
EVIN ERDOĞDU:

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening to everyone. Welcome to the APRALO Monthly Call taking place on Thursday 27th of April 2017, at 06h00 UTC. On the call today we have Satish Babu, Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Holly Raiche, Maureen Hilyard, Shreedeeep Rayamajhi, Pavan Budhrani, Tomohiro Fujisaki, Lianna Galstyan, Ali AIMeshal, Jahangir Hossain, Ranjit Nair and Suhadi Hassan. On the Chinese channel we have Kaili Kan. We have received apologies from Amal Ramzi. Our Chinese Interpreters today are YiYi and Sam. And on staff we have Silvia Vivanco, Siranush Vardanyan, Don Hollander and myself Yeşim Nazlar.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone to state your name before speaking, not only for the transcription purposes, but also for the interpretation purposes as well. And now I would like to leave the floor to our chair, Satish Babu. Thank you very much. Satish, over to you.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks very much, Yeşim. And this is Satish Babu for the record. Welcome to the April monthly meeting of APRALO, and of course good morning, good afternoon and good evening wherever you are. Thank you for joining us today. And the next few months are of course very critical for us and very busy for us as we work towards the [inaudible] assembly in a few months' time.

This month we do not have any new members. We do have some backlog in our ALS applications and I'm already in touch with staff. They're working on it. The individual membership is a subject of

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approval today of the form that is being circulated, and once that's done, there are some people in the queue who will join us presumably within the next month. So I would like to once again welcome you and then move on to the Policy Update, which we'll chat with Maureen and then follow with Holly and Kaili, and if Cheryl wants to step in, she's of course most welcome. Over to you, Maureen.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you everyone. Thank you, Satish. It's Maureen for the record. Just going further a very long list as quickly as possible because there seems to be a pretty full agenda. The first statement that's in process at the moment, the 5th on the first, is actually one that I think currently as we speak, we're all voting on and one that Alan I think and a team of people put together on improving ICANN transparency. And Cheryl, is it something that you were involved in?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Yes.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Would you like to comment on that one?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Not particularly. I mean, it's all part of -- it's one of the Workstream's activities. But anyway, it isn't related to ICANN.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

That is correct. Okay, thank you. Okay, moving on. The next one is the Interim Paper Cross-Community Working Group on the Use of Names of Countries and Territories as Top Level Domain and I had the pleasure working on that statement in collaboration with Wafa Dahmani from AFRALO and Holly and [inaudible]. And we've put together a statement which we are [inaudible] to be voting on very shortly. But don't forget that all these policy statements are on our ALAC Policy Development page and you can always check on what the statements are and also statements that are actually currently being voted on, or statements that are actually in [inaudible] still waiting for some comments. So do have a look through those. But the Use of Names of Countries and Territories as Top Level Domains is actually a statement that's currently being voted on as of today I think.

The next one is to do with the financial year 2018, which we put in a number of proposals which have been accepted at varying sort of degrees of financial input and [inaudible]. It could be either we will be couched to use the CROPP or there is actually a budget that's been given for us. So again, have a look through that and you'll be able -- have a look through the FY18 notes who actually have been distributed quite widely, and you'll see what we are actually entitled to. But Tijani Ben Jemaa from the ALAC is actually sort of contributing a statement on the actual plan and budget itself.

And then the Internationalized Domain Name Implementation Guideline, Andrei Kolesnikov is actually working on those [inaudible] quite interested in the whole domain name system. So it's actually good to actually have someone who is keen on that area, and of course the IDN is his area as well. So he'll be following into that one.

The next one is sort of probably not as related to our community, but Draft 2016 African Domain Name System Market Study is being done within that region. And then the next one is to do with a Proposed Fundamental Bylaws Changes to move the Board Governance Committee's Reconsideration Process Responsibilities to another board committee. And of course, we've got Leon Sanchez who is newly appointed. Well, he will next year, but the newly appointed board person appointed by the At-Large Community. And he's got something that's actually quite relevant to this responsibility. [inaudible], but we'll probably learn cause it closes on the 10th of May.

