CLAUDIA RUIZ:	Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening, everyone. Thank you for joining the AFRALO monthly teleconference call on Wednesday, 5 September 2018, at 18:30 UTC.
	On the call today on the French channel, we have Gabriel Bombambo, [inaudible], [Abdulkarim] [Osman], Gabdibé Gab-Hingonne, Christelle Assirou, Ade Bada, Raihanath Gbadamassi, Michel Tchonang Linze, [inaudible], Aziz Hilali, Dave Kissoondoyal, Ore Lesi, [inaudible].
	And on the English channel, we have Pastor Peters, Beran Dondeh, Sarah Kiden, Abdulkarim Oloyede, Daniel Nanghaka, Seun Ojedeji, Esther Patricia Akello, Omar Shuran, Yaovi Atohoun, Maureen Hilyard, and Leon Sanchez.
	From staff, we have Silvia Vivanco, Yaovi Atohoun, and myself, Claudia Ruiz, on call management. Our interpreters for today are Jacques and Aurelie.
	Before we begin, I would like to remind everyone to please state their name before speaking for the transcription purposes and for the interpreters to identify you on the other language channels.
	With this, I turn it over to you, Mohamed. Thank you.
MOHAMED EL BASHIR:	Thank you very much, Claudia. And also thanks, Silvia, for the support on this call. Good evening, everyone. Thank you for joining the AFRALO conference call for September. This is the first conference call after your

holidays. I hope you had a good holiday during August. We have a packed agenda, and I hope that we can finish on time.

So without further ado, we're going to proceed. I will try to be quick in terms of going through the public comment details because we have many reports to be given by different friends and colleagues. I'll try as well to observe the Adobe chat if there are any questions or any comments on Adobe.

Okay, so we can start. As you can see from the agenda, there are multiple statements that have been approved by ALAC. Mainly, there are four. There is the Initial Report on the Protections for Certain Red Cross Names in all gTLDs. Basically, the ALAC supports the protection of those names for the Red Cross.

There are also two comments related to the timelines of special reviews. There's a short-term option and a long-term option provided. Basically in a nutshell, ALAC is advocating not overlapping between those and also an assessment to the reviews themselves. How practical and how useful are they for ICANN organization?

There is also the Open Data Initiative Datasets and Metadata. I think basically, ALAC is asking for ICANN to produce datasets to see how they could be used and what data could be shared.

There are a couple of statements currently being drafted by ALAC, and hopefully our colleagues within ALAC could also provide us updates if they would like to provide more details. There's the Community Feedback on Proposed Unified Access Model with a deadline of 31 August.

There is the IPC/BC Accreditation and Access Model for Non-Public Data. There's a big debate currently about how to give access to law enforcement, governments, [and then] third parties with specific purpose and access to use the WHOIS registration data. It is all [post] the GDPR enforcement, and it's a big debate that's currently going on.

We have also the Draft ICANN Africa Strategic Plan 2016-2020. Fatimata is leading the response on that. Basically, there is a review to the ICANN Africa strategy. [Myself], Tijani, and Sarah did participate in the drafting or at least in a group that produced this outcome. So we are not able to provide any further comments, so Fatimata will be able to provide [inaudible] comment than us.

There's also the Recommendations for Managing IDN Variant Top-Level Domains, and then there is the Initial Report on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process. [inaudible]

There are also public comment requests but ALAC did not decide to submit comments to those. There is the Independent Review Process Implementation Oversight Team. There is the Proposed Renewal of .COOP Sponsored Registry Agreement. There are proposals for I think three different languages in the comment period that ALAC is not commenting on them.

ALAC as well will be deciding on whether to submit comments on the Modification of Domains Protected Marks List Service and the Proposed gTLD-Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP).

Quickly also, you can see on the agenda there are the proposed comment requests that are going on that will be happening in

September and October. The list as well you can see on the agenda items. So if you think that AFRALO could have a position or could submit a comment to one of those policy areas, please raise that in the mailing list or at least in the Adobe chat so at least we can take a note of that and we can work as a group to submit our position.

I tried to be quick in terms of reviewing the current open comments periods and policies which are currently being discussed within ALAC. I hope that also in the reports from our ALAC colleagues they can highlight any specific or important areas.

So we can proceed to the reports. We have a couple of reports really lined up. We can start with the update on ALAC activities. I think we have Tijani, Seun, and Hadia. Tijani, if you can proceed, and please be brief so we can have also a chance for Hadia and Seun to talk. Please, Tijani.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Mohamed. Yes, I can start, while I would like to have my colleagues perhaps start because we shouldn't be always the same people who start giving the report. But mainly the ALAC activities are mainly concentrated on the comment that Mohamed just mentioned now. There are a lot of comment periods open, and they concern very important policy issues, especially the [inaudible] subsequent procedures PDP working group initial report.

This is split in two parts, one part for the geographic names and another part for the whole other points. This is a very long report, and we are now in the process of commenting on them. There is a working group

called the Consolidated Policy Working Group. This working group met today. It is meeting every Wednesday, and today we met. We are discussing all those points so that we can reach a consensus about the position of ALAC on all those points.

So there are several things, such as for example the applicant support program, such as the community applications, such as the application fees, etc. Very important point for the new gTLD program that I think every one of us have to care about and have to comment.

