

CLAUDIA RUIZ: Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening everyone. Welcome to the Formation of the Future LACRALO Council. On the topic for our Webinar, you will learn about the origin, development and the next steps in the Emeritus Council. We will not be doing a role call as it is a webinar, but if I could please remind all participants on the phone bridge, as well as all of the Adobe Connect room, to please -- [AUDIO BREAK]

VANDA SCARTEZINI: Vanda speaking, are we recording?

CLAUDIA RUIZ: Yes, we are recording, sorry.

VANDA SCARTEZINI: Now we are recording.

CLAUDIA RUIZ: Yes, if I could please remind everyone that when speaking to please -- sorry, I will not be doing a role call as this is a webinar, but if I could please remind all participants on the phone bridge as well as the Adobe Connect to mute your speakers and microphones when not speaking. A reminder to mute is *6 and to unmute is *7.

Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.

Also, please don't forget to state your name before speaking and to speak at a reasonable speed to allow for accurate interpretation. With this, I turn it over to you, Sylvia. Thank you.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Sylvia speaking. Thank you, Claudia. Good evening everyone. So, let's start by making a very brief summary of what has been carried out in this working group. I think most of you know already what happened, but let's make a very brief summary so that the recording has a notion of what has been done.

We received the mediation report, the way forward for LACRALO that was produced by the mediators of the process, and one of the recommendations in the report was information of this council. That was why in February, a call was issued to the community to set up a working group. 14 people expressed their will to be members of this group. The group was effectively set up and we have to state that only 10 people actually participated in the work of the group during the month of February and August last year. We held several meetings and the outcome was published in August last year.

Let me also add that all work was conducted in Spanish because the group members are all Spanish speakers. When we started our work, we followed in our ideas the mediators' recommendations and also on the notion of the purpose of this council, and many ideas were expressed.

For example, one of them discussed by the mediators was that this council should operate as a mentoring body, providing accompaniment

to the community. But in addition to that throughout work, we thought that this council could help improve and develop the process of policy work in our region, so we worked a lot as well on the name we are going to give to the group.

That took a lot of our time, because initially, the name of the Elders Council was not well received, so we were very careful to consider a name that had a proper acceptance both in English and in Spanish. You can see the list of names discussed; it was an internal vote within the group among the members, and the name chosen was the Emeritus Council.

Till today, we received comments that this shouldn't be the name, that it is not right, but we were very careful and we worked very seriously on the choice of the name, even though we still have some concerns about it.

We also devoted extensive time to the requirements, the formation of the council, the operation of the council and we had a significant collaboration and the memory of the elder members of LACRALO. We tried to address any future problem and issue that could arise both in the election and in the reelection of the council members.

Also during this period of work, Vanda and myself attended the regular LACRALO call reporting on the progress of our work. And also, stating to the community, inviting them to be a part of the process and visit our wiki page and help us if we were forgetting any detail or missing any point.

The partial results of our work, we published them on our wiki page, so this might have created some confusion. You notice that there is a lot of repeated material on our wiki page but the purpose here was to provide full transparency of all of the modifications that were discussed in every meeting.

We received, fortunately, comments, but actually, most of the comments we received were for instance on the writing style, the use of certain verbs that was an extensive topic of discussion in order to prevent misinterpretation, and also some comments about the functions of the council. We worked on those comments. We analyzed and reviewed them in the following meeting, and the group decided to incorporate, to adopt or not the community suggestions. Always and the criteria of the working group.

So, in summary, I could say that throughout our call, we worked very actively and the group were very careful in the choice of words of the final report, as I had said, and this report you could read it, you could see the English version in December last year.

My last comment, I really liked a paragraph by Aida in one of the comments on the wiki page. She said that the spirit of the council was to be a support for the officials of the region and for the region itself, for the ALSes, in an attempt to improve its functioning. This is the group that is going, that can and will cooperate and provide support to the region, but by no means it is here to replace any of the officials.

So this is basically the summary I wanted to make, and now I would like to hear your views. Is there any of the group members who would like

to complement anything I might have missed? Thank you. Go ahead, Vanda.

