

GISELLA GRUBER:

Thank you. We're going to officially start our call and our interpretation as well and the recording. In the French and English channels on both languages, hello, welcome to this AFRALO call on Wednesday, February the 7th at 11:30 UTC.

On the French channel, we have Tijani Ben Jemaa, Marcus Adomey, Gabriel Bombambo, Etienne Tshishimbi, Dr. Alioune Badara Traore, Aziz Hilali, Dave Kissondoyal, Michel Tchonang, Olevie Kouami, Ramanou Biaou, and Christelle N'Cho Assirou.

On the English channel, we have Alagie Ceesay, Mohamed El Bashir, Seun Ojedeji, Roger Oteng Baah, Omar Shuran, Beran Gillen, Vernatius Okwu Ezeama, Daniel Nanghaka, Sarah Kiden, and Isaac Maposa.

We received apologies from Esther Patricia Akello.

From the staff, we do have Silvia Vivanco, Heidi Ullrich; and myself, Gisella Gruber.

Our interpreters today are Isabelle and Jacques. I would like to remind you to give your name every time you take the floor and you speak so that interpreters can identify you. Thank you very much. Mohamed, you have the floor.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR:

Thank you very much, Gisella, and hello everyone. Bonjour. I'll try to learn more African languages in terms of saying hello. I'm very happy that we already have a good number of colleagues attending this call, 21

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in total. Hopefully, it could be a productive discussion we're having. Without further ado, we can go to the agenda items. As we do, we're going to review the current open topics for comment period by ICANN for the public comment.

You can see in Adobe Connect that we already have now about four items open for public comments and most of them actually – the four are related to root zone label generation rules. Actually, three of them are related to root zone label generation rules. And one important item related to ICANN draft operating plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2019. And the five-year operating plan update, which it's already open for comments and will end on 8 of March.

You have the link to the pages of the comment period. Silvia has already posted those on Adobe.

So, to proceed further, you can also review ALAC policy development page which is listed in the current work that ALAC is doing in response to open topics for comment. I will proceed to agenda item number three, which is the report and we can start by the reports from our ALAC members. We'll start with Seun, please. Could you give us an update on ALAC activities?

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Hello, can you hear me? This is Seun.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR:

Yeah. We can hear you very well, Seun. Please go ahead.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Okay. Yeah. [inaudible] update [inaudible] last meeting. I [inaudible] on some of the activities like the At-Large Review. ALAC is trying to prepare a response to the [inaudible] of the ICANN board. That is currently being discussed within the At-Large Review Working Party, which a lot of us ALAC members are part of as well. [inaudible] ALAC, there's been some request for [inaudible] of some ALSes and [inaudible] ongoing I think is [inaudible] announced for [inaudible] some ALSes. None of them, if I recall correctly, are from AFRALO. There's about five ALSes that I think are largely from LACRALO [inaudible].

The other thing that perhaps is worthy of announcing is the leadership program, which is [inaudible] program. ALAC has finalized on the [inaudible] submitted to participate in that program. Leadership program is open to incoming or current committee members. The idea is to improve their capacity and to actually get more accountability, more deeper in leadership roles.

So, for all AFRALO, we are [inaudible] AFRALO. We have IGF and we have [inaudible] to be on the list because [inaudible]. This is a challenge that we have and [inaudible] ALAC as able to [inaudible].

Apart from that, there's really no other objects. [inaudible] public comment, ALAC as responded to a couple of public comments and [inaudible] Wiki. I'll stop here and if there's any ALAC member on the call, then [inaudible] may have missed. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Seun. I'd like to give Tijani a chance as well to provide us an update. Tijani, please?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Hello, do you hear me?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes, we can hear you. Please, go ahead.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much. Thank you, Mohamed. I think Seun gave a comprehensive report of what ALAC is [inaudible] budget requests was one of the activities [inaudible] last time. Now all the requests have been [inaudible] community and [inaudible] already submitted to [inaudible].

I would like to make a comment on the [inaudible]. As Seun [inaudible], there was a series of ALSes that have been in the process [inaudible].

