
TERRI AGNEW: Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening. Welcome to the LACRALO monthly teleconference taking place on Monday the 19th of September 2016 at 23:00 UTC.

On the call today we have Adrian Carballo, Emanuel Alcántara, Harold Arcos, Fabrizio Modica, Alfredo Lopez, Andres Piazza, Antonio Medina, Cristian Casas, Marcelo Telez, Martin Borgioli, Carlos Vera, Christelle Vaval, Ricardo Holmquist, Vanda Scartzini, Diego Acosta Bastidas, Martiza Aguero, Lito Ibarra, Humberto Carrasco, Emilio Lo Prete, Fatima Cambroner, Alberto Soto, Hamaz Haji, Bartlett Morgan, and Aida Noblia.

Our [inaudible] today is Rosa [Del Gato?]. We have listed apologizes from León Sanchez, Carlos Aguirre, Sergio Salinas Porto.

From staff we have Albert Daniels, Silvia Vivanco, and myself, Terri Agnew.

Our Spanish interpreters today are Claudia and David.

Our Portuguese interpreters today, Betina and Espinaza.

And our French interpreters today, Camila and Claire.

I would like to remind all participants to please state your name before speaking, not only for transcription purposes, but also for our interpreters. With that, I'll turn it back over to you Alberto. Please begin.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: This is Humberto speaking. This is Alberto for the record. Maritza, could you please start with the agenda?

MARITZA AGUERO: This is Maritza Aguero speaking for the record. Thank you. We're going to start this call with three issues basically. The first one, called controversies in intellectual property in digital platforms. This presentation will be by Fabrizio Modica. He is a lawyer from Paraguay. Then we're going to have the presentation on two character ASCII tags. This presentation will be by Andres Piazza, who is a general manager of LAC TLD.

And we will end this call with a presentation on the charter of the information society charter of the domain [inaudible]. Then, after the presentation, we will hear some comments on the LACRALO process, especially the ALAC process as well as presentation.

These presentations will be given by Rosa [Del Gato?]. She is an At-Large member. And then we will hear the LACRALO report by Humberto Carrasco. And then we will deal with issues of interest for the community.

Now, I will give the floor back to you Humberto.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: This is Humberto Carrasco for the record. So the agenda is considered adopted. So we will now start with the presentation by Fabrizio Modica, who will speak about the controversies in [inaudible] platform. Fabrizio, you now have the floor.

FABRIZO MODICA:

This is Fabrizio speaking. Thank you LACRALO for giving me the opportunity for participating in this teleconference. I would like to congratulate you for this initiative. Dealing with these current issues for an audience that I think it's a very valid audience. It's very important to me, especially because this current issue is the most current controversies in digital platforms are very common.

I'm going to focus today on issues with trademarks, particularly in social networks. We, of course, need to say in Paraguay, we have legislation, or some regulations, that are new on this issue. We still have not had cases that have raised court, so I'm going to deal with some cases on self-regulation as a lawyer.

There are just issues that I have to deal with as a lawyer. Let me just mention, very briefly, that the origins of social network are in what we know as Web 2.0. If we refer to the history of the internet, the traditional use of the internet shows what we call [inaudible] spaces, where you'd see a certain address through domain name, you would access the web page, and then you will have access to a number of the documents and images, and in a few words, I simply was a passive spectator.

I had all of the information right there, and this determined what my interaction was. Then this evolved, and we saw the emergence of the network 2.0, which provided more inter-activity. This means the user is no more a mere spectator, and becomes someone active, but only because you can see some comments, and you can read articles, and

watch movies, but also because you create your own content, and there is a certain inter-activity because the creators of this content are users who create content.

So with this Web 2.0, we saw some additional advantages like low cost, no restrictions for time zones, locations, and policy, and this provided, or led actually, to the emergence of new actors, new stakeholders. Let me now [inaudible] to some statistics on the number of users in the more active social network in 2016.

As you can see, number one, continues to be the Facebook webpage, with more than 1.5, 55 billion users, billion active users. Then the company that follows that is YouTube, one billion users, and then there is Google Maps. I'm not really sure Google plus has 440 million users, but the one that follows that is definitely Instagram, it has been growing a lot in the past few years with 400 million users.

The following one in this ranking is Twitter with 320 million. [Inaudible], 200 million users. [Inaudible] 100 million, and LinkedIn as a social network for businesses, that is showing an exponential growth as well. Something else I would like to mention about this ranking is that, as you can see, it is, in the current social network, the most important one, we have not seen Snapchat.

You know that it's very popular in young people, aged 15 to 20, and perhaps here we should mention platforms such as [inaudible], we don't really know if it is or if it's not a virtual platform right now, but we definitely can consider that it has an important number of users reaching probably 1 billion users.

Let me now go to the next slide. One of the most important issues when we are referring to social network is, we are also referring to companies. Companies are the ones using this network to advertise their services, and we have seen exchanges then in other typing. We don't typing. We do not see the typing so much in television, or in newspapers.

