Fatimata Seye Sylla:  (speaking French)  They told me about problems at the reception and they told me they were not aware of it.  Shall I repeat what I just said?

I think it’s a problem that is so significant, welcome, everybody understood welcome – I don’t need to say it again. The issue with the hotel is very important. When I saw the exchange of emails yesterday morning I was shocked, and so I came back here and I called the Ministry of Tourism because we made transactions and we thought it would be better to talk to the main authority, the main person in charge – two members in charge were with me. You saw them, maybe Michel saw them – the two ladies who were with me? They are from the Ministry of Tourism and we went to see the administration of the Hotel [A’mede].

We told them about all your concerns and they told us that they would be working on it to improve the conditions. I am going to continue to see. It’s going to be a problem for me but we don’t have a choice. I have to do the follow up and it was a great deception because ICANN staff had performed a visit there and they had received assurance, guarantees. So I don’t know what happened during the last visit – why conditions were not met. But
I apologize. Please accept my apologies, but honestly this is a great deception for us and we believe we’re going to fix things.

Something else I would like to add is that when I came to the hotel I heard complaints such as in a room there was no running water, hot water. I’m on the same floor and I do have hot water and the administration said that it was not indicated, that nobody had told them that. So they sent someone. Even [Amark] had problems in his room and as soon as he said that the problems were solved quickly.

I don’t know if the problems that you have, especially in the main building, if you have called the administration and complained about them… If that was the case and the problem was not solved then absolutely you can raise your voice. This is what I wanted to tell you regarding this problem.

Welcome and I hope… Of course the hotel is going to be different, especially for people who come from the north and the west. It will be new for you but these are things that happen that are part of the training and culture, and any trip, I’m sure you will see other parts of Senegal that might be more appealing and might make you forget these issues. Again, we are in Africa, not everything is like in Washington, D.C., or Paris. Last time I was in Paris I was in a hotel and I wanted to cry, the hotel was so bad.

But this is part of our experiences, life experiences; but it was very expensive and very obsolete, very old and I have never seen a hotel like that but I went along with it because the stay was short and my
work was much more interesting, and I forgot about these issues. So honestly I do apologize but at the same time please let’s see the other interesting and nice aspects. Internet for Sunatel was called in and when we had called, we had asked Sunatel to cover Le’Meridien and also the state information agency was called in and they were supposed to cover Le’Meridien but we didn’t ask them to cover other hotels.

And only last night I was with one of the persons in charge and they went to [A’mede] and are trying to see what they can do so that people can have internet in the rooms. But they did open the great room, the conference room for 300 people as available to us. These are internets and they work on their computer. They wake up at 2:00 or 3:00 AM and they want to open their computers. I wasn’t able to do it because there was no internet in my room. There’s internet in a few rooms but not all of them, but we’re working on the issue, thank you.

I’m going to give the floor to Tijani who will make a small introduction before we give Olivier Crépin-Leblond the floor so he can open this program. Thank you.

Tijani Ben Jemaa: Hello, everyone. I don’t agree with Fatimata. I was in Senegal before and I can tell you that it was a very good hotel and Senegal is a fantastic country, so the experience of [A’mede] is an issue. They’re working on it, it will be solved I hope but Senegal is a great country. Africa is great. I remember San Francisco – it
wasn’t very good. The hotel wasn’t very good so let’s forget about this. Let’s find answers. You’re here – it wasn’t easy to bring you here. It’s because thanks to a lot of work and a lot of people that this was made possible.

I’m not going to tell you how we were able to bring you all here to Dakar. We made a lot of efforts from several people, among them Cheryl who supported us in this idea to do this capacity building and I have to applaud her efforts.

[Applause]

Tijani Ben Jemaa: And then Katim Touray, he is a Board member, Jean-Jacques Subrenat who really assisted us too, so we could do this capacity building program. We should not forget also Olivier Crépin-Leblond’s efforts, the ALAC Chair who was able to install this solidarity spirit in At-Large so we could have this money, these funds to bring you here. So EURALO and LACRALO should be applauded, two At-Large Regional Organizations of Europe and Latin America/Caribbean. I would like to salute all of these people.

And also big support from the staff, all of the staff – we have a fantastic Heidi, Gisella, Matt, Seth. They’re fantastic, and Marilyn.
[Applause]

Tijani Ben Jemaa: So I would like to applaud all these people who made this possible, this program possible. Our training program will last through Thursday. Every morning we will start at 7:00 AM and we will end at 9:00. And then on Monday we have an additional session from 9:00 to 11:00. And the people who do the organization during the meetings had to postpone after the early session, so Monday would be from 9:00 to 11:00 but on other days it would be from 7:00 to 9:00 AM.

Listen, these sessions, these training sessions are very important and if we fought hard to make them possible it would be for you to have the knowledge and the information necessary so you can participate actively in all activities organized by ICANN. Especially I would like to start with your participation during the monthly teleconferences of AFRALO. It’s very important and if we are not able to do this we have wasted our money, our time and made efforts for nothing. The final objective, the main objective of this training is that you will participate in the future in all ICANN activities – the working groups, teleconferences. It’s Africa’s voice that must be heard and can only be heard through your own participation.

So I’m going to stop here and I will open the floor to Fatimata.
Fatimata Seye Sylla: Thank you, Tijani, for these explanations. I would like to go to Olivier who will announce the opening of this work session.

