BUENOS AIRES – LACRALO Showcase
Monday, November 18, 2013 – 18:30 to 20:00
ICANN – Buenos Aires, Argentina

JOSÉ ARCE:

Good afternoon. If I may have your attention, please? This is José Arce speaking. We are going to enjoy a wonderful show right now, and after the show we'll start with our presentations. [Show and applause]

Welcome all. We have interpretation so if you don't speak Spanish, please put on your headphones. As I was saying, welcome everyone. I am José Arce. I'm the current LACRALO Chair and I'd like to formally welcome you all to Argentina. This is my country and my homeland, so I feel very proud to be the host, to have this ICANN meeting here. Welcome to my country. I hope you're having a great time and I hope you will have a wonderful time for the rest of the week.

I also hope that some of you can stay a little bit longer to enjoy not only our city, but also this country. I hope that you can enjoy this special characteristic of we, the Argentines. So on behalf of LACRALO, welcome everyone. I see many familiar faces, many friends that I can recognize, people from our region, and also newcomers. The idea behind this event is to celebrate that we, the Internet users, have a space within ICANN. So welcome everyone. [applause]

As you know, this is a space devoted to the entire community, and the aim of our space is to welcome people that are not acquainted with ICANN so that they can learn about what we do within this At-Large community. We try to represent the interests of Internet users. The idea is to invite new people so that they get to know about our region,

about the members of the community, about what we're doing. The name of this event is an inclusive Internet, with active participation of individual Internet users. This is the name of this LACRALO showcase, and this is what we strive for; what we want to achieve.

So in every ICANN meeting we hold this kind of celebration and we give them different names. On this occasion we want to focus on an inclusive Internet, with the active participation of Internet users, in order to highlight the significance of the 'active' participation, or 'active' engagement. We see many people in the ICANN community that really want to participate, that cannot find the right channels to do so.

We're here to let them know that the channels do exist, the channels are there, and we are here to help you find them. Thank you very much for sharing this tango show that we've just enjoyed. Tango is very typical in our country, in Argentina.

If you stay until the end of the showcase we will be enjoying another show, this time with a different type of typical Argentine music, so please stay with us until the end of the showcase so that we can enjoy more of the culture of our region. Because at the end of the day, what we're doing in our showcases is to share and show Latin American and Caribbean cultures that are represented by the members of these RALOs. I want to thank all the members in our RALO.

I want to thank them for their efforts to make this event happen, to make it take place. Please join me in giving them this warm round of applause.

I would like to give the floor to certain people that have worked so that the voice of the Internet users can be heard within ICANN, and can be even more effective. Without further ado, it's going to be a real pleasure, an honor, to introduce the ALAC incumbent Chair. ALAC is the ICANN organization in which the Internet users are represented. It's a pleasure for me to introduce Olivier Crépin-Leblond, ALAC's Chair. Olivier, you have the floor please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much José. When I started out as ALAC Chair, some of you wouldn't know but it was actually in Cartagena and it was of course in a Spanish-speaking country. One of the things that I've wanted to do ever since starting three years was learn how to speak Spanish. Unfortunately I have failed miserably so I could say beinvenido, but apart from that, "mi Español… es not good." [laughter]

Unfortunately we'll have to remain in English, and maybe next time we're in this region I'll be able to say a couple more words to actually explain that I still don't speak Español. It's a real pleasure to see you all here and to see that this community is growing more and more and more, and that we're having more and more At-Large structures that are joining and bringing in their input to the ICANN processes.

It's really important that this input from this region is being heard, just like in every region around the world. As you've heard in the last few days, and in the last few weeks, the game is now not just resorting to just ICANN, new gTLDs, domain names and so on, but we are faced with a wider debate worldwide between the multistakeholder model on the one hand, and the multilateral model on the other hand.

I have nothing against the multilateral model, but I cannot imagine multilateralism giving rise to such wonderful dancing as what we've had a littler earlier today. Really, this tango was amazing. I do have to thank our host. One of the things that's never understood is that the regions, when they do their showcase, the regions are the people that organize the showcase from A to Z.

They're helped of course by very competent and helpful At-Large staff, but at the same time, they're the ones who are driving the agenda and do everything from A to Z. It's something often people don't quite understand. That includes the funding, finding sponsors, finding the dancers, the entertainment and so on. Of course, you haven't come here to listen to me.

