

---

JOHANNESBURG – At-Large AFRALO General Assembly Part 2

Wednesday, June 28, 2017 – 10:30 to 12:00 JNB

ICANN59 | Johannesburg, South Africa

UNKNOWN: This is the ICANN 59 At-Large AFRALO General Assembly Part 2, on the 28 of June, 2017, from 10:30 to 12 o'clock in Ballroom 4.

UNKNOWN: Please take your seats.

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: Please do sit down; we are going to start momentarily.

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: Welcome. Welcome back. I would like to ask you all to take headphones. This is now the second session of the General Assembly, and we will devote it to a presentation of the activities that we have organized since London, since our last General Assembly. You can see with me the Officers of AFRALO,

---

*Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.*

---

[inaudible], Sarah, Tijani, and myself – as well as Fatimata, our experienced member of AFRALO, who will be the next Chair of AFRALO.

Just one thing I would like to note – there is one person who is not with us – Wafa – she was not able to join us today. There is also another person missing, who is in another meeting – Dave. He is a member of the NomCom; he represents AFRALO at the NomCom. So, I would like to ask you to – we will go around the table to report on the General Assembly. I would like to ask all of the ALSes to present themselves – to introduce themselves. Maybe just your first name, what ALS you represent, and what country you represent. We will start with Mrs. Li.

MRS. LI: [inaudible], and I am with the San Francisco Bay area ISOC chapter, and that's the ALS affiliated with NARALO and ALAC. Thank you. And I'm from the USA. Thanks.

UNKNOWN: Excuse me; we have some – a General Assembly, here. [French]

UNKNOWN: Only African ALSes should be at the table; I apologize.

---

UNKNOWN: Excuse me once more, please. [French]

UNKNOWN: So, the ALSes who are behind me, or left or right, please come to the table. This is an AFRALO General Assembly meeting, and so, if you are not an ALS, I would like you to leave the table, please, because just in case we have a vote, or just in case people want to take the floor – of course you can stay with us, but I would like for the ALSes to be at the table – the African ALSes to be at the table. Thank you.

UNKNOWN: [inaudible]. You can stay with us in the room, please. It's okay, I mean. Please.

ALI HUSSEIN: My name is Ali Hussein, from Kenya ICT Action Network.

MICHEL TCHONANG: [French]

UNKNOWN: Michel Tchonang. I am in charge of the [inaudible] in Cameroon.

---

BARRACK OTIENO: Barrack Otieno, ISOC, Kenya.

GABDIBÉ GAB-HINGONNE: [French]

UNKNOWN: My name is Gabdibé. I am from the Chad. I am an ALS representative.

Adam Ahmat Doungous. I am from the Chad, [inaudible].

Gabriel Bombambo. I come from the Congo, [inaudible].

Bakary Kouyate, from Mali, the Internet Society Chapter.

UNKNOWN: [French]

VERNATIUS OKWU EZEAMA: Our Rights, Nigeria.

ROGER BAAH: Roger Baah, ISOC Ghana Chapter.

PASTOR PETERS OMORAGBON: Nurses Across the Borders, Nigeria.

---

OTUNTE OTUENEH: Otunte Otueneh, ISOC Nigeria.

BRAM FUDZULANI: Bram Fudzulani, ICT Association of Malawi.

CEDRIC KINANGA: Cedric Kinanga.

UNKNOWN: Cedric Kinanga, ISOC for DRC.

UNKNOWN: [inaudible], Kinshasa –

UNKNOWN: I am from Kinshasa, and the [inaudible] ALS is who I represent.

SAID MCHANGAMA: [French]

UNKNOWN: I come from the Comoros, and my name is [inaudible].

Olivier Kwami; I come from Togo, ISOC Cameroon.

---

AÏCHA ABBAD: My name is Aïcha Abbad –

UNKNOWN: – Women’s Association for the Development and Cooperation in Morocco.

UNKNOWN: [inaudible], Nigeria.

NOMSA MWAYENGA: I am Nomsa Mwayenga, and I am here representing ISOC Zimbabwe Chapter, and the Zimbabwe Network Operators’ Group. Thank you.

MOATAZ SHAARAWY: Moataz Shaarawy, from Egypt. ALS, the Shaarawy Foundation. We changed the name of Ofok to Shaarawy Foundation. [inaudible] similar organization [inaudible]. Thank you.

PHILIPPE BATREAU: Philippe Batreau.

---

UNKNOWN: Philippe Batreau; I come from Ivory Coast, and I am with the Digital Age.

UNKNOWN: I am from the Free Software Association. I am from Burkina Faso.

Christelle. I am the Chair of Women in ICT – in C’Ote d’Ivoire, Ivory Coast.

UNKNOWN: [French]

SEUN OJEDEJI: Seun Ojedeji. [inaudible], Nigeria, and ALAC member.

OMAR SHURAN: Omar Shuran, Libyan Internet Society.

SARAH KIDEN: Sarah Kiden, ISOC Uganda, and AFRALO Secretary.

