
ICANN81 | AGM – At-Large APRALO AGM
Sunday, November 10, 2024 – 16:30 to 17:30 TRT

YESIM SEGLAM:

Hello and welcome to the At-Large APRALO AGM 2024. My name is Yesim Seglam and I'm the remote participation manager for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior and ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy.

During this session questions or comments will only be read aloud if submitted within the Q&A pod. If you would like to speak during this session, please raise your hand in Zoom. When called upon, virtual participants will be given permission to unmute in Zoom, on-site participants will use a physical microphone to speak. Please state your name for the record and please remember to speak at a reasonable pace. I will now hand the floor over to Amrita Choudhury, APRALO Chair. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Yesim. Good afternoon, at least here, good evening or yeah, in Asia Pacific, it could be good night in some parts, to all of our members and welcome to the annual general meeting which we are holding in ICANN81. So, this is our draft agenda where we would be presenting on the APRALO's annual report for financial year 24 which Cheryl would be sharing.

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

We would have a few of our community members online and in the room sharing a few testimonials. If you all agree, we could look at adopting the annual report or we could defer it. We will also be discussing a bit on opportunities for advocacy engagement, not only in this financial year but beyond. And then we would be summarizing. But before we start, if it is agreeable to everyone and if no one has an objection, we would be adopting the agenda. Since I am not seeing any objections, we could consider it adopted.

And I would also like to welcome apart from our ALS members and individual members, we also have the ICANN GSE team in the room. We also have a few guests who have come and joined us from Istanbul and welcome to all of you here. Since we just have 60 minutes in this session, we would be meeting you after the session and we would get to know more about you and we would definitely want you to be engaged with us in future. And we would be happy to answer your questions too about what we do, what we do not do. And with this, perhaps I will pass on the floor to Cheryl who would be presenting on the annual report.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Thank you very much, Amrita. Cheryl Langdon-Orr for the record. I do apologize for my somewhat croaky voice. I have no idea why it is like this but there you go. It is my absolute pleasure to share with you in our 2024 Annual General Meeting our current annual report for the Asian, Australasian and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization. Now

we do not use all of those words obviously. We tend to just go with APRALO.

Annual General Meetings and the presentation of reports are a tiny bit formal but I would like to assure you that that smiling group of people when we had our General Assembly where this photograph was taken, not only had a collegial and highly rewarding experience when we met here in Istanbul at in fact the Grand Hyatt and we did a marathon amount of work on our Rules of Procedure Review. We are indeed a very vibrant group and not everyone associated was able to be in that picture.

Moving down now to our, I will skip the contents, we have of course got the very much respected message from the Chair and the leadership team, and I would encourage you all to take this report which someone will be doing the cleverness and popping the link in to the chat while I speak. But what it does do is work through a number of the key activities which includes but is not limited to the specific Asia-Pacific RALOs activities in outreach and engagement which has been hand in glove with GSE and of course our policy discussions.

I would just like to note that in this particular annual report it is festooned with great pictures, including the now regular at important meetings or even just monthly meetings taking a picture to memorialise the fantastic group of people that are gathering. And I would just like to note if I may, Madam Chair, the general increase that we've seen over the last 12 months in attendance at our monthly meetings. And I think that's a credit to the engagement and the active relationship that so

many of our, well, even fossils like me but the leadership team in particular are developing with our less engaged or new members of the region, in particular our expanding number of individual members as well.

One of the things as we move down through the document you will see a sort of quarter by quarter, month by month covering of key activities. Some of our favourites have been the fireside chats where we've had the opportunity to dig into some issues of either general ICANN or policy particular importance. The one highlighted in this annual report we were pleased to have Jia-Rong talk about internet fragmentation and perhaps put the gauntlet down for the current GSE leadership team to see what they'd like to come and talk to us about in 2025.

There is a number of activities where our members are deeply engaged in policy development. But what has been a privilege to watch is the active mechanism that this leadership team for 2024 has put into play where they're developing small teams on various subjects. And what you'll see on screen now is the APRLO small team on applicant support, but as you go through the document you will also find that there was an equally vital and recently showcased small team on continuous improvement. And I got to say and yes, I am very biased here but I'm not going to apologise for it, I thought our group of new kids in camp did a fabulous job of reporting on our regional CIP activities in the meeting we just finished. So, talk about leading and looking to the future. It was an absolute delight.

