GISELLA GRUBER:	Thank you very much, Mohamed. We're going to officially start the recording and the interpretation for this call. Good evening and welcome to the monthly AFRALO call on Wednesday, January 10th, at 18:30 UTC. This is the first call in 2018, which is why we'd like to wish you all an excellent New Year. I hope we will keep this attendance record through the year.

On the French channel, we have Tijani Ben Jemaa, Brahim Ousmane, Gabdibé Gab Hingonné, Gabriel Bombambo, [inaudible], Zakaria Issa, Imrane Ahmat Souleymane, Etienne Tshishimbi, Aziz Hilali, Dave Kissondayal.

On the English channel, we have Mohamed El Bashir, [inaudible], Daniel Nanghaka, Roger Oteng Baah, Vernatius Okwu Ezeama, Chenai Chair, Barrack Otieno, Esther Patricia Akello, Pastor Peters Omoragbon, Raymond Mamattah, Ejikeme Egbuogum, Otunte Otueneh, Sarah Kiden, Abdulkarim Oloyede, and Christiane Anaky.

We have received apologies from Fatimata Seye Sylla.

From ICANN staff, we have Silvia Vivanco, Heidi Ullrich, Claudia Ruiz, Yaovi Atohoun; and myself, Gisella Gruber.

Our interpreters for the evening will be Claire and Camilla.

I would like to remind you to state your name whenever you take the floor, so that we can identify you on the other channels, as well as for transcript purposes. I would also like to remind you that, to mute your line, you can dial *6. And to take the floor, you can dial *7. Wafa

Dahmani has also just joined us on the French channel. Thank you very much. Mohamed, you have the floor.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much. Welcome, everyone, and Happy New Year to you and your families. Best wishes for 2018. Thank you very much for the good turnout for this conference call. I was just counting the numbers of participants. I think we are 17 on this call. I hope we continue this good attendance [inaudible]. Thank you very much for joining. Hi, Seun. We will proceed to the agenda items as we can see in Adobe, and also as we have received in the e-mails.

Regarding the open public comment, currently there are several open public comments on topics. There's the enhanced accountability recommendation for diversity, which will end on 14 January. That's next Monday. There's recommendations to improve ICANN office of ombudsman performance. That's ending on 14 January as well. There is also recommendation to improve ICANN staff accountability. That's a recommendation that's open for your review and comments also end on 14 January.

I would like to stress the importance of the recommendations on ICANN jurisdiction, which is also ending on 14 January. Our friends here, Tijani and Seun, I'm very fortunate that they can highlight any updates on the jurisdiction work for the CCWG Work Stream 2. It's very important because it handles the adverse issue of ICANN stability and [the future] of ICANN and the process to [dispute] with ICANN and how that is related to the jurisdiction or incorporation of ICANN. That's important.

There's also [competition] and consumer trust [inaudible] review team. Recommendations also end on 14 January. There's a proposed incremental changes to ICANN meeting strategy. ICANN made a strategy that will be ending on the first of February, so we have time for that comment review.

There's also the operating standards for ICANN-specific reviews.

The link is already on the agenda and I posted the link for the comments, for the public comments, on Adobe as well. We encourage you to look at the topics and please submit any comments you have on those issues.

Regarding the statements approved by ALAC, there was a statement related to ICANN reserve fund and that was approved on 7 December. [inaudible] accountability, a recommendation for diversity. That's an ALAC statement. That's also approved actually yesterday on 9 January.

There are about four statements currently being drafted by ALAC. Actually, technically, those issues that I was talking about open for comment, they're already drafts – let's say, comments, statements – being drafted by ALAC. I encourage you to look at that and contribute [if you need].

There will be new public comment requests for ALAC to make decisions. That's the proposed incremental changes to ICANN meeting strategy and operating standards on ICANN-specific reviews.

There are also new public comment requests for end of this month up to February, and on the agenda I think we have a list of those. I will provide the text as well in the link in Adobe Connect.

Please mute your line, so at least we can have a productive call.