FATIMATA SEYE SYLLA: Fatimata Seye Sylla, Bokk Jang, [inaudible], Senegal.

---

AZIZ HILALI: Aziz Hilali, ISOC Morocco.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Tijani Ben Jemaa, ALAC [inaudible] Chair, [inaudible], Tunisia.

UNKNOWN: [inaudible]

UNKNOWN: [inaudible], Congo – ISOC Congo, but I am here for [inaudible].

Jacques Hougbo, for the Internet Governance Forum in Benin.

Are there other ALSes in the room?

If I may - [inaudible].

Please, Gisella speaking. I don't know if you were reminded that we do have interpretation in Arabic, French, and English. If you don't give your name, if you don't speak in the microphone, they cannot hear you. So, all of those in the room who do not understand whatever other language you are speaking, they will not be able to be understood. So, we will pass the mic, and all ALSes will be able to introduce themselves.

UNKNOWN: [inaudible] from Mauritius. [inaudible]



---

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: Gisella, if the other ALSes could show me their hands.

ADETOKUNBO ABIOLA: Adetokunbo Abiola, Nigerian Internet Users Coalition.

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: Aziz takes the floor. We will present the activities of AFRALO since the last Assembly in London. It is a review of all activities. I am waiting for the slide to be on the screen. Please – the presentation – as you know, AFRALO is one of the five original groups that represent the consumers for the Internet in the African region within the ICANN, and I want to remind you with my first slide of its first mandate. First of all, we need to inform and promote the participation of the users of the Internet in a [inaudible] use of the development of the politics within ICANN, and to inform all the users and the groups in Africa, and to share the information within Africa. I'm waiting for the slide.

---

So, we need to help the individuals and the users in Africa with information. We need to give information on the development of the politics in Africa. Our objective is to promote and to increase the level of participation of the ALSes on the discussion on the development of the Internet, in general, and give information on the conversations that are in place at ICANN. You will see on the next slide the number of ALSes and the situation to date. We have reached, since 2007 – actually, 2003, because the memorandum was signed between the RALO and ICANN happened in 2007, but the accreditation of the ALSes started in 2003 – and since then, we’ve reached 52 ALSes. This is not the right figure. We have now 53, because we have a new ALS that was added lately, which is the ISOC in Senegal. As you see, we have a great increase, especially in the last few years. If you compare 2010, 2017, you can see the figure has doubled. We went from 23 ALSes to 53 ALSes. Next slide, please.

On this chart, you can see how the ALSes are deployed per country. We see 52 ALSes that represent about 30 countries today. You can see all the represented countries. There are still countries where we have to work in order to attract more ALSes, but in general, if I can summarize, the common point between those ALSes is that they are chapters of ISOC, and they represent a big part of the ALSes. They represent also the NGOs, the academia, representations of users, and ICTs, in general. This is

---

all around development and training and human development in general. These – this is what you can see as a common denominator among all the ALSes – it is the promotion of free software, development of use; it has to do with health, environment; we are extremely diverse within our actions, within our activities in each country. What I can say about this slide is that you can see – and you can see it on the left side – the name of the ALSes per country – you can see that, in some countries, there are more ALSes, like Nigeria, but Nigeria is a big, large country. We have one also – one of them is in the phase of accreditation. You can say that these ALSes, in our opinion, what these ALSes represent today – we are trying to share that message with ICANN – these ALSes represent the voice of the individual users. On this slide, you can see the second part for the figures – the numbers of ALSes. You have the geographical situation for each of them.

On the next slide, you can see a way to see how the integration of the ALSes is done. Earlier, we had questions – also yesterday we had questions about this – this is the explanation and the answer to these questions – how these ALSes are integrated within the functioning of ICANN. I’m sorry to bring this up again, because some of you know this subject very well, but for the new ALSes, it is very important for them to know. As you already know, we had a speech by the ALAC Chair. As you know, ALAC is

---

the committee which is trying to be as large as possible, on the worldwide level. The role of the ALAC is to study proposed recommendations on the activities of ICANN related to the end users. And I insist on the words “representing the interest of the users.” ALAC represents the users, and since we are 3.5 billion, it is quite difficult to say that. But the ALAC in general, in each case, in each study, tries to study, observe the impact of the decisions of ICANN on the users – on the final users of the Internet. The ICANN being in charge of the technical managing of the domain, takes the advice of the ALAC to be more represented, and to represent more interest of the users within ICANN. ALAC takes support on these ALSes in order to represent the opinion of the users, in order for them to participate to all the decisions made within ICANN.

