BUENOS AIRES – RALO Chairs Meeting
Saturday, June 20, 2015 – 10:00 to 12:00
ICANN – Buenos Aires, Argentina

ALBERTO SOTO: Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening. I don't know if there's anyone in the evening time around, but just for the sake of it. I'm Alberto Soto, and we will open our first session of LACRALO chairs. The agenda is as follows: an introduction, name of the meeting; item 2, a discussion about civil society engagement with ICANN with Jean-Jacques who is VP for Europe; item 3, the identification of regional civil society meetings; item 4, the next steps to follow; and item 5, any other business. So we will open up the session to which I will give the floor to Jean-Jacques. Thank you.

JEAN-JACUES SAHEL: Good morning, everyone. Many of you know me as the vice president for Europe, but I was very glad that when I joined ICANN, Fadi and my boss, Sally, also asked me to have another cap which is to coordinate our engagement with civil society.

Over the past year, together with a number of colleagues, we have tried to run a series of effectively pilot activities on civil society. As ICANN has been doing civil society activities for a while, but we were trying different formats. Things like webinars, face-to-face meetings, and working in partnership with the various civil society communities within ICANN, including certainly ALAC. I'm in debt to a number of you,

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like Wolf and Olivier in Europe in particular for supporting me a lot, and Jimmy Shultz and others for helping us do this.

Of course, on top of what we as ICANN were directly involved with, we have tried to support on an ad hoc basis what the various constituencies were doing themselves in terms of outreach.

Now what we'd like to do effectively for FY16 is to have a slightly more structured plan of engagement with civil society. I will talk about this I believe tomorrow morning at 9:00 AM to the wider group, but I just wanted to give you a heads up and get a bit of feedback from you.

First off, when we talk about civil society, to think about scope. The way that we have tried to look for civil society in the ICANN context has been to think about effectively three main communities, or two-and-a-half. So NCSG, and within NCSG, NPOC and NCUC. That's the one-and-a-half. Plus the At-Large community. That's broadly it.

One little extra distinction I make. To me, that's the traditional civil society, including end user representatives [inaudible] academia. One category, which is non-commercial, [inaudible] personally as civil society – I would be interested in your feedback on this – is, for instance, trade associations. They are representative of business, and that's fine, but I don't think they fit within civil society. They should be with the Business Constituency. We're trying to really focus it on those constituencies. It's useful to be as clear as we can on scope, though it's quite difficult to define exactly what is civil society sometimes.

Now, in terms of our activities, I think there's two key streams. One is around basically outreach engagement events, and we [inaudible] events that we run ourselves or engagement events that the community is running itself. And when I say things that ICANN is running itself, if I run a civil society event, frankly, I never run it without the involvement of the community. It's always a partnership. That's the sort of thing that we'd like to do in a much more structured manner.

We've done it in the form of webinars this year. So for instance, on the transition, we've had a couple of webinars. That's worked very well.

We have done it of course through face-to-face, and in two forms when we've done it in face-to-face. One is our own things, where for instance we have a national IGF. We recently had a German IGF, for instance. We had a pre-event for civil society specifically, where Wolfgang Kleinwächter was co-chairing with me. Jimmy Shultz was I think on the panel. We had a number of civil society people from the German-speaking countries to talk about Internet and world politics. That was the topic of the day. The idea is to generate discussion, but also raise awareness of ICANN, and ideally encourage these people to come and join the community.

A year before, actually, Olivier had come. It was my first pilot test, and I think it was my first ever event in ICANN. He was a very dynamic encourager for people to join ALAC and the ICANN community.

So we've evolved that. That's ICANN's own events. Then what we'd like to look increasingly at is exiting civil society events. There are big

events that the NGO community, the digital rights community, go to. For instance, things like [inaudible] you might have heard of. Or in Germany, it's things like [Republica].

What we're thinking let's go to them. Let's go to these communities and try to raise awareness of ICANN and I explain to them how to participate, demystify some of the nebular around ICANN, and encourage them to come and join us. That's for ICANN's [own] activities.

The idea is if NPOC, if NCUC, if the At-Large community are thinking of running events, we are very much here in support in whichever way we can. For instance, for the past year, we've done very simple things in terms of support that went from helping them prepare content and presentations to, for instance, just lending a room for people to have a workshop. For instance, in our Washington office in January we leant a room to NPOC so they could run a workshop. Simple things like that.

So I can go into more details tomorrow. I'll probably put a couple of slides together on that. That's on the activities themselves, outreach events. As we think about ICANN meetings themselves, Dublin meeting, Marrakech meeting, we'd like to run events ahead of the meetings to try and publicize them and bring people to the meeting. And a bit like we're doing today, there's a couple of events within a week of the meeting, just a couple of days before the start, where we try to explain, to bring in local civil society and I think it will be a great opportunity to do [inaudible], especially in Marrakech. I think there's a great opportunity to do so.

As a reminder, we have a civil society networking event at 6:00 PM tonight if you're not aware already. I think an e-mail has gone around.

I'll just finish with the other part. Next to the activities themselves, the long-term thought we have is around capacity building and really trying to help in two ways. It's capacity building for people who are [outside] the ICANN community who are not here yet. It's basically awareness raising, information sharing, explaining to them what is ICANN, what we do, how they can take part and starting to give them the tools for them to feel more and more comfortable becoming members of our community and active in policy-making discussion.

Then hopefully what we can do is a bit of support for the existing civil society communities, try to help you. I know there's already efforts around leadership training programs, that sort of stuff, and we just want to make sure that we do this in a very structured way and we help you as much as possible and we develop that for the long term.

