
SAN JUAN – LAC Space
Monday, March 12, 2018 – 10:30 to 12:00 AST
ICANN61 | San Juan, Puerto Rico

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This is the ICANN 61 LAC Space meeting on the 12th of March 2018 from 10:30 to 12:00 in Room 102 ABC.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Hello. Good morning. Those of you who are around here, please have a seat.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Alright, let's start. We have a very packed agenda this morning. We are changing the mechanics of the LAC space a little bit. This review of the regional strategy. What we want is to leave some 20 minutes by the end of the session to get your feedback on what you think your space should be, what you want this space to give you. This Latin American and Caribbean space should be used in the best way possible.

Let's now discuss an initiative we've recently had, the launch of the VDECC, which is the Virtual Entrepreneurial Center of the Caribbean, similar to what we did with CEILAC. Albert Daniels and Daniel Fink will definitely talk about this launch that they did in Trinidad and Tobago.

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We have a new section that we are proposing so that we can get to know what is going on in the different stakeholder groups in our community. We will have the involvement of Ignacio Estrada to discuss the ccTLDs and LACTLD. Also, Robles will talk to us about LACNIC. Humberto Carrasco will talk about what they're doing in LACRALO. Then we will hear Bruna Martins, Juan Manuel Rojas and Olga Cavalli.

This is a section for exchange for all of us to be in the same channel with the same amount of information considering what our colleagues are doing in other groups. Then we will need to leave the floor open for a half hour. We'll have an open mic session, and then by the end, we will have a discussion on whether you want – or you liked – this idea of a structure for the LAC space or if you would like to have something different. So now I'm going to give the floor to Albert Daniels and Daniel Fink. Please go ahead.

ALBERT DANIELS:

And welcome everybody to this LAC space session. As you know, the LAC space was meant to be a space where we talk about initiatives that are related to business in our region. And we are very excited, particularly in the Caribbean, to talk to you about a very important event which we launched just last month on the 19th of February, and we felt that in ICANN we don't have enough

acronyms to confuse us, so we decided to add a new one, and this new one is VDECC. It stands for the Virtual DNS Entrepreneurship Center of the Caribbean.

The concept of VDECC as an entity was to help develop capacity for entrepreneurs in the digital space, and VDECC was meant to be a knowledge and networking resource particularly tailored to the needs of the Caribbean region and the realities of the Caribbean region in terms of its geographic situation and in terms of its economic reality.

We felt that we should learn from the lessons of CEILAC and build on what has already been accomplished in CEILAC. Some of you may already be familiar with the CEILAC DNS Entrepreneurship Center which is a joint initiative of the National Secretariat of Information and Communications Technology of Paraguay and also an entity which is executed in collaboration with LACTLD. And this was something led by my colleague Daniel Fink and had a very successful launch, and some capacity building has already been taking place with that center.

Very importantly, this activity was developed within the framework of the ICANN LAC strategy which was developed by you, the community. And of course, CEILAC in principle looks to

support the efforts of DNS entrepreneurs and to try and help them to be successful in the DNS industry.

So how is VDECC expected to operate? Well, many of the Caribbean territories speak English, so we are looking to leverage the existing language content which we already have in CEILAC, all of the recordings of capacity building sessions and interactions with participants, but we're also looking to create new Caribbean-focused content to add to what we already have at VDECC. My slides just disappeared. [You see that]?

Okay, so by adding this content at VDECC events across the Caribbean, we are hoping that we can have very high-quality presenters come to the region and make presentations in person which would not be lost after they leave the region but which can be recorded and used over and over again in different Caribbean venues with minimal additional cost related to travel.

And because of the virtual nature of VDECC, we also have the possibility of having expert presenters make remote participation presentations as we usually do and replicate the entire VDECC initiative across the Caribbean. We've already set up a website which will be the portal to all of the content and also all of the portal for remote participation when we have our events, and right now you can actually take a look at the website at VDECC.online.

A very important part of the VDECC initiative as with CEILAC is the whole concept of partnering with other organizations in the region. And as you can see from this particular slide, some of our partners are CaribNOG the Caribbean Network Operators Group which is an organization which regularly does technical capacity building across the Caribbean, CANTO the Caribbean Association of National Telecoms Operators. They don't actually expand the acronym anymore. We have a representative in the room I'll identify in a minute. And also the Caribbean Telecommunication Union and LACTLD.

Now, I'm very excited today because several of those partners are actually in the room. I wish to recognize the Secondary General of the Caribbean Telecommunications Union, Ms. Bernadette Lewis who was actually at the VDECC event and who I will invite to give some very short comments on her experience at the end of this short presentation. We also have Jimmy Rodrigues from CANTO, and of course we have our LACTLD friends in the room.