And this next one—I might leave this one, actually, just for a sec. I'll just continue on with the others because [inaudible] easier and I'm still slow a little bit about this one. The Deferral Country Code Names Supporting Organization Review, that's something that Alan and I are working on some time soon, we just got to put that on the side. And then Alan will be working on another project with Cheryl on the GNSO Community Comment on the new gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process and that's to do with the new program, if it happens on the new [inaudible].

And then another statement that Alan and Cheryl are working on the SO/AC Accountability, another Work Stream 2 activity. And finally for me, Bastiaan Goslings and I are gonna be drafting a statement on the Proposed Renewal of the .NET Registry Agreement. We don't normally do too much on the agreements and stuff, but we want to have a look at it and see if it does actually require a statement. Now I will go back to the [crosstalk] and I'll leave it to Holly because she's really encouraging everybody with this [inaudible] on the Competition,

Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team Draft Report. Go for it, Holly.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Thank you very much. Now, people not familiar with this, this goes way back when probably Cheryl best remembers this. In introducing new gTLD's, the measures that were supposed to be put in place in terms of were new gTLD's going to benefit and the terminology for end users benefit -- did they promote Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice. So this is part of a very long process and we're here stuck now going, "Well, let's look at the first tranche of new gTLD's that were taken up and did they achieve those aims?"

Now, Kaili and Colton have been involved in that working party. And they've issued a report which I appreciate, I think it's 178 pages, so I don't really expect everybody to read it. Please read the executive summary at the least. If I have one thing to say about it, it is that the measurements of those three things is really incomplete. In terms of competition, there are ways to measure, but in fact what Kaili really cleverly points out is that if you look at the geographic disbursement of, names, in fact there are a lot of new Chinese names, what they're being used for is simply they're being used for speculation, like a [inaudible] property bubble, only it's in new gTLD, so it's questionable whether that's real competition.

In terms of whether there's been price competition, there isn't enough data. And then when you get to things like consumer trust, the report actually say, "Well, actually we didn't figure out how to measure it, so

we didn't." If there is one thing to be said about it, it is that there is a lot more information that's necessary to determine whether in fact the new gTLD's have provided more competition, consumer trust and consumer review.

Now, I have drafted the beginnings of a statement, others have contributed. So please read the comments and add any that you have. Even just reading the executive review summaries is gonna be very useful. But overall, I suspect what we are going to say is there is a lot more information that needs to be obtained before we can make any final statement as to whether in fact the first round of new gTLD's have resulted in the aims that we've established from right up front. So any questions on that?

And if not, I'll go straight on to a teleconference that was had today on the ALAC Review. Okay. We'll move along. Today was in the ALAC Review process, the ICANN's team came up with a draft final report. And at a meeting today was the final meeting between them and the working party. Looking at all the comments that have been made on the chat at the time and emails since then, I think that we [inaudible] hands down say we didn't gain much, we as ALAC. And as RALOs are going to frame a response and this is not gonna be a response to ITEMS. This is going to be a response that's going to have to be developed by ALAC and the RALOs. That includes APRALO of course. To the board and the opening statement by ITEMS there's a couple of things that were very useful I think.

The first was they went through their terms of reference under the bylaws what they were supposed to look at. There were three things, is

there a continuing purpose and they decided yes there is. Are there any changes to improve the effectiveness? They suggest a package of reforms. Clearly we will be responding in terms of improvement, but I suspect probably not by too many of their suggested reforms. And again, I think that our response is going to be yes. But again, I think it's not going to be in terms that our team intended to put it.

I also, and many of us when we talk with the review team, asked whether they would separate out the issues that they felt need addressing, as opposed to their proposed responses to those issues. So they have identified five overarching issues. But we believe the proposed recommendations are not the way to address those issues. That we have our own set of solutions and this is how we think we should address those issues. So a wrap on that call from my point of view, it was not so useful for any kind of additional information or feedback from them. It was useful however in how ALAC together with the RALOs are going to frame our response to the board. Any questions? Alright. Everybody's gone quiet.

