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MARIO ALEMAN: The LACRALO monthly call on Monday, April 17, 2017 at 23:00 UTC.

On the call today, we have on the Spanish channel Humberto Carrasco, Maritza Aguero, Sergio Salinas Porto, Valeria Betancourt, Emmanuel Alcántara, Wladimir Dávalos, Alfredo Lopez, Antonio Medina Gómez, Harold Arcos, Valeria Betancourt, Aida Noblia, Luis Martinez, Antonio Medina Gómez, Ezequiel Da Silva and Nikenley Severe.

In the English channel we have Heidi Ullrich.

And from staff we have Silvia Vivanco and myself, Mario Aleman. I will be managing this call.

Our interpreters for the Portuguese – we have no speakers, no participants on the Portuguese and French channels. Our interpreters for today are Veronica and Marina, Bettina in the Portuguese channel and Jacques and Isabelle in the French channel.

I would like to remind you all to state your name before speaking, not only for the transcription but also for the interpreters. And now, I would like to –

HEIDI ULLRICH: Mario, this is Heidi, if I may.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Heidi, you have the floor. Go ahead, please.

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*Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.*

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes, sorry to interrupt. I just wanted to let you know that Albert Daniels and myself are on the call as well. Thank you.

MARIO ALEMAN: Thank you very much, Heidi, and welcome Albert Daniels. We are updating the participants list in the different channels. Thank you.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Thank you very much. I would like to welcome you all. Good morning, good afternoon and good evening, everyone. We have already had the roll call, so now I will give the floor to Maritza Aguero for her to proceed with the adoption of the agenda. So, Maritza, go ahead, please. You have the floor.

Maritza, are you there? Hello, Maritza? Is Maritza on the call, or I have to drop the call? Hello?

SILVIA VIVANCO: I think we are not hearing Maritza. She's very faint. We cannot hear her on the phone, but perhaps she is connected to the Adobe Connect. So, if that is the case, we might continue.

MARIO ALEMAN: Humberto, sorry for interrupting you. I will work this out with Maritza so that we can connect her to the call. I think there is a confusion with our connection, so I will sort this out.

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HUMBERTO CARASCO: If that is the case, what I will do is I will proceed with the adoption of the agenda so that we can start at once. Today, we will be dealing with different topics. The first item has to do with human rights in Internet and local initiatives. So, we will have the participation of Valeria Betancourt. She's out Communications and Information Policy Program Manager for the Association for Advancement of Communications.

Then, we will continue our agenda with the following item: we'll have a presentation by Carlton Samuels on the Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Draft Report. He will be talking about the report of this review. This is a draft report.

And then we will continue with Item #6 on the agenda. This case we will be dealing with the proposed fundamental Bylaws changes and this topic will be presented by León Sanchez.

After that, we will have Alberto Soto. Alberto will be talking about an item that was pending from our last call. This has to do with the reporting of events and activities. Sorry, this is another topic. Sorry for that. I made a mistake. So, Alberto will be talking about the activities carried out by the ALSes. So, he has five minutes for this.

Then we will have Sergio Salinas Porto. He will be talking about the reactivation of the Governance Working Group.

And then Item #9 on the agenda is Any Other Business, so if there is any other business to deal with, we can talk about this in this item on the agenda.

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So, this is the agenda for today. We will be adopting the agenda, and now I will give the floor to Valeria Betancourt. Valeria, I would like to thank you on behalf of the region for your presentation, for dealing with this interesting topic, and you have the floor. Go ahead, please.

VALERIA BETANCOURT: Thank you very much for letting me be here with you. Can you hear me? Can you confirm that?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes, we can hear you very well, so go ahead, please.

VALERIA BETANCOURT: Thank you very much. I would like to thank you all for inviting me to participate. I am the Communications and Information Policy Program Manager, and the idea is to get involved in the different ICANN structures, so I would like to thank you for this opportunity to share our view on a very important topic that is part of our work in our organization, and that is a very important topic in our working agenda.

So, I was asked to speak about the perspective that we have on the Internet access issue. We have a perspective or a point of view that has to do with human rights. And I would like to start by saying this: that one of the progresses, the main advancement at the global level and at a regional level for Latin America when it comes to Internet and Internet governance, and this debate of pace that we have, is the acknowledgement of the fact that Internet access is not only contributing to the promotion of the development processes, but it is

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also contributing to different efforts to promote social justice and many other efforts. And it also contributes to providing opportunities to individuals for the fulfillment of their rights.

