YEŞIM NAZLAR:	Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to everyone. Welcome to today's At-Large Regional Leadership Call, taking place on 12th of May, 2016, at 19:00 UTC. On today's call, on the English channel we have Barrack Otieno, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Wolf Ludwig, Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Holly Raiche, Siranush Vardanyan, Judith Hellerstein, and Glenn McKnight. Currently, we don't have anyone on the Spanish channel, nor on the French channel. We have apologies from Humberto Carrasco and Maureen Hilyard. And from staff we have Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, Ariel Liang, and myself, Yeşim Nazlar. Our Spanish interpreters today are Sabrina and David, and our French interpreters are Camila and Claire.
	And finally, I'd like to remind everyone to state their names while speaking, not only for transcript purposes, but also for interpretation purposes as well. Over to you, Olivier. Thank you very much.
OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:	Thank you very much, Yeşim. So we've got a Regional Leadership Call that's going to be dealing today mostly with the ATLAS II recommendations. It's been a long time since the At-Large Summit has taken place. So we'll try and close off on the ones that are on our desk at the moment. And after that, we have a discussion on the proposal for the multi-year planning of the At-Large face-to-face meeting. I have been told that unfortunately, Alan Greenberg will not be able to join with. But along with staff, we'll be able to go through the proposal.

So let's get going and start immediately with the review of the ATLAS II recommendations. As you know, there is an implementation group that has been formed post-ATLAS to not only flesh out the recommendations, which were sometimes cryptic, but actually implement them and allocate them to working groups, etc. And so some of these recommendations have been assigned to RALO chairs or to the RALOs themselves.

The first one on our list – and I'm hoping that this is probably one of the last times that we have to go through them and can hopefully close them off. The first one is as follows. "The ALAC should work with all RALOs and ALSes to map the current expertise and interests in their membership, to identify Subject Matter Experts, and facilitate policy communication." Just to remind you, it was all about trying to find out what knowledge we have in our community, so as to be able one day to only send the information pertaining to the knowledge of our ALS to a particular person. With the amount of stuff that goes through the mailbox, unfortunately, people tend to often do a mass delete when there's too much in there. So being able to target the right e-mail to the right person was obviously one of the reasons why we would really benefit from having a survey done.

Now, the last Secretariat meeting that we had at ICANN 55, so just a few months ago, Humberto Carrasco and Siranush Vardanyan were going to collaborate staff and lead the effort developing a professional survey for RALOs. As you have heard a little earlier, we are not able to get Humberto on the call.

Siranush, I wonder, do you have any update on this? And I realize this is not a very simple, straightforward thing to do. This is quite a big endeavor. So we might have to leave this on the back burner for the time being and let it simmer and percolate through, with help from everyone. Siranush Vardanyan, you have the floor.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Olivier. Can you hear me?

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

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Great. I think that the last discussion that we had in person, during our last meeting in Marrakesh, was that there was not very much interest from some RALOs, like NARALO. And we also said that APRALO has similar survey done on the region. So there was no step forward after that, and I didn't hear anything from Humberto as well, related to that topic. So nothing has been done in that aspect. I'm sorry.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, Siranush, that's no problem. As we noted, it was really Humberto that was leading the effort. And as you know, he's been working through the last few months of his PhD. So it's probably been a very busy time for him.

I note that Heidi has put her hand up. So, Heidi, you have the floor.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Thank you, Olivier. Just two options. One would be that now that Humberto will likely have less work, at least in academic terms, on his PhD, that he could start moving ahead with staff on the survey. And the other option would be that At-Large staff, as well as [Osan], who you all know, we're going to be beginning a ALS-cataloging project, which will be in terms to update all of the ALS information that we have and put it into one type of format.

And then part of this project will include [Osan] and others reaching out to the ALSes. So it might be, in terms of getting this information, just an extra question on either an e-mail or a call. So this might be a more simple way to proceed on this. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:

Okay, thanks very much for this, Heidi. That's rather good news, actually, I think. Certainly, developing a professional survey is pretty difficult endeavor for people who are not versed in the art of developing professional surveys. But if we already are contacting the At-Large Structures one-by-one and updating their details, etc., having this extra question as to, what knowledge do you have, what talents do you have in your ALS, would be interesting.