I think I should invite Rodrigo de la Parra, who is the Vice President for this region. Without Rodrigo I don't think we would have been as positive. A few years ago, ICANN was a totally different animal. At-Large was a different animal because At-Large used to have a voice but nobody used to listen, which is a problem. [laughter]

Through repeating itself a number of times and through, of course, having the help of very competent staff and the rest of the community starting to listen and thinking, "Hang on, these people make sense," we've managed to now not only have a voice but to be listened to and be an integral part of this community that is recognized.

Not only in the LACRALO region but in every region around the world, and that's really, really important. It's important because as you've seen here, advice comes from the heart. There are no hidden intentions behind the advice here.

These are people who come here, free of charge, they give their time away, they spend hours and hours and they provide their advice. I think it's really important to recognize this. So with the help of Rodrigo I think it's a perfect combination and I really hope that it will continue this way.

I invite you all, already now, to the Summit that is going to take place in June 2014 in London. This will bring 160, maybe even more than that; 161, 162, depending on how many more structures we have joining, all of these structures over to London, and they are the ones building their agenda, they're the ones that are going to build the whole week that they will spend in London to interact with the ICANN community and each other.

Seeing each other face-to-face is always a very important thing. Anyway, Rodrigo, you're next. Thanks very much to all of you for coming here, and thank you to ICANN as well, because I think that it's the ability for us to see each other every now and then and to work on some really important subjects for the future. Bye.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you, good evening everyone. Thank you Olivier for your encouraging words towards ICANN, towards the staff, we really appreciate it. I think it's worth repeating Olivier's message regarding the relevance of this group within ICANN. I think they are a cornerstone of the multistakeholder model, which we have to feel proud of as an organization.

I think we have to encourage, to foster the RALOs in the different regions. We have to encourage a much more active engagement on

their part. With regards to the Latin America and the Caribbean, well, you will recall that we met in Costa Rica some time ago, and I think that LACRALO at the time was in a situation far different than the situation now.

The situation then was not that encouraging. I have been following up on the discussions on the LACRALO exchange list and I see quite a noticeable difference. I have seen documents that contribute to policy development within ICANN, and I feel very pleased about that. I really want to congratulate you all on this. Given the recent events in the Internet governance context, the demands on ICANN are very important nowadays.

These demands include the RALOs and include At-Large. So although since Costa Rice until now you've been going along the right path, well, you should speed up along that path. Finally, I want to publicly thank two LACRALO members that have been actively engaged in the Strategic Group for Latin America and the Caribbean – Dev and Fatima. They have been truly, truly spectacular.

They have made a difference to this ICANN meeting. Not only in terms of the LACRALO activities, but also in terms of the activities of all stakeholders in the region. They led project number two – it's a project devoted to communications, and thanks to what they have done we have more ICANN content in Spanish, Portuguese and English, and I'm not only speaking about translations, but they have made material more easily understood. There is a wonderful LACRALO brochure, etc., so we really appreciate that. We encourage you to continue engaging in ICANN. Thank you and congratulations.

JOSÉ ARCE: Thank you Oliver, thank you Rodrigo. It's really important to highlight, at least personally, and at least with the members of LACRALO that I know, that we believe in the multistakeholder model. I'd now like to invite Dr. Steve Crocker, the Chairman of the ICANN Board. Oh, I didn't know where he was! Okay, here you are, thank you Steve. Thank you very much for joining us.

STEVE CROCKER: It's a great pleasure to be here. Olivier tried to tell you how poor he is at Spanish. I'm going to tell him that he's a lot better than I am. I was exposed to "como estas?" and to "uno, dos, tres" and far more useful was what I learned on the radio in Los Angeles: "no tango miedo". [laughter] José talked about that this is the place where the users participate, where the users are the core of getting involved and making things happen.

I have the pleasure and the great fortune to be involved in the beginnings of the Internet back in the late 1960s and early 1970s. There was a direction set at that time that has set the direction all the way through to our current time, and it was this: when the ARPANET – which was the first network that was the core of what later became a network of networks and turned into the Internet – was formulated, there was a division between getting the wires that connected the different sites together and building the first routers.

But that was done in a formal way with a contract with the company selected. The question of, "What are we going to do with this network?

How are we going to use it and how are we going to design the applications that run on it?" was left entirely to the users. It was left to the users not in a top-down fashion of, "Come up with a plan," or, "Here's what our plan is."

