MARIO ALEMAN:	Good morning, good afternoon, good evening to you all. It is 23:00 UTC. I would like to welcome you to this call of the LACRALO Governance Working Group, on Thursday, October the 19th, 2017, at 11:00 pm UTC time. Our list of participants, so far we have nobody on the English channel.
	In Spanish, we have Sergio Salinas Porto, Jacqueline Morris, Carlos Vera, Alberto Soto, and Aiida Noblia. We have apologies from Maritza Aguero and Heidi Ullrich. On the staff, we have Claudia Ruiz, Silvia Vivanco, and myself, Mario Aleman, taking care of call management today. Our interpreters are Paula and Marina on the Spanish channel.
	And with this, I would like to remind all participants in this call to please say your name, not only for the record, but also for the interpreters, and also to facilitate communication. So, we can start with the call. Sergio, you have the floor.
SERGIO SALINAS PORTO:	Sergio Salina speaking. Thank you, Mario. For the record, I'm Sergio Salinas Porto. I would like to welcome you all to this call. I need to make a correction. We have Jacqueline Morris on the English channel. And now, we are going to start with this call. We have two significant topics to discuss. One has to do with the adoption of the definition for the assemblies and the monthly meetings.
	A couple of minutes ago, and I apologize for not having done this before, I included on the Wiki page some summarized definitions on

these three points under discussion, the general ordinary assembly, the general extraordinary assembly, and the monthly regular meetings. I would like to review this to see if there is agreement. I can read this, and I would like Jacqueline to listen to the interpretation when they read this in English to make sure that we understand what we are talking about.

Regarding the ordinary assembly, this is a meeting carried out by the ALS representatives who are LACRALO full members. It takes place once a year, according to the operating principles of LACRALO, in accordance with what is specified in the rules of procedure. In these assemblies, we submit to the consideration of the assembly participants the report of the president, secretary, the chairs of the working groups, and representatives before ICANN. I believe that here there is a mistake. It is actually before ALAC and not ICANN.

The extraordinary assembly is a meeting that is held by the ALS representatives that are LACRALO full members to discuss special or urgent matters according to the operating principles of LACRALO, in accordance with the specifics that are in the rules of procedure.

The monthly ordinary meetings are those meetings that take place once a month. They are convened by the LACRALO president and secretary to discuss monthly work or subjects, coordinate tasks, or receive trainings, among other items.

I would like to know whether you agree. I don't know if there are any observations by Alberto and Aiida. And I would like to know what is your opinion. So, the comments on the Wiki page, that we can take a

few minutes here to get your reactions to these definitions of the three types of meetings, and we can indicate that they can take place through a virtual means, or in person. You hold the floor. Aiida, Alberto, Jacqueline are asking for the floor.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. I have raised my hand.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio Salinas speaking. Okay, Alberto. My Adobe's screen has frozen so I'll give you the floor. You also have problems with the AC screen; I think it is a native problem, not a problem only for this meeting. Perhaps, I can give the floor to Jacqueline first because she's asking for the floor. Go ahead, Jacqueline.

JACQUELINE MORRIS: Yes. Okay. Hi, everyone. Jacqueline Morris for the record. I just have a little question. From what I heard, I wasn't sure what you meant by representatives before ICANN versus before ALAC. I'm not sure what that means. The assembly of members made by president, secretary, presence of work groups and representatives before ICANN. I'm not sure what that means.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio Salinas speaking. Jacqueline, I'm going to answer your question. I made a mistake. It shouldn't read representatives before ICANN; it should say representatives before ALAC. In the ordinary assembly, the

purpose is to take stock of all the work done during the year in ALAC, and so this is for the ordinary assembly to have an annual report from all the people who work during the year with some level of representation or authority during the year. It's just that, but ICANN is a mistake there. It should say ALAC. I don't know if it is clear, Jacqueline.

JACQUELINE MORRIS: Okay. It is clearer, but it needs that translation because it doesn't mean what the words mean. Do you see what I mean? [AUDIO BREAK]

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Salinas speaking. If you agree, we can ask the interpreters to read, literally, what the text says on the Wiki page, so that you can fully understand the text; that's not a problem. We can wait for five minutes until you get that translation from the interpreters because then we need to speak about something else, so I would like to make sure that you have a full understanding of the text. If you agree, we ask the interpreters to read it in English.