We can move ahead to the records part of the agenda. I would like to start the reports by our ALAC members. Tijani, please provide us an update. it will be Tijani, Seun, and Hadia. Tijani, can you start, please?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yeah. Thank you very much, Mohamed. In fact, ALAC didn't have a lot of activities during this period. In fact, from Abu Dhabi until now, there is not significant activities for ALAC. Perhaps Seun can give more information about that since he's a member of the ALT. Perhaps they are working on the ALT. But, as ALAC, there is no real activities.

There are some. For example, there [inaudible] of the two mentees for the onboarding program. We are now in the process of finding the mentor for this program. We are always [inaudible] and waiting for the board input for the At-Large review.

What else? Not a lot of things. We didn't do several things. In fact, the December month was very, very busy for most of us. There was a lot of activities out of ICANN. I don't know if perhaps I missed something, but I don't think that there is some significant thing that ALAC did during this period. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR:	Thank you, Tijani. I'll hand it over to Seun. Seun is also important. A member of ALAC Executive Team, ALT. So, hopefully, Seun could provide us with any updates from ALAC. Please, Seun?

SEUN OJEDEJI:	Thank you. Can you hear me?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:	Yes, we can.

SEUN OJEDEJI:	Okay, thank you. I'll repeat again once more to everybody. Tijani has actually given the update. December was quite busy for ALAC. Not within the ICANN, but more outside of the ICANN. In addition to a few things that Tijani has already mentioned, we also appointed the [inaudible] liaison So the [inaudible] liaison is now going to be Andre. Also we appointed the ccNSO. We did a consensus call for the ccNSO liaison, which is also Barrack Otieno. Those were done in December.
	As Tijani said, I think we are still looking for the mentor for one of the mentees. We already found one for one of the mentees, but you need another mentor for one of them. I don't think that has been finalized yet. It's still a search. I know [Janvier] is going to be one of the mentors. I don't know who the second person is going to be yet, but we are looking for one.
	Apart from that, [inaudible] ALT, we're also going to be having our meeting later this week. No, I think it's on Monday on the 15th, so next

week. I think ALAC perhaps we also [inaudible] towards the end of the month. So maybe activities will start by then.

But, apart from that, ALAC is also doing the [inaudible] follow-up on the public comments as the Chair has already highlighted. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Seun. I'd like to give also Hadia, our third representative in ALAC, a chance to speak if she is already on the call, but I don't think Hadia is with us. So we will proceed to the next item which is reports from AFRALO members, the ALSes. Please update us about any activity you have in your ALS, any national Internet governance event you had, any contribution you had. Please, you have the chance now to raise your hand in Adobe Connect and request to speak. Happy to hear you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Mohamed?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes, Tijani, please go ahead.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay. Thank you very much. I can report on the participation of my ALS on the IGF [inaudible] Africa and the global IGF if you want. But I think this is … I participated in the North African IGF as a speaker and as a moderator, and African IGF, also I played both roles, moderator and

speaker. And in the global IGF, AFRALO organized a workshop and I was moderating it with several persons from ICANN as well as people outside ICANN. It was about local content, an opportunity for underserved regions. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Tijani. Aziz Hilali, please go ahead.

AZIZ HILALI;   Thank you, Mohamed. As for me, I wanted to say that the Moroccan chapter of ISOC had its annual meeting [inaudible] work plans for the next year. I personally also participated at the Arab IGF and a number of workshops.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Aziz. If there's no any other [inaudible], I'd like to [inaudible]. Please go ahead, Pastor Peters.

PASTOR PETERS OMORAGBON: Our activity I want to say is not [inaudible] because it is [inaudible] by the medium by which we set it out the activity. [inaudible] at an event with the United Nations Conference on [inaudible] November last year. The event was streamed live and has to do with the climate change on health. It was streamed live from [inaudible] Internet connectivity. So [inaudible] collaborated with one of the major UN agencies. So, that's one of our activities for November last year. Thank you.

