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PRAGUE – ALAC Anniversary Event

Monday, June 25, 2012 – 16:00 to 19:00

ICANN - Prague, Czech Republic

[background conversation and music]

Wolf Ludwig: We start in one minute. Matt, we start in one minute.

[background conversation]

Wolf Ludwig: May I ask you to get seated now so that we can start with our event? With some delay today, what is not unusual for civil society I guess, and what is not unusual in the context of the multi-stakeholder model approach and development. It's not a linear thing; it's a process full of ups and downs and interruptions. In this respect I have the pleasure today to welcome you to the 10 year anniversary party of At-Large and its community here in beautiful Prague.

As you may recall, history is short. End of April there was this famous resolution by the then ICANN Board announcing the ICANN structure and this we took as the opportunity now today here in Prague to invite not only At-Large members, but all stakeholder communities here at ICANN to join us here. I give it now over to my co-moderator Yrjo, most of you know. And Yrjo and I will try to conduct you through our today's meeting and I think you will have some fun. Thank you.

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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.*

Yrjo Lansipuro:

Okay, thank you Wolf. 10 years ago there were 600 million end users of the internet, today, 2.5 billion. So if there were good reasons for the existence of ALAC and At-Large 10 years ago, we have now about four times more reasons for that. And it's not only, the story is not only in these numbers, good as they are, because for the end users, individuals, in their life internet plays a much different and more important and more central role than ever before. What used to be an optional extra for them is now an indispensable everyday tool.

To my mind that has some consequences because if that is so then it means that in the internet ecosystem, in the internet community end users play a much bigger role than they used to be. And furthermore, this also means that their voice should be stronger in various places and most of all, of course, at ICANN. So that means that At-Large and ALAC have a huge task ahead because they have to be that agent for those changes.

But okay, that's for the future and we'll perhaps come to the future a bit later, but now let's go to the history – what really happened and how did it happen that the ALAC and At-Large were born. And here of course I turn to Professor Wolfgang Kleinwachter, also known as the “walking encyclopedia” on ICANN history and internet history. But actually I found an article you Wolfgang wrote in 2003 and that was about so-called ICANN 2.0, which was new at that time, and you were a bit pessimistic in that article about the role of end users and you said that they are actually going to be dominated and they will lose power in

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the new distribution of power of the internet. So, in hindsight, how did it go? Please?

Wolfgang Kleinwachter:

Thank you Yrjo, and thank you Wolf for organizing this event. And indeed the history of the At-Large Advisory Committee did not start 10 years ago; it started already 20 years ago. And I think the reason for this was the invention of the World Wide Web, suddenly the internet became a network which went far beyond the traditional geeks and freaks which managed internet communication already in the '70s and '80s. So immediately you know the number of people connected to the internet grew from one million to five million to ten million to 15 million, and so in the middle of the '90s there was a question of what to do now with this because this is not anymore just a technical thing, it affects policy, economy, culture, the whole society.

And I think it was the wisdom of the Clinton Administration to say "okay wait a minute. Why we should introduce a traditional law like we did in the field of telecommunications or broadcasting or the press and to ask legislation for it. The internet works, it's growing, let the people who organize all the services, who use the services govern themselves and then let's wait and see what will come out." And this was the basic conceptual idea which then led later to ICANN; it was in the pre-ICANN time.

But this thinking is really a revolution because normally, how governments work is that you have a triangle of power. You have on the top the government which has the decision making capacity; the industry is lobbying the government and the civil society gives the

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government legitimacy by its votes and then if it's unsatisfied with the government you'll find them back in the streets protesting against the government. So this is the triangle you have with on top is the government.

But the model which then emerged from the internet was totally different because suddenly you had the provider and the user of the services, the private sector and the civil society in the decision making capacity, while the governments may have turned to advisory capacity in ICANN. So this is really, if you consider this after 15 years this was a fundamental revolution in how to govern "the internet world"; not the whole world, but probably it could be a model for future things how to manage this.

And so this was then translated into the first ICANN Bylaws where you had a Board, a decision making Board and the plan was to have nine from the private sector, the service providers and nine from the civil society which was called At-Large. But the problem was who is At-Large. How we can find nine voting directors from the At-Large side? And so the first ICANN Board meeting in 1998 in Cambridge then said okay then we have to create a committee and wait for recommendations from the committee. It was a so-called membership advisory committee; the MAC Chaired by George [Conratis].

And during these meetings the think tank behind it was the Berkman Center from Harvard Law School. And this was time that (Inaudible) was there, Wendy Seltzer was still a credited student, and Adelman and (Inaudible). So the idea was then okay if this is a new form of cyber democracy, then how can we get legitimacy to the Board. And the

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answer was we need something like elections. Elections is a source of legitimacy. And then the question was how can we organize this; is this possible to organize elections to find nine voting directors?

And with all the discussion which came up, finally, I think it was Charles Nesson who said “okay look, the first thing a child gets after its birth is a name. With a name it gets an identity and then it can later participate in elections to elect a representative. The first thing if you’re on the internet is you get a domain name or an email address. Let’s ask all email holders whether they register and then they can participate in elections.”

So by surprise the ICANN Board accepted these recommendations from the Membership Advisory Committee and we worked at our first election. It was not nine directors then; the compromise was let’s have a test with only five directors. And it worked in 2000. It was a very complicated thing because it had two elements. One was how to register the voters and the other was how to get the candidates.

So for the voters it was just an open system; you could just register for the vote. So you had just to give your email address and your postal address. We expected 10, 15 thousand would register. But the result was really shocking. There was more than 200 thousand who registered for these first elections. Finally only 80 or 90 thousand participated in the elections, but anyhow, there was a tremendous interest; much farther than our imagination.

On the candidate side this was a mixed system because we said there is a nomination committee which can propose some candidates, but we had also the process for self-nomination, so you could just present your

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own name. And then there was something like primary so that people that registered could vote for one of the candidates listed. Then the final pools were composed of three people from the nomination committee, the three winners from the so-called primaries, the self-nomination pool, and then you had a pool of six in the five regions. And then the elections took place and surprise, surprise it worked.

So we had five elected directors from the At-Large community in the year 2000. The thing was, the problematic thing was that people who were skeptical about the elections in the beginning became enthusiastic after the elections. Like Hans Klein who was the Chair of ISOC at this time. And people who were more enthusiastic in the beginning, like Andrew [McIovlean] became skeptical after the elections. Because the elections triggered some complicated processes.