If you want to be part of the Consolidated Policy Working Group, it is very easy. You just have to subscribe to the list, and you can volunteer to be one of the penholders. They call it penholders, but I call it the drafting team for each issue. We are organized in drafting teams for each issue, and we are [inaudible] three, four, five persons by issue to think about this issue and give the feedback to the whole working group. So this is the first point.

The second very important policy comment period is the comment on – no it's not policy comment period – the second important policy issue is the EPDP working group. EPDP is the Expedited Policy Development Process working group under GNSO which is formed by people from all the constituencies. We have two representatives there and two not replacement but I don't know what is the name. So we have four persons who are participating in this working group. This working group is in charge of giving the final feedback on the temporary specification that ICANN is now applying to comply with GDPR.

This is a very important working group because it has to give its input in maximum one year. Now it is no more one year; it is a few months. Before 25 May 2019, the working group should have finished its work and the ICANN board should have approved the final report of this working group. So it is very important, and our input is very important.

We are discussing our position in the Consolidated Policy Working Group, and we are giving our opinion to Alan Greenberg and Hadia Elminiawi, who are the members of this working group, so that they know what is the position of ALAC that they have to reflect in their intervention in the working group.

So those are very important policy points, so ALAC is mainly concentrated on this. We also are working on the implementation of the review of At-Large. This is also a very important part of our work, and we have a deadline also given by the board. The working group just started working, and they hope they will progress very soon. But I can assure you that ALAC and At-Large have never been as busy as they are now.

I will stop here and let the others give their input. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Tijani. Seun, please.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you. Can you hear me?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Okay, yes. Thank you. I think Tijani has mentioned a couple of things. Just to add as well that I don't think we've announced this before in our last meeting. The ALAC has appointed the NomCom representative, the NomCom delegate [apart] from EURALO which is still in progress. The recommendation from [EURALO] was not [inaudible] ALAC, so EURALO is going back to its community to see what next they can do to then probably propose another alternative. So at the moment, we have all the other four RALOs have been approved, and [inaudible] already that [Aziz] is our representative for AFRALO on the NomCom.

[inaudible] that ALAC is working on this on the Fellowship selection committee. That committee is supposed to composed of one representative from each stakeholder group within ICANN. There was a call made by ALAC for people to express interest. That call for [inaudible] closed, and then the selection committee have made a recommendation to ALAC for somebody to be selected. So that is currently going to a consensus call within ALAC which will end at the end of this week. So by week we should be [hearing] the announcement of who was selected to represent At-Large on that Fellowship committee.

The other thing which I think perhaps is worth mentioning touches also on what Tijani has said in relation to EPDP. Yes, we have two members and two alternates. We also have the opportunity for other observers. If you are interested in participating in the EPDP process currently

ongoing, you have the option of either [inaudible] to the [inaudible] working group which is the one with the At-Large or you can also join as an observer on directly on the EPDP itself. So you have that option as well, so [please feel free] to join in if you want to.

I think these are the ones I think [to mention]. Otherwise, I think Tijani covered the rest [probably]. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yeah, thank you, Seun. Hadia, please.

HADIA ELMINIAWI: Okay, so I'll be mainly speaking briefly about what has been going on in the EPDP. We've been talking about purposes and mainly Section 4 which speaks to [localness] and purposes. I think we reached a decision that there is a need to separate purposes from interests and that items 4.4.2, 4.4.8, and 4.4.9 will be put under another section.

Also, there was a suggestion from the Registry Stakeholder Group to remove Appendix C which [inaudible].

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Hello, Hadia? Did we lose Hadia? Okay, Hadia disconnected. If Silvia and staff could just maybe – okay. We'll give Hadia a chance maybe after she is reconnected. We can proceed to the next update and then hopefully we can give Hadia a minute to continue when she's connected back.

The next update we have is the Report of Hot Topics Implementation Working Group Activities. We have the three co-chairs in the call. I'm not sure who will be starting first: Dave or Daniel or Abdulkarim. I'll give you a chance to [coordinate efforts].

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Hello.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yeah, please, go ahead, Abdulkarim.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Thank you so much. Okay, I think I will be presenting the report on behalf of the three co-chairs, but I think they can [add] at the end of this.

I think the major thing I have to report back is that we had the AFRALO hot topics [first] webinar which was held on the Thursday, 23 August between 18:30 and 20:00 UTC. What was discussed on the webinar was the [general] hot topics [section]; the European GDPR, how it affects ICANN WHOIS. We had two presenters at the webinar. The first one was Stephanie Perrin and the other one was Thomas Rickert. At the end of the session, we had question and answer. It was an interactive session, and I think we had a good turnout for the webinar.

The next [inaudible] we are planning to hold another meeting for the AFRALO hot topics. We are hoping to call a meeting very soon. We are also in discussion with Tijani in order for us to have another webinar. So

that's all I have for now. I also want to thank Tijani especially for helping organize and arranging the webinar. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Abdulkarim. That was very useful. The webinar was very useful and I hope we can have more webinars and also we can proceed further in terms of contributing to the policy development.

Thanks, Leon, for joining us. No worries. You can leave, and hopefully you can join our future calls. Thanks for attending.

Okay, so I'm not sure if we have Ali Hussein on the call. I don't see his name on the participants. Ali is our….