So, this is something very important for us because we have this general knowledge that Internet may contribute to the development of end users. And why is this important? Because we can work in the public tier and with Internet access, we can also generate access from a perspective of human rights.

What does this mean? This means that we will be able to recognize based on the fact that we take human rights into account this is our analysis – that was the basis for the analysis, and based on these, we are promoting the possibility of having good Internet governance.

So, what happens when we have good Internet governance? Well, what happens is this: we can implement new public policies, suitable policies oriented to granting universal access and a quality access. So, in this sense, I'm convinced that we will all agree on the fact that when we have universal access, locals access and quality access, well, we are incrementing the opportunity of having more users and of using this access for different purposes, for example for development of a region for improving the collective performance of our groups and our communities, or improving the opportunities for our communities, the education opportunities for people, but we're also reinforcing democracy, not only by reinforcing the freedom of speech and by participating in the public sphere, but we're also moving forward in terms of inclusion, in terms of political, social and cultural development. And this is very important to reinforce the democratic system.

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However, we're still discussing this issue of Internet access, and we need to consider this from a human rights perspective. And we have this issue of people who are connected and people who are not connected, and we also have to pay attention to the public policies in this regard because many of these issues have to do with having people connected and people not connected.

So, we believe it is very important to improve this for the Latin American context, because unfortunately, this context means that Latin America is an unbalanced region in many senses, and we have a segregation sometimes of access. So, the idea is to reflect the imbalances in the region, and sometimes they're not very visible when we speak about people who are connected and people who are not connected. So, we believe that considering the Internet access from a human rights perspective would allow us to promote the technical and human capacities and skills so as to promote connectivity, especially at the local level.

And at the same time, we need to take into account other issues which are limiting somehow this aspect, especially when we speak about small markets, and this is the case for many countries in the region.

On the other hand, this is not the only issue that we need to address. We also have some other issues related to rights in the region, but there are some other issues that have to do with people who are connected, because Internet access which is controlled is not a real access.

We have many threats in the region that have to do not only with the blocking or the censorship of contents, but also, as you already know,

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there are many issues regarding the interference in diversity by different practices or by different – for example catching or capturing the personal data. We have the case and example of Brazil, where localization data or the retention of data is being seriously dealt with in the community.

We also have some other threats that have to do with the application of the intellectual property rights, and of course, this is something very critical in Ecuador or also the violation to other laws, and the violation of content and business model. So, I believe the Colombia example is a clear example in this sense.

We also have a kind of attack, if you will, against the openness of Internet by the adoption of these private solutions such as the solutions adopted by Facebook, because they are all aiming at dissolving or removing the diversity of content.

When it comes to Latin America, the issue of diversity is a crucial topic, and of course, we have to take this into account and we need to analyze this because there seems to be a reduction in the diversity of voices and players, and this topic is also related to this phenomenon of the concentration, if you will, the control of property, the control of infrastructure, the control of platforms, of different services, because we know we have these cross-property formulas, and at the same time the convergence of technologies and industries and services that are affected by this.

So, these are some of the topics, these are some of the challenges that we're facing when it comes to rights in the region. Of course, they are

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being dealt by different players, by for example the civil society, the technical community, the private sector is also involving in this regard. It's also committing to working in terms of abuse policies so as to be able to reduce the negative impact on the issue of rights.

But we also have to take into account different instances such as the UN and/or the work carried out by the different rapporteurs of the United Nations. And when it comes to the Latin American region, we have different [processes] such as the Regional Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean, the LAC IGF. I believe these forums help us to advance, to make progress in many of these topics, and also in the creation of alliances to be able to promote practices and to be able to work together to reinforce human rights.

So, there is an additional risk that I would like to mention, and this has to do with security. There is a kind of trend, if you will, to turn many Internet policy aspects into security issues at the international level, and this is something that is being used as a pretext to have an excessive control not only on the network infrastructure but also on the content of Internet.

And we know we are contributing somehow to perpetuate this dichotomy that is against diversity and human rights, so we need to work together so as to be able to solve this and to adopt practical measures to be able to improve Internet security and to promote security, privacy and other human rights.

And I would like to take this opportunity to speak about some of the issues that we have been working on during the last years, and this has

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to do with ICANN policies and human rights. This is a relationship that not long ago was not quite feasible, and it remains to be a difficult relationship to understand. And I believe that the work being carried out within ICANN through this working group that was created on human rights within ICANN, great progress is being made in order to show the relationship between ICANN policies and human rights.