SATISH BABU:

Holly, thank you Maureen and Cheryl as well. Kaili, is there anything you would like to add on very briefly, a minute or so?

KAILI KAN:

No nothing, except welcome again. Please note that there is a comment here for the gTLD draft report has been extended. Before it was not [inaudible] in service as it was today, but not it's extended to [inaudible]. Accordingly, ALAC has been [inaudible] drafted statement

as well. But please do participate and take a look and participate [inaudible]. Thank you.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks, Kaili. Are there any questions on the policy? I note a question from Hong regarding the AGM, the general assembly. We will take this up in the last agenda item. Are there any questions on the issue number four, the leadership selection process in APRALO? Now, we have been talking about this for the last couple of monthly meetings. Our leadership selection process kicks off next month, 1st of May. And on the screen you see the different positions which are currently open. Of these, two of them, which is the NomCom ALAC member and the secretariat, they are somewhat special. Whereas the other two are to be selected from the APRALO community.

We have mentioned this in the past as well, the NomCom appointee we only have the right to suggest, ALAC will decide on how we should be handling this. The secretariat is a discretionary appointment, it's not going to be one of the posts open for selection at this point. As soon as the RALO [inaudible] are completely in place, including the new vicechair, we can then have a decision by the leadership team on how to handle the secretariat. The secretariat role has been fulfilled by Pavan for several years. He has been doing a great amount of work on a purely voluntary basis. He's not been travelling to ICANN meetings. Now maybe it's time to look for a change in that arrangement.

Now, we also realize that the future of the secretariat is under discussion. We're still talking about it. It depends on how the ALAC

review is going to turn out, because then we will be doing a oral review for the positions and the [inaudible] and we will have a clearer picture about the secretariat. So that's regarding those two.

The other two positions, the ALAC member from APRALO and the vacant vice chair. The ALAC member, currently that is being held by Maureen and we'll at least try to keep. But finally, of course this is a forum where people can step up and say they'd like to contribute. And in that case of course, if there are multiple candidates to each of these positions, after we talk to them we will have maybe election [inaudible], if there are multiple candidates.

So this is where it stands and for the people the community members who really want to step up, this is a good opportunity. Of course the number of positions are limited, but depending on a combination of how the review findings are going to be implemented by the board, if it's going to be a full pledged change in the stature of At-Large or is it going to be an incremental tweak on the existing structure, we will be happy to create mechanisms by which newcomers can enter the policy making sphere, as well as the leadership sphere. And those changes we will have to bring about.

So do not think of these elections as the sections are going to be run by the staff, Silvia and of course the entire team of staff. And I also know that the elections for all the other RALOs as well as ALAC is going to take place in the same timeframe. So this is going to be a busy period for many of us.

With that, I'd like to open the floor for any questions or comments if there are on the elections? I don't see any hands raised. So I'm assuming there's no questions. If you have questions even after this call, please feel free to contact us, either the staff or me, or any of the leadership team members. We'll be happy to help you with any kind of question. We are already aware that some of you are hoping that we'll have a smooth process of selection and we will have a very good team in place after this. I'm looking forward to particularly noting that I have one of my vice chair role which is empty, it will be good to fill that as well and continue as a full-fledged team. So thank you very much, I'm hoping that this will be a good kind of milestone for us at APRALO to go ahead.

With that, we now move onto agenda number five. We have today with us a very important guest, Don, who's joined us today to make a presentation on a very important topic which is Universal Acceptance and how we as the community can engage with the Universal Acceptance Initiative of—[inaudible] initiative, not necessary an ICANN initiative, but ICANN is sustainably involved. For [AUDIO BREAKS] this is a very important topic and I'm personally also looking forward to seeing more work done on Universal Acceptance and I would like to request Don to take the floor now. Over to you, Don.

DON HOLLANDER:

Thanks very much. So here you see two email addresses, perfectly valid, both of them. The first one might look familiar to many. It has a username or a mailbox name, the @ sign and then a domain name. The bottom one also shows a mailbox name, but it is in non-ASCII script, the

@ sign remains the same. And then you have a domain name, both with a second level and the top level in non-ASCII script as well. So both of them are perfectly valid email addresses.

