
UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hello everyone, and welcome. This is ALAC orientation call, on Monday, 5th of June 2017 from 17:00 UTC to 18:00 UTC.

Today on the call we have with us Alan Greenberg, Bartlett Morgan, and John Laprise.

We have listed apologies from Gisella Gruber.

And staff we have with us is Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, Ariel Lang, Yeşim Nazlar, Mario [inaudible], and myself [inaudible], I'm also doing call management.

And I would like to remind everyone to please state your name for the record and transcription purposes. And with that, I'll turn it over to you, Alan. Please begin.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much. The purpose of this call, I think, is clear from the title. As new ALAC members, we used to just sort of assume, people would figure out what we do and get into. And in some cases, that worked, but in many cases, people sort of wandered around lost for a good part of their two years.

And so, we decided we really had to take some action to at least give you a bit of information and start you on a way to at least knowing who to ask, if there are issues. Both of you have been around At-Large for a while. John a little bit more active than Bartlett. But you both know a lot of the people and have been moderately active.

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And we hope you're both going to make marvelous ALAC members. The ALAC has gone through difficult times, sometimes, with an awful lot of its members not really very active. We're not there anymore. We probably have the best ALAC we've had ever in terms of people really participating, there still is a real lack of involvement in real ICANN policy issues in some cases.

And we're going to be working hard to try and fix that. A large part of the Johannesburg meeting is going to be focused on getting people up to speed, and making sure they know what the real issues are. And with that, I think I'll end the brief introduction, and go into the major part of the call, where I see, I'm the speaker as well.

Heidi, do you have anything you want to add?

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Just congratulations, as I mentioned before. Very happy that you're both onboard. And some of the things that we're going to be talking about today are just some operational issues, basically. Just a heads up that we're going to be doing some activities to get you into transition mode, and also to make sure that you're aware of a session on the final day of ICANN 60, and we'll come to that a little bit later.

And that's, again, just to make sure you book appropriately. I think that's it for the time being.

ALAN GREENBERG:

All right. First, on the agenda, is rules of procedure, but I think I'm going to switch that a little bit and talk a little bit about the third item, the

third bullet, that is monthly calls, mailing lists, voting and such. Now, both of you are, have been appointed relatively early in the year. You officially do not take office, as it were, until the end of the annual general meeting in November.

However, you will be added to all of our mailing lists, and we welcome your participation in pretty much everything, with the one exception of voting. That is, you clearly aren't formally an ALAC member, and therefore don't have the vote. But other than that, you're welcome to participate, speak up, and don't feel that because that you're not officially an ALAC member, you have to hold back on yourself.

So, we will be doing most of that. Similarly, you are not obliged to attend monthly ALAC calls, but we certainly welcome you, and it should be good prep work for when you do officially become an ALAC member. Heidi, any other things on that area that we should be covering.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Just the various mailing lists there is, let's see, ALAC announce that you're already on. There is ALAC working, that's where a lot of the actual work gets done. Internal, that list is more for social activities, etc. What am I missing on that one? Those are really the key ones that you may not be on right now.

ALAN GREENBERG:

The internal list is there for a number of reasons. Number one, are things like social activities, which we don't feel need to be broadcast. The other thing is there periodically discussions where... Well, let's talk

about membership. The ALAC internal list is, ALAC members, regional leaders, that is chair, secretariats, secretaries, vice-chairs, if there are any. The formal liaisons to other ICANN groups.

And other invited people, and the only other invited people, I believe are on that list are the two past chairs, Oliver Crépin-Leblond and Cheryl Langdon-Orr. But Cheryl is there also as the GNSO liaison. And of course, Olivier is also there as the chair of EURALO.

Periodically, there are things that we do not want publicly archived. There may be discussions about people. There may be votes on issues that until the final decision is made, can't be made public. Specifically, when we're appointing people to various groups, you don't really want to have a discussion in public saying who has recommended to be approved by the ALAC should the ALAC not take that recommendation, some of the people who were nominally rejected may pop back up.

So, you don't want to make essentially a public announcement of who the selections are. And there are occasionally other reasons that we want to keep things confidential. But the bulk of discussions go on, on the regular ALAC list. The regular ALAC list includes the same people plus we extend an invitation to past ALAC members to stay on the list should they wish.

So, there is a pretty large membership, and most of the people don't say anything, but occasionally, past members come up, and add some comments. And we check periodically if they want to stay on that list, but many people do stay on the list. I think that's about all in those areas that we need to talk about.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Alan, did you want to have Ariel go over the voting? That's...

ALAN GREENBERG: I just wanted to do that before we started talking about rules and procedure and operations. We can come back to voting in a moment, and there is clearly no rush on that, since neither John or Bartlett are going to be voting a good six months or so from now.