So we bring in people, and then as we bring in people and we work with the [inaudible] community, we try to help everyone be more impactful within the policy-making discussions, but also within your own outreach events. If we can help you just be more effective when you're just behind the scenes, helping you organize your own events, we will continue to do that.

That's the approach we've been doing. And it's really just trying to structure what we've been doing in an informal basis so far, just so that we've got a bit more clarity on how we do it and the idea is very much we'd like to do this as a partnership. This is not something that

staff want to or can drive on their own. It's going to be something that we do jointly as a community together.

I know it's a lot of information, but I hope it was clear enough. I'll stop here. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you, Jean-Jacques. Any questions? Go ahead, please.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much. I will follow Alberto Soto and speak in French, so that it will be diversity 100%. Jean-Jacque, thank you very much for this presentation. I've got two comments to make. Firstly, regarding outreach. You know full well with the new ICANN meeting strategy, for meeting B, there is an entire day that's dedicated to outreach. I think here you have a big role to play and we should coordinate this with you, especially for the first meetings. We should create a common program so that we can have as many people from the civil society in ICANN through his day in meetings.

Then you also spoke about capacity building. I think at ICANN we have a big problem because everyone works on capacity building and it's really complicated now. It's a mess.

So I think at ICANN at a very high level, we should sit down and decide on the structures that we want to have and how we can collaborate and work together, because otherwise, it's going to be repetitive and

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there will be no point in that. We'll each be working on our side and there will be no interest. Thank you.

JEAN-JACUES SAHEL: Thank you, Tijani. If this is no problem to you, I'll go on in French. I'm entirely with you there. I entirely agree with both your remark for B meetings. That's exactly what I meant when I said we should seize this possibility of organizing other events through the ICANN week, as we have done so far as a pilot program. But we should go on doing it.

Then on the other hand, you'll see it on the slides I've prepared, this is exactly what we were thinking of, not only for the content that we have or that we should develop, but also for capacity building programs.

What we have created in a draft plan is for us to have an assessment with a catalog of the contents we have already and a catalog of all the initiatives that we have underway, because intuitively, I have a feeling that we probably have 80% of the content already developed and they should be better organized and better advertised. That's probably it.

There will most likely be some gaps, but we should know where we're at exactly. We have a lot of resources at ICANN, so there's no point in creating others if we don't need them. That's what I wanted to say. I entirely agree with you. Thank you for your comment.

ALBERTO SOTO: I was thinking, when you referred to support and your action, your participation in major events, in our region, in Latin America and the Caribbean, there aren't major event to do outreach. That is one comment. Major event are typically highly technologically oriented and most of them on communications, IT, etc.

My other comment is capacity building outside ICANN, perhaps there might be some coordination to consider here. For example, RALOs within our communities could use the CROPP program and this is something that we've already done in LACRALO last year and this year, and it's been an excellent result because we've included countries where there was no presence of LACRALO.

And we found that when we invited to a meeting, as always, the invitation was open and we had the pleasure to see that all the elements in the multi-stakeholder model were there represented, and we were also surprised by the fact that most of the questions and consultations did not come from the civil society that was our target, but rather the other component of the multi-stakeholder model.

That happened in Bolivia, in [inaudible], in Haiti, in the Dominican Republic. I'm talking about countries where they have also very serious problem even of communication. We have an ALS in Haiti that is not able to participate, could not participate in the first monthly meeting because Adigo is not there. They are not there and they don't have any other possibilities.

I believe that this type of capacity building and the organization of support events should be targeted to addressing the current issues. Thank you.

JEAN-JACQUES SAHEL: First, for the [inaudible] event. I should have mentioned what we have set up this year within staff is a small project team where we have representatives from each of the regions, plus Heidi for ALAC, who have been working for the past six months probably together on this. Rodrigo de la Parra is our focal point for civil society engagement in Latin America. So we've got [very senior] people for that. We can work with him on that.

What he has flagged up already, for instance, thinking about doing civil society specific events around the LAC IGF in Mexico City, for instance. So there's no civil society [inaudible] as such, but we can piggyback onto other large events and maybe trying to get civil society involved. There should be already quite a lot of NGOs involved hopefully in the IGF. We'll work on you.

That leads on to why it's so important for us as staff to work with you, and especially ALAC within the civil society community because we need your networks. We need your local understanding and your local input. Whether it's to reach people on the ground that we just don't know because we're just not close enough or to understand some of the local issue for capacity building. I think it's an excellent point to mention Adigo, for instance. It's a very basic problem in capacity building. If you can't even take part of the meeting because we don't

have the basic facilities, then there's no point in even running the workshop. That' where I hope that after my presentation tomorrow, maybe we can circulate a summary to you and maybe you can provide our team with feedback. That would be very, very much appreciated. And also any idea you might have.

I know, for instance, for the region that I'm most aware of in Europe, there's so much more we could do with the ALSes. I've been working with Wolf for quite a few year now. There's a lot of potential. I'm sure it's the same potential around the world. I'd love to see us do this as a team very much. Thank you for the input. Please keep it coming.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you, Jean-Jacques. Another way, another method of implementation we resorted to, perhaps in not such large events as European ones, there is one in Brazil in October. We're working with Rodrigo de la Parra. This was brought by Brazilian ALS, this event. It is a two-day event gathered in some professional practices. Lawyer very much hated by everybody. I am a lawyer myself on IT law, and I'm hated by everyone. Lawyers and IT experts – well, that was an exclusivity field. But now with Rodrigo and the Brazilian ALS, we are trying to combine, to do a mix, and we already have a program by means of which ICANN will have a half-day participation. ICANN will be there half-a-day with very specific topics in the agenda on ICANN, and certainly on LACRALO because we have to do or own propaganda to change this opinion they have of us so we become the good guys.

