
JOHANNESBURG – At-Large AFRALO ICANN59 Activities Wrap Up

Thursday, June 29, 2017 – 12:15 to 13:15 JNB

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UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This is the ICANN59 At-Large AFRALO ICANN59 Activities Wrap-Up on the 29th of June, 2017, from 12:15 to 1:15 in Ballroom 4.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Please. The representatives of the ALSes, please come to the table. We will start in a few minutes. We are already very, very late. All the representatives of the ALS, come on the table. All AFRALO ALS representatives on the table, please.

AZIZ HILALI: Welcome, everyone. We will start. Please take off your headphone and we are about to start the session. We are extremely late. We are almost 40 minutes late. So, we will try to skip the coffee break. Actually, we will see how many questions we have. If we have many questions, we will not have a break.

So we are at the AFRALO At-Large session ICANN59, and so this is the Activities Wrap-Up Session. This session has as its purpose to have your opinion on what we did, what did you think about this week, what recommendations do you have for the next General Assembly. I will now let Tijani moderate this session.

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I would like to thank him because he prepared all of the sessions, the capacity building sessions that we had this week and so I would like to thank him and I would like to give him the floor at this point.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you, Aziz. The first part will be the identification of the topics for AFRALO. The second one will be the evaluation that Aziz just described.

Because of the time, I will go directly to the content and already EURALO did this exercise and I invited the Chair of EURALO to speak a little bit about their experience what are the hot topics they identified for their region. Olivier.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND:

Thank you very much, Tijani. And just before I start, I wanted to add one additional thing, which is to do with the working groups. There was allusion to working groups several times during this meeting and a number of people asked me whilst we were having food, how to be on these working groups, if there's a list of these working groups and so on.

So, if you want to find out about the working groups, you can go in any search engine, you do At-Large working groups, and that will take you to that wiki page, which has all of the working

groups. Identify the ones you might be interested in and then you can send an e-mail to staff or since you're here, you can go to the staff and they are, they've arranged themselves so they will have a list and they'll just basically put you on there and they will add you in the next few days to the working group mailing list. And most of the working groups are open for everyone.

Now, when it comes down to the EURALO hot topics, as one would call it, the topics which are important for the European At-Large organization, we did two things. On the one hand, of course, we looked around and over the years found out which ones are the topics that were of interest to our colleagues, but we also did a survey of our At-Large Structures to find out what are the topics that they're particularly interested in.

With this, we drafted a document, which looks specifically at policy issues and it's actually structured in three different parts. So, the first part is all the list of policy issues for European end users. The second one – and because this was written a little while ago, I think it was written in... I don't even have the date. It was in 2016, so last August.

The Work Stream 2 ICANN Accountability Cross-Community Working Group was really moving, so we also had a section specifically on Work Stream 2 topics that EURALO was interested

in or EURALO At-Large Structures were interested in. And then there was the last part just at the end is the outreach and engagement activities in Europe because we wanted to record these and make everyone aware of what activities they could be joining and that includes, of course, the different summits and the different sort of face-to-face meetings that are available in the community and that might be some budget for to send people there using the Community Regional Outreach Pilot Program, which is an important program.

So, that's how the document was put together. We circulated it to our community for comments and it became quite obvious that in Europe, we are only focused on specific topics, not on absolutely everything taking place at ICANN, so I would really recommend that you would also consider doing something like this for AFRALO I think might have common topics, but we might also have completely different interests in some other topics. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much, Olivier. I would like to explain that the topics we are looking for are the topics that we feel that our community should care about. It is not all the topics discussed in ICANN. Those are the topics that our community feel or think

that they should care about them. Olivier, can you please give not a list but some of the hot topics you identified?

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Yes. Thank you very much, Tijani. So, let's say, for example, one, which comes very often. It's the registrar data retention waiver request and WHOIS conflict with national privacy law. In Europe, we are very much inclined to defend privacy in a stronger way than in other parts of the world, and especially in the United States, although that the U.S. doesn't agree with this but it's quite clear. And especially we're seeing this with the more recent development of the General Data Retention, the GDPR, which you might have heard about in some of the other sessions.

So, what we did was to do a summary of what the current problem is and in this specific thing, the registrar data retention waiver, it's effectively that all the registrars that are operating in Europe need to make a copy of their database and send it over to ICANN for in an escrow sort of way, but national law in many countries in Europe do not allow for this to happen.

