
HYDERABAD – GAC Under-Served Regions WG Meeting
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ALICE MUNYUA:

Good morning, everybody. My name is Alice Munyua. My co-chair Pua Hunter from the Cook Islands. This is the underserved regions working group. Just a reminder, it used to be formerly the capacity building working group of the GAC which was renamed and has additional terms of reference. I think we've had this discussion before, so the terms of reference can be found on the -- on the website.

We'll just go straight to discussing the work plan because that's the most important activity that we would like the GAC to take into consideration. And this is up for endorsement during this meeting. And we can discuss it. Although we've shared it on the -- on the mailing list and we've had several comments that we are going to respond to, and in response to that comment we've changed the work plan considerably. But not so much, not substantially, but some of them were process-related questions. But I'll just go through the work plan very quickly, as I wait for the slide to come up.

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UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah, there's an issue with --

ALICE MUNYUA: There seems to be a problem.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: It's coming up in like one minute.

ALICE MUNYUA: So the first thing we did with the work plan was to try and come out with a definition of what underserved regions mean. And we -- we propose adopting the U.N. definition. So we note here that the focus of the working group, for our particular context, ICANN/GAC, is focusing on regions underserved by the DNS industry and on least developed economies and small island states with a particular focus on underserved economies and countries from Africa, Caribbean, and Asian Pacific regions. So that's the definition that was agreed upon when we presented the terms of reference. We are going to be discussing it again today and during the high interest topic session with the rest of the ICANN community. I think I'll go through the work plan and any comments that come up, perhaps we can discuss them toward the end. So -- and that, we believe that has been adopted, by as it says here on the work plan, to be determined we are hoping that we will have achieved the objective of an

agreement on the general definition of what we mean by underserved.

We facilitated a ccTLD survey that was completed and we presented the survey -- the data and there were some discussions in Helsinki. I'm not sure we have any plan to continue that, but we may conduct an additional survey if required in the future.

We are proposing, as number 4, there, I don't think it's visible, the print is really small, research on a number of countries defined as underserved. We're trying to see -- identify their needs and to develop a focused approach on addressing those needs and as well as developing a way of supporting and facilitating representation, meaningful representation of underserved regions. And for these we are going to be conducting a survey to identify what the challenges in participating are and not just participating in the GAC but participating in the broader ICANN policy processes. And especially the cross-community working groups and various other policy-related processes.

Then we're proposing to engage with the discussions with the relevant areas of ICANN including the applicant support for new gTLDs, and for this we are going to be talking -- we've had discussions with regional vice-presidents and with the

government engagement team, Dr. Tarek and his team, as well as the ICANN Academy and others to see whether we can coordinate support, capacity support for underserved regions. And to this end, during this meeting we're going to have our fast session for the Asia-Pacific region and we've invited some GAC members to present. We are going to have a mini capacity building session with the government engagement and this working group. And then in January the -- sometime in January 2017 we plan to have an Africa region one that's going to be held in Nairobi. There's an ICANN office there. There's going to be outreach and capacity building for African GAC members and African governments who may not be GAC members. So it's both going to be outreach as well as creation and capacity building.

Liaising with the GAC leadership to ensure that the output of the underserved regions is incorporated with the travel support policy and here what we're doing is trying to understand, you know, what -- what are some of the challenges to do with travel support and whether perhaps the GAC needs to request for an increase of that or perhaps a different way of approaching support for underserved regions, government representatives.

Reviewing the domain name industry, including registries and registrars. I think there are several studies that have already been undertaking but here we're proposing participating in the

new gTLD reviews as well to see what the challenges are and what can be done going forward, if there are going to be any other rounds to support underserved regions. And that again we're going to be working in collaboration with the GE/GSE, ICANN and any cross-community working groups. And that also speaks to activity number 8 that's looking at the review -- the gTLD review working group and sharing the challenges and lessons learned and there's a session on Saturday organized by Switzerland that we're going to be sharing some of what we think may have been the challenges.

But again here, we are proposing to, I think, dig a little deeper by speaking directly to underserved regions, GAC members and governments to understand where really the challenges are.