Initially, this was only limited to spaces in, like adware for Google, for example, and now the typing is a lot more interactive. We see them a lot in social networks. So because there is a very high number of users, the question we ask ourselves is, how can companies use social network to their benefit? And how it could protect their brand, their trademark online?

This is what I'm going to focus on today. And when we talk about social networking, we definitely need to talk about the marketing power that directly, or indirectly, is associated to that. In social networks, we see a lot of front pages, this is very common. For example, in the case of Facebook, we see that these are sort of mini web pages that you create within this platform allowing users to connect directly with other users.

Now, there are a series of rules established by Facebook, for you to be the owner of a front page, and you need to be the official representative of that organization. So you could be a celebrity, or you could be a company, etc. So one of the characteristics of this front page is users can interact by leaving comments, writing comments, posting something on their walls, showing videos, or sharing promotions with their contacts.

And so this is how they advertise, or this is how they create these viral marketing for their products. There are other social networks like Facebook that have front pages such as Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

Now, there are a few questions I would like to ask, and I hope I can answer in this presentation. First, what should we do when users post negative comments in the front page walls? What should you do when a third party, like an ex-employer or a user, decides to create a parallel front page using the name, or the brand, or the image of a company?

And what should we do when the competition is using the brand name for their own advantage? So now we're going to focus on the self-regulation of social networks. Obviously, the internet is no man's land, and that is why it is difficult to establish precise regulations. One of the characteristics is that when you are in a certain country, you can have access to people in another country, and so our normal, regular laws, do not apply.

The only way, when you can have certain governance or control, is by self-regulation. That is, social networks themselves should be the one establishing control mechanisms. So we need to say that the most common self-regulation case will appear with user, end user license agreements, if the social networks themselves decide which are the policies that users need to follow, or they need to respect.

There is the case of the Twitter policy. They do not only relate to brands, but also to any kind of intellectual property and they state, you should have an honest and relevant use, and advertisers should not

mislead the user. And consequently, the use of materials in Twitter, should not mislead the user, because this represents a violation of our policy.

That is, there is no need for me to go on and say, what intellectual property law states, that themselves which will and will not be a violation of their policies. So in some case, they are the judge and they are the parties, as we lawyers say. They follow their own rules. And they also say that they will respond to legitimate claims like third parties who believe they are affected by a certain publication.

And the decisions are within, or should be within the limits of the law. That is, we ourselves will be the ones who determine if certain content is or is not in violation of our policies. As to Facebook, there is a more simple regulation, which is the protection of the rights of another person.

This is like urging people to say that you will not have any reason for you to violate the rights of others. Facebook is also fairly clear when they say that they will remove any kind of content or information that they consider is violating their own regulation policies. That is, even if this is, or it's not questionable, if we believe it is, we have the right to remove that content, even without any need to tell the other party that this content is in violation of our laws.

Of course, Facebook is showing us some tools to remove our own content. And their own policy is that if a user is constantly violating the rights of another person, they can delete that account whenever they consider that properly.

One of the issues to deal with the matter that we're going to focus on today, is well, I'm actually going to refer to the Paraguay law. We can say that as for trademarks, they are the same as in most of the countries in the region.

In Paraguay, there is something very interesting I'm going to mention right now. When we talk about trademark violation, we are thinking of forgeries, typically. If somebody buys a product and they use the brand or the trademark with no authorization from the brand owner, and the user is led to believe that it is coming from the real owner, typically we'll refer to Nike garments that are forged, and if somebody is buying a garment that has the Nike logo, you may believe that it is true.

It is the right garment. So, normally, when there is a trademark violation online, you mention the trademark of a third party with no commercial end, but actually have an informational end. This informational end may become an abusive use, and this is when violations to trademark that I want to mention come in.

The Paraguay legislation, as opposed to legislation in other countries, show an interesting regulation. This is, applies even for non-commercial brand. This is our section 84 of our trademark brand. These refer to using a sign that is similar to a commercial brand, even when you refer to non-commercial, when you have no commercial purposes, and when this can call a delusion of the distinctive force, in that case, it is causing a violation.

So if you're using a third party brand, even if you're not trying to sell a product, or when you want to show a brand, you may be abusing that

brand, and you, of course, are committing a violation. Also, Paraguay has a chapter dealing with unfair competition.

Even if there is no violation to the trademark, your actions against others in trade will also lead them to violate the rights of third parties. Article 81 applies exactly to the use of third party brands on the internet. And they say the use or [inaudible] of indications of brands with a capacity to [danger?] the use of others, will be considered that.

We will also now enter into the limitation of liability. That is, in case there is a brand online, what is the limitation that Facebook establishes for the user? So here we see that Facebook gets very categorical in terms of the limitation of liability. Facebook states that if somebody sues us, we will be responsible for you as a user, and you as a user will have to provide compensation for the damage that you made to a third party with your publication.

But now we find the second or third spot. Who is Facebook to say that they will not be liable and that they will make another person liable for their content? So this is one of the first issues we find, and this goes against what many of the legislation states in terms of liability.