I guess, really, the only thing to discuss then is to think on whether we want this to be just a multiple-choice, tick-the-box thing, so they can basically pick any of the stuff that they're interested in, or whether we leave it to free writing and then people can write what topics they're interested in. And in the question, make it quite real that we're not

looking at just the knowledge of the ALS representative. We're looking at the knowledge, that there is people in the ALS perhaps that [it's their] star topic.

Heidi writes, she thinks multiple choice. Okay. Oh, and Heidi said – okay, fine. I swear to you I did not read what was in the chat when I mentioned this. So fair enough. So I note that there is a preference for multiple choice from Judith. So let's see. We'll just do it then as a multiple choice. And perhaps staff can work with me and with… I don't know if, Siranush, you want to be in this, and Humberto, and just choosing the different topics. Or we could even take the topics from our nomenclature that we have, the taxonomy that has been developed for our policy discussions. That's one part of the taxonomy. Of course, the other part of the taxonomy would have to be included with stuff that is not policy. So capacity building, the other topics. And this is why I think we might need the help of a few people to just develop just that one multiple-choice questions. And it's one where you can tick as many as you want, tick as many boxes as you want.

Are we okay with this? And that's probably likely to yield much better response than actually having long surveys sent to people. As it's been said, NARALO – and I see Glenn saying there's very little interest with NARALO on this survey. And I suspect that it's also the same in other parts of the world.

So okay, I note here, Siranush says she is okay with this, happy to help. And we'll keep Humberto in that, since he had volunteered for the last one.

Let's go to the next recommendation. Now, clearly, 28 is still not ready to be closed off, because the intent for this, just to remind you, was to get better knowledge of our ALSes and then be able to feed that into a process where we start using our Policy Management Process System – I think that's what we had called it – to be able to just get people to receive the information they're interested in.

The next recommendation is number 31, and that one is, ICANN and the ALAC should investigate the use of simple tools and methods to facilitate participation in public comments, and the use of crowdsourcing." I know that there were a lot of question marks as to what this really pertained to, who spoke about the use of crowdsourcing.

If I can remind you, back when this was drafted, I think a few months before that, Sally Costerton visited the ALAC and mentioned that she wanted to use crowdsourcing to involve more people than ICANN purposes. I think somehow the term has been left aside. It might have been picked up during the time when we had our At-Large Summit. I'm not quite sure this is really still the type of thing that this group wants to do. But certainly, the use of simple tools and methods to facilitate participation in public comments is, I would say, somehow continuing. We've got the Social Media Working Group, the Technology Taskforce continuing their investigation of better tools. We've got the Technology Taskforce that has discussed Recommendation 31. I'm not sure really what came out of that. Maybe anyone who was part of that call could provide us with some feedback.

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And then we've got, of course, the policy section of the new website. And I turn to you to voice any concerns or whether you think that having that policy section in the new website actually, either in whole or in part, satisfies the recommendation that we have here. So I open the floor, and I see that Glenn McKnight is in the queue. Glenn, you have the floor.

GLENN MCKNIGHT: Yeah, as I stated the last time we had a face-to-face discussion on this, now it sounds like Sally came up with the term on the crowdsourcing. I think, as then, as now, I think they're really not sure what they mean by the term. But in terms of this group that is responsible for this, the large majority of these people haven't really stepped forward, nor have we identified who is the person that really wanted to champion this. But from a Technical Taskforce…

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Have we lost Glenn?

GLENN MCKNIGHT: … [inaudible] again, the term "crowdsourcing" has been a bit of an issue, in terms of coming forward. So all I can suggest is that we can put it at the top of our agenda when our next Technical Taskforce, getting some definitive feedback from our working group. But I'd like to see the rest of those assigned people that were assigned to this to step up and say anything. I don't think any of them are on this call. But I'd be happy to bring it back to the Technical Taskforce [inaudible].

But I had a conversation with Dev this morning, and he says some of the glitches with it was that it was a technical staff issue, and it was a cloud issue. And so we didn't go any further with it, because we didn't have staff attached. So maybe I can go back and try to get some more clarity from Technical Taskforce.

That doesn't mean the rest of those people who have been totally silent on this can't step and say something as well.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Glenn. That's helpful. I really would like to start closing off some of these recommendations. Perhaps we can agree here that crowdsourcing is a nonstarter, just because it's not the way that we work. And then we'd obviously have to update the assignment to the RALO chairs, since some have changed. Wolf has been replaced by me, of course. Alberto Soto now is replaced by Humberto. And Garth has been replaced by you, Glenn. So that's the assignees now. That has to be updated.