Engaging with the auction fees working group and developing a proposal on how the auction fees might be purposed to benefit the underserved regions. That again is to be determined. I think the auctions proceeds working group has just developed I think a -- the fast -- just finished the fast phase. I think perhaps Olga can speak to that and tell us where we're at with that.

I mentioned conducting a survey to understand the challenges and needs of members from underserved regions. I think that's going to start with the Asia-Pacific session that's going to be held this week where we're going to start asking questions

around what the challenges are. And Julia here is going to be helping us with developing what we call a starter pack by trying to respond to some of those questions. And generally, you know, the -- the general focus of this work plan and the general goal is to increase -- is increased meaningful participation of GAC members from underserved regions so the focus once more is capacity building, but not just capacity building for the GAC, as I mentioned earlier, is to build capacity to engage in all ICANN processes and to understand the work of ICANN and the GAC. I'll stop here with the work plan, and perhaps respond to I think two or three questions that came from working group members. There was one that was asking about producing a position paper or statement for the working group. The question came from CTU and Egypt. And we deleted that because the position paper or statement is now regarded as this work plan and it is the framework that we are going to be working on implementing. And then the capacity building and survey has been separated on the current work plan because they are two separate activities. The survey has to be conducted prior so that we can then understand what we need to -- where capacity building activities are needed. And then I'll let my colleague Pua add on.

PUA HUNTER:

Good morning, everyone. Pua Hunter from Cook Islands. Just a note that our work plan is a living document, as you can see. We

have a lot of to be determined for the dates for our activities. And we can assure you that we will be attempting to have these replaced with actual dates by the time of the next meeting, Copenhagen. However, in saying that, we would like to get your input as we go along and we will also update you with any comments that we receive from anyone. Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA:

Thank you, Pua. I wanted Julia to speak a little bit to some of the work we're going to start working on immediately to support not just underserved regions but GAC members generally with capacity building that has to do with our website and our starter packs. Julia, please.

JULIA CHARVOLEN:

Thank you. Yes, there is in one point on the work plan about the development of a GAC newcomer engagement kit. This is something that we would like to -- work we would like to undertake with the new GAC website, especially if we could involve one member from an underserved region to work with me for the new GAC website and for this newcomer engagement kit. And especially we know that GNSO has been working on newcomers projects, so we look forward to working with them and looking forward to working with you if you wish to participate with me in this newcomer kit.

ALICE MUNYUA: Thank you, Julia. The proposal here is to have two or so members from each region working with Julia to perhaps help with asking questions that may come up to help newcomers to understand what, you know, ICANN, GAC, and general ICANN processes, so we'll be coming to you to see whether you may be able to work with Julia towards developing that starter pack and also having that information placed on the website. Thank you. So we'll open it up for comments, questions, or any proposals. The floor is open. Thank you. U.K., Mark, please.

UNITED KINGDOM: Yes, thank you, Alice, and thank you Pua and Julia for presenting today this update on the working group and its very important mission to enhance active participation in ICANN processes and promote great awareness in the underserved regions. It's very important work, which intersects with increasing the diversity of participation in ICANN that the Work Stream 2 subgroup of the CCWG is doing. So it's very important and timely work at this juncture in ICANN's evolution and, of course, directly for the GAC as its membership now reaches 168 governments plus the 2 commissions, African Union Commission and European Commission. So it's very important. I think that the work plan is a very effective and comprehensive document. A lot of thought

has gone into it, so it's very much appreciated. I -- I have -- excuse me, I have one suggestion in terms of outreach and that is that the work of this working group could very usefully be presented at national and regional Internet governance foras -- fora, the national and regional IGFs. They provide the opportunity for capacity building initiatives and this I think fit neatly -- fits neatly with the role of the national and regional IGFs in terms of enhancing participation and awareness of issues for many in the ACP region in particular with regard to development of the Domain Name System, the registries capacity and so on. It's -- I think now that this working group is moving forward with a set agenda, I -- I suggest looking for opportunities at national and regional IGFs in the ACP region for presenting this and inviting inputs from stakeholders in those communities that will enhance the ability of GAC representatives from those regions. So that's my suggestion for this proposal. Thank you.