VANDA SCARTEZINI: Vanda speaking. Let me ask if it wouldn't be better to have the entire text displayed on the AC part so that we can recall the paragraphs and make specific questions. I think it would be better to open up the full text of the report on the Adobe screen.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: If staff can help us with the display. [AUDIO BREAK]

VANDA SCARTEZINI: Thank you, Sylvia. I can see here that the members who are in the call, the participants, are members of the working group, so I am positive they will have no questions, no doubts. We will certainly be available if the community wants to forward any questions. Getting ready for this meeting, I checked that there were no additional comments made on the Wiki page. [AUDIO BREAK]

We can see it now. Perhaps it would be helpful to display the Spanish version because all participants in the call, we speak Spanish. Let me know if it is necessary for the record that the document should be read. I don't know if anyone wants to read it? Do you think it is necessary? I don't think it is. Perhaps only for the purpose of the record, but nevertheless it has been on our wiki page since December. I don't know if it is necessary. [AUDIO BREAK]

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. We apologize because Claudia is losing her connection. That is why we see it on and off, but here it is. Thank you.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Sylvia speaking. Okay. So, the history you see there is a summary that I produced, and if we go a little bit up -- item one, Claudia, thank you -- that is the background, that is the objective and the scope of the work. Go up please a little bit. Item one is the name of the future council, as I said. We have been working very hard on this, and there was a vote and the winner was the Emeritus Council of LACRALO.

Then we discussed the functions, and you can see that there are several functions here. Do you think that I should read it, Vanda? What do you think?

Item three we have the composition of the council, how the renewal of the council members will be so that there is a balance in the number of years that the people will stay in each position.

Then item four, we're talking about the requirements to be a council member. And there are several requirements. The people who want to be a council member have to meet at least four of those requirements.

So for instance, having actively participated in LACRALO during the past five years; that is a very important thing. Having been elected to any LACRALO leadership position, the person should have had a leadership position. Also, should have had a relevant position in any of the other groups, ACs or SOs; having also participated in at least three working

groups either of ICANN and LACRALO, having participated in at least eight meetings.

As you can see, there is an extensive list, and the requirement is that the person who intends to be a council member should meet at least four of them. [Inaudible] it should have attended at least one ATLAS meeting or similar.

Then we have the creation or the composition of the council. It would have a coordination, how the meetings will be held, and then we also try to cover all the details so that we do not have future problems in terms of this.

And in the end, the council should work with transparency and openness along the lines of the procedures. This is how we usually work in LACRALO. Silvia, I see your hand up, so please go ahead.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Silvia Vivanco speaking. Yes, we have Maritza Aguero on the phone, and she wants to make a comment.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Okay great, thank you, Maritza; please go ahead.

MARITZA AGUERO: Maritza Aguero speaking. Thank you very much, Sylvia, can you hear me?

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Yes, go ahead please.

MARITZA AGUERO: I have a question. Your comment with Sylvia's presentation is really clear in terms of the background of this group, but the period for comments is really short, and I don't know, but because of the importance of these and because of the importance of the mediation report as according to what was discussed in the meeting, this is a very important group, so the deadline is coming soon, and if there are no comments, I don't know if you, Sylvia, the chair of this group and Vanda as co-chair might see the possibility of extending this deadline for comments or not.

I'm not sure. I don't know if you have received comments or how many people have commented on this, but I believe that this is really important. Thank you.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Thank you very much, Maritza. Vanda, please go ahead.

VANDA SCARTEZINI: Thank you very much, this is Vanda for the record. Thank you, Maritza, for raising this point. This will be discussed during the discussions, and we had many suggestions by the participants, and when we opened this for discussion, we didn't receive that many comments, but we received some, and I don't know if it is possible but we can wait for people to post other comments and considerations because this is already opened

since August of last year, so there was plenty of time to read the comments, to discuss the comments.

So I believe I understand that the urgency of other comments are related to other issues, because we have already talked about this in the LACRALO meeting, so this is a repetitive topic and perhaps the interest is not that high. What I am concerned about now, Maritza, is that we need to finish this soon for the meeting that our group will have with the mediation group because this is a reply that we need to provide to the mediation group.

Sylvia talked to the mediations working group, with the mediators hired for this purpose to align with them, to work with them all the issues and the topics, but I believe that now we need to finish, and if there are further comments in the future, of course we can open the discussion, but I believe that we need to start implementing things because that was agreed in the mediation meeting. So I believe that we need to start at once. That is my point of view. Thank you.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE:

Thank you, Vanda. I couldn't agree more with Vanda because as she said before, I participated in many meetings, monthly meetings, and although the final version was published with the translation on December the 12th, in August, there was the Spanish version available.