So we are now considering events such as this one to generate [insertion]. And something else I forgot to say before is that the in-reach we're trying to do becomes an outreach, thanks to the participation of the various components of the multi-stakeholder model that our areas – I was asked what is ICANN, and we were there only to capture ALSes. So we always have to start by explaining what ICANN is, what is the model, what is the ecosystem like, etc. That's our method of working and we want to continue this way. Any other questions?

ALAN GREENBERG: Not a question, just a general comment. I'll be sort of blunt. ALAC and civil society have had I won't say a love-hate relationship, but an unusual relationship in ICANN. For the longest time, NCUC and now NCSG has been the self-declared voice of civil society in ICANN.

The positions taken by ALAC occasionally coincide with those of NCUC and NCSG. More often they're at odds, the policy ones. And therefore we have to some extent shied away from using the term civil society because in the minds of some people that branded us as being the allies of people that at times we disagreed with. A friendly disagreement, but a disagreement nonetheless.

I welcome this attempt to try to rebrand the term in its more general sense. I suspect there's going to be a bit of opposition, but I'm optimistic that it will do good things for both ICANN and certainly give us some benefits out of it as well. Thank you.

JEAN-JACUES SAHEL: Thank you, Alan. I'm aware of this. Personally, I'm always interested in just getting on with it, whatever the terminology. When we were negotiating the World Summit on Information Society, we were negotiating the IGF creation in particular, and people were just arguing for hours and hours about the term. What should we call this thing? And they were wasting hours on it.

I was a government delegate at the time and I managed to get the motion agreed that at least on a tentative basis, we would call that thing "Valerie" which was the first name of the chair, Valerie [DeCosta], chair of the working group. So the IGF was called Valerie for quite a while during the negotiations.

So if we have to slightly change this term and not call it civil society, maybe call it civil society and end user engagement, fine. I hope that we will need to get to that level of silliness. I'm sensing a lot of goodwill, actually, from people in both NCUC and NPOC, so I'm hoping there will be just getting on with it. I'm fairly optimistic on that front, but of course it's good to be aware. Thank you for your support on that.

I'm good to hear about the Brazil event, Alberto. Maybe we should create a constituency for accountants that might help deflect the concerns around lawyers. Thank you. That wasn't just for the record. This wasn't a serious proposal.

ALBERTO SOTO:　　　　　We will take them into account for sure so that we can gather the hatred of everyone together. Go ahead, please.

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET:　　Thank you. Sebastien Bachollet, member of [some] ALS. I want to humbly but strongly disagree with Jean-Jacques. We don't need any use of the [split organized] within IGF to be plugged within ICANN. It was never the intention, and I remember it was a discussion at the board level and I have the fear that people can now [inaudible] idea with civil society is the wrong way to go and they wrong way to discuss within ICANN. Why?

Because we are not here representing civil society, and if we want to try to find with whom we can talk, I hope that one day it will not be with people we always struggle against the creation of At-Large, but with people who are representing other types of users.

The goal for ICANN must be to talk about users. We are users of Internet. Large and small companies, non-profit organizations are also users. If I was in French, I will say that all users should be united, because civil society, first it's coming from the WSIS. And that's good. I have no problem to use this term in this arena, but where it's organized within ICANN it's different.

My trouble here is that it's something we discussed when I was a board member at the board level and we agree on that, but it [inaudible]. Where it came when new people from staff – and sorry for

that, it was not you – came and say, "Okay, let's do something completely different. We don't need that. We don't need it."

You give power to a small group of people who are not the ones who are the [inaudible] of ICANN and the [inaudible] ICANN must be the users. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you very much. Any other question or comment?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much. I think Alan's right. Certainly there is people who self-renounce themselves the representatives of the civil society within ICANN, and they're not necessarily people who represent the civil society more than others, but I don't think that' the point. I think this initiative to integrate the civil society component at ICANN and to have them working is a good initiative. Within At-Large, we have end users, and therefore we have the civil society.

At NCSG, there are people who come from civil society. At NPOC there's people from civil society but none of these organizations is entirely composed by civil society.

So to the best of my mind, your mission should be to group all those who belong to the civil society or the people from this three components of ICANN who belong in the civil society and to get them to work.

To what end? Well, we all know perfectly well that the multi-stakeholder model is a model that gathers all the stakeholders. All stakeholders are different from one place to the next. For instance, at the WSIS, we governments, civil society, the [inaudible] society, international organizations and it's the same at the IGF.

But it's different at ICANN here. We have contracted parties, registries, registrars, we have end users. It's different. And that's normal. That's okay.

So why is it important that we have this element of the civil society within ICANN? Why should we have them as a separate component? Well, because stakeholders are more important as government, civil society, academia, the technical community, so we should have our own civil society that could express itself within the different IGFs on behalf of ICANN. So we should have a specific component that is the civil society. That would be good and it would contribute to add more dynamism in the work of the different participants within ICANN. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you very much, Tijani.

JEAN-JACQUES SAHEL: Point absolutely taken. I see exactly what Sebastien is saying and it's a very valid point. I wasn't trying to – that wasn't exactly what I was saying before. I do think there is a difference between end users and civil society. But we do have to and I think we can reach out to both

sets of communities, and I think Tijani was going in that direction. I think we can make it work without creating confusion and without having conflict between constituencies. But we'll certainly take that very much into account, Sebastien. Thank you for the reminder.