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MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Pastor Peters. I'd like just to put my ALS hat and provide you an update for [inaudible] Society. [inaudible] organization is working on introducing a new registry system for the country ccTLD because we are managing the [inaudible], the Internet Society or the chapter. We are managing the country ccTLD, so we're working on enhancing the registry and updating it. That's from my side.

Thank you very much. It seems we don't have any other contributors regarding ALS updates, so we will go to the reports from the liaisons starting with Costumer Standing Committee, which is [inaudible] IANA or Customer Standing Committee, which is I represent ALAC in that committee.

There's no new activity or update. The important news regarding the IANA functions or the PTI that Kim Davis has been appointed as vice president for IANA functions and president of the Public Technical Identifiers or PTI, which is the new name of IANA after the transition. Kim Davis was the director of technical services for a long time and [working with] IANA for a long time. She is a very trusted member of the Internet Technical Community and will replace Elise [inaudible] as the former president for PTI. That's from my side regarding IANA or PTI.

Then, I will turn it over to Tijani and Seun for the CCWG Accountability Subgroup Working Stream 2. So, please, Tijani.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:	Okay. Thank you, Mohamed. As you know, since Abu Dhabi, all the subgroups submitted their reports and those reports went for public comment. They were supposed to end at last on 5 January – sorry, even before. But we changed the deadline because we didn't receive comments, so now we have four reports for public comment – jurisdiction, staff accountability, ombudsman office, and the fourth one I don't remember exactly. We have four reports. There is no activity of the subgroups, no activity of the CWG Work Team 2 co- Chair. We are waiting for those comments. Now we put the deadline to 14 of January, so very soon it should be finished. Then we'll compile the public comment and go into the other phase, which is try to extract the public comments, try to include them in the report and then provide the final report for each subgroup. Thank you.
MOHAMED EL BASHIR:	Seun, any words?
SEUN OJEDEJI:	Hello. I think Tijani has summed it up well. No further comment. Thank you.
MOHAMED EL BASHIR:	Thank you, Seun. There's items for discussions. We can proceed for that. As far as the ALS engagement in the discussion of the hot topics, if I may say a word before I hand it over to Daniel.

We started this by an active group and we have a draft statement, a draft report for the hot topics that has been currently, let's say, been |

working on now. So, I encourage everyone really to look at the hot topic draft reports so we can try to find [inaudible]. Daniel is leading this work and I'll hand it over to Daniel to update us about where we are and how we can complete the report. Please, Daniel.

GISELLA GRUBER: Mohamed, sorry to interrupt. We're just dialing out to Daniel now. Thank you. Sorry.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much. No worries. I think we have a problem reaching out to Daniel as he was disconnected and we're trying to reconnect with him.

So, to give you a status about where we are in terms of the hot topics report, if you recall the group has short-listed the hot topics and we already – it already has been done and we need to … I think now we have about nine hot topic items that have been agreed upon. We need to prepare the draft report, which [inaudible] would include the hot topic and why we select this issue to be a hot topic and what we're going to do as AFRALO and ALSes to address this issue or hot topic.

I will remind you about the list of hot topics, starting from promoting DNSSEC [inaudible] in African TLD registries, new gTLDs and geographic names, new gTLDs subsequent procedures, general data protection regulations GDPR and privacy which is a hot topic now, not just for ICANN – it's basically across Internet industry and how to deal with the new European Union privacy regulations.

We have registry [inaudible] services importance is also a hot topic. ICANN accountability and transparency. Diversity and participation in ICANN [inaudible]. Our African perspective on how we can enhance and encourage further participation from diverse natives like our community [inaudible]. And there is capacity building, awareness, and outreach to Africa.

Those are the selective hot topics and we were working to finalize the draft report. I hope Daniel has joined us, so he can brief us about where we are. We can [inaudible] the report.

DANIEL NANGHAKA: Can I take the floor?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yeah. Please go ahead, Daniel.

DANIEL NANGHAKA: The first draft of the hot topics is complete and an e-mail was submitted to the community. So far, there is only two feedbacks that have come in, mainly from [Fatimata] and [inaudible]. And just from [inaudible] from GDPR and where there's an urgency to set up a working group in collaboration with ICANN stakeholder engagement [inaudible] issue, and two capacity building [inaudible] to use the local media [inaudible] social media, [inaudible].