We've also held listening sessions. We have had the very much governance-based activity of working on a probably the most significant overhaul of our regional rules of procedure since we formed the RALO. Maureen and I, a couple of—may I call you a fossil, my friend? Okay—a couple of fossils here in the corner have been involved in a number of these rules of procedure review but this one was an incredible overhaul. And I really have to call out the fabulous work that was done by the small team but also in particular guided by Justine.

Justine Chew is an absolute star, and we are privileged to have her in our region and on the At-Large advisory committee in a leadership role. We often punch above our weight in our region and having Justine in that role and continuing in that role in this coming year is not just a feather in her cap but a feather in the caps we all wear. And there's a pretty picture of how the hard-working group gathered at our General Assembly.

Our policy discussions have been I think, from my perspective as someone who is involved with policy, a huge aid to us being able to say into things like the Consolidated Policy Working Groups discussion that there is a view or a feeling or a concern because we've had those conversations in our region in a time that suits our region. And let's face it, 19:00 UTC and 13:00 UTC are not friendly time slots for most of us. So, being able to work locally, if you can call Asia-Pacific region local, it is the largest and most diverse one we have. But to work within our construct of the region and then bring that voice forward into the broader policy discussions is again a particular feature that has advanced this year.

I'll let you read outreach and engagement at your own leisure. There has been an enormous amount of it, and you even have a ready reckoner of the RALO statistics at a glance regarding all of these engagement activities. So, Jonathan should be very excited about seeing data he does like his metrics.

This will bring us now to something we're going to move to in our very next agenda item which is some testimonials. The remainder of the document is a whole bunch of pretty pictures but look at those pictures, they are the embodiment of the diversity we have in our region. I've even dragged out one of the ancient badges which is all about celebrating diversity. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is the presentation of the 2024 report back to you, Madam Chair.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you very much, Cheryl, for within five to six minutes presenting the entire report. That's very incredible. We have a few online speakers who would be speaking very briefly to share their testimonials, and I'll just mention them not in any order but what I know of are present, Ashirwad then Nabeel, Shita and then we have Kristina in the room and we have Maureen here. So, Ashirwad, would you like to share your views?

ASHIRWAD TRIPATHY:

Thank you, Amrita. So, this is Ashirwad Tripathy for the record. So, my journey with APRALO as an ALS began in April, 2023. At first, I was a bit overwhelmed by all the discussions during the initial monthly calls, but

things started to make sense as I attended more meetings regularly. The leadership team, APRALO members, and staff were incredibly helpful to me in understanding my role as an ALS. With few of them, I've been involved in IG processes through API IGF and during the last AGM in Istanbul, I had a chance to network with other members and learn from them.

Amrita and Cheryl especially were instrumental as they suggested a few working groups that might interest me, and it helped me understand ICANN's mission and how APRALO functions within the multi-stakeholder model better. So, that's how I started contributing and by joining CPWG calls, APRALO policy forum and CIPCCG small team I could get involved. So, I want to thank all APRALO members for making my journey so smooth and for working so hard voluntarily and collectively to bring public inputs from the region to ICANN.

In my opinion, the strength of APRALOLO is that it provides a resilient collaborative platform to empower all its members. The efforts put in by APRALO to bring forth the voices of diverse regional internet users is truly commendable as we're such a large region. So lastly as a member I promise I'll continue contributing and engage with this vibrant and welcoming community. Thank you all so much. It has been a great experience so far. Back to you Amrita.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Ashirwad. Ashirwad comes from an At-Large structure. The next we will be having Nabeel speaking. He is an individual member. Nabeel, over to you. Nabeel, I think you are there.

Would you like to speak? We can't hear you. Okay. Nabeel, do you want to try?

NABEEL YASIN: Yes, can you hear me now?

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Yes.

NABEEL YASIN: Okay. Thank you very much, Amrita. Hello, everyone. This is Nabeel Yasin for the record. First, I would like to thank everyone and I'm very happy to be here and share this with you actually. As you know, for last year, of course besides all the important and heavy work done by the APRALO, measured by the team and the community, the efforts done and the many activities and meetings as mentioned in the report by Cheryl and discussions and a lot of important tasks and activities.