And so perhaps we'll give the Technical Taskforce one last bite at this. And we can then hopefully close it off. This really is an ongoing thing. I don't think the Technical Taskforce will ever find the golden bullet that will completely resolve the whole thing of better participation and simple tools, and whatever ends they will. All the tools that we've ever had to look for have now been found. We finished this recommendation. Thank you. But certainly, the fact that the Technical Taskforce exists and continues to look for these tools, I think, can partially, if not fully, once we've gotten your approval, say that this

recommendation is complete. And there are constantly new tools that are being tested. So far, we haven't found the best tool out of the whole lot that will resolve all of our problems and make tea and coffee too. But still, we're getting there. We've got more tools. And the Taskforce continues to do its work.

I note that Heidi has put her hand up, and then I'll come back to you, Glenn. Heidi?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes, Olivier, thank you. I just wanted to note that I agree, Olivier, that this is probably in-progress/ongoing. And I have put the task of the TTF in the chat. And it basically is to do exactly what Recommendation 31 is asking. So again, I think that this really can't be marked complete; just ongoing. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, thanks for this, Heidi. And what you actually put in the chat here about the task of the TTF, has it been put somewhere on this page? Because I think that as we write our final report on this, we will just then say that this is the ongoing effort, and we'll put this verbatim in the final report.

Glenn McKnight?

GLENN MCKNIGHT: Yeah, it's not uncommon, with the Technology Taskforce, to look at new, shiny, new things and the "flavor of the day" sort of technology.

It's not unusual to do that. And we did sit down with the staff responsible for a range of…[inaudible].

We need to probably think of think of this, I think the idea is balance. I think it's just hung up on some of the semantics in the description. But to be honest, it's an ongoing deliverable that the Technology Taskforce [inaudible] tool, particularly tools that are valid in any kind of broadband, or lack of broadband, connectivity or any kind of platform, whether it be [inaudible].

So at this stage, like I said, this is not a big issue for us. It has probably not been a topic for the last few months. But again, I go back to the rest of the people on this group, that if they feel strong that this has a valid place for us, I'd be happy to work with them. But I haven't seen any comment.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, thanks very much for this, Glenn. That's very helpful. I think we're all in agreement on this. Let's then move to the next one.

The next recommendation is number 42. That's the enabling of the annual face-to-face RALO assemblies. So "ICANN should enable annual face-to-face RALO assemblies, either at ICANN regional offices or in concert with regional events." I think that this one, with the multi-year budget, could be one that we can tick the box and say, "Right, this is pretty much done." I guess the time we'll be able to sign this one off is if we get that multi-year budget approved. And if that's the case, then I would certainly say that this is one that is successful.

Let's have a look. We have Glenn McKnight and Holly Raiche. Glenn, you have the floor. Glenn, you might be muted. Well, you are muted. Oh, okay, it was an old hand. So let's go to Holly Raiche.

HOLLY RAICHE: Just a comment. When you say, "budget approved," my understanding, from the e-mails that Alan has sent, budgets are done year-by-year. But given the outcome of Alan's meeting, if we're part of the planning process, I would consider that once we're in the planning process, we can consider this done.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: That's correct, Holly. It's correct. The moment this rotation of general assemblies and summits actually goes into the ICANN main budget, it is quite unlikely that this would be changed in future years because of the fact that it comes in as a package, if you want. But the decision on whether this will be or will not be in the budget has not yet been taking. And as Alan said, we will learn about this, hopefully, in a month's time, when the Board makes a decision on this. Once the Board has made a decision, and if this goes as we intended or hoped that it goes, then I guess that this recommendation will be complete.

Siranush Vardanyan?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Just curious, and I don't know if I'm asking the right question, but if this multi-year [inaudible] At-Large will be approved by the Board, does it mean that RALOs should not submit a separate budget for general

assemblies if that RALO is having their general assembly? Just curious to know.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yeah, thanks for this, Siranush. So for this year, I think that ICANN Finance, if RALOs have submitted requests for general assemblies, ICANN Finance will work this one out. Obviously, they're not going to double the general assembly.