Olivier Crépin-Leblond: Thank you, Fatimata. I am absolutely very happy to see so many people around this table and to have all our African countries who can participate here and we can see each other directly. A meeting such as this one is absolutely necessary because only talking through the phone is okay; we hear people, we don’t know what they look like, we don’t really know them. And then when we see, not only can we discuss about questions, issues on the table but outside of the meetings we can exchange a lot of ideas among ourselves, and this creates a region that is able to progress and maybe go faster in its progress.

And I’m really happy to see that our call was heard all over and all the ALSes are represented here. This is a first for Africa and the program organized by the Executive Committee of AFRALO is really fantastic considering the budget, the very small budget that was given. The team created a working group that did fantastic things and I hope you will be able to take part in all the program has.

Every morning there’s a start with the capacity building – this is very important. There’s a Showcase this afternoon, a lot of things this afternoon and you will be able to go to all the meetings, ICANN meetings and really feel directly the bottom-up system. So it’s not really clear – in France it’s from the top to the bottom,
but here it’s from the base to the top. So I just learned something and I’m here only for a few minutes – that’s fantastic!

So I would like to talk about logistics issues. Once a year in Cannes we have the Festival of Films, movies, and it has become the international capitol of movies. A few years ago the personnel of hotels made a strike – we do that a lot in France – and there was no breakfast, no bar, no nothing. You could bring a sandwich, your bottles that you bought outside. It’s not in the African culture to do strikes; it’s rather in the French culture to do strikes, unfortunately. I hope the logistical issues will not create too many problems during your stay and I hope everything will be fine.

I’m not going to continue any further. We are a bit late so now I’m going to give the floor to Fatimata and I thank you very much for taking the time to have a one-week stay with us, and I hope you will have a fantastic stay and you will be able to talk among yourselves and bring back a very positive message for your country and for the development of internet in your own country. Thank you.

[Applause]

Fatimata Seye Sylla: Thank you, Olivier. We applaud Olivier for his continuous support. I hope it was not an invitation so that Africans can continue to dream. We have inherited a lot from France and we
have a tendency to dream a lot. It’s an experience that will not be very useful, that is true. Thank you, Olivier.

We will start right now with the real issues. I would like to tell you one thing first. In the document that you have, in the orange file you have the all the workshop programs and you also have information with regards to ICANN meetings. Here also in this you have these key documents that you can read and we invite you to participate in all the meetings, especially At-Large meetings. The next one will be at 9:00 AM in this room so after the training session there will be another one organized by At-Large.

Without further ado I would like to give the floor. We are going to start the program of ICANN’s role in internet infrastructure and we have two wonderful ladies with us today – Mandy Carver, who is the Assistant General Director of Global Partnerships and we also have Anne-Rachel Inné who is the Director of Regional Relations in Africa for ICANN. Without further ado I would like to open the floor for Mandy – welcome, Mandy – who will share with us her own experience. And we will be able to do a Q&A after both presentations. Thank you very much and welcome.

This is how it should happen because she’s from Senegal. Senegal is the host so she should be starting, Hadja. Thank you and you have the floor.

Anne-Rachel Inné: Thank you very much, Fatimata, and thank you, AFRALO, for inviting me. It’s fantastic. I love orange – it’s AFRALO’s color.
Welcome, welcome to the continent, welcome to Senegal. Like Fatimata said, this is my second home and I am very happy to be here with you.

Mandy and I, we are going to present you ICANN’s role within internet infrastructure, and I will try to go quickly because this week, there are other groups who are undergoing a training. I have to leave at 8:30 to go to [A’mede] hotel where you are at right now and I’m really sorry for all the issues and the difficulties that you have at this hotel. We hope this will be resolved quickly. I have to be there from 8:30 or 8:45 because we have a workshop on DNSSEC for .sn and the ccTLD of the sub-region so please excuse me. After a while I will have to run so I will go quickly.

How many French speakers do we have in this room? So should I continue in French? Really? Okay. We have interpreting services so I will continue in French. (Speaks French).

…after a while, these are our presentations regarding the internet, so you have the norms, the typical norms for the internet. They are made by the IETF – it’s an organization at the ISOC level. Some of you, a lot of you are members of the ISOC chapters so you’ve probably heard about the IETF and you are interested, and I really hope that some of you will promote people to go, young people. Standards are very important and we have to install them inside our region. But we have no representatives but they provide funds so you can participate at the ISOC level. Please go and see if you are not aware of it.
If you haven’t done so you have also the [W3C1] organization that handles the norms at the application level and also you have the ISO – Institute of Standards of the United Nations – and the letter codes that we use for the countries of the ccTLDs come from the ISO-3166-1, ISO list that you can find on the internet. You can Google it and you can have the Council for Internet Architecture that is also there.

So the Internet Architecture Council is here to give advice and to be the glue between different norms, and you also have the UNESCO for example, takes care of languages. And UNESCO is working on an agreement with ICANN to work on international domain names on languages and what we call writing scripts that are used to code alphabets so we can have internationalized domain names. You have the International Chamber of Commerce, the [OMPI] that handles a lot of, takes care of commercial issues, grants; the IUT that also takes care of standards with regards to telecommunications and with people, members who operate, GSM operators, and we’ll see at which level later.

And also ICANN of course, that is the glue between the application and architecture at the [cable] level. Here you have this – you will see where ICANN is with regards to the different levels I’ve just mentioned. At the bottom you will have all the telecommunication infrastructure. Nowadays in Africa, at the end of 2012, this is one of the things that we will have more than before, is [more bandwidth on the passing band]. With all the underwater cable that is coming into the countries we have 33
terabytes of band around Africa. So it’s not bad, band passed around Africa. It’s not bad but there is fiber so you will have band pass nowadays that is already on our coastline, and also we have agreements that were signed by the African Union and by different countries to bind the different countries so we could have connections and what we call the “Broadband for Everyone.”