JACQUELINE MORRIS: Yeah. Please. Thank you.

INTERPRETER: Jacqueline, it says, "The ordinary assembly, it's a meeting that is held by the ALS representatives that are full members of LACRALO. It is held once a year in accordance with the operating principles of LACRALO, and also in accordance with what is specified in the rules of procedure.

In these assemblies, the matter subjects to the consideration of the participants include the report of all the management work done by the president, the secretary, the chairs of the working groups, and ALAC representatives," or it's actually, in Spanish, literally it says, "representatives before ALAC."

JACQUELINE MORRIS: Right. Okay. So, now it's ALAC. Right. Lovely. Yes, I understand.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio Salinas speaking. So if you agree, Jacqueline, Alberto Soto has asked for the floor. Aiida has also asked for the floor.

JACQUELINE MORRIS: Yes, go ahead.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: They want to add a couple of words, and that means that the assemblies can take place in person or virtually, and I make a comment in response to that. So, if you agree, I'm going to give the floor to Alberto. Alberto probably will refer to this, and Aiida will also comment on that, and then we will see what is the end result from our discussion. Okay? So Alberto, you have the floor.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. I agree with this change of replacing the word ICANN by ALAC, and as I said on the Wiki page, I think that we should

add that these are meetings that take place in person or online because I think that with this cut that we were going to incorporate that to the definition. Thank you.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio speaking. Thank you, Alberto. I included a comment on the Wiki page in response to Aiida and your comment. I think that this should be included in the rules of procedure, not here in the definitions. Here, we just make a definition. This is an assembly, and we also have the definition for meetings. I think that in the second part, in the attachment on the rules of procedure, we can add this information.

So, everything that has to do with the procedure is in one place, and all the notions and concepts go in the operating principles, so that we don't mix up these two areas that are different but go hand-in-hand. That is my proposal. Just to agree on this, in the rules of procedure we will include this reference to the fact that they can be held in person or virtually, but in the rules of procedure.

So, if you agree, we can finalize this discussion and move forward to another discussion. Alberto says he agrees. Aiida? Sergio Salinas speaking. Yes, go ahead, Silvia.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia speaking. I just wanted to clarify what would be left outside this definition, and what would go into the rules of procedure.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO:	Sergio speaking. In the ordinary assembly, the extraordinary assembly, and the monthly ordinary meetings, Aiida and Alberto agreed that we need to make a reference to the fact that they can be held in person, or virtually. I haven't put that in this definition because I believe that this is not part of the operating principles, but of the rules of procedure. The fact that they can be held in person or virtually should go into the rules of procedure. So, the fact that they can be held face-to-face or online should go into the rules of procedure, not here in the definition section.
	So, let's move on to the second point that we should discuss in this meeting, and that is the participation of individual users who are not part of an ALS within LACRALO.
	We discussed a lot about this, and as you know, I have quite a peculiar position regarding their participation, the participation of those individual users who are not part of an ALS because we have also seen some comments that raise some concern because these people who made this comment do not necessarily have a participation in a collective organization.
	So, I think that we should discuss this. I don't know if somebody wants to kick off this discussion or since I have the firm position, perhaps, I can start. I do whatever you suggest. Alberto Soto, you are asking for the floor. Go ahead.
ALBERTO SOTO:	Alberto Soto speaking. I added on the Wiki page, a couple of days ago or yesterday, some comments saying that I contacted the chairs of each

RALO, and three of them sent their responses immediately, and they tell me in those responses how they are managing the issue of individual users. Some of them have had them for some time. I still need a response from the chair of AFRALO. Tonight, I will insist to see if I can get an answer.

As you can see on the Wiki page, I included their responses, both in Spanish and in English. I think that we should review that; in order to discuss, we should focus on that and try to keep close to the way they are handling individual users. They do have individual users, not too many, and usually -- I'm getting a cold, so I apologize for sneezing -- but usually, the individual users are part of an association that is a sort of ALS.

