MARRAKECH – North Africa IGF Preparatory Meeting
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ICANN55 | Marrakech, Morocco

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Aziz will welcome us to this meeting before we start. Aziz and the [FMIA] who co-organized this meeting and who also represents the host countries. Aziz speaking.

AZIZ HILALI: To speak Arabic. And after you first like North Africa. Okay, [speaking Arabic].

INTERPRETER: Welcome. I would like to welcome all of you. I would like to welcome you in Morocco, in Marrakech. [I'm looking at] this meeting IGF – it would be the beginning, and Marrakech will be the country that push the IGF. I hope all the accommodation was good, and that you have a good time here in Marrakech. I hope and [good will]. I would like to thank the group who attend this meeting. This project will be represented by Mr. [Radon], and I will give the floor to Mr. [Radon].

INTERPRETER: I would like at the beginning to welcome everybody here in this forum of North Africa. Our first meeting was in Tunisia. Then

we'll talk about this issue later on, but at the beginning, I would like thank ICANN and the Moroccan administration. As you know, this meeting is outside the agenda of ICANN. This is especially in ICANN 55. I would like to thank ICANN [to] give us this opportunity to hold this meeting. I would like to thank especially Mr. Aziz because he did an above-and-beyond effort to hold this meeting. This is on very short notice, and he was able to allocate for us a location and a room to convene in. I would like thanks again, Mr. Aziz, and of course, I would like to thank [inaudible]

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking in Arabic].

INTERPRETER: I would like to give you the agenda, and before the agenda, let me give you the objectives. Why do we have this objective? What are the general goals of this objective? In reality, the preparation of certain steps that we took in the meeting of [Hama Mata] in 2012 and the continuing the work of the meeting because between the 2012 and 2016, the work of the meeting or the conference was not at the level that we wanted it to be because of specific circumstances. The agenda will concentrate specifically, as you will see, on practical sides and structural sides, more than anything else, with the hope that when we

finish discussing these structural aspects, the structures of the conference will be able to tackle different subjects and hold conferences and meetings in order to tackle the subject of Internet governance, the most important points of the agenda.

The first point is the opening, and therefore we will start to talk about how the meeting started and what has been accomplished since 2012 until September 2015. What are the reasons for holding this North Africa forum about Internet governance? From practical standpoint, the adoption of the reference principles for North Africa, for this forum, and also the guidelines for our work in our forum so that we can work with a minimum set of guidelines. Also, we're going to talk about the election of the consultative committee, the MAG. We will see what is the best way and the most appropriate way to establish this committee. Then we will discuss the executive treasury for the North African Forum for Internet Governance. We also will discuss the recommendations about the next session of the forum with the hope that the consultative committee will make the necessary preparations to hold the coming meeting.

This is, in general, the agenda, and the idea is that we will discuss in the future. These documents have been discussed electronically. The group has been consulted, and this is one of the highest difficulties. The Internet users have been consulted, as well as those who are interested in Internet governance.

Approximately, I would like to say, if there are any different opinions, I could say that this is what we have achieved in terms of consensus between all the parties regarding how our work will be in this forum.

This is pretty much what we're going to do during this meeting. Fortunately, Mr. Chengetai Masango has accepted to be with us in this meeting. Mr. Masango is the Executive Treasurer of the global IGF. It is important for us that he is with us because we will see him afterwards with regard to governance of the Internet in North Africa. This is a critical part of global forums.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: North African IGF within the global IGF. Please.

CHENGETAI MASANGO: Thank you very much. Yes, I'm very pleased to be here, and I am encouraged and happy that you're coming together to form the regional IGF, the North African IGF. As you know, we have I think 12 regional IGFs and 35 national IGFs, and they're growing and growing. Part of our efforts during this new mandate, these [ten years], is to include more and more of the regional perspectives and the national perspectives into the global IGF and get them in early. Last year, we had our intersessional work, which I think most of you participated in with the calculating the next billion

ideas to connect the next billion. We hope to continue this work this year.

North Africa is very important in the Internet landscape. The Tunis agenda is the basis of which the IGF is based on. I was referring to it in the meeting just now. Also, Egypt has hosted an annual IGF meeting. I think it was the first African country to do so. Christina, of course, has always been there and has been on the MAG. We've come to rely on her in the global IGF as a whole, so it's very good that you're coming together for the North African IGF. There's the Africa IGF, there's a North African IGF, but each region has its own specific needs as far as the Internet is concerned, and its own unique perspectives. We have to try our best to concentrate on those and try and work what is best for the region. As Ambassador [Francesco] said earlier on, there's no one size fits all, and there's no one solution for everybody. Everybody does not have the same needs, so I think it's very good to establish a North African IGF. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thank you, Mr. Chengetai. [Speaking in Arabic].

INTERPRETER: Regarding what you have said, every region has its own specifics and its own understanding of Internet governance. This is why

the plurality of the regions is important. It is a positive, and it is part of the general idea of Internet governance on the global level. In our program, we're going to talk about the establishment of the Internet governance forum. I would like to take the opportunity to speak about it since the beginning of the idea until today.

