BARCELONA – At-Large Regional Leaders Meeting
Saturday, October 20, 2018 – 13:30 to 15:00 CEST
ICANN63 | Barcelona, Spain

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, good afternoon, everyone. This is the At-Large Regional Leaders meeting. We've got quite a full agenda and due to my late arrival, we're going to have to speed through a few of these topics. We'll start with the RALO Hot Topics and Common Framework. Then we'll have the Criteria for FY19 RALO Discretionary Funding. Discussion with Maureen Hilyard, our forthcoming ALAC chair. Thank you. Incoming ALAC chair. Then we've got Cross-RALO Wiki Pages Reorganization. That's quite some work there. FY20 Budget Requests Discussion. And finally, the Discussion on Greater Collaboration and Communication with the Global Stakeholder Engagement Vice Presidents, which I understand works well in some regions, perhaps differently in others.

So without further ado, welcome. Let's go straight into the RALO Hot Topics and the Common Framework. All of the RALOs have put together a list of hot topics in previous years based on the needs and interests of their community. And we're yet again at another cycle of hot topics since it has been about a year for most of the RALOs to have put together such a list.

The RALO that has so far already done this year's hot topic list is AFRALO, and that's why we have the document on the screen. I'm not sure we have enough time to go through the different current policy hot topics of AFRALO. Maybe we can just look at the headers of each one of

these. But there was a discussion on our last call whether there should be a common set of hot topics between the RALOs, whether the RALOs should work together on this or whether each RALO should put together its own list of hot topics and then having a further meeting later on to then find out what are the common hot topics between the different RALOs.

When mentioning hot topic, of course, need I say that they have to be related to the ICANN mandate. A hot topic about weather in Barcelona is not something that could go on the list at the moment. But certainly a number of other hot topics that might be perhaps not directly centered on ICANN but slightly hedge are hot topics that are worthy of putting in the list.

So in the AFRALO document which is linked to your agenda the first one – and I'm reading off screen – is Promoting the DNSSEC Implementation Among African TLD Registries.

If we can scroll, we can move on to the next one. The New gTLDs and Geographic Names, particularly important topic there.

Registration Directory Services and WHOIS. I think it's rather hot at the moment with the number of review teams and PDP going on. Policy development process, sorry. Let me try and not use any acronyms today.

ICANN Accountability and Transparency. I have to slow down because the interpreters are starting to sweat as much as I am. I ran over here.

Gender Diversity and Participation Within ICANN. That's number five.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Privacy Issues.

Internet Governance, in general.

Capacity Building and Outreach in Africa.

That was the last of the list. Could I ask the chair of AFRALO or maybe the people who were in charge of putting this list together how that was put together? The process by which they reached this list. Who wishes to take the floor on behalf of AFRALO? Dave Kissoondoyal?

DAVE KISSOONDOYAL: Okay. In fact, there were two working groups. There was one working group who drafted the hot topics, and then there was another working group for the implementation part of it. For the implementation part, there is myself and Daniel who are co-chairs. After the deliberations of the first working group, we got the list and then we started working on this list of items.

What we did, in fact, in the month of August, we conducted the first webinar which was related to the GDPR. I would say that we got quite a good assistance for the webinar. Now currently we are working to organize the second webinar which will be just after the meeting of here of Barcelona.

If Daniel wants to add something more?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Daniel Nanghaka?

DANIEL NANGHAKA: Thank you very much, Olivier. And thank you very much, Dave, for that brief highlight. Being on the previous team that came up with the drafting of the AFRALO hot topics, it came right from the discussion in Johannesburg whereby the members from AFRALO were tasked to list specific topics that they felt would be of interest to them.

After going through the vigorous process of listing the topics, we went through consultation and we filtered the different topics to come up with the remaining eight. Since the first report of the hot topics came up, that's when a new group was formed to implement the hot topics. And that's the point whereby Dave was reporting on that. So far, we have seven more topics to go.

I'm very happy to share that this is a collaborative effort between the AFRALO leadership and the hot topics implementation working group and capacity building, which also clearly shows what we call collaboration. And this is the collaboration that we talk about for engagement. Thank you. Back to you, Olivier.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much for this, Daniel. Are there any thoughts as to what your next steps are going to be once you've got these? And then I'll give the floor. Keep your card up please. Daniel?

DANIEL NANGHAKA: Since we still have seven more topics to go, we are still going to discuss further together with capacity building to organize more webinars, just as was outlined in the implementation document. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this. Ali AlMeshal?

ALI ALMESHAL: Thank you, Olivier. Chair, just to remind you about the last call. We agreed that all the RALOs have to submit their new hot topics in synchronized so we all have it as 2019, beginning January 2019. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yeah, thanks very much for this, Ali. That's, I guess, the next topic of discussion that we're going to have now, which is how to synchronize this. Satish Babu?

SATISH BABU: Thank you, Olivier. I think this is very good work by AFRALO, and I'd like to congratulate everybody behind it. My concern at this point is this is actually a very comprehensive list and without explicit prioritization, it covers pretty much everything. So if you have a bottom-up process, I think it would be valuable to have some kind of prioritization which might change between RALOs, depending on their own requirements. I would suggest that the remaining RALOs follow some process which may be shared across all of us and that we be given the freedom to be

slightly different, depending on our community's requirements. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Satish. Just as a follow up question to you, actually, how did APRALO put together its list of hot topics and how many were there in the previous cycle?

SATISH BABU: Thank you, Olivier. We did a bottom-up process just before our General Assembly last October. It is a kind of survey that we reached out to the community with. We had, if I remember right, about eight or nine different topics that came up, but some of them were clearly not ICANN related. They were not within the remit of ICANN, so they will not be taken up. But nevertheless, they were considered important for our [G], and we did have sessions on those although they were not part of the [inaudible].

So that was the process we did last time. But now that we have to stick to the ICANN remit, we will have to do another process in a slightly different manner, not open-ended like last time.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Are you looking at a survey again?

SATISH BABU: As of now, we have to discuss this within our leadership team, but yes.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you. Glenn McKnight?

GLENN MCKNIGHT: Satish has hit on pretty well almost every item I was going to mention. I just want to reiterate we had a General Assembly as well, and we had a number of hot topics. Again, many of the hot topics, as you will all find, some of them are not necessarily to the remint. And so Eduardo and I have been discussing with our community and we did a survey of our community and we mapped – it's very similar to what EURALO did – in terms of what are the expertise of our community. So we do have some kind of idea of the depth of knowledge from our community, and now we just have to shove or push or persuade those individuals to give comment on those hot topics.