The domain names on the right of the @ sign are both perfectly—the word for book is Maori is Puka-puka. To make it a plural , you put an NGA with a bar over the A. So it's napuka-puka. And to have the domain name is now napukapuka.nz. Maori is an official language in New Zealand and yet I cannot use my email address to register with the Inland Revenue department or tax department. Apparently, I still have to pay taxes which I don't understand, but apparently that's still the rule.

I can't use it with our major government departments. I can't use that name in many places at all. So this gives you some idea around the issues. The fixes are generally bug fixes. Make sure you're displaying them in the format that people are expecting them to be displayed.

Our target audience, we have three target audiences. They're all related. The first is the doers, these are the developers and system architects. I call them geeks in the most perfectionist way possible. Then there's the directors or the funders. This is CIOs and senior IT management, even the people who allocate budget or allocate work to the doers. And then the influencers. So these are people in what I call the C* Suite. So your CEO and your CFO and your Chief Marketing Officers. Thought leaders, journalists, bloggers, commentator analyst, government ministers and officials. So that's our third audience.

What we've done is produce quite a lot of documentation and this is all available at uasg.tech/documents, and I'll just go through a few of them here. UASG003 is a one page fact sheet. This is aimed at the influencers, people who don't want to know about the technology but gives them a piece of the picture.

UASG004 are some real live use cases that developers can use to test their application. So we have a bunch of different domain names, different characteristics that are all work and resolve. We have a bunch of email addresses that all actually work. We have UASG005 which is a quick guide to universal acceptable. That's available in 11 languages. And if there's a language you think will be useful and it's not included, let us know we're happy to add it. So this is aimed at the senior IT people to make sure they're aware of a concept.

UASG007 is the introduction to universal acceptance. Very technical document, 40 pages aimed at the geek, 40 pages to have a very clear understanding of the issues. UASG008 is our local engagement model which I'd like to talk a bit about in the next slide. UASG010 is a quick guide to linkification and linkification is the concept that when you're typing into a chat box for example, the application can say, "Oh, that looks like a domain name so I will create a link or a mail to link."

And a quick guide to EAI. EAI is email address internationalization and there are two components. The first is it does accept non-ASCII domain names, but also it allows you to have non-ASCII mailbox names. So the past couple of CEOs of ICANN for example have traditional diacritical marks in their first and/or last name, but they cannot use those names as their mailbox names. And EAI is a facility that lets them do that.

So this is where I'd like to engage with the APRALO community. The UASG008 refers to this. What we're looking for are local parties who can engage local communities. So if you are based in—wherever you might be based, so if you're based in rural New South Wales for example, and there's a computer club or there's a software developer community, or in the Cooks I know that there's a Cook island computer system society that has some developers there; or wherever you are, what we'd like you to do is engage with those communities and the developers and let them know about Universal Acceptance and get them to make sure that they fix their applications that they currently manage or any new developments that they do are also able to be UA ready.

So, we're able to provide content and collateral, and if there's enough effort and need locally, we can even provide some funs. I call it pizza and beer money. In my experience, software developers like pizza and beer. Not necessarily in that order, but they'll often get together once a month to talk about stuff and if it's helpful to have a bit of money to fund one of the evenings, then we can probably help with that. So that's what I wanted to talk about. I hope that I haven't taken too much time and happy to answer any questions at all.

SATISH BABU:

Thank you Don for that very useful presentation. I should also mention that we in At-Large already have used your document, UASG004, when the new ALAC At-Large came up for testing [inaudible] UAI enabled. So some of them did test using the use cases that you had provided. So that was pretty useful as far as we are concerned.

I have a question for you. You have left out the target audience for your outreach. Now, my question is in regards to the incentives that companies, especial software companies have to redo their code to make it compliant with UA, [inaudible]. What do they gain? Because they have to spend a lot of—well, some amount of money for this mission and what is it that they get out of it, so that there's an incentive for them?