In reality, if we look at what has been achieved in the global summit on IT society, we can see that at the end of the Tunisian period, there was an agenda. There was a clarity about the establishment of the forum under the recommendation of the UN Secretary General. When we discuss what came in the paragraph regarding Tunisia, there is a recommendation about the creation of a global forum. In addition to the national foras and the original fora. This idea, let's say, was not implemented, or there was no movement forward with it between 2006 and 2010. There was work done on in the international level in 2011, and the global forum of Internet governance, it was a turning point in the history of this forum. There was some kind of going back to the initial foras, the African and Arabic region were some of the most important and the first regions where these fora took place.

In 2011, a small group, in reality, thought that after the establishment of the African Forum of Internet Governance and the Arab forum of Internet governance, that it was necessary to

establish the North African Forum for Internet Governance. The situation stayed as it is since 2012 for difficulties that we all know, and it is not necessary for me to go into these difficulties now. Unfortunately, the forum was started at that time, but there was no work done in that area until the meeting of the African Internet Governance in 2015 in Addis Ababa. The African group was surprised to hear echoes from regional forums in South Africa or East Africa and West Africa, and North Africa didn't have any echo. In reality, there were reasons that are specific to the region. This is why we didn't do any work.

We started some consultations at that point in Addis Ababa about the best ways in order to bring the North Africa forum and to make it an integral part of the Africa Forum of Internet Governance. We reached a consensus that we have to establish a North African Forum for Internet Governance, and we decided to meet in Marrakech. Some countries responded positively, and others did not respond, so we decided to hold this meeting today in Marrakech with the idea of moving forward to activate the forum. The forum is there. The structure is there. However, we must provide the necessary work conditions so that the forum could function the way it was supposed to work. The organization of meetings and think about subjects and aspects when we talk about Internet governance.

A call was made for this meeting. The reasons for holding this forum of North Africa for Internet governance, it is the same as other forums. It's supposed to be multilateral. We hope that those countries that accepted to participate in this meeting, that we have several representatives on different levels, the level of the governments, civil society and private sector, they are representatives of academia. These are the components of the IGFs all over the world.

What is the future? What is the way forward? How are we going to move forward in the future? I believe that one of the most important results of this meeting would be the formation of a working group or a MAG, however you want to call it. This is going to be a working group that supervises, oversees the achievements of the forum on one hand, and on the other hand, we need to agree on the general principles of the forum or the work of the forum, in addition to agreeing on who will carry out the work of the secretariat, who will do the work of Mr. Chengetai on the level of North Africa? This is what we reached, approximately, and the rest comes back from the group, from the parties that are interested in Internet governance in North Africa. I hope that the floor will be open for discussion and dialogue, and mostly for moving forward because we have a four-year delay in our work in the North African forum. I believe this is too much, and we have to put an end to this delay.

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The second point that Aziz [has] to talk about. Aziz proposes that we give the opportunity to speak to everyone. We will give the floor to everyone to speak. However, we will do it in an orderly manner. The next point is the reference points and reference principles for Internet governance, and the manners in which we are going to be working. There is a working paper that has been circulated among the group. Are there any recommendations or observations or comments about this document? Please, go ahead.

This is a document that has been circulated to the group. I would like to thank Mr. Aziz.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking in Arabic].

INTERPRETER: I'm not sure that everyone knows each other.

INTERPRETER: I'm [inaudible] from Tunisia. I wanted to think Mr. Aziz because it was difficult to hold this meeting in Morocco because there are many meetings in ICANN. I would like to thank you for all of these efforts to prepare this paper and this meeting. I don't have any comments about it. It is a well done document.

INTERPRETER: Thank you. I would like to clarify something. The reference principles are derived – all of them, almost – from the Tunisia agenda, for the paragraph 73 to 79, from the Tunisia agenda. It has been placed into effect and agreed upon on the global level in all forums. Even if we go back, for example, to IGF as a principle, you can see these principles in the paragraphs from 73 to 79 from the Tunisia agenda. We hope that we will stay within the framework of what we have agreed upon internationally as work principles, meaning transparency and all of the working principles that the Tunisia agenda specified. When we get to the ways of work, my understanding of the ways of work or the working patterns, this is a progressive path that we will build, we fix, we repair, we build, we fix, we repair, and we build again. The way forward that is proposed is a primary way in which we can forward. Of course, any working group that takes charge of matters after this meeting has different specifications and has the right to make proposals to the group in order to make some changes.