For future years, the way I understand it is that, no, there will not be a need for extra requests for general assemblies. And the location and dates of the general assemblies will probably be – and I'm just speculating here – worked out completely as bilateral discussions between ICANN Finance and the ALAC, and the RALOs, of course. But not likely then needs to do this whole thing of having to say, "Why do we need a general assembly? How many travelers do we have? How much staff support is needed? Why is it so important for us?" And all that. All this time-wasting will be out of the window.

Okay, so I don't see any other hands. So this one seems to be very close to conclusion.

And then we have one last recommendation, and that's Recommendation number 43, "RALOs should encourage their inactive At-Large Structure representatives to comply with ALAC minimum participation requirements." And there, that was also sent to the RALO chairs. If we can please, on all of these recommendations, update the RALO chairs, that will be helpful. This is on hold, pending internal process.

And as you know, there is the ALS Criteria and Expectations Taskforce that is working on the one side. But some RALOs have also made some progress to go through their list of At-Large Structures, contact them, and actually start de-listing some At-Large Structures that were not interested in continuing as an At-Large Structure. So that, I would say, certainly is responding to the RALOs that should encourage their inactive ALS representatives to comply with ALAC minimum participation requirements, or else, really.

Let's tap the feeling here. What should we do. Should we consider this one as being done? Should we wait until all the RALOs are working on this? Because we obviously have some that have done more than others.

I see Siranush Vardanyan. Siranush, you have the floor.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Olivier. Just to update what APRALO did in that aspect, a couple of months ago, we collected the metrics for the last two years for participating in monthly meetings, for participation both in partnership with APAC Hub and in our committee on [inaudible]. So we gathered all these metrics, and we also sent a couple of private messages to [inaudible] if I'm not mistaken, 13, just to pick a [inaudible] number. Private e-mails to those people are still [inaudible].

YEŞIM NAZLAR: Siranush? Siranush? Siranush, can you hear me?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes.

YEŞIM NAZLAR: Apologies for interrupting, but your voice is fading. Could you please keep your mic more close to you?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Can you hear me now?

YEŞIM NAZLAR: Yes, much better. Better, very much. Apologies for interrupting.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: No, that's okay. So we received feedback from eight or nine out of about 13 to whom we sent an e-mail. And we really are in the process of… We gave them time for a couple of months to find out if they will come back and participate. And I think that the next step for us will be sending a final notification to some, with de-certification. So we are going to discuss this during the upcoming couple of months with APRALO leadership.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much, Siranush. And I have a question then for you regarding the participation. So you are looking at the participation at the monthly meetings, and the APAC Hub/APRALO joint webinars, and the APRALO webinars. Are you looking at participation in ALAC calls as well, or other calls, like working group calls?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: We are looking for participation in any calls, I mean the Capacity Building webinars or [inaudible] working group. We're also trying to [inaudible] out if those people are not participating in monthly calls but are active in other capacities, this is considered to be participation as well. So these metrics are gathered, and we look for all these aspects of participation.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, thanks very much for this, Siranush. It's Olivier speaking. Your voice was a little bit choppy. I don't know. It looks like you are using Adobe Connect for this call, so I'm not sure whether you want to try something to –

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Yes, I do.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yeah, I think we've caught what you've said. If you can –

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: I am participating through phone, and only through Adobe. So there is the issue.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Ah, okay. If you can check, Siranush, that we have captured what you have said on the screen, and let us know in the chat if it's not captured correctly.

Let's go to Judith Hellerstein.

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: Glenn and I have also been working on de-certification issues. We had also looked at our metrics, and we did an analysis. And we were looking at monthly participation in the RALO meetings, but also at working groups and other participation in ALAC. We didn't look at participation outside of ALAC.

But also then we got some of our responses, a large number have asked to be de-certified. And we're in the process of de-certifying them. I think this is ongoing now. And there's a couple, we also came upon a problem with the rules of procedures, which, at the webinar, Siranush explained to us what APRALO perceived those are. And so we're going to be busy right now updating our rules of procedures to allow us to use all those metrics as metrics. Because right now, we don't have, in our rules and procedures, saying that participation is a requirement. And so we need to change that, because we do feel that some participation, whether it's in a RALO meeting, whether it's in a working group, whether it's in ALAC, is required to be an ALS. It's necessarily required to be an individual person, but it is required, I think, for an ALS.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yes, thanks very much for this, Judith. That's very helpful. And I see a pattern here. So it's not only participation in the RALO calls, but also in working groups and also on the ALAC calls, and perhaps even on the At-Large mailing list. I know that this is one of the abilities for ALSes to participate as well. But it seems to be a good way forward, and I see that now we have two regions that are doing this kind of work.