They can participate. They can give their opinion everywhere, but when it comes to voting, they have only one vote, all the individual users count as one vote through that organization, and they appoint the person who is going to cast that vote. Clear example is found in NARALO, the representative of individual users is Alan Greenberg, the current ALAC chair. Thank you.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio speaking. Aiida, you have asked for the floor. Go ahead.

AIIDA NOBLIA: Aiida speaking. Yes, I confirm that information because in the last meeting, in Johannesburg, I was talking to some people, and I think that I said this in the previous meeting. I'd been talking with people from

different ALSes and they told me about that, and then I checked their web, and as Alberto said, there are just a few users. But we don't know what is going to happen in the future with individual users, but we assume that they are not too many.

And I believe that we don't have much room for maneuvering in terms of the review of ITEMS, the ITEMS review because the other option is to have the ALS with reduced functions, and to consider everybody as individual users also the users within ALSes, and each ALS individual user should have the right to one vote; that is the ITEMS team proposal. I know that this is a matter of principle, and you can give your opinion, according to what you think makes more sense for the collective group, for the community.

But we also need to look into the possibilities and the possible outcomes that you can have from that in this context where we have this review, and we have to see what is the final solution or the final decision. [Inaudible] to look at the review report and there have not been changes in that regard, so I don't know what the board is going to decide, but I think that I also included a comment. I posted a comment on the Wiki about the fact that one ALS establishes the vote, right?

But the other ALSes or the other RALOs, one of them, EURALO, for instance, has one ALS that brings together all the individual users, and they cast one vote as if they were an ALS, because actually, they are like an ALS, and there is another RALO -- I cannot remember which one, I think it was the -- it is APRALO that whenever there is a vote needed, all the individual users get together and they count as one single vote, although they do not make up an ALS.

So, we have the two options there. And in my opinion, this is not so wrong because the vote of the individual users would be quite diluted there because they are just representing their individual interests. So, perhaps, as they will be in an unfavorable situation because their vote will be diluted, the number of users that may have different opinions and this translates into one single vote. So I think that results that will count are those that are the majority of the other ALSes. I'm sorry for taking so long.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio speaking. No problem, Aiida. Thank you for your contribution. Please lower your hand. Now, I will the floor to Alberto Soto, and then I will ask Jacqueline Morris if she wants to add anything, and then it's my turn. Go ahead, Alberto.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. I do not agree with one of Aiida's remarks, which is related to ITEMS proposal going in that direction because the other RALOS and ALAC have been contractive, firmly against the recommendation attempting to create the individual members, so that ALSes appoint a person who becomes an individual user, and combines his or her vote with the others, and that was rejected in full. Some recommendations were accepted in part, and others were totally rejected. So I think we should go for the other way. Thank you.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio speaking. Thank you, Alberto. Jacqueline, please.

JACQUELINE MORRIS: Hi. Basically, pretty much everyone else, except AFRALO right now, but I'm pretty sure they will come around to the same thing, have this virtual ALS that encapsulates all of the individual members. And that one seems to work well in most places. Dev's proposal of having having country virtual ALSes was based on the idea that there are many places in our region that don't have any ALSes at all, and that if he could get people who are interested to join and work in-country, they can probably manage to spread the gospel, so to say, and get more people involved.

Now, the issue with that, yes, is that it makes absolutely no sense having a virtual ALS with one member or two members. So, my suggestion on top of that would be to say let's do individual members in a group, and if for example, we cannot get an actual ALS, the number to have actual ALSes in their country, that if we get a certain number of individual members that that number of individual members can form a virtual ALS, as opposed to necessarily creating an organization in their location, and going through all the difficulties that may be involved in doing that to say, make an ISOC chapter or whatever.

That may be difficult for some people, and in that case, we can possibly suggest to them that they make a virtual ALS with similar rules for numbers and so forth, like if you want to be an ISOC chapter, you've got to have 25 members. That is difficult in some places, which is why some people have been trying for 10 and 15 years to get the number of members to make it. But if we tried for maybe 10 members, that might be an interesting way to get some sort of traction in some of the places

that we haven't had yet. But the concept of a virtual ALS, I totally agree with.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio speaking. Thank you, Jacqueline. If I may, if you are finished with your remarks, I will take the floor myself. Okay? I have a bivalent position here. As I listen to your words, I perhaps flexibilize my views on some areas.