This is a new experience. This is going to be done on a consultative basis within ICANN. We have to consult with one another so we can make changes. Our working method must be the same way, working method as it is in ICANN. We have to consult with each other. We should not simply just apply any

working methods that have been imposed on us. It looks like it has been imposed on us right now, but however, in future, the Internet governance group in North Africa, it will have the opportunity to show its opinions and to make some improvements, to make some amendments. I would like to take it and do things this way. Please go ahead.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: [Speaking foreign]

INTERPRETER: In the name of God the most graceful, [inaudible] from Tunisia. Before we talk about the methods of work, I would like to go back to the opening point, dealing with what you called the transitional body on the North African forum. I would like to ask you, was this forum established in the name of its members and they distributed the roles amongst its member, or is it a transitional body? I didn't understand it. Could you explain this please?

This is the second point. The forum of 2010, like you said, and between that forum and the forum of Tunis in 2012.

No, I said the first forum was 2006. Between then and 2010 and 2016, you moved and you did a second step. We have to meet after four or five years. Excuse me. Maybe I didn't understand it

correctly in simple words. This means that there is a slowdown, that it is a slow process in order to deal with the big problem that we have to tackle, which is Internet governance. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign]

INTERPRETER: Thank you, ma'am. Just to explain to you and in a very short way, now we have a general movement on the international level since 2011. I call it a turning point in regional forums and national forums regarding the IGF. The North African region, just like the African region, decided to establish a forum. We have to clarify this point. The forum is not a governmental or non-governmental entity or organization. It's a group of people who get together and exchange ideas, do not make decisions. The transitional body was agreed upon when we reach the point where we needed to discuss working methods and general principles. In all clarity, at that point, there was no consensus about the working methods, so we decided to assign a temporary or transitional group. I had the honor of presiding over in order to look into this issue and present recommendations. This is the result of this work. However, this period between 2012 and 2016, we have to be honest with one another. The conditions in the Arab world and the North Africa in

particular were not appropriate to hold a meeting in order to take any kind of decisions in that aspect. We found, first of all, that there was a pressure on the African level because the Africans started to ask questions, to wonder, "Why is it that North Africa does not have a special forum for North Africa?"

The second point, we had the opportunity to hold an ICANN meeting in North Africa. We took this as a great opportunity. [Hanin], please go ahead.

[HANIN]:   [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Peace be upon you. [Hanin Bushmir] from Morocco. We have 40 minutes and we need to discuss some important points. I believe that if we go this way, we will not be able to discuss the appointment of the members of the consultative Board. Can we move on to that point? Because we all agree on the points that we have been discussing so far. The forum will be based on international [sentence]. Can we move onto the point regarding the election of the members of the consultative Board so we don't waste time?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: We do have to stop at noon, so I do agree. I support exactly what you said.

INTERPRETER: The proposal is very good. However, in the forum, we have to adopt the reference principles and we have to adopt the working method. Otherwise, every meeting will have its own rules. [inaudible] it is true that she wanted to go straight to the point. She does not have any comments. If you don't have any comments, can we say that we have adopted… [Christine Arida] from Egypt, I would like to thank you in public. I would like to think Aziz for hosting us here.

I would like to thank [Rida] because he was the moving engine for the meeting. Let's go ahead. I would like to thank ICANN because they made the venue possible for us, and you gave us a chance. Thank you so much. With regard to the documents, [Rida], I thank you very much for the documents that you have provided to us. You have spent a lot of effort, and you gave us the way forward. I have a couple points that I wanted to discuss in principle. There's no problem that we can adopt the general principles of the forum the way they are. There's something

regarding the multilateral consultative committee. I would like to define its responsibility.

One of its responsibilities is to specify an annual meeting, is to hold an annual meeting. I believe that preparing the content, we need to do it on a grassroot level. It needs to come from the Internet Governance Society in North Africa because I believe this is a part of my experience in the Arab forum and the international forum. The more we can connect with the people and consult with the people and take projects and take ideas from them, the subjects will be more attractive and up to date. I would like for the consultative committee to be open all the time, or take upon itself the responsibility to hold meetings.

The second point that may be is not to mention, maybe it's not appropriate for us to put it in the schedule, and that is funding. Funding is important. However, it might be very difficult for us to talk about it. However, we need to discuss it and we need to tackle this problem. Thank you. [Rida].

INTERPRETER: I apologize for being late. I was at a different meeting. [Hanin's] proposal is logical. However, on what basis are we going to appoint people or vote for people who don't even agree on the charter? I did not have the opportunity to look at the document, even though [Rida] put it forward a long time ago because I was

busy preparing for this meeting. We were extremely busy, so I could not even open the document to read it. So I propose because of the lack of time, even if we open the discussion right now, I propose that the charter issue remain open, meaning that if you want to approve certain points, one or two points regarding the structure, what structure are we going to vote for or adopt, and we can leave everything else up for discussion during the next two or three months so that we can receive input from everyone. Then we can approve it. However, if we start approving it right now, I think we don't have enough time. Thank you.

INTERPRETER: I apologize, Mr. [Rida]. I propose that we talk about this point and not appoint everyone right now. I wanted to open the door for candidatures. I wanted to make sure that at the end of this meeting, we at least open the door for candidatures. If we reach this point from this meeting now. I know that we can't vote, we can't appoint or assign our members right now. It is important that all of those who want to be candidate present their candidatures right now, but we have to move on and discuss other points in the work agenda. Thank you. We have to be organized. I want to respond to interventions. It's my obligation.