So, there has been a case-by-case basis where each registrar has had to apply for a waiver with all the paperwork and all this stuff and there's a public comment on it and so on, and we've been basically saying why don't we just have a general thing for all of them at the same time?

So, what we do is to have a summary of the topic and then afterwards, why should European users care? And it's something important because it's to do with your privacy, your details that travel across the globe.

We try to make it less ICANN-y, take away all the jargon, and make it more into like do you want your personal data to then be in a database in the United States where the protection for it means that it might be used for marketing purposes and then a company will be able to use that data and contact you to try and sell you stuff that you don't want. Things like that. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you. Olivier, I would like you to list without commenting anything. List other topics, please.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you, Tijani. So, I'm going to have to shift through the document quickly. So, the first one was to do with jurisdiction. The jurisdiction topic on the Cross-Community Working Group Accountability Work Stream 2. The next one was human rights. Europe is very, very strong on human rights, as you know. The next one was how ICANN aims to defend the public interest and there was a session about this earlier this week.

The next one was the... what I meant here the registrar data retention waiver request. The next one was the root zone label generation rules and specifically in our case, for Cyrillic, Greek, and Latin scripts. So, this is for internationalized domain names and it might be some scripts in Africa are not Latin scripts, so it might be something to look at, as well.

And then we just listed the outreach activities in Europe. It's a good starting point. Don't try too many at the same time. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much, Olivier. So, this is one exercise from EURALO. At the ALAC level, we did the same, and Ariel will speak now and tell us what was done.

ARIEL LIANG:

Thanks, Tijani. So, I'm just going to put the document to the At-Large hot topics paper on the Adobe Connect chat and you can download the link on your own, as well, and Evan, if you could display that document on the right-hand screen so the audience can take a look, as well.

The document is structured in a similar manner and, basically, we focused on 12 topics that are important to end users. I will just give you a quick list. The one WHOIS, that's the first one and

then next is on IANA functions and stewardship transition. And the third one is on the contract party agreements, basically the RA and RAA with registries and registrars. Then next is internationalized domain names, and new generic top-level domains, that's definitely a hot topic within At-Large. Next is public interest and then the broader Internet governance topics, and some procedure related is the ICANN policy processes that's how like for example, GNSO developed their Policy Development Process. And then there is also accountability and transparency of ICANN and some other ICANN-related topic like ICANN operations, finances, and review that's ICANN. So the last one is engagement outreach.

So, you can see it's kind of a variety of topics and including not only the generic names policy-related topics but also some kind of operational finance kind of broader topics related to the organization of ICANN. Then for each topic, we have a few bullet points summarizing what the issue is about and then, of course, you can find the relevance like key phrases or points that are hyperlinked and you can read more for more information. And then we also have another session. It's to highlight why end users should care and why it matters to you, so that's how this document is structured.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Ariel, and I would like to ask you please to send on the AFRALO list the link to the document you have and also the document of EURALO, if you don't mind. Thank you very much.

So, now, this is what happened. This is the experiences. Now, we need... Okay, Olivier.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Yeah. Thank you very much, Tijani. I was just reminded by one of my colleagues here, Abdeldjalil Bachar Bong that there's also the document in French. It's been translated and I believe it's in Spanish, as well. So, when you send the links, please send it with the three different languages, please.

ARIEL LIANG: So, all the documents are on the At-Large website and it's a five UN language plus Portuguese, so you can download it on your own.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much. So, those are the experiences. We need as AFRALO also to identify our hot topics so that we will focus on them in the future. So, now that you heard what happened, may

I ask you please to tell me if you have hot topic in your head now? Yes, please. Ali Hussein.

ALI HUSSEIN:

Ali Hussein from KICTANet Nairobi, Kenya. I think one issue that I probably haven't seen, maybe it hasn't been discussed but I haven't seen it is this whole conversation around Internet balkanization. You're finding these – I mean, this is a hot topic across the world today, China, Russia, now the U.K. we are starting to hear, so I think we need to start thinking about such topics. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Internet fragmentation. Thank you very much. Any other topic you haven't had done? Yes, please.