Nevertheless, I want to explain my position to you. I am actually not at all interested in what ICANN might think about this because my role within the RALO has nothing to do with what the board may think or what this structure, the ITEMS review think. I participate in LACRALO under this logic. I am thinking about the users of Argentina. So, it is clear that if ICANN wants to do away with the representatives of internet users in each country and go for individual members, well, that's an ICANN problem.

My issue, my problem, my work is to see that the voice of Argentinean users are represented within LACRALO, so that we can participate actively in ICANN's life. That is my mandate within ICANN. I'm involved in the internal life. I'm not here representing myself or anyone else but the end users. So, whatever actions are taken by ICANN, ITEMS, or anyone else, it's their business.

Now, I agree with the fact that one individual user should have a voice, could be able to work, and participate actively in LACRALO. Actually, that is not a concern of mine. It is actually something I would really appreciate. But I'd like them to also be part of their national ALSes. I'm

seriously considering what you are suggesting with some reservations because these people might also have a voice, perhaps voting rights for the topics we are discussing within LACRALO, and I was able to see what the other RALOs were doing.

In NARALO, I read that it tentatively was to -- Alberto posted on the Wiki -- and I was wondering, if we took up an ALS with people who are participating in LACRALO, these people who are participating in LACRALO, in which capacity are they participating? The interests of some Argentineans on some areas could be different from people from other nationalities, or may be equal to the interests of Uruguay but not to those of Brazil.

So, the views, the visions in each country, that is why we have national country ALSes. This is founded on this vision and this ability on this need to have some degree of active participation on topics, on policies that involve and affect our countries. That is why when we say we're going to create one ALS, I find it difficult to see how a user in any of the Caribbean Islands, in some of the island nations of the Caribbean would have the same view or the same needs, or given historical [inaudible], of someone on the continent for whatever reason it may be. It's not that this will always be like this, but we might have opposing interests. So my concerns, my doubts -- and perhaps we can reflect upon all of us together and might find a solution.

So, it's okay. We can set up an ALS giving voice to all these users, but that voice, is it going to be the voice of an Argentinean, the voice of a Brazilian, the voice of a Jamaican, the voice of a Venezuelan? So that's what I kind of glance, because in LACRALO, and I'm speaking giving the

view of the Argentinean users; I'm not speaking for the Venezuelan users, who have their own interests and views. I think nevertheless, it is interesting to set up the requirement. If we go for this ALS setting-up proposal, and all these users go for one ALS, we should set some prerequisites.

Let's say, for instance, for voting rights there must be a certain number of individual users joining this skeleton or phantom ALS -- I don't know how to call it -- something like that. This is what I wanted to say. Now, I will give the floor to Aiida, then Alberto, and then Jaqueline. If you agree, I will start with Aiida.

AIIDA NOBLIA: Aiida speaking. Well, first of all, I want to make a clarification. I might have not used the right words. I want to especially clarify to Alberto, by no means I was in agreement with the ITEMS proposal. Actually, I have written many arguments against the ITEMS position because I am in full disagreement. My only intent was to describe the form manifested my ITEMS and how we fought to make them change their minds because there was a moment when I said to them, "Since the cavemen, man would not be living -- mankind would not exist unless it had worked as a team."

That was a very gross sample, so perhaps I was not the using the right words. That was our problem. Now, Jacqueline talked about a virtual ALS. Well, that is one of the possibilities. There are at least two models already in operation. One is to give the people the possibility to gather to cast a vote on a certain issue. These individual users cast one vote.

They may be one, 10, or 1,000 users. It's a means to grant them a possibility to cast a vote.

Another model is to set-up an ALS, which as Jacqueline said, has its challenges, but it can be done. I think it said here that we agree when we say that we all represent specific interests. The ALS represents the interests of the users of their country, of their location. We are all in agreement on that.

Now, the issue is whether -- and we also agree that they should work, and they should contribute starting with aspects in which we have consensus. But the question is with voting. An interesting remark, you said, is that -- well, they may have voting rights for some things and not for others, and that is okay in my view because, for instance, for the election of chair and secretary, they will not have voting rights, and for other decisions of the working groups, for instance, they might have voting rights.