GISELLA GRUBER: Tijani, sincere apologies to interrupt you, but unfortunately the interpreter is struggling to hear you. Can we please increase your volume? Can we just sort this out for the operator? Please give us a second. Thank you. Could you just try speaking again, please, Tijani? Your audio is still very feint. I need confirmation from the interpreters they can hear you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay. Do you hear me now? Is it okay now?

GISELLA GRUBER: I think it's a little better. Go ahead, Tijani.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay. Thank you very much. I said that Seun made a comprehensive report. I would like to add only that also additional budget request was also one of the activities of ALAC in this last month, and I would like to make a comment on the certification of some ALSes from the other regions. As Seun said, some ALSes are in the process of [inaudible] the other regions, but you can [inaudible] no one is in this process in AFRALO. This is because we didn't finalize or we didn't agree yet on the recommendation of the working group about the criteria of the performance criteria and then the [condition] on the certification.

I would like to advise AFRALO leadership to put for the [inaudible] recommendation that we had on these two points that are not controversial so that we can proceed in decertifying some of our ALSes that never show up or that didn't show up since very, very long. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Tijani. I don't think we have [inaudible] with us on the call. But, hopefully, on the next call maybe we can have her as well as one of the African region ALAC representatives. So, let's proceed.

I'd like to give Aziz a chance to update us about the NomCom call for positions for this year. Please, Aziz, go ahead.

AZIZ HILALI:

Thank you very much, Mohamed. Thank you for giving me the floor. So, I just wanted to give some information as far as the NomCom. It is a recent announcement. It is only a few days old. What we're talking about is leadership positions that are open that need to be filled within ICANN. This is something that the NomCom will be doing over the year.

So, we have an agenda that we drafted starting in January, and at the end of the agenda, June or so, we will have nominations. The positions that are open are the following.

First of all, to become a member of the GNSO, two positions for the ccNSO, and then two representatives for that At-Large Advisory Committee. As you know, the representative for Africa at the At-Large Advisory Committee is [Adiel], but for 2018 we needed two representatives for the North America and European region.

I would like to also inform you that this call as far as the ccNSO and GNSO, it's not a call towards the ALSes. It is an open call. It's not limited to the ALSes. Anybody who feels competent, who feels that they match the requirements of this position can be a candidate. I would like you to communicate this to the ALSes. The announcement was published on the ICANN website. So, I will post on the chat the link, so that you can communicate that to people you might know, people that you think might be interested and who might be good candidates.

There is also a form. I won't go into details, but if there are questions, I can certainly answer your questions. That's all I have to say. Mohamed, you have the floor.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Aziz. I appreciate the update. Then we can go to..

HEIDI ULLRICH: May I just add to the elections topic?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Sure, Heidi. You can please update us.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Thank you. Thank you very much, Aziz, for discussing the available NomCom positions for the community. I wanted to also highlight that At-Large does plan their elections to close prior to the NomCom selecting their candidates. That means that for this year's election, all of the RALOs and the ALAC will be selecting their candidates at the same time, which will begin in approximately April and run through May. The only position that will be available for the regional position within AFRALO will be the secretary position. Thank you so much.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Okay. Thank you very much, Heidi. We can go now to the agenda items related to reports. Some members on the committees, our different working groups. I will start with myself on the Consumer Standing

Committee, which is basically the committee that represents IANA or now the PTI, consumers and members affected by the IANA function. There is nothing new to be reported on the work on the committee. We're going to have the next call for the committee next week on 12, so hopefully in the next monthly call, I can report that.

Tijani, would you like to update us on the CCWG Accountability Subgroup Work Stream 2?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Yes. Thank you, Mohamed. So, about the Work Stream 2 CCWG Accountability Work Stream 2, we are now very well advanced because we have asked the public comment for the [inaudible] subgroups, which were diversity, jurisdiction, ombudsman, and staff accountability. We are [inaudible] of integrating the comments in the reports of the subgroups and we hope that we can make [inaudible] of the global reports of the CCWG Accountability Work Stream 2 in Puerto Rico, so this is the plan [inaudible]. Then, normally we should have finished all the process by ICANN 62, which will be in Panama.