Okay. Back in the order. Rules and procedure. They are pointed to in a number of places, and perhaps somebody can put in the chat the pointer to the page with the rules.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Evan, if you could just click on that, it will bring you right to there. Or Ariel, if you could just show your screen, share your screen, that might work too.

ALAN GREENBERG: I'm not going to go into the specific rules. They cover pretty much everything that governs how we work, and we follow them moderately well. We're somewhat flexible on occasion, but in general, we follow the rules pretty well. And they dictate, in some cases in excruciating detail, how the ALAC does things.

And in other cases, when these rules were written, they very carefully were not written in a lot of detail. So, they allow a fair amount of

discretion. As, in accordance with the rules, we tend to make many of our decisions by consensus. Essentially that gives an opportunity for some discussion. How much depends on what the issue is.

And then essentially give people a period of time to object. If no one or not many people object, then the issue is decided. We do vote on a number of things, largely because we feel there should be a formal record of who said yes, who said no. It requires more conscious action than simply not complaining.

And so, depending on the issue, we will use a formal vote in some cases. And in a few cases, a formal vote is absolutely required by the rules. But we try to be relatively informal. And you know, every once in a while, we get suggestions that we should be a lot more formal, but in general, there is not a lot of desire for that, nor is there a lot of benefit, certainly in my mind.

The next chair, of course, may choose a different tact. Don't think there is a lot of specific things I want to talk about, but I do suggest that you take, go through the document, don't memorize it, but just get a feel for what is there. It's amazing how often things, questions come up that are answered very, very clearly in the rules, and people seem to not be aware that they exist, and certainly not willing to look at them.

There are a number of other documents that are pointed to in the same page as the rules of procedure, that what are called adjunct documents, which essentially fill-in details, things that we didn't want in detail in the rules, but needed to discuss somewhere. And so, there are several

other documents. One on how ALSes are certified and decertified. One on position descriptions, what we expect of people.

Some of that is in the rules, and some is left a little bit vague. A document on our various mailing lists, for instance. I think that's about all I want to talk about in terms of that. I do ask you to look at the section on ALAC member requirements and responsibilities. And that has to do with, essentially attending meetings.

We expect people to be actively, to be active in both At-Large and non-At-Large working groups. And that's one of the areas that certainly the non-At-Large working groups that we have not been as successful as we had hoped, but I'm optimistic that will be changing over the next month and year.

I think it's worth reading at least once. And gives you, will give you a feel. I'm not going to, you know, read out the details to you on this call, but please do look at it. And the next item is the onboarding document, and I'm going to turn the call over to Heidi to talk about that.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Actually to Ariel. Because she's the one that prepared that.

ALAN GREENBERG:

It said me and I know it isn't me. Ariel, go ahead.

ARIEL LIANG: Thanks, Alan. Hello, John. Hello, Bartlett. And so for the onboarding the document you've got the link, and you can also read it on your own. So, this is a document that provides an overview of what is ICANN, what is ALAC, and what are the roles and responsibilities of ALAC members.

So, it's basically kind of introductory document, and then also, we have provided some specific things, like for example, if you look at the section, where does the ALAC do its work, and then you can see some specific pointers to the mailing list, the Confluence Wiki, and [inaudible] information. So, I think that that's a [inaudible] your day-to-day work as a future ALAC member.

And I don't have a lot to say about this...

HEIDI ULLRICH: Did we lose Ariel?

ARIEL LIANG: No. Still here. Yeah. So, that's the document. I think the best way is for you to just read through it, and then contact staff or Alan about any questions you may have. I think that's a good start. So, that's pretty much it from me.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Okay. Thank you very much. And also, I just remembered, and some of you, you may have seen this. Bartlett, I think I mentioned this during the LACRALO assembly. This is an At-Large, I'm just going to call it hot

topics. Why end users should care? And if you haven't seen this, take a look at this.

This is something that Alan, Olivier, Ariel, and myself prepared late last year. And it really goes over some of the main policy issues that the ALAC and At-Large are looking at, and just very briefly why end users might wish to be aware of those activities. And we're also working with the RALOs to prepare their own. And so, we'll have regional hot topic documents as well.

That's just something that you might take a look at, just to take a look at, so be aware of what some of the priorities are for the ALAC. Alan? Does anybody have any questions, by the way?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: No, not at this time.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: None from me.

ALAN GREENBERG: Good. No, good that we actually know you're alive and listening. We might just be talking to the ether here. [CROSSTALK] All right. In terms of, we talked about monthly calls, mailing lists. The ALT, the At-Large, the ALAC Leadership Team, which is made up of reps from each of the, each of the regions, and the liaisons meets twice a month, typically sometime before and sometime after the ALAC meeting, you're welcome to attend one of those meetings as well.