It was an extraordinarily strange, in a way, bottom-up process, in that the sites connected were research labs in the United States; first in the western parts of the United States and then growing across the country. It was left to the graduate students, not even the professors who were in charge, to figure out, "what are we going to do with this network?"

We got together and brought with us the combination of a certain amount of technical skill about how to write programs and so forth, and a great deal of, "What would we want to use it for?" We were building a network that was going to meet our needs, and we were equally conscious that it had to expand and be open for others to use it as well.

So those two ideas; that the users were in charge in defining it, and that it had to be open, were the basic principles that we adhered to from the very beginning. That openness resulted in three separate and equally important aspects. From a technical perspective we designed the architecture so it could be expanded and build upon, and was not closed.

That is what led to the ability to expand at the edges and create all the kinds of applications that some of us could see and many of us couldn't see, and applications that we wouldn't have imagined.

The second kind of openness was we made all of the documentation completely open, and the third was we made all of our meetings and

associations completely open, so that over time new people came in and became the leaders and many generations – a generation is measured in about 18 months in this business. All of that is very important. Now, of course that was in the days when we had a few dozen people, a few hundred people, a few thousand people, a few hundred thousand people…

Things have scaled up and up. Because of that scaling there's been a lot of creation of differentiated organizations. We now sit here and this group doesn't think of itself as a technical organization that is going to build the protocols, but nonetheless, this group represents the users who are the drivers of what the network of tomorrow is going to like, and shaping the direction for the network for today.

All of the other people; the technical people, the business people and so forth, effectively have to be responsive to the forces that are generated in this community. [applause] Olivier mentioned that when he got involved as Chair, no one listened. I've been involved with ICANN for a fairly time, but I became Chair two and half years ago. One of the things that I decided on very strongly was that we had to be in listening mode.

A small thing I started was to meet with the Chairs of the SOs and ACs on a regular basis, in addition to all of the other mechanisms that exist, but to meet one on one and build relationships and communication channels. So I've had the pleasure of building a relationship with Olivier and we get together on a regular basis. In the spirit of transparency, because I know we like to know everything, I'll tell you what he orders for breakfast – he orders hot chocolate and croissants, and you can have

your own discussion with him about his tastes, but he seems happy whenever we have that available.

To be serious for a moment, we have a very solid, effective set of items that… He usually comes very prepared and he shares the things that are on your minds, and we try to take care of it. Then of course there's the delightful skillet session that takes place at the end of the week, and I actually look forward to it. It's one of the most direct and refreshing interactions.

Out of that, and several other things that were related, one of the listening issues that arose was, "What happens to advice that comes from ALAC?" I don't want to take you through the long version of that but the short version is that we now have a formal registry in operation where we record the advice that we get, and that creates a trackable obligation for us to respond with what we did with it, and there is a bunch of steps involved in all of that.

It's intended to raise the visibility, to raise the accountability, and in addition to all of that, to actually get things done, which is not a small matter. In the last several months or so I've been adding to my litany of effectiveness and efficiency for ICANN so that we're towards the organization and operate in a business-like way and get our job done. The additional aspect that ICANN needs to have is empathy.

We have to stay in close touch with the people that we serve. We have to maintain an understanding. We have to make sure that we don't have great distances develop. There is no need for us – one of the great advantages of being a non-governmental organization is that we don't have to be government-like. We can be friendly and helpful, even while

we're being business-like and forceful when we need to be, but there's no need for that great distance.

It's clear here that there is another additional dimension that is embodied in this group, which is you guys have fun, you guys have spirit, and there is no other part of the ICANN constellation that brings as much energy, as much vitality and just pure joy as this group. Thank you. It's a pleasure to be here. [applause]

JOSÉ ARCE: Thank you very much Steve for your words. I would like to commend the following. ICANN has many years. We were celebrating yesterday our 15th anniversary, and through this time, with the growth of this organization, the participation of users and the civil society of the Internet was growing in line with ICANN. it is due to the work of many volunteers. I want to name them.

I want to mention Alejandro and Carlos, that were here from the very beginning. Alan, Vanda, Evan, Cheryl, Darlene, Dev, Sergio, Eduardo, and if I missed anyone please… I'm sorry for that. But thanks to the voluntary work, we could get this community a seat in the Board of Directors of ICANN.