ALBERTO SOTO: Go ahead, please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: I'm sorry, I missed part of the discussion here. I had to step out of the room. Indeed, as was mentioned by Tijani, the outside world work in slightly different ways than we do at ICANN.

Yes, we are end users and obviously we are more than just civil society. We have some commercial organizations. We have some education. So academic sector is represented here as well. And we have also people that don't fit in any of the other boxes. We have technical community as well. Some of our organizations are very technically focused.

But in order to be able to actually have a voice out there, we need to unfortunately slot ourselves into one of the boxes which are offered to us. I think it's very difficult that we should redefine and get the United Nations, for example, to say we need a box for end users. In my view, it would be a losing battle to try and change things like this.

But what we can do, though, is to actually go and be effective in each one of these boxes. In other words, civil society on the one hand, but I

would also urge the ALAC, At-Large members, to also be active in the technical community box and also in the academic box, and being able to go through either one or the other channels that are available out there.

So I welcome the current initiative to bring up the civil society component in ICANN, but at the same time, I would also urge that we bring up a technical community in ICANN, and that we also bring up an academic community at ICANN. Academia being I think key to being able to bring new people into the organization as well. There are a lot of universities out there. I don't see enough academics here. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you. Wolf, you have the floor. Go ahead, please.

WOLF LUDWIG: I think it's very difficult to prescribe identities. I think we must go and get the people where they are and we cannot just impose our ideas on them and what category they probably fit better. Therefore, I am very open. A lot from EURALO, historical point of view. More than half of our members come from the WSIS process. The other half are more or less ISOC chapters.

Though, for me, EURALO was always a typical example of a mixed community, very different backgrounds. My main goal was always to organize as many as possible. You have to be flexible in this respect, considering very different backgrounds and I think very different

backgrounds can also be enrichment for a community. If you have only ISOC chapters at a RALO, this can become a mainstream, but it's not necessarily opening [inaudible] in a region.

Therefore, I am very glad about a broad composition of ALSes at EURALO and I think to attract as many potential members as possible, we need to be open, we need to be flexible. For me, it's very secondary to label a background of a member as long as we can define common goals and common interests.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you. Sebastien, you have the floor. Go ahead, please.

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Tough debate, because I think that we agree that we need to have everybody able to come, but what I don't like is to use a term used by all the organizations. We don't need to bring the term of civil society within ICANN. We need to be the voice of the end user in the other fora and not the reverse. If not, at the end of the day, it will take a few years, but we will have civil society, technical community, businesses, and we will be like the organization within the WSIS. It's not [inaudible] and it's not the best way to do the work we have to do to take care of the unique [inaudible] in this world.

Please don't bring this reorganization within ICANN. I agree, Wolf, it's not just – fortunately, there is a chapter, but they also participate to the WSIS and to the IGF. It's not just [all the] representative of consumer and so on and so forth. It's all we need to have with us.

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[inaudible] because we will change our name or put another level that we will have more people coming. We need to keep on our strength and to explain what they are doing and they will come, and they are coming.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you very much, Sebastien. Tijani, go ahead, please.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Sebastien, you know that I hate disagreeing with you, but I do this time. The question is not whether we will change our identity or we will stop being end users, etc. The end users are composed of civil society and non civil society parties. The idea is to make all the civil society components in ICANN work together so that, in the international fora, they can express the voice of ICANN as civil society in those fora. That's my point of view.

Now coming back to I will give a point of information. During the WSIS, academia and technical community were included in the civil society. There were 21 families in civil society. One of them was academia and another was technical community. I know that NETmundial [split] them out, but at the origin, they were included in civil society. I am not convinced that we have to fragment more the community into academia alone, technical community alone, civil society alone. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you very much, Tijani. Jean-Jacques, please put your headphones on. Just a comment regarding this without getting into a discussion of names. We have spoken with Fadi when we met with him and we have discussed with Fadi the importance of ALSes when they are of an academic or technical nature.

The thing is the amount of members that they have. For example, the ISOC from Mexico had December last year more than 450 members and they are going to become 700. In Uruguay, we have one ALS with more than 7,000 members. They are active members.

We also have other ALSes. That is, for example, an ALS which has 150 members with free voting system and they have individual end users. They have more than 3,000 voting members. They have an open voting system with 3,000 members – voting members.

So what we see is that ALSes – and I'm talking about LACRALO exclusively. Perhaps Wolf or someone can talk about their own RALOs, but I'm talking about LACRALO. The way of doing outreach for the ALSes, I don't want to discuss this, but I want to highlight something that we have discussed with Fadi which is very important for me.

Olivier, you have the floor. Go ahead, please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Alberto. This is a question for Sebastien. At the NETmundial that took place last year, there were four queues. One for governments, one for technical community and academic, one for civil

society, and one for private sector. Which one of those four queues would people from At-Large have to go to?

Because it was a real dilemma for me, who went there, to choose a queue among those four. There was no end user queue. This is where my concern is. If we persevere in saying we're end users. We don't want to be categorized in any of these other four categories, then we have the problem of our voice not being heard. I'm particularly concerned about this.

So that's why I welcome the – I think it's more of a coordination of civil society at ICANN, but that's also why I'm asking for a technical community coordination and for an academic community coordination. And perhaps we could also even think of an end user community coordination because many of the people in the other SOs and ACs are end users. But that would be an additional step forward. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Go ahead.