For instance in Europe, the German newsmakers in their [speigle] started to campaign the world government of the internet can now be elected. And this triggered that in particular Germans registered as voters and no other country from Europe had a chance to beat the Germans because they had the majority and at the end it was a German telecom person and a German [hacker] who were more or less in the final and the German [hacker] won the elections.

So the second thing was in Asia, because the Japanese Government said “okay, we want to have Japanese director,” and then there was a race between China, South Korea, Taiwan and China to who gets the majority of the votes. So finally a guy from [Fujitsu] from Japan became the At-Large director. I think very close to civil society. So that means there was a problem and obviously if you have a problem then you have

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another committee. So this was when the ICANN Board invited Carl Bildt, the Former Swedish Prime Minister to review the elections. And when Bildt came in and said “okay even with 200 thousand registered this is not representative. If just 1% of the Swedish people would have elected me as a Prime Minister I would not feel that I have the legitimacy.”

The counter argument from Charles Nesson was “we are in the early days. Thomas Jefferson was elected as President of the United States with less than 2% of the American voters. So that means in 50 years this will be different.” But finally we came to a moment where we said “okay we have to renovate the system a little bit.” And the proposal which was made for the ICANN Board meeting in Montevideo was then in the next round just to allow domain name holders to participate in the election. Because with an email address you had a lot of problems to bypass or to manipulate and things like that; I’s much more easier to identify a domain name holder.

This triggered another debate because then people said “okay it’s like in the Middle Ages, only land owners can vote. If I am a student I have no own domain name, I have just an email address.” So this was September the 10<sup>th</sup> 2001. And when I left the plane in [Armbruster] I thought that okay the Board has changed because this was then September 11, 2001. And the next ICANN meeting in Los Angeles, or in Marina del Ray we should make a decision on the elections. The situation was totally changed.

I remember a breakfast meeting in the Marriott hotel on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor with two people from the US Congress, Vint Cerf and others where just

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two people from Washington said “Okay, how we can stop that people get decision making capacity over critical internet resources who are linked to a terrorist organization.” So the risk which elections produced became rather obvious and immediately the project of cyber democracy turned into a project of cyber security.

And then the reform process of ICANN started. And this was then managed by Stewart Lynn where the question was what do we do with At-Large. We have to have this community, but probably we cannot continue with these types of elections. And then the process started which produced in my skeptical chapter in the article you referred to in 2003. Because one thing was then for clear, we have to have something like At-Large representation in the Board, but not via elections. The compromise was then okay, let’s have a nomination committee and the nomination committee should select the people; that means we moved from election to selection.

While this was then agreed the question was okay what to do with the At-Large community? Because we had supporting organizations but the At-Large had no institution, no body. And then the idea came in another breakfast meeting in the Marriott hotel in Bucharest, also on the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10 floor, where somebody said okay look this is a multi-stakeholder organization. Private sector comes via the supporting organizations, the governments have a liaison via the Governmental Advisory Committee, the technical community via other advisory committees; why not give the At-Large also the advisory committee?

So we have the GAC, why not have the ALAC; two advisory committees and then this is a multi-stakeholder organization. And that was the



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moment when the At-Large Advisory Committee was finally created. This was not a victory for the civil society, it was a compromise which met a lot of opposition by the activists of the At-Large community from the very first generation as you're about to hear as Sebastien here and others were involved. And there was a lot of frustration because people started to argue.

I have, as an individual established a large structure which then has to join a RALO, a Regional At-Large Organization and this organization can then [tune to] people to an At-Large Advisory Committee of 15 which then can send one non-voting liaison to the Board. This is not really power for the people. So this is just bringing them to a certain distance. The interesting point was that in 2002 when this was decided, the World Summit on Information Society reached a certain peak and [opportunity] to understood very well that I can defend against ITU only if he makes clear that between ICANN and another organization like the ITU is a bit different.

And what is the difference? The presence of civil society, of At-Large. So it means certainly that [Toomie] realized that's a wonderful thing and then he said "okay we have to strengthen the At-Large Advisory Committee." And though we moved after this defeat in 2002 then to the At-Large Summit in Mexico and finally we are back with one voting director, Sebastien. This is good. This was a step in the right direction, but more has to become. Thank you.

Wolf Ludwig:

Thanks Wolfgang for this exciting introduction. I think we have heard a lot of information many or most of us didn't know so far. As Wolfgang

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pinpointed already we have a number of other victims here in the room and we will – did I say victims? I wanted to say witnesses. So this was Freud most probably and I think Wolfgang he told us about a certain relevance of 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> hotel floors, so I think we should install a working group finding out about the specificities of 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> floor meetings etc in the long historical context.

Let me continue now as we have heard, At-Large was established and we had the first At-Large Chair Vittorio Bertola who was invited to our meeting today, who apologized; he is not able to come. We invited as a second ALAC Chair, Annette Muhlberg. She was here the last two days but she had to leave for a meeting in Berlin today and she asked me to send you her regards. And she told me what has been the major challenges of her ALAC Chair term.

Annette Muhlberg was selected in 2004, she became Chair in 2006. And at the time, after the Marrakesh meeting of ICANN, there was a mandate to set up the Regional At-Large Organizations, the RALOs. And to care about the commitment of the community to join the Regional At-Large Organization to give this kind of legitimacy Wolfgang was talking about. And she saw it as her main purpose. And I think she was the driving force at that time to build up the RALOs which was a rather bureaucratic complicated process. We had to develop Bylaws, by the way it was the moment when I stepped in the role business.

We had to prepare the MOU with ICANN. And most of the RALOs were actually aided at the ICANN Lisbon meeting in March 2007. The next point she told me was she had two issues, an extension of the domain name space by new gTLDs, opposite to what is said about At-Large,

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many people expected as we were the guys against new gTLDs and I'm always getting tired of saying "no it was the opposite." So she was one of them in particular the public new gTLDs like .berlin, .paris, .whatsoever.

And the next issue on her agenda was the question of WHOIS, what is still an ongoing debate. So after I have introduced Annette, let me introduce, the succession was Jacqueline. Afterwards I think with a rather short interim of one year or something like that, and afterwards it was Cheryl, and I have the pleasure now first to ask Jacqueline to please let us know what were the key challenges after following on Annette when you stepped in.

Jacqueline Morris:

Okay, well I came in 2006 and became Chair in 2007. The main thing was that the RALOs had not been the primary focus of the interim ALAC before, so there was a mandate to get them up and running as quickly as possible. We got the LACRALO done in Sao Paolo in November 2006. And then Lisbon was Africa and EURALO. APRALO was when?