PUA HUNTER:

Thank you, Ukraine (sic). You provided some very useful response to the work plan. In particular also with the Work Stream 2 subgroup of the CCWG. I think that there's not many participants in this from the underserved region, and one of the reasons is there's no capacity. So your suggestion on presenting this in the national and regional Internet governance is noted

and also it provides, like you said, the opportunity for capacity building within the underserved region. Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA: Indonesia.

INDONESIA: Thank you, Alice. Sorry. In several regions we already have several ICANN hub like the nearest to Indonesia, for example, is Singapore, and I think we must think is how to enhance the support of this ICANN hub office for the region around the area. In Indonesia, for example, we have several Internet meetings forum and so on. In two weeks time we will set up our Indonesian IGF forum, and in this case it will be very useful, for example, if the ICANN -- ICANN hub in Singapore can come to that meeting. Not only of the IETF of course, but there are other meetings.

Now, what I propose is very simple, is that how this ICANN hub can be supported, to support again the region around the area. And for Indonesia, for example, we would like to see as how ICANN Singapore can support activities in our area from -- for many things. From the development of gTLDs, dot anything, content, IPv6 and everything. Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA: Thank you, Indonesia. I think we have the regional vice president for Asia Pacific here. Maybe you can respond.

JIA-RONG LOW: Good morning. Thank you very much. My name is Jia-Rong. I'm the regional vice president for Asia. Just to respond to Ashwin's comments, from the Asia Pacific hub, we try to work very hard with all the countries within our region. So as much as possible we try to partner with the local community, with the local community either working with, for example, our GAC members or also with the different stakeholder groups, depending on their need. For example, if they're organizing a conference or if they require some capacity building, specifically regarding technical topics related to the DNS, that's where we try to come in and work with them to provide the necessary capacity building sessions.

So we are already informed about the Indonesia IGF event coming up in a couple of weeks, and we are looking to participate.

And personally, I have visited Indonesia a few times, and we are trying very hard to work with the different stakeholders there. Hopefully we can enhance our collaboration even more going forward. And Indonesia is a big country, so it is difficult, I understand (indiscernible) your concerns that way, and rest

assured that I mentioned to you many times we are very committed to work with you, and we hope that we can find a way to be able to bring the different stakeholders in Indonesia together to get them to know more about ICANN work and how the DNS works, and also to be able to address any issues there.

Thank you very much.

ALICE MUNYUA: Thank you. Any other -- Yes, Manal.

EGYPT: Thank you, Alice, and thanks for the hard work of the co-chairs and Julia.

First, let me first say that the first comment was made by U.K. and not Ukraine because the transcript said Ukraine. So this is one point.

I would also be happy to participate or to help Julia in new commerce kit. So I would like to volunteer for this with you and many others. And possibly we can also loop in newcomers to also get their feedback.

On capacity building, I would like also to share with you, I have participated in the ICANN Middle East and adjoining countries strategy, which came up with one of its outputs, I mean, is the

DNS Entrepreneurship Center. And this is being established particularly to serve Africa and the Middle East to have -- to build the U.S. industry and have a healthy and robust ecosystem.

So we'll be happy to investigate any mutual opportunities for cooperation in having capacity building programs with respect to the DNS, where there's technical policy business or whatever.

So thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA:

Thank you very much, Manal. And for sure we'll come back to look at opportunities to partner with the entrepreneurships. And I like your -- and thank you for volunteering to work on the starter pack. In fact, the whole idea of the starter pack was to interview newcomers so we that can hear from them, because I think one of the complaints is the issue to (indiscernible) acronyms that we haven't even dealt with. So I think we may want to have the starter pack that actually explains what all these acronyms mean and the policy processes. So thank you for that. We'll seek both newcomers and those who have been with GAC for long enough so that they can help us develop that. And we're hoping to have finalized that by some time, February, before the Africa workshop comes up so that we have that ready.

Thank you.

Any other comments?

Yes, please.

CHINA:

Guo Feng from China.

First of all, I want to thank you co-chairs and Julia for preparing this comprehensive document. And when I look through this document, I have one question. Because I think for the underserved regions to enhance the capacity of (indiscernible) of the region, one element is very important. When I look through the -- the 11 items within the document, I want to find whether we could include a document -- an element that we could ask countries or economies who are not in the GAC could join the GAC and to let them follow the GAC processes to participate in the GAC policy processes.