It is, frankly, the weakness of the work of the North African Forum for Internet Governance. It was due to the lack of structures that are appropriate and up to the level of international forums. We need to have the minimum threshold of structures that allow us to work. The door is open to any future improvement. We're not going to just do one thing and open the process and close it. We're going to do something and start the process and say that is open for any development in the future in terms of the number of people and the names of people, as well as methods of work. There is no structure that is a frozen structure.

I propose, on principle, that we decide today that the North African Forum for Internet Governance has a minimum threshold for the structure. It should have a secretariat and members of MAG. Whether it's 15 members or ten members, it's not important, but they have to be there and able to make decisions. Maybe they can open doors in the future. So frankly, to leave this room without making the decisions around the secretariat and the presence of a structure, at least at a minimal level, I would not be happy.

INTERPRETER: Thank you, Mr. [Rida]. I support Madam [Hanan], and I believe that we have to decide on the structure of the secretariat today.

We have to have a support structure. However, we cannot vote for the committee today. It is going to be important, though, because we have a private sector, academic sector, and civil society. We have a huge amount of presence, also, in terms of academia. As a consultative committee, we need to have support advocacy for each country, and those consultative bodies at the level of each country, they can open the doors for the candidatures in their country. However, today we could not produce the MAG for North Africa. Thank you. Thank you, [inaudible].

INTERPRETER: Thank you, [Rida]. Of course, I thank everyone for all of the presentations, especially [Rida] for the preparation of these documents regarding the structure and methods of work, as well. I have three specific meeting proposals. Some of them are minor proposals. I did not have the opportunity to view the document and to study the document. However, it is very clear, and I believe that my recommendations are specified as follows.

In the document regarding the project reference principles of the forum, these are all agreed upon because they come from the Tunis meeting. I hope that we can add something to a point to the general users in the Arabic region. When we go to the IGF, we find there's a disconnect between the people who are

working in the Internet governance and the general users, so I would like to point to them and at least to add some kind of reference to them. I would like to try to find a way to get to this group. The other recommendation there is regarding the methods of work, there is a recommendation that is already agreed upon to organize a consultative committee. I believe that there are recommendations to organize working groups that maybe are derived from the legislative committee. I believe that this will not be difficult. Maybe we could leave the working groups to the MAG and to after the establishment of the MAG so we can save some time.

The last point, and I believe [Wafa] mentioned it, and I agree with the idea that it will be difficult to appoint or to vote for the MAG today, as we are sitting here. However, it may be easy for us to form a NomCom or a Nominating Committee. Whoever wants to participate or put himself as a candidate, but that person should not intend on becoming a member of MAG and also be prepared and capable to look into applications to join MAG. So maybe if we agree on that, we could come up with a NomCom today, and also we could have a public call for the interested parties and those who want to become members of MAG. We could divide the memberships between a governmental membership or a private sector membership.

We don't have to follow the same working methods as the global IGFs. This is a small community, and we have to put together a public call. We're going to find the balance between the different countries in North Africa, the gender difference as well. We have to, of course, separate the public sector and the private sector. These are the principles that NomCom is going to work upon. These are my proposals. Thank you.

RAFIK DAMMAK: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Thank you very much. I'm from Tunisia. My name is Rafik Dammak and I concur with my colleague. I concur with [inaudible]. This meeting is the foundation for our work in North Africa. Today we can agree on that will be a task force of volunteers, whether from you or from other individual that they are able to prepare within the three next months. This preparation so we could have an advisory committee. I will ask to move fast and moving forward so we can participate Asia Japan and Asia Pacific, so we don't waste time in processes. The most important thing we will find volunteers and we find balance and prepare as fast as possible to the next IGF. Each time we extended the time, we are not going to be move forward.

Rafik, who want to have an input? Who want to have a comment here? Tijani? [inaudible]? We take the remote participants. There is some intervention or reflection from the remote participant. We have a participant from Tunisia.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Do you find all the funding resources for IGF? Because we lack the fund resources for this forum. We have to think seriously about the funds for this forum. There is also we have to focus on and we have to consider all the multi-stakeholders, whether academians or public sector or private sector, to be more inclusive process.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Excuse me. After this intervention, we will try to summarize this topic. Thank you very much. I actually congratulate and I agree with Rafik because we could have tools to move forward. The first tool is we have a proposal from the administration to form secretaries. Second, [we are] to have a committee that

privileged with transparency, and third, funding. At this point, we don't have enough funding. Funding is a point for discussion, and with the existence and presence of secretaries that they will provide us with the methods to work and approaches.