[background conversation]

Jacqueline Morris:

Oh right APRALO was not yet. And then we had in the Puerto Rico meeting, we had the North America RALO finally formed. And that was the main work that we had to do there. The second thing was having gotten all these RALOs created and their representatives on the ALAC

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was to create the ALAC out of all these disparate new people who were coming in from civil society and coming into a very different ICANN culture. So it was kind of like herding cats to get people to say “okay well no this is not your normal civil society, yes there are going to be business people here and you have to talk to them on an equal basis”; that was a challenge to kind of mold everyone into the ALAC, the actual ALAC.

And then to start very quickly getting some policy stuff done because yeah we formed these things but we need to get the voice of the people out there. And thanks to specifically to Alan Greenberg we did start with a meter – how do you put it – victory with the Issues Report on Domain [Testing]. And we managed to do quite a few policy workshops and so on, to show that we were actually a committee that was there, that was valid and that was doing something.

And the other main challenge was to get everyone else in ICANN to say “yeah, you are somebody of import now.” So we started by talking to the ccNSO and the GAC. We got a meeting with the ccNSO which was the first meeting [the cc ever had]. And then we exchanged liaisons and it was moving along and then I left and handed the big mess over to Cheryl. It wasn’t quite a big mess at that point. It actually had started really getting to something of I would say more solid. I think at the end of the term the ALAC had a solid ground and had started making its name, making it a real advisory committee and not just “oh yeah we’ve got these people in here.”

Yrjo Lansipuro:

Thank you. Next Chair Cheryl, you Chaired ALAC from October 2007 until December 2010, if I'm correct. And the same question to you, what were the main challenges, the main achievements, main disappointments?

Cheryl Langdon-Orr:

Thank you very much and I'm going to have to say that this is Cheryl Langdon-Orr for the transcript record. I'd also like to say it's very mean of them to tether me into a very comfortable seat, apart from the fact it may be a three-man operation to get me out, it stops me walking around and if you might know putting me in one place and asking me to be unanimated is a little challenge. But I'm very comfortable so thank you. And while I've got the thank you opportunities, yay team to the interpretation yet again. And that's one of the wins I would like to point out that happened at least under the transition rule between Jacqueline and myself.

It was a long and hard fight to explain why after an eight to ten hour day people whose mind is thinking in one language and whose mouth is working in another might get a little tired. Things like interpretation and those sorts of services that we now seem to feel is very normal at meeting were wins wrought by ALAC during the period of growth that Jacqueline has referred to and I'd like to focus on.

You asked me about the challenges, I didn't have any. No challenges. I had some opportunities. I had some interesting side-stepping that might needed to have been done. But I want to just take you back actually to a little bit before Jacqueline. Because I think what it does is make clear where we came from to compare to where we are now.

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Imagine if you will March, I'm probably thinking I might be a day out, 27<sup>th</sup> of 2006, Wendy Wellington. You with me? Okay. There is an ALAC meeting, and ALAC meeting that is opened to any representative of an At-Large structure, because this was pre-RALO, to attend. Now I'd been going to ICANN meetings for some time wearing other hats, it doesn't really matter. So I was there on the ground. I happened to also be in an ALS that had already been established for many years.

So as one does when one is in an ICANN meeting, one simple goes to find the obviously equitably treated ALAC meeting. Now let me see, having past the ombudsman's office, gone past the kitchen, the storage room for the chairs, the linen stores and corridors, I found a room which had most of the tables and chairs that would have been in the ballroom if ICANN wasn't occupying it and something about the size of a coffee table around which some, when I got there, made the number to nine people were in attendance.

I felt first of all that I needed a Boy Scout or girl guide award for having navigated to find said meeting, and then we didn't need microphones because we knee to knee, cheek my jowl and trying desperately trying to work on important policy where we couldn't actually all fit the pieces of paper we were looking at on the same table. Now that's literally not that long ago guys. Look where we are now. And that's thanks to every one of you and every one of the leaders that have gone before me and have come after me. So yay team.

I also just wanted to take one moment to share with you what happened in the day that Jacqueline, and what had happened at the end of Jacqueline's term, we actually had the end of what was the

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interim ALAC. As Jacqueline's term ended we had a situation where all of the ALAC members, the 15 person ALAC were appointed by RALOs and the NomCom. This was a pivot point. This was worthy of celebration, perhaps we could do it now.

To that end I was handed something that was out of its diapers and ready to start to learn to walk. And my job was really just making sure nothing broke when we fell, introducing the child around a few times and trying to make sure it didn't embarrass itself too often in too many public forums, and also to help the rest of ICANN to spell ALAC. Because really we were "the what", "the who," "the where"; and we needed to get to be where we are now, which is a respected part of policy development, a respected part of what is ICANN. And as Wolfgang pointed out, actually a jewel in the crown in the multi-stakeholder model, so that's another yay team.

When Jacqueline announced from the stage that an appointment had been made, that the ALAC had a vote and that there was a new Chair of the ALAC starting 24 hours later, and I've never seen a woman more keep to get off a stage, get down to have a drink and celebrate the fact that she was free, just by the way. I was standing in the side of the main assembly hall because it was actually more attended then Board meetings and reports are now, it was done later in the day. And everyone who'd known my for the five plus years I'd been lurking about right back to DNS lists, when my name was read out by Jacqueline looked me as if to say "you did what," and that's changed. We now have a gem and we've got a gem of a man handling it.

Wolf Ludwig:

Okay, thanks a lot Cheryl for your explanations, even if you didn't call them challenges it was I think a great job. It was a kind of cleaning up a little bit, to my perception. It was a consolidation phase. There was one, to my memory, big step in between all this long process, coming from the CAT table, literally the backward CAT table at a conference [and delegate] to Mexico. In March 2009 I think many of you here will remember how much we had to for getting this At-Large Summit to happen.

Then with all the pressure in the community, we made it a kind of perfect, well-organized summit with an excellent agenda, with excellent results all community participation, etc. And then we handed over, Evan and I, the final declaration, the summit declaration for Paul [Toomie] at the time and Peter. Then I think this was in other ICANN circles a kind of recognition or acceptance or something like this. At least one of the next steps was the creation of Board seat number 15, what is now the seat Sebastien took over as a voting member at the ICANN Board. So this is exciting history.

And now I think it was in Cartagena, what a change between (Inaudible) and Cartagena when Olivier took over. And I would say somehow after two ladies, it was now time for a guy to step in but I think – three ladies and two guys, so you had, it was a necessity. I didn't realize it so far. But I think you are somehow at the right place at the right time and it's your turn.