SERGE PARFAIT:

Hello. This is Serge Parfait, ISOC Congo. The ALS I represent is [inaudible]. The hot topics that I think my community would be interested in are topics having to do with protecting children online. So, anything that has to do with social networks and so forth and the challenges related to that as well as individual safety of users. Because nowadays, you have activists who ended up in jail because they post something on Facebook and

so all of those topics I think are of great interest to my community.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much. I would like to tell you that we need to focus on the topics that are of interest to ICANN or rather, that fall within the remit of ICANN. There are topics that ICANN cannot do anything about, so it's not really a hot topic we'd include in our list. We need to focus on what ICANN can do. On the topics that are of interest to us but also relate to the work of ICANN. Content is not something that ICANN can do anything about because ICANN is the identifiers, the IP addresses, names, and protocols. That's what ICANN does. Thank you very much.

[MARIE]:

Thank you so much, Tijani. I'm just imagining topics [on] cybersecurity and cybercrime, and looking at women and child online protection. I think those are very important issues around us because of so many other challenges that we have with social media and how women, especially young people, can be protected if you can consider it.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much again, [Marie]. The cybersecurity that you are speaking about concerns the content, and ICANN doesn't

have anything to do with the content. So, we try to focus on topics that are related to ICANN. [Fatma].

[FATMA]:

What concerns me is content in front of all the ICANN tools because, really, it is a great handicap. We want to get involved but it is difficult to actually use the resources provided by ICANN and so I think that something needs to be done. There needs to be an effort with the francophone countries, French-speaking countries. It is difficult to access. It is difficult to actually use all of the resources that are great resources.

So, you're talking about the use of the language at ICANN, so linguistic diversity. By the way, most of the ICANN documents are actually translated into the six UN languages, but it is not something that applies to all documents. Not just the documents but all of the tools, the platforms that we use, all of the resources because, of course, there are things we can translate but the tools.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA :

Olivier, do you have something to say? Please, quickly. Otherwise, we will move to [Aisha]. [Aisha], go ahead.

[AISHA]: So, what impressed me was the presentation by Sweden, the experience that they had in Sweden. As an ALS representative, I am from a region that is not well-served. We do not have much in terms of Internet, so being remote is really an issue in Africa. Can't we think together? You know, maybe set is a priority to help remote regions.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, [Aisha]. Then we have Janvier.

JANVIER NNGOULAYE: Thank you. Janvier Ngnoulaye, Internet Society from Cameroon. Yes. My topic is a little bit of a technical topic but if you look at the way that the Internet works on the continent as far as the technical aspects, if you go in a country or a city, you will see that the service provider offers the Internet to the users but it is a limited Internet. Why is it limited?

The Internet that is offered is offered behind private addresses, so the user receives an Internet that is not complete. So, I'm thinking that it might be a good idea to work on that to convince operators to develop public addresses because we have enough addresses, so that's what I wanted to say. That's something that I am passionate about.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Janvier. Then we have Fatimata, I think.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Thank you, Tijani. Fatimata Seye Sylla, Bokk Jang, Senegal. I think we have a big issue in Africa we should be discussing about, and it's about privacy. If you make efforts into reaching out to our communities to have them use the Internet, the message I'm getting right now from people is that well, when you go into Internet, your life is exposed to everything. You get [hijacked] and they don't want to be involved.

And as ALSes, our main work is really to have more people use the Internet for the development and technically today we discussed about WHOIS and the kind of protection we can have as far as African countries cannot protect the consumers, DNSes, and the like. It will be difficult for us to ensure that more people, more grassroots people use the Internet for the local development. So, how can we discuss about this? Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you. I understood that you are emphasizing on WHOIS and privacy especially. This is the main idea.

Seun now. Oh, [Budwan], pardon.

[BUDWAN]: Tijani, I have a problem. I'm trying to find, to figure out the new configuration of the IANA. At a local level, I had a lot of issues I couldn't explain the transition. Maybe we could talk about it in more details so the new remit of ICANN, the transition of IANA, we could explain that in the context of today.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you. Duly noted. Next person.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Actually, I was at one of the sessions in Monday. I want more information about the geographic names at top-level, as pertains into Africa. Perhaps more discussion, more enlightenment on this issue. Thanks.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much. Seun.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Thank you. Yeah, so as we went through the list, some of my items I got off. So, the other things I wanted to add is the issue of IPv6 awareness. It's ICANN covers not just names, it covers numbers and protocols and we really need to see how we do that kind of engagement in our local community.

