JOHANNESBURG – At-Large AFRALO ALS Capacity Building Session 3
Wednesday, June 28, 2017 – 08:00 to 09:00 JNB
ICANN59 | Johannesburg, South Africa

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This is the ICANN 59 At-Large AFRALO ALS Capacity Building Session 3 on 28 June 2017, from 8:00 to 9:00 in Ballroom 4.

AZIZ HILALI: Good morning, everyone. We'll start. Yes, I can speak English. Please take your – wait, let me speak French. Hello, everyone. We are going to start this third session, I believe, this capacity building session for the ALSes that we invited. The topic today is the ICANN Empowered Community.

We invited Mrs. Mary Wong with us today. She is a special advisor to the strategy and planning strategy efforts. So I will give her the floor. Thank you for being here.

I would also like to remind you that we have AFRALO's General Assembly. We have a plan, lots to do today. We will have a two-session assembly, so it will be quite long. We will have coffee in between the two sessions. Coffee will be right outside the door. Do not hesitate to take the floor right after Mary Wong's

MARY WONG: Thank you very much, Aziz, and hello, everybody. I want to thank you for having me here today. I know that you have a very packed program this week and a very long day today especially. So thanks for coming early and sharing some time with me.

As Aziz has said, one of the things I do is I'm a special advisor to David Olive who is our Senior Vice President for Policy. Amongst a few other things, I also support one of the supporting organizations, the GNSO. I think what may be more interesting from your perspective is that before I joined ICANN staff, I was a member of the community and I was on the GNSO Council and the ccNSO Council. So I think one of the few communities I haven't had the privilege of actually being a member of is At-Large. So at least today I'll consider myself an honorary member.

Evin, are you controlling the slides? Let's skip ahead.

What I want to say first is that this is a huge slide deck, so I'm sure that my colleagues were a bit freaked out when they saw it. But I'm not going to go through all the slides. There's nothing worse than death by PowerPoint, especially at 8:00 in the

morning at an ICANN meeting. But I think those slides are available. What we have in an Appendix, as you see, are all the procedures that apply to the new powers in the Empowered Community.

What I'd like to concentrate on is more of an overview of: What is the Empowered Community? Particularly, for example, in At-Large: what is your role in it? How does it exercise its powers and what are those powers?

I hope that you will ask questions. I hope that you will make suggestions. Because really, we want to take advantage of the fact that we are all here together. So I'm not here to talk at you.

Let's focus on the overview, which is the blue slide. Can we go on to the next one, please?

We going to talk about the Empowered Community, but I want to just have a few terms out there made quite clear. As you see, the Empowered Community is comprised of a few of ICANN's supporting organizations and advisory committees, including the ALAC. Each of these members of the Empowered Community is called a Decisional Participant.

That's quite important because even though we now have this new structure that we call the Empowered Community, the decisions – as in, for example, does ALAC support a new

amendment to one of ICANN's fundamental Bylaws – that decision is taken within the ALAC. Just as if we're talking about the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) which is another Decisional Participant, does the ccNSO support this action by the Board? That is a decision within the ccNSO.

That's why it's important that each of the members are called Decisional Participants. The new structure does not take away any of that kind of decision making authority from each of them.

What then happens is that after each community has made its decision, its decision is passed through the Empowered Community Administration. Then collectively all together, each of the decisions are tallied, and then that becomes the decision of the Empowered Community. Some of the processes will have certain thresholds. For example, for some actions, you will need three Decisional Participants to support that action and some might need four.

I just wanted to highlight that point. It doesn't really matter whether we know the right terms. What matters is two things. One, you now have something called the Empowered Community with some really new powers that have never existed before in ICANN, and I'll talk a little bit about that. Two, the decisions of the Empowered Community as a group are first taken individually by each of the Decisional Participants.

Let me just start with a question before I go on to the next slide. I'm not sure that your schedule actually allowed you to do that, but yesterday morning there was something called the Community Forum for the New Empowered Community. Was anyone able to attend? No because you had your own capacity building. The reason I mentioned that is that was a significant milestone for the Empowered Community, and I'll try to use that as an example as I go along. But we do have recordings of that session if you're interested.