Olivier Crépin-Leblond:

And I was the sheriff that got shot basically. No, no I'm kidding. Actually it was quite abrupt because some of you might not know but I



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had said yes, I would be interested in taking the position. I don't know what I thought at the time but I said yes sure, it sounds like it's a great group of people and it has a lot of potential. So it all happened during the ExCom meeting at the end of the Cartagena week. And as we all know at the end of the Cartagena week we only had a couple of brain cells left working and a lot of coffee in the body as well.

And I had taken a little break to go and have some meal, my last meal as a free man I guess. And walked back into the room and Cheryl was already there with the ExCom and it took the most of, what was it three minutes I think for the baton to be sent over to me and saying "so, you're in charge of the agenda now. What is the agenda Mr. Chairman." And I had no clue at all.

So yeah, it was abrupt. It came rather well. But I'll tell you what, the thing about the organization, the At-Large Advisory Committee and At-Large was that it was already shaped up by that time. It was already in a great shape because of all of the previous Chairs that had sweated and blood and tears and had been incarcerated for a while I guess. And so I somehow had an easier job to take over than all of the previous Chairs who had to actually create a lot of the organization and a lot of this part of the community, but didn't have very much time to actually spend on the fun stuff, which was the policy stuff.

So when I hear Jacqueline saying she just had to herd cats, okay there are still cats to herd but we spend a lot less time herding cats and a lot more time actually having output coming out. And in fact, some of the programs which have actually been very fruitful recently are programs that were started a long time ago under Cheryl's run as well. And one

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of them, for example, being the Joint Applicant Support Program. I mean that's something that the ALAC and the At-Large community cannot take full credit for because others have also been involved in there, but I think one of the primary drivers, one of the main drivers for this were the At-Large community.

And the other thing was the community was already there. There were more than nine people. We now have 143, 144 – it goes all the time up. We have so many At-Large structures. We have so many people that are involved that are active, so many members that want to do things and that see things taking place at ICANN, things taking place outside of ICANN walls and want to actually take part in the multi-stakeholder model.

So just to give you a quick briefing, and I'm sorry I had to take my computer because I do like to save trees and there's so many things which are taking place simultaneously I thought I'd keep it on the screen and not actually print it out. But one of the main things that has been going on and is continuing is this growth, the growth of At-Large. This definition of what is going to be done, this goal that was set in the Mexico City Summit actually, the "one ALS in every country"; "one At-Large structure everywhere around the world." Okay we're still a certain distance away from that but it's a good goal to have, it's something we can all aspire to reach.

And that's actually one of the many different things which were defined at the Mexico City Summit. For me, I hadn't been around At-Large for a very long time but it was the first time that I saw so many At-Large structures actually gel together and see each other, people face to face

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seeing each other and coming up with a lot of statement and position papers that are actually, and we'll touch on that a little bit later on, but they're actually quite far ahead in the distance. More strategic than just directly operational statements. And sometimes you could say well when ICANN runs things they're often just more directionally operational, trying to take the next step rather than looking two, three, five, ten years from now.

So of course, the one ALS in every country was one thing that we defined for ourselves, and that also included then the inreach, because outreach is one thing and we all know that. Going out and bringing more people into the process is one thing, but then keeping people interested is the hard part as well. And so the capacity building sessions and the events that took place in the ICANN meetings that we had in Dakar and in San Jose and Costa Rica I think were an amazing experience first for our At-Large structure, for representatives that actually went to these places and actually so many saying "oh I now understand what ICANN is all about and I would really like to take a lot more part into these processes."

Because let's face it, from outside of ICANN it's a pretty weird world isn't it? All these gTLDs and ccNSO and whenever there's a new process we try and find something that means absolutely nothing and tag it and say we're simplifying things. Actually you're making things more complicated to understand because you've got all these acronyms. But this whole ICANN world is something which we are bringing more people in than any other process, apart from the latest one which is the launch of the new gTLDs and that will bring a whole set of new people into the process as well.

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So capacity building sessions are something that not only have gone on face to face, but are actually now following up afterwards on conference calls, and that's an important thing. We used to just have conference calls either for working groups or for operational issues, now we also have conference calls that include capacity building. So that our members that have actually come to a meeting or how might have not actually come to a meeting yet, can actually enhance themselves and start understanding things rather than being told "go on the website, check out whatever you can read and what are you interested in."

No, no we actually are starting to produce material for people to actually be able to access all of this information in an easier way than being provided with 150,000 megabytes of information scattered around a website which half works. So that's one thing. The second thing is really scaling At-Large. That's really, really important. When you start having more At-Large structure in a region, well there's a saying isn't there, "too many cooks spoil the broth."

Now of course we don't want to follow that specific saying "too many cooks spoil the broth so we're not going to allow anyone else"; that's exactly the opposite of what we want to do. So scaling up At-Large and scaling up all the RALOs and so on is a really important thing and we have to think about how we can scale things up to still have a balance of input between the different regions but also between the different people in the regions.

When you have input from 100 different places at once it's very difficult to have the three that keep on talking all the time and not actually hear

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the 5, 10, 15 maybe sometimes half of the whole batch that just listen and that really are scared to engage forward. So we have to think about this as being, I think, one of challenges that we have to deal with. And one of the answers to that of course is to basically have working groups. Because in working groups you don't need to have everyone engaged in every single discussion that takes place.

So effectively, if people are interested in one specific thing they can actually take part in that one specific activity. They don't need to read thousands and thousands of emails. Because that's the other problem, when you have more people you have more email traffic. And I know that several of you are already complaining that there's too much coming through their mailbox. And certainly, if you go on a holiday and actually leave this internet world behind for a few days, when you come back you're relaxation level which took seven days or 15 days for you to reach suddenly disappears. It's gone.

You think okay only on one occasion are you actually able to forget about, well feel relaxed again is to well, by accident, press the delete key for the whole mailbox, which I know some people sometimes do. And then send an email to everyone and say "if you've sent an email to me in the past five days, and it's important please send it back to me." Since most people send so many emails per day they forget what they sent to you if it wasn't important. So this is a way to deal with things, but I'm not – it's a sidetrack.

So the next thing also is to crank the ALAC to reach ALAC 3.0. I think there are things that are going on at the moment like the Rules of Procedure, we're rewriting the Bylaws – I mean the Bylaws were written

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back in the early days with Wolfgang and Annette also having mentioned this. All of that has to change and move on. The internet moves on, the ALAC evolves, the RALOs evolve. We all have to see what was good ten might not be good now. We need to streamline all of those things.