The second point is an important one. When we talk about the liability that the social media may have, due to the contents of a third party violating the rights of another party. So when we talk about this limitation, social media in general say that, if there is a problem, they will provide a solution for the use of that. When that third party we're talking about, the damage third party, has no relation with the

company, it's not a Facebook user, nor part of that network, what would be the liability of the social media in that respect?

Paraguay, like European Union, passed a law of e-commerce, that covers similar issues related to the protection of consumers, using the internet, but there is a whole chapter regulated, the liability of the service provider. In this respect, we have four categories.

The intermediation service provided, the one that provides the data houses, that would be the social media. In the case of the intermediation, as to one that provides internet service, then we have the link supplier, maybe a social media as well, when I post a link that is linked to some other page, and then the temporary copy services that will be the browser engine, or the search engine.

When we talk about the social media, what is the liability when you post content that infringes the right of a third party, and to what extent that social network would be liable for that infringement? So the law is very clear in this respect.

The social network will not liable when the data warehouses services provided by the service addressee, the supplier should not be liable for the data stored at the request of the addressee provided the address. The service is not [inaudible] and therefore under the control of the supplier, is it?

DEV ANAND TEELUCKSINGH: Dev Anand Teelucksingh.

FABRIZIO MODICA: There is an infringement [CROSSTALK] social network...

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. Fabrizio, unfortunately, we do not have more time. Could you please summarize because the agenda is a lot longer? We have some other speakers waiting.

FABRIZIO MODICA: Fabrizio speaking. I'm concluding. This is the last part of my presentation. So, the requirements is that first of all, the person should not know the activities [inaudible], or if [inaudible] the supplier shall withdraw and delete all the data. But if this is not the case, I'm saying, somebody is infringing my right, my trademark, they know about it and Facebook does nothing, Facebook would be liable.

I wanted to mention one other case about the webpages, it was the front page on Facebook, in fact. It was the [inaudible] and it is very well known in Paraguay, but some users created two pages, [inaudible] and [inaudible], because they were not happy with that page, so they [inaudible] we are not [inaudible].

So they tried to eliminate [inaudible] that those created the contents that we are not authorized by [inaudible], and [inaudible] said that it was not an infringement, but it was a fake user. Then they were saying that the user was an abusive one, and according to the trademark, was generating damages. And [inaudible] said that there was no problem, it was the freedom of expression.

So that there was an absent user that was saying something about the name. But they say that there was an abuse and so they didn't take an action, they would have to face the consequences based on the law. But, I have no more time so I cannot talk about two competitors about two brands.

So unfortunately, this is it, and thank you very much for your attention.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. Thank you very much Fabrizio. And I certainly apologize for having cut you down in your presentation, but unfortunately we do not have time for a Q&A session. So, thank you very much for your presentation.

And we are now going to move to our next speaker.

FABRIZIO MODICA: Fabrizio speaking. Thank you very much. Anyway, I will leave you my email in the last slide. So if you have any questions, you can send me an email and I will answer it.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. Thank you very much. Andres Piazza, you have the floor.

ANDRES PIAZZA:

Andres Piazza speaking. Good evening Humberto. Hello everybody. Thank you very much [inaudible] for having called me, and for all the reminder you send this, I was able to speak here.

I'm very proud to be in LACRALO, I speak once in a while here, but this is the first time that I'm using my LAC TLD hat. So, I will say hi to all of my colleagues. I've been in the community, for those who do not know me, from the very beginning, some many years ago. And I joined some other communities, IP addresses and now territory names. And I'm speaking on behalf on LAC TLD, that is the Latin American, the Caribbean Top Level Domain.

They represent the regional TLDs. It's a non-for-profit organization, we're headquartered in Uruguay, I'm not going to introduce our organization for a long time, but I would like to make some references to some of the issues to some of the main topics.

There is one topic that caught our attention, I'm here to open to your questions, to start a dialogue. I know that we have very few minutes, but I would love to hear your comments or to listen to your questions because I know there are lots of people here who have lots of information about issues as well.

So LAC TLD represents, because it's not an operator function, but group, the TLDs, and tries to show the concerns of our members, of this territory names. In many case, like I know like [Nicky?] [inaudible], that is here, is the one in charge of the TLD of El Salvador [inaudible] El Salvador.

Many of you know him. And they certainly have made a great contribution, and started from their foundational efforts to the internet, in most cases, and in all cases I would say, that they are part of the critical infrastructure.

Perhaps critical infrastructure we would like to use, speaking to the regulators, [inaudible] because it's not [inaudible], but this is an infrastructure without which the normal development of all economies of the governments of the country, at least based on the current situation, would not be able to work.

So think about a country not being in charge of their infrastructure, what happened with the emails, with backend, so that in many cases, I think it's important to be in LACRALO. ccTLDs should try and make sure you have your opinion in your country, that at the general level, there is a problem with the users' community.