Let's go to the next slide, and then hopefully we can start with some questions. Like I said, the Empowered Community is comprised of five Decisional Participants. You see who they are in that top box. What you see is two advisory committees, including like I said the ALAC and the other being the GAC, and all three of ICANN's policy supporting organizations: the numbers (which is the Address Supporting Organization), the country codes, and the generic names.

Like I also said, each of these five Decisional Participants make their own decisions. But then when they each have made a decision, they pass it through and to the folks you see in the blue box at the bottom. That is the administration for the community. If you have five Decisional Participants, it makes sense that the administration each has one representative. The current

representative from ALAC is the Chair, and at the moment that is Alan Greenberg.

At the community forum yesterday, Alan was on the panel together with some of the other Chairs of the other SOs and ACs because they were presenting what the Board has proposed to do for an ICANN Bylaw. What will happen now that we've done this community forum where they presented and allowed the community to ask questions of the Board is that each of the five Decisional Participants will then go back and have a certain period of time to make a decision whether to support that Board proposal.

That was quite an interesting session yesterday. There were quite a lot of Board members who were present to explain the proposal. So hopefully that community forum will be very helpful as each of these five groups go back and decide whether or not they want to support the proposal.

Shall I stop here and see if there are any questions? I see Tijani already have questions. Please go ahead.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Mary. By the way, we have the Arabic translation, so if you want to use the Arabic channel, you can use it.

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You said that the representative of the Empowered Community, the five people, go back and then decide if they accept or not accept the decision of the Board. But they don't do it for themselves. They have to go to their community and get the decision from there. They are only the interface between the community and the Empowered Community Administration.

MARY WONG: Thanks, Tijani. That's absolutely right. I actually do have a slide that tries to explain the, so maybe let's go ahead to the next slide, Evin. For the next few slides, you're going to see the same green box (which are the five Decisional Participants) and the same blue box (which is the Administration).

This slide basically repeats what I said. The Empowered Community really is just the structure by which these five Decisional Participants come together and then collectively or together they would have the power to affect how ICANN does certain things.

One of those things, like I mentioned, is what we talking about yesterday at the community forum. Essentially, the Board has proposed to move one of its powers to a new Board committee. It sounds really quite minor, doesn't it? Why does the Board forming a new committee have to go through the Empowered Community?

The reason for that is this particular Board committee has a very unique authority, which is to deal with reconsideration requests from the community about certain decisions that were taken by the Board. That's quite a critical issue and under ICANN's Bylaws, that is considered a fundamental bylaw that there is this Board committee that deals with this very critical issue. Because it's a fundamental bylaw – and by fundamental it means, obviously, most important – if the Board wants to make a change (and that's what it's proposing to do) that change has to be approved by the Empowered Community. So that's where we are at this point. Let's go to the next slide, Evin.

What I've just described is actually one of the powers of the Empowered Community. There are a lot. I think there's a total of eight or nine powers, and they're listed on this slide. We're not going to go through all of them. I think one thing I will say is that the new Bylaws that created the Empowered Community and all these powers is actually quite difficult to read. So partly I hope that this slide deck is very helpful for you.

Right now, we are talking about the Empowered Community approving a fundamental bylaw change. What actually has just happened – and I don't know if it's good news or not and I'm happy to take questions about it – is that the Board has actually just triggered another power for the new Empowered Community. So it's actually quite exciting times for all of us. That

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new power that was just triggered is the power of the Empowered Community to reject ICANN's budget – so basically, our salaries and operating costs and everything. We're excited, but for different reasons perhaps on our side.

That's really quite new because in the past, as you probably know and we still have this practice, ICANN's budget is put out for public comment before it's adopted. Some of you may have submitted comments as well. I think that At-Large community tends to be very active in that role.