The APRALO team, also the leadership and also the mentor, also the whole team focused a lot on the outreach and engagement plan because as you know the APRALO is the most diverse region. And actually, they worked hard to motivate everyone to participate and contribute and engage actually. And this is a very great achievement. Also, with the knowledge transfer, capacity building and so also guiding the whole APRALO to reach to a good contribution in the whole ICANN structure.

Also, I'm very honoured to be accepted as an affiliated member and due to the high values and commitment, the honesty of the entire APRALO community alongside the clear goals and principles of diversity as Cheryl mentioned. Diversity and inclusion inspired me actually and motivated me to be part of this great community. I felt actually that every comment, every feedback is respected and well considered through the whole process with no discrimination, no influences, no bias.

So personally, speaking from my experience here, it is a great opportunity to be a part in a huge global policy making processes and effectively contributing actually in this multi-stakeholder approach or model or as Cheryl defined it as a multi-equal process which indeed a perfect and a beautiful definition. We all together working, contributing and I promise also to do my part as well. I know the efforts is not equal between all, but the contribution is equal. And we are all working towards one world and one internet. That's all from my side. Thank you very much.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Nabeel. Shita, over to you.

SHITA LAKSIM:

Thank you so much, Amrita, and thank you all from Istanbul. My name is Shita Lakshmi and I'm from Jakarta, Indonesia. I was an ICANN78 fellow and also UAM member. I consider myself a newcomer to ICANN although I have been involved in internet governance for more than a

decade. I can say that ICANN governance is very complex from the processes, for example, lots of supporting organizations, from the content, a policy development and also technical knowledge. This complexity of skills are necessary to make you able to participate meaningfully. And this answered my question as to why ICANN has been investing in capacity development throughout the years so much.

In that context I would say that I'm lucky that I'm part of APRALO because the leadership is rooted in the community and the community is active. The idea of passing information and knowledge is there. APRALO welcomes newcomers and engages us to be involved in the policy making processes. Also maintains many communication channels which made us able to navigate in this complexity. I also witnessed the get things done spirit of the APRALO leadership and also community which I hope I can give a better voice to the users in the countries of APRALO. I think Cheryl also have mentioned it very nicely on her report on how we coordinate in a small team. Thank you very much and proud to be part of the APRALO. Thank you, Amrita.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thanks so much. And I'll move on to Kristina who is in the room and then Maureen.

KRISTINA HAKOBYAN:

Dear APRALO members, esteemed colleagues and friends. Good day and it is pleasure to be with you on behalf of our ISOC Armenia. As we gather here for this annual general meeting, we celebrate our shared

mission empowering users, enhancing digital inclusivity and strengthening internet governance in the Asia-Pacific region.

ISOC Armenia is proud to contribute to the APRALO community by bringing local perspectives from Armenia and sharing insights into the challenges and opportunities we face. Our focus has been on fostering an open, secure and reliable internet ecosystem which requires continuous collaboration and innovation across borders. So, in recent years, we have been particularly committed to building digital literacy, ensuring privacy protections and advocating for affordable internet access for all.

I want to thank APRALO for providing us with a platform to exchange knowledge and build synergies across the Asia-Pacific. Together, I believe we can create an even stronger and more resilient internet that is accessible, inclusive and beneficial for every user in our region. Thank you and I look forward to our discussions and future collaborations. Dear APRALO members, esteemed colleagues, thank you very much for giving us this opportunity.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Kristina. The issue is we have all our ALSs and UIMs. We may not be able to give everyone time, but Maureen, over to you.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you. I'm very pleased to be able to present on behalf of the Pacific region and especially it's lovely to see some of our Pacific representatives from the fellows. I think one of the things that we've

sort of like been focusing on within the Pacific, of course, has been the whole digital transformation in order for us to sort of like be able to engage as well as we can. I think that this has been a really important development for us. But I think too, over this past year, the most significant thing that's actually been part of the development within the Pacific has been the partnerships that we've actually sort of like developed or enhanced because these people have always been beside us.