And pretty much anyone has speaking rights, should they choose on these meetings, although you're certainly not obliged to attend. Ariel, do you want to talk a little bit about voting. I talked about when we use voting. Do you want to talk a little bit about the process?

ARIEL LIANG:

Sure. Thanks Alan. So, for voting, you may heard of this tool, and already used it before, it's called Big Polls. It's online platform for members to cast their vote electronically. So, as an ALAC member, you will be expected to vote quite a lot, and I think [inaudible] in the past, I think, even just for ALAC statements, that's usually the ALAC comments to public comments topic.

So, for each statement they need to ratify, and ALAC members need to cast votes on that. I think last year it was about 60 or something. So, you will receive emails asking you to [inaudible] only that, and that's something that we kind of keep track on, and we want to make sure, it's one of the metrics that we measuring ALAC members in overall engagement, how frequently you take part in the votes.

But there are expectations is that you participate every time, unless there is some specific issues that prevent you from casting votes. So, procedural wise, you will receive an email, and then the subject line will contain the phrase vote credentials, and then you will see that it's an ALAC statement. So, that's a very common email you will receive.

And another common thing that you will participating online voting is the ALS accreditation vote. So, for each At-Large structure, the ALAC members will conduct accreditation vote to make sure, you know,

whether they approve this organization [inaudible] At-Large community as [inaudible].

So, you will receive an email that will look like vote credentials and ALS accreditation or something. So, just a heads up on that. And I will make sure when we start sending you these vote credentials at the beginning, basically this November, I will send an email to you and kind of remind you these are the emails you need to pay attention to, and click on the link and cast your votes.

So, and I think besides that, there are some other ALAC votes. For example, for election selections, one position in particular, the ALAC delegation delegates the NomCom, then each RALO will select their preferred candidates, but the ALAC has to ratify the choice. So, that is some other thing the ALAC will vote on. It comes up now for appointments.

So, that's a pretty much a review. Alan, do you want to add anything?

ALAN GREENBERG:

No, I don't think so. Depending on timing and things like that, some of those things end up getting done as consensus calls, but you'll get a feel for that. Just for the record, if for some reason you cannot vote, and occasionally there are access reasons or things like that, then Ariel or one of the other staff members who is involved with voting, can cast your vote for you, if necessary.

So, just something to keep in mind, occasionally it does happen. Don't think there is anything else in that. Go ahead.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yeah, Alan, did you wish to talk about a little bit about how we do motions, you know, when we have to have a seconder, and when we do a call for consensus?

ALAN GREENBERG: We don't have to have seconds for anything, with one, there is one rare exception, I can't remember what it is. It is in the rules. That's a change we just recently made. We had found that over the years, we tend to often forget to ask for a seconder, particularly when things are done electronically via email.

And we recently changed the rules to basically say, they're not necessary. There is one exception, but I honestly can't remember what it is. Motions tend to be relatively informal, in keeping with what I said before that we tend to be a relatively informal group. So, the wording is not necessarily as consistent as it might be in other venues, depending on what the issue is.

Sometimes we will use a very formal whereas, and resolve. Other times it's basically making a statement and saying, do you approve, do you not approve. What have I missed, Heidi?

Have we lost Heidi?

HEIDI ULLRICH: I'm sorry. I was on mute. I think that is it. I think, once you officially join, I think, you know, ask the questions, I think that if we were to go into details now, you probably would not remember them in November.

ALAN GREENBERG: Or they might, who knows? Anyway, certainly, if there are any questions, feel free to ask. You know where I am. Both of you I trust you're on Skype, and should be added to the ALAC Skype chats.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Bartlett, are you on...? I know, John, you're on the At-Large one. Bartlett, are you on the At-Large Skype group chat?

BARTLETT MORGAN: Yeah.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Okay. So Alan, did you want them to be added to the ALAC chat as well?

ALAN GREENBERG: I see no reason not to.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yeşim, if we can go ahead and follow-up with that as well. Again, the ALAC one is not extremely active, but it's good to be on those as well.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Well, it would be nice if it did become more active. Again, it's an interesting dynamic. It springs to life periodically. If I raise some issue of mundane procedure, it can suddenly become alive with hundreds, not hundreds, with dozens or many posts. On policy issues, it rarely is alive, and really we do have to figure out how to make the mailing list more effective, because that really is where a lot of these issues should be discussed.