And that happened this time around but, again, because we now have these new accountability mechanisms under the ICANN Bylaws on top of the ability to put in public comment and for the budget to be adjusted according to the community's comments, like I said which happened, when the final budget goes to the Board and the Board passes that budget, the extra step that's now added is that there is this ability for the Empowered Community to say, "You know what? We still reject that budget" And that's true for a few others things. That's just one of the new powers.

So in some ways what we just saw yesterday, which is approving a fundamental bylaw change, that's just power number one, relatively straightforward. Power number two that was just triggered, the ability to reject the budget for ICANN and for IANA

and a few other things, is something that has a slightly more complicated process. But like I said, exciting times.

Can I stop here and ask if anyone has questions, especially about this? Tijani?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Does the Empowered Community have the ability to reject the PTI budget?

MARY WONG: You asked me a really good question. You caught me off-guard. At the moment, we're talking about the IANA budget. I think that the PTI budget is related to that in some way. I can't remember the exact details. But obviously, when you talk about PTI – which is the Public Technical Identifiers which is really just the new entity that was created after the transition away from the U.S. government stewardship – that's another critical component that did not exist before. Aziz?

AZIZ HILALI: Here we have new ALSes. Can you please explain what is PTI, what is NTIA, etc., please – just some words about this?

MARY WONG: Thank you, Aziz, and you're right. I think maybe what we can do is take a brief look at the context of why we're even talking about this. Some of you may know or have heard, if you weren't participating in ICANN at the time or weren't so active, that a couple of years ago the U.S. government through the NTIA (which is that particular agency in the U.S. government that had the relationship with ICANN) announced that the operation of the IANA functions (which is essentially what we do at ICANN, the assignment and management of names and numbers for the domain name system) at that point had matured to such a stage that while there was always a traditional, historic contractual initially relationship between the U.S. government and ICANN, that it was time for that to be changed. So the traditional U.S. government role, which is stewardship over that very critical assignment and management function and that is being performed by ICANN, that stewardship role from the U.S. government would go away.

Who would it go to? It would not go to another government. It would not go to a group of governments. It would not go to a group of governments in an organization internationally anywhere else. The U.S. government was very clear. It said, "It's going to go to the global Internet community," which is us.

As part of that transition, the U.S. government said that there are several core principles that needed to be followed. Those

had to do with ensuring accountability. It had to do with making sure that the transition was as seamless as possible.

So to cut a long story short, it was a lot of work for this community for the two years, I think, to actually make the transition happen. That happened in October of last year. I know Tijani, Aziz, and many folks were very involved, as was the At-Large community in commenting and helping to develop some of these mechanisms that would make sure that when the U.S. government stepped back from its stewardship role, that we would step up and take that place.

Where ICANN the community is concerned, where you see that happen is in exactly what we're talking about today. One of the new things, again, is the Empowered Community and therefore the ability to look at ICANN's budgets, the ability to approve certain things. And the other power that we haven't triggered yet, and it would be a little scary for some if it is triggered, but the Empowered Community has the power to remove a Board director. I think the most significant power – which may never be exercised, we don't know – is the Empowered Community, these five green circles, has the power to recall the entire ICANN Board.

I know we have some questions. I'm going to pause for a moment.

[AZIZ HILALI]:   We have a question from Gabdibe. Go ahead, Gabdibe. And then Evelyn.

[GABDIBE GAB-HINGONNE]:I would like to go back on the question that Aziz asked. I don't want to necessarily understand the role of the PTI, but what I do want to understand is what actually PTI means. There are so many acronyms that you use. I am new. I don't necessarily understand all of this. So what does PTI actually mean?

AZIZ HILALI: Yes, exactly. That's what I wanted to mention. There are newcomers here. There are new ALSes. They are completely new to ICANN. It is their first meetings so, if you could, please avoid using acronyms and explain what they are. Because even though we had webinars within AFRALO, not ALSes were able to actually participate in the webinars. I think there's another question from Abdeldjalil.