So, this is the update I have to give. If you want more details, you can first attend all the calls of the subgroups and of the plenary, because we have a plenary. We had a plenary this morning, 5:00 UTC. We'll have other plenaries [inaudible] plenary. Then 20-something February we have another planning. So, if you want to be more informed, please attend those subgroups and attend also the plenary calls. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Tijani. Seun, do you have any updates, further updates, on the CCWG Accountability Work Group?

SEUN OJEDEJI: This is Seun. Can you hear me?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes.

SEUN OJEDEJI: We are [inaudible] AFRALO to have the co-chair of CCWG Accountability in [inaudible]. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you. Okay. We have one major item in our agenda, which is to review the draft hot topics report. Just to remind you we have a working group on the hot topics which had multiple calls earlier to identify AFRALO hot topics and the main objective with that to develop a report, which is where we need to list on it the agreed hot topics and what we need to do, what action items AFRALO will be doing to address those hot topics, whether it's capacity building, whether it's outreach, or whether it's submitting statements or actively participating in a hot topic that's currently being debated in ICANN.

I would like to thank Daniel for his active work in the working group. He is the one who led the drafting of the report. Now the group represented by Daniel will be presenting to you the report and

hopefully you can review it in the coming days, so we can finalize it and approve it. Daniel, please go ahead.

DANIEL NANGHAKA: Daniel speaking. Can you hear me?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes, very well. Please proceed.

DANIEL NANGHAKA: Okay. Thank you very much, Mohamed, for the introduction. The main purpose for this AFRALO hot topics as [inaudible] got feedback from the different members of AFRALO, and these topics are clearly outlined. From the outline, we've had to [inaudible] and come up with the hot topics report. I'll go through each, through section by section.

The main [inaudible] is the part from the working group is that we aim to strengthen the user's participation in ICANN's decision-making structures. Also, [inaudible] to ensure that the members of AFRALO will actively encourage more [inaudible] participation by the end users, and also to build the Internet policy, making [inaudible] policy making capacity in the region. [inaudible] also be able to reach out to the Internet users on the issues in the scope of ICANN.

Also, as AFRALO, we aim to represent the end user's interest through the AFRALO hot topics, shall be depending more ... [inaudible] public interest [inaudible] Internet governance with [inaudible] focus on the areas of privacy, transparency, and accountability.

Also, from the report, shall also aim to strengthen the consumer protection in the ICANN policies, identify social impacts of [inaudible] and also to [inaudible] diversity into [inaudible] community [inaudible]. For instance, [IDN] implementation.

Also, for your information is that we currently have over 54 ALSes located in over 30 countries and territories within the Africa region. The main key topics that we're going to discuss in this call [inaudible] for feedback at the end of the call include, one, the promotion of the DNSSEC implementation in Africa [inaudible] registries.

In summary, [inaudible] DNSSEC is important because [inaudible] protocol by [inaudible] specifically. DNSSEC [inaudible] authorities [inaudible].

So, why is it important to AFRALO and the Africa Internet users? We have noted that Africa has the lowest DNS implementation compared to the rest of the world, and action items in this case would be to promote the DNSSEC and raise awareness among the Africa ALSes about the importance of DNSSEC implementation in their respective ccTLD registries. And also [inaudible] action item is to coordinate with ICANN and [inaudible] in organizing DNSSEC [inaudible] for AFRALO ALSes. And through this [inaudible] collaboration together with the Capacity Building Working Group whereby [inaudible] can be organized.

The second hot topic that was under discussion is the new gTLD [inaudible] be able to scroll to the next page.

In summary, about the new gTLDs and [inaudible] on page two is the protection of the [inaudible] very different from [inaudible]

participation and [inaudible] of some countries. [inaudible] community. [inaudible] domain, then [inaudible] top-level domains [inaudible].

In ICANN, the policy making discussions has spoke [inaudible] and there are currently multiple strands of discussion [inaudible].

