
YEŞİM NAZLAR:

Welcome to the APRALO monthly call, taking place on Thursday, 18th of August, 2016, at 06:00 UTC. On the call, we have Siranush Vardanyan, Ali AlMeshal, Maureen Hilyard, Satish Babu, Aris Ignacio, Yasuichi Kitamura, Jahangir Hossain, Tomohiro Fujisaki, and Hong Xue. On the Chinese channel, we have Kaili Kan. We have apologies from Cheryl Langdon-Orr, and we do wish her a speedy recovery; Holly Raiche, Gunela Astbrink; and Kelvin Wong, from staff. From staff, we have Silvia Vivanco, Gisella Gruber, and myself, Yeşim Nazlar.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone to state their names before speaking, not only for the transcript purposes, but also for the interpretation purposes, as well. And thank you very much. Siranush, over to you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you, Yeşim. Welcome everyone, again. And before we start, I just would like to wish speedy recovery to Cheryl, who is now in the hospital, where I hope she will be back very soon.

And let's have our August monthly call for ALAC current development update. I'd like to give the floor to Maureen. Maureen, the floor is yours.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you, Siranush. Yeah, welcome, everyone, to the update of ALAC statements for the current public comment request. One of the things that most of these lists start off with is the statements that have

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recently been written and voted on and endorsed by the ALAC. And it is a good idea for you to have a look through some of these comments [inaudible] to give you an idea of how public contributions actually added into the statement that is presented to ICANN by ALAC.

Number 2 is the statements that are currently being drafted. And the first one seems to be a perennial, but it's a private paper that's been put together by Garth Bruen. And he's still working on that one.

The second is new gTLD subsequent procedures. Now, Holly and the ALAC Chair, Alan Greenberg, are putting this statement together. And this particular working group is actually meeting weekly to look at how ICANN should implement the next round of new gTLD domains. They've already put out six questions that they're asking Advisory Committees and Supporting Organizations. So click into that if you're interested in finding out how they're aiming to deal with the next round of gTLD domains and how the process is going to be implemented.

This next one, about the two-character ASCII labels and avoiding confusion with corresponding country codes, Garth and Jimmy still didn't get back to us, I don't think. And we're assuming that, seeing as the comment period is closed anyway, that maybe it may not to be commented. But if they do say that it is, we are usually given a bit of grace to put a statement in.

The next one, the proposed guidelines for the second string similarity review process, a statement has actually already been written for this particular public comment, and it's on the workspace. But it is actually sitting there, in case anyone else wants to have a read through the

statement as it's been currently produced and wants to make a further comment. So if you are interested in this area, have a look at the statement. And if there's anything you'd like to add, you can actually pass it on to me. Or if you can access the workspace, you can put it into a comment box while you're there.

The independent review – have I done – no, hang one. The other one. The... Sorry. The independent review of Trademark Clearinghouse services draft report – some of these titles are really tongue twisty. Leon and Alan are drafting the statement. And they're looking at the services of the Trademark Clearinghouse, which we don't really know too much about. But it's to assess the effectiveness of the services of this particular organization and whether it meets its intended [inaudible]. And it's particularly important, because it's part of the preparation of the next application rounds for the new gTLDs. So that could be of interest to anyone who's into the gTLD area.

The next section, not counting 3, the next section 4, public comment requests to which the ALAC decided not to submit statements. Sometimes, for a variety of reasons, the ALAC decide that they actually want to make a particular statement for a public comment. For example, the PTI bylaws, that was post-transition area, the ALAC already had a lot of input. As [inaudible] the ICG, which was the IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group – thankfully, the ICG. And that group made recommendations which actually contributed to the creation of the actual bylaws. And they're a set of high-level, mostly legal governance documents which outlined the post-transition ICANN, which will implement the IANA functions. So there's already been

[inaudible], so I'll just... There are actually going to be quite a lot of things related to the bylaws as we go through anyway.