We have to focus on two aspects: secretariat. I think we are provide a lot. I join with other participant, Tijani, and the other colleague from Tunisia.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: However, like [Wafa] said, the participants do not include all the participating parties, so it is important that the consultative committee might be reported, might be postponed too late. However, we need to find a working group, and it needs to have specific rules. Is it going to call meetings? It is to be diversified from all countries in North Africa. It needs to be the nucleus that brings together candidatures. It is important for me, Mr. [Rida], to put a ceiling, a time ceiling. I talked about 2005, 2010, 2015. We don't want to wait until 2020 again. Thank you very much.

AZIZ HILALI: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Thank you. There's a consensus on the proposals of [Bahir, Raphael, and Wafa] that we don't have that much time. We have 30 minutes left, so we propose that we take these proposals. I think there's Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia, and Egypt. I think we can establish a NomCom in one or two in every country. We can discuss what the rules of these NomComs will be. This is my proposal. I would like to propose myself for the upcoming NomCom. I'd like to make some observations about this good idea. We were able to come out of this dead end very quickly because the work that we were doing was lacking legitimacy. Right now, we have a framework that has the necessary legitimacy to do this work.

Let's come back to the difficulty that the people in the global IGFs have. The multi-stakeholderism in the IGF is centered on two things: the diversity of the stakeholders, however, the international diversity. We need to represent all the countries on one hand, and the stakeholders on the other hand. I would like to add, in addition to the idea of NomCom, that we establish a minimum threshold for reference principles. I don't want to have a NomCom that comes with a result at the end – and this happened in some areas in North Africa – where we have an IGF or MAG that only includes [certain] society. This is one of the difficulties that we are facing in MAGs in North Africa. That is, only represented governments. Sometimes, there are from one

country and they consider themselves a subregional IGF. I want to try, before we try to work in the NomComs, we have to put together some reference principles for their work so that we can find ourselves in the next meeting with a result, a really multi-stakeholder meeting, not a pseudo multi-stakeholder. We need to have all the countries represented and all the parties represented. [Rida]

[RIDA]:   [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: I agree with your proposal, and really, if we took what Rafik said, we can constitute a group of [voluntaries] that will work on the NomComs. The first step would be a small working group, then a NomCom, and then we can move on. As a coordinator at this time, should we continue to our temporary coordination [of the] NomCom and the other processes? We need [a] minimum, a coordination. We cannot have a secretariat taking care of this. One of the conditions that you mentioned in Hammamet meeting, the secretariat must only implement what the MAG decides. I don't want to go over the same discussion that we had in Hammamet. We can establish a NomCom. A NomCom would be a group that decides who is going to be in charge of the secretariat. I think there's no consensus on this point.

We need to clarify something. There's no consensus on the MAG. I believe on the issue of the secretariat, we didn't get to this point yet. We did not even discuss it yet. There are proposals, I believe. Let me not give my opinion about these recommendations. However, these recommendations must be proposed, and then we can either reject them or accept them. Right now, we're now rejecting everything, and I believe that if we keep going this way, we're not going to get out of this dead end.

There is an intervention by a sister who has some opinions about the finances. Can we listen to her?

MARILYN CADE: Thank you. My name is Marilyn Cade, and most of you who come to ICANN are used to seeing me wearing my ICANN hat, but let me introduce myself to you in a different role.

INTERPRETER: [Speaking foreign].

MARILYN CADE: For your event show that you are meeting the basic criteria of being open and inclusive, have a multi-stakeholder, etc. We can talk more about that, but let me talk about the amounts. The set

amount that we have established for regional IGFs – and we treat the subregional IGFs as a regional IGF – is $3,500 USD. We understand that you need to receive the funding prior to when you do your event, but we need you to be able to assure us that you're going to be able to have your event, so you'll need to be able to say you have your venue, you have your agenda, etc. It's very small demand in the report.

For the national IGFs because some of you here are affiliated with national IGFs, the ceiling on that is $2,000. We cannot commit to fund all initiatives. We fund only those from the developing countries, but we follow the IGF definition of developing country. Not the World Bank definition, but the IGF definition of developing country.

Let me see if there's anything else I want to say. I'm around. The other Board members who [have] IGF SA that you will recognize are Tarek Kamel and Edmon Chung from Asia. Jimson, I mentioned. Marcus is our secretary. Some people know [Subi] from India and [Varak] from India, but they are active in IGF and not so much in ICANN. Cheryl Miller from Verizon, who's also now attending the ICANN meetings and IGF this year. The next time you meet, if you meet at an ICANN meeting, perhaps we can find time for you to meet the other [members], but what I mostly wanted to do was to make you aware of the process. Whenever

you reach the point that you are ready to reach out to us, we would be thrilled to hear from you.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thank you. I think we have [noted] what you said because really, it's a solution to some issues that we will have to deal with in any case. If we want to organize future North Africa IGFs, we will face this issue of funding. It's good to know that there are some possibilities. Thank you very much. Thank you.