The GAC also plays an important role in representing [inaudible] government position [inaudible] process. But, when is this important to AFRALO? [inaudible]. Many geo-names [inaudible] with reference to the policy development processes. The Africa Internet users need to understand the process in the management of [inaudible] interest but affect the end users.

So, what the key [inaudible] under this hot topic is to conduct [inaudible] to the new gTLDs [inaudible]. I'll go to the [inaudible] hot topics.

The first hot topic is on the registration data [inaudible] WHOIS. I'm also privileged to be a member of the RDS Working Group. The RDS and the WHOIS are the [inaudible] ownership of the domain and the current information [inaudible]. But, there is a strong [inaudible] to protect registration better and improved accuracy [inaudible] generate top-level domain registration data. [inaudible].

So, why is it this issue of the RDS and the WHOIS very important? In the current RDS and WHOIS Working Group, [inaudible] Africa region [inaudible] issue being relevant to the Internet and the domain system in the region. [inaudible] pertinent issue that affects the registry [inaudible] Africa region and documentation regarding the [inaudible] WHOIS record that are publicly limited. There is a need for [inaudible]

awareness in the policy discussion and recommendations even that this could affect RDS implementation in the Africa region.

So, what are the key action items? There is a need to promote RDS, WHOIS a great awareness among the Africa ALSes about the importance of the RDS implementation. And there is a need to coordinate with ICANN and [inaudible] to explain the relevance of the AFRALO participation in RDS PDP process. There's also a need to request the members to [inaudible] working group. To become members, they [inaudible] contribution to the policy recommendation. More information can be found on the link.

So, if you [inaudible] ICANN accountability and transparency as the core hot topics, ICANN's core mission is to coordinate at the [inaudible] level the global Internet [inaudible], and in particular ensure that [inaudible] stable and secure operation of the Internet [inaudible].

ICANN operates from [inaudible] stakeholder model that brings all interested parties together to discuss policy issues that [inaudible] areas of responsibility. So, this follows the bottom-up model of policy development and [inaudible] consensus for multi-stakeholders.

For this model to be effective, or to operate effectively, ICANN has encouraged participation [inaudible] and make information available.

So, why is this very important as far as transparency is concerned? AFRALO and Africa [inaudible] understand multi-stakeholder processes and how it is [inaudible] accountability and transparency. We have at least [inaudible] in the working group as part of this and [inaudible].

And one of the core action items that's in the report is to conduct a session on the process to engage members to understand clearly the accountability and the transparency process and also seek feedback on the current accountability and transparent process as also comments come up respectively.

So, gender and diversity was also one of the key hot topics that was available. ICANN Organization [inaudible] a gender and diversity program survey to gain insight into the current [inaudible] of the gender diversity within ICANN community. To identify potential barriers to participation and data [inaudible] community discussions to diversity.

So, why is this gender diversity important for the region? Following the reviews of the reports on the gender [inaudible] October 2017, it is important that for AFRALO and Africa [inaudible] we encourage to participate in ICANN policy [inaudible]. This also follows the low participation and engagement for Africa region in the policy development processes.

The main key action items was to conduct a gender based assessment in the engagement of the AFRALO members and also coordinate with ICANN and regional leaders ways to enhance engagement for Africa region.

Another key hot topic that came up with the GDPR and privacy, I'll just walk through this very fast [inaudible] discussion of the topic. We all know that [inaudible] privacy laws in the region have been sort neglected within the [inaudible] of this participation within Africa region. And Africa [inaudible] global policies that do not [inaudible]

when it comes to GDPR. The GDPR [inaudible] May 2018 and we encourage different African [inaudible] that can be able to play a major part.

If you look at this [inaudible] look at the participation of African members within the region, we discover that there is little or less engagement into the GDPR issues. So, the key action item is [inaudible] working group in collaboration with ICANN [inaudible] go through [inaudible] be able to manage all these policies that have come up. [inaudible] the last hot topic was the capacity building and awareness outreach to Africa region. Still, in collaboration, together with the [inaudible] stakeholder engagement, there is a lot that is being done in outreach.

I'll go straight to the action items. The action item is there is—

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Daniel, I think we can give a chance to comments. I think you already went through the reports.