There are expressions very much from the communities. And one of the processes that are [behind?] the new gTLDs, is a cross community working group on the use of territory names, and we have a link to this group. And I would like to call your attention, to those of you that are working with other languages, one month ago, there was an initiative of the two character ASCII labels.

I will try and summarize this comment, because LAC TLD is worried that there may be some domains related to a country code name on the new gTLD, so is to be a straightforward, LAC TLD, the border LAC TLD based on this policy group that is made by people from the very registers, have recommended that this registration not be reopened.

There are lots of reasons for that. The point is, there will be more complexity in DNS registration, and the territory names discovered by ccTLD in most cases, because they match one another, so it will not contribute any additional value. The registration has to be short and direct.

Now registration of this [inaudible] will not provide any information about what's the difference with ccTLDs. And let's say that every ccTLD has to be accountable to its own community in the territory, and they may be re-delegated, if possible, in some cases, and at the same time, they may be in touch with their communities as part of what I do here.

So I think, and I hope to hear from you, that the ccTLD are more related to the capacity training throughout the communities because they are also internet users. There is a principle that is related to the need to use resources as much as possible, provided resources are available, and we are talking about the key internet resources.

This statement also says that if there are new registrations related to country codes, or similar to country codes, some other options of the proposal should be considered, particularly when there is no authority sufficient within the 30 day period, let's say that the government should learn about that, and the ccTLD says well, but doesn't mention how and if one or the other of those would have to say something, so it should be consistent, and both parties should be offered the opportunity, but I've really summarized it very briefly and very quickly.

But the point is that both parties should have that capacity before [inaudible] satisfied, let's say regarding this process. This working group

that [inaudible] has made some comments, particularly the representation of the region was not large, we had some people from Argentina, the administration has changed [inaudible], [inaudible] from dot CI is quite active, representing some interests that are similar to the one included in the statement of LAC TLD.

And we didn't see much people from At-Large, from our region, and in particular our region, nobody from At-Large. And I want to call your attention, because I think that some interests may be effected, a collective interest I would say, the interest of our communities, and the generic TLDs [inaudible].

And it's not only related to the financial aspect. [Inaudible] the market [to expand?] the market. Excuse me. For those who listening on the Spanish channel, we're having a kind of a cold. Spring is not here yet.

So, I think that we have to discuss all of this. I would love to open the dialogue so that you may make comments, you may ask questions, I think we would have captured your attention in this respect, particularly provided the development of the group.

We think that from LAC TLD, we think that there should be a discussion, an open one, and a cross community discussion, and any decision made regarding the development of policies, should include not only one comment, but there should be a dialogue, a discussion with all parties involved, because we think that some other stakeholders may have some other perspectives.

And we would like to hear from you. Alejandro, I think you wrote a comment, is that right? I think it's in the same [line], but I would like to talk to you. So this is it from my side.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. Thank you very much Andres for your presentation. And your presentation was shorter, so we have time for questions and answers. Maritza, can you please help me? Are there any questions in the chat?

MARITZA AGUERO: Maritza Aguero speaking. Alejandro Pisanty has his hand up, and he had wrote a comment. And he says, "In Mexico, the government open a consultation regarding the two character names and others in the discussion of GAC members of ISOC Mexico, [inaudible] and [inaudible] phone call, and UIA. Said something similar to what Andres Piazza has said. Principle statement were technical at launch, so as to avoid confusion with general uses. We promoted the motion in that respect in LACRALO some other times, but I think it did not move forward as Andreas has said, is this necessary?"

I don't know, Alejandro Pisanty, if you want to say something more? Or Andres may say something regarding Alejandro's comment.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco. Thank you very much. Alejandro, please, you may speak.

ALEJANDRO PISANTY: Alejandro Pisanty speaking. Thank you very much, Maritza. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. Alejandro Pisanty speaking. Can you all hear me?

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. Yes, we hear you.

ALEJANDRO PISANTY: Alejandro Pisanty speaking. I would like to say something toward Maritza has read, has been kind enough to read. Andres has said something, and I have said something [inaudible] Andres says, there is some activity regarding [inaudible] group that they are against this restriction we are supporting.

And there is a reference with three character name that said only match the [inaudible] list. So the conversation of resources, this is the first argument. And the second is related to At-Large, [I space?], that is to reduce the opportunities [inaudible] by users. So there is regulation cannot take advantage of confused users. They certainly are not, or do not have as much information as we have.

And not [inaudible] intervention of governments to markets that should be open, so by intervening, or by making presentations to the Mexican authorities, is not to strengthen the position of governments, that you maintain as much as possible, and as clear as possible, the name space, so that when people think they are [keying in?] the name of a country or a territory, they are searching to something relating to that.

We are seeing the difficulties of finding the two character names below the new gTLDs. We have a lot of consultations in that respect, and we have kept the Mexican government to provide such a response, so as to give some orientation regarding their meaning.

There are some names, for instance, point MX, is not just the Mexican ccTLD, but it's only used within the infrastructure of the networks to appoint the mail exchangers. So there are servers that redirect mails below a top level domain. So, we should not increase that confusion, and I think that would be valuable for LACRALO to have an informed discussion in that [blueprint?], so as then to reach some conclusions.