So this would not have been possible without the partners, and moving forward we expect to continue with these and possibly new partners so that we can bring the capacity building to all of those little yellow ships that you see across there which make up the Caribbean. And you'll notice that they're not all connected to each other, they're separated by water.

So we had a very successful launch on the 19th of February as I mentioned in Trinidad and Tobago. You see one of the photographs there in the top right of the two Secretary Generals, Ms. Bernadette Lewis from the CTU and also Ms. Teresa Wankin from CANTO. Of course, Daniel Fink was at the event to talk a little bit about CEILAC, and we had some other interesting presenters such as the managers of Caribbean ccTLDs .bz and .tt. We had very expert presenters from overseas who give the international perspective and so on, and a very important aspect of everything that we did was we had very professional recording of all of the sessions so that moving forward, all of this content would be available for use in the future in other events.

Some of the topics that we covered, what makes a good domain name, what makes a good website or how entrepreneurs can offer value added services. Daniel spoke about how you can become an ICANN-accredited registrar. And we heard some very interesting experience of the outside world. What does it take to become a registrar for a new gTLD and what are some of the experiences? And that was balanced by the perspective of the Caribbean for coming from Caribbean ccTLD managers and also Caribbean ecommerce entrepreneurs.

This slide highlights some of the key takeaways coming out of the VDECC launch. The first thing that we were happy to realize is that there is a very healthy appetite in the Caribbean for

talking about issues related to the DNS industry and generally business. There was a very good turnout and I'm happy in just a minute or two to hear the perspective of the Secretary General who I'm very thrilled to see did not just come for the opening ceremony but stayed for almost the entire session. Thank you very much, Secretary General, and it was the same thing for the Secretary General from CANTO.

They were on the phone talking. I said, "Well, what are you doing?" They said, "Well, this is so interesting that we are calling some of our other colleagues to come and attend." Because they thought that we would spend a lot of time with the speeches and so on, but we did some real presentations on the DNS industry and entrepreneurship.

We also found that the VDECC framework was very useful for bringing together the different stakeholders – the ccTLD managers, the end user community, the business community – and we saw an interesting debate and discussion on challenges and issues that were preventing new entrepreneurs from coming into the space. And just getting them all together in the room, having outside perspectives from ICANN-accredited registrars created a healthy space for actually paying attention to resolving some of the issues. And as I said, it seemed like VDECC was interesting enough to have the leadership of our partner organizations stay throughout the event, and also not being too

technical for newcomers who didn't know what ICANN was and didn't know what this whole DNS entrepreneurship space was all about.

So moving forward, we plan to replicate the VDECC activity in other Caribbean territories. We're planning to go to Belize, Guyana, and Jamaica. A very important aspect of what we're doing relates to how we organize the information. So we're looking perhaps at maybe a ccTLD track, an ecommerce track, and tracks suggested by the community which are of interest to them so that we can populate the VDECC website and replicate this capacity building across the Caribbean.

So I will stop right here and put the Secretary General of the CTU on the spot for a minute or two so that she can give her impressions of the VDECC event that we did recently in Trinidad and Tobago. Secretary General?

BERNADETTE LEWIS:

Thank you, Albert, chair, Rodrigo, colleagues. Good morning. I had the privilege of attending the launch of VDECC in Trinidad and Tobago on the 19th of February. And Albert had told me he had been talking about it for some time. But the event turned out in my mind – it really exceeded my expectations and I was very impressed with the quality of the presentations. And it really opened up the participants there the opportunities for

new types of business, especially in the DNS space and how to overcome some of the perceived obstacles that our young people thinking about business, our young entrepreneurs are experiencing.

And I was very happy and very pleased to be part of this initiative. I think the ICANN CTU memorandum of understanding which is an agreement to foster growth, development and utilization of the Internet and to further the secure, stable multi-stakeholder management of core internet resources. Those are the tenets of our MoU. This VDECC initiative is in keeping with that, and the CTU is pleased to support it.

And as Daniel said, after the opening session during the course of the first presentation, I actually called a few people and said, “You need to come to this.” Young people who are thinking about business. And I ended up staying for the whole day pretty much. And I think that is a testimony as to the quality of the information that was presented, and I think if we could continue through VDECC, continue this process of capacity building, raising awareness and encouraging entrepreneurial endeavors, we will do well in the Caribbean. It’s going to all go well for our future and in this DNS space and DNS business development. I thank you.

ALBERT DANIELS: Thank you very much, Secretary General. Of course, the VDECC event would not have been possible without all of the hard work of my colleague Daniel Fink, so I'm sure he may have one or two comments to make on this one.