I think it's a moving target sometimes. Some of these things have priority. Like, for example, we experience a lot of interest in net neutrality, but it's not a hot topic. It may be a topic but not necessarily an ICANN hot topic. So even though we've had presentations, particularly Mark Buell, regional director for ISOC, going over what they appealed on that issue. So, yeah, I think we need to revisit. It's not cast in stone for us, but I think we need to revisit. And I think they did a great job, by the way.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Glenn. Would anyone from any of the other remaining RALOs wish to share how they've reached their list of hot topics? I could

look at myself for EURALO, but you already know we did the same system as everyone else. Okay, Humberto Carrasco?

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Thank you very much. I'm going to speak in Spanish please. We had a meeting in Panama where we had a broad discussion about this. I have the results. We conducted a survey that is finished already, but I have not provided the results to the list. I'm going to read them here. But I will make the following warning which is this. I had said at that meeting in Panama that the hot topics issues were like songs. Hot topics just are not in fashion anymore after two or three months.

But to sum up, we had a discussion with respect to the usefulness of having hot topics. I want you to remember that in my view I don't know if the concept of hot topics is the most adequate one. And secondly, let me say also that the hot topics included in the survey answered by 25 ALSes in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first one was precisely associated to the GDPR issue and the impact on end users. The second one is the problem of geo names. Thirdly, there is the problem of ATLAS 3. Four was real time transcription. And lastly, capacity building issues.

So I will report on this to the new leaders. We are in a leader transition. So I'm going also to provide the results to staff so that they can circulate it within the RALOs. But I still criticize the hot topics. This is something I said in Panama, and for those who were not there, let me now reiterate this, just that warning. Thank you very much.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Humberto. Oh, I see a number of hands that have come up. Glenn's is still up, but perhaps he wishes to turn it down. So we are back to Daniel Nanghaka and Marita Moll. So let's do with Daniel please.

DANIEL NANGHAKA: Thank you very much. I agree with what Humberto is saying, but despite the fact that the hot topics seem to be out of date, we shouldn't forget the idea of revisiting. Let me just simply go back to what happened in AFRALO. In AFRALO, we had the GNSO RDS issue as one of the hot topics. When time came when we revisited the document, we had to remove it but already also different webinars had taken place. So it was removed then. We still had an update. But that doesn't mean that the hot topic doesn't remain hot. It can become cold but come back hot again. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you. Next is Marita Moll.

MARITA MOLL: I see a bunch of hot topics on there I'm interested in, but I don't know – it's not telling me what you're doing with these topics or giving me any information about how your community feels about these topics. Maybe that's not the purpose, but I'm asking the question.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Marita. I'm going to put Maureen on the spot since she's the incoming ALAC chair and she needs to know what's hot and what's

not, I guess. How useful, what kind of use are these hot topics for in your view?

MAUREEN HILYARD: I think that from an ALAC point of view I find this very interesting. It's interesting that we seem to be creating a whole lot of hot topics for different regions when, in fact, there must be some commonalities. I think, for example, I guess I'm coming into this quite new but I'm assuming that the hot topics are actually for a purpose and the purpose is to deliver these topics in a way for the end users to give them some better understanding of what is on top for ICANN and how it can be of value to end users. And also, not only that. How it will impact them in their daily lives. I mean, what does it mean? It's okay to have a hot topic at ICANN, but why is At-Large bothering about it if it doesn't actually impact in some way on end users?

So I suppose I do agree with what Marita has said in that we give it to our end users but how are we using the feedback? Are you expecting feedback and how do we use it when we get the feedback from end users? I think that it's important that we give the information but we also get it back. So I guess at the moment it seems that we have five sets. Are they kept on a wiki? What do we do? The common things, are they in a language that's easily translated so that it actually gets out? Can be easily translated into language that people can actually not only understand but it's actually in their own languages as well.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, thanks for this, Maureen. I realize time is ticking, so I'm going to close the queue. I've got Sebastien, Humberto, Satish, and finally Mohamed El Bashir. So Sebastien Bachollet?

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you, Olivier Crépin-Leblond. I want to just say a few things. From my participation in the discussion at the EURALO level, what is a hot topic maybe could be called what are the topics where we need to put more effort in than others? And it is what for the region [needs]. It could be a tool to mobilize ALSes and the members of the ALSes to concentrate part of the work on that or it is more important to work on that.

A second point is that when I hear the list, I think you need to have two lists. One is a policy list and one is a working topic way of doing things least. Because if not, we will have some people who will take what [ATLAS 3] is important, it must be important for all the regions. But I think the question is where in the policy development that we are doing, what is the more important? Because we have more time that we have, and then we need to concentrate on some issue. I think it could be a good way. And the point is that it is a tool. Okay, it could be a tool for At-Large. It could be a tool for ALAC. But first, it's a tool for a region to mobilize ALSes to work. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Sebastien. I think you hit the nail on the head here. The tool to mobilize current members and also perhaps to show prospective members what the region is already doing. Humberto Carrasco?

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Thank you. I just want to point out that when you collect information, you collect the hot topics, and you ask questions to people, there is a reply. Our target originally was to try to train the new ALSes or the new members around the issues that are interesting for them. That's why I said there is a problem. What comes first? Is it the egg or is it the hen? When I get something that is a hot topic and I want to train them, it's not in fashion anymore. So there is a dichotomy there. I'm not against hot topics. I actually think that the approach that we are using now is not the correct one. That's my summary. Thank you very much.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks, Humberto. Should we have a faster cycle? Perhaps every six months we update the hot topics so they are more up-to-date? An idea on the table. I see a lot of people thinking, "Oh, yes. More work." Satish Babu?

SATISH BABU: Thank you, Olivier. I have two questions. One from me and one jointly from me and Alfredo since you have closed the queue. The first part is the reason why we have RALO level hot topics vis-à-vis an ALAC level hot topic list is I presume that there is some leeway for regions to have

specific questions within themselves. So I think that needs to be acknowledged.

The second part which Alfredo has also raised is that listing the hot topics is actually the easy part. The more difficult part is what are we doing with that list. Now are we're going to have a policy ambassador per RALO? Are we going to have a working group per topic? Alfredo specifically wanted to ask, can we collect all the work done by RALOs and put it in ICANN Learn so that it's of use to others as well? So the critical thing is actually what we can do with the work that we're doing with this hot topic list. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Satish. Next is Mohamed El Bashir.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much. I think the approach that works for AFRALO that we had a dedicated working group for identifying the hot topics. So that's number one. And that was done bottom-up, so we filtered. I think we started with maybe 15 or 20 and we ended up 8. After that, we had another working group also, which has produced that report, looking at what we can do, what actions need to be done to address, to create awareness on those topic policy issues. So listing the hot topics is not the end. What exactly do we need to do after that?