So we cannot complain at this level on the continent. We discussed about it last week with a group of African experts. One of the major concerns on the continent is the problem of interstate licenses and that’s why internet capacity is not very good for our users. So at the ICANN level we only take care of the architecture, the base for everything; and then after that there’s a TCP-IP protocol, so all the DNS and everything that has to deal with regards to certifications, transactions that are made on the internet and that’s where you find ICANN again. So everything that is above that level is not regulated by ICANN.

So everything that is www all the way to television on the internet, the content is not something that is regulated by ICANN. This is not ICANN’s position in the midst of the architecture of the information society. This is ICANN’s position right now.

I really like this image because it’s the DiploFoundation who made it and you can see what is being built right now. And everybody, each one of us is building us today here. So there’s ICANN, the little [heap] there is ICANN at the base of the foundation, and you can see that ICANN is among many even at the base of the internet. So we have a very restricted role. We don’t do standards,
we don’t… We are the general glue but we do not do the standards and the protocols, for example.

On this picture above the infrastructure you have the legal aspect, very important because we, each one of us must be aware that when you have a business on the internet, when you are in a country you have both the duty to regulate what’s going on at the ICANN level for the domain name level; but also you have to respect local domestic legislation. So as a business you have to manage both aspects, so all the legislation – work legislation, cybercrimes. This week we had a training for people in Senegal to apply legislation. We had judges, we had police officers and [Jedarme] to explain to them what is the DNS system, what is a registry, and the relationship among all these people, because cybercrime nowadays is something that is becoming more and more a big issue.

And we will have bigger problems with time as long as the internet is developing, and we might one day have cybercrimes and the judge will have to understand the issues and be able to rule. So there are different countries in Africa where different courts do not know what it is because at the legislation level there is no legislation on that, whether it is on cybercrime or cyber security. According to who you ask, they will or will not know and laws pertaining to the protection of sensitive and identifying information, and also a brand that was bought by someone on a national domain name and a judge doesn’t know how he can rule on certain questions regarding these types of brands.
So this is something we have to develop where you have to work with your own jurisdictions, with people from your own countries, judges because you are able to go to places such as ICANN. It would be interesting if you could engage at a local level so you can have others that understand what is going on; and so that you can give back. Everything that you’ve learned you can give back to other people, and when you go home you can disseminate the knowledge. So there’s also the development aspect and there’s everything that is related to the transfer of technology. Everything is economic.

There’s the creation of content – the more we have bandwidth the more we need to offer something of content that is adapted and that people want to see but also to buy eventually, because only then can a digital economy develop, flourish. And also you have the sociocultural aspect that you might all know. Everybody’s on Facebook, on Twitter and the rest, and of course there are many issues that will arise so you have to manage the data and presence, and also your kids’ presence. So this is very significant.

So this is a house that is being built, the Information Society. This is something that we all did together and at all levels, whether at the consumer/user level or the government. Through the trade we are all actors and stakeholders, and so this shows what is going on at the ICANN level.

I will stop in one minute; I’m going to give him two minutes so Akram can present himself.
Akram Atallah: Thank you very much for these two minutes. I’m really happy to be here to talk to you. I am very proud of ALAC for the manner, the way you all came together and you made this meeting possible, and your coordination and the way everyone came together. That was very impressive. I hope this will happen much more often in other ICANN meetings, and I also hope we can do a Summit if I may use this term in the coming years.

We are making plans for a three-year budget so we will be able to spend a little more money to organize a Summit for all of us.

[Applause]

Akram Atallah: They asked me to speak in all languages I speak so I will try. (Speaks French and Arabic). Both EURALO and LACRALO forfeited their budgets for AFRALO to be able to have this meeting. That was very impressive and it demonstrated that there is a great need for these meetings when other RALOs were able to let go of their funding to make this happen. And that scores very high the need for these meetings.

As I said earlier we are in the process of planning a three-year budget. A three-year look would allow us to be able to allocate money over the longer-term by taking monies from multiple years into one year so that we can do the Summit and repeat that. We’re
looking forward to be able to show a framework on the budget this year before the next meeting, and I urge you to look at that budget and comment on it as much as possible so that we can work together to come up with a budget for next year and the years after that that meets all of our needs.

I think that ALAC has a fundamental importance in ICANN in that it builds ICANN. It is the base on which ICANN is built and the capacity building that you do here is very important for our future. Across the board I think that we are trying to do a lot of things, and the more we can have contributions from you the better ICANN will be in the future. And we will continue to work with your leadership to be able to accommodate all your needs and facilitate your work. I really appreciate that everybody is a volunteer and you sacrifice all of your time to contribute to ICANN, and I really appreciate that.

And please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you need anything or if there’s anything that I can help with. I’m always available and thank you for the opportunity to talk to you. I really appreciate it. Keep up the good work, thanks.

[Applause]

Fatimata Seye Sylla: This is to say “thank you” in Wolof.
Male:  

(speaks Wolof)

Fatimata Seye Sylla: Tijani?

Tijani Ben Jemaa: Earlier I told you a list of people who helped us to organize these events. There’s someone I missed – it was Akram Atallah who is ICANN’s COO and who decided on his own to do all these additional travels for AFRALO. And he was the one who really contributed also to this success. Thank you very much.

[Applause]

Fatimata Seye Sylla: Thank you, Akram. So we are going to give the floor to Rachel; she doesn’t have much time left. Thank you, Anne-Rachel?

