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BEIJING – Local Engagement and Outreach Chinese ALSes Forum  
Thursday, April 11, 2013 – 08:00 to 09:30  
ICANN – Beijing, People’s Republic of China

UM: All right, we’re going to get this going. This is the Local Engagement and Outreach Chinese ALSes Forum. This is Function Room 5 BC. Scheduled to begin at 8:00 and will continue through to 09:30. The session should begin.

HONG XUE: [Chinese 00:00:27] I’m not sure whether to speak Chinese, but please go ahead. We want to see you. We want to see these young faces, so please don’t be shy. [laughs] Come here and join us. Well, thank you very much. Okay, yeah, this really looks like a forum. Foreign names. This is the place for equal standing discussion.

Oh yeah, so there’s no seating plan. You can sit wherever you want. Oh, wow. [laughter]

UM: Ni hao.

HONG XUE: He speaks Chinese, wonderful! [laughs] They all speak Chinese! Australia is almost a next-door neighbor, it’s very close to China. And she’s showing her muscle. This is [inaudible 00:03:30], the APRALO

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*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.*

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Chair, [laughs] Holly Raiche. She's very Holly, yes indeed. So thank you so much. Thank you for your company. [applause]

[Chinese 00:04:10] Stop eating, this is the time for...

UF: She said she would like to start a meeting by inviting some of our ICANN Leaders to give us maybe some thought or opinion or anything.

HONG XUE: Sorry to interrupt your eating, you are enjoying the food. Now it's time for speeches. In number one, anything you want to deliver to Chinese community, this is for young people and old people, yeah, okay. [laughs]

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much Hong, and thank you for allowing me to say a few words. I must say, I haven't prepared at all, but one of the things which I did want to convey to this community is that Asia, Australasia and the Pacific Islands region in the At-Large organization is a huge, huge area.

It's... Well, it is the largest region that we have, and among that region the Chinese-speaking community is one of the most active, should I say. Primarily because of the IDNs. There is such a challenge with regards to the variants project.

I mean, when I look at the amount of work that has to be done in this field and I see the number of public comments that have been asked of the community, it something that not everyone understands of course.

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You have to be able to speak and write Chinese to be able to comment on this.

But we have managed to produce so many statements on these, which have been very valuable indeed. The interesting thing is that not only do we take part in the statements, but many of our members from this community are involved in the Working Group themselves, so it's always very welcome to have the input from the community in the processes but also in the commenting afterwards.

And I do urge you to continue supporting those people who are very much involved, and I wanted to specifically thank three people whom I've worked with very closely on much of this work. The first one is actually in the room next door; she is Rinalia Abdul Rahim. And she's in the Fellows room at the moment because she has to be with her Regional Fellows... Not Fellows, sorry, other ALSes as well.

The second one is Edmon Chung. He has been our IDN Liaison for many years and he has been leading the IDN Working Group. And the third one is Hong Xue. You've managed to keep this whole idea in variants and all that in check. It's always good to have more than one point of view and between Rinalia, Edmon and you, you have managed to produce some absolutely excellent work.

And I know that your community has supported you throughout this, so I really do thank you and thank the whole community for continuing to make sure that At-Large is actually receiving a lot of respect for the work that we do. So thank you. [applause]

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I just wanted to close off that IDNs are not the beginning and the end of the involvement of the Chinese community; our Chinese-speaking community in At-Large. I would like to see more involvement in other statements as well. You don't just need to focus on one subject area – if there are any other subject areas that you are interested in, you are very welcome to take part.

When you look at the population ratios in the world, there is a significant population ratio, and when you look at the growth in both... In Internet use, this is the fastest growth and with still a huge potential. So I'm looking at this also in the number of statements and in the involvement of the Chinese community; there is a huge potential for involvement in At-Large, and I do hope that you seize this opportunity to make your voice heard. So thank you.