I think more of APNIC, for example, has always provided training whenever we had PACINETs. And at this year's conference in Wellington, they ensured that the Pacific IGF had a space to highlight some of the things that are happening within our region. They, ALDA, for example, provided at the APNIC conference an opportunity to build capacity for our Pacific ccTLD managers. And this is going to be an ongoing dialogue. And I think I'm just really thrilled that ALDA and New Zealand, our largest registries in the region are actually going to showing that support for people within the Pacific.

I think too, that we were very grateful to be able to be part of the Australian IGF. And so, that we were, again, given an opportunity to express what is important to us within. So, it's all these connections to ICANN itself that are actually giving us more opportunities. I think that one of the great things too about the group that we've got is that I know them personally and I know how much they're actually doing within their own communities. And I'm very proud of that. And I just hope that they can actually sort of become a little bit more engaged with us within APRALO, especially to take advantage of the amazing work that Justine

is doing in the policy area and that Amita does within the whole organisation. So, thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Maureen. And for adoption of the annual report, we would have to have quorum and I'm not too sure whether we have quorum now. So perhaps we could have a vote online later and adopt it. So, we will leave agenda 4 out there. Before we go to discussing the opportunities for advocacy and engagement for people who are not aware, I would briefly want the APRALO leadership team to introduce themselves. And I will start from the person sitting just next to me.

JUSTINE CHEW:

Thank you, Amita. This is Justine Chew. I'm one of the At-Large Advisory Committee members from APRALO selected by NomCom. I also have the pleasure of serving as the ALAC liaison to the GNSO Council as well as ALAC vice chair. Thank you.

SATISH BABU:

Satish Babu, member of ALAC. Earlier I was the chair of APRALO, also involved with UA Day activities. Thank you.

CHARLES MOK:

Charles Mok, ALAC AP rep to the NomCom. I'm also coming back to the APRALO family after being chair in 2010 to '11. So happy to be back.

ALI ALMESHAL: Thank you. Ali Almesal, I'm the vice chair of APRALO and I've been into the NomCom as well and back to the main family of the APRALO. Thank you.

SHAH ZAHID RAHMAN: Hello, everyone. I'm Shah Zahid Rahman. I'm currently an ALAC member. And before that, I was also the co-chair of the Social Media Working Group. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Thank you. Aris, would you want to introduce yourself?

ARIS IGNACIO: Hello and good day to each and everyone. This is Aris Ignacio and I'm also current vice chair of APRALO. Thank you so much, Amita.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Thank you so much, Aris. And so, in this section at APRALO, for those who are new out here, we would want to share that one of the activities which we are involved in is outreach engagement as well as advocacy. And this could be in many ways. While we also try to give our inputs to policies, we also do activities in the ground or our ALS members do various kinds of initiatives. It could range from having discussions on multilingual internet. It could be trainings on the domain name security. It could be also talking on internet fragmentation. We do have policy calls to debrief things to our people.

And I'll just share in the chat the link to our current outreach and engagement plan. And this is a document which is continuously being updated on what we do. We support schools of internet governance, etc. And the idea here is to brainstorm and see what other activities we could do in our region, not only in this financial year but beyond. And before we do that, I just want to call out one or two of our members to speak on what they have been doing. And this is something which I was speaking to Edwin today morning and he shared what he's been doing in Fiji to actually raise awareness of what ICANN does and why is it important for the Pacific people to be involved. So, Edwin, would you like to share a bit of what you're doing? Don't be shy.

EDWIN SANDYS:

Thank you. Edwin Sandys, ccTLD for .FJ. I'm happy to be here. So basically, what I've come to realize is depending on who comes to ICANN and attends the meetings, they have a different understanding of the structure and where each particular individual within your countries fits in. Where does the government sit? Where does the commercial entity sit? Where does the TLD sit? Now, that information essentially fades away the moment someone new comes into the picture.

So, what I've been trying to do is come up with a simplified design specifically to a particular country. So, in this particular case, I'm just focused on Fiji, but it can be adopted for the rest of the Pacific Island nations. And within that, you define the specific ministries, permanent secretaries, and even individuals that need to fit into these different

pockets. Who's supposed to be represented in the GAC? Who's supposed to be represented in the ccNSOs and the APRALOs? Who are supposed to attend? So, if we can bring it down to a very simplified version, that can be the first stepping stone to sort of just educating people before they attend ICANN. And then they'll basically have a footing for anyone new that comes in.