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Mohamed?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes, Tijani. Go ahead.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Silvia has her hand up, and I have my hand up.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Thank you, Tijani. May I comment, Mohamed?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Please go ahead, Silvia.

SILVIA VIVANCO: Okay. Regarding the hot topics, I just wanted to give you an update on the hot topics outreach document. As you may recall, staff, we were tasked with producing, working with telecommunication department, to produce a one-page outreach document explaining the hot topics that you can use this document for outreach in your regional meetings. We are in the process of reviewing some comments that we received from the communication department. We also received some comments from Tijani. Thank you very much.

So we are in the process of finalizing these minor details, editing the document and the wording, some ideas. The next step will be to have a one-page [inaudible] outreach document to be sent to comms. The target date will be September 21 with a goal to have it printed and ready in time for you, AFRALO, to have it ready for the AFRINIC meeting in November, at the end of November. So just wanted to give you an update on this document, very important one. Thank you, everyone, members of the working group for reviewing the document. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Silvia. Tijani, please.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Mohamed. I would like to first thank very much the three co-chairs of the Hot Topics Implementation working group. Because of their effort, I can confess that it is the first time that I am seeing

members of AFRALO working on policy [topics] outside of the things done by ALAC, and this is a very important thing. I want to congratulate them and to thank them.

Second point, I'd like to ask them kindly to advise me sufficiently ahead of the webinar of the date of the webinar they want to organize because they have seen how it is difficult to have availability of the staff, of the interpreters, and of the speakers. When you have availability of one, you may lose the availability of the others. That's why we had a very long delay for the first webinar we organized. So please advise me sufficiently in advance so that we can satisfy your request in terms of the date. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Tijani and also [inaudible].

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Hello?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes, Sarah?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Sorry.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Go ahead, Mohamed.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yeah, you would like to speak? Okay, so let's continue. We should have the next report from Ali Hussain on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Working Group, but I don't see Ali on the call. It has been a while since we heard any feedback from Ali. What I can do is send an e-mail to Ali requesting him to attend the next month's call and be more proactive in terms of providing AFRALO with an update about the participation and also what [inaudible] issues that need to be raised to our attention.

Tijani, you have your hand up. Do you need to say anything? Please go ahead.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thanks, Mohamed. I would like to express my deep concern about the silence of Ali Hussain. I'd like to ask our friends from Kenya, especially Barrack, to try please to contact him and tell us what is happening. I am worried about him. I know that he attended only one or two calls of the Work Track 5 which is [inaudible]. My big concern is about his person. Perhaps he has a problem, so we need to know. And perhaps if there is someone from Kenya who is attending this meeting, please try to contact him and tell us what is happening because he is not responding to my e-mails and my Skype calls. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Tijani. I'd like also to update you and others as well that I contacted Ali and also I did not get any response from him by e-mail. So,

yeah, I share your concern as well and I'm concerned about even him as an individual. Is he available? What's happening to him? So, Barrack, I'm not sure if he's on the call or not, but if you're on the call, it would be great if you can reach out to Ali Hussain and update us, please.

Okay, next in terms of the reports, I would like to give the chance to Aziz if he would like to give us a quick update about the outcome of the NomCom process which [just] has been announced. Aziz, please. Aziz, can you hear us?

AZIZ HILALI: Did you give me the floor?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yeah. Please proceed and provide us with an update on the NomCom result, announced outcome. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI: No problem. Thank you very much for giving me the floor. I just wanted to let you know about the result of NomCom 2018 and who we [kept]. We had eight nomination, and they were announced officially in August 2018. Unfortunately, no African was retained on the final list. I have to tell you – I couldn't tell you earlier – even for preselection, there African candidacy but they were not very strong candidates. The final result is that we have nobody from Africa.

I can put you on the chat for official results with the pictures of the candidates. It's in French, in Spanish, in English. For the board, we have

Rafael Lito Ibarra for Latin America/Caribbean, Tripti Sinha for North America and from the University of Washington, and Lousewies van der Laan for Europe. That's for the board.

For the committee for ALAC At-Large, two persons: Joanna Kulesza for Europe and Javier Rua-Jovet for North America.

For ccNSO, Laura Margolis from Latin America/Caribbean for a three-year duration and Ajay Data for Asia/Australia/Pacific Islands.

For GNSO, we have Erika Mann that you know well.

This is what I wanted to let you know. If you have questions, I would be very happy to answer to your questions. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Aziz. Fatimata, you have your hand raised. Do you have a follow up question to Aziz? Fatimata, you can proceed. Okay, Sarah Kiden, you have your hand raised as well. Sarah, please go ahead.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Yes. Hello. Can you hear me okay?

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

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes, thank you, Aziz. I just wanted to ask a question to Aziz regarding the open positions for Africa at the board level. [We say] that we have

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one person representing Africa at the board level for ALAC, and I didn't follow very closely what happened for candidates. Maybe we had no candidates. I would like to know the logic behind those choices.

AZIZ HILALI: Yes, let me answer. Yes, for the At-Large ALAC we have two: one for Europe, one for North America. But for GNSO, ccNSO, and the board, it has nothing to do with the region of the world. But we took into account diversity, the geographical diversity when we did preselect. Because as you know, in NomCom there is a first step where the first selection of candidates we had nearly 200 candidates at first. So we do a preselection from the note and the grade given to each candidacy. We are 15 members at the NomCom. Then after this preselection, we take into account where the diversity, we're trying to have diversity and make sure that people come from many different areas of the world so that there is fairness regarding diversity and geographical diversity.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you, Aziz. So the result is we have a lot of work to do for Africa. We have to mobilize everybody. We have to make sure that we have more strong candidates coming from Africa.