These ALSes represent 224 – I think it’s the right figure, but that figure changes all the time; every week – they are now 224 ALSes in the world, and they are a group within AFRALO, or EURALO, or NARALO, [inaudible]. And I will repeat the definitions. Those are the original organizations At-Large that represent each region within ICANN. There are five regions. You see them in front of you. Again, there are five regions described on the map: EURALO for Europe, APRALO for Asia-Pacific, NARALO for North America, LACRALO for Latin America and the Caribbean, and AFRALO for Africa. Each RALO is represented by two or three representatives

---

– I’m talking about RALOs; I’m not talking about the members of ALAC. Each one has a Secretary, and eventually a President, a Vice-President. We will discuss this later. On top of each Officers, as you see in the bottom of the picture, ALAC names ten members – ALAC members – that represent each RALO. Two people per RALO. I remember that those who represent us at ALAC are Seun and Tijani. They are the representatives for AFRALO. Then, you have to add five people who are selected for each RALO in order to serve at the NomCom. Dave represents AFRALO. Also, I need to explain that there is one member of ALAC that doesn’t go through the elections at the AFRALO level, but that goes through the committee of NomCom from ICANN. Thereofre, they are ten plus five plus ten. It’s about twenty-five to thirty members that form ALAC, and that represent ALAC today, up to date. And at the end, there is also one member from ALAC who is elected by the ALAC community to be at the Board. And we just had the election of this member – yes, Tijani, you’re right; we have fifteen members of the ALAC. So, as I just said, we just voted for – again, this is not the ALSes who vote, but the Officers – the members of ALAC vote – and they just voted for Leon, who will be the Chair or advisor for ALAC within the Board of ICANN. Next slide, please.

Here, you can see on this slide, how the 224 ALSes are located in the world. You can situate our RALO – our RALO, AFRALO –

---

compared to the other countries. You can see by colors, the number of countries that are represented per region in orange; and then, you can see the amount of ALSes that are either ISOC chapters that are represented in purple – I think it's in purple – yes. And it'll give you a broad idea of the figures. You can see, at AFRALO, there are about thirty chapters – ISOC chapters – and it's really, really, a very important fact. You can, of course, find all the details on the ALAC website. Also, you can see that we have reached a number of ALSes, and it is – that number is almost the same as APRALO. Next slide, please.

UNKNOWN:

One of the activities that is run by the AFRALO group since 2009 is the Capacity Training or Reinforcement, and I'm not going to talk about this, because Tijani's telling me to go faster and to summarize more. So, we need to do outreach with ALSes on the processes of ICANN, but also to integrate them more on the subjects that are in place. We try to repeat this all the time with our ALSes, which – we are trying to tell them to engage more and participate more to increase the participation of Africa.

So, now, we are going to go to the next slide, where you can see – I'm going to explain quickly. You have the different activities that we have within ALAC. We are the only RALO at ALAC to do – to have a meeting AFRALO – Africa, AFRALO – that gathers the

---

whole community and that ends with a declaration upon one statement that treats one subject that has been treated within the African community. Since Nairobi, we initiated something that we do every time that we are on the continent. We organize a showcase, and that showcase will take place at the end of today. Also, we organize for AFRALO a few workshops and different IGFs. And also, as you saw earlier, we assign the MOU AFRALO-AfriNIC – and I want to remind you that this was initiated by AFRALO. We are the first RALO to do so. The lady who’s sitting on my left initiated that process, and she – Fatimata – who did a lot for us to get to this point. I wanted to also introduce three people who did a lot of work when it comes to that conversation that took place over two years. It is the subject of the transition of IANA, and the responsibility of ICANN. These three people did a lot of work. They worked within a Work Group, and in this Work Group were included a lot of people from a lot of regions. I can’t even tell you the number of webcasts that took place all day long, every hour of the day and night, and so forth. Not everybody could be here today, but the Vice Chair of a group from ICG – we talked about it this morning – a lot of our ALSes did not follow that discussion about the transition, but it was a very important moment in the life of ICANN. ICANN went from one organization that had a contract with the American government to an organization that was

---

completely independent. I can tell you that the discussion was really hot, but was very fascinating.

And now, I also wanted to talk about the meeting that we had in Marrakech, which was a success. It's not my place to say it was a very big success, but it was a very big success, because there were so many African – we had 950 participants – it was a record. Usually, during the meeting, we have about 100 Africans present, so it is very important to have a representation during these meetings. We had a showcase in Marrakech, which we compiled with a “goodbye” kind of meeting for the departure of our ex-CEO, a man who did a lot of work for Africa. I want to thank him right here, right now. Next slide, please.

This is almost the last one. We don't have much time. This – please, next. Okay, can you come back, please? Thank you, okay. Go back two slides, please.

This is the picture we took during the session – a very successful session in Marrakech with the university. We did that again in Johannesburg. We met with a student from the University of Johannesburg, and we will carry on with that project, because it was very successful. Next slide, please.

We participated to the meetings of AfroDIG, and we will – we can talk about it later. Next slide. Next.



---

This slide – we will talk about it later. We will talk about the metric – the performance metrics of AFRALO. It's important to review these metrics. I want to thank everyone for their participation. We started in 2014. We talked so much about the transition that we left that behind. But we started working on this again, and I can tell you that we will work hard. Tijani was the Chair of that group, and as you see, there were a lot of participants in the committee who worked really hard on the work that we will present to you later. I want to thank all of them. Last slide, please.