Action process is actually big differs, especially when it comes to capacity-building and so on and other projects. Like other projects that some of us were talking about online chat protection, etc., etc. Those things can come under action proceed perhaps if the mechanism that comes up allows it.

So, action process is a big deal, which I think we should follow. Olivier mentioned this has to do with jurisdiction. I think that is very particular for us as it concerns our region and participation in that particular effort.

And the last one, which I want to mention is the IGF. We have this workgroup. I think Olivier is probably has more details about that. I think they have a new [inaudible] or something, which they have signed, and I think we should find the real [participating] in that so that the regional IGF effort can also provide service input to our discussion. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much. No. Abdeldjalil first.

OLIVIER CREPIN-LEBLOND: Just as a response, Cross-Community Working Group on Internet Governance. Search for that if you're interested in this.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Abdeldjalil.

ABDELDJALIL BACHAR BONG: Merci beaucoup, Tijani. This is Abdeldjalil Bachar Bong of the ISOC, Chad. I agree with [Fatma] when she talked about the digital identity of people. In Chad, we had a lot of problems. Little girls were getting corrected on the Internet and we had a lot of issues with that. We could maybe organize through the social media some outreach.

A lot of kids go to Facebook on the phone. Therefore, we said we wanted to have more users but we have to create some kind of protection. We also have to coach the people who don't know how to use the Internet, how to create an account, etc. etc.

As well, a lot of people ask us how can pay for the Internet, how you can pay for services. We need to show them how it works in Chad now you can do e-commerce with card and banks, etc., but people do not know about it. We need to show them, we need to teach them. We need to teach them how to participate to ICANN.

With some of my colleagues here, French-speaking colleagues, we can participate with the wiki. And we know that the ICANN wiki is in English, Spanish, and Swahili, and now we would like to translate all the information. We know everything is there, we have acronyms. Everything has to be translated.

A lot of people can go to the wiki account and create a content in French, so it's another challenge. Hamza is here, he is in charge of that, so maybe we could meet these people and cooperate on this kind of initiative. Hamza.

HAMZA BEN MEHREZ: Like my first interaction with AFRALO people and I'm really excited to embark with you in this new mission, so I think I have three important topics. The first one is network data security on the cloud because most of our data is going from a physical infrastructure to a virtual infrastructure, and this has a repercussion on end user security.

The second topic is end-to-end encryption over [inaudible] or IP addresses.

The third topic is maybe you can relate the like the boom of the Internet of Things topic to the issue of end users' data security.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, and last one, last [intervention]. Yes, go ahead.

GABRIEL BOMBAMBO: I'm from Congo. So, those who have concerns about private security, we cooperate with the program with the French people

about the human rights. We have classes that we have performed and we can share the information with other people who are here. We have classes in French about the user data and also about censor on the Internet. Tijani.

MICHEL TCHONANG:

Merci beaucoup, Tijani. Michel Tchonang from Cameroon. I would like to insist on the questions related to the social media. The question of security has become very important in our countries. We know that it's very damaging. We all have this problem, so this acknowledgement from the government is that they want to know how they can control such situations. It would be a good thing that we start thinking about solutions to help the governments in order for them to trust itself and its people. People are there to look for money but we also have a mission, and that's the education of people. We really would like to insist on the fact that we should put something together to help the community to educate itself in how to manage social medias.

Also, my second proposal is linked to business. It would be a good thing to start thinking about how to help other people in order for them to develop advanced activities linked to production. We shouldn't be just consumers of the Internet. But we can also help people with the capacity building in order to

help them to make a business plan or so they can start working.
So we can start these people in their work life.

TIJANI BEN-JEMAA: Thank you, Michel. [Aisha], would you like to take the floor?

[AISHA]: I'm going back to the idea I had earlier. Find a new model to facilitate access for people who are in underserved countries or underserved region. I wonder if we could do that within AFRALO. I'm wondering if we could put a distinction between infrastructure and politics. Finding a solution in order to be connected – is it a problem of infrastructure, therefore technical or economical, or is it a problem linked to politics? I think that the Swedish model, which I mentioned earlier, is a mix of both, political and technical. I was just thinking out loud. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: One more time. I still want [inaudible] the points on that poverty in Africa. And like my friend from the other hand said, today we have a lot of young people and who really need to hand money, who really needs to become better. And so when you talk to them about handing, I mean doing some things on the Internet, the first question is, how much is that going to hand for me?