Now the [inaudible]. We're going back to our topic.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: From [inaudible]. How to actually register the North African IGF, what it will take so that we put that on our plan to register the North African IGF as one of the national regionals? If you don't mind.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It's no problem. To register as a national or regional IGF, you have to have at least stakeholders involved in it. You have to put in your plan to show that you are inclusive, you have no barriers for entry that anybody from that entry can enter into the IGF and

participate. We also, since it is North Africa, you have to have involvement of all the countries, yes, and submit this to the IGF secretariat. Then we'll look at it and get back to you if there's anything else that's missing. Then we'll register you on our website.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: To be our coming exercise, to show to the entire community that we are inclusive, we are multi-stakeholder and we organize things in that way. But it seems that we have some difficulties in managing time. Now on to have a MAG or something equivalent which will be multi-stakeholder, having a secretariat, we'll need at least some six months probably. It's too much in the process. We have a real advantage, actually. We are starting with a new process at the international level with this new IGF, with the new mandate coming from the UN. It's a real opportunity. We have to start very quickly.

We can't take one more or two more years. We have to be efficient. To be efficient, the idea of NomCom is good with some terms of reference in choosing the people. We must deal with the issue of the secretariat. Having solved these two issues, let's

try something [inaudible] this. We should decide about the dates, when this will have to be done. If it takes four more years – thank you very much. Really, thank you very much. We have already done the exercise. It has taken four years with no results. Now we need to have something efficient. We need to decide right now that there will be a meeting within six months. We will have a North African IGF this year. If we don't take these decisions, I think that we will continue wasting times. [inaudible]. Please.

MARILYN CADE: Perhaps I'll offer you a bit of inspiration. I established the IGF USA after three years of preparatory meetings where I convened meetings before each of the open consultations so that we could prepare to participate in the open consultation. It took us three years to get to the point that we could launch the IGF USA. That's one point.

The second point is that we also used an organizing model the first year of my title. Every meeting, the agenda always had to deal with the organizing structure and what the title of the leadership was going to be and whether we were going to have a bureau. I learned that if we were going to spend all our time on our organizational structure, we were not going to get our agenda, so what we did for that year is we established a one

year only organizing structure with the idea that we would review it at the end of the first IGF USA. Then we could improve it. I offer you that only as an idea.

[MURRAD]:   Thank you, Mr. [Rida]. In reality, because we don't have any more time, since there's a consensus, I think we need to move forward in this regard. However, to add my voice to the voice of the participants regarding the NomCom, and then we can move forward to talk about the reference principles that you talked about. One of the criterias that we are going to put for the participants or stakeholders that will participate, I would like to add a fourth point that [inaudible] mentioned. We need to encourage the representations of youth, and not only women or experts. We need to include among the principles, we need to encourage the government to be represented by the youth or maybe the civil society also needs to represented by the youth. The North African society is a young society, and this is a very important point. I propose that we should include it in the criterias that we give to the establishment of NomComs. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Volunteering for the NomCom.

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UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [inaudible]

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yes, but you have to understand people. It's not one man or one woman meeting, and we have to share ideas. We have to exchange opinions. So who is volunteering for the NomCom?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: I would like to propose something. You can propose for Algeria, for Libya if you know people. Maybe we can write to them. What I would like to say is that we need to have people from these countries.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: [inaudible] is going to take notes, so please give your organization, your name, your country. So first, Christine. I am very worried that we might come out of this room without a decision.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Propose that the NomCom would be constituted with at least one member from each country. We said two, two members from each country.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: I would like to just say something quickly. First of all, the NomCom must not be a large number of members group. I thought that this group was going to be considered of three to five people. They're going to select 12 people. The second thing, we do not want everyone to go to the NomComs. We don't have any more candidates for the MAGs. We need to keep some good people for the MAG. We should not move too fast in the establishment of NomComs today. We can do it today if we are able to. If there are three today that constitute the NomCom, I think that this is enough. We can add more people in the future. If we believe that this is not going to happen, if it's impossible to happen, maybe in one week, we're going to have a NomCom. If we can do that today, it would be better, of course.

I would like to say that as Mr. [Bahir] said, I think that the NomCom should not exceed three members, maybe three or

four members. It is the same. Maybe the NomCom will specify the standards, and we'll call [inaudible] candidates. Maybe we can have three members. One of them would be from the civil society. It's not important. It doesn't matter if there's one country that is not represented. The IT group will be taking care of the communication. We have to do all this work. We have to make sure that the number is three to four members at most. We have to agree on the reference principles, and we have to agree on this via e-mail within one week from now.

I spoke about the roles of NomCom, what you called NomCom. We have to specify today the role of the NomCom. Is it going to party that is qualified to look into the candidates of other members of the MAG? Is it going to spend it back to the charter committee, or what is it going to do specifically?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: This is the recommendation, that we agree on four names. Four names that will be the members of the NomCom, which would be [test] within one week to exchange ideas within this entire group. All of us can send his or her opinions about the reference principles for any candidature in the MAG. We're talking about

the NomCom, madam. Any candidatures to the NomCom could be from here. Can anyone offer themselves as a candidate?