HONG XUE:

Thank you so much Olivier. All this from a speech? Wonderful! So you don't need any preparation at all? You're very spontaneous. Thank you so much. Oh yes, thank you for mentioning the IDN issues in the Chinese community. We are pretty active on that issue. But besides that, we're interested in other issues.

Of course, an example is the WHOIS. I know it's the next... Oh, no, there's two, three, oh no, there's three experts on this issue and one is smiling... One is serious. [laughs] Let me move to those three experts on data protection, privacy and... They are very, very productive.

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They drafted so many documents as ISOC and keep us busy with reading these documents. Shall we start with the lady? The lady Chair of APRALO; let's welcome Holly. Thank you.

HOLLY RAICHE:

Thank you Hong. Carlton and I just spent a lot of time yesterday probably boring everybody with WHOIS and the associated issues with it. The thing I think, and I'll just take a minute, one of the issues in that whole context of the RAA, which is the Registrars Accreditation Agreement, the agreement between Registrars and ICANN.

That agreement has, I suppose, as part of its amendments that have been agreed, now provisioned for what's called a Privacy Proxy Server. That is, you as an individual or a business or whatever, you have – if you're looking for a domain name and you have concerns about having the person data of yourself made available, you can use a Privacy Proxy Server.

And now there are some rules around what that looks like. There are some temporary rules, and down the track they'll be developing a more permanent specification, but it will be a way of balancing an individual's privacy needs with the legitimate needs of law enforcement agencies, other government agencies, to have access to that information.

It's always a difficult balance to strike, but it's one that we're working through very carefully and it's a big issue that we will be involved in for some time to come. And by the way, welcome everybody to APRALO. Thank you.

HONG XUE:

Thank you so much Holly. That is a wonderful topic. Actually, the Chinese community is interested in this data protection issue, especially we are developing the law of data protection; privacy protection. China mainland area has been very backward on data protection but we are building the law, and one of the drafts of Chinese privacy law.

So we shall keep you posted. I know Carlton has been following this very closely. He even read Chinese law in the draft, he sent it to the mailing list, so impressive. And he is on the expert group, so please tell us, what is happening in the expert group? [laughs] Show your expertise please.

CARLTON SAMUELS:

Thank you Hong. Hello everybody. My name's Carlton Samuels, I'm the Vice Chair of the ALAC, and I'm the Chair also of the WHOIS At-Large Working Group and I'm from the Caribbean; I'm from Jamaica. We have lots of longstanding connections to China from where I come from and it continues to this day with new relationships building, some quite familiar with Chinese situation.

One of the things that's very important... Olivier spoke of the growth of the Internet user community in China, and the prospects of even more growth, with over half a billion users in China alone. The balance is shifting directly to the East and that means it should see more involvement of the Chinese community in the ICANN enterprise, and we are actually looking forward to that.

The WHOIS especially, with a guard to extending the protocol and the practice, to be able to address the idea of Internationalized Domain

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Names and having access to that data is very important. This is where we will need your help, especially in the WHOIS community, because we will need the expertise of Chinese-speaking and people who have direct association and direct experience with Internationalized Domain Names, to help us get our policy perspective right.

So I'm urging all of you to join the Working Groups, sign onto a Working Group and help us to be prepared for the next generation of WHOIS. As Hong mentioned, I'm a member of the Expert Working Group, and what we are doing right now is trying to look over the horizon to see what the registration data, services, should be for the New gTLD space. It's important for us to get as many inputs as we possibly can, and there are going to be opportunities to speak to this group and to the WHOIS group in general.

And again, I urge your participation. We really do need you. We can't do this alone. We simply don't have enough experience and expertise with non-Latinized scripts to make this work. I want to say one more thing, and this to congratulate Hong and the participation in the At-Large adventure.