I think this element is a concrete action we can take to facilitate the participation of underserved regions.

If no, I want to suggest we can include this element in one of those 11 items. So just my reaction at this stage.

Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA: Thaw thank you very much, China. Fully agree with you. You're right. Perhaps it's an element that we should include, working in collaboration with ICANN's, yeah, stakeholder engagement and government engagement, because really that's their mandate, especially with the government engagement team and both the GSE. So we can add that element and see how we can work with the two teams to ensure that we speak and invite members who are not GAC members to join and understand the ICANN processes.

So thank you.

Yes, please.

CTU: Good morning. Nigel Cassimire from the CTU, Caribbean Telecommunications Union.

The CTU works to support its member governments in all matters related to ICT, including ICANN matters. And in fact our presence here is to basically watch the interest and support the interest of all our governments to might be here, and especially those who might not be at the meetings.

In this context we've made input into the work plan of the underserved group, and we're willing to assist with the newcomers work as well. So at least now you have one

volunteer from Africa and one from Latin America and the Caribbean. Thanks.

We also in the CTU work to coordinate an Internet Governance Forum, a Caribbean Internet Governance Forum which we have done for the last 12 years or so, and it would be a good idea, in fact, to use that opportunity as well in the Caribbean to raise the sensitivity of the region to the work of the GAC in particular, and so on.

And we have been doing that, but any additional ideas that come out of our current work could also be, what, disseminated there.

Thank you.

PUA HUNTER:

Thank you, Nigel, for that information. It's very useful also to know that regions in the Caribbean can attend such trainings.

Thank you very much.

ALICE MUNYUA:

U.K.

UNITED KINGDOM: Yes, thank you, Alice. I wanted to come in in support of the linkage to the Global Stakeholder Engagement Team in ICANN, which is, I think, a valuable proposal that (saying name) has made.

And one point about the work of the global stakeholder engagement team that I find a bit frustrating is that we get reports of where they have been active, but we don't really understand, you know, what they have been saying and to whom and what their objectives are.

This is -- Maybe I'm going at a bit of a tangent here, but I think the work of the working group on underserved regions could usefully engage the GSE on objectives. You know, when you go to a particular small island developing state or a particular event in an African state, is there a direct capacity building objective there which you could then contribute to from this work of the working group.

So I just sort of flag that, you know. I said in the past, I go through all the list of places they go to, but I want to know what exactly they are doing and achieving there, particularly in countries where there is no GAC membership. There's one other point particularly to bear in mind.

Thanks.

PUA HUNTER:

Thank you, U.K. I think I'll get it right now. Instead of Ukraine. I'm sure that was auto correct on the typing. But anyway, in response, yes, I totally agree with you in terms of taking capacity building out to the underserved or to the developing countries. I think I mentioned at one time in one of our discussions that it's one thing to take the training out, but it's another to find out whether there's an impact on what was delivered. And what response is there from those particular countries receiving the training to ensure that there is continuity, that there's sustainability, that there's later engagement into all the work that ICANN and GAC is doing.

Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA:

Thank you, U.K. Actually, that's a very important issue raised. The -- you know, the GSE and the work that they do and linking that to the work of the underserved regions is very important. And to that end, we've been having meetings with both teams in Helsinki, Saturday in Helsinki, and we had one already, and we're hoping to have several more after the meetings that we are having to actually see how their work can get -- they can take into consideration the underserved regions work plan and

engage with us more closely so that we make sure this we are achieving our objectives.

And I have Anne-Rachel here from the government engagement team who I think has a few comments.

ANNE-RACHEL INNE:

Good morning, everybody. My name is Anne-Rachel Inne, and I work with the government engagement team and the global stakeholder engagement team, also.

To U.K.'s question and comment, I wanted to assure you that the only purpose of our teams going in countries is really to not only take what ICANN work is in its globality, but also in places where people -- I mean, the countries are not members of the GAC, raise, you know, that matter with them, and make sure that they understand what is in it for them to participate with the GAC.

Now, having said that and doing that, does it mean that we're going to get them to come if, you know, this is not their will.

So I think we have -- given the numbers of the GAC right now, we've had quite some success. There's still the few that are remaining.