Here we go. This is the committee – the Organizing Committee for this meeting here in Johannesburg. I wanted to talk about them, because we've been working with them for three months. They organized all the activities to which you are taking part. It's Abdeljalil, Baudoin, [inaudible] Tijani, myself, [inaudible], Seun, [inaudible], Wafa, and Barrack. I want to thank them very much.

UNKNOWN:

So, that's it for my presentation. We will now give the floor to you. If you have questions, if you have feedback on this presentation, and I'll start with Tijani.

---

TIJANI: I propose that we postpone the questions and we start immediately discussing the review of the Operating Principles. It is very important, and we are too late. I am so sorry for that. I am sad for that. Thank you.

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: This was a proposal by Tijani, and if you agree, we can move on to the next item, unless anybody is opposed. Nobody's opposed? So, we can just move on, then. So, let's move to the next point on the agenda.

The review of the AFRALO Operating Principles. As Tijani Chaired that Working Group, I will give him the floor.

TIJANI: You know I generally speak English, but since here, there is more French-speaking people than English-speaking people, I will try to speak French. You will have on the screen – the display is in English here. So, you can follow there, and also, you have the print. Okay. [French]

---

UNKNOWN:

So, what you have here is a summary of the recommendations of the Working Group that worked on six main points. The first point is individual membership. As you know, within AFRALO you have ALSes – At-Large Structures. Those ALSes are associations, organizations that are based out of a country, legally established organizations, and they are members of AFRALO. So, AFRALO is an organization of associations.

Now, what is proposed here is that we take in individual members. Within the bylaws of ICANN, it is mentioned that non-affiliated individuals may become of the RALO if it is stipulated in the MOU signed between the RALO and ICANN. Our MOU with ICANN says the following in Article 2C: “We declare that every interested citizen or resident in our region is welcome to join at least one of our At-Large Structures. We will also allow individual Internet users who are citizens or residents of countries within our geographic region to become members of the RALO.” So, as far as the legal side of things, we have the right – it is okay to accept individuals as members. Right now, five – three of the five RALOs take in individual members. I think it is just us and LACRALO. I’m not quite sure of that, but I think it’s LACRALO, as well.

So, the first evaluations of At-Large recommended – as you know, there were two revisions of At-Large. And so, for the first review, the result was that there was a recommendation to

---

promote individual membership within At-Large, in general. The report of the reviewers within the second review, which is currently ongoing, recommends to transform At-Large and make it an individual members organization only. Only individual members, through their EMM model. So, the Working Group discussed the individual membership question, taking advantage of the experience of the three RALOs that adopted this concept, and the majority of the Working Group members were opposed for the following reasons.

First of all, what they are saying is that the main mission of a RALO is to bring the opinions and views of the regional end users community to ICANN, as well as to inform the regional end users community about ICANN mission, policy, and activities. What they are saying is that the individuals will have a very limited ability to assume this responsibility, compared to the ALSes that can better assume it through their members. They are also saying that an individual member isn't accountable to anyone but himself, while an ALS representative is accountable to his ALS. They are saying, as well, that an individual doesn't represent anyone but himself; an ALS representative represents dozens, hundreds, or thousands of end users. As individual member, anyone can come and ask to be an AFRALO member. How to prove that he or she is not sent by an entity who has political interests, such as governments, or financial interests –

---

DNS industry, and so forth. How can we prove that? So, these are the reasons why the members of that Working Group – these are the questions that they ask themselves, after a long debate. After a long debate, the Working Group ended up with accepting individual members, but rejected to give them – or refused to give – them any ability for decision-making. This was accepted, to be tried for a year, and then we will reconsider the issue according to the result of the one-year experience.

So, the recommendations are the following. Non-affiliated persons may become AFRALO members. Unaffiliated members must submit an affirmation to At-Large staff with the following criteria –

TIJANI: [inaudible] only ask if you accept the recommendation, or not. That's it. [inaudible] Okay. I am asked now to explain, so I will do so. [French]

UNKNOWN: So, the recommendation accepts individual members, but does not give them any decision-making power. Do you agree? Is there any discussion we need to have on that point? Nobody is raising their hand. Go ahead.

---

UNKNOWN: [FRENCH]

UNKNOWN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. So, if I understand correctly the sentence, what you're saying is that individual members will be in, but they will not have any power. So, what I would like to know is, what the powers are, exactly, so that we can understand exactly what we're talking about.

UNKNOWN: Okay, an individual member – if this is approved – an individual member would have the right to participate in all activities organized by AFRALO, but he cannot – he or she cannot – decide; cannot vote. Or even if we are trying to get to a consensus, if we vote, we count the votes, right? But any decision that we need to make –

UNKNOWN: Can they be involved in a Working Group?

UNKNOWN: Tijani speaking. Everybody can be a member of a Working Group. it doesn't matter whether you're AFRALO or ICANN – it

---

doesn't matter. The Working Groups are always open. And please, before you take the floor, do state your name.

UNKNOWN: Christelle, from Ivory Coast. I would like to go back on what the person before me just mentioned. What I would like to know is whether the decisions that were taken – the decision to accept individual members at the Working Group level – is that something that we need to validate, or is that just for our information?