That's why, for example, we have this [inaudible] report. We have clear actions. We're starting with the webinars, and now we have champions within the RALO who are leading the topics. So we have someone who

is leading GDPR, someone who is leading the subsequent new gTLDs round. So you can use the hot topics as a way to activate the ALSes, as a way to get people interested in topics, and also they can be ambassadors within the RALO. So I think it is important that the leadership really just steps back and to have a working group.

In our working group, we actually have I think two co-chairs just to make sure that we have diverse views, I mean, people are really discussing. So it doesn't have to be led primarily by the leadership, but at least we can have a working group that could be active and then they can think about what they can do with the hot topics and produce something meaningful to the ALSes. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks, Mohamed. I see some similarities with the idea of having a policy lead and you're looking at leads per topic. Is that something that resonates around the room? Just taking the temperature. I don't see anyone being particularly upset. Alberto Soto? You managed to get yourself quickly in the queue, and then we have to move on.

ALBERTO SOTO: I'll speak in Spanish. I fully agree with Mohamed, and I partially agree with Humberto. I believe that these policy should be taken into account with [inaudible] of the work in the RALO because if we work fast, I mean, topics are not [dealt] fast. So perhaps we should take into account general topics where we know there will be some concerns. In this case, for example, there will be modifications in the RSSAC. So in LACRALO,

we should have a webinar to address this topic for this topic to be taken into account for those who are interested in the topic. Then we can identify the lead for that topic.

The other task is a task of ALAC members. We are the people responsible for taking the topics to the RALO and the RALO leadership should carry out the necessary training and webinar with enough time. We cannot have a webinar when the topic is already open for public comment because that is late. It's very late. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks, Alberto. I saw Maureen wishing to take her card up. Please, you have 30 seconds.

MAUREEN HILYARD: The whole idea of hot topics actually really interests me at the moment, especially in relation to the capacity building programs that we've been focusing on in webinars. But I think if we can actually identify some hot topics that are consistent across [the thing], we could actually look at developing resources that are going to be more meaningful. But not just meaningful to end users as a group.

I mean, what levels are we targeting for? We've got end users who are teenagers. We've got younger kids. Who are we targeting some of these topics for and the level at which we target the information? If we want to get this information out to as many different types of end users, we've got to be looking at targeting not just general end users.

Let's look at targeting specific end users so that we're actually spreading the whole – a lot of those topics although the actual content at the moment may not be like it's hot at the moment, but the general topic is enough to warrant developing projects and giving it to the outreach and engagement co-chairs and the rest of the working group to be developing something that's quite innovative, creative, and let's get it out to the community. I'm done. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Maureen, for your two minutes which is taken off your account. One minute thirty seconds over. Okay, we need to get moving. I think this really calls for a number of action items.

The first one, it seems, is that there is support for having a new round of hot topic consultations within each one of the RALOs. I don't think we've gone into a direction of saying all the RALOs need to do that together. So I guess first action item is for each RALO to update their list of hot topics by whatever means it is that they're using that they're happy with doing. Should we have a deadline for this? Two weeks? Three weeks? One month? Heidi?

HEIDI ULLRICH: Just quickly to keep in mind that AFRALO just completed theirs, so I would hope that AFRALO is not being asked to do this again.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: No. I was going to suggest within two months. So before the end of the year. We are in October. If we have hot topics – sorry?

HEIDI ULLRICH: What about AFRALO? I mean, they just completed theirs.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: No, but AFRALO is done. They can tick the box. They're fine, but the others are not. So the others have to update theirs, and they have two months to update theirs until the end of the year. I think that's – Eduardo was saying six months but then, of course, by that time the AFRALO ones will be out of date. And by the time the survey is finished or written, when the survey comes out it's out of date already. We'll have GDPR at the end of 2020, which doesn't help. So first AI is to update these.

The second one is once each one of the RALOs have got an updated set of hot topics, then we can find the common ones between the different RALOs and act upon them. And it sounds as though AFRALO has done some really good work on this to act on these. The capacity building working group and the outreach and engagement working group seem to be particularly good at being able to pick those things up then. So the RALOs don't have to do everything from A to Z, but they can then collaborate using these working groups that are made available to them.

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How does that sound? I have Daniel, I have Humberto and Eduardo with their card up. So let's have those three people in the queue and then we can move on. Daniel Nanghaka?

DANIEL NANGHAKA: Thank you very much. Just to [inaudible] backwards, there was an issue that was mentioned about separating the lists. I'd just like us to go back a little bit to history to 2017. In 2017, there was some interesting work that was done by [inaudible] the key policy issues of the At-Large community. If you look at the topics that were listed in that document or that presentation, it seems to cross cut with some of these hot topics. [Can we probably reverse back] and then we look at. Creating a summation of what affects all others, if they are uniform or if they're intersecting, then we handle them at that level of intersection. In case we drill down and then there are those specific issues, then they go back to the specific RALOs for that. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Are you volunteering?

DANIEL NANGHAKA: I wouldn't mind working on that since this is part of engagement.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, thanks for this, Daniel. Humberto Carrasco?

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Thank you very much. I could speak in English, but I would like to speak in Spanish because we have a wonderful interpretation service and we need to make the most of it.

I would be in favor of changing. For example, let's take the GDPR issue. That is an issue that has to do with data protection. So perhaps we can take that concept because this issue is going to be repeated with different names. Now we speak about GDPR, but in the future the name might change. So if we use mutual names, so to speak, for example, cybersecurity end users, we may have a certain level of flexibility so as to analyze the possibility of having a joint [standard], a working [standard] for all RALOs. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Just actually as a response or a question on this. Do you not think this would then make too broad topics at that point saying cybersecurity is a hot topic and privacy is another hot topic? And then it's like privacy has got a whole million things in there. Is that a bit of a danger to have too wide hot topics?

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Okay, that's okay. That's why I said privacy and end users because this is a broad concept. But despite this, we can have certain level of flexibility. This is just an idea. I mean, I don't have the solution. This is just a brainstorming, and that is what I really want. I would like to introduce the debate to put it on the table because I believe the way we

are dealing with hot topics leads us nowhere and that is my concern. Thank you.

EDUARDO DIAZ: I agree with Humberto. We have been talking about hot topics for a year now. And maybe AFRALO got their act together, but I don't want five. I might have two. Can I have two instead of five? And I like the concept of having two of them to be that all the regions have a common theme. So you can have something specific for your region, but I think topics are good for all the regions. We should take two and work on them. And if you want to add ten more, then you add ten more.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Yes. Topic of the year.]

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks, Eduardo. So how about then the regions can do as many topics as they want, but when putting all the hot topics together from the different regions select two or three? Just very, very restricted. Alberto Soto?

ALBERTO SOTO: I do agree with that. But if we add a working methodology, for example, if someone is appointed chair of a working group, during the first week he has to know the scope of the working group so that we can reduce the scope of action. We need to define a schedule. We need to define

the deliverables and the final report. These are four brief steps but if we stick to them within the first week, it will do. That will be enough.