She's been particularly strong and been my ally, especially on Trademark Clearing House issues, with the matter of local trademarks. We were probably the only two who saw that they were important for us for various reasons, and she has been a strong advocate and support and I want to thank her publicly for that. [applause]

HONG XUE:

Thank you so much Carlton. Yes, indeed. You just reminded me – in early days we were the only two that rose to protect the community trademark, not only the international brands. I still remember that very clearly. Now it seems it's critical. ICANN just simply overlooked the need for a Chinese community. Yes, it's a wonderful intervention.

And we have our dear friend Evan. Oh, I met him in 2006 in San Juan and we worked together very closely from 2009 at the first At-Large summit. He was the Chair of At-Large New gTLD Working Group. I was so impressed by his skill of coordination and the writing – he has a degree in journalism. This is a journalist with wonderful writing.

I'm not the person who's jammed the mailing list by sending 1,000 emails every day, but one email that Evan opposed comments, documents, I never replied. So you see, I'm reading, I take note of you. So please, Evan, your comments on the policy issue or the engagement issue. Please, you have the floor. Evan.

EVAN LEIBOVITCH:

[laughs] Thanks very much. That's a very difficult introduction to work with. I very much appreciate that. Rather than speaking about specific policies, I would just like to first of all thank you all for being here. It is a challenge to be involved in ICANN at this level.

I found even coming in as a native English speaker that understanding the language of ICANN has been a challenge. It much be many, many times more so for people who are not native English speakers. You may

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note that one of the few rooms in this conference that has interpretation facilities is the At-Large room.

We have gone out of our way from the very beginning to make sure that the At-Large community has been, probably, the most globally diverse within ICANN. It's something of which we are proud, but it's also something that performs a very, very important function.

As businesses and the interests within ICANN that are here to try to make a business out of the Internet, try and advance their interests, it is imperative – it is absolutely necessary – that end users of the Internet, and that is us, have to be active.

Not only in being loud about our interests within ICANN, but also making sure that what ICANN does and how ICANN affects people is understood in every language, in every country, in a way that allows people to be aware of what is going on and how to use the Internet easily, safely and properly.

And so for that, again, I thank you. I encourage you not only to persevere with the challenge of understanding ICANN, because I understand it is difficult, it is difficult for everybody. So please persevere. It is a very, very worthwhile task. Not only because we need your input, but also because we need you to help the local community understand the issues, understand how the Internet and ICANN impacts global Internet users.

So without speaking on specific policies, I invite you all to get involved as you would like, help spread the interests of end users within ICANN, and

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information about ICANN within the community, and I especially want to thank Prof. Xue for the work that she has done.

And it has been a delight hosting here when she came to Toronto and I'm honored to be the guest of you and for the Chinese community coming here. Thank you very much. [applause]

HONG XUE:

Thank you so much Evan. Thanks for those lovely words. Thanks for mentioning the language barrier and the translation policy. This is absolutely important to the Chinese community. Oh, and last but not least we have another non-Chinese-speaking friend, we are privileged to have him.

He is hiding behind but he is an important man. Come on! Identify yourself. This is a [vast? 00:20:59] man, this is the At-Large Director... Come on, a very important person. Don't be shy. Well, Sebastian is in many aspects like a Chinese. He is shy. He is [bright/boring? 00:21:21]. He is mild. He is not aggressive at all; very friendly and nice. [laughs] Just like Chinese. This is another Chinese on the Board.

So please, you will introduce yourself and give a comment to the Chinese community please.

SEBASTIAN BACHOLLET:

I will not repeat what the others say on privacy but I really support what Evan just said. It is important, the engagement. And I am Sebastian Bachollet, I have the honor to be elected by the At-Large community to

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be the first Director on the seat-15. I need to show you something... [laughter] Just like that. You can remember that the seat for the At-Large is the last one created and it is the number 15.

I come from France. I started at ICANN in 2001 in Business Constituency and then a few years after that I became the Chair of the French ISO Chapter and I helped to build the EURALO – the European Regional At-Large Organization and still then I am involved with the end-use voice at the level of At-Large, ALAC and now on the Board.