This person is currently Sebastian Bachollet, and I would like to invite him to address the audience. Thank you very much Sebastian for being here with us today, and thank you for bringing something green that was the aim today.

SEBASTIAN BACHOLLET:	But I do not speak Spanish! When Silvia told me you had to have something green, I was in my room and I discovered this. This is for my friend Alejandro, because he is the one that gave me this as a present in Mexico. This is the football jersey of the Mexican team. Why is this important? Because in the year 2009 there was the first Summit for the user structures, and in their regions that was the first time we organized a Summit there.

This time, for the first time, we had in the region a leadership training program. I don't know the word in Spanish. The first part of the ICANN Academy took place there. That happened in the region and this is the demonstration that here we do a lot of things and here we can do new things too. Now in English, I will shift into English.

Our region is multiple parts but I don't speak Portuguese and I can't do that. But there are people speaking English and others speaking Spanish and it's important to bring everybody up to the same level, and I'll say a few words in English too. It's a real pleasure to be with you.

Part of my heart is in this part of the world. You might not know but I have part of my family living in Peru since 1924. It's a good part of my family, and I started to practice my Spanish since I went to visit them, when I was almost 20. I like to come back here.

I think it's very important to have the At-Large structures. The work you're doing at your level, at the national level, is important, and to bring you all together is really a need. You remember two or three years ago it was still a struggle, when Cheryl was Chair. We wanted to have you coming each year to gather for each region at a meeting, and it was difficult because of the budget. Now it's almost done.

Each time we are going to one region with the ICANN meeting there is a gathering of all the At-Large structures, and that's very good. I will stop because the time is running, but I want to thank you again for your hard work and wish you a very fruitful week and a lot of fun too, as Steve suggested. Thank you very much. [applause]

JOSÉ ARCE: Thank you very much for your kind words Sebastian. I would like you to join me in listening to the words of two people that make part of our community and that have been a volunteer for very many years. Their work has been very interesting and I think that I would like to personally thank both of them, because they are just finishing in their position right now, at this meeting.

Of course, this is not a farewell. They will continue being engaged with the At-Large community and with the region and their structures, but Natalia Enciso is invited to say a few words. Natalia is a friend. She's from Paraguay. She's an excellent person and a great professional. Natalia, you're invited to say a few words.

NATALIA ENCISO: Good evening. I will speak from the perspective of me as a user. I would like to point out a phrase that was said in the morning meeting. Marco [Paradon?] said that the team working in ICANN, people from the outside think that we are the Big Bang Theory, and this made me remember that we are seen as that. My mother is not the only one that does not understand what ICANN is and what we do here.

As Internet users our task it to have outreach and capacity building, and as a personal experience I used to teach at the University of Paraguay in the Law School, and in the program they were speaking about ICANN. I always spoke about ICANN without have participated in a meeting. So I could get involved in ICANN, in the Internet Governance, directed by Olga Cavali, and the Fellowship Program, led by Janice, known as Mama Janice.

Thanks to these two programs I was able to participate and get involved in ICANN.   But as you know, this is a learning curve and the first meetings are very difficult. There are many people, much information, many acronyms, all the information is in English and when you just think you've learnt something you have new acronyms, new stakeholders, new meetings.   It is like a live organism that grows and multiplies. Training has to be constant and a different level.

That's why, with Fatimata Cambronero, we organized ourselves in Costa Rica with members of the community who donated their time to explain about policies and how to get more involved in ICANN. I would like to thank all those people that participated in that program, starting from our Costa Rica meeting. This program is in the hands of Juan Manuel Rojas.

But from the point of view, to understand ICANN, you need to live it, not only to get information and training, but to understand you need to live it, participate and get more involved. Use all the tools that ICANN offers. There are many platforms and programs to participate remotely in or via face-to-face interaction. I see many people in the region came here on their own, and this shows the interest created.

As users we have to get the voice of ICANN to the region and the voice of the region to ICANN. That's why we need to continue working. Thank you very much.

JOSÉ ARCE: Thank you very much Natalia for your kind words. Now, let me address you before introducing the next member. When I got involved, like Natalia, in the Internet governance world within ICANN, perhaps at the very beginning you're a bit lost, and even with these programs you need the support of people with experience.

The message is, if there is anyone interested in participating in the At-Large community, well, you can look for someone with experience and you can contact that person. This person speaks from the heart and this is something very valuable within the community.