DANIEL FINK: Thank you, Albert. Thank you, Bernadette. So just some words about the way forward. VDECC and CEILAC are included in the LAC strategy, so it's actually a community project. And we already formed a working group to take the decisions and determine the strategies for the next steps. This group was formed by a volunteer call, but I will be inviting other members or partners in VDECC to join this group, the advisory committee for CEILAC. And some other friends that came already with feedback and good ideas for making the decisions.

So we have work to do on getting advice on the tracks, what kind of content we should develop, how to organize this in programs perhaps. Besides creating content which is more straightforward, what kind of more sophisticated, more elaborate programs we could do that will make sense for the entrepreneurs. So thank you very much for the feedback from the ground, from the community there that encourages us. Sometimes topics for us are old school or obvious, but there is a huge community that really needs the information to move their

business forward. That’s basically what we sense when we promote the event.

We are working on a better website with our partners from Paraguay. Good news is that ceilac.lat is ours now. We have this website that makes sense for us. And for VDDEC it’s .online. So we’ll also try to make a lot of synergies so as to not duplicate effort between the two centers, but keep the strategies tailored according to each community. Thank you.

ALBERT DANIELS:

Okay. So before I hand back over to Rodrigo Saucedo, it seems like there is some excitement about what happens next with VDECC, because in the chat there's one related question and one related comment, first of all from Manuela in the Dominican Republic. “VDECC is new, but when is there going to be a VDECC event in the Dominican Republic?”

And that is a fantastic question. Because of the structure and the framework of VDECC, it is easy to do it in any one of our Caribbean territories, and Dominican Republic is one of our Caribbean territories. So we just have to organize it and we would have all of the content. And we already have Spanish language content from CEILAC that we can use, and we can see how best we can do something similar in Dominican Republic.

And also Lance Hinds from Guyana is jumping up and down and doing backflips. He's saying he's looking forward to us coming to Guyana for a third Guyana event. With that, I will stop and hand back over to Rodrigo Saucedo and to Rodrigo De La Parra.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you very much, Albert, for your presentation, and again, thank you, Madam Secretary General Bernadette Lewis for your support in this support initiative. I am also positive that this is going to show some good results in the Caribbean and be helpful to Caribbean entrepreneurs. So let's continue with the agenda. Now we're going to talk about the different things happening in different stakeholder groups in ICANN.

I don't really know why it is I'm speaking in English, but let's go on with these parts and let's then start with Ignacio to see what happens with this.

IGNACIO ESTRADA: I thought I was going to speak later, but anyway. Okay, I will give you a brief update on behalf of LACTLD and its members regarding our activities and our future plans. Some weeks ago we published our webpage – sorry, I'm changing my PC. So there you see we have our new website. We had huge collaboration by two of our members, and of course the support of the other

members. that was NIC Argentina and NIC Brazil. NIC Argentina helped us with development and NIC Brazil helped us with the technical aspect of this development.

We also launched some days ago our LAC report. The English version will be coming soon and we already have the Spanish version published in our webpage. And we spoke about many things, mainly about the activities that we held and workshops in LACTLD, [what] our representatives are doing such as Lito and Alejandra. They're spread around the different spaces and Internet governance processes at ICANN. And we also spoke about how our partner associations work such as CENTR and APTLD. And we also published something which is really important, and this is our point of view in terms of the use of geo names in terms of gTLDs. This is the point of view of our members.

Together with ICANN, we had the fellowship program for Panama. It was a very good initiative that will help us to send three of our representatives to participate in ICANN Panama. We will have a representative from Costa Rica, from Bolivia, and from Uruguay. And I should acknowledge and thank the selection process, because the selection process was given to LACTLD, and this was something positive for us, for our members to be able to participate.

Together with ICANN LAC – I don't know if you can read the slides, let me zoom in – we have a grant program for helping ccTLDs, providing them training, and other ccTLDs provide training to those ccTLDs needing the support. This helps us to share skills among the ccTLDs, and that is also a capacity building process to decide this grant program. And this is something positive because our technical group is the one in charge of defining the [themes].

There is a possibility that ccTLDs with greater expertise may go to less experienced ccTLDs, or the other way around, or that someone – an external expert – might go to a ccTLD to provide training. So we have previous editions in the case of Venezuela and Uruguay, and some other examples that I don't remember right now.

We already spoke about VDECC. This was two weeks ago. We are partners of VDECC. Sorry, there is something wrong with the logo on the slide, but we are providing support and that is to increase support with the experience of our members in this sense.

We also have our Anycast cloud project. This is a cooperation project among the ccTLDs in the LAC region. This is oriented to ccTLDs that are members of LACTLD and the objective is to strengthen the ruggedness and resiliency of Internet in the

region. We reuse the nameservers of the same geographic place. This is a not-for-profit project and we are not looking to compete with other providers, but the idea is to increase resiliency.