And also, there's just [inaudible] about the two things that were mentioned. But, [inaudible] highlight more from the capacity building

and outreach – capacity building [inaudible] Africa region. Still there was still some ample work that has got to be done [inaudible].

Also, allow me to share that [inaudible] AFRALO and the work needs to be [inaudible] a presentation of how we can be able to engage more with the different communities and ALSes and [inaudible] about the individual membership in AFRALO.

So, all those contribute to our remit and outreach within the region, but still there's more to be discussed.

[inaudible] the report is [inaudible] different working group members who volunteered to take part in the discussion of [inaudible]. I'd like to request an action point that a call be made [inaudible] discuss the hot topics and [inaudible] and how we can really work on the action items.

Apart from that, [inaudible] performance. Yeah, I think that's [inaudible]. Thank you. Back to you, Mohamed.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Daniel, and thank you for the work on the reports and taking the lead in drafting the draft report. I'd like to encourage everyone to review the report, the draft report. Daniel has put the link on Adobe Connect. I think we'll have another chance for everyone to provide their comment and the working group will be working to finalize the reports. So hopefully by the next AFRALO call, we already have an agreed report that is either published or going to be published. Thank you very much, Daniel, for your work on this.

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Moving to the next topic, Sarah will provide us with updates regarding the ALS application status. Sarah, are you here? I'm not sure if Sarah is available on the call or maybe she is on mute.

SARAH KIDEN: Hello?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Ah, yes, please go ahead, Sarah, and provide us with an update. We can hear you. Please go ahead.

SARAH KIDEN: Okay. From the last applications that we received, if you remember from the last monthly call, we had a few issues with many of the applications, but at least three applications have been forwarded ALAC for them to vote on the applications. That's ISOC Gambia, ISOC Madagascar, and [inaudible].

For the rest, I think in the next week or so – actually, maybe less than a week – we will have finished the applications, going through them, and asking the ALSes to provide additional information because—

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: I'm not sure if Sarah is still there or her call has been dropped. We can't hear you.

SILVIA VIVANCO:	This is Silvia, Mohamed. It looks like she dropped the call, so they are dialing her out I think.
MOHAMED EL BASHIR:	Okay. So, until Sarah joins us, we have three approved ALS applications and the rest are pending for further information. We also, I think from the last call, to remind everyone, we [inaudible] a number of applications that were not related to our mandate. Aziz followed by Tijani on the queue. Aziz, please go ahead. Aziz, we can't hear you.
TIJANI BEN JEMAA:	Sarah is back.
MOHAMED EL BASHIR:	We can't hear Aziz as well. So, Tijani, can I just let Sarah continue and you get a chance to comment?
TIJANI BEN JEMAA:	Yes, please.
MOHAMED EL BASHIR:	Okay. Sarah, please, can you hear us? Please continue.
SARAH KIDEN:	Yes, I can hear you. This is Sarah again. I'm sorry, my call dropped. I was saying that three of the applications from the [inaudible] that you had were sent to ALAC for them to vote. For the rest, I think in the next two

to three days we will have an update about many of the other applications. For example, some of them didn't have things like [inaudible] and some other simple things that we need to double check with them. We should be done in a few days, really. I think that's all about ALS applications. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Aziz and Tijani. Can Aziz? Tijani, can you go ahead? Aziz's line, we can't hear him.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Mohamed. It is not to comment on ALS applications or something. This is just to remind you that I have an any other business about the capacity building so please don't forget it. When you have a slot like this where the speaker is dropped, you can give me the floor. I will make my update so we will not be late. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Tijani. I already have two items on the any other business and yours is one of them. I think let's move to the next item which is the individual membership. Before I give Sarah again the floor, I'd like to just update you that we're going to request from At-Large staff to automate our individual membership application process in terms of having an online form instead of a PDF form and having applicants fill this online form so it can be sent to us, so we can have an online process for the individual members application process. Sarah, please go ahead, if you have updates on the individual applications.