DANIEL NANGHAKA: Okay. Yeah, sure. I think we can have a discussion, and also there is a link to the hot topics, which we can also [inaudible] final report. Thank you. Back to you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Daniel. I think we'll just say a quick word before giving Tijani, Heidi, and [inaudible] a chance to speak. You can see that

this review, the report, what's important is the action items there, which we listed for each hot topic. The next step after approving this report, we need as AFRALO to work on those action items to important them. So, Tijani, please.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Mohamed. I think that this was meant to be an update, so perhaps in the meetings, the hot topics bullet points tell us what is the process. I see that there is a report now and I think this report should be put for the public comment for our community public comments, for AFRALO comments, and give a timeline for these comments. Then try to integrate the comments inside the report—

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Tijani?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Sorry to interrupt. You're currently on the French and English channels, so if you could please mute your French line. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Oh, sorry, sorry. It wasn't me who unmuted. It was the system. Thank you. I say that the most important thing now is to see where we are and what should be done. I see that there is a report. This report should be

put for the AFRALO public comment. And after this period of public comment, we have to integrate the comments inside the report, if any. And that's it. I don't think it is a place to make an extensive presentation about each of the hot topics. Thank you.

DANIEL NANGHAKA: Can I take the floor? Mohamed?

AZIZ HILALI: I think Mohamed is probably on mute.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: I think it's better perhaps to give the floor to Heidi before and then Daniel. I think so, but I am not the chair.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Hello, Mohamed. Can you hear us? Can you speak, please, Mohamed?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: I think he's dropped, Silvia.

SILVIA VIVANCO: I believe he dropped. That's why I'm just now reading the chat. He will be reconnected. He's asking perhaps I see Olivier was also raising his hand and then Daniel. So, please, Olivier, would you like to speak? I cannot hear Olivier. If Olivier is not available, perhaps Daniel would like to speak.

DANIEL NANGHAKA: Thank you very much, Tijani, for your efforts. Actually, we opened up – from the last meeting, we opened up the report for comments and we received no comments. It being an agenda item is also to work on more comments into the working group [inaudible] proceed to the next stage of [inaudible] final draft of the report. Thank you. I hope Mohamed is back on the line. Mohamed, are you there?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Daniel. I think while I was disconnected, I'm not sure if Olivier has taken or not, but we have here Tijani's suggestion which I think is valid to put the report for comments and then approving it. Heidi, would you like to speak? You have a raised hand. Please go ahead, Heidi. Olivier can speak and you can ask Heidi if she wants to speak. I don't think she's hearing me.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Amongst the topics that were mentioned, I wanted to talk about ICANN's jurisdiction because the status of ICANN has changed ever since 2016 October 1, ICANN is still ...

I don't know if we lost Olivier.

Okay, this is the topic that concerns AFRALO as well. I would like for a working group to be set up to work on that topic and I would like for members of AFRALO to be encouraged to participate in a working group that would treat the topic of jurisdiction. Thank you very much. That's all I have to say.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much.

HEIDI ULLRICH: I may have been on mute. I'm not sure why you didn't hear me. First, I wanted to say well done, everyone. This is a really good document. I wanted to just reemphasize that the purpose of this document that all of the RALOs are preparing their own hot topic discussions is, number one, to allow members of their RALOs to understand what key policy issues within AFRALO or within their region are and how it affects end users. So, I think to that extent, this document has done that.

Where I'm asking some questions are the action items, and particularly the one that asks to set up a working group in collaboration with GSE, Government Stakeholder Engagement team and the Government Advisory Committee, to plan to address the issue. I'm not sure that a working group is the way to go. I think what might be more useful is when we speak to them or when you speak to these groups, that [inaudible] come to the face-to-face meetings and ICANN meetings that you raise these issues and perhaps ask for a commitment for them to address these issues. I think that everyone is so busy that establishing another working group for this might not get off the ground. I think it would be more effective if you address these issues when you meet with the GSE and the GAC during ICANN meetings. Thank you so much.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Heidi. This is very useful. I agree. Setting working groups might not be that effective, but I think the next step maybe we can [find] champions within AFRALO who have taken leads on specific issues, so they are the ones who can go and rally and talk about this issue [inaudible] stakeholders, pursue those issues, [inaudible]. Thanks for the comments.