Section 5, things that are coming up, although I note that one of the first things that [inaudible] requesting is still requiring a decision, and it's something that's been sitting in our box for a while. And it's closed already. And so I would say that the .com, which is to do with Verisign's agreement with ICANN – because it's a registry agreement, it's somewhat a little bit outside of our scope. So that's probably why that one's been dropped, or nothing's been done about it.

The gTLD Marketplace Health Index, if you have a look at this space, you'll probably notice that not only are they looking for input into the index, but are compiling those metrics. They want to know... These metrics will identify how healthy the gTLD marketplace is. But they're also seeking volunteers to be on an advisory panel to refine and expand on these metrics. So if there are any volunteers out there that'd like to be on that advisory committee, just go for it.

And the IANA Naming Function Agreement [inaudible] is another one of those special types of activities, as is the .tel registry agreement. Probably not something that we would have to comment on unless we actually had specialists within our At-Large community who wanted to participate.

All right, that's all from me. Back to you, Siranush.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Maureen. Thank you very much. And I also would like to take this opportunity to say that Cheryl just joined us. Welcome, Cheryl. I hope you are doing fine now. And also to congratulate Jahangir for his birthday. So his birthday today, and happy birthday, Jahangir, and enjoy your day.

With this, we'll move forward to our next agenda item, which is APRALO Mentorship Program. As many of you know, and I am happy to see some of those who asked for being a mentee are [learning] this call. And we may sound silent for you during this period, which is a lot of preparatory work. And I'll give the floor to Ali to give the update towards what is being done and where we are now.

Ali, please.

ALI ALMESHAL: Thank you very much, Siranush. Understand. Yes, as Siranush stated, we have been looking after this. And we conducted several e-mails were being exchanged, and we conducted [one call] meeting. And now we are into progress, like what is the next step. We have already brought some steps there to move ahead: evaluation, grouping, and mentors and mentees, how we will match the mentees to the mentors, and how we will go.

So the next step will be a call for all mentees and all mentors, led by the super-mentors. Thanks for Cheryl for accepting the super-mentor for the whole of this program. And we'll update mentees about the progress and what is next and how is the program going to work.

The program will be for nine months, almost. Actual work will start in Hyderabad. But there will be something before that definitely, as a preparation. And we'll be evaluating, as we said, in each and every ICANN meeting, like in Copenhagen. And then we'll finalize [inaudible]. So in brief, this is what we are doing, although there are a lot of works on our shoulders to do. And will be communicated to you very soon, as we'll be having our next call most probably next week or the week after, as between the mentors and the Leadership Team of APRALO, to give the final program, shaping it. And then we'll be communicating to all mentees.

And I really thanks all of those mentees who have joined our call today, as well. Thanks, Siranush. Any inquiry or questions, I'll be more than happy to answer.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Ali, thank you very much.

ALI ALMESHAL: Yes.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Do you have anything to add? I can't hear you well, Ali.

ALI ALMESHAL: [crosstalk] raise any hand. Yeah, I said that's in a brief what we have done. And if there is anyone has any inquiry at this stage, we'd be more

than happy to answer. But there is a good progress in the program, and we are developing it. As I said, very soon, we'll be communicating to the mentees as when it will be our first call for that.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: [Except] to give more updates on this, we are also matching mentor/mentee based on the applications all mentees submitted. And we are also preparing the frame of how we are going to run this program, so I think from Hyderabad, actually. But before that, we [inaudible] with several calls. And you will be [inaudible] about this.

Nadira is asking, "Is there a reason for not being listed in alphabetical order?" Actually, there is no reason, Nadira. We just sent those files to staff. They put that by the time they were coming. So no reason for putting the names in this way. But if you are not being comfortable with that, then we will ask staff to put it in alphabetical order, if that's okay. [crosstalk]

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yeah [crosstalk].

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Adam, welcome to our call. I see Adam Peake, who is joining, I think for the first time, for APRALO call. So thanks for joining that. And welcome to [Heidi] also, as well.