Anne-Rachel Inné: So we are talking about the Information Society and our role within it, and also ICANN’s and your role within this Information Society to manage all of that. We are all in charge and this is reflected and you will see it in ICANN’s structure on the multi-stakeholder model as we call it. Everybody has their own tasks, like an [antse] – everybody has their own task to perform. The workshop that I’m going to attend will talk about DNSSEC, and
we teach them to install DNSSEC so they can do it in their own zone file at the ccTLD level. It’s to secure the architecture so that you as users, you are able to have faith in it within the architecture that you are able to use for the benefit of all. So this is more or less what I wanted to say.

I will let Mandy finish with the last slide of when ICANN decided to cover the house you saw before – all regions together. Through ICANN, all of the regions are always represented through all constituencies. How, at a certain point in time, did we reflect that within ICANN’s structure so that you could be sure that your concerns would be dealt with at the highest level within ICANN? So Mandy, thank you, please have the floor except if you have questions do not hesitate to… This is not a teaching, we are not in a classroom. You are able to interrupt at any time. Really, do not hesitate.

Mandy Carver: Thank you. Please ask Rachel any questions while she still has time. I know she has to leave before the end of this session so I do want there to be an opportunity for you to be able to engage in questions. Before we get to the Global Partnerships slide, because this session is really about ICANN and the infrastructure, if you go back to the internet ecosystem I think that there is an important premise that operates at all levels from the broadest when you see all of these different organizations.
And they have distinct and discreet roles but they also have collaborative roles. And some of these groups are aware of some of the other entities and have organizational agreements; some belong to certain other groups.

[background conversation]

Mandy Carver: So there is a theme in the architecture of the internet and in the architecture of the internet organizations that is replicated. You have an interdependency and a mutual awareness that takes place in all of these layers. So if you have the entire ecosystem and you have all these groups, it only operates because you have all of these groups who have specific expertise.

The other theme is the extraordinary amount of volunteerism. Now in some of these entities you have a specific stakeholder who is the primary focus but even they, when they come forward…

[background conversation]

Mandy Carver: So within the internet ecosystem you have all of these groups that are operating, and then Matt, if you go to the layers slide… So well if you envision the second slide where Anne-Rachel was explaining ICANN’s limited role, where you have all of those
layers filled with multiple organizations. And they have a collaborative and a participative role – the creation of the standards and the agreement globally to abide by those because everyone’s primary purpose is to have a single interoperable internet. That is what makes it so powerful and so important as a tool.

ICANN as an organization mirrors that structure. If you look on the website and you see the multi-stakeholder model, what most people would call the organizational chart – most people look at that and think “Ah, well that’s like a company.” But the truth is that’s the community, that is not the staff. The Board of Directors have representations from all the different constituencies. The Councils bring the concerns of those groups up and forward. There are technical advisors, there are subject matter-specific, there are regional-specific, there are jurisdictional if you will; and then at the side there is the staff. And we are actually a very small part of what is ICANN – a much smaller part compared to all of you and the role that you play, and the groups that you represent.

The last thing that I was going to talk about very briefly is Global Partnerships, which is the department that Anne-Rachel and I are from, and when ICANN was developing one of the goals – which is still a primary goal – is the internationalization and the spread of the organization. And Global Partnerships was meant to be a mechanism that allowed us to project ICANN out into the regions and also to project the regions back into ICANN as this whole organizational structure was being built, as the roles of the various constituencies are being enriched. And if you look at ICANN’s
structures, you have specific organizations for specific stakeholders. So At-Large, you have a particular slide of the internet user community that you’re representing. The Government Advisory Committee is representing governments. And why don’t we just jump to the GP slide… There you go.

So within ICANN, within the staffing structure there are staff who match the constituency groups, like all of the ALAC staff that work with all of you, and this is the case across the organization and across the stakeholders. And then there’s Global Partnerships and we see the world and ICANN from a geographic basis. And we work collaboratively with all of our colleagues for the specific stakeholders and we work with the people in the community in all of the stakeholder groups.

So the goal is to be able to increase international participation and support the multi-stakeholder environment, and we want to be able to have engagement in the regions and to have individuals who have the linguistic, cultural, political knowledge of what is happening to be able to help interpret ICANN out into the world; but also to assist the staff in understanding the priorities and concerns of the regions and to bring that information back in.

So it’s sort of a perpetual cycle within staff and within all of the communities. Much of what the Global Partnership staff are involved in are different kinds of discussions and negotiations, and depending on which constituency you’re dealing with it would change the nature of the agreements and the discussions. And I know that later on there will also be discussions about participation
and engagement so I’m not going to jump to that, and I do want there to be an opportunity for questions before Anne-Rachel has to go. But the staff do everything from responding to constituent concerns to assisting other departments with those concerns, providing briefings, technical trainings; participating with other members of the community in the ecosystem, in those other organizations that are represented in the earlier slide.

The other program that we support is the ICANN Fellowship Program which early on was one of the first mechanisms identified to try and bring people who are truly new to the different constituencies and new to ICANN into the process because as I said, the bulk of what ICANN is is the work of the community and the volunteers, and you all do amazing work. But you all have real lives and often multiple hats to wear outside of ICANN let alone what you’re doing for the community.

And there are some of you who I have seen for many, many years sitting at these tables, and so the goal is to also bring in new people both to extend the knowledge – some of those people are going to go back into their communities and become ambassadors for the organization without ever coming back to participate. But they spread the knowledge of what ICANN is and what ICANN does, and often more importantly what ICANN does not do, so that both energy and information is accurately portrayed and applied. And for those of you who have the time I would encourage you to attend the Fellowship sessions as well. You are welcome to those.