I would like to mention some examples. For example, if we think about the WHOIS database, as you know, this is the record of who is the owner of the domain name, and this can be consulted by any person, or whether for example if we take the creation of new gTLDs, this is also related to the freedom of speech, for example.

So, we have different domain names and we have criteria for that domain name. So, these are issues that are important, and if we also take into account the assignment of different domain names, for example .amazon that was assigned to the Brazilian government, or if we have .amazon assigned to the U.S., in this case we also have cultural rights-related.

As I said before, these are not easy issues. These are very complex topics, that's why there was a working group created to deal with all the topics.

One of the main activities of this working group was to identify the different ICANN policy processes that may have an impact on human rights, and based on this analysis, the working group has identified that there are at least seven human rights related to the ICANN work. This

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includes the diversity, variety, freedom of speech, participation, privacy, nondiscrimination right, as well as economic, social and cultural benefit.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Valeria, sorry for interrupting you. I just wanted to tell you that we're on time, and perhaps we need to speed up with the presentation.

VALERIA BETANCOURT: Okay. I just wanted to say that there is an infographic available to show the relationship between human rights and the ICANN policy, and that we also have a report regarding the domain name system, and we would like to make this available to you.

We analyzed the case of .patagonia and .amazon, so I believe this is important information for you to analyze this issue of ICANN and human rights. And I am at your disposal to answer any question or to help you with any topic that you would like to go through.

As I said before, this is a very complex issue and the relationship between ICANN and human rights is also complex.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Thank you very much, and I see there is a hand raised. This is Fatima Cambroner. You have the floor. Fatima, are you there? Because we cannot hear you. Those of us who are on the phone, we cannot hear what Fatima is saying. I am sorry. We apologize because we cannot hear you. We can hear you over the Adobe platform but not over the phone line.

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FATIMA CAMBRONERO: Hello, can you hear me okay now?

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Fatima, are you there? Fatima, we can hear you now.

FATIMA CAMBRONERO: Can you hear me, Humberto?

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Are you there, Fatima? I can't hear you very well. I'm not able to understand you, sorry.

FATIMA CAMBRONERO: I will try to continue. Is anyone – phone?

MARITZA AGUERO: Can you hear me? Sorry.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: We can hear only over the Adobe Connect.

MARITZA AGUERO: I'm on the phone, and the problem is with the Adobe, because the previous speaker had the same problem. If you can hear me now, it's

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because I'm on the phone. Perhaps Fatima should be dialed out, or maybe she could type her question.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Thank you, Maritza. That's absolutely reasonable. We should ask if this problem can be solved as you suggest.

MARITZA AGUERO: Fatima, we can hear you over the computer but not over the phone. Perhaps you could make your question on the Adobe chat and I will rephrase it on my own.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Maritza, I think what you're suggesting is absolutely useful.

MARITZA AGUERO: Go ahead, Fatima, with your question. You can say it, and I will repeat it so that everybody can hear.

INTERPRETER: The interpreter apologizes, but the audio is very faint. We're not hearing.

MARITZA AGUERO: Fatima Cambroneró's question to Valeria is as follows: in the past, we referred to access to infrastructure. At present, from the user end

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perspective, what recommendations could Valeria give to improve access from the perspective of the end user? Thank you, Valeria.

VALERIA BETANCOURT: Can you hear me?

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Yes, we can.

VALERIA BETANCOURT: Fatima, thank you for your question. It is a very fundamental point of view. It is said that local solutions may be an alternative not only as a means to respond to individual and collective needs, but also in addition Internet infrastructure solutions are the way to go with high emphasis.

And this has to do with the promotion and maintenance of initiatives and efforts of community networks, of local networks, of autonomous networks which do not only offer a technical and material solution in terms of the infrastructure for access, but also develop the conditions necessary for interactive social dynamics around the use of that technology solution to provide connectivity infrastructure.

This is one of the areas which in our opinion are of extreme importance, which goes hand in hand with public access and strategy. Both local and central governments have a highly important role to play here.

There are those who say that perhaps the libraries could become points of public access, and that could be the first generation of access points.

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Actually, we believe that we should rather go for a renewal of those strategies with the new demands.

Public access is through libraries and data centers, community multipurpose datacenters is the way to go. And also to empower local actors so that they can develop their own solutions with community autonomous infrastructure solutions.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Thank you very much, Valeria. For the sake of time, we're not able to take any more questions, but we should thank you again, Valeria, for your very interesting presentation. It is true that this topic requires further analysis, so we're very happy. We thank you again, and we'll let you free. If you want to continue participating, you're more than welcome.