UNKNOWN: It is just for you to validate. Alan Greenberg would like to say something about that.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you very much for letting me speak. Just one brief comment. I would strongly suggest that you use the term “longer than one year.” By the time you actually get things going, the year will be over, and you probably will not have enough information to actually do an evaluation. So, you might want to consider a longer period. Thank you.

---

TIJANI: Alan, when we say “one year” – one year, starting next year. Because now, the decision is not taken already.

ALAN GREENBERG: Yeah, no, I understand.

TIJANI: Okay. So, you propose more than one year? Okay.

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: Aziz speaking. So, the doctor and then Peters.

UNKNOWN: I’m just curious –

UNKNOWN: – your name.

UNKNOWN: My name is Dr. Hassan. I’m just curious about the motive for having individuals to be part of the committee – the AFRALO – because I’m beginning to imagine, from my understanding, that



---

AFRALO is made up of communities of different organizations. And so, the question is, why should individual members come in? And that's a very big one, because like [inaudible] asked if we understood – I think it's dangerous. It may not just be an issue of voting, of being able to give an opinion. It might actually be something that if we are not careful, for the future, we have so many people there, and then it becomes an issue there, on why they shouldn't vote or why they should vote. So, if you ask me simply, I would say I'm not seeing the reason why individuals should come in. I'm not seeing that. That's my opinion.

TIJANI: Thank you. [French]

UNKNOWN: I would like to now give the floor to Peters, and then Chris. And please be brief, because we need to empty the room at noon. And also so that people can have a break, interpreters included.

PASTOR PETERS OMORAGBON: The recommendations and the criteria for accepting individual members in the recommendations [inaudible] Tijani didn't list them, and I think – I was one of those who was opposed to having individual members, but at a consensus during the Working Group, we agreed but we stated we'll give

---

the criteria for which we can accept individual members. And [inaudible]. And we also agreed that, as much as we want to accept individual members, we should also encourage them to form their own associations of their own affiliated groups. [inaudible] in number that if they form at least five or seven, but from different countries in Africa, then they can be accepted as an ALS. This is not reflected in this document that is here now, so it's missing, so I think we should correct it.

TIJANI: Thank you. Chris? Chris?

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Chris speaking. What I wanted to add is that when you talk about affiliated members or organizations, there are affiliated members that can speak but cannot vote, right? But it does not mean that when you have members who don't have the right to – it does not mean that they don't have good ideas. And so, I think on that point, we need to review things. I know that there are many people who do not agree with this, but I think that affiliated members have important things that they can bring to the table, and that needs to be

---

taken into consideration. Even if they are not an organization, they can add things – add new things, new ideas. That’s what I wanted to say.

Tijani speaking. I would like to answer all of those questions. As far as Dr. Hassan –

TIJANI:

– it went inside the group. People didn’t agree. I told you why they didn’t agree – exactement[sic] what you said. But we found a consensus. Because now, the trend is to accept individual members. And it was recommended by the first review of At-Large, and the second review, they want us to turn all as individual members. So, you understand.

Now, I come back to Peters. Peters, what you are talking about was a proposal. But it was refused inside the group, and you are one of them who refused, because this was the way to give them – the way to participate in the decision. But since we said that they don’t have the right to decide, and so, it was removed.

UNKNOWN:

[French]

---

UNKNOWN: Aziz speaking. Thank you very much, Tijani. We only have fifteen minutes left. Sorry, I forgot to introduce myself. Aziz speaking. So, we only have fifteen minutes to come to decisions. So, I would like to suggest that Tijani present all the different points without any comments, because honestly, the Working Group did an incredible amount of work, they debated all of these issues. I would like to have more time to discuss this, but what we really need to do out of this General Assembly is come to a decision. So, I would like to give the floor to Tijani, I would like for him to review, point by point, each item. If there isn't any raised hand, then we will move to the next one.

TIJANI: Really. But for this recommendation, is there objections? No objections? So carried. The first one. The first one is carried. It's okay. We go to the second one.

UNKNOWN: Excuse me.

TIJANI: Wait. Yes?

UNKNOWN: Keep going. Okay.



---

like to move to adopt or not. But are there people who are against this new voting approach within AFRALO? Who is against? Seun? Peters? She wants to discuss. Okay, wait. Seun first, then Peters, then Jacques, and I will give you one minute to give your point of view, or to vote – whatever you want to do – but we will start the timer, and please, if you hear the timer, you have to stop. You only have one minute. So, Seun, go ahead.

SEUN OJEDEJI:

Thank you. This is Seun, for the record, and I will try to be very brief. I think, as we go through the recommendations, I think it is important that we don't try to give – the Chair does not try to give justification for it. Just [inaudible] the recommendation and open the floor for discussion. My point on this particular recommendation – I strongly oppose it, because I don't think ALSes should be grouped as a country. ALSes are independent organizations, and there is no reason why you should say all the ALSes in Nigeria, for instance, should be one. It's not compulsory. They are independent, they signed up to be ALSes individually, and they should be entitled to their votes. So, I disagree with that strongly, and I hope that other members will support that. Thank you.