AZIZ HILALI: Yes, Fatimata, you are right. We had some strong candidates.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you very much, Aziz.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Okay, thank you, Fatimata and Aziz. Sarah, I can see your hand raised up. Do you have a follow up question or do you have a comment? Please go ahead.

SARAH KIDEN: Hi, everyone. [inaudible] I have a follow up question for Aziz regarding strong candidates. I've heard Fatimata saying that we need to mobilize. So what can we do better and who is a strong candidate? Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Aziz?

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Sarah. That's a good question. It's a difficult question as well. You know I worked in the leadership question for a while. Fatimata knows about NomCom. We try every time in Africa to bring awareness to NomCom. We have to have African personalities with a lot of experience with a very strong resume. Because when you look at the resumes coming from Africa compared to Europe or North America, even Latin America is in the same situation, same issue than Africa. The resume has to be really, really strong. The candidates have to be stronger maybe because they do not know that those positions are very high level, very big positions at the ICANN level. So in each country, we do need each of us to find, to look for strong personalities, strong candidates that could come at the highest level of ICANN.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Okay, thank you very much, Aziz, for the update. If we can proceed and be quick and brief, there are very many reports. I'm not sure, Tijani and Seun, do you have any updates regarding the CCWG Accountability on Work Stream 2? Tijani, please go ahead.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Mohamed. I'd like to tell you that the work of the CCWG Accountability working group is done, is finished. Now we finished, since Panama, we finished our work and it is now up to the chartering organizations to approve, to ratify the final report before passing it to the board. That's all. But there is not activity for the CCWG so far anymore, and it will not be any in the future. So you can remove it from the agenda for the upcoming meeting. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Sure. Thank you, Tijani. The next agenda item is basically reports from our ALSes. So if you have, feel free to raise your hand and speak if you have any local events that have been held or anything you'd like to update us about. Sarah, please go ahead.

SARAH KIDEN: Hi, everyone. Our ALS, which is Internet Society Uganda Chapter, have held and ICANN 62 readout on 31 July 2018. We had Bob Ochieng who is the global stakeholder manager for Africa. He's from ICANN staff. Then we had Daniel Nanghaka, myself, and we invited all the previous Fellows from Uganda to come and attend the readout. So we just gave

them a summary of what happened during the ICANN 62 meeting. Then we also asked the Fellows to share their experience about their journey in ICANN so far. So it was about two to three hours, and it was a really good event. That's all from ISOC Uganda. Thank you.

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

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much. Do you hear me?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: We can hear you, yes.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Okay, thank you. My ALSes and myself, I participated in the readout for the Middle East about ICANN 62 as well. This is one activity. But the most important activity will be done on, I think, 30 November, just after back-to-back with the AFRINIC 29 meeting. It will be an IPv6 day which will be attended by Tunisian people of course but we will invite experts attending AFRINIC, such as Alain Durand and another one from Spain. And also, I will ask AFRINIC to appoint someone to participate in this date. It is an important event because in Tunisia we spoke a lot about IPv6 implementation but nothing was done so far. I think that now we have the sufficient time to think about it and we have the trend now, the trend of the IPv6 migration [around the world]. So it will be informative for us and it will helping taking the right decision by Tunisia.

So this is one of the main activities that my ALS will organize this year. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Tijani. I don't see any raised hands, so feel free to send any updates as well to the mailing list. So we can proceed to the next agenda item. We have some items for discussion. We can start with the FY19 African Strategy that is reaching the third revision. Fatimata, if you can give us an update because you are the penholder for the response or the comments on the African strategy. Can you update us about the proposed response?

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Yes. Thank you, Mohamed. Yes, I looked at the review of the strategy, and I see that we don't have much time to comment. I'm going to put in the wiki as quickly as possible, like tomorrow, some comments. I'm sorry that we did not have more comments because this is quite important for the stakeholders. I accept the situation that we have very little time, but what I will propose is to have a draft on these amendments. For now, the document is not very strong, and I will say so. I think we can make more comments and integrate those comments in our draft. We will be able to work faster. We are only until the 10th, I believe. Maybe we will be able to have more time, but for now we have to work very quickly.

I noted some points that are very important for me. For instance, the promotion of the globalization of ICANN. I do not know how in Africa we're going to be able to do it. When we talk about globalization, how

do we look at it from Africa? This is a question I do have. To adopt, as well, the best practices in Africa, this is something that needs more recommendation, more work. We have some explanations about how to do it, but it's not enough. It doesn't go far enough.

So we [did] some work on that in order to have a maximum amount of people working on it. This is good, but we have more work to do. As members of the community, we need to contribute more. That's what I wanted to say in sum. I will have several other comments, but I will limit myself to that. Thank you very much for your attention.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Fatimata. Before I give the chance to Tijani, I'd like just to emphasize that it is important for AFRALO and for all of us in our response to focus on the need to empower ICANN African bureau. ICANN has staff now based in Nairobi. There's an office but just the one person's office. The continent is big, and it requires maybe more resources and more focus from ICANN. That's something that I think we need to highlight in our response so we can have a more better outreach from ICANN to the continent and also more activities as well. It was clear that [were] ICANN African [need to be empowered] then it needs resources. So at least that is coming form the community. That will make it, that would be appreciated and also that would give more credibility and weight to our response.