VALERIA BETANCOURT: Thank you very much. This is an opportunity for me to expand and to repeat my offer to be contacted at any time you need. Thank you very much, and I will leave the call. Thank you and see you soon.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Thank you. We're still with the Adigo problem, so if you have questions, please make them in writing. Otherwise, it would be too complicated to use Maritza as an intermediary because that will take a lot of time.

So, let's move on to the next item of our agenda, which is – let me see, because I don't remember – it's Item #5, which is going to be presented

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by Carlton Samuels: Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Draft Report.

So, Carlton Samuels, you have the floor. Carlton, are you there? Can you hear me? Hello, can you hear me? He's connected on the Adobe platform, so he has the same problem.

MARIO ALEMAN: Humberto, we will try to dial out Carlton because he is only on the Adobe platform. But he's on Skype, so we'll try to call him.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Yes, thank you very much. He's over at Adigo he says. At least we are able to see the slide on the screen. Carlton, I cannot hear you. I cannot hear actually the interpreters on the Spanish line.

SILVIA VIVANCO: I cannot hear Carlton Samuels. I don't know if Mario – will you please check if he's muted?

HUMBERTO CARASCO: No, because Aida says that he cannot be heard. Apparently, we're still having some technical issues. So, if I may, I would propose to move on to our next speaker, León Sanchez, while you work this technical issue out with Carlton, because of time constraints. Carlton, unfortunately, we cannot hear you either on Adobe or over the phone. We can't hear you either way. I apologize, Carlton, to you. If you agree, we will now

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give the floor to León, and then we'll come back to you. Do you think it's okay?

SILVIA VIVANCO: I think we should move on to the next speaker.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Yes, we will now then give the floor to León Sanchez for his presentation, and then we'll resume with Carlton once León is finished. León, are you there?

LEÓN SANCHEZ: Yes. Can you hear me?

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Yes. You have the floor.

LEÓN SANCHEZ: Thank you. Today, I want to talk about a public comment that is open, which involves the creation of a new committee in ICANN's Board. Historically –

CARLTON SAMUELS: This is Carlton Samuels.

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LEÓN SANCHEZ:

The Board Governance Committee was responsible for discussing the reconsideration request processes carried out on either actions or [remissions] by the staff or by ICANN. Given the significant increase in the number of reconsideration requests, the Board has considered that it would be convenient to set up a new Board committee to be responsible only for the management of these reconsideration requests. To this end, an amendment of ICANN's Bylaws would be required.

It would actually be an amendment of section 4.2 of article 4 of ICANN Bylaws. With this amendment, a new committee would be set up, which is the Board Accountability Mechanisms Committee, which would be responsible precisely to review all these reconsideration requests in accordance with the new Bylaws.

It is important for us to understand that it is the first time that the new Empowered Community that is set up after the transition has to grant its approval to an amendment of the Bylaws. If you remember, as an outcome of the transition, there were two types of Bylaws: the regular ones, and the fundamental Bylaws.

The fundamental Bylaws require for modification or amendment the affirmative vote of the Empowered Community for that change or amendment to come into effect. So, in this case, the amendment being discussed is change of a fundamental Bylaw. Therefore, it requires the approval of the community.

So, the process actually has not a significant impact on our everyday work. However, as this is the first time we have the power to exercise

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this Bylaw amendment power, the idea is that as soon as we know what is happening, we should discuss the impact and within ourselves.

Above all, on the charter of the responsibilities of this new committee, on the page, you can read the draft, both of the new Board Governance Committee as revised and the draft of the new Board Accountability Mechanism Committee.

I think that it would be relevant if we can provide our input and comments so that these drafts become stronger and we have a clear idea of the scope of this new committee and the scope as well as the old Board Governance Committee.

So, if I may, let me ask you that you should read the draft, and if you have any comment, well, [it is] to make the most of this process. Thank you very much.

HUMBERTO CARASCO:

Thank you, León. This is very interesting. Lito has made a comment on the chat, so now I will open the floor for questions on what León has said, or comments. I see no questions for the time being. Very interesting, as I said, and let's see what happens. So, comments will be until May 10<sup>th</sup>, that's the window for comments.

Okay, thank you, León. Very interesting. And, well, as there are no questions on the presentation you have made, I just thank you and we will now give the floor to Alberto Soto. No, sorry. Carlton should be taking the floor. Carlton Samuels, because we had to present before.

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CARLTON SAMUELS: Thank you. I hope you're hearing me now.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Before that, Antonio Medina has a question for León. This modification to the Bylaws is made by a voting process?