It's quite interesting, if there was a recent policy statement we made, and it received virtually no comments at all, until the very final version, where suddenly I made a comment that I had to change, and then suddenly other comments got made, as if people haven't been aware that it was even happening.

So, I would like to see a lot more activity on our mailing list than we do right now. The ALAC, in its current form, is now 10 years old, but to be quite honest, we're still learning to feel our way about how to become effective. And of course, the number of people turning over is high enough, despite what the At-Large reviewers thought, that we have a fair amount of people who don't have any history in things that happen before.

And I'm not quite sure how we fix that, other than [CROSSTALK]... Yes, go ahead.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes. So, we are actually fixing it. Ariel is preparing an ALAC history, and there are several videos already, and she's going to be preparing documents as well. So, that should be finished hopefully by Abu Dhabi, I believe. So that's something that you might want to take a look at that as well. [CROSSTALK]

Well, you were in some of the videos, so let me know what that consists of. So, I believe it's on the same page that I put up in the chat a little earlier, on the ALAC page. Yeah.

ALAN GREENBERG: Yeah, next item on the agenda... Go ahead.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I just wanted to say, the onboarding document is fantastic, because it answers a couple of key questions for me, but the biggest one is sort of like having all in one place, all of the mailing lists and the afforded communications links that I need to subscribe to or organize in one place, which is very helpful. [CROSSTALK]

ALAN GREENBERG: Okay, working groups. The ALAC and At-Large have a number of working groups. The most active ones are the ones associated with outreach and specific process related issues, the technology taskforce, for instance. The two working groups which should be the most active, are the ones on the key policy issues right now, on gTLDs and overall registration issues.

Issues surrounding WHOIS and registry rights and things like that. And those two are effectively defunct right now, badly. Both of them cease to become very important a few years ago, when the initial round of new gTLDs and new RAA was put in place. And the work associated with the IANA transition and accountability, essentially managed to kill them off, because virtually all focus of people who are actively working was on those issues.

And we are now at the stage where we desperately need to reactivate those groups, and we've tried a number of things over the last number of months, including trying to appoint a chair to get the groups going, and that for various reasons, didn't work. And we've now tentatively discussed at the last ALAC meeting, I'm not sure if you were there are not, some tentative missions statements for these groups, and they will be posted shortly.

And we are going to solicit active membership. And hopefully, once the group convenes, they will pick a chair. It's not important that the chair be experts in those areas, but obviously has to have some idea of what's going on. So, it's... Those are things that you are going to seem more active on, and pushing, and encouraging both of you and others to get involved in them.

Any other things on working groups that anyone on staff wants to add?

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Nothing from my side.

ALAN GREENBERG: At-Large staff roles and responsibilities. Go for it.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes, okay....

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: On working groups, so can I get I guess a rule of thumb in terms of...? I mean, obviously everyone has got different work-life balance, and issues with responsibilities outside of those. But what's a respectable number of working groups to be involved in?

ALAN GREENBERG: I'm not sure there is a par. I would expect everyone to be involved in at least one of the At-Large groups, at least. And most people should be involved in at least some other activity, within ICANN. That's generally working groups, although there are other types of activities as well going on.

Now, some of us do a lot more than that. But if you don't do at least that, then I question why do you think you're really involved.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah.

HEIDI ULLRICH: So in addition...

ALAN GREENBERG: Just for a second, yeah. Pretty much everyone meets the involved in one internal group. But many people do not necessarily meet the external one. And of course, there are activities going on within RALOs, to what extent you participate, and that depends on how that RALO operates.

Some RALOs have a lot of those groups, some have none. Sorry, Heidi.

HEIDI ULLRICH: So, in addition, thank you Alan. In addition to the working groups, I think also really key, and I think both of you would be great at this, is just jump in and take the pen for a policy advice statement. You know, we might talk a little bit about mentors as well, if you think you might need someone to just guide you, maybe through your first statement.

But I think that that would be something if you want to be a really active and involved ALAC member, just either volunteer to lead a statement, or co-lead a statement for your first one, and just go from there. So, based on every ALAC call, Ariel will lead everyone through the current public comments, and then there will be a decision on whether the ALAC is going to develop a policy advice statement, and then if so, who will take the pen?

ALAN GREENBERG: There is also typically emails on that. We can't necessarily wait until the next ALAC meeting to make these decisions, because public statements typically are only open for a little over a month.

But, you know, jump in. As Cheryl pointed out on our last call, we used the term mentoring inappropriately in many cases. But certainly, if you'd like a helping hand, or advice, or some get some input on subjects. There are plenty of people around who are willing to spend time with you, and if there is an issue, just ask around.