Tijani, you have the floor. Please, Tijani.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Mohamed. For the record, Fatimata is the penholder of the ALAC comment on the Africa strategy of the second review or the third version of the African strategy. So the comments that you have, you have to do it on the wiki on which Fatimata has already put her draft. After the compilation of all the comments, Fatimata will draft the final draft. So we are very tight in time because the deadline is on 10 September. So please, if you want to comment – and it is our duty to comment – it is our strategy. We are the concerned people. In the ALAC, there is no one concerned by the African strategy, so we are the concerned people and we have to comment. So please go to the wiki and try to put your comments in the comment part of the wiki so that Fatimata can update her first draft when you have already given your comments. Thank you very much.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Tijani. Daniel, please go ahead.

DANIEL NANGHAKA: I hope I can be heard loud and clear. I'd like to thank Fatimata [inaudible] for working on the strategy. One key thing that [I looked at] is previously we have had low numbers getting engaged in different ICANN activities, policy development processes. [inaudible] strategy at least should clearly [inaudible] a number of members. This is a [place where all] members should be deeply engaged into the different policy development strategies.

Secondly, when it comes to outreach and engagement for the different activities, I'd like just to share to the members on the call that we also

have an outreach [inaudible] plan to be able to allow local engagement. So this [inaudible] different [inaudible] to organize the local engagement activities [inaudible]. Thank you. Back to you, Mohamed. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Daniel. Okay, so if there's no further comment, I encourage you all to review the draft that Fatimata will put in the wiki.

The next item that is important for discussion is the AFRALO Rules of Procedure Update or the Decertification Procedures, if I can state specifically. There is a link to a PDF document that I circulated earlier. The contents of that document will be available in a wiki page, so it will be easier for you to provide [inaudible] to the wiki page. The PDF is not a useful format really to comment and have a discussion. That link will be fully up soon, the wiki page with the text.

As a brief background, AFRALO in 2017 had started working on this, specifically updating the rules and procedures related to the members' activities and trying to have more engagement and to have rules about how to decertify inactive ALSes and what exactly constitutes the status of inactive.

That work has been presented, I think, one or two times. On the last call, I was requested to propose a text for the [decertification]. I'll go just quickly through this and I'll seek your advice and guidance [inaudible] some elements on that text. As I said, it will be on the wiki for our review, and later on hopefully we can agree on a final text for voting. I'm interested that we all endorse this text in a formal way.

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So the draft starts with the five criteria currently ALAC has for certifying ALSes. Those are in terms of the organization needs to be committed to the individual Internet users, participation in ICANN, and have members engaged in policy development. It needed to be from that geographical region. It's a self-supporting organization, a body that does not need any funding from ICANN. Try to engage with ALAC and its policy issues, and assist the RALOs in their activities and work. That's generally the criteria for certification.

The issue of inactive ALSes, basically it's not just an AFRALO issue. It's an issue that's shared among different RALOs. LACRALO and NARALO and EURALO have agreed on steps and procedures to help deal with that. For example, for EURALO, there is a set of notification steps that they go through before they decertify an ALS. They clearly posted that in a wiki page and they agreed on that.

The current proposal has different elements. The first element is the [inaudible] ALS. That's an issue that I need your advice and help on because not all ALSes are legally [registered]. Yes, many ALSes are local organizations [registered], but also we have many ALSes that are affiliated with international organizations like the Internet Society and we have many chapters as ALSes. So I'm raising the question of, if that organization or that chapter no longer exists, has been dissolved, it has been de-registered either locally or by the affiliated organization, what should we do in that situation? That's what I tried to capture in Number 1, which is the point number one in terms of how we deal with such a case where we have a dissolved ALS, whether it's registered in the country or not or affiliated with an international organization.

The second element is that we is that we did receive a request for decertification from an ALS. An ALS could send us a request saying, "We're no longer interested in At-Large or the work you do or it's not in our focus any longer." This is basically a request coming from the ALS to the RALO to say to us, AFRALO, that we are no longer interested to be part of the RALO. In this text you can see that we need to receive a formal official request of decertification from the appointed representative or from the leadership of that organization. Basically, AFRALO needs to study this request and ask for clarification about the reasons and then recommend an action to be taken, either accept the request or reject it.

The third element of decertification is the status of inactive. This is a very contentious area because we are all volunteers and we are all giving from our time to do the work in terms of participation within AFRALO or generally within ALAC and ICANN. But as well, it's important that we have to have minimum requirements because if we don't have that, we could have ALSes who are not active, not participating at all. So I think it's important for us as a RALO to set the minimum requirement.

It's very difficult to quantify those. For example, if we say to be active in policy development, what does that mean? Does that mean to be part of a working group or produce feedback or write a response? And how can we track that? I think that will be very difficult for us and for the staff to try to track that. It's very difficult.

But I think the minimum requirement is attending the teleconference calls. Attending the conference calls basically is our way to communicate with each other. It's our monthly update where everyone

knows the status of the [policy] participation, who is active, who is participating in which group or not. So if we have ALSes who are not attending those calls at the minimum, I think we have an issue.