Of course the separate mailing lists also includes separate mailing lists for subgroups and RALOs and that's also a new thing. Bringing the policy development and the discussion closer to the At-Large structures, and sometimes it needs mailing lists in one language or another. Sometimes it needs mailing lists that deal with specific subjects, which might be slightly different in one region of the world than in another region of the world. And we really have to make sure that this is something that we promote so as to make the At-Large structures and the internet users really the people that bring the input into the overall processes.

So ALAC 3.0, RALO 3.0 of course, and then there's one big new thing that's happened, for the first time. The At-Large community and the At-Large Advisory Committee have been provided with an operational thing to do in ICANN, and that's the first time ever. We were initially just the people who were making noise in the background, the muzac in the elevator or the people playing the music while you have dinner. And then we moved on to starting to be the people in the table next door that speak too loudly and were told "shut up we don't want to hear about you."

Then after a while we started being the people that you started listening to and saying "hang on, they might have something to say. We can

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always close the window and stop hearing them.” And slowly we got into the point now if actually being provided with a case of “we trust you to be able to run an actual process that will actually affect ICANN and affect the whole political process and development process of ICANN in a very significant way.” Trust me, eyes are on this community at the moment a lot more than ever before. It’s a fact.

And I’m ever so pleased to see that whilst initially the question was “we want to do that, we want to do that, we want to do that” and I know that when it was finally granted a number of us looked at each other and went “Ooh, well wow they said yes.” And hearing yes is not something we were used to in the past. I’m not saying we weren’t prepared of course as a community, but it was a case of like “wow now we actually have to do something and let’s rise to the occasion.” And I’m ever so glad to hear that this has actually gone on. That the community itself has come together and come up with an objections process, which in my view and I guess the view of everyone, is really something that is going to work and I look forward to seeing it work.

And I think we have all of this support from ICANN now because of this, because of the fact that our point of view is being taken into account more and more, we have more support from ICANN than ever before. That’s another fact. I know some disagree and still believe that we still need to see this, but hang on, if given an operational process is not a proof that there is actually now a trust into this community, then I don’t know what it is. You want to see what next? You want to be trusted with the – what should we say – oh with 137 million, just a briefcase or a key to the safe? I don’t know maybe that’s the thing...

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Okay I see a few people saying yes and I'm not quite sure I could trust you with that Evan, judging from talking about Vegas back in the previous days. Anyway, I know this is transcribed so we'll continue. I think we have several challenges though that are coming towards us. The scaling issue is one thing and we really need to look at this very carefully. The inreach and outreach, we're not quite there yet. We have just managed to convince the Board Finance Committee and the Board and the Finance Department that we need more funding for outreach and for inreach.

There have been some tests. I think we will get there with time. We also have to think of scaling. Today in a region we have to bring 20 to 30 At-Large structures together. 10 years, well maybe not 10 years but a few years from now what if it's 150 At-Large structures per region? How are you going to bring 150 At-Large structures together and how tired is Heidi going to be by the time the meeting week ends with 150 people? I'm not sure. These are things we have to look at.

And at the same time I guess we are victims of our own success on this. Extending the ALACs influence and extending the voice of the internet user in the ICANN processes is something which I think we never have enough of. Because when looking back at the time when At-Large was involved in the ICANN processes, well Wolfgang pretty much said it; there were people on the Board, five on the Board and there was a direct input into the process. Now I'm not saying this was the best way and obviously there were problems at the time perhaps, let's say it this way.



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But the structure that we have developed now is one that I think has enough safeguards for the rest of ICANN to really trust the fact that what we are looking out for is the public interest and ICANNs interest. And I'd like to believe that the two are one in the same thing. And I think that we are now reaching a point when we're reaching another level of ICANN and that's of course the new CEO.

The new CEO, you've heard him. I've had the chance to have a discussion with him in previous days and it seems that the new CEO is going to base a lot of what he's going to steer ICANN into on the public interest, and on the best interest of not the lucky few, but the best interest of the majority out there. And I think that's a chance that we have to seize and we have to really take on that baton, if you want as it was mentioned this morning, and help ICANN continue making itself a better organization than it is, because it still has a lot of things that it has to do a lot better in and one of them is its image for example.

And that's one thing which we have a great part into because we reach throughout the globe. We have this outreach, this way to reach our local internet users and local stakeholders throughout the world which ICANN doesn't quite have. So that's one thing. The other thing is we have to try and plug some of ICANNs weaknesses. We mentioned the applicant support program earlier. Now imagine if ICANN did not have any applicant support program and with the results for the number of applicants from Africa, the question being was the cost of application too high, is that why there were so few applicants from Africa.

Well now the answer is no because there was an applicant support program. But we, I think, have to look at ICANN strategically and really

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work together with the other rest of the community, registrars, registries, contracted parties, non-contracted parties, other advisory committees as well and the Board and staff, and staff as well. And we have to work together to make this organization strong enough so that it actually is able to rise to the challenges that are coming, and I was going to say to the challenge that is coming but in fact the WCIT, World Congress on Information Technology in Dubai is just one of many challenges that are going to face this organization.

And if we were going to list those I think we'll spend another few hours and you'll probably have left by now, but there are quite a few and we need to make this organization as best as possible. We need to in our own view, and not only there but asking our own communities back home "what do you think ICANN should do to do a better job than what it is today." And I know there are a lot of critics of ICANN out there, there are some ex-ICANN people that are criticizing it today. And you can list, you can see the list of people that were there in the early days and I've emailed them and said "come on, get back, come back and help us"; goodness some people would rather have a root canal done then come to an ICANN meeting.

Now I've never had a root canal done, I don't know how bad it is, but it sounds bad. And I've Googled it and it sounds very bad so there you go. But anyway, these are things and I think this community has the ability to think strategically a lot more than a lot of the people who are involved in the current processes having to do a direct work into what they're doing and so on. So one more minute if you will allow me, and I thought I was only going to take two minutes to say my whole thing, but there you go. I'm speaking slowly for the interpreters.

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Thinking strategically is important. There is an R3 paper that has been drafted by a few members of the community and I think it goes along the right direction. But also today we heard the new or the future CEO mention ICANN internationalization. And guess what, guess what, in 2009 during the Mexico City Summit there was one working group that worked on this specific point. So perhaps it's time also for us to be able to look into our archives and whatever strategic thinking and strategic plans that need to be put together, we look into archives and say "hey we've got something, we've got an answer for that."

And hopefully that will turn any future headaches for the CEO and the Chair into actual success thanks to this community here, which works ever so hard. Thanks very much.