Carlton Samuels is there for another person and speaks openly and opens the doors to direct activities in connection with the ICANN world. Carlton, I would like to thank you for the support you've given me. Now I invite you to address the audience. Thank you.

CARLTON SAMUELS: Good afternoon everyone. I don't speak Spanish at all and you'd probably think after two wives who were fluent Spanish speakers I probably would have picked up a little along the way. But you have to understand that I did not wish to have three languages in which I had to argue, so I decided to take a strategic way out of it.

It's really a pleasure to be here because most of you would know we've come full circle. On the 4th December 2006 we signed the Compact of Association here, in Buenos Aires, for LACRALO. It started, funnily enough, for me, a couple of days before that, when a young Canadian fellow came into my office and said, "We hear you have an interest in Internet, we hear you have some interest in governance. We are starting a new organization and we'd like you to participate. Would you like to?"

It was two days later that I had to get to Buenos Aires. I left my house on a Friday afternoon and we got here Saturday morning. We went to work; we worked all day Saturday, all day Sunday, and at the end of Sunday evening we had a Compact of Association. I took the aircraft back to my home on Sunday night. There were some people there that I want to acknowledge.

There was [Eric Eriate Ahoun? 01:01:57], there was Carlos Dionisio Aguirre, there was Sergio Salinas Porto, there was Andres Piazza, and with us – there were others there, Alberto Soto – there was myself, Jacqueline Morris and Lance Hinds from Guyana. Out of those 14 constituents that were in that original meeting from nine countries, we are now 42 from 16 countries. So we have grown some. [applause]

Here is what I know. If you are going to achieve anything in this business it requires collaboration, association and people who are committed to the cause. I can tell you, of those original members that were in that hotel room on the 4th of December 2006 they are still here in the cause, they are still fighting the good fight, and I'm always grateful to them for

deciding that we had something bigger than us to participate and contribute to.

José speaks about a responsibility to help and an agenda participation in the process, and that's true, because I got help. When I started in LACRALO and in the ICANN processes… Again, Canadians have always been helpful and I'm referring of course to Alan, who was very helpful to me in the early days in giving me guidance; what you should read, who you should listen to, where you should go for information. I always give him credit for helping me navigate.

Alan Greenberg at that time had a lot of experience in ICANN and he was very generous with his help in helping me to navigate it. So I say that to say that we always have people we can go to for help, and that's one of the reasons I'm always willing to give help to those who ask for it. Where do we go from here? It seems to me that if we remain committed to the objectives, to which we've severely agreed in that Compact of Association, there is still work to be done.

AT this time, when the community needs to come together and find ways to harmonize so that we could beat back the common threats, so that we can still work towards the common objectives – it beholds us to renew our spirit and renew our commitment to the multistakeholder, collaborative endeavor that is the ICANN process.

I'm going to thank you. This is end of my second term on the ALAC. It was a voyage of discovery and I'm still discovering. I still intend to participate in one form or another, and I still intend to give as much as I can. This is not a cheap exercise for any of us, because as professionals we have to dedicate time and effort to this. For those of us who work

for a living, time is money, and when we give up time we're actually committing money to this effort.

It is for one reason I despair when the efforts of all of us that we put in – I see Cheryl Langdon-Orr there. What can I say about this lady? I don't know if she sleeps, but I can tell you that the Herculean effort that Cheryl puts into this process, it boggles the mind and it makes my head in a spin. Vanda's there. Vanda's been in the process for a long time.

These are people who are committed to the process, and when you see them still engaged it gives you reason to remain engaged. So I thank you one and all. [applause]

JOSÉ ARCE: Thank you very much Carlton for your words. Now I would like to invite LACRALO's Secretary. I've known Sylvia Herlein-Leite for a long time, so Sylvia, it's a pleasure to be able to introduce you and to have you here to address. She is half Brazilian, half Argentinian, but we would like her to be Argentinian. She is a friend of ours.

SYLVIA HERLEIN-LEITE: Thank you very much José, and thank you all for being here. I'd like to particularly thank all those here who came wearing something green. As you can see on the logo, we have the ICANN and At-Large logo with five different flags. There is one which is green, and that's the one belonging to LACRALO. That's why you can see all the shades of green on the guests here.

I would also like to thank the sponsors who made this event possible. You have seen a cultural show and at the end there will be another show, which is a typical dance of Argentina. They were also responsible for the drinks and the food that you are receiving. On the other hand, our sponsor has made it possible that we can give you a key chain that you will be receiving with the name of the LACRALO showcase and the date.