We're hoping that, you know, for some regions, for example, as you know, and CTU is here to testify, or even the African Union

Commission, if we have smaller places, smaller countries, it's also a question of resources. People cannot -- because they wear so many hats. I think Pua is also here to testify also in her region, small island states have a hard time having people, you know, being present at these meetings and being represented.

So the people wear quite a few hats. They can't be present all the time, but in as much as possible, we keep them updated. That's why we go to countries. You know, and then, hopefully, now, going further, we can have even more participation if we can get to the point where, with the help of the Underserved Regions Working Group, we can really dedicate time for the hand-holding needed in places where people do not have enough resources to participate.

Thank you very much.

ALICE MUNYUA: Thank you, Anne-Rachel.

PUA HUNTER: Thank you, Anne-Rachel. I agree to that.

I think the underserved region would be the -- the medium that fits into that gap. You know, we -- we have the -- the group that takes the training out. Then we have those receiving the

trainings. And then we need to bring it out that, yes, it has been useful. Yes, it has been -- it can be used. And then later on these people from small island states, from the underserved region can be more participating in -- in the work of the GAC and also in ICANN.

I think that's the whole reason of -- the whole object of the underserved region is to ensure there's meaningful participation from the underserved region.

Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA:

Thank you, Pua.

Kavouss, please.

IRAN:

Yes. One of the issues, I don't know if you have the studies or not. If these underserved regions of countries, they are geographically contiguous, close to each other, it would be beneficial that based on the requirement of these underserved countries, sort of the capacity building would be made on a small group of these countries but not individually, due to many things. That, first of all, they could share the problems and difficulties together, and, second, a presentation or

participation or presence of the expert or engagement of the expert would be more beneficial and economically viable, rather than for each individual country having that.

Having said that, something that we have discussed elsewhere is that the need for the training perhaps should be based on the specific requirement of those countries but not a preselected subject; that this group of countries, that the state of development in this breadth of the ICANN resources are similar, could have been asked what area they need to be trained on.

Perhaps maybe some information would be given that based on the available information, these are the subjects. And asking the country do you confirm that these are the subjects that you want to be.

And the third thing is because of the issue that the problem much many of these underserved countries are almost similar, perhaps the type of the training which they want and given to the other region should be taken as an example, either expanded or modified to be given. It's saving in the preparation of material because that is very time consuming. And also expert. Because expert was in country "A" could give the same thing on country "B."

I just want to give one example of myself. I was engaged by ITU to give training to five developing or less-developed country

becoming member of the ITU Council because they didn't know what the council is, what is the duty of the councillor is, what they have to do.

I did for all countries, because the material were almost the same. The only thing I adjusted to the need of the country. I went to Rwanda, I went to Bangladesh, I went to two Latin American countries, and so on, so forth. And the material I prepared was about one month of work, it was very useful, and the tape was made of that, recording, and the people, they use that, and so on and so forth. And even some of the recording that I had prepared in one, used in the other one. And the question and answer that raised in one meeting, I quoted those saying do you have the same questions? If you have the same I don't, these are the answer. Please consider whether these answers meet your requirement or you have additional.

What I am saying is that to build up on the experience gained from the thing, because resources are very limited. Very, very limited.

But our emphasis is that should be based on the need of these countries. A specific need. And based on the priorities.

No doubt this underserved country, they need in many areas, but they should have some priority in relation with the ICANN activity, and so on. Which are the most urgent things, and so on.

But that is separate from the outreach to bring them to the GAC either by Fellowship or by something, so on and so forth.

But only bringing to the GAC does not solve the problem. Because what we face here, consider the amount of things that in the first two or three days or first two or three meetings they will be totally lost. And sometimes the subject we are discussing is so complex that they may not follow. So there is a need some sort of resume, some sort of preparatory of work to show them what the subject is about. Use of the two character or three character top-level domain, what is the difficulty, what is the subject? What -- why the .BRAND is looking for use that one? What is the advantage? What is the advantage? All of the things, the people, they don't know. And the problem is that if they don't know, they may be taking any sides. So we should be very, very careful of it. This is our experience that we -- we would like to go ahead with this sort of training. Thank you.