So, there's a whole range of decisions of enabling or disabling the voting rights. But an agreement can be reached on this -- define and label, for acceptations or rejections, and if they are accepted, they're accepted in such a format, virtual or non-virtual or those who gather just for the purpose of voting on something with legal personality or not. Well, that is all I wanted to say, is just an expression I wanted to share with you.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio speaking. Thank you, Aiida. I think we should be taking notes of all these discussions. I'm not taking any notes, unfortunately, but it would be very useful if someone has taken notes. Jacqueline has

written something that is very interesting, reinforcing the concepts she said before. Perhaps this is the way to find a path for our organization may be of extreme importance. I will give the floor to Alberto, first, and then Jacqueline. So go ahead, Alberto, and welcome, Harold, who has just joined the call. Alberto.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto speaking. First, Sergio, there is already an opinion from LACRALO on the participation of individual users. The opinion was positive. That was the opinion of the working group that was accepted by the entire LACRALO. We cannot say now that we're not going to go that way. Then, you said that, I, in LACRALO, are representing the interests of the Argentinean users." No, you are doing that in your capacity as representative of internet. As LACRALO, we will have to accept individual users.

As Aiida said, one, two, or many in each country, the best way to give them voting rights is to cover them in a virtual ALS -- what Jacqueline is talking about -- whatever they are. In case, I have many friends in the Caribbean, who speak English and French, and they are asking me, "What do I do? How do I participate?" and I say, "Wait a minute. You will have a chance to join the group as individual members."

If there are many English-speaking users, we can set up an English-speaking ALS, another in French, this is not an issue now. The issue is that if there is only one, we have to accept it, and he will cast one vote. And if they are 100, they will also have one vote. It doesn't matter on

this. The same thing happens within each ALS. In my ALS, I can say yes or no at the time.

There are issues that require the opinion of ALS, and I go back my ALS, and I consult. This does not mean that we're going to restrict the freedom of expression of individual users. A consensus must be reached, as any ALSes reach consensus.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio speaking. Thank you, Alberto. Just to make sure that it is clear. I didn't say that Argentina represented LACRALO; I said that I, within LACRALO, represented Argentina. That is my first point. The second point, I think that you didn't hear correctly -- I'm not denying users the possibility to participate. What I'm saying is that we can have individual users, but under certain conditions. This is what I said. Jacqueline, you have the floor.

JACQUELINE MORRIS: Okay. Hi. Jacqueline, again, for the record. I think everybody seems to be agreeing on the basic principle; that is that individual users come onboard, but not as individuals, but in some sort of grouping. And the question now would be what kind of grouping, and what rights, and how those groupings would work, whether it's one, large group that everybody comes into from all over the entire regions, speaking whatever language, and so forth, or if we want to have, as Sergio was saying, a group of individual users from Argentina that says this -- we have a similar thoughts and similar ideas, and a group from Jamaica or wherever else.

My main concern is how to get the members from countries that are really small that can't or that do not have groups that can already become an ALS. Places where there is, say, three people who are interested in working in Internet governance with LACRALO and would like to participate and work together, and if they can work together, if we create a virtual organization for them, then, maybe they can use that virtual organization to reach out and bring in more people from their territory, country, whatever.

But there are some places where the number, for example, as I said, for an ISOC chapter you have to have a minimum of 25 people to start, and there are some places where they're not going to get 25 people who are willing to set up and be an ISOC chapter.

But there are maybe 15 people who, from different areas, all have similar ideas and want to work on internet governance with ICANN through LACRALO, which is why I was really suggesting that we have not just one catch-all ALS for every individual member from all language speakers, but to have smaller ones. We can them by language, we can have them by nationality, but the idea is to have smaller groups that reach out where we can, one, get the voices of people who are not able to have an ALS join, or who simply don't want to join an organization and just want to be in LACRALO and work for ICANN issues, and those voices that are not being heard right now.

Yes, small countries, areas for people who are interested in things that are not what, say, a larger group that may be already in their country; they're not interested in all those issues. They're just interested in one

little issue that LACRALO works on. So, that's what I'm thinking. Thank you.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio speaking. Thank you, Jacqueline. I'm going to take the floor after Harold Arcos. I'm going to give the floor to Harold first. Good evening, Harold. [AUDIO BREAK]

Harold? Are you there? Harold, we can't hear you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We have already gone through this situation, right?