But I need to know the topic. I need to know the scope of the topic. What is the limit? Then I need to know the schedule, the timeframe for that, and then the deliverable and the final report at the end of the working method. We are running out of time, and we are repeating the same issue. And, of course, we have to take this into account.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yes. Well, we have an action item to get the topics and start working together. That will be probably for our next meeting then when we'll hopefully by then in two months' time have – two months is okay, yeah? You're all okay with two months? Two months' time, we'll be able to have another call and at that point we'll be able to put together the work methodology as to what we do with those hot topics and how many we retain. I've also noticed one point being that the ALAC members have to be involved with this because they are the ones that are particularly involved with policy. And that's something I've heard as a concern from RALO leads on several occasions.

We have to move to Criteria for FY19 RALO Discretionary Funding. You will have noticed that the document which is it Heidi who is editing this? I think Heidi is the person editing this or Evin. This year, the criteria has changed or has been a little more focused than in previous years. I'm not quite sure what we should do with this document because it still seems to be in development. Is there any highlight that we need to say on this?

I have two questions. Question one, is there anything to be highlighted? Question two, do we have any say as to what the criteria are? And are the RALO leaders able to say, "Well, we don't like 1. We don't like 2. We don't like 3. We don't like 4 either. Can we just have an open selection criteria please?" I hope you're listening.

So I'm told that the last call we were supposed to review this, and I think that we've all read through it. I wasn't quite sure whether we could make any changes. I'd be happier to see a final version without all the edits to be able to approve it, if that's okay. Is that possible? Maybe not now. No, not now, obviously. That's going to take a while. But I'm not seeing any hands around the table to comment on this, so let's say that the next steps for this one is to have a final version to be sent to all the RALOs, and there still will be a chance for the RALOs to comment back on it. But reading it like this is a little difficult.

Let's go to 3. I feel caught up a little bit. Discussion With Maureen Hilyard, Incoming ALAC Chair. Maureen, can you shorten this a little bit? We have 15 minutes with you. Effectively, you're here. We've seen your organigram, very inclusive. It makes very little boundary difference between RALOs and ALAC and the whole community and working groups. It seems to be that the whole thing is quite a good integration and collaboration between the different subcomponent parts of At-Large. Is there anything you'd like to add to this? I guess you've all seen the organigram that was distributed this morning. Maureen, what changes can we expect from a RALO perspective?

MAUREEN HILYARD: Well, I think I explained. I don't want to use up too much of your time. I think I did explain that this morning. I think everyone got a copy of that this morning. I think the benefits of the expanded leadership team does actually mean that we're getting feedback from the RALOs. It's not just at ALAC level in the discussions that we have. The concerns that are raised at this session can actually be brought up to the ALAC face-to-face directly. I think that's important.

But the main thing is to, as I said, if we can through the regional chairs in those discussions when we're talking about policy issues and organizational issues is these are the important things for us as well, that we're getting a groundswell of people who are interested in joining at least one of those three streams. And it doesn't necessarily, as we said, not everyone is technical. Not everyone is knowledgeable about things policy. Some of the high-level policy issues that we're talking about. And as we're talking about hot topics, it's how do you bring that technical information down to a level the people can actually understand?

But there are outreach and engagement issues and there are organizational issues that people can become involved in, and that's where I think as long as people can see that diagram and can see that this is actually someplace that they can fit into and participate and feel that they're actually contributing.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks, Maureen. I'll open the floor right away with Sarah Kiden.

SARAH KIDEN: Hi, everyone. Maureen, I'm assuming that this is not [final]. So I would like to ask what happens to the other working groups. In the morning, you mentioned that three of them were merged into the one Jonathan is leading. So what happens to the other working groups?

Then the other one is a suggestion. I don't see vice chairs and secretariat mentioned, and I would like to suggest that you do the same thing that you did with the working groups. So you list them somewhere the same way you did for the working groups. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Sarah, I'm not quite sure if you saw an earlier. Did you see an earlier one where I actually had listed down a whole lot of working groups? No? Okay. I did actually put a whole lot of working groups in the original. This is like about Version 20, 25, I don't know.

I think that like, for example, if you look at the consolidated policy working group, the consolidated policy working group is actually dealing with what is on top for At-Large and looking at the various issues, sort of like hot topics for At-Large. Although I'm not quite sure how that will go down the track as far as whether they will actually create working groups to discuss, how it evolves is still to be developed. So that's probably not the best one to be talking about because they're working as a big group on issues and creating, developing ideas and stuff for statements that At-Large may need to be constructing.

But, for example, with the outreach and engagement, there used to be a whole lot of related outreach and engagement working groups. Those groups will actually still, they may be created or reformed again to actually develop, but it really depends on how Daniel and his co-chairs decide what groups need to be formed for a purpose. How long? What is that working group going to be formed for? And what information does outreach and engagement working team, what do they need that information for?

So working groups may not be the way – the traditional way of working groups may not be the way of the future. It may be the outreach team dividing up into responsibilities. But I think we just have to look at how things are done just a little bit differently. So traditional working groups may not be. Okay?

SARAH KIDEN: And then the other suggestion for the vice chairs and secretariat?

MAUREEN HILYARD: Ah, right. What we've got here is just the At-Large leadership team. We've always had an ALT, the ALAC Leadership Team, okay? And they used to meet. Traditionally, they would meet just before the ALAC meeting and discuss issues to make sure that everyone was aware of what the issues were before it was brought to the ALAC meeting.

In this instance, I'm just including the chairs. We don't want, I mean, it makes it a big group and, as Sebastien mentioned this morning, a big is not easier to be discussing things with. But it's being more inclusive to

make sure that the regional voice is actually being heard alongside the ALAC voice, the ALAC leadership, and the liaison. So that regional leaders are also getting the viewpoints of the other communities as well as the ALAC voice.

So I'm assuming that you're still going to have your – I mean, the chairs are still going to be talking to you. So they can actually bring the messages back to the regions. It's not part of – I mean, I couldn't fit everything on that chart. This is just a representation. In fact, I really just established this just for me. It was just for where do I fit in? Where does Olivier fit in? He's everywhere actually on that form. Who is [inaudible]? It's really just a visual representation of the system. But the regional leadership teams come under, of course, the leaders, the chairs.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Dave Kissoondoyal?

DAVE KISSOONDOYAL: Yes. With due respect, Maureen, but I think one doesn't exclude the other. We can have the existing organigram, but at the same time we can have another one including all the vice chairs, the secretariat, etc. You can have both.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Yeah, that would be a whole different organigram. Okay, this is really just basically looking at the working groups, the leadership team, and the ALAC. So that's what this represents, okay?