So I really think that a Fellow should consider entrepreneurship or what we call technopreneurship, [Greek] preneurship. All of those things that IT has direct link to promote. And that's a lot of things we are doing actually as an NGO. Look in that how we ensure that women and young people are engaged with different skills. And I think as an AFRALO, we should look at that across the African continent.

And seriously, poverty is a big issue. And for a lot of people, even though we notice that people are poor, but we [scale] so that even though you don't have money, even if it's to serve [inaudible] to get recharged card on their phones, they want to go ahead and do that.

So we need to see that there are opportunities in IT in selling some other services, and all of that. So we need to promote a whole lot of awareness on how to eradicate poverty. And now we still want to talk about the security issue, looking at community policing.

Today in some other countries, we see that a lot of crimes happening at different local levels. And we need to look for strategic ways as a community to help government out with technology. So many of the – Bring Back Our Girls [for restart] in Nigeria was in a community that I saw close to each other. And

so they have a lot of challenges. So I think AFRALO should have a solution to that.

TIJANI BEN-JEMAA: Thank you very much. I have now Christelle and Dr. Ali Hussein and you. And I close the queue.

CHRISTELLE N'CHO ASSIROU: I am from Ivory Coast. I would like to make a proposal. So the missions of AFRALO are linked to engagement and members' participation. And if I have understood very well during this reunion, the network of the AFRALO has a great participation here. I mean, a record participation. Therefore, we still have online participation issue. Maybe we can imagine a framework in order to incite the community so AFRALO can mobilize and maybe entertain some will to organize in terms of actions, activities that are linked to the objectives of the ICANN.

So I can imagine a space online which would give some exposure to all the actors or to all the people in the community. A space where you could find all the activities that take place on the local level in order to gather the population around the mission of ICANN.

TIJANI BEN-JEMAA: Thank you, Christelle. You are giving me another exercise here. We are talking about hot topics right now.

ALI HUSSEIN: I'm not understanding about the composition around social media. So I need maybe [my brother] to make it maybe a little bit more clearly. Are we advocating for our governments to monitor social media? Are we advocating for our government to cop social media usage? What are we saying? I'm not understanding. I think that needs to be – to come out very clearly.

As I wait for that answer, I want to make it very categorical that you cannot control social media. You cannot. And I want to repeat this. You cannot. You cannot. People must be able to express themselves. People must be able to speak their minds. There will always be bad apples. Even in a room like this, there will be some of us who misbehave. There will be mechanisms to bring them back onboard.

In Kenya, we have fought very, very strongly about people being thrown in jail, people being persecuted because of social media usage. I will repeat what I said in the morning. Voltaire. "I may not agree with what you say, but I will protect to the death your right to say it." Thank you.

TIJANI BEN-JEMAA: Thank you. Michel didn't speak about censorship or something like this about social media. He just said that there is a problem of protection of children, for example, or something like this. And he said we have to find a way to overcome those difficulties.

Last one, please.

GOMA SERGE-PONFEIT: I want to go back again to the protection of the children online. This issue is quite important on a social side. The idea is this one, at the level of AFRALO, could we see maybe in which manner we could help some of the states on the publication of the texts? Some states do not have a framework – maybe a legal framework that could help in the protection of the users online. Maybe we could have a project to do so. There's a pilot project for the CIC that is trying to check these issues, that issue and now trying to put together a legal framework for that.

TIJANI BEN-JEMAA: Always the last word. So please.

AZIZ HILALI: The ideas that were brought to us have a link to the work of the ALSes, not the AFRALO. A lot of the associations that are linked

to the AFRALO have for objectives those activities you're talking about. But at the level of AFRALO, we try to pick the topics that could be linked to ICANN with the politics of the DNS.

I would like to – Tijani, listen to me. It's a great debate today. There was a working group on the extensions, on the geographical extension. You know that Africa had a lot of problems on the subject, on the ccTLD. What is going on right now? The GNSO, the group in charge of the generic domain name, they are trying to put a list together to affect the geographic extension. The country code. This list has two lists. One list with the code with two letters and one list with the code with three letters. So right now the GNSO is trying to push towards the sale of domain name with the three letters. They do not want that the ccNSO takes care of that.