With that, if you have any questions to this mentorship program, please raise your hand or put your question in the chat page. But Ali AlMeshal

will be the coordinator of this program. So feel free to contact him for any details. And there is also, as you can see, a wiki page, which was are updating by the time we have [a need to] put there. But I think that it will be really a very important program initiated by APRALO, and which we can share with other RALOs to use the same approach.

With that, I don't see any hands raised. I will give the floor to Satish now, to tell us about Hyderabad meeting. As you all know, APRALO is in the process of preparation for Hyderabad meeting. And there are really a lot going on now. And Satish is involved very much in this.

So, Satish, I give the floor to you. Please provide the update.

SATISH BABU:

Thank you, Siranush. I hope you can hear me. About Hyderabad, this is a short update. We had a call a couple weeks back. The next call was also scheduled, but it had to be postponed to next week. There are several aspects of Hyderabad meeting that we have discussed in the earlier calls. The first is a showcase, which [inaudible] kind of doubtful about whether we'll be having the showcase. Now, it is more or less clear that there will be a showcase. And there is a small [delegation] for the showcase.

We are now, within the Leadership Team, discussing the [inaudible] the program that should be showcased, and also the members [inaudible] who might be [coming]. We were told in the last call that there are 2,000 people attending ICANN 57. Now, although we do not yet have a clear picture of how many are going to attend our showcase, it could be as little as 15, as much as a couple of hundred. So unless we have a clear

picture of how many are likely to attend, it may be hard to budget for different components, especially when it comes to food.

So the showcase dates, the actual program of the showcase, it is a cultural program [featured]. It's going to be held though the dinner, or high tea, or snacks. And those things will depend on the actual numbers committed, which we are waiting for our staff to tell us. Executive staff have done a very wonderful job in putting up the wiki and the follow-ups for Hyderabad. We are hoping that, with the support from staff [inaudible], we may be able to do pretty well at Hyderabad. So that's regarding the showcase.

The next event is the – I note that I have got the right page up here for Hyderabad, which is a kind of landing page. Staff, can we have... Is there another page on Hyderabad that we are discussing? [inaudible]

Okay, it doesn't matter.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Satish?

SATISH BABU: Yeah, please go ahead. Silvia, did you say something?

YEŞİM NAZLAR: Would you like me to find you the meetings page for the Hyderabad meeting?

SATISH BABU:

We had the call last time, and we had a page to list down the activities. Is that a private page, or is it a public page? It doesn't matter. I will go ahead. I will [need] that page, but I [inaudible].

The second item that we have discussed for Hyderabad was a meeting of all the local ALSes. And it was decided that Siranush will write a letter to the Government of India for travel support for our six ALSes in India to come to Hyderabad. It so happens that none of the six are based out of the City of Hyderabad, so they all have to travel. And we have since then, after the call, we have written a letter to the Government of India requesting travel for [four people] – yeah, this is the page. Thanks. So this letter has been sent to the government, and we are waiting for some response from the government. That is the second item, as you can see here, the meeting of the India-based ALSes.

Third is the capacity-building program. We are planning for the ALSes [presentation], as well as any of the other At-Large community members who happen to be there at Hyderabad. This is run by the Capacity Building Working Group, led by Tijani. And we have experience from Marrakesh, where we had a good program of capacity building. So we are hoping to build on the [inaudible]. And Tijani's working group is, at this point, [inaudible] to make a presentation. Perhaps [inaudible] session, actually, at Hyderabad.

The [inaudible] on Internet governance is going on [there]. Now, what happened is we are having an increased number of requests also from outside India. For example, we have three or four requests from Afghanistan, from Central Asia, from Kazakhstan and Kurdistan. We have requests from China. We have requests from [inaudible] in Pacific.

So now we are just wondering how to provide support for these people. And we are discussing with the APSIG, the Asia-Pacific School on Internet Governance, for additional funding support for these people. And the [inaudible] in India is kind of India regional or internationalized [SIG]. And that's [inaudible]. And we are, of course, talking to several agencies, including ICANN supporting, as ISOC, Government of India, and APSIG. These are the proposal at this point.