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Harold, while you solve this problem with your audio, if you allow me, I will take the floor. I think that we are getting to a point in which we have some level of consensus on certain aspects. But let me say something about this. When we signed the MoU in 2006 with ICANN and we set out our rules, we decided to support the user organization processes.

It is important to set up organizations in the countries because organizing users means that there is a voice that will count to the powers that are already established: the state power, the technical power that truly hold the economic power to present an opposition to any requests from users, so I think that we need to bear in mind that although we may have one single user in a country, it may be a small state in the Caribbean or one of the countries on the continent, we

need to have a clear understanding that we don't want those people to participate on an individual basis.

We need to make as many efforts as possible for setting up a users' organization. It can be an ISOC chapter like Jacqueline said, or it can be a different organization with a transnational nature, but it should be clear that what is important here is to have organized users. Users that can raise their voice, not only at ICANN. [Inaudible] there should be an organization for users in the country.

So, on the one hand, we are striving, we are making efforts to ensure that these users will have a voice in our region, but if we let them participate on an individual basis, in an isolated occasion, we don't meet that objective of giving them a voice, having them relevant and full participation in each of the levels and [inaudible] in their country. Aiida has asked for the floor. Go ahead, Aiida.

AIIDA NOBLIA: This is Aiida for the record. I'm reading what Jacqueline said, and basically, all the RALOs have one group that is considered a virtual ALS, so every ALS has one group that is a virtual ALS and has one vote. So yes, but with a lot of restrictions that is.

I agree with you Sergio, with your line of thinking. I agree that we should have users who represent collective interests, but it is obvious here that we will have a predominance of collective interests and also, out of respect for the different individual positions, if you don't want to join an organization, you are free to do whatever you want, but you will have some limitations. Only one vote for the entire group.

Do you want to join a working group? Please, come and contribute to the work, and if you want to work in 10 groups, go ahead, but if the vote needs to be taken, everybody will have a vote, regardless of whether you are a group of one million people. So, we shouldn't go to extremes. So, as not to say radically no to individuals because they also have the right, and it is also important to have more participation and more people working actively. That is what I wanted to say. Thank you.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio speaking. Thank you, Aiida. We have 10 minutes left. Harold is already online. I'm going to also give the floor to Alberto. Hello, Carlos, can you wait, because we need to give the floor first to Harold, so I will put you on the list of speakers. Okay. Try to improve your audio connection because we cannot hear you, Carlos. Harold, go ahead.

HAROLD ARCOS: Harold speaking. Thank you, Sergio. Can you hear me now?

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio speaking. Yes.

HAROLD ARCOS: Harold speaking. I agree with Aiida's remarks on Sergio's thoughts. Of course, we need to acknowledge their right to participate, however, I think that we still have a challenge in having balance there with the participation of individual users because as Silvia well said in the chat window, and I thank her for that because she gave me the section that I

was looking for, our RALOs are made up of structures or individuals with common interests in the region.

So, I think that it is important for them to have a voice, however, if one individual user joins an ALS, a virtual ALS or not-virtual ALS, we are distorting this notion too because there is an accreditation process that an ALS has to go through, there is a legitimization process, and then individual users can work in a working group, and the working group can be disassembled, so that may cause some problems. So, at the end of the day, we end up working in the dynamics of the ALS itself.

So, the user will be part of a collective group, but the user didn't want to be part of a collective group because the user wants to work alone, and the user ends up discussing subjects that he or she didn't want to discuss because he or she wanted to work alone.

So I think that we need to look into these challenges inside ICANN because the participation of individual users has to do with the fact that from a legal standpoint, they cannot have the same weight as an ALS, they cannot be accredited, but in practice, we recognize that there are individual users in all continents that do an excellent work and their work is important.

So, I think that we need to have an internal review within ICANN to see how this relationship develops because we don't want these individual users to feel pressed or forced to be in a place they don't want to be. So, we need to consider some other forms for them to exercise their individual rights. Although, we already know that they cannot have the same right to vote as a collective ALS, I wanted to bring this to the

discussion. There is a difference between a right and a duty, both at the collective level and at the individual level.