PUA HUNTER:

Thank you, Kavouss. Very, very useful comment there. Thank you. Just to go back to our work plan, if you look at number 4, we will actually do a survey to find out the needs of these -- from the underserved region and then we can prioritize, look at what is most important for them and then work at taking these trainings out to them. Also I would note your comment about

getting them into the GAC because like you said, it's a very, very complicated place to be. I can speak for myself as well. I've attended a few meetings, and still not even at the halfway mark to understand the whole work of GAC and ICANN as a whole. Thank you very much for your comment.

ALICE MUNYUA: Wanawit, please.

THAILAND: Wanawit speaking from Thailand. I would also like to echo what U.K. proposed about national IGF or regional IGF but none of the others for our meetings that very much relate to GAC work would be the CC communities. I've been participating in APTLD and some of the member that coming there is also used to be or is already the GAC there and there's some discussion that they might need to have the GAC present in the APTLD meeting as well. So I do believe that the CC community might be a very good channel. In fact, you already conduct some kind of research that I think Tracey have been -- did the research of the GAC and ccTLD relationships that are already in place. I think it's also in the -- in the action plan. So we can start to identify from that list. Might be very effective because they are already there and using the CC community is also very much related to the GAC work anyhow. So if the government do not understand, I

think at least CC should understand, and they should be the one that bring this issue back to the government somehow, somehow, I think.

For us, I think we also start like that. We work very close with ccTLD of Thailand and then they educate us, the history, because they've been there longer than us and they'll always be there and know the subject matter. I think if we also include the collaboration work with CC community in regionals that might be very effective way of establishing the capacity of the GAC in the underserved. Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA:

Thank you, Thailand. Thank you for your comments and inputs and we'll take that on board. Thank you. Par.

NIUE:

Well, the basic problem we come to all the time is increased connectivity before we can even discuss with someplace in the world about GAC connectivity and IT training. And as you say, the CC community is quite important in that case and the communication between the CC and the government, but the connectivity issue is crucial for even getting up to the GAC level, GAC engagement.

ALICE MUNYUA: Thank you, Niue. Oh, yes, please, Indonesia, and then --

INDONESIA: Yeah, just want to add something, Alice. Currently the ICANN is working so well that almost all countries, if they can connect to Internet, to the IANA network, the Internet -- their Internet infrastructure is just working very well, too, and they can be connected to the world. So from the technical point of view, the IANA operators can just work with the Internet service provider in all countries and there we have all the -- all the Internet connections.

Now, one of the government problem is that how they can look after the Internet development within their countries. Now if you look at the -- the Internet development, first of all, the penetration is mainly -- is mainly detriment by the telecommunication penetrations because you cannot have Internet without telecommunication network. Now, so the first problem the government has to look after is the development -- the penetration of the telecommunication network. Now once you have the telecommunication network, then the Internet can -- the Internet service provider can just follow the telecommunication network and then connect that Internet network with the IANA network and our Internet will be running very well.

Now, if you look at this point, then the role of the government has to be reviewed again as how we would like -- what is the main - - what you call it, the main position of the government regarding the Internet development in their own country. There are several issues for that work. The first one is the telecommunication penetration, of course. The second one is the Internet resources, like gTLD, ccTLD, the use of dot anything, the use of IP version 6 and so on. But this is a catalyst, mainly not by the government but by the Internet service provider which are directly cooperating with the IANA to get IP numbers, to get DNS and so on and so on.

The third one is about content. But application and content is not looked after by the -- not looked after directly by ICANN and IANA. We discuss this mainly in the IGF forum. So perhaps while talking about the underserved regions, in parallel we can also talk as how the government can support Internet development in their own country. Because as I understand, ICANN will -- it's not working directly for telecommunication penetration. It is mainly in the ITU. We talk about that mainly in the ITU. We don't talk about high (indiscernible) content which is a very big problem now in the world. We talk about this in the IGF. So in this ICANN perhaps we can -- in parallel with talking about underserved regions we can talk about as how the government

position in supporting the Internet in cooperation with ICANN.
Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA: Thank you for that contribution. I have Pakistan -- Palestine, sorry. And then we have to close. Sorry. Palestine, please.