The sponsors are Google, NIC .ar and our Vice President that addressed you before, Rodrigo de la Parra, who made this possible. As Olivier has said, they made the organization of this showcase possible. I'd also like to thank the Organizing Committee that was composed of different representatives of the organizations who met on a weekly basis to welcome you as you deserve. So thank you very much. [applause]

As you all know, LACRALO was the first region organized, so we are the oldest and luckily the greater one. We have 43 organizations and all of them are described in the booklet you'll be receiving. For that I would like to thank Dev Anand Teelucksingh, because he was the one doing this. Without his technical skills you wouldn't be able to have this in your hands.

Finally, out of these 43 organizations that are part of LACRALO, we have some of them which are present today and we would like to thank them for their efforts to celebrate with us, because the showcase is a celebration of our region. I'd like to invite them to come to the front, for them to be the first to receive the key chain and the booklet with all the details of the organizations.

You can see that we have all the flags. We're struggling to have the representation of all of the countries that are part of the Latin American and Caribbean region. That is to say, to have one organization in each of the countries. We have a long way to go but we have achieved quite a lot. Thank you very much for this, because all the organizations that are part of this are making the most to have a contact in those countries, and this is the goal that ALAC has in all the regions.

Now I invite you, I invite the representatives of the LACRALO ALSes here today to come to the front. We will give you this and a round of applause. We want to know your faces and we want everybody to see your faces. After that, please stay with us because we will take the official picture. [applause]

The first representative, representing [inaudible 01:12:25] is Carlos Aguirre. Thank you very much. Dev Anand Teelucksingh from Trinidad and Tobago, please come to the front. Fatimata Cambronero, on behalf of [inaudible], Argentina. Aida Noblia on behalf of the Notary Public Association for Uruguay and one of the most recently incorporated ALSes. Thank you very much for being with us today.

Natalia Enciso from Paraguay. Johnny Laureano from the Internet Users of Peru. Diego Acosta Bastidas, I don't know if he's here, from Ecuador. Alberto Soto from Argentina. Wladimir Davalos from JIC Ecuador. Cintra Sooknanan from ISOC Trinidad and Tobago. Leon Sanchez from ISOC Mexico and from ISOC Mexico we also have Alejandro Pisante. We have two representatives from ISOC Mexico here with us.

Sergio Salinas Porto from Internauta Argentina. Vanda Scartazeni from NEXTI, Brazil, the Organization of Women Working in IT. Carlton

Samuels from the West Indies University, from Jamaica. Maricarmen Sequera from TEDIC, a new organization from Paraguay. Raul Bauer from USUARIA, from Argentina as well. Finally, myself, I represent Internauda Brazil, so I am the last one. Yes, I am from Internauda Brazil, from Brazil.

Now I have the pleasure to introduce the representative of *the* organization, which is ICANN. I would like to invite Fade Chehadé to come to the front and receive, as a LACRALO member of our organization, because he's part of us and we appreciate his support, especially during this time. It's a pleasure to have you here Fadi. Now I will give the mic to him so that he can greet us. First of all, let's take the picture. All together. Thank you very much. Now the President and CEO of ICANN, Fadi Chehadé.

FADI CHEHADÉ: I just met with the GAC members of Spain, France, Italy and a few other countries and I spoke to them in French, Italian and English and in Arabic, but I can't speak Spanish. The Spanish GAC member was very sad. He said, "Why don't you speak my language?" Hopefully soon I can switch from my Italian to my Spanish or to my Portuguese.

You know that my trusted partner, Cassia Oliviera, is a Brazilian and she's also very fluent in Spanish. She used to be a translator between Portuguese, English and Spanish, before she joined me. So you should put pressure on her. If she everyday taught me two or three days. Of course, she will tell you if I'm there she will teach me, I'm just not there.

I had a very special moment when I was with the President of Brazil. When I finished with here I said – she likes to be called Presidenta – "Presidenta, she's a [minara]. She's from [Menagerice? 01:19:14]." I said, "My assistant is a [minera], like you." She said, "Oh really?" I said, "She's outside," because they didn't let many of our assistants in; they were waiting outside, "Would you mind saying hi to her?"