So, we committed ourselves in January of last year to work on this. This task took us almost one year and I think it was already published for a good period of time for comments. Alberto, you have the floor. Go ahead please.

ALBERTO SOTO: Alberto Soto speaking. I agree with the fact that we need to finish now, but in this case, we have a specific webinar for the topic, and please pay attention to the participants that we have. We are almost the same members of the working group, or the ones that were working in the governance working group, so I don't believe that extending the deadline would be translated into more comments.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Thank you, Alberto, for your comment. Yes, as you said before, the participants are the participants of the working group, so I believe that we have devoted plenty of time to this for the community to provide feedback. Is there any other comments?

Vanda is typing something. She's asking Alejandro Pisanty if he has any comment. And welcome, Alejandro, to the call. He dropped and now he is back. Alejandro, good evening, can you hear me? Can you hear me, Alejandro? Welcome to the call.

ALEJANDRO PISANTY: Hello, can you hear me?

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Yes, we can hear you. Go ahead, please.

ALEJANDRO PISANTY:

Thank you very much, Sylvia. I only heard one part of the discussion, but I would like to say that now, if I'm not wrong, all of the participants on the call are members of the working group. There is no other participant, so the idea of this webinar was to present this council and to present the strategies to other members of LACRALO who are not members of this working group.

I would like to reiterate that the Emeritus Council is a result of the mediation efforts and this is supposed to be a group of people, or that is my understanding. This is a group of people that should help people to resolve conflicts. You cannot be in the [inaudible] as well, as we would say in Spanish.

So, if we want to solve conflict, we need to modify our role in the creation and in the development of conflict, so we cannot be the judges and the interested parties, or we need to adjust our role so that we can be parties to all the controversies representing the organization and when the conflict gets to a certain point where there is no solution, we need to go to a different room and we should meet as the Emeritus Council and we should discuss the possible path or the possible solutions of this conflict.

Secondly, we have been working for almost one year since the mediation meeting in Los Angeles, and a very important part of the participants and the controversies that gave rise to different conflicts have reduced their activity and their participation, so they belong to a regional block.

They only participated in one or two discussions. One was about a very important topic that was a motion, but what happened is that they are no longer participating, and they are actively participating in other working groups and working parties outside of the LACRALO environment. So this means the conflict is still alive because they are not even working on this working group whose objective is to find a solution to these issues.

So, I don't think this is a question of delaying deadlines. I think that we should get to the mediation meeting with the roles. We should find the necessary agreement to translate that into results because otherwise the mediation would have been a failure. Thank you.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Thank you very much, Alejandro. Your comment is really important. I just wanted to mention something about the third part. When it comes to the function of the council, this was a request by the mediators, and in fact, the main function of this council would be to act as a mentoring agent and not as the mediator body.

The meeting in February last year, this was discussed, but it was addressed on a separate basis, and for example, LACRALO shall create an appeal process or a [inaudible] resolution process, and include the ombudsman and have a mechanism. So these are two different things, and that would not be the function of a council. I see Vanda has her hand up, so Vanda, please go ahead. [AUDIO BREAK]

Vanda can you hear me? Please go ahead.

VANDA SCARTEZINI:

Vanda speaking. Sorry, I was on mute. I forgot to unmute myself, sorry for that. So this is Vanda for the record. I agree with what you said, Sylvia, but I believe it is a good idea to open this idea to the discussion with the mediators because I believe that the mission that was given to us is the one that you've already explained, but the idea provided by Alex that there is a part of this group discussing and working on this and working on issues that may appear in the future, that is something different to take into account.

But for me, Alex, we need to take into account, as a group, the proposal that was provided to us by the mediators, so that is our obligation, but we can leave this open for discussion. I think that would be a good idea, but in any case, we should deliver something, a document, so as to comply with our obligations.

So, we need to raise this point perhaps and they might want to rethink this and they may want to make a new proposal for us. I think that the idea is good, but that was not the mission for us at the very beginning. Thank you.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE:

Thank you, Vanda. That's very good. So, we complied with the mission that was asked to us.

VANDA SCARTEZINI:

Sylvia, I am not hearing you, can you hear me?

SILVIA VIVANCO: I believe that Sylvia dropped, so Claudia, please can you check that?

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Hello, can you hear me?