Shall I stop? I will stop.
Anne-Rachel Inné: If there are no immediate burning questions I want to give you just a status of what is Africa in ICANN. How many At-Large Structures do we have right now from the region? Oh, in general yeah. Last time I counted I think it was 24; 17 in the room, 24 on the continent. So there are 24 organizations on the continent spread among the countries that are working just like the others, basically, to take the word of what is the internet out there to their communities. Well, we have about 23 governments that are also sitting… When we go back to the structure. I just wanted to put the numbers out to you so you have an idea.

Twenty-three governments in the GAC, that are present in the GAC right now. The GAC is the Governmental Advisory Committee at ICANN. We have no main registries, the registry being the people who operate things like .com, .org or .sn – these are the people that we call registries. We have five registrars in the African region accredited by ICANN – five: one in Senegal here, one in Morocco, one in Burundi, one in South Africa and one in Ghana. And some of them also do sell country code top-level domain names but they are accredited to sell .com, .org and a few others for some. You can actually check them out from the listings on the registrar page at ICANN.

We have 27 country code top-level domains represented in the country code Names Supporting Organization, the ccNSO, and this is where they meet basically to train each other, to learn about some of the specifics of their own jurisdictions; to make sure that
they bring back to ICANN issues that are their national jurisdictions as opposed to the global policies that are done at ICANN that may touch them. And we have a penetration of 5.7%, the latest statistics in the African Region, and we have for a whole continent of 1 billion people we have 118 million users, 118 million users out of a billion people.

That is something that comes out because the growth is exponential, absolutely. This is the region where we’ve had something like for the past five years 2000% increase in users. But for the longest time, and I think you all at one level or the other have experienced that, that connectivity is an issue, access to the internet is an issue. One of the issues that everybody complains about on this continent is the pricing of being connected to the internet which is not affordable to people. So hopefully the more bandwidth we have the less expensive the bandwidth becomes, the more we will have people who can have either internet in cybercafés or simply on their mobile phones. And this is actually the region where access already to the internet on mobile phones is more than anywhere else practically in the world because in fact the fiber and other infrastructures are not really present.

I talked to you about the regional protocols that were put together for everybody to be connected but it takes time just because of some of the institutional stuff. So you have to keep that in mind and you have to keep in mind that for everybody to be connected, and to be connected rightly, and to trust the medium. I’m hoping that all here, we can do our part to make sure that people
understand what the internet is about, what most of the organizations and especially ICANN are doing in that sphere. And thanks again, as everybody said, for your time, your commitment to make this happen and the internet is for everybody, as ISOC says. Questions?

Fatin mata Seye Sylla: I would like for all participants to say their name and country.

Baudouin Schombe: My name is Mr. Schombe from The Congo. I have a concern. I’m really happy about Anne-Rachel’s vision about ICANN’s participation, global participation within the internet. And also in Mexico if I recall correctly, and also during other meetings we had raised the issue of African countries’ participation; but I would also like to remind you that you had asked for concrete proposals in our own countries. Until now we’ve never had any answers and this is a problem.

At home nowadays we have a technical community, a technical team and we have a lot of young people who’ve finished university studies who are trained, who are engineers and they know what we’re doing. They know what we do during ICANN meetings but sometimes to disseminate this information we have issues. Even if we could have a minimum of financial support because certain partners say that “ICANN should have its own money to help us do this problem.” We have this issue to mobilize at the national level and to disseminate this message.
ICANN, what are you doing to help us ALSes on the field? If you have no feedback it’s because we’re not able to transmit the message at the national level. We have a lot of proposals but how can we report regularly proposals? It’s very interesting – the question at my level is “Should we register these people on the mailing lists?” This is a question for you. Sometimes when I transfer the message can we intervene? I don’t have this authorization to register people on the mailing list – this is another aspect.

And there are also young women, the linguistic language problem. Everything in English and we are a French-speaking country where people are not able to do the translation. I’ve asked a lot of people to go to Google; sometimes they have the automatic translations but it’s not easy. It’s not in people’s culture at their level. Everything we can ask is please help the ALSes so that we can be functional on the field on a regular basis.

Also another aspect is the participation of the ALSes. Sometimes we participate and sometimes not, so there’s this cut. And it needs to be regular. Technology goes so fast and we need to be constant and coherent of everything that is being discussed at ICANN so that we can relay the message. Also another difficulty – the dialog between ALS, the public, the government. Sometimes we have opposite positions. I saw the Ministry Roundtable, that was a good thing but at a certain time the ALS comes, the government comes but everybody goes back in their own corner when we go back home.
If we could create this dialog between all stakeholders so we could remain very efficient on the ground, this is my concern as far as your presentation is concerned.

Fatimata Seye Sylla:

Thank you, Baudouin. Olivier Crépin-Leblond will be speaking.

Olivier Crépin-Leblond:

Thank you, Fatimata. I just wanted to answer one of the items that Baudouin presented about the automatic translation tool. In the South American Region, LACRALO, there is a system on the list that translates automatically from Spanish to English and from English to Spanish. The LACRALO Secretariat is among us and I’m sure he can agree with me – it was a catastrophe with regards to automatic translation. It introduced even more problems because when there is a discussion issue that can be difficult, two different positions or opposite opinions – with the automatic translation this discussion, which could be a little bit difficult, becomes a potential worldwide war because translation changes words, terms.