LEÓN SANCHEZ: Thank you, Humberto. Yes, actually, there is a voting process by the Empowered Community. As I said, there will be a process of comments and then a vote. There is a consensus process that establishes certain thresholds of approval depending on which Bylaw we are talking about.

If I'm not wrong, this requires three quarters of the SOs and ACs of the Empowered Community for approval. And as Lito has stated on the chat, it is quite an innocuous change. However, the idea here is to make the most of this innocuous process to learn how to address such changes.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: So, let me ask, what happens if the threshold is not reached?

LEÓN SANCHEZ: There's no approval.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: So, Antonio, I think you have the answer to your question. So, we're going back to Carlton. Thank you, León. And you have the floor.

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CARLTON SAMUELS: Thank you very much. I hope you're hearing me now. Are you hearing me? Hello?

INTERPRETER: Carlton, we can hear you very well. Thank you.

CARLTON SAMUELS: Okay. Thank you very much. We're going to talk about the CCT-RT Draft Report. The Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review is mandated by the Affirmation of Commitments that was signed between ICANN and the Department of Commerce of the United States government. That document lists 10, 11 commitments, and the Consumer Trust and Competition Review is mandated in 9.3 of that commitment.

Essentially, it requires ICANN – ICANN committed to have a review of the gTLD space on three bases after the introduction of new gTLDs. First, they must evaluate how New gTLD Program has promoted competition, consumer trust and consumer choice. Secondly, it should evaluate the effectiveness of the application and evaluation process for new gTLDs, and finally to evaluate the effectiveness of the safeguards that were enabled for gTLDs expansion.

The team was chartered about a year ago as a representative team. Kaili Kan – who is a member of the ALAC from China – and myself are the members endorsed by the ALAC. We started working, and at the beginning, we agreed as a team to a couple of goals.

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First, that we would do a data-driven assessment of the New gTLD Program. That is to say where we had data, we would make pronouncements. Where we did not have data, we would not speculate.

Secondly, we would policy related to the entry of new gTLDs should be informed by the output of the data and the analysis that we engaged in as a team.

The report, as you know, the draft report was published on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March. It is now in public comment phase, and that phase was scheduled to end on 27<sup>th</sup> of April. We now feel that that could be extended a little further. At least we are now requested by the GAC to have an extension to the public comment period, and I suspect we will have an extension for public comment. In the chat, you can see the access to the report, and we are encouraging all of you to read the report and make your comments.

So, let's talk a little bit about what we saw. The initial conclusion in the report said that there was some slight improvement in competition, consumer choice and adoption of safeguards, but we feel that it's too early to say specifically how much of this was real, because we were hampered by a lack of data and we are in the process of collecting some more data for analysis before the final report.

Key findings. We found that on balance, the expansion in the DNS marketplace has demonstrated some measure of increased competition, but definitely increased consumer choice, and we find that the impact on consumer trust and consumer rights, particularly

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trademark protection is only just now coming into view, and we don't have a full picture yet.

This report was written and released on condition that we accept that the New gTLD Program is only at a good start phase. There are a number of policy issues that should be addressed before any further expansion of the gTLD, and the lack of data for complete analysis drove much of our recommendations.

If you look at the recommendations, you will notice that we have 50 of them, and we have categorized them. So, we have four categories. First category is the prerequisites, and those contain 18 recommendations, and we feel that these 18 must be implemented prior to the launch of any new gTLD round.

The second category of our recommendations was the high priority recommendations. There were 16 of those, and we feel that these should be implemented within 18 months of our final report. The third category is the medium priority recommendations. There were eight of those, and these we are promoting implementation for them within 36 months of the final report.

Finally, we had a low priority category where there were eight of those, and we're saying that these should be implemented before the start of the next Competition and Consumer Trust Review. These are mandated by the AOC, by the way, to be every three years.

If you look at the 50 recommendations – and we spoke about the groupings – concerning the topics, the first recommendation is about data, and that is recommendation 1. The next seven recommendations

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from 2 to 8 is about competition. The four recommendations for consumer choice begin at recommendation 9 through 12. Consumer choice recommendations from 13 through 16, and the bulk of our recommendations is in the safeguards category where there are 26 of them, starting from number 17 through 42. And we have finally eight recommendations in the application and evaluation process.

Just a little bit about how we went about the report and data driven. The primary data sources were the Nielsen consumer surveys, and there were two sets of them: one in 2015 and another set in 2016. We had registrant survey by the same Nielsen group, and we had two of those in 2015 and 2016. We have economic study results that was executed by the Analysis Group, and we have an applicant survey that was done by Nielsen.