ABDELDJALIL BASHAR: Hello. First of all, I would like to thank you for your presentation. You talking about the Empowered Community. What I want to know is what does this mean for ALSes, for end users? How do

they participate in this decision? You used the word "Empowered" Community, so how can I have an influence within the ALAC representatives?

Another thing: where is the RSSAC, where is the SSAC in this drawing?

The other question is, if the Board has a decision, can the Empowered Community change that decision?

Because I see that the power rests on five people, so I'd like to understand this, how it all works, all these powers.

MARY WONG: Thank you, all, for the questions. Now we're getting a little bit more lively, right? So please keep them coming. I was actually hoping to avoid the acronyms, but since we happen to have brought up PTI, I think I mentioned it very quickly, but let me mention it again that the name of that entity is – someone will correct me if I'm wrong – Public Technical Identifiers.

[TIJANI BEN JEMAA]:   Exactly.

MARY WONG: I will say that if you are just starting to participate at ICANN, don't worry about that thing because a lot of these things are

entities and structures. I can tell you a lot of participants who are veterans in the ICANN community could not tell you what PTI stands for. But if you want to know, essentially what it does is just a new entity that was formed to perform the same functions ICANN has always performed, which we call the IANA functions, but like I said, it's about the assignment and the management of numbers and names in the DNS, which is what we know. Tijani?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes, before the transition, the assignment of the names and numbers was done by IANA. IANA is an American entity. The stewardship of this IANA is done by the government of America. After the transition, when we worked on the transition, first we called it "post-transition IANA" – PTI. But when we arrived to writing the Bylaws, after the transition there will not be any meaning for the "post-transition." That's why we call it now "Public Technical Identifiers."

MARY WONG: Thanks, Tijani. Hopefully, that illustrates why it's okay to not know the name or the entity, but the fact is that it is basically performing the critical function that ICANN has. It's just where it's housed.

On the other questions about, first of all, where are the other two advisory committees – and I think everyone knows – because what makes up the community that we serve on the policy side you have the three supporting organizations and three of them are here: the address, the CCs, and the generic domains. But we actually have four advisory committees, and ALAC is of course one of them, but you see only two, the ALAC and the GAC, on this.

When this was being set up, each of the communities was basically asked, "Do you want to be part of the new Empowered Community?" and RSSAC and SSAC because of what they do – they do very specific activities in the technical field. RSSAC, for example, the Root Server System Advisory Committee, they develop their policies at a regional level. There's not a whole lot that they do substantively at the ICANN level. So for reasons largely to do with the very specific technical nature of what each of those two committees do, they decided that they did not need to be part of this new mechanism.

In order for us to understand how anyone can participate, first of all on that point, even though the RSSAC and the SSAC (the Security and Stability Advisory Committee) are not formally part of the Empowered Community, in everything that the Empowered Community is asked to decide – like I said, approving a fundamental bylaw, amending/potentially rejecting

the budget – there is the ability for anyone to make a comment, including through an advisory committee that's not part of the Empowered Community or even individually. So that goes partly to your other question, how can I as an individual, as a user participate?

Within these processes for the community to exercise its powers, you can actually send in your views to the Empowered Community Administration. That's one thing.

Another thing is when there are community forums – and some of these community forums will be online. They will not be live at an ICANN meeting for various reasons. If you were there yesterday, we also don't just do them in English. We actually had live interpreters in the room, and we give out notices to tell you when that happens. So the next community forum may well be an online one. You can actually participate, ask questions, and take comments. Because what happens, like I said, at those community forums is that each of these folks – in our case, the ALAC – you're going to go back and within, let's say, a 21-day period, you have to consider all the feedback that other people gave in your decision. As one of the five participants, do I as that group support or do not support this proposal?

Then another way, it's not the last way but I guess it's the last way I will mention, is that because the ALAC is one of the

Decisional Participants in the Empowered Community, I believe the ALAC does have rules and processes you adopted, I think late last year, to allow that decision to basically percolate through your different structures. So in many ways, my impression is that it's not that different from when the ALAC makes other decisions in the way that an ALS, for example, or a RALO would participate in that process. So that actually I think is very helpful and really encouraging for individuals.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Mary. We have a question from [Chris].