"Sure," she said. She got up from her chair, brought Cassia in and kissed her hands. She was very sweet to Cassia and Cassia froze; she was completely frozen because the President kissed her hands and kissed them, and was very nice to her and called her photographer and asked him to take pictures with her. So when Cassia showed up to visit her mother the next day, no one believed her, they thought it was all Photoshop! "No-no, I was there! It's me and the President!"

But you see, that gesture of a president kissing the hands of one of her subjects is something that would happen in your region. It's wonderful. It was very sweet and it moved me and it certainly moved Cassia. You region has a lot of heart and a lot of passion. I love that. I really enjoy that. As you know, I come from Egypt and my parents left their country when I was barely alive and they moved to Ethiopia, and then they moved to Lebanon and then I was born in Beirut.

Of course, then I moved to the US. I love the US. This is my home now and my kids are American, but there is something I miss. There is a taste of the humanity of my ancestors that I miss. But when I come here I am home. It's wonderful. Thank you for always welcoming me in the Latin American region. Thank you for welcoming me in the Caribbean.

I know all the Caribbeans have been talking to me about a visit to Jamaica, that I'm hoping to make in a couple of weeks. I would love to come. It would be my sincere pleasure. I was there only once for my honeymoon, so I should go back, and maybe I can convince my poor wife, who hasn't seen me in about two months to come with me.

It's amazing that LACRALO is the oldest RALO and is still the most active RALO. The spirit of Latin America and the Caribbean is very strong in LACRALO. 43, is that the right number? 46 ALSes now? Very impressive. It speaks to… I call Latin America and the Caribbean the vibrant region. You're very vibrant.

There's a lot of effort, a lot of heart. I think today I met with some of you earlier and I said the Latin American region right now, and the Caribbean, as I'm seeing from the number of invitations I'm getting – I just got a second invitation to go to Trinidad next April – is a region that is now, in my opinion, holding the global momentum on Internet governance.

You are. There is no question. In my opinion, this is the region now that is driving the momentum. It's not peculiar why. I'm not surprised. I think that this is a region that's very awake when it comes to your rights. It's very awake when it comes to the importance of having control of your destiny.

I grew up a good part of my life in Beirut, and I know that when you feel that the environment around you is shifting and you have no control, you become more conscious of what is important in governing your life and governing what you do. Right now, your region is facing some important questions. It's growing, it's becoming independent. I have

family who's leaving the United States and moving right now to Latin America.

My wife's brother just moved with his family, left New York City and moved to Latin America. I think that's because this region is now on the rise, and when it's on the rise and its people are on the rise, you're asking the tough questions – who runs the Internet? You use the Internet as much as any developing region, so who runs it? You need to decide that.

In the next two years, either you will decide who runs your Internet, or someone will decide for you. I'm very serious. If you care about this, this is the time to do something about it. Because if we sit and let the next two years go, either the people who know too much will decide, or the people who know nothing will decide. That's the problem.

It's the people who are just naïve about things, who will jump and say, "Let's control it this way!" and everybody says, "Yes, that makes sense!" and they know nothing! Or, the people who know everything will continue their control. It's the moment for you all to take a grab of this. Please, as ai said in my opening this morning, I moved exactly three months ago on this issue.

It was the 15th of August when I started saying we have a problem. On the 15th of September by Board gave me the mandate that you now all know about – a month later. Then we started moving. So in two months we went from a Board resolution to a complete energizing of the process. Energy will dissipate because the issue has become so big now, and governments, companies, presidents, are engaged now in the issue.

Therefore the only way we can keep this energy is to do the third thing – to mobilize. My first instinct was to protect ICANN. My second instinct was to energize, and I did it with my fellow I-STAR leaders, and now we need to mobilize. If we don't mobilize we'll miss the train, and we don't have a lot of time. That's the sad part about when we woke up to this. Many of us have been working on these issues.

Look at Vanda, look at many of you – you guys have been working on this stuff for years. But somehow we need now to coalesce into a visible movement. Let me tell you something – people today heard about the ICANN fifth panel. They said, "Fadi's busy with all these important people. He wants all these important people to be on the panel." Why do you think I want important people on a panel?

Why is it important to have the president of a country lead a panel? Why? Because it will get attention, and people will know that the sleepy processes leading to, say, the Plenipot, are now being shaken by people who are paying attention. We worked very hard in the last 60 days to call these 18 panelists; presidents, former prime ministers, the CEO of Vodafone. One by one I talked to them, and I gave them the exact story I just shared with you and I asked them if they care.