So, I think we already agreed now to put the report for AFRALO comments. Two weeks it seems a realistic timeframe for everyone to provide their feedback and then we can consider the report as a final and proceed to the next step.

To continue on the agenda, [inaudible] update on the ALSes and the individual membership of [inaudible]. Sarah, please proceed. It seems no one can hear Sarah. Can you just make sure she's unmuted?

GISELLA GRUBER: Just to let you know that we are checking with Sarah's line. She is unmuted.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Gisella.

SARAH KIDEN: Hello?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes, we can hear you, Sarah. Please go ahead.

SARAH KIDEN:

That's good. Sorry for that small glitch. First and foremost, I would like to welcome our three new ALSes. I would like to say welcome to Marius and [inaudible], to [Nicholas and Manny] from ISOC Madagascar, and to [inaudible] and Beran from ISOC Gambia. Those are our three new ALSes. We'd like to welcome you to AFRALO and to At-Large and we look forward to watching you [inaudible].

Let's go to the ALS applications, the pending applications we have. I think we now have about eight pending applications. The first one is [inaudible] Foundation from Nigeria. We are supposed to check with them about their organization's objective because it was not clear in their application. So, we will do that after this call. We will check with them to tell us what the exact objective is.

Then, for [BSDS] Congo, they did not have a website, so it was a bit hard to make a decision. We will ask them to finalize their website and then we will be able to review their application later on. Then, there are three ALSes which [inaudible] next level, so they [inaudible] regional staff and we will not be able to accept their applications because all of them deal with different issues that are not related to ICP and are not related to the Internet. Some of them have conducted one or two ICP trainings, but it's not in line with what we do for [inaudible] three ALSes [inaudible] cannot accept them since their activities are different from what we do.

Then, there are a few more ALSes [inaudible] Internet Governance Forum [inaudible]. They have sent clarification on the mailing list about

the registration status of his application of his organization, so we are going to give for [inaudible] regional advice for Internet Governance Forum [inaudible].

So, that is it. If there's any other pending applications, [inaudible] contact the applicant. And if you have any comments about the ones we have talked about so far, you can let us know and we'll be able to talk about it.

Let me just talk about the individual applications and we'll take all the comments at once. If Mary and [Abdul] on this call would like to request a response in an e-mail from staff [inaudible] checking on you regarding your application, so there's one more step left, if you would please respond to your application.

Then we have two people, [Raymond and Callen], who are already members of ISOC Nigeria and ISOC Ghana. So, we had a discussion with them and told them that since they are already active in AFRALO there is no need for them to apply as individual members and I think that was okay with the two of them.

So, that is four applications in the ALS applications. I don't know if anyone has comments about the applications [inaudible]. That is it from me. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR:

Thank you very much, Sarah, for that [inaudible] ALS applications and individual [inaudible]. I would like just to add one thing, that based on the action items from the last conference call to work with staff,

automate the individual membership process and have the forms online. We already have now feedback from the staff that the forms are online for our individual membership and it will be translated to French and Arabic and we're going to do a final review for the forms before publishing it and send you the links. So, thanks, staff, for doing this work and thanks Sarah for your update.

For the final agenda item, any other business, I would like just to add. I think Tijani had his hand raised. Go ahead, Tijani.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much, Mohamed. The ALSes that AFRALO didn't want to [inaudible] or to certify, we should send a note to the ICANN staff saying that those are rejected by AFRALO because our mission is to give advice to ALAC. So, it is not ... Because we don't want them to be accredited, we don't have to send anything to ALAC. We have to provide them with our advice, whatever the advice is, positive or negative. So, we have a lot of ALSes since long time and we need to give our advice to ALAC as soon as possible on all of them. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR:

Thank you, Tijani, for summarizing that. I think, to emphasize what Sarah said, we already have ones that ... We have one with a positive [inaudible] recommendation to be approved that will be sent for [inaudible] and then we have three ALSes that have completely different mission and scope from ICANN core objectives, which is also we're going to submit a recommendation for rejecting them. Then there was a few ALSes that their process is pending because we need

feedback from their side. So, we will proceed on this [inaudible] approach. So, [we] will provide the feedback to the staff and ALAC for those applications.