So the proposal here is that we should track the participation in the calls, and if we have ALSes that did not attend any conference call for a period of six months – that's six calls or six months no one participated in any AFRALO call – that's a trigger to the inactive status. That means that half a year passed by and the ALS is not participating in a single call of AFRALO.

I tried to lay down some steps that we can take. The first step is usually the notification. You can see that all those steps are based on engaging and talking with the ALS. If we see an ALS is not active, not attending the calls, then we need to communicate with them and ask for the reasons of not attending the calls. If we have a legitimate reason, then we can give them an excuse.

If they say, "Okay, we were not active for the last six months, but we will be active for the coming [inaudible] period," then we can observe their participation in the next six months. If the ALS response is positive and they are required to attend four out of the six monthly calls for the remaining of the year, if they attend that, they met that threshold, we will remove the inactive status from them.

But if they even did not meet that criteria, then we need to officially notify them that in a period of one year you failed to participate in AFRALO and attend even the minimum number of calls or be present on those calls for the whole year. And as well, wait for a response from

them [inaudible] these are the reasons for decertification and based on those we're going to submit a request for decertification if this continues.

So I tried to summarize to you the logic behind the text which is available for you to review. [inaudible] it will be in a wiki page so we can all comment. So now I think I don't want to talk further on this, and I'll give the floor to anyone who would like to give comments. On my list, I can see Aziz, Sarah, and Omar Shuran. So maybe we can start with Aziz.

PASTOR PETERS: And Pastor Peters too.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Okay, I will start….

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Can you also add me?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Okay, I will try to write the queue list on Adobe Connect. Aziz, you can start. Aziz, can you hear us?

AZIZ HILALI: Yes. Just a little comment regarding what you said, Mohamed. First of all, I don't see how we can link belonging to an association to an international association. I think we have to look at the activities at the

AFRALO level instead of being part of ISOC or another international organization. For me, it's better so that we have our own rules at AFRALO and the activities at the AFRALO level.

Secondly, for many years now we have talked about this topic without deciding and taking any decisions. If we're not able to take a decision with general rules, let's start with the ALSes that we do not hear about for maybe ten years in some instances. We haven't heard from ALSes for ten years.

We have General Assemblies. We had one in Johannesburg. We have some Fellows and Fellowships, and for me it was difficult to accept all those Fellowships because we have no more contact with some ALSes. Four or five never answer, and we do not even know if they exist or not. The e-mails come back to us, and some never answer us. So we have to decertify first those ALSes and then come up with those general rules saying that if one ALS doesn't participate in X number of conferences and so on and so forth.

We need some ways to have ALSes more present, more active in our AFRALO meetings and also for other activities they have to work at policy development process. I'm glad to see that some young people joined us and they are members of ALSes because the final objective is to have more involvement of ALSes and their members in developing ICANN policies. This is what it's all about so that we know their points of view. That's what I wanted to say. Let's start with the ALSes we do not hear about anymore, and then we'll see about those rules. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Aziz. Sarah, please? Sarah maybe has dropped from the call, so we'll take Omar next. Omar, please go ahead. Okay, we have also Omar has been disconnected. So who is next? Pastor Peters, please.

PASTOR PETERS: Hello, everyone. Hello, can you hear me?

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

PASTOR PETERS: Okay, my observation has to do with the content of the draft that was sent out actually. I'm only going to comment on the first item on the draft under Number 2 when it says that ALSes should commit themselves. I'm looking at line two there. [inaudible] Let me just clearly look at this. [inaudible]

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You mean point Number 3, ALS "Inactive" Status?

PASTOR PETERS: Yes. I'm on point Number 2. It says, "Be constituted so that participation by individual Internet users who are citizens or residents of countries within the geographic region in which the ALS is based will predominate in the ALS' operation." Yeah, I'm concerned with that last sentence, that the [inaudible] will predominate. I don't understand. Does it mean that the ALS activities would be [inaudible] by the activities of [inaudible]

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Internet users who are to be involved with the activities of the ALSes in that region? That's [inaudible] number one.

Another observation has to do with the Item 3. It says, "Be self-supporting (not rely on ICANN for funding)." So I wanted to add "solely." That is who can be self-supporting that not rely solely on ICANN. So that [inaudible] rely on ICANN for funding, but I don't to use the word "solely" to be added to that.

And then Item 1 under Legal Status Change, the [inaudible] said, "ALS is de-registered or longer legally exist." I don't know what it is trying to say. [inaudible] or this can be corrected.

So those are my views actually, plus on [inaudible]. So thank you very much.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Okay. Thank you very much, Pastor Peters. I'll respond to [those]. We have Sarah back again, so please go ahead.

SARAH KIDEN: Hi, everyone. Thank you, Mohamed, for the document. I just have a comment and a question. So the question first. What timeline are we looking at to have this document developed? And then the comment is I noticed that it's a lot of work, looking through the document and the details so much. So I think we need to give ourselves some time and then have everyone post on the wiki. Then the final comment is I've seen people already posting on the mailing list. I would like to request

that they get the comments and put them on the wiki as well so that we don't miss the comments that were made before. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Sarah. In terms of a timeline, [inaudible] this has been going for a long time and hopefully we can maybe focus in the coming two weeks to agree among ourselves on a final text then proceed in voting for it. That would be great. So I think let's try to finalize the text in the two weeks' time. Thanks to Silvia, now we have a wiki page where you can post your comments. I agree with you that we need to have the comments be posted in the wiki so we are able all to [inaudible].