We had a specific survey that was geared towards what was happening in the marketplace in the global south, which included Latin America and Caribbean region, and that was executed by AM Global. We had a few interesting pieces of data from that report. We had parking rates in legacy gTLDs from nTLStats and we had the ICANN safeguards against DNS Abuse programs by staff that became part of the corpus of data that we analyzed for the report.

We are very mindful that in some areas, we are light on data. So, for example, we know we need additional data on the parking concept. We need additional data on pricing whether at the wholesale, retail or at the global or regional levels, we need additional data for competition analysis and substitution behavior, we need programs to track and facilitate applications, we need to know more about the abuse database

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on the levels of consumer complaints to ICANN and the registries and registrars, and we need to know more about the DNS abuse rates in the legacy versus the new gTLDs system.

All in all, the data collection is ongoing. We still have two major data events that we're waiting for. Those findings will be incorporated before the final report. We would urge you to look at the recommendations in detail. I would urge you to look at the 26 recommendations especially for safeguards, because those are mostly concerning end user interests.

And if you feel that there's something that we have missed from the report, we would urge you to make your comment on the wiki or through the e-mail system for the report. The staff assessment will take a whole month, so between the 27<sup>th</sup> of April to the end of May when all the comments would have been categorized and analyzed by staff, before the final report is printed, we would urge you all to take some time, read the report in full and make your comments. Thank you very much. I think I'll stop there.

HUMBERTO CARASCO:

Thank you very much, Carlton, for your presentation. I would like to give the floor to the audience just to see if there is any question for Carlton. This is a very interesting topic. I think Antonio is typing something. Am I wrong, Antonio? Maritza, would you like to take the floor? I see your hand on the AC room. You have the floor. Go ahead, please.

I see someone is typing. Maritza, can you hear us? Hello, Maritza, can you hear us? Maritza, sorry, we cannot hear you.

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Okay, so let me remind you of the period of time for comments. The public comment period closes on April the 27<sup>th</sup>, so we only have 10 days. So, that is something that I wanted to say.

I don't know if there are any comments or questions about Carlton's presentation. Carlton is saying that there is a Spanish version available.

Okay, so, Carlton, thank you very much for your presentation. This was a very interesting presentation. Thank you for your time.

I know that in the Caribbean region, today is a holiday, so thank you very much for participating in our meeting, and I would like to give the floor to Alberto Soto for him to proceed with the next item on the agenda. He will be telling us about the events and activities carried out by the ALSes. Alberto, you have the floor. Go ahead, please.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you very much. Can you hear me?

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Yes, very well. Go ahead, please.

ALBERTO SOTO: Sorry, but in our last meeting, I had some technical issues. I do not live in Buenos Aires, so today I am in Buenos Aires so as to be able to provide you with the report. So, the idea is within these five minutes is to give you information. I will be posting a link on the chat with my presentation, so please, read this presentation. This presentation is in

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English and in Spanish. And there, you will find all the necessary information for you to understand what I will be saying right now.

Unfortunately, today I will be very brief. This At-Large review has the intention of changing the model, of going to a membership model, and these models tend to eliminate the idea of creating an At-Large Structure. So, the idea is to dissolve this At-Large Structure, and the leaders of the current ALSes will be turning into individual members, and the members of the ALS Structures will also be able to be an individual member. So, everything tends to become an individual user model.

Unfortunately, the company providing this study or this report did not carry out what we would say or what we believe is a field study. If that had been the case, they would be aware of all the activities that our ALSes are carrying out, and this individual model wouldn't have been proposed.

So, this means that we haven't promoted the activities. I asked all the ALSes, the 52 ALSes about this, and only 15 of them replied to my question. So, I sent that information together with my comments. I also asked them to provide support to the LACRALO input, and there was only one ALS providing their support for the public comment period.

So, the only thing I will be saying now is that we need to work and we need to show that we do work, so I would kindly ask the LACRALO leadership to create an action item to open a space for all our ALSes with a due time be able to say or to express their activities.

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I offered myself as a volunteer in the last meeting to speak with the ICANN Board to ask for any period of time, and I took that opportunity to say something that I said before in my comments. What I said was that we were working very hard, and I also mentioned all the activities that we were carrying out. And I believe it is impossible for an individual user to do all these activities. And a Board member said that he believed we were working very hard. But it was only just one Board member, so I believe now it is up to the ICANN Board to decide upon this issue for me, and this is a very personal point of view. For me, this is already a finished topic. Thank you.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Thank you very much, Alberto. Now, I will give the floor to the participants. I see Sergio. Go ahead, please.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Hello. Can you hear me?