[JEAN-JACUES SAHEL]:   So for end users, I would need clarification maybe from some of my staff, colleagues [inaudible]. My understanding was that ALAC was the prime place for end users, but maybe I got it wrong. Anyway, I'll leave that aside for others to inform me.

With technical engagement, within our team, the Global Stakeholder Engagement Team, you might have heard that we have recently integrated Adiel who was at AfriNIC before and he is now in charge of coordination for technical engagement. I'm actually supposed to be in a meeting right now with him to discuss technical engagement and civil society engagement, which are two new major [inaudible] of work because we've never really coordinated it properly before.

ALBERTO SOTO: You have the floor.

WOLF LUDWIG: Sebastien, I think narrow categories can be difficult on the interest for outreach. The problem I observe at the European level is to get organizations of people who are interested in Internet and Internet governance to bring them closer to ICANN, and to bridge this gap of understanding and gap of interest, etc. There are people who are going since years to IGFs, but they still have this resistance towards ICANN.

But I personally do not really understand because, for me, they are complementary as we all practiced over a couple of years. So both levels are important. I would rather more try to lower barriers than to create new barriers by somehow creating false or artificial identities.

So I do not really care how somebody labels him or herself as long as I can define common interests and common strategies and common

goals. So this is, in my opinion, a better way to get more people attracted.

Over the years, on the European level, we found out that EuroDIG was a very helpful vehicle to get in touch with people. EURALO as a pillar of at large would have never met these people, so it's one of our best outreach opportunities.

I think to sit together with Jean-Jacques and to think there are the potential in Europe where we are strong, where we are still weak, etc., to make this kind of assessment is very important. The next step is a far bigger challenge to get new interested people, the users or whatever you call them, get them organized and make them stronger at At-Large.

I do not see so much of a competition between NCUC and At-Large. If they are successful in organizing people, they should do it. I would encourage them. Then we have to try to find as much common ground as possible among each other to become the most effective. That would be my approach to the issue.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you, Wolf. Sebastien?

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: First of all, I would like to answer the question [inaudible] in which [inaudible]. That's great. You can stand in any of those [roles]. Either you ask NETmundial to have one [inaudible] for end user or you

decide that you are more technical or civil society or more government. You go where you think that it's good and you will have your voice heard eventually [four] times. That's good.

But if we ask that in each and every places where we talk about Internet governance, the split of the group or the grouping must be the same. Then we will be in a very bad situation in ICANN. I think we have a specificity and we need to keep on our specificity. I would, once again, prefer that we call about users and not about civil society. It's a different grouping, yes, but it's much more representative of what we try to do here since the beginning. Remember, in 2000, ICANN tried to organize direct election for end users, not for civil society. It's where we come from. We don't come from the WSIS. We don't come from the IGF, and we have to keep our own [history] because it's our own past and it's where we will fit better for the future if we keep that.

I have nothing against civil society. When I am going to an IGF event, I say that I am part of the civil society, but I don't feel comfortable to say that here. I am an end user. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you, Sebastien. The last, please. Alan Greenberg?

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. I don't think the two are quite as at odds as Sebastien implies. The term, as I said before, has taken on a different meaning within ICANN in terms of civil society and we are certainly not representative of all civil aspects of civil society. But there's no other

place that we really fit in the categories that are used within forums like IGF. And I'm not sure that we could use the term there and disavow it here. So somehow I think we have to make that jump.

ALBERTO SOTO: Go ahead, please.

HOLLY RAICHE: I'm not sure why we're having this debate. I'm not sure. I think Valerie is as good a term as any. I like the name I think it ought to extend to whomever is interested. I think we ought to encourage everybody who is interested and are really [inaudible] interested in what they call themselves. I think if they are involved or would like to be involved in ICANN, then I think we ought to just leave the labels alone and say welcome.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you, Holly. I was going to ability to Alan that he was going to be the last, and precisely this is what I'm going to say. What we have to do is debate, and not what we're going to call ourselves. We can do that later. I think we should move on to item three, because of our time constraints, which is the identification of regional civil society meetings. We have 20 minutes. Maybe we will have less. Go ahead. Who is going to present on this? Who was going to speak on this topic? Adiel? About the identification of regional civil society meetings.

Sorry, I was not ready because I didn't know I was going to moderate this meeting. Otherwise, I would have come more prepared. Now we have to make an attempt to identify the civil society meetings in the various RALOs.

I understand that each RALO must be working on this matter. In LACRALO, we are now conducting a census of the event that are going to be held soon. As I said, I made a mention of the event in Brazil next October, which we have already addressed. And there is another event to be held in Colombia. I don't remember the dates. I didn't lose my notebook, but I did lose my hard drive, though I have a backup. We have another one in Colombia.

The Brazil event, as I said before, it's the ninth edition. In this ninth edition, we will start for the first time with our ALS. The Colombia event will be organized by an ALS with a contribution of a university. With this university, we've entered into an agreement. We have a training program with monthly webinars. The webinars and the agreement with the university provide that ICANN and the university will issue certificates to the participants of our webinar that will have some input or some credits for study hours in academic programs.

The idea is to continue with the webinars and have more of these events. I don't remember any other. If anyone wants to take the floor in the meantime, I will see if I can check. Go ahead, Wolf.

WOLF LUDWIG: Jean-Jacques is just on his way out. What we are trying to Jean-Jacques together, I think for the last one year, is a sort of mapping effort. Where are the potentials in Europe? And Europe is very diverse as you may know from the Western part, from the Southern, Eastern, etc. part, whatever. So we have a variety of networks who could be potentially interested.