[CHRIS]: It's [Chris] from Mauritius. I've got a very, let's say, tricky question here. You mentioned many things about ICANN cannot be moved out of the U.S. because it's in the jurisdictions, IANA in the same jurisdiction. Now FCC has been given a lot of rights which encompass actually Internet as well. I want to know what other mechanisms are in place to stop the U.S. government from coming back again and taking over these two entities. Because I've seen something that says something else, and I want to know what are the mechanisms that the Board and the community is actually looking at to make sure that this doesn't happen again. Because you mentioned that it cannot be moved out of the U.S., it cannot go to any other country nor any other

jurisdiction, although I've heard in other committees people talking "we should move this, we should move it, we should try to move that." What mechanisms are in place to stop that from happening?

MARY WONG: Thanks for the question. I'm going to make some general comments, and I think others in the room may have things to add as well.

I don't think I actually mentioned that we could never move the jurisdiction or the location of ICANN. In fact, I think what we're talking about today isn't even about that. But the comment I will make is that there is actually still work ongoing in the community through the Cross-Community Working Group for Accountability.

Just think about that name: Cross-Community Working Group for Accountability. They were very active, first of all, in the transition that we just described in what they were calling their Work Stream 1 – so that was half their work – to get ICANN as an organization and as a community to the point where the transition could happen. What we're talking about today – the Empowered Community, the new powers – that is a result of that Work Stream 1. That all happened by the time the transition took place in October 2016.

The other piece, the other half, is actually happening now in what the Cross-Community Working Group for Accountability is calling Work Stream 2. Actually, one of the very important questions that group is working on in their Work Stream 2 is about jurisdiction.

So I don't know that there's a complete answer to your question. I think what we're focusing on today is a very important but a very specific part of what took place to enable the transition to happen. There are other accountability mechanisms that are probably going to be worked on, including staff accountability, community accountability, impact of human rights and so forth that we're seeing some results come out from that but those discussions are still going on.

I don't know if, Tijani, you want to add anything.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Mary. [Chris], the issue of jurisdiction is still under discussion in the Work Stream 2 subgroup on jurisdiction. I am a member of this group, and we are discussing this issue. Mary never spoke about that, and it is not the scope of our capacity building today. Thank you.

MARY WONG: Anyone else want to raise anything at this point? Yes, please. Please go ahead.

BRAM FUDZULANI: Hello. I wanted to actually understand in full [inaudible]. I don't know if this is the right platform. For example, if ALAC is not in favor of a certain approval of the amendment of a certain bylaw within ICANN, does it have to lobby for the other community members like GNSO to convince them to reject it? Or how is that process like in terms of the whole aspect of the new Empowered Community?

MARY WONG: That's a great question. We're getting a lot of really good questions today, and I think what it demonstrates is that we're really trying to understand how the community can work together – that's part of your question – and how each of us in our respective communities can actually participate and affect the outcome of certain decisions, which is exactly what the multi-stakeholder model is supposed to do.

So my answer to your question is it's not so much about lobbying. Point number one is that ALAC, as you just started off saying, makes its own decision. Your question is, what if ALAC thinks that the other communities are making a different

ICANN 59
POLICY FORUM
JOHANNESBURG
26–29 June 2017

decision. I think you'll see that already happens in different settings, for example, in a cross-community working group. A cross-community working group is chartered by two or three supporting organizations/advisory committees. Within those groups [are] decision making structures.

So this is not that new in the sense that, obviously, when ALAC is making its decision, you don't want to do it in a silo. You want to say, "Hey, GNSO, what are you thinking?" The ccNSO might go to the GAC or everybody could just all get on the phone and just say, "We're a little bit concerned about this." One of the other communities could say, "We're not that concerned, but we're concerned about this other thing." So even though the decisions happen within each community, I anticipate that there should be a lot of discussions across those groups, probably through the leadership just to make it more manageable.