I don't know if we would have to make a motion in that respect, or if any organizations that are closely related like ISOC El Salvador, may make that proposal.

ANDRES PIAZZA:

This is Andres Piazza speaking. Thank you very much Alejandro for your contribution. Let me just say that NIC Mexico is one of the more active members of LAC TLD. They bring this concern to the table, and it seems the internal discussion in Mexico, has nourished what we saw later on. It seems that in LACRALO, the same is happening now with your intervention.

My suggestion is, I don't know if we have time for it. What I want to say is that, if there is any discussion that's different from your discussion, first we need to validate that, and then, if there is a joint view of this, this is not as I imagine it, but because I am a member of this community, I think I can share my view.

But I am open to discuss any issues, and only for regional expressions, but also we should allow for other users out of the region to join us in this.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: This is Humberto speaking. Thank you very much Andreas. I believe we can have a discussion at some other time, and definitely I do believe this is a very interesting issue. I think we can create some kind of mailing list, or some kind of taskforce, with the aim to work together or to try to see what the positions of the LACRALO members are.

ANDRES PIAZZA: This is Andres Piazza speaking for the record. My suggestion, Humberto, is that maybe you can appoint a number of people from your community. I see now Alejandro is now seconding the motion to supporting the LAC TLD [inaudible]. Now, there is a follow-up. There must be...

We must be able to follow this discussion, and if you can have maybe one or two delegates who can talk to me, and talk to [inaudible] Morales, or to someone in Mexico, maybe we can have a continuous dialogue on this. This is an issue that's evolving, and it goes beyond the original statement.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: This is Humberto speaking. I think this is an excellent idea, Andres, because we want to do collaborative work with you, and to be able to make this more permanent. I definitely believe that Alejandro Pisanty's

motion is a motion I support, definitely. I second it, if you so will. And I think it's an excellent idea to appoint one or two people from the community who are willing to work on this.

And to work with the people who have been participating, who have been engaged in this, in Mexico and in other countries. Are you there or have you left?

Hello? Can you hear me?

SILVIA VIVANCO: This is Silvia speaking. We are hearing you.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto speaking. Alberto now has the floor.

ALBERTO SOTO: This is Alberto Soto speaking. Just very quickly, I have a suggestion with respect to what Alejandro is saying. I think that with the secretariat meetings, both the chair and the secretariat can have discussions with the other RALOs, to see what their experience is, and what is it that they did with the two character domain names, and what mix can we have, or what confusion there may be within these domain names.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: This is Humberto speaking. Thank you Alberto. We will write down your suggestion, and we will provide it to the secretariat.

Maritza, can you please tell me if there are any other questions on this?

MARITZA AGUERO:

This is Maritza Aguero speaking. There are some comments that were written on the chat room, but there are no additional questions. Alberto Soto has raised his hand, I don't know if this is an old hand or if it is a new question. Alberto, can you please say if it is an old hand or not?

Alberto is now saying this is an old hand.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO:

Humberto speaking. Maritza, if so, what are the funding issues? This is Alejandro Pisanty's motion to support the LAC TLD statement. There is also the possibility of appointing two people to work permanently on this issue, based on the proposal by Andreas Piazza. These are action items, and there is also a suggestion from Alberto Soto to have a discussion with other RALOs to see how we can face these issues.

Having said this, I think we should now go to the next item on the agenda, which is the presentation on the charter, or the letter of principles of the information society in the Dominican Republic. Emanuel now has the floor, he will be in charge of the next presentation.

EMANUEL ALCÁNTARA: This is Emanuel speaking. Can you hear me? Thank you very much. Good evening to you all. It's a pleasure and a great honor to be speaking to you.

We have been called to have a presentation here, and we would like to share with you this very interesting exercise we did in ISOC in the Dominican Republic.

Our aim is to have a letter of principles, or a charter, from the information society in the Dominican Republic. I would like to focus on the fact that this exercise was conducted not only as a local chapter of the internet society, but also as At-Large. Some of you will know that last year, we, since last year, actually, we have been complying with all of the requirements to be recognized as an ALS, and finally by the end of November, early December last year, we finally could achieve this goal.

And throughout the year, we have been trying to integrate, or to engage more, in all of LACRALO's activities, especially in these kinds of calls. What then do we understand as a charter, or as a letter of principles?

We believe that these letters of principles is nothing more than a public declaration by each of the signers, where they put together a number of rules that are, as the rules necessary to orient us on the right route, that we believe is important to have in the information society in the Dominican Republic.

As you know, legislating on the internet and on each of the issues underlying the internet, is a very big challenge, because the internet is a

transnational entity, and each of the countries has their own legislation that differ from one case or the other. So our decision was to boost this letter of principles, because it is within what we call the soft law.