This will be an issue when it comes to Africa. It could be a hot topic that the ALSes could take care of. It will be a problem for the ALSes and this will come back to the AFRALO. And AFRALO will take it to ICANN. Right now, there are people who are trying to ask the ccNSO to put together a PDP to go back to ICANN.

On my part or Tijani, we should talk about the issue at an ALAC level. So therefore, the question can be discussed and an official declaration could be started.

TIJANI BEN-JEMAA:

We have to close the session. Heidi is pushing that I close it. But we didn't make the evaluation which is a very important part of this. So I will ask you all first to think about what everything we did, to send on the list your thoughts, your critiques. If you don't want to send them to the list, you can send them only to the staff so that not everyone see who said that. And then we will compile them. We will send them back on the list and we will discuss them on a teleconference.

Second point, now we identified several hot topics, we will compile them. We will send them to you again and ask you to think about them once more because it's the first time we speak about them. And if there is another topic that we forgot added, and when we have the full list, we'll make a survey to get the top ten hot topics that we have to concentrate on.

Does that make sense? Is there any objection? Okay. Thank you very much. Thank you for your time. I am so sorry that we couldn't do the second part. It is because we started very late. It is because some of us and a lot of us came here very late. I am so sorry for that.

So thank you very much. Thank you to our staff, our interpreters, and this session is adjourned.

Please, there is another issue that I want to address here. Yesterday, during our General Assembly, we started addressing

the review of our operating principles. We stopped at the second, but we approved the first. So I propose that this first, since we approved it, it will go. And then regarding this very issue, the issue of the review of the operating principles, we will go back to the working group. And I ask you all to subscribe to this working group. We will discuss again. We will come up with new recommendations. And then we will hold extraordinary General Assembly for this review. Does this make sense?

PETERS OMORAGBON:

Objections Mr. Chair, Mr. Tijani. The process, was inconclusive so we're starting afresh again, Mr. Tijani, since you couldn't complete. So we cannot take that halfway. So we're going to start afresh, one by one. So that was yesterday – so the meeting yesterday. I made this known yesterday that we are stopping a process. [We] haven't approved one. Because we have post a particular one, want to start the process. So we cannot take the one that was stopped and then take the second one. No? So we start afresh, Mr. Tijani.

TIJANI BEN-JEMAA:

Okay. Thank you very much. So I have one opposition. Is there anyone who supports this opposition? Yes, please. [Budwan]

[BUDWAN]: [Budwan] from the DRC. I think that we need to restart. I think it would be better. It would be good to move forward but, you know –

SARAH KIDEN: I also think we need to start afresh because I gathered that most people didn't even know what we had approved. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN-JEMAA: Thank you. Two opposition. Okay. It's okay. So now – yes. Moment please. We have two people who oppose to have the first one approved. Is there anyone who don't want it to be approved? Okay. I think there is a real consensus about having the first one approved. And it was approved yesterday.

PETERS OMORAGBON: That is wrong, Tijani. That is wrong. Put it to a vote. We have two proposals. If you are in support of [today], then we vote. If you're not in support, then [you find out a lot of part not] [inaudible] they approve it. That is wrong. I say we should start afresh. People don't want to speak. So let's vote. You have a proposal, I have a proposal. So let's have vote here.

AZIZ HILALI:

If I may? What I would like to propose is that we talked about it during the General Assembly. There is a proposal that I think is wiser. I don't think that we need to vote. We need to get to a consensus. That is the best way. Even if there is one ALS against, I think that we need to keep talking until we find a consensus. That's what we talked about yesterday. I think that we need to stay on that. That we go back to the working group, and that we have a discussion within the working group.

What I would like, however, is to ask for most of the ALSes to be present within that working group. Because the future of AFRALO is at stake. I hope that this week gave you a little bit more of a motivation to be involved because that was the object of the session. I think that we need to stop the discussion right now because if we start now, we will be going for an hour.

So please, let us stop here. Let us go back to the working group. Let us just talk about it and hopefully get to a consensus. I'm sure that we'll find a balance between the different points of view. Thank you. Fatimata, go ahead.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA:

Well, I think as you conclude it in a different way, maybe I would leave it as is and I will keep my comment. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you very much. This session is adjourned. And we do not have a break so we'll start right away. Thank you.

HEIDI ULLRICH: So now, the next session will be an ALAC and Regional At-Large Leader Meeting. We're going to need to give priority on the table to the ALAC members and the Regional At-Large Organization.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]