So this is coming up, and we have requested several of the ICANN community leaders to come and speak at these [inaudible]. And all of them have kind of [inaudible] agreed. And the sites have got [very big]. These are not focusing on the general assembly and promotional materials. So back to Siranush.

Siranush, are you [crosstalk]?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Hi, Siranush, [crosstalk]?

Siranush, if you are speaking, we cannot hear you. You might be muted.

SATISH BABU: I think she dropped. So we will take any questions at this time. Are there any questions or comments from anyone?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Hello? Can you hear me?

SATISH BABU: Yeah, we can hear you. Welcome back.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Oh, great. I think something was wrong with my phone, so I was not able to hear and was not able to speak.

SATISH BABU: All right.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: I am sorry, Satish. I missed the last part of your... So did you give the update for all activities planned for now?

SATISH BABU: Yeah, we had [finished] on the update, and now [inaudible] the government. We are waiting for that. But otherwise, we are pretty much on schedule. And we now have a Leadership Team call next week on Hyderabad. And we were discussing [crosstalk].

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Great. Great. Great, thank you. Just for everyone to know that we, the Leadership Team, are meeting [inaudible] to discuss very details of Hyderabad activities. So there are lots going on. So starting from showcase, what will be the content of showcase, what will be the [inaudible] part of this. Support of staff is there. So starting from all of this. And we don't want to just to provide half of the information for

now. But as far as the activities are in progress. Thanks, Satish, for giving this update.

Do we have any information from Indian government formal? We sent official letter for support.

SATISH BABU:

No, we have no response as yet. But the government can take a few weeks to respond. So we will have to wait another couple of weeks.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Yes. Just for everyone to know, we submitted, on behalf of APRALO, we submitted to Indian government a letter for supporting Indian ALSes to come to Hyderabad. So we still are expecting answer from them. But, Satish, please follow up next week to see if there was any progress on that.

And also, I would like to request all those ALS representatives who will be in Hyderabad on their own to please send a note, either me or to Satish, for us to know how many APRALO ALSes will be actually in Hyderabad. It will help us in preparative work.

Great. So let's move forward. And as you may know, recently there was APriGF and APIGA. And Satish and Maureen participated there. And Satish did presentation on behalf of APRALO. So, Satish, if you can give a brief update of what happened there, that would be great.

SATISH BABU:

Right. So this is divided in two parts. The one I will speak about for a few minutes, and then Maureen will speak for a few minutes on the APriGF [inaudible] a little bit.

The two events that happened in the last months or so, one is the Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum, held at Taipei in Taiwan. [inaudible] IGF, and this is held every year in the Asia-Pacific region [inaudible] in Taiwan. And I participated as a fellow, and Maureen participated as a regular participant. And it was a very well-organized [inaudible] [session]. And part of [inaudible] to establish contact with individual IGF, because we are actually working side-by-side in Internet governance. So this is a big opportunity for me to get in touch with the whole community.

And I did speak in one or two sessions, both technical and organizational. The first [inaudible] was leadership [inaudible]. And the next three days was the fellowship program. So overall, this is a very satisfactory event. And Maureen was involved in the compilation of the [inaudible] document, which she will talk about. And I had the opportunity to also help out.

The other event was the Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy. It was in Seoul, of Korea. And this [inaudible]. I was [inaudible] APRALO to speak about APRALO [inaudible], but I ended up speaking on a few topics more. And it was a very exciting [meeting], because [inaudible]. And a bunch of young people, interacting with them and [inaudible] for three days. Therefore, it was a very rewarding experience. And I [inaudible] I had gone there as a teacher but ended up learning a lot. And there was another [talk] given by the APAC Hub, Jia-Rong and

Kelvin, who provided a lot of support [inaudible] but even for [participants]. And overall, I think it the sessions [went] pretty well. And [inaudible] and running [inaudible], and there were several things I did learn from the Asia Pacific Academy that I could [inaudible] India [SIG].

