, also to clarify why it's important for that organization to send a representative, because disability organizations are very stretched with resources, and they need to understand that the part of

ICANN is something where they can help influence when it comes to the Internet community.

Because if you start explaining what ICANN does, it sounds very esoteric for a disability organization that is concerned about grass roots matters. So if you get all of those things organized well in advanced, it's going to really make a difference. And so I think, I can't remember what is the meeting after Marrakesh?

And if that meeting can then, we can really focus on that as one of the activities to say, okay, we identify the disability organizations, find out what the representatives need to participate, explain why its beneficial for them to continue participating. So maybe they are some of the things we need to plan for the future. Thanks.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Thanks Gunela. Cheryl for the record again. Yes, as Gunela has pointed out, and this is a function of this meeting in Marrakesh being the very, very first of the new meeting strategy style. This is what's called a B meeting, which is a shorter meeting, and which specifically has, written into its design, so to speak, a specific component of outreach.

Now this would seem to be an ideal start off meeting for doing exactly what you've just outlined, but this time around, the focus has been on NGOs. Now that doesn't mean it couldn't or shouldn't be an accessibility or disability group that is also a NGO in the area, but I do know that a great deal of effort has been put into developing programs.

Many of which, I would hasten to add, has to happen [inaudible], because of the invitations that we have in the actual [inaudible] area itself. So for example, on the activities for NGO interactions that the African organizers have worked out, they're bringing in [inaudible] ...it's only a half a dozen representatives from NGOs in the region. And they will be in the mornings and put through a capacity building style activity.

The other part of outreach that the At-Large community particularly able to organize and again, just come out of the African organizers. We have, I think it's 60 university students, not from a single area of interest, but from a single campus in [inaudible], joining as ordinary delegates, but specifically delegates who are going to be shadowing and working with activities with activities within ALAC and At-Large.

And I believe they are part of this capacity building activity that will be going on in the mornings, and along similar lines and in some cases, hand in glove, with what goes on with the fellows. And finally, offsite outreach has been one of the primary things that the African organizers being able to manage for this meeting wouldn't necessarily have to be offsite because of the logistics complications that I've outlined earlier to you.

And so on Tuesday, at least half a dozen, but possibly more than that number of people will be bussed out from ALAC and At-Large to a local university in At-Large, where they will spend the afternoon as presenters and interactions in a forum with again, a cross campus selection of students. [Inaudible] indicated that they have an interest in ICANN, and would be the types of young leaders who will be able to

further engage with ICANN as an entity and contribute to a policy in the future.

So that's a long way of saying, if we agree, and prior planning both [inaudible] performance, but we also need to remind that not all participants for all meetings would be the same. And this particular B meeting has not been the easiest to work with logistically. So we'll see how it goes with the next one.

With regards to your question as to where the next meeting is, as Judith said, excuse me, as Judith said, it was supposed to be kind of a, you know, not going to be there. So right now, the answer is, what a good question that is. We'll find out, we all know.

Okay. I'd like to now, if I can, start to bring the agenda to a close. One of the things that I did ask about, is for your consideration, is probably will spend more time on this, and perhaps in our meeting in Marrakesh. Obviously we are holding periodic meetings in each of the public meetings, [inaudible] our face to face meetings.

This has become a good principle, and one that I think we would all agree we would continue. But I also need you to think about now we are a wider group, excuse me, how much of our work could and should be done with periodic meetings [inaudible] meetings that are, in inverted commas, inter-session, meetings that are like this.

Meeting may in fact be of an administrative nature, and whether or not these could be done primarily on list or on the Wiki. So that's more food for thought for you than anything else. I think it's part of what we would like to look at, if we have time in the Marrakesh meeting, how we

take our aims and objectives, and properly, and effectively, and efficiently further them, and that would include how we meet as a cross community interest group in the future and how we get this job done.

However, as we come to the top of the hour, I now like to call for any other business, if anyone has any other business.

Not hearing anybody and not seeing any hands up as yet in the Adobe Connect room, I would like to thank each and every one of you for making the time to attend this call. I know it has been a very packed agenda, but we did have a fair amount to cover. It will allow us, I think, to run a more streamlined and efficient meeting in Marrakesh.

And I look forward to meeting many of you there and hearing those of you who aren't traveling to Marrakesh, with remote participation during our cross community interest group, the call. Bye for now. And thank you very much staff. And those of you who are traveling, travel safely.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]