And I think that we should have a sub-item of work -- here, I mean, all the continents for those individual users that are already active and are already working, and how we are going to legitimate their participation, how we are going to recognize their individual participation. Thank you, Sergio.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio speaking. Alberto, I'm going to take note of all this. Carlos, go ahead. Carlos Vera.

CARLOS VERA: Carlos Vera speaking. Good evening. Can you hear me fine?

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Sergio speaking. Yes. Go ahead, Carlos.

CARLOS VERA: Carlos is speaking. I wanted to say something. In our case, when we want to hear what the citizens think, which can vary depending on the topic of discussion, we are working on this concept of the empty chair, which is a concept that you might know, and we might implement.

An empty chair is a chair, a seat at any committee, council, or working group that could be taken, filled in by anyone who requires to fill it in, and who has the expertise on the topic of discussion of the committee

or working group. And this is intended to listen to the diverse opinions. So, thank you for this opportunity to make a contribution to this active group. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto speaking. Sergio has dropped, so I will take the lead so that we are not making waste of our time. Sergio's not here, so I will continue.

MARIO ALEMAN: Mario speaking. Go ahead, Alberto.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto speaking. We shouldn't forget that we are talking about the participation of individual users. Let me start backwards. The individual user might be working in an individual working group, on a given topic, like this working group, but if there is a vote to be cast, the individual user should be entitled to do so because he's working for that, he has a voice and vote.

Now, the limitation is when there are many users, and that is how the other RALOs are working. This is an organization. There is not an ALS to be defined as such; it is an organization that requires no charter or bylaws. It has to be recognized by the RALO, and if they are going to vote for chair and secretary, they will have just one vote. So, if they are working in a working group, they must have the freedom to vote because they must be able to vote on what they are working on. Thank you.

And then, let me finish. We should not subsume them all in a single any ALS because otherwise they will no longer be individual users, and maybe they will not want to continue working. As Jacqueline said, there are many people in the Caribbean who want to work, and we might join them or make room for them in this new system, because if they want to work in a working group, they can work and vote there.

MARIO ALEMAN: Mario speaking. Thank you, Alberto. Sergio has been lost. We are trying to contact him, so we will now give the floor to Aiida Noblia.

AIIDA NOBLIA: Aiida speaking. I don't know if I should take the floor because I hear voices.

MARIO ALEMAN: Mario speaking. Perhaps we can wait for Aiida to speak or give the floor to Carlos.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia speaking. There are people talking.

AIIDA NOBLIA: Aiida speaking. Should I wait?

MARIO ALEMAN:	Mario speaking. Yes, let's wait because Carlos, apparently, is not hearing us.
ALBERTO SOTO:	Alberto speaking. It's just that we have only two minutes.
AIIDA NOBLIA:	Aiida speaking. I just want to say that I agree with Alberto's view, in the sense that there are different aspects in the voting. One thing is to vote for an election. There is one thing. Another thing is to give voting rights to a person in a working group, discussing a topic he's working on. Not necessarily, the person will be granted full voting rights, it will have voting rights for the group and for other decisions such as the election, the person could be involved in the virtual ALS, for instance. That might be a solution but it requires more details. Thank you.
MARIO ALEMAN:	Mario speaking. Thank you very much, Aiida, for your comment. Carlos, I don't know if you have something else to say. You could take the floor. Go ahead, Carlos.
	Mario speaking. Well, it seems as if Carlos has been dropped as well. Silvia, I will give you the floor if you want to proceed with the closing.
SILVIA VIVANCO:	Silvia speaking. Well, it's deadline -- the time -- because of the connectivity issues, we should close this call. There are people typing.

Let's wait until -- I think Sergio's back. Sergio, are you on with us? I can see him, but I cannot hear him. So, we will close this call.

Thank you for your participation and the recording will be ready in 24 hours for any relistening and the transcripts will be ready in approximately one week for your consideration, and we will meet again after ICANN60 in Abu Dhabi. Thank you very much. The meeting is adjourned.

MARIO ALEMAN: Mario speaking. Thank you, Silvia. Thank you all for being on this call. The meeting is adjourned. Please disconnect all your lines from the AC. Good evening.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]