For example, this is actually only part of my spreadsheet. My spreadsheet is bigger. This is only part, and beside it there are groups. Like, for example, there are ALAC members who represent the ALAC in various committees. I haven't listed them, but they are also part of the scheme of things. But again, for my information.

So, yeah, the regional organizations, we've already got regional brochures and things like that, that show how regional organizations are actually organized. So that's outside of my area.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Okay, we have a long queue, which I'm closing. So next, we have Satish Babu, Eduardo Diaz, Sebastien Bachollet, and Humberto Carrasco. So Satish Babu is next.

SATISH BABU: Thank you, Olivier. This is, as Maureen said, a work that has perhaps been through many iterations and I would like to congratulate Maureen for putting it all together. As it is, it's very complex, so congratulations for that. I think we should all cooperate to give it a shot to see how we can make it work.

But I do understand Sarah's point about where we can include the rest of the regional leadership. My suggestion for that would be that

perhaps we can discuss this further on how we can. Because I find that several people are represented even if they are [inaudible] regional leadership. But explicitly as a group, it has not been provided for, perhaps because it will make the diagram exceedingly complex. So I think the regional folks, the RALOs and the rest of the leadership team at the RALO level, should [sit together] and see how we can support this structure without anybody feeling left out.

Another comment that I have, it is not structural but more functional, is a carryover from the previous discussions that we had about hot topics. If Maureen at the ALAC level can announce two ALAC level hot topics which are common for all RALOs, the will be good for all of us to work. But that is [a specific]. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Eduardo Diaz?

EDUARDO DIAZ: Thank you, Señor Chair. I was going to say that you might give the impression, Maureen, talking specifically about a large leadership team. Those meetings are open, so anybody can participate even though they are not here. What you are saying is that's your main group to work with, but anybody is invited to come and talk or observe or whatever they want to do. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Sebastien Bachollet?

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: I have one question for you RALO leaders. Do you consider that the two people you elect to ALAC is not representing your region?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: That's an interesting question. Let's just go to the last question and Humberto Carrasco for RALO leaders to be able to think about this one and come back to Sebastien in a second. Humberto Carrasco?

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: I am going to answer Sebastien Bachollet first because it's a question we asked ourselves in Panama in the last meeting. Sebastien, there are a few cases where, in effect, there is a distance between some ALAC members and the regional leaders. One of the things we wanted to work on when we chose the people representing us, well, there is a distancing sometimes in some of the cases. We have tried, at least from the point of view of LACRALO, to include them in our region so that they can still communicate with us and invite them to our meetings so that they can participate actively. That's difficult for us because ALAC takes a lot of time from you. And so from that standpoint, one can have a dichotomy.

Now with respect to the organization chart very briefly, I like it. It makes me understand how it works and what we want to do in the future. That's all. Thank you.

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OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you for this, Humberto. And I'd like to turn the table slightly around and ask Maureen, should ALAC members participate in the RALO monthly calls in your view?

MAUREEN HILYARD: Well, I'm from a region that has always included our ALAC members into our regional calls and participated actively and mainly through bringing in the policy discussions, trying to bring in the policy topics in a way that is hopefully more easily digestible to our membership, and also that we're part and parcel of everything that is done within the region anyway. So I think it's important that at regional level the ALAC members do participate. But I do understand that this doesn't happen, and each to its own I guess. But I do know that it's very effective. I think it works effectively in APRALO.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: As ALAC chair, you don't have something to say about this? I mean, this is your ALAC, or this will be your ALAC. Will you encourage ALAC members?

MAUREEN HILYARD: I would just like to say that I feel that the APRALO version and the collaboration that actually happens between ALAC and the regional leaders is very positive, their working together. So it is a model that I think works well and I would like to see. I think it could work, and I'm actually seeing some good developments in some of the regions already. I know it won't happen overnight.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Mohamed El Bashir, you have the closing word on this.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much. That's a big burden. In AFRALO's case, we usually have a specific, let's say, agenda item for our representative in the At-Large. By default, they participate by default. They are engaged. So I was surprised by this discussion, even why we have to have that. They are already in our agenda. They come, report to us all what they do in our behalf, any issues that they want [inaudible] for our attention, and we include them. And I guess that's supposed to be the default and standard. I'm not sure if there are any other cases [and why]. But that should be the case.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Mohamed. I'm really sorry for those people who wanted to speak, but we've really run out of time on this. I think that perhaps there's a good practice here in APRALO and in AFRALO that other RALOs could point to. Now the RALOs can point their ALAC members to that and say, "Look at what they're doing. That's what we expect of you if you want to be renewed in your seat." And the other way around, any ALAC members that find that the RALO is not taking much notice of them, they should go to their RALO leadership and say, "Well, look, this is what's happening in those regions, and I want to contribute in this way."

Let's please move on to the next thing, which is the Cross-RALO Wiki Pages Reorganization. This was actually not meant to be a discussion as such but just to let you know that at the moment the cross-RALO pages are an absolute mess. Yes, everyone knows that. We all know that there needs to be a full reorganization from A to Z. But at the same time, the At-Large review is currently working on this topic. So I would hope that when the At-Large review implementation task force works forward, and I guess that Maureen will vouch for this, the RALOs will be asked to participate directly and help with a reorganization of the RALO wiki pages.

This really is important because it's our home, our common home between the RALOs, and it's also something that end users are very likely to fall on and to arrive on. At the moment, each one of the RALO pages is different and the RALO – both on the wiki, by the way, and on the website. But it's quite a large task, and it's not something we're going to be able to fix in a matter of a few weeks or months.

The next thing is the FY20 Budget Requests Discussion. We have very little time for this one as well. You will have noticed that the budget requests have for the most not been fulfilled this year due to the shrinking budgets. There has been some alternative to the additional budget requests, which was the discretionary funds that each one of the RALOs has been allocated. This year, I believe how much was it?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: $2,000.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: $2,000? I thought it was $3,000.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: $3,000.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: $3,000 per RALO.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: No, it was $4,000.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: $4,000? Wow! $5,000! Will someone give me $6,000? $6,000 going once, going twice. Well, actually, you're laughing but this is one of the questions. Should we ask for more? That's one. And, of course, we're always going to ask for more. That's obvious. It's an easy question, but if we are going to ask for more, we need to explain why more might be needed.

And secondly, at present even the discretionary funds requests are geographically limited, which effectively means that you can only use them in your region, for meetings in your region, for events in your region. And since we have now a decrease in that travel funding through CROP, there's less CROP on one side, there's less additional budget funding on the other, would there be a good idea to actually ask – we can always ask – that this geographical limitation be lifted?

I open the floor for a few of these ideas. And please don't say, "Yes, I agree with raising the amount" because I think that – or is anybody against raising the amount?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Are we using it?]

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Reducing it, yes. Ricardo Holmquist?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: No, are we using it?