We also have a project together with NIC Chile, LAC, and ICANN. This is the DNS Observatory. The idea of this observatory is to measure the status of resiliency in the region of the DNS. I'm sorry, I have to speed up my presentation. And this year, LACTLD will be part somehow or will coordinate somehow this effort. And I believe that is a very good starting point because it will increase the areas to be analyzed and we will be able to have further information about the DNS system.

The measurements that I'm giving you as an example are the amount of domain names compliant with the server recommendations. Perhaps the image is not clear, but based on the analysis of the zones, we can see if there are domains with one, two or three delegations. So the greater amount of delegations are the greater level of resiliency. This is the same graphic but in a different representation. And of course, you see here the implementation of DNSSEC.

So thank you. I know have some other comments this year. As part of our strategy, we decided to accompany our members hosting ICANN meetings. We already did that with our

workshops. So we accompany them – I don't know if .pr is here, but I would like to thank them for their collaboration. And likewise, I'd like to thank Panama in our next meeting, because we will have our policy workshop, our GA, and I would like to invite you all to participate in our celebration for the 20th anniversary. We don't have the place and date, but of course, invitations will be circulated shortly. Of course, it will be held this year. That's all. Thank you very much.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you very much, [Ignacio], and in LACTLD we are really happy to keep on working together in all these projects. So congratulations for your anniversary. So now I will give the floor to Oscar Robles from LACNIC. So please, you have the floor.

OSCAR ROBLES: Thank you very much. Good morning. I am Oscar Robles, I am the LACNIC CEO. I'm not going to speak about the registry, but I would like to talk about the activities and initiatives that we're thinking in terms of cooperation in the region and to develop projects.

As you know, we are focusing on allotting IP addresses for Internet providers and for entities connected to the Internet, but there is huge activity we are carrying out, and this is to promote

a better Internet. A safer, more resilient and more interoperable Internet. And these are the principles that many of the organizations here with us are pursuing. So we do this with the support of these organizations as well.

Some of these ideas, some of these initiatives are the following: first, we have an online capacity training initiative. These are online training courses open to the community. We provide advanced IPv6, BGP and RPP training. These are some of the additions that we have available for the region, and this is available in the LACNIC campus.

You know the [FRIDA] program. This is an initiative to promote the development of BTIs in the community. And we have three different perspectives, three lines of financial support for different projects. We have three awards being given: one for community networks and two for technology and general participation. We include women in the participation or in technology, and we also provide financial support in this [FRIDA] initiative. The idea is to provide support to community networks and the technology in a general area.

And we also have some other initiatives, and we're doing a follow-up of those initiatives in order to increase their scope. And this year, we have an escalation of \$2000 to this that will be provided for the project, and we will be focusing on technology

and general. So that is the [FRIDA] program. I will show you the invitation. The invitation will be open on April the 4th. And so if you're interested in this project, you can participate.

Additionally and apart from our two main events, we organize together with you – we have the LACNIC On the Move, and we had very successful editions in the past. And on this occasion, we will be moving to Paraguay on the first week of June. So if you're around, please participate because that will be a very interesting event. Those events are one-day or two-day events, and the idea is to develop and discuss LACNIC topics but in a more reduced community or communities where we're not going to be able to hold the LACNIC event.

So this year, we have a mentoring program for women, for female talents. As you know, there is a very important challenge ahead of us, and this is to strike the balance between men and women. And what we are doing is with the support of the community, we are trying to identify women who might be able to have an important role in the leadership role in the region, and the idea is to provide mentorship to them so that they can learn about our processes, because these processes are sometimes difficult and they need the necessary training to be able to participate and engage.

This year, we had a small interconnection project with the support of Google. We will be providing three courses or capacity building sessions in Dominican Republic, Trinidad, and Tobago and in Nicaragua. If you're interested, I can give you further information so that you can participate, and perhaps we can have a more interesting event.

And finally, our next event – as I said before, we organize two events a year – will be LACNIC 29. This will be held in Panama. As you might see, the LAC region is very important at this part of the year, and we are of course included in these types of events. So we will be going to Panama in May and we will have our event there together with the organizations that are usually helping us and supporting us in these events.

On this occasion, we will have main activities. This is [inaudible] forum. This is a networking event I would say, the speed dating event if you will, and the Internet and network professionals discuss the way in which their networks and initiative might be connected. We have the technical LACNIC forum. In the past, we've had three technical forums. One was focused on IPv6 and the other was focused on security and interconnection. And somehow, we tried to integrate them all because the topics are not exclusive. So they are interconnected, so we don't want us to work in silos or to avoid people from participating or not having other initiatives.

So there is a LACNIC technical forum, we have more technical topics to address there. And of course, we will be talking about attack mitigations, IPv6 routine, cloud computer, DNS among other topics. And on this occasion, we will have the symposium first. And even though it is organized by them, we are helping them in the organization so as to be able to attract more participants interested in [network] operation and security.