Yrjo Lansipuro:

Thank you very much Olivier especially for the vision and perspectives for the future. And I hope that this proves the pessimistic predictions from 2003 wrong. Alright, now let's hear from others and Wolf will bring the microphone to I think that's Roelof who is next.

Wolf Ludwig:

Besides our testimonials here from the peoples from the first hours and onwards, we had a complimentary slideshow. And on one of the slides you may probably have realized somebody playing football, soccer at the time, but not only soccer; Roberto [Gattano] was involved from the very first hours from the startup period was our first Board liaison at the time. He was closely involved in the creation of EURALO in 2006, 2007 when we had a very vivid debate on our mailing list. So Roberto, just

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from your point of view, perception, is there anything to be added to what we have heard so far?

Roberto Gattano:

Well yes, first of all to locate things in time. I was nominated by NomCom to ALAC and I took office at the Montreal meeting, which in 2002, June 2002, so exactly 10 years ago. And that was a moment that I will always remember because we had 10 representatives appointed by the Board and then we had in the meeting the five nominated by the NomCom, one per region. And that was the first step towards the formation of the ALAC. So I think that it was emotionally a big thing.

Emotionally it was also a big moment when in fact we had the first RALOs fully formed. I think that it was we went to, as you correctly remember, we went through overheated debate, also in terms of the composition and the purpose. Before drafting Bylaws we had to come to a compromise because – let me put it this way, when you have somebody who does for its business has a role in the ICANN process then it's fairly clear or reasonably homogenous what the expectations are, what the problems are.

But when you are talking about At-Large you get together people that have completely different points of view, completely different expectations, completely different cultural backgrounds. And so even in Europe that is a rather homogenous region, if we compare to Asia-Pacific for instance, it was really difficult to bring all the people together and to say “okay that's important but there are also other important things.” And not to be forced to make a decision on what is more important and what is less important.

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So I think that all these efforts that we have put in forming the RALOs, the European RALO directly where I was directly involved, I think that paid off, because we learned in that process how to communicate and how to live together and how to be able then to be more effective. So that was something that took time, but now the fact that all of a sudden afterwards the ALAC was able to produce policy statements that were highly regarded by the Board, it's just a child of this process that we did the hard way. We could have also done it in a different way. We could have taken a shortcut.

Wolf Ludwig:

Okay thanks a lot Roberto. After we have had some more comments regarding the past, how we became, where we come from. Now I think Jean-Jacques, you can also from your Board observations previously and perception and now being an ALAC, NomCom selected ALAC member, you have both levels and both point of views. What is your perception on the present status or on the near future?

Jean-Jacques Subrenat:

Thank you Wolf and thank you for inviting me to say a few words to you. I hope I won't disappoint anyone because I will not speak of the history of ALAC nor indeed of ICANN. I want to concentrate on one single point, the multi-stakeholder model. Why; because I think that is initially what brought ALAC into life and this is certainly one of the features which distinguishes ICANN from many other organizations. I sincerely believe it holds potential for the future and even beyond the world of ICANN and the internet. Let me say why.

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First of all, the multi-stakeholder model so far is imperfect. There's the complexity of its structures, the weight of procedure at least at this stage in its development, and historically as you know we are still to a large extent a pioneer organization with a small group of people who all know each other and expect that will always be the case. I would like to point out the dangers of remaining within the walls of the pioneer spirit. Nothing would have been possible without the pioneer spirit, but nothing it possible if we do not part from that pioneer spirit from now on.

Our DNA, the DNS of ICANN is complex. It was first military, academic, and then later on industry came in and of course lawyers who followed closely, and then volunteers all through. So I think that we have to keep in mind this reality of our DNA. And I think that this imperfection of our achievements so far is also a nagging reminder of what remains to be done, the way forward, the real challenges. I said the multi-stakeholder model so far is imperfect, yes it is imperfect but I would like to impress upon you how necessary it is.

Why is it necessary? Well we have seen several major failures of human civilization in the past years. The failure of self-regulation as he overriding commandment of human endeavor. I'm speaking mainly of the financial sector. And the opposite of that would have been, and is still in some parts of the world, the supremacy of sovereign states with very little say for the citizens or for industry or for NGOs. There are also the actors of the economy, in our case the registrars and all the business around the domain names.

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So I think that the multi-stakeholder model is becoming ever more relevant and it is a community of the general internet users which occupies us in the ALAC and which gives meaning, I think, to the work of ALAC in this construct, which is very particular and which is the multi-stakeholder model. Now to end, relax, it will only take another two minutes, the significance of the multi-stakeholder model today and for the future, let me say a few words.

I think of it still as an experiment. There is no guarantee that it will succeed. It is still an experiment. It depends on each of us to succeed or to fail. In ICANN, yes it is already a feature of our organization, but we must go further. But I'm looking beyond ICANN and I would venture to say that the importance of the multi-stakeholder model is of great importance in other areas of human activity in order to take up some of the wider challenges facing human kind.

For instance, access to clean water, fair access to energy and energy savings, food safety, public health, perhaps even conflict resolution. I dwell up on this just a few seconds to say that in our world today there are only two levels for conflict resolution on a large scale. One is a United Nations Security Council level and the other is you do it yourself, you kill yourself or you find a solution among two countries, borderline countries, etc. So I think that there's still a huge scope for conflict resolution in a multi-stakeholder approach, and that's where I think we can serve as a model.

You should not think of ICANN as a model only on internet governance, it has wider implications. So my conclusion is this, take care. I feel I have a responsibility and so do you, in the success or failure of the

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multi-stakeholder model in ICANN. Because if it succeeds in ICANN, it may be taken up as a model elsewhere to face some of the larger challenges we are faced with as human beings. If we fail, it may be the end for a long time of the multi-stakeholder model. Thank you.

Yrjo Lansipuro:

Thank you Jean-Jacques, especially what you said about the multi-stakeholder model. It has the capacity to be a model for other things.

Wolf Ludwig:

Let me ask you are there some questions from your side to the panelists, to our speakers on the history or some further comments. I see Alan here.

Alan Greenberg:

I don't have – is it on yeah – I don't have a question but I'll go back to history for just a very short moment. I started into ALAC rather late compared to some of the people in December 2006. Brett Faucet was leaving as the GNSO, I was appointed by the NomCom, Brett Faucet was leaving as the GNSO liaison and I foolishly volunteered at my first meeting to take on that role. My next ICANN experience was about a month and a half later in February when I attended a special GNSO session on the new gTLDs. And then a month later in Lisbon.