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Are we using it? I think so. Well, actually, let's ask. Heidi?

HEIDI ULLRICH: That's a very good question. I wanted to raise that myself. Some of the RALOs are using their $4,000. We're coming up to about halfway through the fiscal year, and some RALOs – in fact, I think most of the RALOs – well, APRALO has not used any. Well, APRALO has used $1,000, sorry. AFRALO has not used any I believe. EURALO has used some. You're on track. LACRALO has not used any, not in this fiscal year, Humberto, not that I'm aware of. I need to double check. And then NARALO, I know there's one that was approved, but it has not been implemented yet. But that is in planning.

So just a reminder to please, there is an online form. Please, you have it for travel regionally right now. You have it for events, ALS readouts, very useful activities there. So please do consider using that. And then the thought is if you're not going to use your full $4,000, at what point do you want to open that up so other RALOs can use it? We had that last fiscal year. Some of the RALOs did transfer some funds to the other RALOs. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Heidi. And, of course, some of the things which they have been used on are, especially last year I think when we pretty much ended the year and there was still some money left, pins, promotional materials, stickers. Stickers is a big thing at the moment. Lots of requests for stickers, and we've got a bagful of pins here that we can provide around.

Now Satish Babu has his card up. He was before you, Ali, so it will be Satish first.

SATISH BABU: Thank you, Olivier. First about the geographical restrictions on these funds, I'm not sure if we can ask for a relaxation of that, especially for global events which are not taking place in the region. A good example would be IGF which happens only in one region in a year. So if this could be opened up, it would be useful for some of the RALOs.

Secondly, the issue of sharing with other RALOs, we are open. Last year, we had done that. We had actually shared some of our funds with

NARALO. But it depends on whether we have a big event coming up. This year, we do. We have [Kobe] coming up and we will be using most of our funds for that event. So it changes from year to year. My own personal opinion about raising this funding, say to $5,000 or so, is that it will enable us to do a little bit more of outreach. We are all kind of – it is a setback for us to have lost the CROP slots, so this will partially at least cover that loss. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Satish. Ali AlMeshal?

ALI ALMESHAL: Thank you, Olivier. Actually, I have just dropped down my card because I was raising the same point of expanding the usage of that fund for outside the region because specifically for the international events. So it's the same point. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you for this, Ali. Glenn McKnight?

GLENN MCKNIGHT: Just for clarification, Heidi mentioned NARALO use of the discretionary funds. We used some of the funds for the DNS symposium in Montreal. That was the first use of the funds back in July or June. But we're pending one with Marita and us. We're doing a post-ICANN Barcelona readout in Ottawa. So we're about 50% after that event, so I think we're on target.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Glenn. Just one more thing to add. Satish, your card is still up? Oh, and Alberto Soto then, and then we'll close the queue. And I was going to say closing words on this. Alberto?

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you. I have one suggestion. I agree with the fact of releasing funds for other regions. In our case, our region has few events or the ones that we have are informed with not enough time. So one suggestion would be to have information about events with enough time so as to be able to participate. Then we can exchange information or events with regions.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Actually, each RALO has a calendar in which it should be asking its members to put all of the events that are taking place in the region. And I understand that the Global Stakeholder Engagement team is also producing such a calendar. And talking about the Global Stakeholder Engagement team, I've seen some tent cards being folded by Heidi who is taking quite some interest in Pierre Dandjinou, Jean-Jacques Sahel, Save Vocea, Rodrigo de la Parra, and Chris Mondini. If I could ask them to take to the table.

                            But in the meantime, just finishing on the FY20 budget requests discussion, I think that there seems to be agreement that we could raise this. With regards to the use of it for the global IGF, this has been rather helpful. These funds have been really helpful.

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I should just say two things. File the request early enough because it does take some time for it to be processed. It's not as long as CROP, but it still requires a certain amount of lead time since, in some cases, it requires some travel. And secondly, be creative with using those funds. Using all of those funds just for travel is not the sort of thing that we need to emphasize. There is a lot of other stuff that can be done, including the events and so on and the goodies and things that can be given away.

And thirdly, I think the last thing before I hand the floor over to the Global Stakeholder Engagement team is the reporting. If we report better on this and we report with fuller reports, it's more likely then that the next year we could actually have a raise in this. It makes it easier to demonstrate that these funds have done good things, especially not with regards to the board but actually with regards to the rest of the ICANN community, which is where most of the criticism comes from.

I've been dinged out, so let's hand the floor over to the Global Stakeholder Engagement team. Since we're in Europe, perhaps we should turn over to Jean-Jacques Sahel.

Discussion on Greater Collaboration and Communication With the GSE Regional Vice Presidents. So you have various vice presidents around. I think that they've been presented to you in previous ICANN meetings. If this is your first ICANN meeting, we have Chris Mondini for North America. Rodrigo de la Parra for Latin America and Caribbean. Jean-Jacques Sahel for Europe. Pierre Dandjinou for Africa. Alexandra Kulikova for Eastern Europe and Russia. And Save Vocea completely at

the end of the table for the Asia Pacific. And Baher Esmat from the Middle East. And Jia-Rong Low for Asia Pacific. And who else is there? And there's Patrick Jones as well for which part now? North America? Overseeing, okay, right. So there you go. We've got the full team here.

The question is really how can we have greater collaboration between this team and our teams that perform the outreach? We've seen them. Hi. They look great, and they are ready to help. But I often here then when we have our conference calls that we complain that our regional VPs are not helping or there's no communication or that we haven't heard from them. And they actually talking to me say, "So what's your RALO doing? I haven't heard from your RALO for months. What are you guys doing?" So the other way around. So maybe I can hand the floor over to you and see what can be done to improve this and whether we could actually have some kind of a plan on this, even at regional level. I know that some regions, by the way, have done exceedingly well and we've heard about it in ICANN. But others might have not had that same flow and spontaneity.

JEAN-JACQUES SAHEL: Thank you. I'll make just some remarks. Certainly from the experience from my region, we've done a lot of things together. I look at [inaudible] here, for instance, and I think just in the last two or three months we've got, what? Five different activities [inaudible]? Something like that. So thank you. Olivier, we've done quite a few things together as well. We do it regularly.

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I think if I look ahead, what I think we could very usefully do is structure our interaction and our cooperation and activities. Maybe just three aspects to think about. First, there's format. There's types of activities that are done in certain regions that might be useful to replicate in other regions potentially.

So one of the things that I've mentioned a few times to Olivier just informally to think about for Europe is a format that Asia has done quite a lot, which is the ICANN pre-meeting events or the ICANN debrief events. In places like Japan or Thailand, I think we have done that for quite a few years now. They gather the local communities. They prepare for the meeting. They exchange, etc. So that's one of the things we could think about. Not just that particular format but what is working in certain regions that we could usefully replicate elsewhere. That's one.