And of course, the main goal of our event is policy development and policy discussion. That's why we spoke about PDPs. We are discussing now seven policies. As you know, policies are the rules under which LACNIC assign or allot the resources. These rules are not defined by the LACNIC staff but by the community. So not even the associates, the partners or the holders of resources. In fact, there might be [panels], but it is a very rich and interesting discussion process and this will be held on May the 1st.

So we will be working there for a better Internet, so we invite you all to participate in this event. So if you have any question or any doubts, or if you have any interest in participating, please let me know and I will contact you with the person in charge of the event. Thank you.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you very much, Oscar, for sharing that information on the activities LACNIC is developing. Now I would like to give the floor to Humberto and LACRALO.

HUMBERTO CARRASCO: Thank you very much. First of all, I would like to thank you for the invitation to participate in this LAC Space session. I believe this is the second time I am here. The first time was with Margarita in Abu Dhabi where we explained something we're doing together with NIC Chile. I will talk about this later on.

To tell you the truth, LACRALO is one of these multi-stakeholder members. We represent the end users in the LAC region, in the Latin America and Caribbean region. This is in general terms. We are part of one of the five RALOs. And among the activities we are carrying out, we are now working on a very deep process of internal reform in the region.

After the storm, the sun rises. We have a very important storm in LACRALO, and we had very positive changes because we started to question ourselves about the rules, our internal rules. Just to tell you a very brief update, we changed the date of elections so as to be able to share them with the other RALOs, and we're going to create – we will have a mediation meeting on Monday and Tuesday.

We created an emeritus council. At the very beginning, this was called the Council of Elders, but we have now a council in LACRALO consisting of people with experience. They can provide advice to other people. We have a matrix system. I know some members in LACRALO have participated very actively. We have Alberto Soto. He had a very active participation in this process. We hope this process to be approved.

And among the topics we are now addressing, we will have the new operating principles, and we still need to work with the new rules of procedures. There is an internal dispute resolution system because as you know, we have disputes and we need to have an internal dispute resolution system.

This is from the internal point of view. From the external point of view, this administration – and I say administration because I have the secretary of LACRALO sitting next to me, Maritza Aguero – during 2018 we would like to finish the mediation process with all the pending topics. And one of our goals is to increase the agreements that we have with other members of the multi-stakeholder model at ICANN.

Last year, we signed an agreement with [LACNIC]. We held two events, one in Peru and the other in Chile. And we helped them with the organization of the event together with LACNIC. In the case of Chile, we signed an agreement with NIC Chile and that

was what we presented in the last LAC Space session that we participated.

We are defending end users, and in the dispute resolution system that NIC Chile has, end users did not have a proper process to be defended because the business was the only party being able to participate. So we created a provision with Margarita that will be published in a book telling this experience which meant a very important change in the defense of Internet user interests. This is a very clear and practical example because we have more than 100 suits already settled, and this is only in terms of Chile, but there are other [law firms] participating. And we have very clear examples and cases defending end users.

Of course, there are pending issues. We have to synchronize our review process with the At-Large review process. we need to increase our participation in PDPs. This is a long-term process at ICANN. And we also want to increase the outreach activities. I hope that the budget issue will not affect us. Thank you very much.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you, Humberto. I think Margarita would like to take the floor.

MARGARITA VALDES:

This is Margarita Valdes from NIC Chile speaking. I would like to add something to what Humberto has said, but I think there is sort of a mistake, that's a hat mistake that we need to clarify. He's forgetting that the work we are doing with NIC Chile has to do with his role as an academic, notwithstanding the fact that the positive [externality] of that project has to do with end users which is the interest of his other hat.

The agreement with NIC Chile right now is an academic agreement for collaboration in that dimension, and in effect, they have been very active and I would like to thank Humberto publicly for his enthusiasm because sometimes it's difficult to implement these ideas. And the good thing about it is we have helped end users who have been faced with these barriers of access. And we're not actually discussing economic means, because all of this is free of charge in this dispute resolution system with NIC Chile. And our expectation is to see how we can replicate this idea of helping end users that are facing a dispute resolution problem in the region.

So we are preparing a paper to provide suggestions for implementation. This is a suggestion, by the way. So it's an implementation for other countries in the region, and we have had a very good reception to get some kind of formula to see if end users can have full access to their domain names with no

fear and without being arbitrarily deprived from the legitimate use they can have in good faith of these domain names.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you, Margarita. You can expand more if you want when we get to the open mic part of the session. Let's now give the floor to Bruna Martins from NCUC LAC

BRUNA MARTINS: If I'm speaking either too fast or no one is understanding me, please raise your hand and it's fine. Thank you. I would like to start by beginning with this invitation first as member of the executive committee representing our organization. And this is the first time that my organization is participating, so thank you very much Rodrigo and Daniel for this invitation.