---

UNKNOWN: [inaudible]. I feel strongly concerned about the reason that most ALSes receive funding from their government. That is [inaudible] in Nigeria. I don't think any ALS or an civil society received funding from the government. [inaudible] criteria for the [inaudible] civil societies is that we should be separated from the government. So, once you receive funding from the government, participate [inaudible] activities. So, if that is [inaudible]. I am opposed to that position also, but I wouldn't want to be grouped among [inaudible] ALSes receive funding from government, and as a result, [inaudible] government [inaudible] government of Nigeria. Actually, we [inaudible] to the government in Nigeria.

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: Aziz takes the floor. Don't forget, Tijani said that certain ALSes receive some kind of help to organize their activities. There are other ISOC chatpers who ask for sponsorship from the government. It was maybe not well understood, or not well translated, but that's not important.

---

UNKNOWN:

Jacques takes the floor. Jacques from [inaudible], Benin. Like I said, did we talk about the question about the individual members? I'm not quite sure I understood what we're talking about.

Tijani takes the floor. For the individual members, I asked if anybody was opposed to the recommendation. Nobody raised their hand, and I said that this was accepted. If you are in a position, say it now, but say it fast, it's no big deal.

Jacques takes the floor. When you read the last line over there, we need to verify with the individuals active within a community – how are we going to do that?

Tijani takes the floor. The recommendation is such. It doesn't give any decision rights from the individual who will be a member of the ALAC. Right now, any individual, even if he's not ICANN or ALAC, can participate in any of the activities of the AFRALO, so it is not a big change. But we state that a member can be accepted as an individual member of AFRALO, but the member does not have any decision-making rights. We don't have time to continue. Do you accept, or not? That's all.

Jacques takes the floor. Yes, I accept.

Aziz takes the floor. [inaudible] okay. Not now.



---

UNKNOWN: [inaudible] the ISOC chapter. [French]

UNKNOWN: [inaudible] I am in agreement with this, but I have a comment. You talked about individual members, non-affiliated and affiliated members. No rights to vote. The affiliated members have a right to vote, so what's the proposition?

Tijani takes the floor. We're not going back to this. If it's – we need to go to the other item. Right now, we're talking about the way to vote. Please.

Aziz takes the floor. We talked about the decision. Do we accept this recommendation that each country votes, and not each ALS? We have countries like Nigeria, where there are eight ALSes, and countries that are less large, and who have only one ALS.

[inaudible], from Congo [inaudible] takes the floor. I want to go straight to the question of the representation of the states. I think that the foundation of the discussion has to do with equality, equity, and transparency. Equity and equality is different. We have to look at the deep sense of this question. If a country has eighteen ALSes and another has two, we can say that the other country has eighteen votes against two. That's

---

not equity. I beg you, take that into account. Thank you very much.

Aziz takes the floor. This is exactly what we were talking about. This is what [inaudible] talked about. No comments. Can we go to – can we adopt this item? Bram? Do you want to take the floor? Bram will take the floor, then Baudouin, then Seun. And I'm telling you, we only have six minutes left.

The representation –

BRAM FUDZULANI:

– has nothing to do with countries. ALSes are ALSes. If we are voting, we are voting as ALSes. We are not talking about countries. So, for countries that don't have much ALSes, we encourage them to have much ALSes. It is not about the country; it's about ALSes. So please, let's look at ALSes, let's not look at countries. Thank you.

AZIZ HILALI:

[inaudible].

UNKNOWN:

Aziz takes the floor. Baudouin, would you like to talk? Baudouin, would you like to take the floor?

---

BAUDOIN SCHOMBE: [French]

UNKNOWN: Baudouin Schombe. I think we have to be uniform. We need to be logical. When we ask for an application to AFRALO ICANN, it's individual. When it comes to voting, I don't understand why we have to group from four ALSes to one vote. It's a problem. We are different countries, different regions – we're not together. Even if we have to vote, do we have to start to organize internally in a country? It'll be always a problem. We have to be uniform on that.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Yeah, this is Seun, for the record. Thank you. I mean, I find it quite interesting that we think that because eight ALSes come from Nigeria, for example, that they actually can work as a team. It doesn't work that way. Nigeria is so diverse. I actually don't think that I voted in the same way that other ALSes in my country voted. Don't assume that we have that kind of teamwork in the country. ALSes applied separately, and I would also like to – just to raise to my colleague there that, if we are saying eighteen to one is not fair, is one to eighteen fair? That is, would you say it is right that the vote of one ALS is equal to the vote of eighteen ALSes? So, we have to look at it on that side. We also have to recognize that, given that one ALS has

---

significant power means that it is not going to be encouraged to do outreach in its country, because it wants that power. It wants to [inaudible] the only power in that country. So, it will not be [inaudible] outreach [inaudible]. You will not get new ALSes [inaudible], and that will affect that country's development. Thank you.

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: Aziz takes the floor. I have Tijani who wants to talk, Bram, Mary, your name is – ? Nkem, also Nkem, and Janvier. Tijani?