They even asked that automatic translation be stopped and they would do on their own the translation with their own system. So automatic tools sometimes create more problems than solutions.

Fatimata Seye Sylla:

Thank you, Olivier. We will give the floor to Rachel.
Anne-Rachel Inné: You are raising issues that are at different levels as far as I’m concerned. The thing that I tell you many times, and if I may I might sound like an old record, but I or other people, we cannot do for you. You are saying that sometimes there are diverging positions between decision makers and you when you go back home, and when everybody goes back home in their own corner – why? You know very well in general these people’s culture is not a culture that is outgoing. They will not go to you.

There are those who dictate or they mandate, and in general I’ve noticed that if you really understand national concerns and you are able to translate them into something that could be useful to them they will listen to you. Okay? And they are not the only ones so I will couple this to the financial aspect. ICANN might be able to help on certain things but if you take into account the number of ALSes throughout the world we cannot… The training that you participate in is not only for ICANN.

You have to bring this back to the people you’re talking to: why a GSM operator should belong to ICANN. Now they want to have content to be able to sell it to people inside the country, so they will see with time that for their little IP address they will need ICANN more and more. So the biggest constituency within AFRINIC is GSM operators. Why? Because they finally understood, and we courted them also for a long time so they would come but now they will start to want to know more about ICANN. When there will be issues with regards to the content
they will want to see who is in charge and who can solve these issues.

You are the ones who have to help them so that they are able to understand this aspect also, and maybe they will help you so that you can help them and the community. It’s for the general interest. They need clients, they need people who understand that but also they need for the legal and the jurisdictional aspect to understand. So everybody has to understand what’s going on in their own house.

I cannot come to someone and convince them of that. If I am not able to convince them that what I’m doing is important for them I cannot expect them to help me with that, so this is very important. All of you, you have to understand what’s going on at home so you are able to present the message in such a way that people will come to you, okay?

You also spoke about… Baudouin, you also spoke about the financial aspect and the way…

Baudouin Schombe: The support to ALSes with regards to activities presented – we were supposed to do proposals and we never had any follow-up.

Anne-Rachel Inné: I will let Heidi answer this. Did it come through AFRALO directly, Tijani?
Tijani Ben Jemaa: We presented several financing, requests for funds and we are happy to have six events organized here in Dakar. So this is a very significant financial effort for AFRALO and they didn’t do it for other regions. The specific requests, of course we had asked for a workshop at IGF – this was not approved. If we have this training financed by ICANN, this is a big effort done and I can only thank them for it.

Baudouin Schombe: The problem is not the workshop here, it is the activities for 2012. We were sent a form, we filled it out and we have no comments. It’s just a thought on how we could improve our functionality, efficiency. We’re not saying that it should happen all the time but punctually, maybe.

Fatimata Seye Sylla: Thank you, Baudouin. Anne-Rachel tried to give leads for thoughts and with regards to this concern it’s very good to find finance sources. But you also have to convince and see what’s going on in your own house. At our own country level there are operators that are willing to help us but they are the first to benefit from it. When we produce for example, certain contents or when we do training, etc., often we can find local support.

It’s true that this is good for ICANN; this is interesting for ICANN, that there should be more users. But it’s a national level
with operators – they need more ICANN users and in general they are very much aware and they will accompany us. And it’s not always easy but we are able to find some success. With regards to Senegal there’s a state information agency that is making much effort for users when we contact them. They supported me at my ALS level and also telecommunications operators are always easy. We will need to have a program that is of interest to them and we will have to convince them, but it doesn’t meant that we cannot go to other external sources.

But for our national credibility we will continue pressure at the ICANN level to do some outreach with regards to ICANN programs – what Mandy and Anne-Rachel said are presentations of ICANN activities organized by ICANN and those not performed by ICANN, so it would be at the local level. It would be nice to be able to do it with more users and associations active in promoting the internet development, and with regards to this we could go back to ICANN and say we could do some outreach and we could see how we’re able to proceed. But at the local level, if we didn’t do our homework it’s hard to go at the higher level.

Anne-Rachel Inné: It’s an open list. Africa is an open list. It’s hosted since 2000 on AFRINIC. You have to go on the mailing list for AFRINIC website, go to the mailing list and you can register. Anyone can do it. You saw that lately we are making more and more efforts to
find content in French and to post it. [Mahmadulu] is from Senegal. [Mahmadulu], we met some time ago during AFRINIC meeting. [Mahmadulu] is interested and he decided on his own. He’s sent every day a summary of articles on internet on this list in French and in English, so frankly no one asked him. He said “Anne-Rachel, may I?” and I said “Of course, it’s an open list, it’s open for everyone.”

It’s fantastic what he’s doing. He’s really interested and he’s doing it on his own, and I don’t know if you are reading things but I can promise you he’s doing a summary, every day a summary of internet, ICANN, everything that is going on in Africa. This is really worth it and he never asks anything to anyone. So frankly if you want to post something, if you want to ask questions… Some who are on the AFRINIC list, you know that anytime when the technicians have a concern they post emails to say “Can you explain to me this? Can someone explain to me this or that?” As a user there is no reason why you cannot do it on your own.

There is no problem and it’s open to everyone. There is no moderator. This is something that we installed so that everybody could be engaged and we have to be engaged not only to receive information but to read them. And if something interests you, you can go further in-depth.