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SARAH KIDEN: Thank you, Mohamed. Regarding the individual member applications, we received applications and we had a few challenges. [inaudible] first time we are doing it, I think [inaudible] to be able to do it better. So, we realized that many of the applications that we received were from people who were already [inaudible] an ALS. For example, some would be [inaudible] a leader with ISOC Uganda or another ALS and they still applied to become individual members, so it was a bit difficult because the requirement is that if you're already part of an ALS, then you don't have to apply to become an individual member. I don't know. Maybe we didn't explain it properly or I don't know if someone on the call wants to say something about it. I've seen a few people who [inaudible] and want to say anything about it. That's what happened with I think maybe 90% of the applications.

That's about the individual members, but we'll give each member their feedback about the application [inaudible]. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Please go ahead, Pastor Peters.

PASTOR PETERS OMORAGBON: I just want to make some comment on the issue of [inaudible]. Number one, I think it would be nice if Sarah [inaudible] with the number of individuals have applied for individual membership. Number two, [inaudible] like this issue of [inaudible] member of an ALS and [does] want to become an individual member. This is some of the pitfalls that we have to look at.

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I also want to note also, under the record, that going forward, now that they have this challenge, there's the problem that if tomorrow – like, for instance, I belong to [inaudible] because I want to enjoy the position of leader so I can enjoy the [inaudible] of office and my implications, I no more represent [inaudible] an ALS leader in ICANN [inaudible]. Okay, fine, let me apply to be a new member of ICANN.

So I wanted to also learn from this [inaudible] as it comes, so that in further analysis it will still come back to some of the problems some of us were actually concerned about when we were opposed to the idea of [inaudible]. I'm not opposed to it. The [inaudible]. I wanted to get a [inaudible] perspective [inaudible]. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Pastor Peters. Just to respond also to your inquiries, the process and the requirements actually were clear in the application form that the applicant should not be a member of a certified ALS. It was surprising that people would apply while they [inaudible] requirement that's already there. I think either people did not read the requirements well – maybe that could be the case. We need to have a due diligence for [inaudible] process, which is that what we're reviewing. We don't want to have people also in the ALSes and also applying individual membership or becoming individual members because we need the ALSes to be empowered and ALSes to continue to be active.

So, the requirement is already there. Just [inaudible] applicant did not fulfill the requirements. I think we should encourage individuals who are

not ALS members who are active in the Internet community in Africa to apply. This is the reason for the whole individual membership, to bring us new blood, to bring us active members who are not part of our current ALSes. Thank you for the comments. Definitely, that's useful.

I can see Aziz's hand. I'm not sure if he still wanted to speak. Sarah, do you want to add anything to this?

GISELLA GRUBER: Mohamed, sorry to interrupt. Aziz has been requesting the floor desperately on the French channel for the past ten minutes and it may be related to the previous item, but please do hand him over the floor. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Sure, sure. [inaudible]. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Aziz, you have the floor.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you very much, Gisella. I wanted to ask Mohamed to pay attention to who's raising their hands in the order they raise their hand from time to time, because as Gisella says, the floor was given to people who followed me. I preceded them in raising my hand. That's just a remark.

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I wanted to speak about ALS applications. Like I said last time, I ask that this subject be taken by ALAC, and in particular, in Africa within AFRALO we have started to receive applications with, to the best of my mind, are not very serious. When I say they're not very serious, I mean, they have all the information there, but when you check the conditions and the pre-requirements through the accreditation of the ALS, you see that for them to be accredited, they need a website, they need an office and they need due diligence to be followed. The due diligence is a process that is not necessarily carried out on the ground in the country.

So, regarding what Pastor Peters was saying and regarding what everyone else was saying, if we wish to have serious ALSes – ALSes that can be active – but not ALSes that want to be accredited and that we will never see again.

When you see the [curve] and that is what I presented in Johannesburg, when you see the [curve] and the growth of ALSes that joined us over the past five years, we see that we have a very deep growth. But when you see their contributions or the profitability or their active contributions to the policy development of ICANN, we see that our level of participation is even lower than it was before.