Secondly, I think when I look at every year we get to approve or at least certainly to look at the outreach plan that is done by our RALO. I know for the past few years certainly every time I've approved it I've said, "I'd love to sit down with your colleagues and just go through the plan, see how we can work together, etc." I think maybe we just need to – and I don't like that term, but I will use it – we just need to formalize that maybe to say at least once a year let's have a planning session together. We look at your strategic plan and we think how do we match it to what we're thinking about and then how do we implement it in practice? What sort of activities are we going to [hone in]? So that's the second one.

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A third one goes back to the tools, the enablers. And I think that links to the next session. One of the things that is very important for us is to really have a good understanding of the demand of the needs and to be able to measure how successful we are in our outreach. We've been working on our own set of data to try and measure active participation, how diverse participation in ICANN is. I've seen the tool that has been developed by Dev and the At-Large community, and I think there's a lot of [use for it across]. So I think we could also collaborate on that.

So to recap, I think it would be great to exchange on what formats, what types of outreach have worked around the world that we might be able to export or to replicate in other regions. We might be able to exchange on some of the tools that we are using like the stakeholder engagement tool that Dev has developed. And generally, certainly from my perspective, I would very much value having at least one some sort of overall regular planning meeting to just give structure to the collaboration that we've been having anyway.

So that's probably it. I don't know if any of my colleagues from around the world would like to add anything at this stage.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Rodrigo?

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: I think I will be speaking in Spanish if you don't mind, so if you want to wear your headsets. I personally believe that we need to elaborate on some of the ideas that we have been working with in Latin America and

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the Caribbean, which I believe could be used in other regions. What we do is to implement our outreach and engagement projects through our regional strategy, the regional strategy that you already know. The best way to have people to participate in ICANN is to have them as part of the committee. So this is created by a community committee. It has two seats for each interest topic. And, of course, we have RALO representatives and they participate in the outreach and engagement projects and strategy.

We also have some avenues or some projects for capacity building. We work with the LACRALO leadership, in this case with Humberto and Maritza, and in the future we will be working with the incoming leaders so as to carry out these training webinars.

And we also added a new ingredient, and this is how to promote training. For Humberto and Maritza, having this motivation tool was really important. So we implemented a program. We [awarded] people with a high level of participation, we gave them the possibility of traveling to our regional office in Montevideo to learn about what we do. And in Latin America and the Caribbean region, we have the [inaudible] of the Internet, and Harold was able to learn about LACTLD, the Internet Society.

So we work very closely as partners. When we do our [inaudible], we use our ALSes. They support us. For example, we were able to organize one in [inaudible], in Chile, in Panama. [Lia] Hernandez and Humberto Carrasco were supporting us. We also had an event in the university where Maritza works. So we're constantly communicating, and this is

very fundamental for us. We know this is an asset at ICANN in some countries of the region, so we are very happy to keep on working with you and, of course, to develop new activities for the community.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: I was prompted to also ask Jia-Rong to share his experience in APRALO region because there seems to have been some good collaboration there as well. Sorry to put you on the spot like this, but you're in the room.

JIA-RONG LOW: Thank you. Thanks so much for giving me the time. With APRALO, basically we have a couple of – we structured our collaboration in two ways. One, we actually have a structured collaboration which we formalize. So essentially we work on a document that we agree on what we can work together to collaborate every year. So last year, we updated the document a little bit. I think it was at Abu Dhabi that we shared the updated collaboration framework with this group. So we have that as the foundation of our collaboration for starters.

Now underneath that, basically we look at areas that we can work together. Among others, we talk about outreach, how to reach out to specific gaps like specific areas where we can actually go to increase the membership for APRALO, for example, or we can even collaborate with APRALO leadership to reach out to specific end user groups. So that's one area that we work on.

Now we also have another. Also [parked] under this structure is some of the more regional kind of events. So we have, for example, APrIGF, the Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum. So we collaborate. Usually, we try to do a session together. If not, we will do some collaboration engagement event there. Another area in terms of regional events is the Asia Pacific Internet Governance Forum. So we have that which we do every year in Seoul. So we invite Satish to be part of the group and he's also there as a speaker. So these are some of the regional events that we do.

And just related to outreach, coming back to this, is when we were working on the strategic plan for FY19, we had a closer collaboration this time around in terms of putting the draft together. So we discussed and talked about which are the key events we can go to or we could collaborate. So under the strategic plan, we've identified a few cases we can go together. And within the strategic plan, we have identified two key visits. One is to Vietnam which Satish should be going. And another would be to Myanmar which [inaudible] will be going. These are really greenfield places which from the AP office we are facilitating for the APRALO leadership to do outreach there. And it really ties back to the common goals that we have.

I think this is a good best practice for all of us perhaps that we can think about collaborating. Identifying common goals first, and then we proceed to do the implementation. I think this is a very good step for us as a region. So those are a few highlights. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much for this, Jia-Rong. That sets the scene for the next part of this discussion, which is actually the break. Yes, we're not going to let you people go away and just fly off in a direction for whatever purpose. The whole idea of having all the regional VPs and the GSE present here is not for them to just say hi and goodbye but to actually talk to you independently for your region. So we felt that it was maybe a good idea having discussed this with Heidi that you could take the next 5-10 minutes having a cup of coffee with your regional vice president and exploring ideas of what you could do now that you've heard some of the ideas.

But let's have a quick discussion here first with Sebastien Bachollet.

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you, Olivier. Just a quick question. It seems what I heard from the regional VP and from the RALOs that collaboration at the multi-stakeholder level works well at the regional level. Why we have not the same relationship at the global level? And maybe you RALO leaders, you need to think about that. How you can help to facilitate at the global level a better relationship because we heard this morning in the meetings that we are [fight] about the budget, we are [fight] about our engagement. But at the same time, you are at the regional level welcome. They need you and you need them. Why in hell we are not able to do the same at the global level? We need your help. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Sebastien. Satish Babu?

SATISH BABU: Thank you, Olivier. I must place on the record our appreciation for the work that APRALO has been doing with the Singapore office with Jia-Rong and his team. The collaboration has been really excellent and very constructive because even for the strategic plan we had a [setting] where Jia-Rong's [staff would organize] these meetings, including the prioritization of what we should be doing for membership enhancement.

Jia-Rong mentioned Vietnam and Myanmar are two large countries where we don't have a presence, and they were taken up. And one part of the Pacific that [Save was] [inaudible], Micronesia, [there is] a feeling that that sub-region is not covered well. So there was a priority for that as well. So I think as far as Asia Pacific is concerned, the relationship is going well.