So far it depends on personal capacities whether we can send or be present at such events or not for the time being. We do not have the resources. If you would have at the EURALO level more travel funding, we could do certainly more. But for the moment, we cannot. We just have to use our networks and capacities and try to coordinate as much as possible. One thing we should for next year take into consideration, it's an event called [Republica], what has started at a small level some years ago in Germany. It was co-created with one of our members.

And [Republica] became meanwhile a major event, assembling between 5,000 and 6,000 people from all over Europe. It's a mixture between a faire and a conference and it's lasting for three days with dozens of net-related events. I think at [Republica] next year, ICANN should be together with EURALO better represented because it would be one of our best outreach opportunities besides EuroDIG, I would say.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you, Wolf. We want to thank Jean-Jacques for his participation, say goodbye.

[applause]

We move on. So if I may – sorry. Go ahead, please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much. Actually, I've also put my hand up on the screen. Two ways. Yeah, it is far away. That's why I sat on this side.

ALBERTO SOTO: Sorry, my co-chair is not.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Your co-chair is terrible. You should shoot him. Sorry, I didn't tell you that? I know inciting someone to commit a crime is an offense, so let's just take this as a matter of speech.

Just to let you know of what thing that's going on at the moment in the cross-community working group on Internet Governance. The fact that you mentioned here the local meetings that would take place that are related to – civil society meetings or even Internet governance meetings and so on, is something which I think the ALAC can really contribute to and the RALOs can really contribute to very much indeed.

The cross-community working group on Internet Governance takes part or brings some input for many of the world's global conferences. I put in the Adobe Connect chat a link to a page where you can

download the current timeline of the different activities that are foreseen in the next few months.

These are just the global activities. So we're looking at the UN General Assembly. We're looking at the ECOSOC meeting. We're looking at IGF 2015, etc. If we could build a timeline per region that would be similar to this, even if it starts just as an Excel document, just a table of activities – and we have, by the way, in our working group a table of activities alongside with another box where we can point to any documents that we're submitting to this. Then there would be a better coordination and more activity between our ALSes and their regional involvement.

Perhaps even we could act as a way to get our ALSes to work together as well. I think it's an extraordinary opportunity to be able to bring At-Large Structures from the same region and to cross-pollinate between them even outside the specific topics that ICANN is bringing us to talk about. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you, Olivier. As we said, we are working on [this census] so we don't have much else to do, but go there and integrate. The importance of the organization – I forgot to mention something.

I was recently [Cuba] with the CROPP program, and the purpose there was to try to find and attract ALSes. I think we're going to get two new ALSes. In that event, which was a four-day event – unfortunately, I

could only attend only one day. I could not take part of some of the activities I had intended to.

Being half-technical, half-commercial, when I was there, when I could confirm I was going, there was a panel set up in addition to my presentation which was going to be specifically about the IANA transition. Another ALS was going to present in a different session about the attraction or the capturing of ALSes, but a new set up on Internet governance. I was there only because I was a member of ICANN, and for this reason, there was a panel on Internet governance which was very much attended. It was very interesting. It moves very rapidly. And this is something that have to be leveraged. And this is one ALS doing this effort.

Siranush?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN: Thank you, Alberto. I don't know if this fits into this session, but I also would like to announce that there are a couple events will take place in Armenia, in [inaudible] in September. So we have First National IGF on 7 and 8 of September, after which will be followed a two-day event with ccTLDs of southern and eastern European part of the world. We'll gather together and on 15 and 16 of September, we'll have RIPE NCC meeting in [inaudible].

This may be a little bit relate to European part of the world, but I think that Asia Pacific also might have interest to be a part of the discussions, as well as I think that this would be also great opportunity

for [inaudible] outreach or related on ICANN activities, because this is the part of the world with lack of information. I will be happy and ready to support it, if needed. Thank you. And also looking forward to seeing many of you there.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you, Siranush. Holly, go ahead, please.

HOLLY RAICHE: Really, it's a question to Olivier. How do we contribute to that particular timeline? It just strikes me that it's a great thing to build on. There's a lot of stuff going on, APAC as well. If we're looking at outreach, it would be nice to have a huge timeline that we could actually focus in on what' happening in our region or globally, whatever. That then becomes the basis for things like CROPP allocations or ISOC [applications] or whatever. Thanks.

HEIDI ULLRICH: I might suggest each of the RALOs have individual wiki pages that show regional events. Admittedly, some of those are in better shape than others. But it might be where we could create one that lists all of the RALO events. We could work with you. Staff can work with the RALO chairs or the secretariats to collaborate on a compilation of all of the regional events. Then we could work with Jean-Jacques and other staff to see which ones might be useful.

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For example, you might want to send people using a CROPP proposal or request. So perhaps some sort of strategic work can be done with this.

HOLLY RAICHE: Thanks, Heidi. That's exactly what I was thinking. As I think it was, Tijani was saying there's so much information but it's scattered all over the place. If we could have one central place where we can have a look at what's going on, and then [inaudible] we do have, we can actually focus on event of importance, that would be really – is that right, Siranush? Excellent. Our chair is nodding and thinks it's a good idea.

ALBERTO SOTO: Olivier, go ahead, please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Alberto. With regards to the overall timeline, which I've shared you, this is the one that the cross-community working group on Internet Governance is following, because of the fact that it has limited resources. So we are just concentrating on these that are there. These are the big, global conferences that will affect everyone.