So, I think we need to ask this question. Are they serious? This is the question to be asked not only within our RALO, but also within ALAC. I wanted to ask Mohamed to ask this question at the next ALAC meeting so that we can go through the way in which ALSes are accredited.

If we continue to accept ALSes as we have been doing thus far, we risk having [tons] of ALSes in Africa, the participation or involvement of

which in policy development and the active participation of which are very low. Thank you very much.

PASTOR PETERS OMORAGBON: Pastor Peters wanted to have the floor, Mohamed.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you. The queue currently, the one I have is Sarah and then Pastor Peters. Sarah, please.

SARAH KIDEN: Hi. I wanted to add on to what Mohamed said regarding – or what Pastor Peters – regarding participation. You don't have to be an ALS leader to participate in the AFRALO activities. So even if you're not the president of your ISOC chapter or [inaudible], as long as you're a member, you're still able to participate in AFRALO activities. That's why you don't necessarily have to apply to become an individual member. That's what I wanted to add. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you. Pastor Peters, please?

PASTOR PETERS OMORAGBON: Yeah. I just wanted to follow-up on what Aziz said a few minutes ago. If we look at the recommendations of the Rules of Procures, we fully disclose in [inaudible]. The only two issues or one issue that was taken seriously was this issue of [inaudible].

So now, if we are to [continue] the practice whereby people just join ICANN only to be accredited to attend an event and that is it, I think we should go back to some of the [inaudible] from the [inaudible] which has to do with [inaudible] ALSes [inaudible] with a view to the registry, with a view to [inaudible] are not active and then make them [inaudible].

I think we also have to debate that. And [inaudible] that was used in approving the individual [inaudible] so that when the Rules of Procedure that were recommended – adopted – we will be able to have some [inaudible] and then be able to remove the fear that [inaudible] from the ICANN policy position as [read by] Gisella a few minutes ago.

So, I think we should also begin to see how we can [inaudible] address among the recommendations and begin to adopt the ones that were recommended so that we can begin to put them into practice – sorry, begin to apply them into AFRALO activities. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you. Daniel, please? Daniel, can you hear me?

DANIEL NANGHAKA: I think what [inaudible] who are applying for individual membership because the organization [inaudible]. How to detail that? That's the first thing.

Secondly, when it comes to engagement from the ALSes, I think the ALSes still have the challenge of understanding ways of how they can be able to be engaged in the different working groups and the different

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processes. I think we should do an assessment of what challenges the current members of the ALSes face regarding engagement because we [inaudible] reaching out to different individuals or stakeholder organizations that have potential to become ALSes but one important thing that we're not looking at is how is the engagement after they have become ALSes? That [inaudible] because they encourage them [inaudible] to look at the [inaudible]. Thank you. Back to you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Daniel. Maybe to sum up the valuable input that currently we heard. Aziz made a very important point about evaluating the new ALS application based on their activity, relevance, and merit because as AFRALO we have now … I think we have quantity, a big number of ALSes, but we need now to consider quality of new ALSes. I think that's useful to start reviewing maybe criteria or requirements for ALSes, so at least we have active and relevant ones – relevant to our mission. That's why I think on the last call when we had a discussion about ALS applications, we ended up not approving some ALSes who are not working in the same area as AFRALO is working. Pastor Peters had an important point about activity.

I just wanted to remind everyone the for the case of individual membership, basically, the requirements are very clear, what has been approved is clear. We had a few applications that came that does not [fill the current requirement] that AFRALO puts. That's why they were not approved.

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I think we need to make sure that the requirement is clear in the process so that they know it and they see it. I don't think there will be a conflict in terms of having more individual members or people leaving the ALSes. That's not the intention. I will definitely not let this process to do that. We don't want people slipping from the ALSes and we will make sure we do due diligence for this.

So, hopefully, in the coming calls we will try to work internally as officers of leadership to propose something for you regarding enhancing the current ALS application requirement to be relevant for us for [inaudible] members. That will be in our sight as AFRALO leadership and try to come back to some proposals hopefully by the next call. Thank you very much for the input on this.