So those events were quite [inaudible] Asia-Pacific, help us to establish links with two very important communities: one, the Asia-Pacific IGF community, and the other, the community of youth from different parts of Asia-Pacific.

So I will turn to Maureen to talk about the [inaudible]. Maureen?

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you, Satish, for giving some of your time. I just wanted to give some information about the APriIGF organization itself and the MSG, on which there are several APRALO members who are actually on that, including Cheryl, Aris, and Satish and I. And there must be others. But it's really good to see APRALO staying involved in the organization of the IGF.

One of the things that we just recently had was the election of the Vice Chair. And I was on that election committee. And Chester Soong, who was the Vice Chair, and was persuaded to stand again, was elected and resumed his position as Vice Chair. So that's great news.

As the APriIGF in Taipei, I did have two roles. And of course, one, as Satish mentioned, was a buddy mentor to three APriIGF fellows. And lucky Satish, he had me as a mentor. So I could actually say that I

mentored the APRALO Chair-elect. And that was actually an interesting exercise, because they had a task to do, and we worked through that.

I'd also like to mention that Aris attended, and he brought along a large group of students from the Philippines. And I thought what was really great was they were all self-funding, and they actually plan to come to Melbourne next year, which is where the next APriGF is going to be held, more or less, just a little later.

But as Satish mentioned, one of the key outputs of the APriGF is the synthesis document, which Satish and I were on the drafting committee. And [Holly] was too. I notice that she's online. And there was concern that there were meetings and lots of e-mails to produce the second draft, which has now gone out for public consultation. But it's a high-level overview of the topics that were selected, sort of on top of participants at the regional IGF. And it's a really good coverage of what was done at the meeting.

And lastly, to mention that the next IGF, the IGF next year, 2017, is going to be held in Melbourne. And [inaudible] gave us a bit of a rundown on proposals for that meeting. And although the date is only tentative, beginning of October, things could change. And we'll give you more news as that comes to hand. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you very much, Maureen. It was really a pleasure to hear Satish and your update on the work you have done there, and also the pleasure to see Jia-Rong joining us. So I am happy to hear that what Satish gave there, actually which means that was APRALO base there. So

congratulations to all of us for your great efforts and for the work down there, in partnership with APAC Hub, of course. So thanks also, Jia-Rong, that it was possible for us to make APRALO visible during the APriGF and APIGA.

Any questions on that? If not, then we'll move forward to the next agenda item, which is call for nominations on BCEC and BMSPC committee membership. So I will now open all those abbreviations, of course. As you all noted, through APRALO mailing list, staff has sent the call for nomination for two committees. One is Board Member Selection Process Committee, which actually oversees the entire selection process. And this actually, the selection of the seat number 15 for the Board, which is our At-Large community Board seat. So as you know, Rinsalia's tenure will come to the end in October 2017. And there will be a new election, re-election. So the new process should be there. And according to ALAC Rules of Procedure, there should be these two committees: Board Member Selection Process Committee, which is BMSPC, and Board Candidate Evaluation Committee, BCEC, who actually compiles the initial [plate] of candidates for electing the seat 15.

And there was a call for being part of these committees. And we need for two members to be nominated from RALO, and one alternate for both committees. And I would like to encourage our ALS members to participate and nominate themselves, and participate in this very important committee. I assure you, this is really time-consuming project. So please keep in mind that. If you agree to be a part of this committee, then nominate yourself. This is very important role. And you will represent there also APRALO's point of view. So please keep in mind that while nominating yourself. But I encourage for all of you to go

through this announcement, to go through the details for those committees, what they are doing and what are the roles of the members there.

And we will submit those nominations on behalf of APRALO to ALAC, who will be doing the final selection. So I welcome all nominations from your side. And I already did a nomination for one person for each. So I nominated Cheryl for BCEC committee. She was a Chair of this committee earlier, the first Chair, actually, when we were selecting the first Board member from At-Large. And I think that her expertise will be just great asset to this committee. And I also put nomination for Ali for the BMSPC committee, Board Member Selection Process Committee.