One of the places I'd like to get is that when we are working on statements, pretty much every one reads them, and to the extent applicable, comments on them, so we don't have surprises after the fact. And when people vote on things, they actually know what they're voting on, which sadly is not always the case.

Back to Heidi and staff issues.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

So, we're just going to take a few minutes to introduce ourselves, and very briefly, just talk a little bit about what each of us do. And Ariel, could you please put the staff email in the chat. That is the basically catch-all email, and if you, [inaudible] all of us, you will hear, you'll get a better sense of who to address any particular item to.

And what we normally do is it's useful if you have something for Ariel, it would be actions, all caps, colon, AL, Ariel Liang. And that just, or if it's something for me, it's action, colon, HU. And that just basically lets us know that it's something, you know, it's, it might be a long email, at the very end it directs staff, or a particular person on staff, to do an action.

And that just guides us, because we, all of us get lots of emails. So, we just like that sort of a heads up to make sure that it gets to the right

person. But either you can write us, if you know it's definitely one of us, just write us individually, or if you aren't completely sure, just write staff, and then person's name in who you think it might be.

Okay, so just very briefly. Let's see, I am vice-president for policy development in At-Large relations. I lead the fantastic A team. I, let's see, I work with other team leaders across the policy team internally. I'm on some internal groups as well that cut across the GSE, government, what is GSE? Government stakeholder engagement, etc.

I help the ALAC. I think I am the lead person working with Alan for ALAC activities. I do the ALAC agendas with Alan. I do the ALAC leadership, ALT, agendas. I work closely with Alan and Gisella on developing the agendas and schedules for each of the ICANN public meetings. I lead several of the working groups. Let's see.

I think I'll stop there. But if there are any travel issues, concerns, I'm usually the person to go to as well. John, do you have your hand raised? Or is that an old hand?

JOHN LAPRISE:

I do. I do. So, I have a question. Does staff prefer being contacted by email or via Skype? Because I sort of reach out for whatever is handy, but I would like to use whatever is preferred by staff.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

I particularly like email, because then I'm... And particularly to staff, not just to myself, because if I miss it, then someone can, another person

from staff can ping me and say, hey, have you seen that? So, that is my preference.

I'm going to hand it over to Silvia, and then to Ariel. Silvia, just very briefly, just what you generally do.

SILVIA VIVANCO:

Thank you very much, Heidi. Hello John and Bartlett. Welcome and congratulations. My name is Silvia Vivanco. [Inaudible] of the group. [Inaudible] the RALO chairs, the relationship between the other RALOs. I work very closely with the RALO chairs [inaudible]. To help them organize the meeting of the monthly calls, the RALO working groups agendas, coordinating the organization of the General Assembly, organizing capacity building activities such as [inaudible] webinars [inaudible] agendas.

[Inaudible] project fiscal year budget requests. I also have been drafting documents. In the case of LACRALO, I [inaudible] translating for staff. Just helping the regional leaders as a translator [inaudible] programs. And hopefully [inaudible] budget proposal [inaudible]. Engage not only with the RALOs and the At-Large, but also with the ICANN, the other constituencies and also with ICANN staff. So, that's basically my role.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Thank you very much. Ariel?

ARIEL LIANG:

Thanks Heidi. My name is Ariel Liang, and I am in the D.C. office. So, I just [inaudible] analyst and so a big part of my responsibility is to support the policy advice development activities that [inaudible]. So, basically, the [inaudible] ranging from shepherding the development of the advice by keeping the members up to date with the timelines in progress.

And also helping added and sometimes draft ALAC statement under the guidance of our members, and sometimes ad-hoc drafting for briefing for [inaudible] and a report and other types of documents. And then the second part of my job is basically managing the external communications and helping the community with the [inaudible] what they do.

So, you may be aware of our social media channels, and so that's basically I've been working on the content, and now I have to help Evan and Mario, which other multi-lingual [inaudible] for Twitter and Facebook. And in addition to that, which is the website contents, as well as other types of communication products that I can use [inaudible] or blurb, pre and post [inaudible] reports and other kind of communications products.

So, that's another aspect of my responsibilities. And then the third one is basically a multitude of operational and logistic support, ranging from [inaudible] and also on the ground meeting support, such as [inaudible] background in helping my colleagues to manage that, but you will see me around [inaudible] at the meetings.

And so, lastly, some other ad-hoc projects, for example, what Heidi mentioned earlier about the history project, and then also the website revamping in the past, and that was completed. So, I've been working on a lot of different things. So, happy to help if you have any questions or need assistance.

So, I pass it over to Evan [CROSSTALK]

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes, so Yeşim, Evan, and Mario please. This is the heart of At-Large. Here we go, okay.