And I'll be more blunt than some of my earlier speakers were. In discussing with the various people I met on the GNSO and in other parts of ICANN at Lisbon, the perspective of the ALAC was; it was a very short definition. It was a joke. And the money that ICANN was spending on it



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was a bloody waste of money. It isn't anymore. We've done a good job.

Wolf Ludwig:

Thanks Alan. Next comment is from Sebastien. I think he doesn't need any further introduction.

Sebastien Bachollet:

Thank you very much. I will speak different languages and if you need translation please use it. Just a few dates – 2007, five years ago the interim ALAC and we started full ALAC just before the signature of all the MOU for all the RALOs. We are here for the 10 years of ALAC, the decennial of ALAC but also the future of the creation of the RALO. 2008 I had the honor to be the local host of the ICANN meeting in Paris, the largest ever organized meeting with a local host. I say "ever" because there were no local hosts in San Francisco. Even if in San Francisco there were the same amount of participants and that's a big difference from my point of view.

2009 we organized and thanks that ICANN refused to organized a summit in Paris, I would have been mad. But finally we get this organized in Mexico and it was a great success and a great progress. And I think it is very important that this community may understand and speak many languages because it one of the reasons that is easier to work with is that we can understand each other. One of the reasons why I'm speaking in Spanish, it is not my mother language and it is not the most common language in ICANN, however, this is an effort for me to speak Spanish. But if everyone does the same effort, also the

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persons who speak English make the effort so that we can understand each other, this will be much better for the discussions.

And I would like you to help me with one of my dreams, it's that 2009 five years after is 2014, I would like very much that we organize the second summit of the At-Large structure in 2014. For that we have to work all together because we will need help, help, help from staff, from the money of ICANN to explain to the rest of the communities that it's money put in the right place at the right moment. And I will certainly not be able to do that by myself. You need to be doing that.

I would like to finish. I want to introduce [my house] but my wife is here this time and she never comes, and to that effect I now would like to thank you, thank all the families, your families that help you in your participation in ICANN. Your families are essential and tell them that we thank them for their support.

Wolf Ludwig:

I think this is a very crucial factor you just mentioned. Volunteers not having families at the back office, and the tolerance and the patience when we have phone calls during night time, sometimes for lunch time or whatsoever; whenever you do it it's not the best moment and then you are away again for another week. So these are not the most favorable circumstances, but that's the life of volunteers and we just have one more comment from Tijani, please.

Tijani Ben Jemaa:

Thank you Wolf. Speaking about the history of At-Large, I think we don't have to forget to speak about our staff who left us. I cannot

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forget Nick and Matthias who left us and who did a very, very important work so that our work would succeed. Also, the staff who is working with us now, they are exceptional. And in 2009, AFRALO took the initiative to prepare or to ask for capacity building for its ALSes and the response was no because it wasn't in the budget. We kept asking for it till we succeeded to have it. And after that, now we can notice that our requests are taken seriously and are satisfied. That means that ALAC and At-Large are now trusted more than before. Thank you.

Wolf Ludwig: Thanks a lot Tijani. I have now the pleasure to welcome Steve who will from his long term observation and perception tell us about what is the role or the need of the At-Large at ICANN. Steve you have the floor.

Steve Crocker: Thank you. Would it be okay if I sit here instead of standing up?

Wolf Ludwig: Yes.

Steve Crocker: And I remain seated for two reasons, one is that I'm just very tired but the other is that it is comfortable to be seated in sort of a living room setting as it were, at least we are and to talk informally and collegially. I have very, very warm feelings about ALAC. I have a speech here which I don't think I'm going to use much of. There's a kind of tortured joke that it begins with and the punch line is we tried to find all the people that were affected by the work that ALAC has done and we couldn't fit

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them in the room because they were two and a half billion people. That's not my – that's been provided to me.

Cheryl Langdon-Orr: You're stealing jokes?

Steve Crocker: I didn't say that. I just wanted to give credit where credit is due. Let me turn this into a very personal reflection. I got invited into the ICANN operation a full decade ago in early 2002. My friend Vince Surf was Chair of the Board at the time said "we're starting up this SSAC business and we've got the people recruited we just need somebody to lead it for a while, get us started; six months would be sufficient." And I've known him a long time so I was able to recalibrate what he had in mind and here I am 10 years later.

But the reason why I mentioned that is because this is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ALAC and I'm proud to be wearing the button, and so I've had a front row seat watching ALAC. And very shortly after I started to Chair SSAC there was, within a year there was the reform and that created liaison seats on the Board of ICANN and I took one of those seats; I took the SSAC seat. And I'm trying to remember exactly who filled the liaison from, yes and then – oh you were the liaison. There was you. There was Wendy. Who else?

[background conversation]

Steve Crocker:

Oh Vanda, who could forget Vanda. And so I had the pleasure of interacting with both a very exciting set of liaisons on the Board and with the Chairs of ALAC. And as I struggled to try to bring some form to our sort of early stage of SSAC, I watched the similar struggle but from a different vantage point of ALAC getting organized, and in many ways, being more successful at bringing form and structure. And so I was able to copy some lessons from that and I was quite appreciative.

We also set up a liaison between the organizations very constructively. So it's been a real pleasure watching the evolution and the maturation of ALAC and one of the things that I used to ask, in a fairly challenging way, is I would listen to what requests were coming. And to be quite frank the requests were generally, to my ear, of the form "we want to be taken seriously in one form or another. We want a voting seat on the Board. We want other sorts of things." And I would, in the privacy of sort of one on one discussions, I would say "great, and what happens after that. What do you do after you're taken seriously?"

And it wasn't clear to me in the early days that there was anything that was going to come out of that except more of the same. And I have to say, I am fantastically impressed. ALAC has moved way beyond that stage and has become an important and vital force within the ICANN community representing a broad set of the community and a broad set of the issues that the community has that would not be represented properly in the rest of the ICANN family. So it is a quite deep appreciation that I have for the progress and the evolution. And with that has come some strong personal friendships.

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I now know instantly what Sebastien wants for desert and some other things that perhaps should not be talked about, but anyway. And Sebastien is ready at my side to be helpful. I know that if he thinks I'm about to be in trouble in a social situation or linguistically challenged, which is my fate, he's there. And it's a real delight. So you're a fun crowd anyway, which is good. Is there anything I've forgotten that's important here? I don't think so. The things I'm supposed to say about the multi-stakeholder model and the bottom-up internet governance, you guys know all of this. And there really is no part of ICANN that is more of that model and that embodies it than ALAC does. So I think that's just absolutely crucial.