DON HOLLANDER:

Yeah, so thanks very much. So first of all, with the amount of effort we've had studies done and so the actual amount of effort is relatively small and most people will see it as part of their bug fix budget. So the cost is not generally huge. The benefits they have are several. First of all, they keep up with standards and IT group should be standard focused and they should make sure that they are aware and compliant with the latest standards. The second is that better universal acceptance means better universal experience for users. So it means that if somebody is trying to use an email address that is in their script, if they can and they don't get put off for it.

So those are two core reasons to do it. And the third, we released earlier this month a white paper on universal acceptance. That's also available on the [UASG.tech/whitepaper](https://www.uasg.tech/whitepaper) link. And that shows that there's about \$10 billion of additional annual economic value for people to become UA ready. So my bookshop becoming UA ready is not going to give me \$10 billion worth of [inaudible], but it will make it easier for anybody to come and buy books from me. So it's the same, you know, Amazon and eBay and all these other ecommerce initiatives, people

should be able to use the email address and the domain name that best reflects their sense of identity.

So we have—and you know this better than almost anybody, there are all these new domain name and people can choose, it gives them choice of their sense of identity. And if I'm a photographer as a hobby, I might want a photography domain name, or if I'm a geek I might want a geek domain name. I might want several of these to reflect the sense of who I am and where I am because we're all a little bit schizophrenic in having multiple identities. You'll have an identity with work, you'll have an identity in your community and so forth. So the opportunity to address and serve those people regardless of which identity they choose, is all about lubricating the commerce.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks very much, Don. I'm personally of course very convinced about the need for [inaudible] and the white paper that you mentioned has been circulated in the whole of At-Large, the document as a reference; this has ran last week. Holly has a question. Over to you, Holly.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Thank you, again. Thank you Don for the presentation. I'm sure you've worked with ISOC, but ISOC may be really another way to get the message out just because, number one, if there are events, they fund events and why not have an event about universal acceptance? Because a lot of the people you're after, I imagine are involved with ISOC or ISOC chapters. Just seems to me another way to get out the message out with a receptive audience.

DON HOLLANDER: Holly, thanks for the question and I thought that was a good idea, too. And yet when we approached ISOC's managements early in the existence of Universal Acceptance Steering Group, they didn't agree with me. They thought it was grand that we were doing this, but they had a lot of other things on their plate and adding another one was not high on their agenda at all. Even though we've [inaudible] DNSSEC and IPV6, I call them—actually Leslie Daigle gets credit for the name, but broccoli issues. Broccoli is one of those things that you know are good for you, but not everybody likes it.

In fact, one of our documents has some contractual clauses and some RP clauses and we include not just Universal Acceptance clauses that you might put into your tendering documents, but we've also included clauses there for DNSSEC and IPV6. So yes, I think ISOC would be a great channel and if you have better relationships or more impact with ISOC, that would be grand. But we're keen to reach out to local communities and when Satish and I met last month, we thought the RALOs would be a good channel. You know your local community generally and you'll have people together for a whole host of reasons, so add Universal Acceptance into that mix, please.

HOLLY RAICHE: And a follow up question—

SATISH BABU: Thanks very much, Don. Yes please, go ahead, Holly.

HOLLY RAICHE: You mentioned, I think in reference sort of, can you run past me the—if I'm going to convince—or if Cheryl and I are gonna convince people in Australia that does use ASCII, why should Australians or the Australian software community be worried about Universal Acceptance? In other words, what's the script for that question?

DON HOLLANDER: So in Australia, of course, Australia is a very orientated community, country, so they want to be able to serve people outside of Australia. And Australia also has a number of domestic new top-level domains that are relevant. Dot Kiwi is not one of them, but .Sidney and . [inaudible] are. Dot CBA, the Commonwealth Bank of Australia is and it's just the right [inaudible], and it's not really effort for.

HOLLY RAICHE: Yeah, thank you.

SATISH BABU: Right. Thanks very much, Don. Are there any other questions for Don?