PALESTINE: [Speaking non-English word or phrase.] Good morning. I need a translator, an interpreter. After all -- good morning. Before everything I would like to thank all the colleagues who are -- who have addressed so many essential things. This is my second meeting. I am participating here with my colleagues and I hope that we can work together to solve so many problems. There are so many problems that people are facing while using the Internet. I am here -- I am a very technical person and I have a lot of information about the new gTLDs and about IANA transition. But here I am not aware enough about how ICANN proceed in here works and about the supporting organizations. I would like to clarify all these aspects related to the work of all these technical groups and what the results expected about that with focusing on the relationship between these groups with the ICANN and what each group is needed to do. And I am -- have a problem with the acronyms used. So many acronyms. Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA: Thank you very much for that contribution and in fact, that's one of the objectives and one of the activities of the underserved regions is to develop a starter pack that explains some of these acronyms and some of the working groups and supporting organizations and advisory committees and what they do and how they relate to ICANN and the GAC and the general, you know, ICANN ecosystem. Anne-Rachel, you want to say something?

ANNE-RACHEL INNE: Thank you very much. Actually, so in the room I have most of my colleagues who are in the region, and I'm pretty sure my colleague from the Middle East and -- will be very happy to actually hand-hold you while you are here. This is also why we're here. You know, the ICANN meetings are here for that. We are here to work with you and help explain some of the things that we can do right now. So Baher is sitting right there. And -- can you stand up, Baher, so he can see you? Thank you very much. So Baher is here for that, too. And all of us are here. If anybody needs any -- you know, making sense out of what all of this is, we'll be more than happy to oblige. Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA: You want to follow up Palestine, please. Yes.

PALESTINE: Thank you so much for your quick response. What I meant, and I am in touch with Mr. Baher, but I think we need to do more. And we need to work more on this. I have a problem with the page of GAC. I think there is technical issues maybe, it needs to be addressed as soon as possible. And I am in consistent and close collaboration with Baher and his team. Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA: Thank you very much. As we mentioned, we are going to be working to develop what we're going to call a starter pack that explains all of these acronyms. And as we mentioned, this is a work in progress. So any new -- we are going to try and also -- thank you for those questions because they contribute to the survey that we're going to conduct in terms of what we need to cover, the areas we need to cover and the issues that we need to address to help you be able to contribute and participate effectively and meaningfully.

Regarding the website, as Julia said, I think it's under construction at the moment, the new one, and we're going to have a space that is going to contain what we -- again, the starter pack that explains a lot of these acronyms, explains the

processes, explains working groups and what they're doing and how they relate to the GAC. We're going to be working towards that. Thank you very much.

Kavouss, and then I'm afraid we have to close.

IRAN:

Yes. Quite quickly. The issue of problem of acronym is not a new issue. Many, many years have -- the -- only solution would be in a document, the first time that an acronym appears fully be spelled. Later on, we refer to the acronym only. Then the readers, if there are any problem on page 3 acronym, he comes back to page 1 and we see what the GAC, for instance, means, Governmental Advisory Committee. A simple one. There are some that are very, very difficult that you need sometimes. Moreover, just those people who have computer, go to Google and type and it will give you the -- put acronym and put ICANN and it will give you the full explanation of that. That is another way. So there are possibility to help. Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA:

Thank you for that suggestion. I'm afraid we're running out of time, but thank you all so much for the very useful comments and suggestions that we're going to incorporate. I think as a last one for this working group is to get you go ahead -- we're going

to be presenting this to the GAC for formal approval and endorsement during this meeting so that then we can have some language in the communique that presents this to the ICANN board and the ICANN community requesting for support to implement the working plan. So I hope this is okay with everyone. If there are no other comments, I would like to close this meeting so that we give space to the other one -- next working group. Thank you all very much, and good morning.

TRACEY HIND:

This is Tracey from ACIG here. Just while we're changing over the chairs down here and the chair of the NomCom -- participation in the NomCom meeting makes her way back to the podium, I just wanted to remind GAC members who are here today who have not yet had their photograph taken for the GAC website in Helsinki that we do have a photographer present with us today and there are a couple of other slots later in the week. But they are here with us until 11:00 today and they are just over here. Can you raise your hands? Thank you. Just over here in the corner. So any GAC member who needs to have their photo taken for the GAC website, if you would make your way over there during this session between now and 11:00 and we'll give you later updates later in the week. Thanks.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]