Let's see if we have another region, in listening to Aziz Hilali, from AFRALO. And welcome, Aziz. And then we'll come back to Siranush afterwards.

AZIZ HILALI: Yes, I just want to share with you AFRALO's experience and what we've done. We started about two years ago with a working group that we created. In this working group, we have eight ALSes participating. And they were mandated to review our rules of procedure in general, whether it be regarding the accreditation of an ALS or the de-certification process. And then one of the tasks that we assigned to them was also to analyze their involvement and participation. Unfortunately, the people who were working in this working group had to put this work aside as soon as we started working on the IANA transition. So their work was put on hold.

As you know, we have been very active in the CCWG and the CWG as well. Mohamed and Tijani all worked very hard within this Cross Community Working Group. So our participation was actually a record. There were many people. About ¾ of our ALSes participated at our last meeting, because we resumed our efforts very recently. And we never

got to go any further. But we started working now on the de-certification process.

Now, as for Africa, we also have a particular problem, which is the fact that there are number of countries which are over-represented by many ALSes, such as Cameroon or Nigeria. They have five ALSes each. And on the other hand, there's countries where we have no ALSes at all. So we're trying to think of how to strike a balance, in terms of representation, particularly for the case of elections.

Now, coming back to this matter specifically, we have started holding monthly teleconferences. And we expect to resume this work very soon through our conference calls, in order to be able to conclude our amendments of the rules of procedure. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Aziz. That's very helpful, indeed, and very interesting to hear. And it's totally understood that IANA stewardship transition and ICANN accountability have been sucking some life out of some of our regions. And in fact, I would say out of all the regions, in fact, out of At-Large in general. So hopefully we will be able to focus again on our work.

I don't see any other hands up at the moment. I'm not sure, do we have anyone from LACRALO now on the call? I don't see anyone from LACRALO on the Adobe Connect, but has anyone joined us on the telephone line only?

YEŞIM NAZLAR:	Hi, Olivier. No, we don't have anyone joined so far from LACRALO.
OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:	Okay, thank you. Let's have an action item then, please, to ask after this call that LACRALO provides details of what they've been doing by e-mailing. So staff can e-mail them and then come back to us so we can fill that Recommendation 43.
	I see Aziz has put his hand up again. Aziz Hilali?
AZIZ HILALI:	Yes, I just wanted to add that it's a shame that LACRALO is not represented at this meeting, because from what I know and from what I've heard, they're the RALO that have done the most and that have made the most progress regarding this procedure. Thank you.
OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND:	Yes, thanks very much, Aziz, for this. And hence, I guess, not wishing to waste any time in waiting for the next RALO face-to-face meeting or the next RALO call, we can ask them to e-mail the Secretariats list with the details of what they've been doing. And staff will be adding this information on the wiki page.
	In the meantime, EURALO, now putting my EURALO Chair hat on, EURALO is in an early stage of re-enabling our chapters. We have created a working group that is going to look at chapter engagement. And I believe that the working group is probably going to spearhead the work, that we'll be there to try and contact our At-Large Structures and

do the work that is probably, if it decides to do so, similar to what the other regions are doing.

I see that my colleague, Wolf Ludwig, has put his hand up. And so I'll hand the floor over to Wolf.

WOLF LUDWIG: Thanks a lot, Olivier. Well, actually, I think we have, as we had general assembly only a couple of months ago, and we had a face-to-face general assembly, and we had to mobilize our members to participate in the Dublin general assembly. Such appeals or calls, they're always a good instrument for us to find out whether our contact points, etc., are still updated. And we only had two cases. As we found out, it was the two members who didn't respond who didn't participate. And they are on a internal list at EURALO at the moment for potential de-certification, the two ISOC chapters. One is ISOC Chapter Luxembourg, which is not responding anymore, and another one responding on a case-to-case basis is ISOC Chapter Bulgaria. So these are the only two cases where we do not have updated contact info.