But more importantly, what I do is I then go and paste these pictures up around the office and give it to most of my colleagues in Fiji to say, paste it up. As people walk by, they look at it and say, okay, this is what ICANN does. And at some point, it's going to trigger. So, I think just something simple like that helps just to simplify things for people that don't understand how ICANN actually and what the big role of ICANN is in the bigger, bigger scheme of things. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Edwin. And I would like to bring in Bikram Shrestha who is joining us from Nepal. He's been doing some work on community network in the Everest. So, Bikram, over to you, if you can speak.

BIKRAM SHRESTHA:

Yeah. Thank you very much, Amrita. And thank you everyone for giving this opportunity. I just want to share, just two days back in Japan, there was an event, the Asian Oceanic Computing Industry Organization. They have awarded us for this Everest community network. We have connected internet in Everest region. It's above 4,000 meters height.

And for this award, Emerging Digital Solution and Ecosystem category, the Nepal Internet Foundation, the ALS APRALO, we got this award from Asian Ocean Computing Industry Organization. So just want to share this news to all our ALS. Thank you. Thank you, Amrita.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Thank you so much, Bikram, for this. And we'll move to Jasmine. She would be speaking a bit about what they are doing with the young teams.

JASMINE KO: Okay. This is Jasmine speaking for the record. So, for the young team, it's actually NetMission, part of the ALS. So, for those who don't know, NetMission is a network of passionate youth in Asia Pacific. So, we've been through lots of capacity building programs. So actually, recently, in these few months, what we start to have is a study group network, a group of youth that we focus on studying about the ICANN policy. And we do have monthly, also regular calls that we involve the APRALO leadership team. Thank you very much for being part of our guest speaker in our call with the young members. So, that's something that we like starting to do like from a very small step, but then we try to build more capacity with our youth network and for the pipeline of Asia leader in ICANN. Thank you very much.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Thank you so much, Jasmine. And I would bring the spotlight now to Shreedeeep Rayamajhi. He is one of our ALSs, but he is also one of the

mentors for fellows who are interested in end user perspective. And Shreedeeep is I think he has a passion for mentorship, though he's assigned that task also too. So, Shreedeeep, if you could share briefly on what you have been doing.

SHREEDDEEP RAYAMAJHI: Yes, thank you, Amrita, for giving me the spot. It's wonderful. I'm feeling very proud that the fellows are doing so good. They're engaging. Latisha, she did the outreach. Barkha, Udi, Bibek, all these people are doing excellent job. All these people are fellows. A very proud moment for all of us. And especially for me, because four of the elected ALAC members out of those four, three were my mentees. So, I feel very proud.

And the legacy, I think this is the legacy that we give to the youth, to the leaders that come here, that it's about community. It's about how we build the multi-stakeholder values. It's how we are going to transcend and build our community in a more prosperous and a more collaborative way. And it's an excellent way of how we are engaging and how we are promoting them to do the programs at their grassroots and how they are doing the change. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Thank you so much, Shreedeeep, for this. And does anyone else want to share anything briefly, or we'll go to discuss something in which we want to discuss? And I do see a Board member. Who's still a board member in the room. You can come to the main table, Edwin, if you

want. Okay. So, does anyone wants to share something? Vahan, you want to speak?

VAHAN HOVSEPYAN:

Yeah. Thank you. Well, I'm here as the Internet Society and the Vice Chair for Armenia and also the Director of ARMIX Foundation that's also part of At-Large. I want to talk about, in two minutes, well, not one minute, maybe, about the joint activity that RIPE NCC and ICANN has in the Central Asia Caucasus, and now in the Middle East. And it can be also expandable to the whole world.

It's the activity called Internet Measurement Day that is very, very beneficial for the community that wants to understand how to measure the internet and how it can be beneficial for the internet users to have the understanding how to get there and what kind of or type of quality services can internet brings to them, including the connection to the digital resources, including the connection to the critical resources, how it can be used to understand how it is good for them to have the quality services for the state and important resources from all the world to be accessed from them.