HOLLY RAICHE: Lianna has her hand up.

SATISH BABU: Sorry. Lianna, please go ahead.

LIANNA GALSTYAN:

Do you hear me? Hello? Okay. This is Lianna speaking. I don't have a question, but I have a kind of suggestion. Is it possible to make a webinar on this issue, since the universal acceptance and IBM topic is really very an unimportant one for this in particularly as we have lots of ideas. In our region, if we could organize a webinar for a targeted group for those who are dealing with these IBM things, that would be really very good for reaching out to those people or those developers or etc. people that are really widely used.

DON HOLLANDER:

So thank you for that idea. It is on our list. We have produced a number of videos and those are also on our website. I think if you go to UASG.tech and you scroll down to the bottom, there's links to a variety of videos including the Kikikiki from Thailand, which give a good example as to why having the [inaudible] in your native script and not a transliteration is very important. But we'll take the idea of webinar on board. We have talked about it in the past, but haven't actually done a proper webinar, but we can do that.

We have some podcasts that we've done with IDC, which is a big global IT analyst company. We've done a number of videos and we have some others in the work. But as we finish our revision of documents, we can look at doing that. So a lot of our documents are a year old and we're just going through them now one by one to see what we've learnt in the past year and to modify them where we can. And if you think that would be a good idea, happy to do that.

SATISH BABU: Thanks, Don. Thanks, Lianna, and thanks also to Kelvin for that link. There's a question from Nadira on the chat. She asks, do you work with IETF?

DON HOLLANDER: So with respect to the IETF, we're using their standards that they've developed. There are a couple issues that we're trying to address. There's an issue around IDNA and Unicode and I don't know how geeky you want to be, but I will be a little bit geeky. So there are two IDNA versions, 2003, 2008, and they are not upwards and backwards compatible, not quite. And they are also tied to specific versions of Unicode. I think the most recent one was Unicode 6.3 and this year Unicode will release version 10.

So we think that this is an issue and we're currently working with the IETF to try to get addressed. We have an idea as to how to do it. There's a couple of internet drafts that are developed that have been submitted for comment. There's currently discussions happening on the Universal Acceptance Discuss list and you can join that by going to [UASG.tech/subscribe](https://www.uasg.tech/subscribe). And people are very positive about the prospect of this making sure that registries can own their own active space and this is all around confusing characters and that sort of thing.

SATISH BABU: Thank you, Don. I'm mindful of the time. I think will not take questions now. This is an extremely important topic for us, and although we have

done a webinar sometime last year, last March, there is still room for a new webinar perhaps, and not just for APRALO, but I am meaning for all of At-Large. So this is something that we will work together with Don and right now I'm speaking in my capacity as the IBN working group co-chair. So thanks very much Don for coming here and talking to all of us today, for your time, for your initiative. And we are hoping that we'll continue these discussions as we go forward.

DON HOLLANDER: Thanks very much. Bye-bye.

SATISH BABU: Bye. So we now move onto the next item which is—We are running short of time. We have only nine minutes left for a 15 minute agenda time. But we can still compress it. The first item here will be Interim admissions forms, which have been circulated and there was a fair amount of discussions. This is the form for the unaffiliated individual members. So right now, the discussions are kind of whether there have been some internal discussions as well as to whether we can simplify it and maybe you can take out the word unaffiliated, which was kind of prohibited for some people.

In principle, we could do it, but only after the review of the [inaudible]. Because this is a part of [inaudible] and since we cannot [inaudible], we will have to wait until we do a full pledge review of the [inaudible], which should happen with the At-Large review decision that's taken by the board.

So as far as the [inaudible,] the final version of the form and this is a print version, which is why Holly has pointed out there's a big list of items of interest. We'll talk this out when have the web form, that might take some time. So preventally, we will start with the print form and as the ICANN web team has some spare time, we will do a proper web form and take this out into some kind of a popup window so that it's not cluttered.