On the other ALSes, I'm almost certain that the contact information are still valid. But as Olivier said, this is one of the duties of our taskforce, ALS engagement, which will look into this once again. Thanks.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much, Wolf. And just to add that the taskforce is just going to start its work. It hasn't started its work yet. And so there is no way to know whether it will decide on de-certification of At-Large Structures

that don't end up with the minimum participation requirements. It may well be that it starts telling ALSes that minimum participation is required. But this is all work that's forthcoming.

Okay, I think we've reached the end of this section. I am well realizing the time. We were supposed to spend 25 minutes on this, and we spent considerably more time. Hopefully we can catch up on agenda item number 3, the At-Large proposal for the multi-year planning of At-Large face-to-face meetings.

As you will have read on the ALAC mailing list, Alan Greenberg has provided a long e-mail with details of where we are and what has been proposed. And it seems that things are going in the right direction. We'll just have to wait a few more weeks, and hopefully we will find out that our proposal has been, with as few modification as possible, accepted by the Board and by the Board Finance Committee. But we're just on the expected date. We'll just wait.

The question now comes as to whether anybody has any questions here on this. And I certainly would be happy to answer any questions that anybody has.

I don't see anyone having any questions. Okay, I think that the message on the e-mail was very comprehensive. So hopefully we're all on the same page. And I would like to congratulate Alan on being able to push it through, first, the Board and through the various people. There's an enormous amount of work that goes on behind the scenes as well for these things. So that's really great.

Now we can then move on to the next thing, the next item in our agenda. That's the At-Large review. So this, I notice that we have both Holly Raiche and Cheryl Langdon-Orr on the call. So I'm not quite sure who will take the floor right now. And I open the floor to either Cheryl or Holly.

HOLLY RAICHE: I'll start, but Cheryl can fill in. Cheryl, Alan, and I had –

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: For the transcript, it's Holly Raiche speaking. Because otherwise, it will be very hard to know. Go ahead, Holly.

HOLLY RAICHE: We, the very small sort of team, had a meeting with [inaudible] at the end of April. We actually went through a number of things. We confirmed the actual schedule. We're not too far behind. The launch review, while we were waiting for the independent examiner to be announced, Heidi, has that happened? Because Alan and Cheryl and I were informed of who the successful applicant is. Has that announcement been made? Because it was supposed to be made.

HEIDI ULLRICH: I have not heard that it has. So I will follow up with [Larissa] today to see where we are with that, and then will let you know.

HOLLY RAICHE: Okay, thank you. Given that there's a bit of uncertainty, I won't go any further except to say that I was pleased about the fact that many of the criterias that had been identified by a number of people on this call have been addressed. In fact, Cheryl – and Cheryl can come in later – knew a number of people. I won't go any further except to say that given that the announcement is due very soon – and this is in the last, final stages of planning – Gisella will be planning meetings between not only individual meetings for the independent examiner team, but meeting between the independent examiners and ALAC. So we're not too far behind schedule. By the schedule, we will be meeting with the independent examiner in Helsinki, and there will be the beginning of a number of interviews.

I think we will confirm those meetings once the schedule has been finalized. But at this stage, I don't think it has. So I don't think, Olivier, I can go much further. Cheryl, do you want to say anything about the independent examiner in general terms, since it has not been announced yet, that I'm aware?

She was just on the phone and on another call, so I'm not sure she can say anything. Well, Olivier, look, since –

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Can you hear me? Can you hear me or not?

HOLLY RAICHE: I heard, "Can you hear me," so she may be on the call.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Trying in the AC.

HOLLY RAICHE: Okay.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Cheryl is in the AC room, but we can hear her very far away.

Well, if you speak, I'm sure we can concentrate on you. And I hope that the interpreters can hear.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Okay, you're going to have to concentrate, because I am in two calls at once. It's like my concentration, somewhat challenging, of course. I have Alan Greenberg talking in my other ear.

I am delighted with the quality of almost all, but certainly the final short-listed grouping, of external evaluators that we had. We were privy to a redacted set of criteria that they had put forward. We had no idea who they were. But the opinions of Alan and myself and Holly were taken into account when we were looking at the criteria, what we were looking for from an ALAC perspective and the applicants. The one external examiner company that has got the [beat] is excellent. And in fact, they're people who've not only worked on previous reviews, including SSAC, in the past, but also has, as one of their primary project managers for this work, [inaudible] who is well regarded and worked long and hard with ICANN. And that's somebody you'll recognize with [inaudible] being part of the team. So it's somebody who understands

volunteering, understands ICANN, and most importantly, understands ALAC very well indeed.