Omar is next on my queue list. Please go ahead. Omar, can you hear us? Please proceed.

OMAR SHURAN: [inaudible] my colleagues here. In fact, my two cents is to [inaudible] Mohamed, is about geographical territories really is within Africa that is going through conflicts so [inaudible]. I mean, [inaudible] connecting [inaudible] for example [inaudible]. That's one or two [inaudible] because of the circumstances we are going through here, specifically in the capital in Tripoli. I was not able to attend that meeting.

One of the points that I'd like you and the guys working on this document is to include that [inaudible] that is the ALSes in areas going through conflicts or something like that to be considered. Thank you.

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MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you, Omar. Tijani, please.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Mohamed. Mohamed, I believe that even if an ALS is affiliated to an international organization, they all have a legal existence in their countries. Even though the legal existence is not one of the requirements of the ICANN bylaws, it is one of the points required in the ALS application. So suppose you have an ALS that doesn't have any legal existence in its country, does it exist anymore? So we have to look at this point carefully. We have to try to find a way to make it clear that even if it is not a bylaw requirement for certification, it might be a criteria for decertification if the ALS doesn't exist anymore in its country. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Tijani. I don't see any further raised hands. So I'd like just to provide a couple of feedback….

SEUN OJEDEJI: Hello?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Ah, Seun, yeah. Please go ahead.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Hello?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yeah, please go ahead, Seun.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Yes, I can hear you. Can you hear me?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yeah.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes, very well.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Oh, okay, good. Thank you. I think we [inaudible]. Try to [inaudible]. I like [inaudible]. Making sure [inaudible] through ICANN. So I think we should [inaudible]. I support that.

The other thing I wanted to say is what [inaudible] in terms of [inaudible]. I think [inaudible] sufficient. [inaudible] actually referring to ALS [inaudible] structure. So [inaudible] if you are not [inaudible] what [inaudible] if it changes. It simply means that [inaudible] country. However, what I want to suggest is that because the ALS does not [inaudible] country, that should not imply that the ALS should be decertified. If the ALS [inaudible] country and is still within AFRALO region, then we may want to consider to include [inaudible]. I probably [inaudible]. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Seun.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Hello, Mohamed?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes? Who is speaking?

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Sorry, this is Abdulkarim. I thought I was on the queue before.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Ah, sorry. Okay, Abdulkarim, please go ahead.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Okay. I want to quickly raise two things. One is on the issue of the decertification of ALSes. I think it's a good idea so that we don't do things twice. We are talking about ALSes. What happens to individual members when individual members are not participating in AFRALO activities? So I think probably this can also be included in the document so that you don't have to – because, yes, we don't have a lot of individual members at this time but probably in the future we might have – so that we don't do this work twice. So you might think of having something on the individual member [added to the] document. That's number one.

Then because I have to leave the call now, actually, I wanted to raise this AOB, but because I have to go I just want to quickly say I've been working on the Consolidated Working Group. One thing we are working on is the [inaudible] of looking at community gTLDs. I think this seems similar to what Ali Hussain is doing. So I think if we can work together, that would be good. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Okay, thank you, Abdulkarim. I'll try to be brief in my responses because the time is already late.

First, Pastor Peters raised good points. But I would just like to say that the first few lines, which are the criteria for certifying ALSes, those are the ALAC ones. So, unfortunately, we couldn't change those lines. Those are basically the ALAC five criteria [inaudible] from ALSes.

The rest of the document is our RALO proposed decertification rules. Regarding the point Number 1, since there's an agreement that we need to clarify the text so it needs to be clear in terms of if we have registered ALSes in the country or not registered ALSes. Because those registrations are not part of the certification requirement, by the way. You don't have to be registered in the country to be a certified ALS. So I think we need to be careful in terms of our wording here, but we might have a case where an ALS is being de-registered if it's legally no longer a chapter, for example an ISOC chapter.

The other point I would like to raise is that I did not hear from the comments and objection regarding the minimum requirements for participation in terms of the conference calls to be a tool to monitor the

participation, the minimum requirement for participation, which I think is a good [inaudible]. So we can continue on that, and if there is any clarification or the text might need to be updated in this regard, now we have a wiki page we can agree on the text and submit your comments.

So if we can try to work in the next two weeks to agree on the final text, refine the text, that would be great so we can have an agreed text by the next call. And hopefully we can then proceed to have a vote on that text. But I think it's important that we have a formal endorsement or agreement on any text we have so it's not just the conference call. So with that, I encourage you to post your comments on the wiki.

I know time is running and I don't really want to take [inaudible] of the time. So we have Sarah, if you have any – I'm sorry. We have Tijani before Sarah. We have the AFRALO-AfrICANN topic for ICANN 63. Tijani, if you can be brief please.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Mohamed. Yes, as you know, ICANN 63 is very close now. We are a few weeks before it. We need to organize our normal and [sending a Fellow at the] ICANN meeting. So we have to choose a topic to discuss. We have the chance now, we have the opportunity now that we have a lot of topics under discussion. We mentioned them you remember very well at the beginning of this meeting.