I'm assuming that there are no other comments here, and we will use this format for admitting all individual members from now on. We will take questions after the next item. The next is the GEA, general assembly in October. We would like to create spaces where our community members can volunteer. And we have the full subcommittees that already kind of discussed earlier. Now Sylvia has started a page, a WIKI page for these committees. Please contact her if you have some time to spare over the next one month, until the next May call. Enroll yourself if you have time into the committee that you would like to participate in. And the work of some of these committees are going to start right away after the Joburg meeting. Especially since it deals with some of the ALSs.

Now, we just had a survey. I'm just mentioning it, it's not part of the agenda, because the last date of the survey is not yet over. There is still two more days to go. We only have responses so far from about 24 of our members. We have about 47 members if I'm not wrong. So this is a bit of a concern and we'll have to do a little bit of extra reaching out to the people who have not kind of got back.

Now, if you have cases where there are repeated, you know, instances where they are not able to get back for whatever reason, APRALO will have to think about how to handle the situation. Do we want to [AUDIO BREAKS]. Of course, the important thing is inviting them or not for the GEA in October. But the larger is, how do we handle this? NAROLO has for example different [inaudible]. Some of their ALSs because they are inactive or defunct.

We do not yet know whether these people who have not responded are defunct or just being dormant or just being just mildly kind of inactive. So maybe we can work with them to pull them up. But this is something that we will work on for the future. But for the time being, I would like to invite [inaudible] to the subcommittee [inaudible], committee that you would like to contribute to. And these committees will be headed by leadership team members and you are welcome to work in these.

So now are there any questions on any of these two topics? I don't see any hands raised. If so, we will quickly move over to the last item on the agenda. Sorry, the next item on the agenda, which is our mentorship program, which has been running for the last several months. Ali will give us a quick update about the mentorship program. Over to you, Ali.

ALI ALMESHAL:

Thank you very much, Satish. This is Ali for the record. Do you hear me clear?

SATISH BABU:

Yes.

ALI ALMESHAL: Okay, great. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the mentees who have participated in this mentorship program, as well as the mentors who have given a lot of their time and effort to try to help the mentees on the target that they have set for themselves. We have a lot of these mentees who have—we can see their progress and development into the [inaudible] world of ICANN and involvement, which we are very much proud of. To wrap up on the mentorship program as we have agreed from the beginning of this program that we have Johannesburg or June will be a close up of this. Before that and before the final call on June, we will be sending some emails and evaluations, and we will be updating all the mentees about the results of all of this program. So, if you care to join --

FEMALE: Ali? Ali?

ALI ALMESHAL: Yeah?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Excuse me, Ali. Apologies for interrupting. But your voice is very low. Could you please speak up a bit more? It's really hard for our interpreters to hear you.

ALI ALMESHAL: Sure, sure. How is it right now?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Oh, actually no difference.

ALI ALMESHAL: Can you make it slightly louder? Okay, so is it right now? Do you hear it clear?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Okay, it's—

ALI ALMESHAL: Okay. Reasonable now?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah, it's not going to change. Please proceed. Thank you.

ALI ALMESHAL: Okay. Thank you. I'm trying to increase the volume of the mic as well as I'm shouting a bit while I'm in the office. Anyway, I'm just closing it right now. In June, we'll be closing this term of the mentorship program and we'll be updating all the stakeholders who are involved in this about the results and what will be the next [inaudible] of this program.

And I would encourage all the mentors just to follow up with their mentees and to see what to end up with their progress and the

development on this, and we'll be asking for [inaudible], but we'll be sending that by email to all of them.

SATISH BABU:

Thank you very much. Thank you, Ali, for the update. So the summary of that is that we will be winding down the program in June. There will be an evaluation both ways of the mentors and the mentees, and we have Cheryl who's going to guide us on this. And we will close the program with a bunch of findings and learnings that we can use for the next round of the program. And I'd like to thank Ali for his exceptional initiative that he has taken for this program. And of course to all the mentors and mentees, but more of that in the June meeting. So I think we have now covered all the agenda items. Are there any other business, anyone would like to raise -- Kelvin, please go ahead.