To be more practical, what we are doing here aside from fighting for noncommercial rights in connection with ICANN and the DNS, we are also working with capacity building in the region. We have some new objects or some new issues in our bylaws. We are providing courses to teach members that they can write more political and more technical texts so that we can provide a better input for ICANN. We've also had a meeting yesterday. We are now holding another meeting today. We have an internal program, and we just associate the new members with more

experienced volunteers that have precisely more experience and those who have middle experience.

So with this project, what we want to do is to align everybody and not to have this difference when there are new members in the region. Because it is actually very complicated. We see that people come here, and having an idea of what is happening within ICANN is actually very complicated. These are all complex processes created by ICANN.

I am one of the mentors of the program, and we try to equalize everybody in the region so that everything is more contextualized and there are no more problems in the region. We will also go to LACNIC, we will try to be there. There was as more effective association, a better partnership with us. [inaudible] work in ICANN is actually a very important forum for us to be present, for us to spread out or principles, and we would like to thank you for this presence.

The person who will attend the meeting is a member of the Caribbean, and we believe that including someone who is not that present among our people or in the region is a good thing. So we think it's significant to add these people.

LAC needs more presence in this context. There are also nine members of both associations. This implementation council is attended by them as well. And our final objective is to work for

the Panama meeting and to continue working on the implementation of the different regions and putting all the regions at the same level always with the objective of the Panama meeting.

We'll go on now with Martin from NPOC. The floor is given then to Martin Silva. No, I'm sorry. [Not now then.] So Juan Manuel Rojas will take the floor. Juan Manuel Rojas from NPOC, please go ahead.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS: Thank you very much. Martin is also here, so maybe we can give him the floor. Thank you very much. That's not the first one. Thank you for inviting me to be here. This is the first time that we are discussing these issues in LAC space as a constituency, and we want to tell you about what we're doing and what our plans are. So we're going to discuss the challenges and priorities that we're having. We are part of the NCSG, the Noncommercial Stakeholders Group, and probably you are wondering what is the difference with you and the NCSG.

Well, we deal with these issues that you can see now onscreen. DNS abuse, transparent domain registration, privacy, security, cybersecurity, and that is just an item that we left from the prior agenda. The agenda item just remained there. I'm sorry. This happens. Our challenges for NPOC right now are maximizing

member engagement for better participation for policy comments, in policy-building and in public comments area.

Let me also say that thanks to the scholarship provided now for Panama, we will have a new member in Panama who's going to participate in the meeting. That person is from Colombia as well, and then that person will provide their support and they will start to be more connected to NPOC. We also want to create value added involvement for nonprofits. They are basically the units that we represent, and they're precisely not-for-profit organizations, and this is more of an internal thing which is managing the tasks of the executive committee and the members of the NCSG.

And then we also want to take this opportunity to refer to maintaining communications with other constituencies and other groups such as ALAC and other groups within ICANN. This is a challenge that we are facing. So we are working now basically in this point, and we're going to now to refer to outreach and engagement.

One of the things we did was to change the NPOC logo because we didn't really have a logo, we have no graphic identity. So this was done recently. This logo is now brand new. You can also see this banner that is part of our new image within our website. You're going to be able to see this in our website very soon. And

you'll also find a booklet and a flyer. I'm sure some of you have already seen this in the ICANN booth. For the time being, we have this sample version. I can give it to you so that you can have a look at it, and very soon we will be having it. For the time being it's only in English, but we hope to have it translated into Spanish and French at least to have it [released] in three languages so we can reach out to all the not-for-profit organizations that are present here.

As for our work plans, we want to update our website to involve more people who are working in the field, and we're also working hand-in-hand with our famous friend Martin for the public comment issues, and we have contributed to some PDPs through him and through other members who are also involved in the policy development processes. So this is it. Thank you very much.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you, Juan Manuel. Both Juan Manuel and Bruna are part of our regional strategy.

Let's now go on with Olga's update. Olga Cavalli from the GAC.

OLGA CAVALLI: Hello, everybody. I'm sorry, I'm running from one place to the other. I'd like to especially discuss an issue that is very

significant for the government but also for the community – for the Governmental Advisory Committee and the government. Is it okay if I speak Spanish? Because I'm actually tuned into another language right now.

Within the policy development – and I'm sorry I couldn't attend the meeting on how to get more involved in policy development yesterday – the new round of gTLDs conducted by the GNSO has five working tracks. The fifth one is geo names. I'm sure you remember that in the first round of new gTLDs, we did have some conflicts – some of them are still pending – on the use of geographic names such as [TLDs].