I said to President Toomas Hendrik, "Forget you're a president of a country. Do you care about this? If you don't I'll pass, I'll find someone else." He said, "I deeply care about this." I said, "Okay, come on board." One by one. The founder of Wikipedia, who's on the panel, the head of the Mozilla Foundation, on the panel. These are people who will pay attention and will raise the attention.

Now, it's out job to tell them the truth. So when they all sit around the table like this and they say, "What is the proper set of Internet principles we should adopt?" Who should talk to them? Us. We should talk to them. Let's get ready. We created One Net so One Net becomes the place they listen to us. We will tell these panels they have to sit down and listen to the One Net people, which are us, and make decisions based on listening.

This is the call to action. LACRALO is full of action, full of energy, full of ALSes that are ready to engage. I urge you, I beg you, to take this very seriously. Let's not waste the last minutes. It's too late. The meetings in Sharm El Sheikh, now probably in Bucharest or in Baku, they are deciding, are around the corner. They think they're done. They think their agendas are done and they're going in to tell the world how to run the Internet.

I'm not against them. I work with the ITU and I talk to [Hamma Doun? 01:28:45] regularly, but I want to tell them what the truth is; that there is a different model that involves all of us. It involves all of us, the stakeholders, because governments alone will not solve the issue. I'll finish with an anecdote. I was with the Minister of Telecommunications, who was the Chairman of the recent IGF in Indonesia. I visited him in Jakarta; Minister Tifatul.

I said, "Minister Tifatul, do you believe in multistakeholderism? You're hosting the IGF. Do you actually believe in it?" He said, "Tell me what it is. Walk me through it." So I told him what it is. I won't bore you with definition because we probably have 20, which is part of the problem. Part of all these panels is to get this definition right. But I told him my

version. I said, "This is what I think multistakeholderism is." He said, "Actually, that's the only way to solve problems. Let me tell you a story."

He's from a party that's on a more conservative side of Islam, and he said, "I came to my office in the morning one day and outside my office there was a huge demonstration of people. They are demonstrating against two or three videos on one of the video channels online, because they're offending Islam, and they're accusing him of doing nothing about it.

So he said, "I called my deputy, Ashwin, and I said, 'Ashwin, close that thing!'" Ashwin said, "What do you mean; close that thing? I can't close this thing. This is a video site and if I close it I could potentially call all the ISPs and do something, but what am I going to tell my 12-year-old daughter when I get home?" He said, "She will be very mad at me and the world will be mad at us, seriously, Mr, Minister."

He told him, "Well, where's this company from?" He said, "The United States." He said, "Call the American ambassador!" [laughter] So Ashwin said, "I went to see the American ambassador and the American ambassador told him, 'Are you kidding? I have a button under my desk to turn on this…? I cannot turn it off for you!'". So he went back and told the Minister the ambassador had told him he could do nothing about it.

He said, "Well, call the company!" He said, "They don't have an office in Indonesia," which is interesting because if they have no office in Indonesia, what is the government reach on that company? This is where the Internet challenges the nation state model. So he told him,

"I'm sorry to inform you but we can't do anything. The company does not have an office here; I can't call them." So he said, "Call the company in the US and appeal to their sense of decency!" So the guy called the American company in the US and they told him, "We don't shut down videos because that video is not offensive to other people. If it's offensive to you, this is not our problem."

So what Minister Tifatul had to do, and I'll cut the story short, because it's a fascinating case study of multistakeholderism, he then involved people, consultants that helped him, and the bottom line is he ended up hosting for weeks a meeting with civil society in his country, religious leaders, the American company, the American Embassy, his Ministry… Talking, "What is this?" Multistakeholderism. [laughter] Then he solved the problem. He said, "I believe in this stuff!" I said, "Great. So host the IGF please!" [applause]

JOSÉ ARCE: Thank you very much to the CEO and President of ICANN for your words. Now this is the time to relax; to enjoy some drinks and some food, to share some moments with friends and with the whole community. I'd like to thank ICANN staff for all their help they've always provided. Thank you to the interpreters who today have made wonderful work. A round of applause for them? [applause]

I would like to thank Nadia and Alejandro, you have seen them dancing tango and now I'd like to invite you to share with them a typical show and enjoy some food and drinks. Alejandro and Nadia, this is your turn. [music plays].

[END OF TRANSCRIPT]