Fatimata Seye Sylla: Thank you, Anne-Rachel. Now the floor to Peters and then to Charles.
Pastor Peters: Good morning, everyone. My name is Pastor Peters from Nigeria, not so (inaudible). My contribution is in respect to what (inaudible) said. If I got the explanation of the Chief Operating Officer with the three-year budget that he was talking about, I think it will be wise that (inaudible) about the various ALSes should be encouraged to put up various programs or activities that should be put into the three-year budget. So that could also help our activities in the other countries, so I think that’s also going to go along in helping to increase the capacity of ICANN in those countries, because (inaudible) ALAC in Africa is valid.

There is not much that is known about ICANN. (inaudible) amount of Nigeria internet users but very few who are aware of what ICANN is and really where ICANN be, actually we’ve noticed where we have increased activities that are sponsored from the various ALSes. That is my contribution.

Fatemata Seye Sylla: Thank you, Peters. Maybe we can change strategies and take a few questions, answer them quickly because Anne-Rachel has to leave. Charles and Abdoulaye, please quickly because time is short.

Charles: Good afternoon. This is Charles (inaudible) and I’m very happy to be here. Over the years I was one of the only persons from Liberia to join the family of ICANN, and really ICANN has been helping
especially through Anne-Rachel. One time she volunteered to
come to Liberia to conduct a workshop but unfortunately it didn’t
work; she was sick.

I just wanted to know, from that time we’ve been having some
rough times, especially to get the government involved in activities
of ICANN. Sometimes the activities are politicalized when it
comes to the interests of the politicians and it’s not just so easy to
convince them to get involved. But right now I am so grateful that
two persons came from our government to attend this program in
support of the government, and they are here.

I just wanted to know how can a government be represented within
the GAC? How can a country… Is it that each country has to get
a representative on the GAC committee or what is it like? Because
if each government can be represented maybe on a voluntary basis,
it would be so easy to transmit information directly from our
organization to the various government institutions and like that.
It’ll be a cooperation, especially when it comes to regional forms
to do [little] work. Your government representative will know the
importance of what you want to do right away, the way they are
supposed to.

So I just wanted to know how does GAC operate and how can a
government be represented on a GAC Committee?
Abdoulaye Diakite: (inaudible) ICANN can effect against cybercrime? For the people who work on the ground, it is difficult to convince Africans to forget about cybercrime. So (inaudible).

Fatimata Seye Sylla: Thank you, Abdoulaye. These are three good questions. We are going to try to find the answers. The second question I will leave to Anne-Rachel. The first question from Peters, if Tijani is willing to answer them that would be nice or I will answer myself; and the second, Abdoulaye’s question is an open question – anybody can add a comment to it. Tijani?

Tijani Ben Jemaa: Thank you, Fatimata. Of course all ALSes must contribute to establishing AFRALO’s budget of last year. You know ICANN Financial Services gave us a brochure, a form to fill out for our additional requests as far as the budget is concerned, and every ALS, if they want to perform an activity they have to fill out this form. What is important is to take into account that the activity that has to be performed has to go within, to agree with the strategic plan, the ICANN strategic plan. Even if it is in agreement it will be evaluated according to the financial service possibilities.

So I encourage you to fill out these forms to express your needs and try to submit things that are interesting for ICANN. They will never give one penny if the activity does not bring something positive to ICANN.
Fatimata Seye Sylla: Thank you very much, Ann-Rachel. So we’re going to continue with Mandy.

Mandy Carver: …operation of the GAC, that every government of the world be represented there, and they have their own mailing list. As Anne-Rachel has said it is a fairly simply matter of having the government contact them and say “We want to join; this is who will be representing us.” They then will be added to the mailing list. There is some travel support there. The GAC itself, my understanding is they are also going to do an outreach mailing. They also struggle with people who are members but not active participants, and as you are all aware governments change and the Minister who is responsible for the internet within the government may change; and the attitudes towards the allocation of their resources – and time is as much a resource as funds given all the things going on.

So it is making people aware of the opportunity of the GAC, and the GAC is now helping to assist. It is also talking about the multi-
stakeholder model within a framework for governments who don’t think of themselves as being within an advisory capacity. They are normally thinking of all of us perhaps in being in a contributing or advisory capacity to them, not other way around, so some of it is explaining. All of this I think comes down to enlightened self-interest: why would it be better for them to come?

I think the first step is getting them on the mailing list. Then they would be getting the materials from the GAC, and I had one also comment about cyber security.

Oliver Crépin-Leblond: Thank you very much, Mandy, Olivier, Chair of ALAC. I was just going to say one additional thing, actually. I know that several of our ALSes are in countries which do not have GAC representation. I have spoken to Heather Dryden who’s the Chair of the GAC and I’ve assured her that our ALSes, some of them have very good connections with government, with local authorities; and we will be doing our best to get more GAC members involved because I think it’s really important.

And similarly she has also told me that some of the GAC members know of local organizations that would be ready to join At-Large so it’s really a win-win situation. Thank you.

Fatimata Seye Sylla: Okay, go ahead.
Mandy Carver: And I know that historically we have had situations where people have come and said “Our country’s not certain. We would like to have someone come in an observer capacity so we can see what the role of the GAC is,” and the GAC has accommodated that with the hope that that would lead to joining; and I know in at least one situation it did. So they are interested in helping all of you in outreach to bring more ALSes forward and they’re also interested in bringing more governments in.

And the only comment that I wanted to make about ICANN’s role about cyber security – we have to go back again to looking at what ICANN’s role is in the internet. So we’re not the content; we are the domain name system. It’s the addressing system. And where there have been direct attempts to use the DNS for criminal activity or to attack the DNS… There was a global worm, Conficker. ICANN played an organizing and collaborating role amongst the global technical community to confront that attack on the DNS – it was actually using that portion of the infrastructure.