I think that a call for topics should be sent tomorrow morning by the secretariat. If Sarah wants me to help in the drafting of the text, I am ready to do so. Then we have to give a short deadline for people to

choose because we have a lot of topics already in the discussion, and it is good to give the point of view of AFRALO about them to the related working group or the related groups so that our points or our views will be taken into account. So a short time for people to give that choice about topics, and then we have to constitute a drafting team, start drafting the first draft, and then send it to be commented by the community, and then include the comments received into the first draft and have the final draft for the staff to translate and to print for the meeting sufficiently in time. Because if we give them this text in Barcelona, it will not be translated and it will not be printed on time. Thank you very much.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Tijani. I appreciate it. Sarah, if you can give us an update regarding any new ALS applications or individual members applications. Hello, Sarah? Can you give us an update about ALS applications?

SARAH KIDEN: Hello?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yes, please go ahead.

SARAH KIDEN: Can you hear me? Okay. I would like to just give an update that currently we have 69 At-Large Structures in 32 countries and territories

and we have 2 individual members. So very many who are applying are already part of At-Large Structures, and they have joined the mailing list and have started to do some work so it was not necessary for them to become members.

We have two new, not really new, but we have two applications for At-Large Structures from Liberia Information Technology Students Union. The applicants have been contacted several times by staff but they've not responded. So if anyone knows someone from Liberia IT Students Union, please let them know so that they can respond and complete their application.

Then we have another application from ACSIS Cote D'Ivoire. The application was received on 5 August and started completing due diligence for this application.

In terms of individual members, we have two applications. One from [inaudible] Cote D'Ivoire. He has confirmed that he meets all the criteria to be an individual member. And if members agree, then we will confirm him as an individual member.

Finally, we have [Abdul Hassan] from [Mali]. Staff has reached out to him to confirm the requirements, and he has not yet responded.

That's all from me. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Sarah. If there is no other report, we've reached – I'm not sure if there's any other business from anyone that [inaudible]. Yes, please be brief.

PASTOR PETERS: Yes. I may have missed it. I don't know. I want to [inaudible] members applications, has it been shared with the members of [inaudible] ALSes already? I can't remember.

SARAH KIDEN: What do mean? Shared with who? Sorry, I didn't get that last part.

PASTOR PETERS: The applications by [inaudible] members. You said you received, you have applications by [inaudible] met the criteria for [individual] membership. Have you shared this application with the ALSes in existence already?

SARAH KIDEN: Usually, when we receive an application from a [inaudible] country, we check with the ALSes in those countries. We ask them, "Is this person your member or not?" If they tell us the person is their member, then usually we encourage that person to just join the mailing list. It is not necessary for them to join as an individual member. So we've been doing that in the past. I don't know if that's what you're asking.

PASTOR PETERS: Yeah, I thought in the past when applications are made, they are shared with existing ALSes. So not just ALSes from the country of [inaudible]. I'm particularly concerned about the individual members who have

applied to be members [inaudible] of AFRALO because there is a question. [inaudible] share with existing ALSes for comments. That is my question.

SARAH KIDEN: Okay. May you please allow me to get back to you? I'll send an e-mail based on today with all the information, please, just to confirm. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yeah, sure.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Sarah?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Also, Pastor Peters, as part of this process – go ahead, Sarah.

HEIDI ULLRICH: I have information about how the ALS application runs. Would you like me to share that?

SARAH KIDEN: Yes, please. Thank you.

HEIDI ULLRICH: When we receive an application, we first send it to the regional VP, so that would be Pierre. Then we also do a due diligence process. Once we go through that process, then we send it to the regional leadership who will then ask [me] for a regional advice. It's at that point that information is shared with the AFRALO members. So perhaps if there are questions to follow up with during due diligence, we will wait with that application until we receive the information from that particular applicant. Thank you.

SARAH KIDEN: Thank you, Heidi.

PASTOR PETERS: Can I have the floor?

SARAH KIDEN: Thank you, Heidi. Sorry.

PASTOR PETERS: Sure.

SARAH KIDEN: Just one follow up question. Heidi, I think what Pastor Peters is asking is about individual members because he's asking if we share that with AFRALO members for individual members.

PASTOR PETERS: Yes, that is my question.

HEIDI ULLRICH: Ah, okay. Sorry. I did hear that Pastor Peters, but then I heard you follow up with the ALS question so that's why I clarified the ALS question. So I think that Sarah's response….

PASTOR PETERS: Now I'm concerned about the individual membership applications.

HEIDI ULLRICH: The individual? Okay, well, I think Sarah's response would be the valid one for that situation then. Thank you.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yeah, and also, Pastor Peters, part of the process we make sure and we communicate with ALSes based on the applications [inaudible] to make sure that there is no – to validate really the application and so that the [inaudible].

                          With that, I'd like [inaudible] to conclude. I appreciate and thank you very much for participating in the call.

PASTOR PETERS: Sorry, Mohamed. I'm sorry. Is Sarah going to get back to me with my information on that? I had a question. Is she going to get back to me with the information on the individual membership applications?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: We can e-mail you the process or at least the steps. That's fine. But no [inaudible] that. It's very clear and it's also available. There is no problem with that. So, yeah, thank you very much, Pastor Peters.

Thank you very much, everyone. Sorry for keeping you longer than the [corrected] time and it's very late in your time. So have a good night and enjoy your evening. Thank you very much for attending the call. Bye.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]