And at the GAC, we still have a working group to analyze the impact that a new round of gTLDs can have and the use of names that are either geographic or have some geographic significance or that have some significance for the community. The GNSO in a very interesting gesture has opened a new work track called Work Track 5 that actually has a lot of participation from the community. They have more than 100, almost 150 members and a few observers from the community as a whole.

It's what we call a cross-community working group. It's not only from the GAC, At-Large or the GNSO, it's actually cross-community. And so we have representatives from all the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees, and we

have a coleadership. There are coleaders, I'm a coleader for the GAC, the Government Advisory Committee. There's Annebeth Lange, she's a coleader for the ccNSO, Javier Rua who is a coleader for ALAC, and Martin Sutton who is a coleader for GNSO. And aside from providing the terms of reference that are ready now, we are working on an analysis of what is the significance of geographic names.

If you're interested in this topic, on Wednesday morning there will be an hour and a half session. It's important that you participate if you're interested in this and that we make the most of this community opportunity.

Our intention in the GAC working group has always been to minimize conflicts, to try to have both the applicant, the company, the brand, the trademark or the association that is requesting a new TLD does not find any objection once they have submitted it and that the countries or communities do not find a TLD that has been applied for by an organization and they see that they are surprised by the issue. It's always been our intention to minimize conflict and to make the process as foreseeable as possible both for the applicants and the communities, the governments and countries.

So remember on Wednesday morning that's a cross-community session, that's the GNSO room. It's right here on the first floor.

You are cordially invited to provide comments, and you can also make comments on their chat room and also comments with the group later on.

Another important issue is the impact of the GDPR, the European Union regulation in terms of privacy. You know that this is an important issue. It was part of the speeches this morning, and it's an issue that is on the agenda of the governments, of the regulators, and regulators regulate the privacy as well. And so it's interesting in my modest point of view because aside from having implications for the privacy issues, it has an additional significance. It is a regulation that has been established by a group of countries that has an impact on the Internet as a whole. This can be repeated in the future, and so it is an experience that is new, I believe. Well, maybe not that new, but at least it is facing us to a situation where we need to analyze and to know what exactly is the global impact of the Internet in terms of regulation in the countries and how they can have an impact in the Internet as a whole.

So we are facing a new instance of Internet governance that is perhaps different from what we thought of before the IANA transition where we were more focused perhaps on institutional issues, and now we are facing a series of regulations from a group of countries that are impacting the Internet as a whole.

Is there any GAC colleague who can remind me of something? I know Alejandra you're here. Can you remind me, am I forgetting anything? I think these are the two most important issues. She's nodding. So is there any other GAC colleague who would like to add something else? So this is what I wanted to say. If you have questions, now I open the floor. And those of you who are interested, please do come on Wednesday morning to the geo names session.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you very much, Olga, for being here and for sharing what is happening at the GAC. This is then the end of this section on updates and we're going into the open mic session on the future of LAC space. I would suggest that we try to mix these two sessions. They are more or less similar. So maybe we can make the most of the open mic space so that you can discuss program projects. Even the newcomers who are here at ICANN for the first time and you would like to be introduced to the community, maybe we can get to know you better and provide you with a better space here.

So let's do that. But before this, let me recognize Vanda Scartezini. I don't want to run out of time, but let me say that Vanda has been leading this LAC space project from its inception, and I'd like to thank Vanda and give her a big round of

applause for her support. And let me tell her that she does not need to run away, she can still help us.

VANDA SCARTEZINI:

I was actually talking right now to Rodrigo. Let me first remind you that this started with an idea that seemed it could be rooted or not, that could grow or not. It was a mix of issues focusing on all the Latin group and all the people in the region as well. So when we went to a space in Asia, we would call them to share ideas on what we were doing or what we weren't doing. So we started two or three people sitting at a table, but very quickly, this just grew.

It was very important for us to see that other groups such as North America that is actually starting now – we are having some discussions with them to see they can create something similar over there in their spaces. There's Africa with their space as well. There's the Arab part with their space. And so this had its own shape within the ICANN community with the idea of regionalizing everything. Because we are regional, but by pieces. Users are more easily regionalized, but the rest is not. Here in these ICANN events, we do not strengthen regionality, and it is a characteristic that we need to have.

So let me take this opportunity also to invite all the women here. We have the DNS Women, and let me say that DNS Women has a

training project for women in the whole world that we have already started in some parts of the world such as in the Pacific islands, Africa, Latin America. We are in association with the ISP women's group. This is an effort to have more women working, to get them to work.

This is a progress that starts with selling domain names until they can be registrars if they have the necessary skills. But this is how the project started, it will go on, they can get into ISPs and then they can become registrars. So we're working with Brazilian ISPs. They are almost 5000 women now. Just met on March 8th to discuss how to have a better and stronger cooperation for better training in this DNS area.