And this allows to establish a general framework to allow for better social actions. Then also, a charger is an exercise of direct democracy, and so we need to legislate, even though this is doing [inaudible] democracy, we are now referring here to the use of legislators. I am being told that there is, the voice is not coming out very well. I just want to know if you hear me fine.

SILVIA VIVANCO: This is Silvia Vivanco speaking. I think it's a bit choppy. Maybe if you can speak a bit closer to your mic, that would be appreciated.

EMANUEL ALCÁNTARA: This is Emanuel speaking. Can you hear me now?

SILVIA VIVANCO: It's okay now.

EMANUEL ALCÁNTARA: So let me continue then. As I was saying, we favor the initiative of the creation of a charter, because legislating, creating laws around the different issues that pertain to the internet and to information society, are definitely a challenge, because of the nature itself of all of these technologies.

Whereas, when we have a charter, it is easier to state, to establish certain rules that should be the guidelines of a certain aim, in this case, which is the internet, and the information society in the Dominican Republic. And then also, following the soft law trend, these allow for making it easier to have a better social action.

Now, writing and discussing this letter was, or implied a call for the different stakeholders in the Dominican Republic, and throughout the different months, we attended different people, and we had the possibility to use our rights in the different fields. So each of us who was present at those meetings, we had our own ideas of the principles to limit this charter, that was finally created last August.

Because we don't have a lot of time, I'm going to go very quickly, to say that one of the 13 principles that gave rise to... I'm going to mention these principles that gave rise to this letter, and then we're going to be open, of course, to any questions that you may have.

Principle number one is that the internet should be open, free. Let me just recheck this. The internet has to be free, open, safe, stable, inclusive, neutral, and for everybody.

Human rights are recognized, they're protected, protected and encouraged within and outside the network for all the people inhabiting the Dominican Republic.

When assessing the internet, there should be no restriction. This is a universal right for each person inhabiting the Dominican Republic. Principle number four, the internet is a space for dialogue, where there is a right to the freedom of expression, and a right to excess the

information. These are all fundamental rights that are recognized by the Constitution of the Dominican Republic.

The internet is a space where we have a right to privacy and to honor. These are fundamental rights recognized by the Constitution of the Dominican Republic.

On the internet, diversity is ensured, and this includes spaces for minorities and for [inaudible] population. Principle number seven, the internet fosters the development of the Dominican Republic. The use of the internet allows for opening the doors for education and ideas.

Information by the state is to be free, except in the cases where the laws are established. This is what has been called the open government. Principle number eight, the internet is an element to enable sustainable human development, and it has been mandatory for all the stakeholders, that are dealing with the informational digital literacy.

Principle number nine, net neutrality is a principle that is to be provided for every person inhabiting the Dominican Republic, and capacity development, or capacity building, is essential for information to be spread out by digital media, and if it can be done properly with special focus on minorities and vulnerable populations.

Principle number 11 states it's important to create trust among everybody in the use of the internet. Information, security, this will be implemented both in public as well as in private spheres.

Principle number 12, it is important to establish institutionally, recognizing the involvement of all stakeholders. This is the multistakeholder base, and it has to be applied by the government, and serve as the coordinator of the digital policies.

And finally, number 13 is, we need to create and use measurement mechanisms and evaluation mechanisms for these principles. Thank you very much.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto speaking. Maritza, can you please tell me if there is a question or a comment?

MARITZA AGUERO: Maritza speaking. There are no questions about in the chat about the comments made by Emanuel.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. So now we will give the floor to anybody who is willing to ask a question.

MARITZA AGUERO: Martiza Agüero speaking. Ricardo Holmquist has his hand up.

RICARDO HOLMQUIST: Ricardo Holmquist speaking. I hope you can hear me well. My question for Emanuel is, who has signed that letter, because the Dominican

Republic is proposing it to the various stakeholders? Or has somebody [inaudible]? I don't know, what about the stakeholders? Have they signed the letter or not? What's the state of that letter right now? Thank you very much.

EMANUEL ALCÁNTARA: Emanuel speaking. The initiative comes from ISOC Dominican Republic. And each of the open discussions that we held, where all stakeholders took part, because we received people from the government, from the civil society, business men, and citizens, regular citizens so as to express their views.

Right now, we are kind of a roadshow, so as to validate this because we are promoting it to the society in the Dominican Republic, and internationally as well.

HUMBETO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. Thank you very much. I think there is a question in the chat room. Fatima [inaudible] please?

MARITZA AGUERO: Maritza Aguero speaking. The question comes from Fatima Cambroner. It's a question for Emanuel. Why that you can see, is there a dot com that it was necessary to have specific principles for Dominican Republic when, for instance, there are several sets of regional and global principles in place?

EMANUEL ALCÁNTARA: Emanuel speaking. Thank you very much. Let's say that no principle is a specific one. We may open up the discussion on the basis of actions, we may say when you are willing to prepare a letter of principles, you would like, or our intention was to provide a framework, a general framework, as to give some guidelines to future initiatives of any nature, whether they may come from the executive branch, the legislative branch, or the court.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. Thank you very much. Maritza, I think there are no more questions, am I right?