Tijani takes the floor. [French] –

TIJANI; – to discuss it in a good way. I feel, if we take decision now, we will be taking a bad decision, because there will be people who will not be happy with the decision. Second point, very important – I am very sad to see that members of the group don't understand the recommendation, when we worked it in the group. It is not about collecting or assembling all the ALSes and making them vote as one. It is not that at all. This doesn't have any interest. We need every ALS to express their point of

---

view. But when we will count the votes, the proposal is proposing to apply a weight for each vote. And this weight will be according to the total number of the ALSes inside the country. So, it is not about making one decision for the country; it is about making a decision of each ALS, but the weight is not the same. So, my proposal, Aziz, please – we are really late – I prefer that we don't take any decision. Not only for this. We will stop discussing all this, and we have to go back to the Working Group and we have to come back. If you want to, we can make an Extraordinary General Assembly, even if it is a virtual one and we decide on it. Thank you.

UNKNOWN: Mr. Chairman, [inaudible] okay, I will give you the floor, Peters.  
[French]

UNKNOWN: Aziz takes the floor. I can give my opinion too, right? I think it's a wise decision. We have a good week of great activities, so we shouldn't add up with this, with the negative opinion of certain people. It's a wise decision. I see that there is a majority. We will take that point on the table, we will table this point, we will discuss this again, and I hope that people will participate in the Working Group. Even if we are more than twenty – the more we

---

are, the better the decision will be, and the more majority we will obtain.

Aziz takes the floor. Janvier, will you speak, or – ?

PASTOR PETERS OMORAGBON: Pastor Peters, on the record. I want it to be on the record that – Pastor Peters on the record. I want it to be on record that Nurses Across the Borders opposes this very proposal. This is the first time we're having the largest number of ALSes at an assembly. And if we all come here and postpone these discussions, then we will have wasted our time and effort to have come here. So, Mr. Chair, we have – if we are to postpone [inaudible] activities for us to discuss the rules of procedures [inaudible] activities [inaudible] that is important [inaudible]. So, I suggest that we conclude the discussion on this, take votes, and then we act upon them as a [inaudible].

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: Aziz takes the floor. Thank you, Peters. I just want to correct something that you said. We're not here just for procedures. We're here and we invited the ALSes to participate to many

---

activities – this is just one point among others. If we cannot take a decision today – it is completely normal that we are not all in agreement on one point. And therefore, I want to conclude this discussion on this point, if you don't mind. We'll pass the floor to Tijani. Okay, no, to Janvier, please. And then, we'll talk to Said.

Janvier takes the floor. ISOC, Cameroon. I wanted to say only that even when we will finish the work, we will not have a perfect document. So, my proposition is to adopt this. We will make – we will experiment for a couple years, three years – and if it doesn't work, we will come back to the assembly and we will make modifications. The Working Group did something really interesting – let's adopt it, and then we'll function with it, and then we'll see what happens.

Aziz takes the floor. Madame [inaudible]? Would you please speak?

UNKNOWN:

I'm quite sad about this development. AFRALO has always been a family. It's like saying that when it comes to voting, that [inaudible] most times, the francophone, the French-speaking people, have the upper hand. [inaudible] now choose to go francophone, Anglophone – this [inaudible] bringing about now is going to defeat the essence of the ALS. And my spirits are

---

dampened. I don't even feel like associating again. The question of having to bring all ALSes in Nigeria as one shouldn't even arise in the first place. Please, let us go [inaudible] or we'll end up killing this family.

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: Aziz takes the floor. [French]

SAID MCHANGAMA: – considering how we are here, I notice that many of the ALSes here are quite new. When you talk about voting, you think about if you are qualified about the subject matter you are voting. I think we lack a lot of experience and what's happening here, it reminds me of the African Union, you know. We think politically because we don't have much experience on what we will be voting. That's why I kept saying it. Either way, we are referring to our old rules. I come from Comoros. It's hardly – the population is hardly the suburb of a big town in Africa. But I could have twenty ALSes. But – and, you know, who would then protest? Maybe a bigger country. I think – I join Tijani, I support Tijani, because I don't think, though a lot of work has been done, but many ALSes here have not thought, really, about what they



---

can do, and what exactly we will be voting on. This is the question. That's why I kept silent – I think that – I support Tijani that we postpone this. Not because we want to obscure the matter, but because I think it's going to be wise. We have to have time on this. This is not a political decision. This is a technical decision.

AZIZ: [French]

UNKNOWN: Aziz takes the floor. Fatimata, would you like to speak?

FATIMATA: Thank you, Aziz. Fatimata Seye Sylla, Senegal. I think the decision can be taken to postpone, because I don't think we have another choice, if we want to look as serious as we have been looking since we started AFRALO. I think it would be wise to postpone this decision-making process.

Now, my recommendation would be to ask to the Working Group to seriously work together, reaching out to the communities, and taking their voices, and coming back and defend a common, consensual decision that you can propose to the entire AFRALO members. I mean, this is my last point – and

---

please, let's remain united. Let's remain one family, no language barriers, no country barriers, no division at all. Please. Let's move on in that direction. Thank you.