It is not an easy task, because when you are alone to be the voice of the end-use, I will not say that the others don't take care or don't feel some times that they need to take care of the end user, but I can tell you that it's a day-to-day struggle to remind them that at the end, any decisions they are taking will affect us, will affect the 2 billion users.

And there are a lot of topics where it's happened from the New gTLD to the IPv6 deployment to the question of secrecy within the SEC. We can think that it's a technical subject, but no, it's a real topic at the end of the day. We will need to be able to use it and if we don't use it we will have difficulty with security I think, in the DNSSEC.

And I want to emphasize what Evan said: it's important that we have a real diverse community, diverse participants, and you are... It's a euphemism to say, you are a big country. You are part of the future of this world and you will have more end-users than any other country, then get involved, participate, put out your voice.

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We have the chance now at the main meeting facilities, six languages including Chinese. And this afternoon at the public forum, all the public forum will be interpreted into the six UN languages; English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Russian and Chinese – if I’m not mistaken. So take this opportunity also to use your language, to come and deliver your thoughts in your language.

Because English, it’s the *lingua franca* but it’s sometimes difficult to express your own idea in a foreign language than use your language. And you will be welcome to. Thank you very much and Hong, really, I want to say that I really appreciate all you are doing. And when I say that, I know where you live.

With all the difficulty you get sometimes to get in touch with us, to stay connected, to be able to exchange with us, it’s a challenge for us, because we do a lot of work, we spend long hours in communication, but some countries in this world; in the middle of Africa, here and in some other places where it’s even more difficult. And I appreciate a lot your engagement. Thank you very much Hong.

HONG XUE:

*Merci beaucoup.* That’s some French I learned from Sebastian. [laughs] Thank you very much and thanks for all the French. Now, our friends from the Chinese community know these wonderful leaders, so they are all new channels to express well to ICANN – you see they’re so nice and smiling and friendly. So don’t be frightened away and don’t be frightened by the language barriers.

I guess as many kind volunteers would like to translate for you. For now, the comments will be converted into Chinese language; will be in Chinese only, I'm so sorry there's no translation for you. Oh yeah, so I appreciate so much for your presence here.

You are welcome to stay to practice your Chinese, but you have other engagements, I know you have other meetings. You don't have to. I don't want to force you to stay. Thank you very much. Let's thank them and welcome them again. [applause]

[Chinese 00:27:02] Oh, I'm so sorry. Sorry. You're welcome, okay. Sophia?

SOPHIA [FENN?]: [Chinese 00:28:57]

[Various people introduce themselves in Chinese]

HEIDI ULRICH: Good morning, Heidi Ulrich, ICANN Staff and At-Large Director. So I'm the Director for the At-Large support.

[Various people introduce themselves in Chinese]

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HONG XUE: [Chinese] Oh yeah, thank you so much. This lady is very willing to help you and her major is simultaneous translation so it's professional.  
[laughs] You're welcome.

[Various people introduce themselves in Chinese]

HONG XUE: Thank you. Please speak up loudly, we have to shout at each other. Yes? Oh, yes. Will you please turn up that one? Thank you, thank you, you are so kind. If you wish, this lady can provide an interpretation service for you?

That's all right. Oh, you're leaving? Oh right, I know you have another meeting, you have to chair that. Thank you so much for being here.  
[Chinese 00:36:13]

UM [President]: [Chinese]

HONG XUE: [Chinese]

UM: [Chinese]

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[Various questions, answers and discussion in Chinese]

RINALIA ABDUL RAHIM: My name is Rinalia Abdul Rahim, [Chinese], but I live in Hong Kong.  
Thank you very much.

[Further discussion in Chinese]

HONG XUE: [Applause] Thank you to all my friends and we will now adjourn the meeting. Thank you very much. You can close down my system. Thank you Heidi, thank you very much. [applause]

**[END OF TRANSCRIPT]**