I think it would be absolutely welcome for the RALOs to put together their list of the local conferences that are taking place in pretty much the same fashion, and for two reasons.

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The first one is that it's good to coordinate. The second one is, as you mentioned, Holly, the CROPP allocations could be based on these. Then we have an impact – a direct impact – on these local conferences. And there are a lot of them.

But secondly, and to close on my intervention, I also wanted to invite you to take part in the cross-community working group on Internet Governance. It looks as though we have an agreement from all the SOs and ACs for the charter to be amended so as to have both members and participants, and therefore it opens it up to everyone to participate and it's particularly important that this community is represented there.

There are not enough people from At-Large in that cross-community working group. Not enough. And yet I see people from At-Large in those meetings out there, but they go there as part of their organization and not actually as an end user, since we're quite strong on that term. So please join that. And there are meetings of the cross-community working group on Internet Governance. There's a public meeting on Monday and there's a face-to-face meeting later on in the week. Please come to both. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you very much, Olivier. I would like to make a point of clarification. We're working on that survey I mentioned before together with our regional vice president for our region, Rodrigo de la Parra. Therefore, we are working together and we're having a mix between the events that Rodrigo have surveyed and the ones that we,

that our ALSes, have surveyed. Therefore, we have great knowledge about the events in our region.

We have made the most of the CROPP program as well and we have increased, due to different reasons – for example, in one or two trips, we used the CROPP program with the [hub] of Rodrigo de la Parra.

So if we fight, [inaudible] I think we can get the resources. And if we work in a coordinated way, that would be good for us. Tijani, go ahead please.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Alberto. I want to add to this discussion regarding the difference between end users and the civil society, but still I think we should stress the fact that there is great confusion here because we were talking about Jean-Jacques who is from the civil society and we're discussing the RALOs activities, the ALSes activities which aren't entirely civil society. I just think we should make a distinction between both.

If we speak of the regional activities of the civil society, that is not the way to go. Now, if this is about the RALOs regional activities, then we're on the right track.

Why am I talking about this distinction? Well, if you don't want there to be a distinction, then we cannot make a distinction. But let's not speak about civil society.

ALBERTO SOTO: Tijani, thank you very much. Alan, you have the floor. Go ahead, please.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much. I put my hand up, or my card up, to reply to Olivier, but it sort of applies to Tijani's comment also. Many of us in this room wear a variety of different hats. As Olivier pointed out, someone in this room may go to IGF, but they're funded by a particular organization and they put that hat on and they're no longer ICANN at that point.

I think if someone from VeriSign goes to IGF, they're funded by VeriSign and they're VeriSign. They're always VeriSign. Here, depending on who happens to be paying our bill, we often put on different hats. We have sometimes a hard time merging those personas, merging those different things.

I think this is another one of the symptoms of the fact that we are dependent on handouts, be it from ICANN or from some other organization, and we tend to have an allegiance at that point to whoever gave us the money.

It would be delightful, and you'll hear it from me a couple of times this week in different forms, if we could more readily have money from ICANN to do other things that are not quite ICANN, but in the same general area such as Internet governance.

We are really in a very different position than almost everyone else in this organization. Bill Drake at a meeting last night, at the chair's

meeting which many of you were at, was asked how many people from NCSG come to ICANN meetings? He listed off the dozen or so that are paid by ICANN to come. And he said the total number coming is about 40. Can you imagine if we had 40 people coming to these meetings, 30 over and above those funded by ICANN [audio drop]. Why did it turn green suddenly? I use the word civil society and it turns green. I don't think they want me to speak, so I'll stop at this point.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you. My mic is red. Olivier, go ahead, please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Let me test this: civil society. It stays red. Good. Just to mention on this, Alan said there is no money at the moment for – I'll paraphrase, but there's no money at the moment for people from the At-Large community to go and attend these meetings. I don't think so. I think that's CROPP. CROPP is a fantastic opportunity to send people to those meetings out there and actually tell people about At-Large and find more potential ALSes. That's the way to network with other organizations out there. I would've thought CROPP would allow us to go to these meetings.

ALBERTO SOTO: Okay, my mic is on. Alan, go ahead, please.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much. We'll see how long it stays red. Olivier, yes, of course you're right. But that's a very limited allocation. It's for a limited number of people and a limited number of days which may or may not fit. So yes, there's a bit of money, but that's not necessarily enough to really give us a significant presence in some of these events. I think it's a generic problem that we need to address. CROPP can be used on occasion for that.

ALBERTO SOTO: A comment. I think that we need to fight for resources. For example, I don't remember well, but it was an event that was going to take place in our region and we convinced our vice president – I learned. I mean, I find out the price of that event because they were considering accommodation fees for the Sheraton hotel and I considered other accommodation fees for hotels nearby. And we have one member from our region. I don't know what we did. It was a trivia that we did, and the winner of that trivia, that the trivia was about ICANN, the winner is now in Buenos Aires and his hotel accommodations and ticket is already paid. I think he's coming from the Caribbean region. Olivier, you have the floor. Go ahead, please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Alberto. In response to Alan, yes, indeed CROPP is very limited. It's only three days, two nights. So yes, it is very limited. That said, it would probably be a good idea to try and see if we could coordinate with other civil society organizations in ICANN to actually get an overall funding for these things. The reason being that we've

now seen Jean-Jacques and he appears to have pointed to the fact that there was some funding available. We definitely have to be part of that as well. We can't just let go of this at all.

I just wanted to point out also that traditional civil society organizations – now, we're speaking about organizations that are civil society organizations, human rights, etc. The traditional topics of civil society are funded by some external large civil society organizations to go to other meetings, something which the majority of our At-Large Structures are not funded.