For the last agenda item, we have the issue of decertification of ALSes. That's the current topic being discussed and my understanding as well that RALOs who have process for decertification of inactive ALSes ... ALSes that don't contribute, they don't show up, and they don't do anything and there's supposed to be a process for decertifying those ALSes.

There has been work that has been done by AFRALO last year since May regarding this issue and we have AFRALO decertification procedure, but we did not approve it at AFRALO. So, I think because this is an important topic, I think that what we can do is we can review the previously done decertification process, minimum requirement for ALS activity, which I posted the link in Adobe Connect. Hopefully, we can have a formal vote on those after we review them.

So, that's important. That's the work that's being done and finished [inaudible] has been done by AFRALO for a long time, but was not approved. So, I think it's time to review it and put a formal vote for AFRALO to approve it, so we can proceed ahead with a process that we can use to decertify inactive ALSes.

Any comments on this approach, having a formal vote in an already finished and completed work from last year on decertification? I see positive response from Olivier, Tijani, [inaudible]. Okay. So, I can see positive feedback that—

SEUN OJEDEJI: I'd like to be in the queue.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Seun, please go ahead. You get the floor.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, thank you. Just to react to your suggestion. I think that particular item is long overdue, and if I recall, the last [inaudible] we actually, there wasn't any significant [inaudible] argument on that particular decertification process. I would suggest that we put a timeline. I go with your suggestion to move forward. If it is, I will put a timeline where how long you want to still leave it open for discussion or for further comments and when we want to kick off the voting process. I suggest a timeline for that. [inaudible] chair must not release [inaudible] to the ALSes on the list later. My suggestion is let's have a proper timeline for it. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Seun. I can put an alternative proposal, which is if we can give maximum to weeks for the review and do a formal voting after two weeks. Will that be okay? My reason I think really is this has been long due, and if you can check the Wiki page, this is work that has been in AFRALO since I think mid-2017. I can see a positive response. Let's give ourselves two weeks for any further comments or review, and then follow that by voting. I think that's the best approach. Many people are accepting that approach, so I think we will take that into consideration.

So, if there is no any other action items or any other issues to be discussed, I would like to call the meeting.

SILVIA VIVANCO: There are two hands raised. Daniel and Aziz.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Okay. Daniel, please go ahead.

DANIEL NANGHAKA: I think there is one thing that we probably we might be skipping over our minds. As we are driving closer to ICANN 61, AFRALO has had the culture of presenting the AfrICANN statement. Since this is February, ICANN 61 is happening in March. Could probably an action item be taken [inaudible] maybe to call upon members who can be able to come together and to work on a joint AFRALO-ICANN statement for ICANN 61? I think this would be a good thing. Back to you, Mohamed.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you. I'll give the floor to Aziz. Aziz, do you still want to speak?

AZIZ HILALI: Yes. I would like to suggest for leadership, me included if you want me, to restudy the rules of the working group for decertification and to update all that in order to help the president, the chair person, to prepare the votes on decertification. We have to update and review

those decertification rules in order to prepare the vote on those decertifications. That's all I wanted to say. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR:

Thank you very much, Aziz. That's what we're going to do, the two weeks. We're going to review the decertification rules and requirements and prepare it for a vote in two weeks. Thank you very much.

The last thing is Daniel has proposed we already have an AFRALO AfrICANN meeting in ICANN 61. I'm not sure how many people from our region will be attending that meeting, but let's discuss this on the mailing list. If somebody is interested to take the lead in terms of drafting the statement and working on the statement, that will be great.

So, let's take [inaudible] about the statement for the mailing list. So, if there is no any other comments, I think we can call this meeting off. Thank you very much for the good turnout. Let's keep the momentum and energy. Thank you very much, everyone. Bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]