I am not a technical person and you now have exhausted my complete vocabulary on that topic, but it’s important to remember again ICANN’s role and therefore what aspect of that role is involved in cyber security. It is also the case that law enforcement entities are playing a greater role in becoming more interested in the space, and certain of the constituencies within ICANN are playing a collaborative role. Remember again, the internet is a tool. It is a space, and most of the things – as Anne-Rachel said, crime existed before the internet. That activity is against the law in
the certain jurisdictions. The question is how do you translate both awareness of those problems and the solutions to those problems within that space?

Fatimata Seye Sylla: Thank you, Mandy, and I think that we have answered the majority of your questions. I also would like to add information to express how proud AFRALO is and ALSes are to conduct lobbying at the government level. I would like to cite some examples.

During the previous meeting, a roundtable of 19 or 20 there were AFRALO members who worked at their government level so states would be represented because there was not a lot of interest manifested because there was a lack of information. I would like to thank Aziz, Michel and of course [Chaz] who told us his story and other people. So what is very important is the meeting in Dakar is thanks due to, really we have to thank AFRALO’s efforts.

They repositioned Senegal’s candidacy within the support of two ALAC and two At-Large African countries that were present in Colombia. So with regards to Africa and the worldwide ALSes, it is a very important information, lobbying, awareness role and for this meeting AFRALO was at the heart of the national organizing committee. And we have to recognize here, acknowledge that things like hotels and everything, this is ICANN’s doing. The local organization that was really the busses/airports welcome team to make your stay pleasant, and the internet at the places that we organized with regards to hotel reservations.
It was ICANN. It does mean that we are not responsible or that we do not take our own responsibilities with regards to this issue. This is what I wanted to add. Are there any more questions?

Tijani Ben Jemaa: With regards to contributions it’s almost time? Time is up. Aziz?

Aziz Hilali: I would like to add with regards to what has been said about information, everything that our ALS is doing in its own country – I heard Baudouin and other speakers say that an ALS can organize events even if there is not enough funds. Let’s take the example of the ALS in Morocco where we’ve invited ICANN people where ICANN paid for them. So when an ALS is creating an event to promote activities and subjects dealt with by ICANN, sometimes ICANN can pay for the [conference] expenses. This is one expense less for organizers.

Fatimata Seye Sylla: Thank you very much, Aziz. I would like to leave the floor to Tijani who has announcements to make.

Tijani Ben Jemaa: Thank you, Fatimata. Today was the first day. We didn’t start on time for several reasons, especially the bus for example, but as of tomorrow punctual attendance is mandatory and we must be punctual at 7:00. We start the training at 7:00. Please, we will
leave the hotel at 6:30; everybody at 6:30 has to wait on the bus
and the bus will be there at 6:30 sharp. Yes, Aziz?

Aziz Hilali: There’s one issue at the hotel I’m at. I have to ask and I’d rather
the person in charge because the breakfast is as of 7:00 AM. You
have to ask for (inaudible) so that the breakfast will be served as of
6:00 AM in the morning.

Fatimata Seye Sylla: I think we will do everything necessary on this question. I think
maybe there will also be a breakfast in the room every day also.

Aziz Hilali: I’d rather eat before coming.

Fatimata Seye Sylla: Okay, we’ll do everything. Of course, Gisella.

Gisella Gruber-White: Thank you. I think we’ve finished this first session pertaining to
capacity building. We had announced that tomorrow we’d start at
7:00 AM and until 11:00 AM but finally we start at 7:00 AM, we
will stop at 9:00 like today and we will start again from 4:00 to
6:00 PM. There’s a very important event tomorrow, the AFRALO
Showcase, that will start at 6:00 PM so please be there at 5:30 and
come with African costumes. I hope everybody has one.
And also if you have artistic artifacts, if you want to show them do not hesitate. This is our showcase and we said that the theme was African participation to internet development but also we would like to underline our cultural identity. This is very important. Aziz, do you have something to add?

Aziz Hilali: Who are the individuals who will wear traditional clothing so that we know how many, and those who have issues to go back home, the technical aspects we have to deal with that to change our clothes.

Fatimata Seye Sylla: It’s solved. There’s a room, staff reserved it so we don’t need to go to our own hotels to change clothes, to change into traditional clothing. Those, come with them, put them in a bag. There will be a room assigned to us where we’ll be able to change, okay? So this problem is solved.

The number of individuals who will dress in their traditional dress? I don’t know. We imagine that everybody will be doing it, at least the person in charge of the ALSes. It was requested at this level so I hope everybody will do it?

Speaker: Is it mandatory?
Fatimata Seye Sylla: Who’s asking? It was asked and agreed; it was a promise for those who respect…

Baudouin Schombe: What if we don’t have the traditional dress?

Fatimata Seye Sylla: Baudouin, you’ve been here I don’t know how long. So African dress, you can buy in the market, you can buy it in Dakar. You will find anything here. I hope you brought artifacts? Don’t spoil our plan.

I thank all of you and I will see you tomorrow for the next meeting at 7:00. We have to be in the room at 7:00. Those who’d rather walk, that’s fine, it’s not far but let’s try to be on time. We should start at 7:00 AM sharp. So thank you once more. I think everything was said; we should maybe leave the room to others. Maybe we stay in the room? There’s another session that will continue and it’s still At-Large, ALAC, so you are invited to participate in the next session. Thank you, all.

[Applause]

Fatimata Seye Sylla: Thank you, Mandy and Rachel who have already left, and thank you to the staff.
[End of Transcript]