So, we have done it in this Internet Measurement Day in Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan. We did it in Armenia, Georgia, Serbia, Czech Republic, Romania, Moldova. And we have just finished it in Turkey these two days or three days ago. So, it is quite open for all the world to have it replicated and we will be glad to support the implementation of it in other areas of At-Large and all these regions. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Vahan. And we have been doing activities and for all the ALSs and individual members, I would still say revisit the Google document, which is shared. It's there in our website also, but it's shared in the chat. If there is some activity you would want to do, or you've done, there are many which are done. It's not listed. We try to collect it in our bimonthly newsletter. You could also update it there. If you need some support in terms of speakers, if it is relevant to ICANN, we could try to look at it, but give us some time so that things can be worked out.

Apart from it, I think the Next Round of gTLD is something which most of the people in ICANN are excited about and are gearing up along with the application support. We do have a session on this in the coming week, I would say. There are few countries where ICANN is focusing on, but there may be some countries where you may also help to identify, say, for example, what are the activities, if there are any potential people who can be reached out to. This is not something where you have to come up with a hard, fast idea at this point of time. Just think about it, does it make sense, what are the challenges, etc. And, Yien Chyn, if you would, do you want to share something on it a bit? She will kill me.

YIEN CHYN TAN:

Thanks, Amrita. Yeah, so specific to the Applicant Support Program, I'd say you mentioned the few economies that we're targeting. So, just for the APEC GSE team, just to reiterate, we cover India Eastwood and India Westwood with the Middle East team, some of them, so Sahara is here

as well, but I'm just covering specifically for Asia and Pacific. The targeted economies that we currently have are China, Indonesia, India, and then for Oceania, it's Fiji and Papua New Guinea. But again, as Amrita mentioned, this is not a list that were just created and stopped there. It is just a starting point, and we do want your help to identify other economies as well that you feel could be good potential to talk about ASP.

Also, on local events, if you think you need any ICANN speakers to join, please feel free to reach out. We'll try our best to provide resources as available. But also, there's the community toolkit. So, we talked about this during the September webinar. We're happy to run through the toolkit as well, but the idea of the toolkit is to provide you with the resources so that APEC members can actually attend those events and speak at those events as well. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Yien Chyn, for this. So, the idea is, though there are target countries, but for the next round, etc., if there are some parameters based upon it, if you think there may be some events in your countries, for example, an industry event which is big, or even some strategic events which are happening you could always highlight it that these are the events which are happening. If it aligns with the GSE, except what their thoughts are, there could be possible collaborations out there.

So, this is just food for thought. Perhaps we could work together in things. But obviously, we also need support. And I will put Cheryl on

the spot since she has been there witnessing the last round also. Cheryl, from the end user perspective, if we want to collaborate this next round, what is it we want? What is our ask?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Well, Cheryl Langdon-Orr for the transcript record. In terms of overall applicant support, I believe is one of the key focuses for our region. It's not just because we do have various parts of underserved spaces, be they communities or economies in our region, but it was an appallingly low number of applications in the last round from our region. So, whether or not we are keen to get just more possible new names applied for from the Asia-Pacific region, whether or not we want to ensure that the language diversity and the opportunity that internationalized domain name-based names for new gTLDs will offer.

And there is a great number of benefits in this round compared to the last round. So, there really isn't as much of an excuse not to do better in our region. And of course, we honestly need to do better in getting our messaging out, which is the challenge of course, working with GSE. I know it's very easy to think only in one part of Asia-Pacific, but we have at least five definable sectors which have vastly different needs. And we really need to focus specifically on the messaging that is going to work best for them.

It doesn't mean that we're going to get more successful applications, but we must try and get more applications, whether or not they're applicant supported or branded or something else. Just got to do better. We are the majority of the population with the greatest diversity

and less coverage of names specific to our needs. Respectfully, of course, appreciating the work that .Asia does, but that's not enough.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Cheryl, for it. I think Satish wants to speak on the UA Day, but does anyone want to speak on the next round from the APRALO region? I will bring in Jonathan towards the end to summarize his thoughts, but anyone else? So, for the people who are new, don't get confused. It's not, as in you'll get habituated to it. I can see Aviral's face is blank, even Sucheta's, but don't worry, you will get there. So, I guess not. We move to UA Day. This is Universal Acceptance Day. Satish, over to you.