YEŞİM NAZLAR: Thank you, Heidi. My name is Yeşim Nazlar, I'm based in [inaudible] office. I will be in touch with you on [inaudible] basis, requiring your emails and your requests with my [inaudible] Evan and Mario. I'm also responsible for creating the Doodles and setting up the calls. So, we'll be bothering both of you often, to get the Doodles completed.

Also, I'm responsible for the At-Large mailing list. Subscribing and unsubscribing requests. This is what I can remember for now, but we'll definitely be in touch on daily basis. Thank you.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Thank you, Yeşim. Evan, before we go to you, I see John has his hand raised.

JOHN LAPRISE: Yes. Thank you. Was there...? Can we get a quick, I'm sure it's online somewhere...? A quick list of the contact information for all of the ALAC current members? Because I'm sure I'm probably connected by social media to most of them, but I want to make sure I'm connected to all of them. Seeing as I will be working with them for the next few years, at least.

HEIDI ULLRICH: I think we have a document on that. I think. Yesim, do we have anything like that? Could you just send them...? I don't know if we have, I mean, in terms of LinkedIn and all of that, I don't know if we have that, but we certainly have their emails and I'm assuming their Skype account. Yesim, if you could prepare something like that.

If we don't have that and just send... It would be useful. Alan, I know Alan asked for that, so I think we must have that.

ALAN GREENBERG: No, actually, Alan's request was never satisfied, but we'll ignore that for the moment.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Oh dear, okay [CROSSTALK]...

ALAN GREENBERG: In terms of Skype addresses, the ALAC Skype, even if you can't figure out what their address is, you can connect to them by just clicking on it.

Email addresses are readily available, and if there is anyone whose addresses you don't know, we can provide it, in general. They're easy to find.

We don't have the definitive list, and definitive lists are getting harder and harder to put together in any public place because of problems with spam and things like that. All of our mailing lists... The membership of all of our mailing lists used to be open, ICANN a little while ago, closed them all because again, people were somehow penetrating the minimal mailman security, and were lifting things.

So, it's getting to be an uglier world, and we're reacting to it unfortunately. But, for doing your business, we can make sure you have all of the contacts you need. It's just [inaudible] to point you somewhere. And Heidi, we will talk about the mailing list, the list of people I asked for some other time.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Yeah, thank you, I wasn't aware of that. So, I've made an action item for Yeşim, if you could note that please. Okay. Over to you, Evan.

EVAN:

Sure. Hi, this is Evan. I'll be brief. So, Yeşim did a great introduction of [inaudible], and also doing a lot of support for the At-Large community. And I'm also based with her in the Istanbul office. I'm Turkish-American, and I help her, I assist her with her work day to day. And I'm also working with recruiting, doing due diligence for At-Large structures, and some websites and social media maintenance.

So, feel free to reach out to both of us.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Thank you. And you're also learning on the big posts, you will be the back-up for [inaudible] for Ariel on the big post. Thank you. Okay, Mario.

MARIO: Thank you. Hi everyone. It is Mario [inaudible] for the record. I am SO AC support coordinator, and based in Nicaragua, in Central America. I usually support ALAC, the different working groups, such as the At-Large working group, and some of the other RALOs. Particularly, or mainly during the core management. So, I'm usually supporting and working together with Evan and Yeşim, as well as with Silvia Vivanco.

So, I'll be glad to be working with you, and if you have another comments or suggestions, please feel free to comment. Thanks.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Thank you very much. And Gisella Gruber is one of our other staff members, a key staff member, we're all key. She's away on holiday this week. She handles, let's see, she firstly manages the AC SO support staff. So Yeşim, Evan, and Mario. She basically single handedly developed the schedule for all of the ICANN meeting, very closely looking at making sure there is no conflict as much as possible.

She handles the logistics for all of the [inaudible] events, both the dinners as well as the showcases, etc. She also now has taken on the

travel list for the ICANN meetings, and I'm going to talk to you a little bit about that in just a moment.

What else does she do? She does a lot. You will get to know her very closely on that. Okay. So, that is staff. Please, if you have any questions on staff, or any concerns, please just reach out to me, I'm happy to talk to you about that. And I think...

ALAN GREENBERG:

As you will have noted, the staff is all over the world, therefore their time zones very heavily. You will sometimes find people on at times you wouldn't expect based on their time zones. Gisella is certainly one of those, for late in her night, and Heidi early in her morning. Several of the people work from home, which means the concept of being at your desk sometimes varies, depending on physically how they work.

In terms of the question John asked before of Skype versus email, you cannot presume that someone will read every Skype message, whether it's in a one on one chat, or in a chat to a group. People are pretty good, but when you come back from not being online for eight hours, or two days, or whatever, not everyone religiously scrolls through every bit of Skype chat.