Yes, Internet Society chapters are funded to go to some places, but there are also organizations like the Association of Progressive Communications (the APC) that has funded a number of people, a large number of people, to meetings, these international meetings, which the majority of our At-Large Structures are not able to actually receive because they're not typical civil society organizations. They are, as we said earlier, educational, technical community, etc.

So we have to explore all these avenues, and hopefully we would be able to actually obtain some funding for our members to go out there. I think it's very important. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you very much, Olivier. Tijani, you have the floor. Go ahead, please.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Albert. Reacting to what Olivier just said, there is not typical civil society organizations. And [in] those organizations there is the human rights one who are funded, who are funded by international foundation. As I said in the beginning, in [inaudible] Society, there were 21 [families] of civil society. So the human rights organization are one type of civil society, but those organizations are funded are international and very huge organizations and huge foundations. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you very much, Tijani. Now I think we can proceed to the last item on our agenda, and this is next steps. I believe that we have already discussed some next steps. For example, the creation of the shared wiki page. So I would suggest that each RALO should make best efforts to try to upload the information on that common wiki page with events that we have already in our minds, and with future events that will be coming in the future months.

So is there any other suggestion, any other comment? Otherwise, we will bring this meeting to an end. Okay, thank you very much for your participation.

WOLF LUDWIG: Yeah, it's a good point what Heidi just raised. Just short feedback from your side, whether you found this now useful exchange. In a small round, do you think we should readopt or adapt this for the next ICANN meeting in Dublin? I think it's such briefings between RALOs are

rather useful. Besides the secretariats meeting, [inaudible] very focused agenda and I found this round in this conversation much more productive than usual secretariat meetings. I feel a common silent consensus or approval from [your] side, so we would like to ask Heidi for Dublin to go on [inaudible]. Okay? Alan, always the last word.

ALAN GREENBERG: I think this meeting is the kind of meeting that I and a number of other us have been saying we need. We need opportunities to talk about issues that are important and not in 15-minute lumps. Dublin is going to be another challenge because we've already allocated Saturday for something else, so we can't use it for [this].

Now, any particular subject may well go into that Saturday, but there's another day that – this time we have, next time we won't have as such. You've heard regularly I'm pushing for more time that we can actually sit and talk. It requires in many case people to do homework and do advanced preparation for it, which we're not very good at doing right now, but we haven't needed to because we rarely have time to have real substantive discussions. I'm going to be pushing more for more opportunities to do that.

That does mean that the participants are going to have to do more homework and get input from the rest of their organizations so we can speak not just personally, but on behalf of organizations. But I strongly support the kind of thing we've done here, and that we actually have some time to talk, develop ideas, disagree with each other and try to find common ground. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: I agree with some more dialogue to talk about what's happening in our regions and what works. We're actually looking at the new meeting strategy and looking at outreach opportunities, for example. It will be good to hear from the RALOs and see what has been successful in regards to outreach and things. And we need to talk about those sorts of things as well. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you very much, Maureen. Any other comment? We have a remote participant. Please, Murray. There is a remote participant from the Adobe Connect, so please go ahead.

ARIEL LIANG: I will speak about Murray's question on behalf of him. Question from Murray McKercher for Alan. "Is there a list of ICANN issues that an At-Large member can review in order to engage in topics of interest?"

ALAN GREENBERG: The answer is there is no list right now. We send out periodic announcements and people simply have to follow those. I hope that will be changing in the near future, that we will be sending out regular summaries of things that are of interest. Heidi, you wish to say something?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Just in brief, during the NARALO call, Eduardo Diaz will be speaking about his idea of having a NARALO newsletter. We've been speaking with communications about that and we think that's a fantastic idea that other RALOs might be interested in. So perhaps that could be something that could be an ALAC or At-Large or regional newsletter monthly or periodically where such lists could be included.

ALAN GREENBERG: If I may take the floor for a moment, we are having a session a little bit later today on the issue of ALS responsibilities and RALO responsibilities. And if you read the position paper, you'll see there's an item there saying "monthly newsletter sent out by ICANN staff."

ALBERTO SOTO: I agree with the newsletter. In LACRALO what we're doing is as an e-government there should be a single point of entry. So we're using our wiki, describing everything, all we're doing and whenever any reference is requested, we provide the wiki URL, so [inaudible] information will be directed to one single page or side. And from that side there, they will find event, participants, members in the region, etc. So it's another way to simplify this.

I think Heidi will take the floor. In the meantime, Aziz?

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Alberto. I just want to stress the positive impact of the outreach that was undertaken within our RALO at the AFRALO level. At

[inaudible] 2011 I think that was there were about 20 ALSes in our region, and it was thanks to this outreach activity that we organized, and thanks to the different activities we organized at that meeting either in our region, either through the webinars that we had organized, and the general meeting that we organized in London within the framework of ATLAS II. But from Dakar to this day, we doubled the number of ALSes that participated in our region, so I think it is important to stress that because we have just gone over 40 ALSes that compose AFRALO. So that's about 26 or 27 African countries that are represented within our RALO and that's above the African average, because there's 47 countries in Africa.

I think it's important to highlight this because that has been achieved thanks to considerable effort and to the wonderful work of AFRALO teams. So I think it is important that this is considered. Thank you.

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you, Aziz. Heidi, you have the floor. No? Okay. If there is nothing else to discuss, let me thank you all. We have two minutes to spare. We've been very good with time, so thank you and see you soon.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]