KELVIN WONG:

Hello, hi. This is Kelvin from APIGA. Can you hear me?

SATISH BABU:

Yes.

KELVIN WONG:

Okay. Hi, everyone. I would just like to do a quick sort of assessment for the Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy. I'm sure Satish and a few of you may be familiar. Satish himself has spoken [inaudible] here in Seoul. So this year we are going to run the program again. It will be from August 7th to 11th. I think we'll share more about this over email

and we'll see some correspondence coming out as well. But I'd just like to let the APRALO leadership know, and also everyone here know, and also that we will be needing your help of course to reach out to news and students around the region including the Pacific, so that we can have more students in use from around to come and apply for the fellowship for this APIGA program. Which I am sure some of you have hardly talked about it before.

So the application period, I will share them on email again as well, but we will start in mid May. And lastly, I would also like to invite perhaps a representative, if that is okay with you, to be on the fellowship committee. I think I can be in touch with you later on this as well.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks, Kelvin. APIGA was a very, very nice program and I wanted to teach, and I was tweeting about this, I [inaudible] really. So it's an excellent program and I'll be happy to represent APRALO in [inaudible] capacity as required in APIGA. Lianna has her hands up. Over to you, Lianna.

LIANNA GALSTYAN:

Thank you, Satish. This is Lianna speaking and thank you Kelvin for your update. I also have some news for the community. We have [inaudible] Internet Governance this year in June and the pilot program will be specific for students from Armenia. We don't have the fellowship program, but the program is available for students from all the universities within the country. But I see the potential for this program for the other circles.

We also have [inaudible] age 13 up to 18 and then we will have another program for grownups, not students. But this is for the future. As for now for the students, the application period will start in May and the program itself, the school will be in mid-July. So this is the update and I would really like to collaborate with Kelvin, with [inaudible], all this materials and whatever we have [inaudible] we can share with each other and learn how they the run this process. This is the first time for us to launch this program, so all mentoring or experience things will be really very good and help us. Thank you.

SATISH BABU:

Thank you, Lianna. Thanks for the update. There's an update from [inaudible], but I'll defer it to the next month because of time. We have Maureen, we have Sylvia. Very quick interventions, please. Over to Maureen.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you. Very, very quickly. Just to also raise the fact that the Pacific is actually having its first IGS in about five years. And I think that it's sort of like a two day event, but it's something that's going to be a little quicker [inaudible] in 2018, which they will be hosting [inaudible] later. Just thought I'd raise that and bring that to your attention for the region. Thank you.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks very much, Maureen, for that update. Over to Sylvia.

SYLVIA: Thank you very much, Satish. Very quickly, I just want to announce that Kelvin and I are culminating the upcoming APRALO [inaudible] webinar as always we usually do and the next one will be scheduled for May the 25th, 05h00 to 06h00 UTC. We are culminating with our colleague Mary Wong and the topics to be addressed will be the privacy and data protection, an impact on the end-users and the At-Large community, and the sections within ICANN. So stay tuned for calendar invites for that date. Thank you.

SATISH BABU: Thank you. I see Holly's hand raised. Holly, can you make a very short intervention, please. Go ahead.

HOLLY RAICHE: Very, very quickly. I actually teach internet governance. I have taught privacy issues. I'm on the board of the Australian Privacy foundation. So if you want some expertise on the issue, Sylvia, I'm happy to contribute. Thank you.

SATISH BABU: Oh, wow. We have an expert amongst us. So definitely we will use your expertise and it's a great topic for all of us. So with that, Sylvia, is that an old hand or a new hand?

HOLLY RAICHE: Sorry, an old hand. Thank you. Sorry.

SATISH BABU:

Alright. No problems, no problems. So, I think we have come to the end of this very productive meeting. So I would like to thank all of us for having participated. The next month [inaudible] and we will be in touch with the various activities that we'll be picking up. Good day, good morning, good evening, good afternoon and see you in the next meeting. Bye-bye.

EVIN ERDOĞDU:

Thank you, all. This meeting is now adjourned.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]