So I think that's one piece that as a community we already do, so there's no reason to stop doing it. The other piece is that for some of these powers – not the one that's going on which is the fundamental bylaw, but for example the other thing I said like rejection of the budget – how that actually works is that anyone, an individual, this is what the Bylaws say and actually I should have mentioned that when the gentleman asked this question earlier, any individual can go to any one of the five Decisional

Participants and lodge a petition and say, "I think you should reject the ICANN budget, and here's why."

Then that Decisional Participants – it could be the GAC, it could be the ALAC, it could be GNSO – has to decide whether to accept that petition. If they do, they then under the Bylaws, the Bylaws actually say this, they then have to go to another Decisional Participants and try and get support for that petition. There are different levels of thresholds of support. So under some of these powers, it's actually specified in the Bylaws themselves that, yes, you may want to do something like reject an ICANN budget, but the process doesn't move forward unless you can convince another Decisional Participants to join you in that petition. So for some of these powers, it's actually quite explicit.

AZIZ HILALI: We have just five minutes [to finish and you have two questions]. Just one minute please.

BRAM FUDZULANI: It's just a follow up. How many of the community members do you have to convince? You have explained very well, but I just want to understand. So you've consulted GAC, GNSO. Do you have to get all the remaining on board for you to be able to present your case or to reject a budget?

MARY WONG: Thanks for another great question. The answer is it depends on which power we're talking about. For some powers, there's a certain level that needs the support of three of the Decisional Participants, and you can't have more than one participant objecting to the process. It really does encourage communication across the communities even while it preserves the autonomy of decision making for the At-Large community with ALAC. So the GNSO cannot decide for ALAC, but the GNSO and the ALAC had better be talking if they want to work together to make that petition successful.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Mary. We have two questions. Christelle and [inaudible]. Please be quick.

CHRISTELLE N'CHO: Hello, everyone. The representative of the different community, how are they sent to the Administration? Is it a collective process? Who votes on it? Thank you.

MARY WONG: Let me first ask a clarifying question. When you say who votes on it, what is the it. I may have missed the early part.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: I can explain it.

MARY WONG: Yes, please.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: He is asking about the representative of the community and the Administration.

MARY WONG: Thank you, Tijani. So the clarification for those who didn't hear and who wanted to know is, how do you select your representative to the Empowered Community Administration? How do the groups in the green box select the person who is going to represent them in the blue box? The answer is – actually I think everyone will probably realize is pretty logical too – each community chooses its own. As part of ALAC's procedures that we mentioned earlier that were adopted I think a few months or maybe a year ago, that process is dealt with as well.

But I want to add on to that and emphasize something that Tijani said a bit earlier, which is that blue box, the Administration for the Empowered Community, that's all they do. They're the Administration. They don't actually have power.

So your representative, the ALAC representative to the Empowered Community Administration, like that GAC representative, like the GNSO representative, has to act at the direction of that community.

Really, all the Empowered Community Administration does is manage the process for the community. It makes sure that if for that process you have to have a community forum, they make sure that they ask ICANN to hold that community forum, they run the forum, and then at the end of that process when the ALAC, the ASO, the GAC, everybody puts in their decisions – "I support," "I don't support" – these five individuals in the Administration, literally what they do is they count the votes. Then it's their job to get the result to ICANN.

So they really are kind of – I shouldn't say this on the record – the post office for the Empowered Community. They do have a job, which is to make sure that the process is run and to forward the results of the decisions to ICANN org, but that's really all they do. They act at your direction. They don't have any separate power aside from that.

Tijani has asked that I draw your attention to all the new powers of the Empowered Community. It's hard to read this slide, but when you go back and look at it, hopefully that will make sense. There are a few acronyms in there, and those have to do with

some of the new processes and some of the new entities like Public Technical Identifiers that we talked about earlier.