MARITZA AGUERO: Maritza speaking. No, no, sorry, Lito Ibarra has just posted a question in the chat about, do you respect specific actions from stakeholders, the government, the business men, academia, civil society, once you socialize the letter of principles? For instance, those projects, request for international cooperation among others? This is a question for Emanuel.

EMANUEL ALCÁNTARA: Emanuel speaking. Thank you very much. Initially, we have not thought about specific actions from the stakeholder that has just been mentioned after socializing this ledger.

Perhaps in the future, if it possible, we might incorporate contributions that may reach it, or that may secure sustainability in the long run.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto speaking. Thank you very much Emanuel. Based on the time we have left, there will be no more talk or questions. I will now give the floor to our next speaker.

Roberto [inaudible] you have the floor. Are you there?

Can you please tell me whether [inaudible] is connected?

MARITZA AGUERO: Maritza Aguero speaking. Can we answer Christelle's question? Waiting for [inaudible]? Emanuel, are you still there?

EMANUEL ALCÁNTARA: Emanuel speaking. Yes, I'm here.

MARITZA AGUERO: Maritza Aguero speaking. Christelle says [inaudible] question about your presentation, and it says, "What does ISOC Dominican Republic thinking of doing to actually implement these principles?"

EMANUEL ALCÁNTARA: Emanuel speaking. Well, we may let's say, each action in the society in general, for instance, recently the senate have just called for a [inaudible], with respect to a draft bill to protect personal data and privacy. So to have this letter of principle, where you recognize from

the native, from the domestic perspective, what is, for us, the right to have privacy, is better, or [inaudible] set [inaudible].

Because we have been invited to the public audiences by the senate, so the implementation of this principles is to move step by step, and to be focused on the principles and give us the right to speak and have a vote as well.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto speaking. I think [inaudible] is ready, [inaudible] you have the floor then.

ROSA: [Inaudible] speaking. Can you all hear me? Okay, so if you can hear me, I will continue the... I had some problems with my mic. Thank you very much for your invitation. It's 2 AM in my country, so I will speak about the At-Large independent review team. Thank you very much Humberto and Maritza for this invitation.

I don't know if you know that the At-Large community, the At-Large independent review team started working in May this year, after the appointment of international, that is the firm that is one that is acting as independent review. This project started in May 2016 and will finish in March 2017.

As I said, it's led by [inaudible] international, headquartered in Paris. It's an independent review. I think that Maritza and the rest have sent relevant links, so as to start answering. And I hope you may start

sending the answers because we would like to include as much as definitions as possible before ICANN meeting in Hyderabad.

So on September 15, we sent a questionnaire, and it will finish, the period will finish on October 23rd for answering that questionnaire. If you're willing to participate, you may participate because all RALOs, ALSs, the regular attendance to ICANN meetings, all those participating in the ICANN space, people that participate in internet governance forum, everyone that is interested in ALAC to approve, to be more effective.

How much time do you need to answer this questionnaire? From 25 to 30 minutes. It depends on how many answers you would like to answer if you want to provide more detail for not, so you would define. We have made several [inaudible], and with respect to privacy, the name, the identity, the information supplied in this questionnaire is confidential information.

This data will not be published. We are doing the translation into French and Spanish, and they are about to be ready this week. At least, this is our timetable. The questionnaires have been longer than what translators have done that we are trying to publish the French and Spanish versions this week.

If you need any information, you may send it to Joe [inaudible], he's the person leading the process [inaudible] that I'm leading the Latin American the Caribbean region with Nick [Tom?] is in charge of the [inaudible] team from Africa. Tom is leading Europe and North America. So we have divided that way, so that any of us can be asked whatever

question. And I'm going to send two or three slides that I have tried and prepared tonight, so that you may have the information with the links, the date, and all the things you need to know.

What are the purposes of this review? At-Large should be more effective, more effective and more efficient as part of the ICANN community. The objective as well is to identify certain areas for improvement, to put certain changes, to assess from the components of the At-Large community what are the aspects that need to be improved, and the basis for improvement as well.

We are trying to work with [inaudible] information, using different methods of work like the questionnaire that would be the most important too, because we are going to gather information from all of you. We are going to hold some interviews, I have already made some interviews to different At-Large people from Latin American, but not only At-Large.

I have tried to interview people not only belonging to At-Large and ICANN, but to other areas, so as to know how these people view At-Large, how are the good view At-Large. The first information will be shared in the meeting of Hyderabad in India. We are going to present there the first information because the questionnaire, the period to answer the questionnaire is until October, so it is one week before the Hyderabad meeting.

We are going to gather [inaudible] information, and I don't know if you have any questions now.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Humberto Carrasco speaking. Thank you very much, Rosa. You have been very precise. Maritza, are there any questions in the chat box?

MARITZA AGUERO: This is Maritza speaking. There are no questions in the chat room. But actually, somebody just asked, when can we have these surveys translated into Spanish so that the community members can have access to that information?