SATISH BABU:

Thanks, Amrita. This is Satish for the record. So, you might have heard of this thing called the UA Day, which started a couple of years ago. This is our third year. There are certain things that have changed now, and this is an update for all of us. The first is that the UA Day scoring was actually done by the UA Coordination Group, but from this year onwards, we have volunteers from At-Large also participating in this process, which is good. It indicates the kind of broadening of the base of the UA Day.

The second important development is that the first time ever we have a representative of UNESCO as a part of this scoring group. So, UNESCO has actually announced its collaboration with ICANN on UA Day, but it is the first time that they're actually joining the scoring part. So, the

scoring process is just over now and over the next week or so we'll have the results.

The third point is that we have a bunch of constraints. We have very good proposals from our region, but the main constraint is that ICANN has said that if anybody wants to use ICANN's logo or get money from ICANN, there has to be a contractual relationship. And ICANN's legal is limited to 50 contracts at a time. So even if there is no budget, we are unable to disburse this amount because ICANN's legal is unable to kind of scale up in terms of-- So, the situation is that we have actually very good proposals.

Number one, we are saying one proposal per country. Now this is of course very unfair to big countries, but there's nothing we can do about it. Second is that there is budget, but we are not able to disburse more than 50 national and 5 regional events because it's constrained of 50 plus 5, 55 max. So, this is something that we had to bear with us and over a period of time, we'll try to kind of remove this roadblock. But for the current year also, we have the same problem.

So please do not be disappointed if your good proposal does not get funded because some other proposal in your country gets funded. So, this is reality. This is just an update for all of you. Thank you. Back to you, Amrita.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Thank you, Satish. A sad reality indeed. But I think Yien Chyn had some points to make about the next round. After that, I will call in Sebastien and then Jonathan.

YIEN CHYN TAN: Sorry, it's not specific to the next round, but I did want to take this opportunity to thank the APRALO leadership team and members for your great work because I think you all did a great job in bringing in newcomers. I see a few here. The JSC team is very lean as you all know, so we can only do so much in terms of sharing overview to get people in. But it's really all of you that make it possible to teach the newcomers and actually share with them hands-on experience, what you actually feel day-to-day as a community member. And that's a very important thing to have. So, I do want to share my appreciation here to all of you. Thank you very much for your work.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Thank you so much, Yien Chyn. We normally work together and that's how we're in APRALO. So, we are a team in that. So, I believe Sebastien wants to say something.

SEBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much, Amrita. With two different hats, the first one is that a Board member of one, but not a representative of one, APRALO ALS. I would like to thank you for the report made for our members during this General Assembly. And with the other hat as the chair of EURALO, as we will have our General Assembly in two days, as we are

just in between the two regions, that's a good sign. And I would like to really appreciate the work that we are doing together. And more particularly, I would like to appreciate the work done by your representative in many, many items and groups. You lead the work of all RALOs and At-Large, and I like in general, and that's great. We appreciate it a lot. Thank you very much.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Sebastien, for the kind words. Jonathan, if you would like to say something as chair of ALAC.

JONATHAN ZUCK:

Something? No. It's an old, old joke. I was very intrigued actually by the presentation about Fiji, because I think that having a better understanding of identifying how to get to the right person or the right audience within a large institution is something that is increasingly going to be valuable to us to try and figure out in the context of universal acceptance, for example, a lot of the target audience for this outreach are going to be trying to find the right person within a large institution.

Looking for the right people within communities and multi-tier organizations that might be interested in applicant support is about finding the right person sometimes and doing what we sometimes call retail outreach as opposed to a broadcast kind of outreach. And so, I think that the work you did in Fiji is very interesting in that respect and we ought to try to see what we can learn from it to do more of this kind of targeted retail outreach. Because if we learned anything from the

2012 round, building it is not enough to make people come, right? That's the old saying, if you build it, they'll come.

And no, they won't, it turns out, right? You need to hand deliver an invitation to the people that you want to come to the party. And I think that's going to be one of the lessons going forward into this next round. If the At-Large community and particularly the APRALO community, the Asia Pacific community want to see more applications and hopefully successful applications in that region, I think it's going to require retail outreach and finding that right person.