Next year, the AP Regional IGF happens to be in Russia, which is a kind of [inaudible] boundary kind of situation. We have been attending all regional IGFs, but this one happens to be in Russia and CROP is therefore ruled out. I don't know whether an exemption can be made. So we're looking up to, again, GSE for some guidance in this matter because they have been helping us [inaudible] some of these events. Now that the CROP is cut, this becomes also very important.

So once again, in summary, we would like to deeply appreciate Jia-Rong and his team. In fact, we have this national program in India, the India School of Internet Governance, and one staff member of Jia-Rong's had come and participated for all the three days as, of course,

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Olivier will know, as part of the team. So we are very happy with the relationship. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you for this, Satish. And it was, indeed, the head of India for ICANN. So not just any staff member, or two, so there you go. Alexandra Kulikova, perhaps I should turn to you for this question regarding the next IGF in Russia.

ALEXANDRA KULIKOVA: Thanks, Olivier. Hi, everyone. Thank you very much for inviting us. Sorry for keeping you for the break, but apparently I don't have any ALSes here to have coffee with so I'm talking to you. And that's partially what I wanted to say, that it is indeed a two-way road. It's not that there is a lack of response on the GSE side or lack of response on the ALAC.

I do happen to represent a region which is among those where the RALO presence is actually quite modest, to put it diplomatically. And I see it partially as maybe a historical reason because honestly, and I see it in my day-to-day work, it's very hard to promote volunteer work. I know it's tough for pretty much everyone globally, but there is something specific about this region. This is not an excuse but just to give you extra data about this.

Also, another complication that is not unique to Eastern Europe and Central Asia is that it is split between two RALOs, between EURALO and APRALO and somehow ends up on the fringe because the other communities, the Western European and Asian, are much stronger and

have much more experience and existing relationships. So that naturally takes up the focus, and changes don't happen overnight.

That said, there are definitely opportunities for improvement and I would subscribe to everything that Jean-Jacques said in terms of tools and formats and actually proactive work together identifying or matching rather your strategic plan, which we do have access to and we do approve and we see that there is intention to work in the regions where there is less work done. And we are ready to cooperate on that, so please do come and knock on our door and let's talk. Let's have coffee after all.

Additionally, I think from my standpoint obviously I would like to see where opportunities are for this the biggest probably region geographically in GSE but which somehow gets lost in RALOs and where I can help from GSE team to make it work a bit better and promote maybe a little bit better. But at least a couple of ALSes are very active from those few that there exist both in EURALO and APRALO. And we cooperate on the platforms of IGFs, national IGFs. Ukrainian specifically and Armenian, and schools of Internet governance, Armenian School for Internet Governance. So these are very well established relationships, but of course it's not enough.

And, yes, I'm also very much looking forward to the regional IGF next year, which is in July in Vladivostok for those who haven't heard yet. It's the first time that this event is held in Russia, and I can assure you a lot of Russians are very excited about this because that's an excuse to visit Vladivostok, including myself.

But that's another important thing. It also is the year of the 25th anniversary for .ru. And the national IGF which normally takes place on 7 April, the birthday of .ru, it will be combined with the regional IGF. So you can understand that actually the Russian ccTLD will be very much invested and is very much looking forward to building this as a multi-stakeholder and very representative event.

And, of course, because it's Asia Pacific region, the IGF, we will be collaborating with my colleagues in APAC region. So it's going to be an interesting combination, but we already had success this year in Georgia, I think, which is also on the border of EURALO and APRALO, let's say, kingdoms. And it was a great event. So very much everyone who participated and took notice of this particular occasion to go out there and talk to the community.

So this said, the doors are definitely open. Let's discuss.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Alexandra. We have Alberto Soto and Ali AlMeshal. We have to end this and have our five-minute break then with the regional vice presidents. Alberto?

ALBERTO SOTO: I'm going to speak in Spanish. As ALAC, we need to have an obligation with those end users whose interests I defend. I'm going to make a suggestion to Rodrigo. Our ALSes are making an excellent job, but we don't know about it.

We have an organization in Chile that is reaching out to many end users with a very big [sample] from high schools to senior adults, and they cover the whole scope and they even provide digital [stuff] and discuss Internet issues. There's also one in Ecuador that's reaching more than 100,000 end users with activities every single year.

And we have many other ALSes that are reaching out to many end users, and ICANN is not providing any funds for this. I'm not proposing to spend more money. What I propose is to have a coordination between the GSE so that we can establish specifically what to do. Next month in Ecuador, there will be an IGF. So we need to tell them what they have to say to spread out what we need to spread out at that time.

It may be included within the hot topics as well. If we have time to prepare this, then the hot topic needs to be prepared as a specific issue. If we have no time, it should then be some kind of parochial notice. It's a notice that will reach the end users and will allow us to take this information and have the necessary feedback that we need. We can reach out to hundreds of thousands of end users in all of the LAC region. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you for this, Alberto. Next is Ali AlMeshal to close on this.

ALI ALMESHAL: Thanks, Olivier. As you have touched base on the APRALO as well, so I would say that you know that multiple [VPs] are looking after the region itself. So we have the Middle East, which is Mr. Baher Esmat. And we

have done a lot of activities with them as well in the Middle East. And even the Middle East, part of it is within Africa and part within the Asia Pacific. So speaking about the part of the Asia Pacific, there were a number of activities maybe after the break or now maybe Baher can share all of these with us. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks for this, Ali. And, indeed, maybe I don't know if Baher will share with us now or in the next session as well because I know there's a discussion with GSE as well happening in the next session and there's also a break right now that we really need to get into for the interpreters and also for us to be able to interact with our regional leaders. Pierre Dandjinou?

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Hello, everyone. I just wanted to react on one point. I have to leave at 3:30. I haven't seen any questions coming from Africa. I suppose that everything is going well. I think we have a very good relationship. And I just wanted to say in Africa we do work with a strategy that the members of AFRALO developed with us. And recently in July, we did work on our strategic plan, and Tuesday we're going to talk about it here in Barcelona.

For our friends in AFRALO, we have to make sure we communicate more about what we are doing, and especially we have to take into account the fact that the budget is not the same. We could use more of a budget. And we need to do some more sponsorship opportunities, and we need

AFRALO to work on the strategic partnerships to find more people interested in working with us. We have some very important projects to put together, so it's an appeal for a better communication about our projects and also thinking about our strategy, working together on finding strategic partnerships to deliver on our strategic plan.

That's what I wanted to say. But I think we did excellent work so far with our friends of AFRALO who are on location. So congrats to them. Thank you.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: So now we're going into a 15-minute break, and during this break the regional VPs will be able to speak to anyone from each one of the regions. So not just the RALO leaders, but of course the ALAC members and other members from each one of the regions so we can all discuss. You can discuss both in the room here in small circles our outside. I believe that coffee is being served at the moment. I would suggest outside or coffee. Thanks.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]