But as I said, we need two people for each to be nominated from APRALO. So I encourage you to look through all those links. And thanks, Silvia, for posting them in the chat place. So please go through them and nominate yourself for those committees there.

Any questions related to these nominations? And feel free to send your self-nominations to us or through APRALO mailing list to staff, who are putting all the nominations in the special wiki page. So all will be recorded there. People who can support the nomination also publicly can say about this. And all this will be recorded, and ALAC will take into consideration everything, what will be sent from RALO.

I see Amal is typing, probably the question related to this. “Should anyone in APRALO vote for nominations?” No, a RALO is not voting for nominations. We just put our RALO names to ALAC, and ALAC will vote for the nominations. So it’s not a RALO responsibility to vote. We have

to put nominations. And I very much encourage self-nominations, as well. So, yes, thank you for your question, Amal.

Any other questions? And really go through the links that Silvia posted in the page. It's really very important for everyone who is interested in those positions to know what is expected from those members. Please, go through that thoroughly.

As I see no questions, as you may see, the last – well, not the last. The seventh agenda item is Chair announcement. And I have announcement for everyone in APRALO. I have, yesterday, sent this announcement as well to ALAC and staff. Starting from [inaudible], I am resigning and stepping down as Chair of APRALO. And I am joining the ICANN Fellowship team as the Fellowship coordinator. So with that, there will be real conflict of interest for me to stay here as the Chair of RALO.

With that, Satish Babu also agreed to step in as an interim Chair. And as an interim Chair, he will be leading this process which we have talked about already. And I am sure that everyone will get huge support as I was receiving huge support during all these years.

With that, I would like to say great thank you and my huge appreciation to APRALO members, to all ALS representatives who are present now. And I will be sending an e-mail also to mailing list. And I just want to say that without all of your support, APRALO wouldn't be so mature, so developed, and be an example for all other RALOs.

I thank all for your congratulations in the chat space. And I would like to congratulate Satish for stepping into this position in this very difficult stage for APRALO, with the upcoming Hyderabad meeting. There is a lot

on Satish's shoulders now. And I am looking forward for huge support from ALSes and each and every one from you. Support APRALO Leadership Team, to support APRALO in general, to make Hyderabad meeting as success as usually APRALO do during every AP meeting. And I'm looking forward to see all of you in Hyderabad. Of course, I will be there, but in the new capacity. I will be trying to follow APRALO activities as an ALS representative from Armenia, of course. But as an APRALO Chair, this will be my last call which I am participating. So I would like to welcome Satish in this role and give this role to him to take [inaudible].

SATISH BABU:

Thanks very much, Siranush. Like we have been talking about over e-mail, it's a great loss for us. And your role has been terrific in binding APRALO as a unit, working together. And I have been very [inaudible] by your skill. And of course, you will remain the inspiration for me and the rest of us in the Leadership Team. So I am very much honored and humbled by this unexpected development. And I want to be able to continue all the activity I have undertaken so far, and going on.

I hope to be also able to be able to consult you occasionally for advice. Thanks very much.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN:

Thank you very much, Satish, and welcome on board? Anyone? We have the last agenda item, AOB. So anyone would like to say anything are welcome to do for the last couple of minutes of this call. And thank you very much for all congratulations you put in chat page. I was really

humbled and am really happy and blessed to Chair APRALO and to be APRALO member for the last couple of years.

I don't see any hands raised here. And just a last point, any input, any questions related to the whole call. I will be sending an e-mail update from today's call to our mailing list for all those who were not able to join. But once again, I would like to thank you all for being today with us. I see a good turnout for today's call, which is really very important for us and for APRALO in general. And once again, thank you very much for trusting me to be your Chair during the last three years.

Thank you very much, and good day. The call is adjourned.

YEŞİM NAZLAR:

Thank you very much, everyone, for your participation. This meeting is now adjourned, and all of you will now be disconnected. Thank you very much, and have a lovely rest of the day.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]