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Sergio, you have the floor. Go ahead, please.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Okay. I just want to provide my point of view. I have already expressed that on the AC chat, but I believe that the news that are being provided by Alberto are really bad. I believe that that this is process that has to do with dissolving the participation of end users so as to have one

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individual member model, this means not wanted to have the participation of end users within ICANN.

So, this cannot be the case. I do understand that processes are already finished and that we are heading in that direction, but I believe that we have to do something about it. We have to be creative in this respect and to show that this is a mistake. But seeing end users who are organized, who are creating things in our country, who are working very hard and being treated in an equal way or being treated as individual users, well, I believe this is a serious mistake. This opens a breach, a gap within ICANN. The multi-stakeholder structure will crumble down because there is no strength in the end users. We only have individual users wandering about in the different ICANN meetings or going around in the different forum or meeting, just to do nothing. Thank you.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: I have a question for Alberto. I do not quite understand what is the specific action item you're requesting.

ALBERTO SOTO: This is the action item. We should have a space, a wiki space where the ALSes could state, list the activities that they are about to perform, and this will meet two goals. First, we have early warning so that we can become engaged and have the activity disseminated. Because if we do not do this, when we will later on ask for funds for a given project, they have no idea what we are doing. We're not proving, we're not showing that we are working.

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So, we have to do two things. On the wiki space, list future events. And if there was any past event, never mind, list it anyway. But from now on, do this as a policy that the ALS activities are publicized in advance so that it can be used as grounds, as the foundation later on. When I'm going to ask for funds for translation services, I have a justification because we have been working. Because otherwise, I will get the answer I got from the CEO, from Göran.

When I asked him, he said, "No, this is an expense. We have \$700,000 a year for translation services." And I replied, "For me, it is not an expense. It is an investment, because our leaders have to reach the end users, and end users can take the information translated from English into Spanish and speak to them in Korea, in [inaudible] in the vernacular languages and reach everybody. Thank you.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: We will certainly discuss this with Maritza and the staff, the possibility to set up a wiki space for the ALSes' members to list their activities so that everybody can have access to what they are doing. So, we're going to discuss it. Can you hear me, Aida? I don't know who was first, Aida or Vanda. Okay, I do n to know who was first. I will follow the alphabet. Sorry, Maritza says that Vanda was first. Vanda, you have the floor, and after you, Aida. Vanda, can you hear me?

MARITZA AGUERO: We hear her very faintly. We have the same problem again.

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SILVIA VIVANCO: We cannot hear anyone on the Spanish channel. Perhaps she can type her comment, Vanda. Aida's hand has been raised as well.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Thank you. Sorry, we have technical issues. I'm rather confused. between Adobe and the telephone, I couldn't hear very well. Vanda, could you please repeat your question for Alberto, your comment? There is no audio from the speaker from Vanda. We cannot hear. Alberto, I don't know if you've been able to understand Vanda's question.

ALBERTO SOTO: I haven't heard a word from Vanda.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Yes, because Vanda I understand, if I'm not wrong, what she said was that the ITEMS people were invited to a meeting of the Board, and I don't know if ALAC has also sent out an invitation to ITEMS.

ALBERTO SOTO: I think there is a meeting, but I'm not certain. It has been planned. Actually, before the end of the public comment period there was a meeting with ALAC where we were going to discuss the public comments received. I said in person to ALAC that I have certainly no hope from those comments.

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If I may, I will just tell you about one of the comments. There is the desire to do away with the internal working groups, and the interventions or engagement should be only in community working groups. The entire ALAC and all RALOs, all of us said that is not possible. This is the method of work we follow in all of our organizations across ICANN, and the person in charge at that time said, "Well, but I talked to one person – one person he said – from ALAC who said that this is a waste of time. Therefore, the working groups will be removed, one or two." And I said –

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Sorry, Alberto. Vanda has answered the question. She said that ITEMS was invited to participate at the Board retreat, not a meeting with ALAC and ITEMS.

ALBERTO SOTO: I do not remember if there is a date for ALAC and ITEMS. I think there is, but I'm not certain. I don't know the date.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Okay. Yes, Vanda, I do understand. It is not a meeting with ALAC and ITEMS. We wanted to know if ALAC was also invited to this Board retreat meeting. Alberto, are you there?