We can go to any other business, as we already [inaudible] call. For any other business, one item is 2019 additional budget requests. Basically ALSes, they can apply and submit requests for events, for [items], for 2019 budget. AFRALO could submit a request. Bear in mind that we have a very tight timeframe. The deadline is 12 January.

Tijani, do you want to say something about this, please?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Do you hear me, Mohamed?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes, please go ahead.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay, thank you very much. As you know, each year we have an opportunity to have additional budget requests for activities and any ALS can propose an activity, request needing an addition budget. It would be assessed by the Finance and Budget Subcommittee. And if it is okay, it will go to the finance department and the finance department will decide on it later on and submit to the board their recommendation for each activity. It is the program.

So, as Mohamed said, we have a very, very tight timeframe, so if there is any proposal, please send it as soon as possible to the Finance and Budget Subcommittee so that it will be [inaudible]. Thank you very much.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Tijani. We have another item on any other business, which is basically the capacity building topics. We need to submit to ALAC the capacity building topics or areas we need support on. I think Tijani, as well, this is on your side.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes. Thank you very much, Mohamed. As the Chair of the Capacity Building Working Group, I sent yesterday – two days ago – a request to all RALO Chairs to ask their communities about topics that RALO members wish to see the Capacity Building Working Group address as one of the topics for the program of 2018 Capacity Building webinars.

I'd like to emphasize on the fact that it is very important that we receive your preferred topics. We already did a small survey among the working

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group members, but we realize that we need the topics from people who are not very experienced, people who really need capacity building, so that's why we opened this new window of proposal. So, please, make your proposals as soon as possible to the staff. The deadline is 10 of February at 23:59 UTC. Any topic. Any topic you propose might be a very good one because we need to serve you. It is for you. It is not to make a program and that's all. It is for you. We need it to have an impact on our members. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Tijani. Anything else besides that, Tijani, that could be an action item on our side. As AFRALO leadership we need to submit I think a reminder by e-mail to all ALSes so they can propose topics to your working group, to the Capacity Building Working Group. As you said, this is important.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: I have asked Silvia to send an e-mail to all the RALO lists requesting the members of the RALOs to submit their topics. I did that fater I contacted the RALO Chair and I thought it is not a duplication. It is to make things progress very fast because we have a tight deadline also. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Okay. That's fine with us. Request will be – or a reminder could be sent by staff directly to the ALSes and to the RALO on discussion mailing list encouraging ALSes to submit their capacity building topics. Thank you, Tijani.

I think we can come to the end of the call. If there's any other business, please raise your hand. Pastor Peters, please go ahead.

PASTOR PETERS OMORAGBON: On budget, if one is unable to [make any input] for the 2019 budget, this program, this budget, are there windows for ALSes to apply for funding for any activity or program they want to organize this year?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Pastor Peters. My understanding that's already passed, but I'm not sure if [inaudible] say anything about any chance for an ALS to get financial budget request for 2018 budget.

Okay, that is not possible, but I can see Silvia is writing something on Adobe Connect.

SILVIA VIVANCO: For the fiscal year 18 which is ongoing, of course the submissions were done way before, so now the [inaudible] that is open and is now open for all ALSes for fiscal year 19 and the deadline is by this Friday, 12, to send to you to deliver for AFRALO the proposal from ALSes to be analyzed and sent then to the FBSC, to the Finance and Budget Subcommittee, to review. So, this Friday everybody has a chance to send to request funding by completing a template, which is on the wiki page. Thank you.

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MOHAMED EL BASHIR:	Thank you, Silvia. We still have a chance for 2019 to submit budget requests. There is no any other business. I'd like to thank you very much for attending this call. It has been very productive. I hope that we can have the same turnout, the same number of participants, on the next call. Good night, everyone. Thank you very much for the call. Bye-bye.
GISELLA GRUBER:	Thank you, everyone.
SEUN OJEDEJI:	Thank you, bye-bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]