AZIZ: [French]

UNKNOWN: Aziz takes the floor. Thank you, Fatimata. Especially when it comes to our different languages, first of all, we're going to give the floor to our young man from Burkina Faso. I forgot your name, I'm sorry.

UNKNOWN: [inaudible]

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: I'm going to go in the same sentiment of the person who just stopped before me. The decision is more of a technical matter. Maybe the people do not understand exactly the choices within this recommendation. Therefore, maybe we need a bit more time for these people, so they can understand better. I don't

---

know which framework we can use, but maybe we can call or we can have phone conferences. I think we do need to take the time, because – before it would become a problem. Thank you.

Aziz takes the floor. We need to go. We need to empty this room – eventually, some other people will come here, so we'll have to leave. If someone wants to – not talk [inaudible] that would be good. Gabriel, you want the floor?

GABRIEL BOMBAMBO: [French]

UNKNOWN: Gabriel, I'm from Congo. I think we need to stop, and then we can reconduct the vote. As you can see, there are three members of the Working Group who are not in agreement with what we talked about. So, we will ask these same members to work again, and then maybe come back to vote.

Aziz takes the floor. Next person on the mic – new speaker. We cannot talk online very easily, so I offer that we go point by point for the way to vote, we can talk about this, and this, and that – but there are points in the recommendation that are more important for everyone – for each one of us – positions of the Vice Chair, and so on. And so, we can go from one item to the other; we can see where we agree and don't agree. We will have

---

very few people working in our Working Group, so I think we – I propose that we study each case, each point, one by one.

Aziz takes the floor. Tijani, you want to take the floor?

TIJANI:

I would like to tell you that I am okay with voting now. Six points: point one – yes/no, point two – yes/no, etc. I don't have any problem. I don't have any problem with the recommendation not to be accepted. Those are not my recommendations; I don't have any interest in them. So, if you want us to go like this, I don't have any problem. If you want to postpone it, I don't have any problem. I am discussing with the Staff to perhaps consider if we can have more time tomorrow – two hours or something [inaudible], two hours, or something like this. If we can have that, and come back and discuss the recommendations, it will be better, because discussing face-to-face is much better than doing it online. So, no – I repeat that I don't have any – postponing, okay; voting now, okay – having more time tomorrow, it's better. Thank you.

UNKNOWN:

[inaudible]

---

UNKNOWN: Thank you. Peters first?

PASTOR PETERS OMORAGBON: [inaudible], so I want to support the –

AZIZ: Your name, please.

PASTOR PETERS OMORAGBON: Oh, Peters, for the record. I want to support the plan or proposal that yes, we'll give you more time. If you look at – the process has begun. We've already voted on one other item, so postponing the entire debate is [inaudible], for us to go back. So, if we disagree on a particular item, we could move that item forward [inaudible] kill the discussions [inaudible], so I will support that, yes. We agree, more time to discuss this [inaudible] disagreement. We'll see the tempers are hot, then we can keep that in view and then agree on what we can agree on. Mr. Chair, thank you.

UNKNOWN: [French]

UNKNOWN: Thank you, Peters – I agree with you. [inaudible], go ahead.

UNKNOWN:

Ladies and gentlemen, [inaudible]. I'm a member of ISOC Nigeria, but I chose to observe a lot of things here today. I want to appeal that we continue to think every time we are confronted with decisions that we represent three unique groups: the past, the present, and the future. That people are not here does not mean they have a stake in here. That people are here does not mean that their stake is the largest stake. There are too many issues that we are trying to lump together. And it should not be that the baby who knows how to cry the best gets the most milk. Apologies if that is a proverb. So, it does appeal to us if we need to us, if we need to postpone, to discuss, and understand the things, so be it. And if there are those issues that don't divide us, let us tackle those first, take them out of the way before the very contentious ones I do not think taking a decision here is the wisest. You can have one ALS with 20,000 members. You can have another ALS with 200,000 members. It does not mean that they are equal; neither does it mean that the one with the most members does the most work. So, there are too many issues, and I want to say that there were [inaudible] that led to having ALS – ALSes are not individuals sitting on ALAC being the voice of everybody. So, I'm concerned that we are trying to be too wise in assuming that once seated,

---

you can decide on some things for some people. But I will continue to watch and contribute when necessary. Thank you.

AZIZ: Thank you very much, [inaudible]. Can we – should we finish our General Assembly with these wise words?

UNKNOWN: Yes. Thank you.

UNKNOWN: So, what is the decision?

AZIZ: [French]

UNKNOWN: So, we are going to close this General Assembly and we will think about how we can continue the discussion. I would like to really, truly thank the staff that assisted us in preparing this General Assembly. For all the work that they did, I would also like to thank the Organizing Committee that took care of all the AFRALO activities. And of course, I would like to thank our interpreters, who are doing great work.

---

UNKNOWN: Are we still meeting tomorrow, Mr. Chairman? Are we still meeting tomorrow?

**[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]**