I think what would be really helpful for you is to just keep an eye out because when a new power is triggered – and like I said, we are undergoing one now for fundamental Bylaws. We have started a new one for the budget. You will probably get that notification through the various At-Large communications, mailing lists, and so forth. Monitor it. When the time comes where it says, "What comments do you have? There's a community forum. Would you like to attend?" that's how you can participate. Ultimately, of course, when the ALAC makes its decision where there's the ability to put in an input, say, as an ALS or as a RALO, then that's how you can participate as well.

AZIZ HILALI: At the mic, we have three questions. We are going to put these three questions together and ask Mary. We need to let the interpreters go because they have only 15 minutes of break. First we going to go to Christelle.

CHRISTELLE N'CHO: If that question was already asked, I am so sorry, but how many working groups are existing right now? Can we have the list right now?

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Christelle. Now somebody else has a question. Seun?

SEUN OJEDEJI: Just to add on what Mary was saying [inaudible] response to the question that was asked, for ALAC, the way we select the representative is by actually putting it in our Rules of Procedure and saying that the ALAC Chair will be the representative. Actually, other groups may not do that. For instance, I think the ccNSO have a different representative. So the representative varies by the various SOs and ACs. Thank you.

MARY WONG: Thanks, Seun, and thanks for providing the information. You're right that of the five individuals that represent the five different communities, the ccNSO representative at the moment is not the ccNSO Chair. I will add to that, that for the GNSO, which does gTLD policy for Generic Top-Level Domains, although the Chair of the GNSO is currently the representative, he is only the interim. Essentially, when this came about, the GNSO did not have a selection process in place. So they said, "Hey, you're the Chair. You represent us." Because that's what the Bylaws say. The Bylaws actually say each community selects its representative. The default is that is the Chair. So you may well

see from some of the other groups, perhaps the GNSO or the GAC or somewhere else, that the next representative may be another different member that's not in the leadership team.

On the question about working groups, I think it's really a question that we would need to go back and count because there are so many different types of working groups. I think even within the At-Large community, you have different working groups and task forces, each of them doing different things.

What might be helpful is if we look, for example, at policy making, so for the ccNSO, how many working groups they have and what policies they're working on. I can tell you for now, for example, in the ccNSO the newest working group is about the redelegation of ccTLDs, which is a very critical topic on the CC side.

In the GNSO, there are at least four active policy development processes that deal with some very critical elements of the domain name system, including what to do and what sort of policies should apply for the next round of new gTLD applications.

Then on top of that – and like I said, I know At-Large does a lot – there are a lot of working groups that don't necessarily do policy-related work. I can get back to you with the numbers, but I think it would be helpful to divide them by the groups and by

the types of work that's being done. There are also cross-community working groups that do their own projects as well.

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you very much, Mary. We will actually stop right there in order to free the interpreters and to have the room free. So we will meet again in 15 minutes.

But before we end, I would like to just quickly thank Tijani who prepared these capacity building sessions because, quite honestly, I am the Chair of AFRALO and I'm still learning with you. So I would like to thank him and thank Mary.

This is actually not the last session. It just wanted to let you know that we still have a session tomorrow and we have the concluding session as well that will be in the afternoon.

GISELLA GRUBER: Hello, everyone. I wanted to mention something. If you have not yet responded for the dinner, you are invited. All of the ALSes that did not respond, can you please tell me yes or no for tomorrow evening. It is very important so I have the accurate number. I will also let you know what the plan is for tomorrow evening. I will let you know what the logistics are so you need to be there so that you know how to meet for the dinner.

Otherwise, you will not be able to participate. Thank you very much.

And last point, for those of you who do not yet have an orange shirt, please address the staff. We will meet for the General Assembly at 9:15. We have Göran Marby who will come. He always has very tight deadlines, so please be here by 9:15 sharp. Thank you very much.

PETERS OMORAGBON: Gisella. I didn't get any e-mail from you.

GISELLA GRUBER: You didn't get any e-mails? I'll check on that immediate. Thank you, Pastor Peters.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]