Sitting to my right and silent is Fadi Chehade who you've met already. He's sitting in a chair that you would expect him to speak but we haven't actually scheduled him to speak. I don't know if we can stop him, but we don't have to make him. But sitting here he is getting the full benefit of who you are and how you operate and the multi-layers of intertwined formality and informality and the subtleties. This is probably the most multi-cultural group, I suppose the GAC could make that comparable claim, but I think this is really in a microcosm our world congress. And it's just a delight to be here.

So, congratulations. It's been a very substantive 10 years and everyone involved should be extremely pleased and satisfied that you've made something out of sort of the original unstructured clay of just taking raw materials and building and forming structures that are very effective, and that is a major accomplishment.

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Yrjo Lansipuro: Thank you. Thank you Steve. Thank you for your words and for coming here and I am pleased to welcome Mr. Fadi Chehade, our new CEO. As Steve said you've remained silent but I don't think that's the idea. So I give you the microphone and I ask for your first impressions of ALAC.

Fadi Chehade: If I can just stand.

Olivier Crépin-Leblond: This is how I was brought in by the way as well, so welcome. That's the way it goes.

Fadi Chehade: Thank you. I'm very happy to be here. I understand what you do at a very high level, but I appreciate the spirit of what you do. In my church I once went to the authorities in the church and I told them we need to take some of the budget of the church and send it to very poor kids in upper Egypt. And they said we have a lot of plans we're adding this, we're going to put this new hall; bottom line is they said no.

So I went to my kids, they were 12 and 14, and I said come on boys let's do something. So they went and got all the boys in the church and the girls to do concerts in the park. And this is when they're s12 and 14, they're now 22 and 24. The activity is still going and since the boys and the kids started it in the church, they've sent over 7000 goats to poor kids and trained them to turn the milk into cheese and it's transformed entire villages in upper Egypt.

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Kids – the bottom of the multi-stakeholder church model changed the church. And now the church wants them to give them part of the monies they're collecting because it's cutting into the church budget. Their parents are putting a lot of money into this. I believe in what you do and as I said the first day, multi-stakeholder without this group is multi-stakeholder minus one and it's zero; it does not work. You are very much part, if not the foundation of the multi-stakeholder model, which I deeply believe in.

I had frankly the incredible privilege of spending a whole evening dining with Olivier and just sitting across from him and understanding what moves you. And he is an amazing advocate of your cause, really very thoughtful and very deep and very connected to what you're doing, and needless to say very passionate about it. And I believe a lot of the passion starts here. And late at night after that dinner he and I, there was one of the ladies that was at dinner was at a different hotel so he and I walked her late at night so she doesn't walk alone and we came back to hotel.

And he told me something that I won't forget about the feet. Many of you probably have heard this from him. But you are really the feet of ICANN; you are what makes ICANN move. You are the foundation of this great model. And I respected that immensely. And lastly I want to say that I also had the immense privilege now to attend a few days of Board meetings with Sebastien and I can't even start telling you what an incredible – the one thing I went up and told my wife about, who's also here, was watching Sebastien at the Board meeting. Because to me, as the gentleman there – yourself looking back...



Jean-Jacques Subrenat: Jean-Jacques.

Fadi Chehade: Yes as Jean-Jacques said earlier there's some sacredness about the multi-stakeholder model that we will stand frankly judged on at some point, beyond ICANN. And I take that very seriously. And Sebastien is truly the defender of that at the Board meeting. And many people may view him in a different lens because he's different than the rest of the board. He's truly the voice of the users. I mean even today he went up in front of a huge audience, I don't know if any of you saw him, and basically told them why am I standing on the floor addressing you guys on a table up there and it's like I'm talking to basically a tribunal of sorts.

And by the way, I don't know if you know this, but I demanded that the microphone be put on the stage after you left and it's still on the stage. Because this is the kind of input that you bring, that you remind us of, you truly are a voice of truth which I will respect and I will support for the 2014 effort. I will put my voice to support you. You have my support for that. Thank you. Good luck to all of you in this great mission and you have, I cannot match Sebastien, but you have another fan on the Board now.

Steve Crocker: Very nice. I've grabbed the microphone back because there was something that I meant to say that I think is worth a brief moment of discussion. Sebastien ended with a discussion about trying to have a

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summit in 2014, so there's some money involved. And when we talk about money we have to talk about process and we have to talk about what the competition is for that money. There was this remarkable cooperative effort to pool the relatively modest funds across the different regions to support the African summit. And then quite naturally there was a desire to have a comparable summit in Latin America and the pro forma response from staff was well you've used up all your money.

Here we came to a moment where the process gave us one result but core value suggested something else. So there was a little short discussion behind the scenes and all of a sudden it was decided that yeah there is enough money to do that because in comparison with the amount of monies that were being spent for other things, like the gTLD program, it really did not make sense to have to say no for a very reasonable request or a Latin American summit.

You have a warm reception for these kinds of activities within the Board. Myself, Sebastien for sure, and others; we do not micro-manage the budget. There is a process for all that so I would urge that you press hard, 2014, we are days away from the FY13 budget, the Fiscal year 13 budget. So if you're talking about money that's going to go into the Fiscal Year 14 budget then you're talking about a budget process that is basically going to start pretty quickly.

So I would urge you to not just have this as a wish or a vague hope for the future, but to turn to it, put your attention into it and it will happen.

Wolf Ludwig:

Okay, thanks a lot Steve. Thanks a lot for coming and addressing our audience. Well I think we have arrived at the end of our meeting, of the first part of our meeting, what was information part. But as you may have heard or as you may imagine there will be a second part, what will be now is the party part and you are all welcome for the second part as well, to attend the second part the pre-condition was to attend the first part. But if you have some friends not having attended the first part they are also invited for the second part.

Let me take the opportunity at the end of this session to thank our panelists or our friends here, dear members of our own community for your splendid contributions, etc. I would like to thank some other contributors. I have seen many other hands raised who would have liked to contribute to the debate, but this is not the end of the debate this is just the beginning of another debate. And another part of the long process of civil society, of user organization as ICANN, as we have heard before.

Let me thank at this stage also for our dear sponsors what is Afiliat and ICANN without they're support this even wouldn't have been possible. And at the very end I now would like to – just a moment, a little bit of patience. We are here in Europe but we are an international organization so to say and several of you now have this nice ceremony of a birthday cake...

[music and singing]

Wolf Ludwig:

Thanks everybody and the party is open now.

[End of Transcript]