So, things can be on Skype and they just roll off the screen and disappear and don't get seen, so email is what you should use, if you want to catch people's attention. Now, it's fine to use Skype, but if they don't respond quickly, then don't presume that it's going to be caught 12 hours later. So, just a caution on that.

And... Sorry, go ahead, Heidi. Were you going to say something?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yes. Yeah, I think that's it. John, did you have a comment or question?

JOHN LAPRISE: No, I was just nodding to Alan's comments.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Virtually nodding. Okay. So, Alan if you wanted to move on to ALAC development session. I'm going to insert in there as well some of the travel issues, if that's okay?

ALAN GREENBERG: Yes, please. We have the sporadically having a session, and I think it's now institutionalized [CROSSTALK]... The format does change, but on the last day or part of the last day of the ICANN annual general meeting, is devoted to a session that varyingly is get to know the other people in the ALAC and in the regional, and/or regional leaders, because we tend to do two separate sessions.

One for one group and one for the other. Sometimes there are some professional development components, sometimes it's just activity and group building, but it is now a core part, and even though there are no formal meetings that will show up on the public schedule for the last day, you are expected to be there and to make your travel arrangements.

We, for some reason, had a significant problem, where we always seem to have someone who said, I didn't know. I've already arranged to leave. Although obviously, if you have some pressing matter and you want to discuss it with us, we can talk about it, but the last day of the annual general meeting is a working day. And you will hear more about it as we get closer to it.

JOHN LAPRISE: Ironically, I had the reverse problem in Hyderabad.

ALAN GREENBERG: Yeah, well, that happens to.

HEIDI ULLRICH: So basically, for [inaudible], Gisella and constituency travel, they start working together pretty much immediately after the previous ICANN meeting. In fact, I think they're due, that the travel database is due, I think, a week or two after the close of the previous ICANN meeting.

So, what happens is that... Bartlett, I'm not sure if you've traveled. Well, you travel for ICANN because you come to the LA assembly. So, the process is that we go ahead, from staff side, we put the approved dates of arrival and departure. For ICANN 60, you will be going to that as incoming ALAC.

And again, your departure will be that Saturday, because you will be there all day Friday for the development session. Now, you're going to go through a [inaudible] check, if you have not been through there

before. That takes about a week or so. And then, you will be getting information from [CROSSTALK] travel.

[O-PACK] is, I do not know what it stands... Basically, it's the new... I don't know what [O-PACK] stands for. Basically, it's a US checking, just make sure that, you know, you're not, you're appropriate to give funding to. That's basically what it is.

Let's see, [inaudible]. So, you'll be getting a welcome email. And that includes some tax documents, and that's something relatively new. Regardless if you're a US citizen or not, I believe you need to complete this tax documentation, and then you're going to be put in touch with Joseph and FCM, that is our travel company.

And again, this is really important, is that basically, they will send you, FCM will send you, just throw out there at the first, basically, ball, they're going to throw that out there. They're going to give you an itinerary. You are under no obligation to take that itinerary. It's just, they're just offering you, hey, here is our initial thought. Hey, as long as you're within the approved arrival and departure date, and within the cap, you pretty much have flexibility on which itinerary you want.

Okay, and there is also, Alan, there is much more of an expert than I am on this, there is also a possibility of where you purchase your own tickets, so you can do upgrades, etc., and then get paid back by ICANN.

ALAN GREENBERG:

Heidi, I've got to go on mute for a moment, I'm getting another call, but I'll be back in a minute.

HEIDI ULLRICH: So, just a heads up, you'll be getting that probably sometime in July, the welcome email for Abu Dhabi. Okay? I'm also going to make a pitch, you are both very much eligible for the academy, ICANN Academy Leadership program, that's going to be taking place the three days prior to the Puerto Rico meeting in March. And that's for both incoming leaders as well as experienced leaders.

And I think that both of you would make ideal candidates. The way that works is that you need to go through your old RALO, and I would suggest that if you're interested, that you just start talking to the chair and secretary, that you are interested, and then just go ahead and apply for that.

And again, that is the Wednesday... Actually, it starts on the Tuesday with a welcome cocktail. Wednesday through Friday, and it goes through... It brings you into contact with incoming and [inaudible] from across ICANN, across the ACs and SOs. Fantastic program. And just let me know if you have any questions on that.