SILVIA VIVANCO: Yes, go ahead please and finish with your idea.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: So, I was saying that we complied with the mission that we had, but we can also create a new function or a new mission, and that this council may function as an ethics council. We might need to create another working group, but of course, in Puerto Rico, we can discuss this with the mediators. It's an excellent idea. I believe that Alberto wanted the floor. I don't know. Alberto, please go ahead.

ALBERTO SOTO: No, no. Thank you. I don't know if someone would like to make any other comment, but I believe that we can say that the function that was given to us was already met.

Unfortunately, as Alejandro said in this webinar, the participants are the group members and there is no one from the community in general. Perhaps this is because all issues were sorted out in the other teleconference calls. Alejandro, you have the floor.

ALEJANDRO PISANTY: I noticed that the connection of Casas has been on and off, and there are others.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Alejandro, we cannot hear you very well. It's not clear.

ALEJANDRO PISANTY: I repeat, Cristian Casas is in the participants, but apart from him, we expected a more numerous attendance. I disagree with this comment that this group has met its mission, what it has been recommended to do, but this is something that we'd like to discuss later on.

I'd like to express another opinion in dissent which is that to set up another body with elected officials, I don't know how it can have a different function with the capacity of resolving and preventing conflict and creating situations of more productivity for the community; it is a disproportionate effort for the community. I will later on give you a more detailed analysis.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Thank you, Alejandro. Anyone else wants to say anything? The final document will be discussed in the second mediation meeting and we will have a chance to talk to the people from the Caribbean to ask them if they have read the final document that was published in December.

I see Vanda is typing. Vanda is saying that our results, was what was asked from us and the absence of the Caribbean is relevant. Undoubtedly it is, and we should understand why, but there is no doubt that it is.

I have to agree with Vanda that we were asked to set up a group council to perform a mentoring function and in our final work, in item two, we have specified the functions of the council and I do believe that we have dealt with all possible functions that any mentoring council could have.

Anyone else? Any other final comment? If not, we can say goodbye. Vanda, go ahead.

VANDA SCARTEZINI:

Vanda for the record. I believe that our work has met the commission given to us, but I have my expectations during the mediation meeting. I'd like to ask the mediators if they still think as they thought, because they were thinking about a stronger and more active participation of the Caribbean.

That was one of the clear objectives of the mediation, but as Alex has stated, we can see that those who were more involved in the dispute, etcetera, they are no longer here, so this questions the mediators' position, and maybe this is a point to be raised, not only on this regard, but also on other points of the mediation, to ask them if they still keep the same proposal or if they think differently, because it is for me absolutely clear that those who were fighting if they leave, the fight is over.

So I don't know how they are going to construe this, but I guess this is something we should work on in the mediation group. This is something I say because most of us participating here will be in that group meeting, so I take the opportunity to raise this issue. Thank you.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Thank you, Vanda. Certainly this is something that we should raise for the mediators to see how much activity the region had since January of last year. Alejandro, you have the floor.

ALEJANDRO PISANTY: To cut down speculation, it might be relevant that our coordinators, Sylvia and Vanda, made a consultation with the mediators right away, much in advance of the Puerto Rico meeting. A consultation copying the entire group, asking them if this is the result they expected. I think that based on what Vanda has said is that the answer will be no.

What we are going to submit is not going to be helpful to improve the productivity of the group or resolve the issues. It will not even be useful to bring to the table the people who left, but why don't we ask the mediators.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Certainly, Alejandro. We can raise this question to them. Tell them that during our call, we made this comment that called our attention and it's worth discussing it in Puerto Rico. Very good idea.

ALEJANDRO PISANTY: Let me restate it. It should be done right away so that we have it worked out before Puerto Rico.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Yes, I did understand it that way. Tomorrow we will send an email, and Silvia Vivanco will help us with this. So, thank you very much. Okay. Anyone else? Any comment on the work carried out?

I am sure that anything you could say are good things because you are members of the group. Let me say that it was a real pleasure to work with you. Very enlightening, even at the linguistic plain, knowing how many verbs can be used in a list. I want to thank you especially for the patience you've shown to me, the unconditional support from Vanda and also all the participants, all the active participation. Alberto, Aida, it was a pleasure. I've learned a lot.

So, I thank you all for having given me the opportunity of being the chair of this group. We'll be in touch. Any action we have to take in the future, perhaps it will be not too much, but just thank you all.

Thanks to the interpreters and thanks especially to ICANN staff who are always very alert in replying to my emails very quickly. So, thank you all and see you soon.

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