So that means that the NomCom will be the one in charge of looking into the candidatures.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: …the past and I was the Chair of the ISOC NomCom, so I'll be happy to help if there is a place.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [inaudible].

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I put my name.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Sorry. Just to remind everyone. I'm listening to interpretation. I have absolutely no idea who's speaking, so if they do have remote participation, participants, they can't see you. They have no idea. Please, every time you speak, please say your name. The interpreters are just sitting behind us, and they don't know you either. Thank you very much for the consideration.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: [inaudible].

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Remote participation.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Okay. I have understood.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I will give the floor to the remote participation in due time. Please.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Who wants to lead this meeting?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [inaudible].

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: And we're completely lost in this way of doing.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You have a question?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Okay, I know. Okay, I know, let me do it. We have now three persons volunteering.

[HANAN BUJAMI]:   [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Hello. My name is [Hanan Bujami], and I volunteer to be in the NomCom.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Four persons. Is it enough?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: No. My understanding is that there is three: myself, [inaudible], and [Christine Arida].

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Four. [inaudible]

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: She said no.

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UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Okay, good. The remote participation, please.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: There is a question about specifying the North African region. Two questions about specifying the names of the countries in North Africa. As we know, Egypt does not belong to North Africa, so we have to specify the names of the countries.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: The African Union specified that the North Africa includes Mauritania, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, and Egypt.

We have agreed that every country will have a representative, so right now we have Tunisia, Egypt, and we don't have Algeria and Libya.

We did not say that we have not enough representatives in our NomCom. Tijani, please forgive me.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: But it is not a sponsor of any African IGF. I propose that we use the UN definition of the North Africa, which includes Sudan. So the broadest definition of North Africa, please.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: It's going to become a real mess. There is an agreement between the United Nations, and I would like to say that there's an agreement between the United Nations so that the African Union will be responsible for the African Forum for Internet Governance. This is something that is agreed upon. The concept of North Africa, if it changes, I don't have any objection to it, but this is the concept. This is the understanding of the definition of North Africa. The problem is that the brothers in Sudan participate in other subregional IGFs. How can they participate in two regions?

                           This is the problem also for Mauritania. Mauritania at some point was a member of West Africa, and now it became part of North Africa. These things are changing. However, we don't have time

and we need to move forward. We have an agreement on three people for the NomCom so that within one week, we should get the results of the consultations that they have done.

[TARIK]:   [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Peace be upon you, [Tarik Manar] from Sudan. I see that there's a discussion on Sudan. I would like to say that Sudan is not even a member or part of Eastern Africa. However, it doesn't belong to West Africa or East Africa. If Sudan is not even a member of North Africa, I don't know where it's going to be.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: We are basing our decision on what is agreed upon in the United Nations and the African Union. I would like to include you in North Africa.

[HAJAR]:   [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: From the legal standpoint – my name is [Hajar] from Tunisia – this definition that you're talking about, Mr. [Rida], is not mandatory. We need more representation. We have Mauritania present today. Sudan is here.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Mr. Rida, this is an important point. If the NomCom is not going to represent the countries of this region, who is going to collect candidatures? Thank you, Madam [inaudible]. I would like to save some time today. As far as I understand, I believe that there is an agreement on the secretariat. Are we going to agree on the secretariat from the ATI? This is a proposal from the Tunisian government. There are three people that may be able to bring members from different parts of North Africa. It is not necessary to have one person from each country. For example, I don't believe that Libya is able to be present officially. I believe that three people, this is enough for the NomCom. This is a NomCom. The problem of Sudan, maybe we can solve it through electronic correspondence. We can see maybe if Sudan is participating in other forums. If Sudan is participating in other forums, it's a problem, but if it's not a member of other forums, we can welcome Sudan. But we have to resolve this issue later.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Thank you, [Harad]. If you allow me, can you please take participations from here and from there? If I take a look at you and you raise your hand and I don't allow the opportunity for other people to participate, I'm sorry [Wafa]. I have to let the floor to other people. We have a request from ATI, Mr. [inaudible].

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: The NomCom is important. Who is going to choose clear and transparent rules for the candidates? Also, I think as far as the secretariat, the secretariat must choose its position, must be designated. I think that is the key in order to move forward. For that, what I would like to see today is the ATI as a business involved in the Internet industry and so forth. I would like to propose to have a secretariat in order to move forward with the IGF project. To conclude on that topic, I think that since we have those two decisions, the secretariat as well as the NomCom with

three people, I think if we have those things in place, we can conclude the meeting.

[CHRISTINE ARIDA]:   [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: With regard to Sudan, I believe that the only region that maybe where there's any problem would be that Sudan may be part of East Africa. I went to the East African IGF, and I didn't see Sudan as a member of the East African IGF, so I propose that Sudan be a member of North African IGF. That's my recommendation.