JOHN LAPRISE: One question. I'm sorry. I think Glenn has already tapped me to teach at [inaudible], which is happening in Puerto Rico. [CROSSTALK]

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yeah, yeah, that is a conflict. That is actually the same time. However, I'll make a pitch for the other academy courses. There is the chairing skills program. That is going to be heading... I think it's going to start in

Puerto Rico again, with a face to face. Basically the chairing skills program, that's called CSP, that is where you will be set up as either a coach or coachee, and again, you need to be chairing groups, you need to be chairing a working group or something.

And then you'll be having somebody there assigned to you, or coaching someone. First we'll do a session on face to face, and then we'll do a session on teleconference. And that's a great course as well. And the other one is brand new, which is actually going to conflict with the ALAC development session. So, maybe think about it for the next year, and that is a new course that we're just now developing, academy is developing, on inter-cultural issues.

ALAN GREENBERG: Nothing that people on this call will know anything about. [CROSSTALK]

HEIDI ULLRICH: So John, yeah, the LT is not going to be possible this year, keep in mind for the following year. Then the CSP is something that you might want to, if you're chairing something, that would be a good course as well.

JOHNN LAPRISE: I'm co-chairing social media, so.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Okay, that's good. That's probably good enough.

ALAN GREENBERG: I don't know what I missed on travel, but I'll make a couple of comments which may overlap or may not. Heidi's description was a little bit generous, as long as you're under the cap, they will accept it. That's not necessarily the case. Sometimes they will be somewhat argumentative if you find a flight that's a lot cheaper.

My simple words are, be reasonable, and on the other hand, don't just turn it over to them. If you want to do some research and find your preferred flights, then I strongly suggest that. And if there are problems with travel, don't just fight with them, let me know. I will let Heidi know if necessary. Get other people involved.

Neither of us are travel counselors, neither of us have it in our job description, but it's a necessary part of what we do. In terms of... Go ahead, Heidi.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Yeah. I would just say, if you do have an issue, just write to Alan and myself at the same time, and we'll make sure that we sort things out.

ALAN GREENBERG: The travel people are supposed to keep us alerted of problems. They don't. So, don't presume we know there is an issue if you're having an issue. In terms of visas, visas are complex. It would be nice to say that we only go to places where everyone can easily get a visa for, that is not the case. It is never going to be the case. And even, there are even visa issues, you know, from the US and Canada and Western Europe.

So, keep an eye on those kinds of things. When we schedule a meeting, check immediately whether you need a visa or not and start finding out what the rules are. That doesn't mean you can apply early, sometimes replying too early is a problem. But keep an ear out for it, there is all sorts of travel issues that come up.

In terms of the tax documents, Bartlett, I presume you are not a US citizen?

BARTLETT MORGAN: I am not a US citizen.

ALAN GREENBERG: There is an obscure form that you will have to fill out. It is exceedingly easy to fill it out, but that's not obvious from looking at it. ICANN constituency travel may have a little tutorial online on how to fill it out, but if not, speak to me. I can walk you through it, if necessary. It is really easy to fill out, and despite what ICANN says, it doesn't have to be filled out every year.

But it does have to be filled out before they even put you in the travel database, as far as I can tell. So, I don't think I have anything else on that, those issues. Any last comments from anyone or questions from anyone?

JOHN LAPRISE: I have one.

ALAN GREENBERG: Go for it.

JOHN LAPRISE: And this is to ICANN staff, if you are following the news, and having lived in [inaudible] for five years, events are getting a little dicey in the gulf right now. One of the things that has occurred is that the Gulf States are closing their borders, which means that in all likelihood, connecting flights to Abu Dhabi through Cutter, are going to be curtailed, if the situation stays as is.

I just would make a recommendation that ICANN keep on its radar. I don't know where this is going, it's a little bit out of the norm even for the Gulf.

ALAN GREENBERG: We don't know where it's going, and we can assume that they are keeping their eye on it. We have sworn we will not cancel another meeting again. I would not hold my breath. We live in interesting times, I think is the expression.

JOHN LAPRISE: Indeed.

ALAN GREENBERG: And they're talking about travel bans to and from the US of all laptops and tablets now. Just to make life more interesting. And everyone, of

course, wants to check your laptop in your luggage so someone can easily steal it.

Are either of you going to Johannesburg?

BARTLETT MORGAN: This is Bartlett. I'm not going.

JOHN LAPRISE: No, I had no plans to go to Johannesburg.

ALAN GREENBERG: Okay. I was just going to give you the travel issues for there if you were, but if you're not, it's not an issue. Anyone else?

Then we are over the hour, despite Heidi's assurances this was going to be a short call. Thank you both for...

HEIDI ULLRICH: Well, we waited three minutes for you, Alan.

ALAN GREENBERG: You did, and it's now three minutes after the hour, so it's only appropriate. Thank you very much. Look forward to working with you both, and try to have some fun.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]