So I think that's all I can do while I'm yelling at my laptop. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much for this, Cheryl. I understand that the interpreters have not been able to hear you, but others on the call have been. And all you have been saying is to praise the wonderful people that will be coming to do the review, basically. And they're absolutely great. You've said a lot of other things as well, but it just feels at the moment like I'm trying to summarize *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, which is a little bit difficult, in one sentence.

But thanks for this. Just one question from me on this. And the question is with regards to the focus of the review. I know it's been said before, but is it true that the focus, will it be on the At-Large Structures, or will it be on the RALOs? Will it be on the ALAC?

And Holly Raiche, you have the floor.

HOLLY RAICHE: Yes, thank you, Olivier. The focus at this stage, because the ALAC itself has been reviewed, but at the time of that review the existence of the ALSes and the RALO structures was in its infancy. The focus will go from ALAC itself to the RALOs and ALS structures. Now, clearly, it's not going to be possible not to look at ALAC itself. But because the other structures were not looked at, because they didn't really exist in any

real sense at that time, the focus will be more on the RALOs and the ALS structures for this review.

Does that answer your question?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yes, thank you very much, Holly. That's great. That's a good answer. And I guess the RALO leadership will look forward to working with such a good company that will be performing the review.

Seeing Cheryl has put some summary of what she had said in the chat, "Pleased with the short list and delighted with the final outcome. RALO and ALSes is crucial in this review as part of the tri-level model." That's what it is.

So thanks very much. Are there any questions or comments from anyone on the call? I don't see anyone putting their hand up, so I guess they're either petrified about what's about to come their way, or you have been very thorough in explaining to us what's coming up and we're all getting ready for a fight. No, I'm kidding. We're all looking forward to collaborate with the external company and the review. And it's great to see. There's going to be now this whole ALAC/RALO/ALS link, which is just one of these things that we need to put together.

And, Cheryl, I would definitely not want to fight with you. So that's no problem.

I don't see anyone else putting their hand up. Let's then thank Cheryl and Holly for this, and we can move to any other business.

I don't see anyone putting their hand up, so we've done pretty well today. Thanks very much. I think it's been a good call. And I look forward to seeing you all in Helsinki. Do take some of the things that you can put on your eyes to get some sleep, because I hear that there's very little darkness up there. And if your curtains don't close well, you will certainly have trouble sleeping. So thanks to everyone.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Olivier?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yes, Heidi, I don't see your hand up.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Sorry [inaudible] AC room.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: You can speak, Heidi. You have the floor, Heidi Ullrich.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes, just very quickly. Traditionally, the call prior to the face-to-face meeting would include an agenda-setting discussion for the face-to-face. Do you expect to have another call prior to Helsinki, or do you wish to do that by e-mail?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yes, thanks very much for this, Heidi. The problem that I see at the moment with the agenda is that the overall ICANN agenda doesn't seem to be ready. And I'm not quite sure, once it's ready, how much we need to discuss then. Certainly, EURALO is going to do a couple of things, but it's a four-day meeting. Are we going to have much to discuss? Can we leave this decision to later, by e-mail? And if we need to actually have a conference call, then we can have it a few weeks before the meeting? I'm just mindful of the fact that we have so many conference calls at the moment, and I'm not quite sure that we need to have so many people, all the RALO chairs and secretaries and vice chairs, to have another call just to discuss the agenda.

HEIDI ULLRICH: I think that is a sound way to proceed.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, excellent. Let's have this as an action item then so that we don't forget about it. And we can follow on the Secretariats mailing list. And with this, with two minutes to spare, it's one of the first times I end a call early, so I'm so happy. I hope we all celebrate around the world, and thank you for being on this call. It's been very productive. And thanks to our staff, and certainly thanks to our interpreters, who are going to need some much louder headphones if they can hear Cheryl next time.

With this, the call is now adjourned. Thanks, and goodbye.

YEŞIM NAZLAR: The meeting has been adjourned, so you will now be disconnected. Thank you for your joining.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]