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ALBERTO SOTO: Yes. Well, I think that if anyone has been invited, perhaps Alan and nobody else. But I do not know. I have no news that ALAC has been invited to that meeting.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Okay. Thank you. Now, Aida has raised her hand, but I think she has stated the question on the chat. She says, "I wonder if there is any later reconsideration instance if the Board resolves to go for the review.

ALBERTO SOTO: I think that if the Board accepts what ITEMS says, I think ALAC has the possibility to disagree. If we say we disagree, I don't know what can happen. Remember that now the community has been empowered, so it could be rejected.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Thank you, Alberto. I think we should do some research on this, because I have a question of my own here. Thank you, Alberto, for your presentation.

Now for the sake of time we will give the floor to Sergio Salinas Porto. He will explain to us the status of the reactivation of the Governance Working Group. Sergio, you have the floor.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: I'll try to be brief so that we can comply with our time constraint. On April the 3<sup>rd</sup>, we had a meeting that was very interesting with significant

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participation. Let me remind you that the members of this group are 20 people. There were two apologies because they couldn't make it at that time. So, there were 11-12 participants, which is quite encouraging.

There were six or seven in Spanish, and an equivalent number in the English channel. We were able to organize, or at least to start chatting on some things to discuss what the working process would be like. There are some deadlines to comply with. Some of them are deadlines that are coming very soon, in July this year.

By that date, we should have – as we agreed in the meeting – finished operating principles, and this requires some action items. We are going to work. We are actually working on the mailing list of our working group. On governance, we are discussing some issues. We have produced a list of some controversial issues, or actually issues that we should come to an agreement to start developing some common ground.

We have also considered the document delivered by the mediators the way forward for LACRALO, so we've identified there are some paths we could follow in our work ahead. New members have been joining from the region, have been joining the working group. With them, we're going to have another meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup> at 18:00 UTC time. We will be discussing some issues that might be controversial. Some of them, we might be able to resolve very quickly, and on others there may be doubts or different perspectives as can be seen on the mailing list. It will be discussed on a call so that we can come to a successful completion.

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So, if I may, I would close here by saying that I have great expectations that this would come to a successful resolution. Since the last meeting, there was significant enhancement and desire by all members to reach common destination so that we have our legal issues resolved, but also, this will mean progress in terms of the development of policies that will help us grow as a region.

So, thank you. As I said, I said I was going to use only three minutes, and that's what I have used. So, thank you very much, and I am open to answer any of your questions. Does anyone have any questions?

SILVIA VIVANCO: I see that Luis Martinez has raised his hand. Hi, Maritza, sorry but we cannot hear. Humberto, go ahead, please.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: I don't know if you can hear me.

SILVIA VIVANCO: It seems that Humberto has been disconnected from the call. Apologies. If Luis wants to take the floor –

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Can you hear me?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes, Humberto. Go ahead.

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HUMBERTO CARASCO: Sorry, but I had given the floor to Luis, but Luis has said that he wanted to use it for Any Other Business. So, presently as there are no questions for Sergio, let's close that item. We thank him for his presentation, and let's go to Any Other Business. So, Luis, now you have the floor.

We don't know if he's here. We cannot hear you, Luis. I don't know why, because I'm trying to use both the telephone and the Adobe, but I can't hear him.

Now I can.

INTERPRETER: The interpreter apologizes but there is no audio getting to her line. There is no useful audio on the interpretation line. Cannot interpret.

HUMBERTO CARASCO: Thank you, Luis. I'd like to congratulate the Mexico, the new leaders, especially Fatima Cambroner for her new role, and thank all of you for this participation. And please continue participating in LACRALO. So, we wish you the best to ISOC Mexico.

Alberto was requesting a report on the mediation process. Okay. In short, to date, there hasn't been any new progress other than what we discussed in Copenhagen. The Governance working group is actually one of the steps forward we've taken.

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This week, we'll be sending an e-mail to set up the Council of the Elders. We've changed the name in Spanish following the request of some members, and meeting the proposals of the document the way forward for LACRALO. But we do not know yet if we'll have funds to hold the second mediation meeting, so that's basically it, Alberto.

Okay, thank you all. If nobody wants to use the floor, I want to thank you all. Good morning, good afternoon and good evening. Thank you for this rather difficult, technically difficult meeting where we had a very good attendance and very interesting presentations. So, thank you very much.

MARIO ALEMAN: Thank you all. The meeting is over. Thank you for participating. Remember to disconnect your line. Good afternoon and good evening.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Thank you, and apologies for the technical issues. We will be working on that.

**[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]**