With regard the issue of Sudan, I believe that there's recommendations so that we can postpone looking into this issue, and we can continue to consult one another and the United Nations bodies and African bodies regarding the membership so that in [this] or that IGF –

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: I'm sorry, I apologize. Maybe if there's some kind of doubts, we need to take some time to make the right decision.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Why, Mr. Chairman? If they are not part of the East or West African IGFs, why should we wait?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: I'd like to ask everybody a question. Is the issue of Sudan, or let's say Tunisia, in as a member of an IGF, is it an issue of geographical position, or is it based on a membership of the country into an IGF?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Go to the South African IGF and become a member? [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: There is a definition. There are standards. There is a division of Africa: north, south, east, and west, and we need to follow these definitions.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: [inaudible] from Tunisia. I support [Christine] in what she said. There is a consensus that Sudan be included in the IGF in North Africa. We have to decide today whether Sudan should be included or not. We can do that today.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Because the NomCom must start working and these countries are going to work in it. We need to consult with the members and with the other people, with the parties concerned to see if Sudan is a member of North Africa or not. I cannot just give my opinion and say that Sudan belongs or does not belong to North Africa.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: I didn't go to the African Union. I went to the East African IGF.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: This is not enough. I would like to ask the United Nations and the African Union: is Sudan part of North Africa or not? What do we say about Djibouti? This is a question. This is my question. If we're going to open the door for membership as we wish, maybe everybody else would be a member of North Africa. So we have to take the opinions of the people in charge. There is a sister from Mauritania.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Fatima from Mauritania. For clarification, there are key countries. Mauritania has the right to be at the same time from North Africa and West Africa. I believe that Sudan must be this way, as well. This is the same thing about Sudan. It is just an African country overall.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Issue is from a political standpoint so that we can be frank. I'm reserved. I don't want to say something that would be in contradiction with political reality.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: I agree with you because we have principles that we need to base our discussion on.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: [inaudible] from the Moroccan government. Within this point, I would like to intervene with regard to is Sudan a part of North Africa IGF or East Africa IGF? I think there's no problem in the beginning initially. This is something that has been done in other UN organizations. There are working groups. Some countries in North Africa are working from inside the Arabic and African parties. The IGF, if there are any rules that forbids a country to become a member of two IGFs, there's a problem. If this is a problem, then Sudan cannot be part of any group. However, if

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there's no prohibition … If Sudan, for example, can be part of one IGF or another IGF, this will be actually an increase in wealth and experience.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: This decision is not ours. This is a political issue that is discussed in other areas. Why do you want us to decide? Then the political parties will come to us and tell us and ask us what the heck we're doing. We need to agree on this within one week, and we need to understand what we need to do. Whatever their decision is.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Go ahead. After that, we need to move to the summary of what the decisions we take.

[AYESHA ABAD]: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: Peace be upon you. [Ayesha Abad], the Moroccan civil society. Thank you, [Rida], for your efforts. Thank you very much. I would like to share with you an idea that we have a transition in the IANA, in ICANN. This is an important step, and I believe that in summary, we have the possibility to propose something new. It's not necessary to just base ourselves and base our work on geographical areas. That does not have any political limits or borders. Especially as a North African IGF, we need to propose something new. This is my proposal. Thank you.

At this time, these are the first steps. Of course, innovation is not an option. The IGF and all other structures must be innovative and renewed. Can we discuss the conclusions with regard the IGF North Africa? Let's be more democratic, Mr. [Rida]. Can we ask the group if there's any other proposals for candidatures for the NomCom?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Speaking foreign].

INTERPRETER: At the beginning, I would like to welcome [inaudible]. They were [handle] the secretariat to be connected with the other secretariat around the world. I would like to end this meeting with that we have a list to do to the elected IGF. As we said, at

the beginning, I would like to host the meeting to the end of the year to see whether it will be good [hold] one of the meetings in Egypt, if that's possible. Thank you very much because I'm afraid. I'm concerned that we are not reaching a decision at this moment.

We talk about three volunteers for NomCom. As I mentioned before, [Haled] and [Christine]. We should decide a condition to accept those candidates in the future. At the same time, we have to agree. We give one period of week so we could have announcement that we accept candidates from all over North Africa. Also, a host from Egypt, a suggestion or proposal that host next meeting for the youth forum will be hosted in Egypt. This will be between MAG and coordinated with the Egyptian administration.

At the end, I would like to thank everybody who could contributed with these constructive idea. Actually, that will be a rich argument, and I would like thank ICANN to offer this meeting. I would like to thank Moroccan government for all the efforts to hold this meeting. Without Aziz, this meeting will be not able to be conducted or convened. I think this was a fruitful meeting, and I think today is a youth forum for North Africa to Internet governance.

We did not have four fruitful years before, but we are looking for better years, and we are looking forward to hold meetings in future. I wish that we hold another meeting or a forum before this year concluding. Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen, for preparing this meeting. The most important thing that we came out with a result. Thanks for the Egyptian delegation for their offering to host the meeting in Egypt. Thank you very much, and we'll see you hopefully soon. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]