ROSA: Rosa speaking now. Well, as I was saying, in principle, this week, the translators are working to have this document finished and translated, but we're going to have to review this because we will probably have to review both the French and the Spanish. And we expect the questionnaires to be sent this week.

Now, if there is some delay, we'll just try to postpone that date as well. However, for the time being, the only version we send so far is the English version. Maritza, I also wanted to ask, I know that some people have started to answer the English version. I know we've discussed this by email, but we would like to spread this out as much as possible, and to try to send it this week, if possible, I mean to send the French and Spanish versions.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: This is Humberto speaking.

MARITZA AGUERO: Now Maritza speaking. We're going to send this... This is Maritza Aguero for the record. Rosa, we're going to forward your survey in English, but of course, we will await the Spanish and French versions so that we can forward them as well, and we can complete it within the set timeframe.

ROSA: This is Rosa speaking. Thank you Humberto, thank you very much for allowing me to speak during this time.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: This is Humberto speaking now. You're welcome Rosa. It was very important to listen to you explain what you have stated for the whole community. We were aware of this, but it's good that you stated this for the whole community.

ROSA: This is Rosa speaking. If you can allow me to speak a little more, I have been listening to at least two people who have said that there may be some confusion between the mediation process and the independent review process. I just want to say that they are completely independent, one does not depend on the other at all. The mediation process is progressing. We do not intervene in the mediation process, but let me just state again that they are completely different and they are completely independent. Thank you.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: This is Humberto speaking. Thank you Rosa. They are then two independent processes. I'm going to be very brief before I go onto the next item. Let me just say the mediation process is progressing. It should technically be completed in January of next year. Alberto Soto has been asked a question in this regard and this has been answered by email.

Now, we have also sent a survey to establish with our domain issues in LACRALO. Alejandro Pisanty made a formal motion, and I'm going to discuss this with Maritza. And if this brings more advantages, we probably will modify it in the terms of his stating. However, let me say that I am going to discuss this with Maritza, and then I'm going to answer this by tomorrow.

So, we don't really have a lot of time. So Maritza, let's see if we can go to the next item on the agenda. Maritza, did you want to go back to Andres Piazza's issue? Can you please tell us something more about this?

MARITZA AGUERO: This is Maritza speaking for the record. There was something still, that we still needed to identify. There is a motion for LAC TLD and Alejandro Pisanty has formally proposed that we needed at least, need at least two people. I don't know if Alejandro Pisanty is still in the call, maybe he can state if he would like to be part of the group, and if so, maybe he can suggest another person, or there may be some other people, person, in the community to volunteer for this.

ALEJANDRO PISANTY:

This is Alejandro Pisanty speaking. There are two aspects [inaudible] together, but at the same time separately. One is the formal motion to support the LAC TLD statement. This has been formally submitted. It has approximately five supports, especially by Vanda, Aida, and Alberto Soto. And so the secretariat and the chair may do only one thing, which is to process this following the procedures for all of our statements.

And this requires a public consultation, and then a discussion, and then we need to state the timeline to submit this on time. There is no alternative. This is a motion that has already been submitted. The second item is an invitation by Andreas, so that we appoint two individuals to be liaisons.

This is beyond the declaration LACRALO may issue, and if LACRALO issues no declaration, or it's a different statement, the results of the process, as we have mentioned, we can still have two volunteers who can build liaisons, and accompany the process until its completion.

I have already volunteered, and if there is no other volunteer, I think it would be healthy to remember that we should never have this kind of important resolutions if we do not follow the spirit of IETF, ICANN, and many other organizations, and we need to give time until the mailing list can show other people who, for different reasons, such as [inaudible], their work, or [inaudible], may participate in this discussion.

And we need to have a brief but reasonable time for other people to volunteer. And I repeat, we need to process the motion so that we can have other alternate viewpoints, or to have certainty of who these people are. Thank you.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: This is Humberto speaking.

MARITZA AGUERO: Now Maritza speaking. Alejandro, we're going to consider these issues.

This is Maritza still speaking. We are going then to send this issue by email, so that all of the members of the community can have a say, and be involved. Someone was about to intervene?

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: This is Humberto Carrasco speaking. I am now giving you the floor, Mr. Carlos Vera.

CARLOS VERA: I hope you are listening to me properly. This is Carlos Vera speaking. I support the motion, sometimes when we are on the phone only, it's a bit complicated, and I'm sorry I had to interrupt, but this is what we have so far.

And I know there is this very small group, and I would like to know if Alejandro is going to work on this group. Thank you.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: This is Humberto speaking. Thank you very much Carlos. Humberto still speaking. If there is anything else, Maritza, in the chat room that you can tell us about?

MARITZA AGUERO: Maritza speaking. There are no more questions or comments in the chat room.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: This is Humberto speaking. Thank you very much. This has been a very fruitful meeting. We are then going to process Alejandro's request, and I would like to thank you and to say good evening, good morning, and good afternoon.

MARITZA AGUERO: This is Maritza speaking. Thank you very much. This call is now adjourned.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]