But beyond that, as far as kind words, it's without question what Sebastien said, there's a great deal of leadership from APRALO in terms of thought leadership, in terms of how to do education at the RALO level. I think is these fireside chats and things like that are very innovative and certainly the representatives that this RALO is sending into the leadership community all do a very good job of distinguishing themselves. So, definitely keep up the good work. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Jonathan. And I would like to bring in Seher. She's from the GSC team and from Turkey. So, Seher, over to you.

SEHER SAGIROGLU:

Thank you, Amrita and thank you very much for bringing this meeting together with our local stakeholders. Taking the opportunity of having mic, I would love to welcome Linux Users Association and Internet Technologies Association and ISOC Turkey Chapter. They're so kind

being with us today. And speaking of outreach and engagement activities, I have been working as a stakeholder engagement person in Istanbul for last four years and I have been trying to explain what ICANN does. Thank you for preparing all these engagement tips and ideas for us to leverage this message.

But at the same time, I know that as an ICANN staff, I know that our scope is quite limited with DNS, but time to time we need to look back to our local partners, what else that we can work on together, right? UA, next round, these are very important topics that this is my job to increase awareness around this, but we are very diverse group. We have so many different specialties. We have so many different voices from different organizations. I think we should just work hand to hand and increase our scope of-- the scope of collaboration should be expanded and we should also turn back to our local voices to understand how we can work better together. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Seher. We have Samiran in the room. So, before he says a brief hi, I would also like to introduce the ICANN support team with us. Gisella, who's sitting next to me. We have Heidi and Yesim. Quickly, can you come here so that people can see you?

GISELLA GRUBER:

Thank you very much, Amrita, for allowing us just to also introduce ourselves. Gisella Gruber. I work with the Asia Pacific region, I also work with the EURALO region, and I'm delighted to have everyone here and

some new faces and welcoming our Turkish guests. Thank you very much for joining us and Seher for bringing them in. It's very much appreciated. And we look forward to continuing all the work that we have done together and taking note what has been said at this meeting and hopefully taking it forward with the wonderful APRALO leadership that we have as well as working in close collaboration with GSC. Thank you very much. I'll hand the floor over to Heidi.

HEIDI ULLRICH:

Thank you, Gisella. And thank you, Amrita, for inviting us to the table. I wanted to stress that within ICANN, we policy, the support staff for At-Large, work very closely with the GSC team on particularly this next year will be next round Applicant Support Program and definitely UA Day. So, when they're speaking, I'm absolutely nodding my head, and I work very closely with them internally and then with all of you in the community. So, I just can't stress that enough is how important that these programs this next year will be. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Heidi. I know Yesim is sitting at the end.

YESIN SEGLAM:

Yeah. Thanks so much, Amrita. This is Yesim Seglam based in the Istanbul office. I'm the policy support specialist, supporting At-Large and lovely to have our Turkish guests here with us. Thanks so much, Seher, for your support in the coordination as usual. Much appreciated. Thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Thank you so much, Yesim. Samiran, last words.

SAMIRAN GUPTA: Thank you for giving me the last word, Chair. So again, it's great to be here, but more importantly, okay, thank you. I'd like to invite all of you to join us on Tuesday at Apex space at 4:30 pm. I think it's the room Yildiz 1, down the hall on the right. Hope to see you there. And I apologize for coming so late to this meeting. I've been between meetings. I just hope that you had a good meeting. So, thank you.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Thank you so much, Samiran. And thank you to all the fellows who are there. Some are sitting behind. Some are sitting in the table. For all of you to be here, our ALS members, people who are our friends from the other RALOs, and the chair and everyone who's been here, and the interpreters who has been supporting us till the end. Thank you so much for being here. We would be having certain action items, and we would be sharing it in due course. Thank you so much for being here. Gisella, do you want-- We do have a picture, right, to be taken, Seher, yes? Do you want to give the announcement?

SEHER SAGIROGLU: I am looking for the photographer right now and I don't see her, but it would be nice if we just get together in two minutes so I can call her out. We can take picture outside of this room.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY:

Thank you so much, Seher. I'm so sorry for the people online. We will be taking a physical photo, but you will be mentally with us. And thank you so much.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]