[With all] working, this was the origin of ideas in these meetings where all those who are interested feel that they can share ideas and they can express their interest. So thank you very much. I can continue discussing this whenever you want. I can continue helping Rodrigo formatting each of these meetings, because I think they are extremely important for our region and for the regions where we visit. Because I personally and other colleagues believe that we have already managed to have important cooperations for personal jobs, for companies, for representations of interest, expressions of interest. So it actually is a good environment for entrepreneurship and those who want

to get into the DNS world. So thank you very much, Rodrigo.
Thank you very much.

RODRIGO SAUCEDO: I want to tell you that after this session, we will be taking a picture for the whole region. So please do not leave the room without taking the picture.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you very much, Vanda, and thank you for your commitment with ICANN. And I believe that the success of this session is due to your support. So now let's start with the open mic. This is a Q&A session for you to speak your mind. So if you can also suggest some options for the future of LAC space, perhaps things that you would like to see or that you wouldn't like to see, we will keep on tracking that information. I know there are many speakers who would like to take the floor. Tony, Javier, Carlos, Maritza.

JAVIER RUA JOVET: Good morning. Welcome to Puerto Rico. I hope to be in LACRALO's picture. As you know, Puerto Rico, we belong to the North American region from the administrative perspective, but for the rest, we belong to the Caribbean region. So thank you very much for being here.

We're very happy to see Madam Secretary General Bernadette Lewis from CTU here, a great friend of Puerto Rico for many years. Great to see you. Thank you for coming to Puerto Rico in this critical moment. I do not believe in the electrical grid, but I believe that cancelling the meeting for the zika virus was a good decision, because coming to Puerto Rico now has a double meaning, a double impact. You're sending an important message, and this is a source of confidence in our rebuilding process. So thank you very much, and a round of applause for the whole community. Thank you.

And I would like to repeat that I would like to be in the LACRALO's photo. I would like to support Olga's comment in terms of the meeting that they will be holding tomorrow. This is the track five meeting on geo names. And this GNSO PDP is important and they need to send a strong message of multi-stakeholderism because there is a shared leadership in the affected communities. So we will be closely monitored, but I believe it is a huge effort to do the right thing, and this is a complex topic. So thank you very much for your effort.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you very much, Javier, for having us here. I know you worked very hard, so thank you. Tony, you have the floor.

[TONY HARRIS]:

I would like to make a proposal that was my request. I believe that we're all aware that we have a problem. Houston, we have a problem. We're not selling many generic domain names. ICANN has announced some problems with the budget because there was as growth foreseen of 22% in the generic domain name sales, but in fact, the percentage is only 6% or 5%.

So I believe that this calls us as a region to make an effort, and this is an idea that I was discussing in the leadership dinner that we had with the senior staff at [ICANN]. We discussed the topic and we agreed upon something, upon an idea that we also discussed in Buenos Aires. And this is why we dropped the fight with the social media. Social media will win the battle in terms of quantity, because if we only take into account teenagers, there is no way of winning them in terms of number.

But we might think of a kind of branding and call it digital identity, and this would be within the umbrella of the digital transformation that we see today. I believe that Internet users have a very important and unattended space, and this goes to the small and medium-sized companies in Latin America and the Caribbean, the NGOs, because they trust their identity to a nephew or someone younger, these people create an Facebook page or an Instagram page and that's it.

So perhaps it might be necessary to see within the outreach strategies that Rodrigo is creating with his team, perhaps we need to see how to reach that market. Perhaps we need to send a more professional message in terms of digital identity so that we can provide more strength to the use of generic domain names. So this would be my proposal.

And my second suggestion – very briefly – this is for the Barcelona event. There is a meeting which has to do with Internet of Things, and we should have in LAC space a speaker addressing this topic of Internet of Things and how this might impact IP addresses and domain names, because that topic is now being addressed and being discussed at different levels. And there are certain organizations that we want to discuss that.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you very much, Tony. We will take that into account. Thank you for your suggestion. Carlos, please.

CARLOS GUTIERREZ: Thank you very much. Like Javier, I would like to reinforce Olga's message in terms of the importance of the region to be engaged in this discussion. It is really important for the region because the PDP of subsequent rounds in new gTLDs is the exercise assessing the impact of the previous round, and definitely geo

names do have many issues. This is not only applicable to companies but also to regions. We have the case of .africa and the Persian Gulf. And since 2013, we have been discussing this topic.

At the very beginning, the community asked the ccNSO to discuss the topic. Unfortunately, the ccNSO couldn't reach an agreement, and then we spent almost three years working on a joint effort between the ccNSO and the GNSO. And I shared the leadership with [Alice]. And for the second time, the community couldn't agree on the topic, so whether we want to have common or shared rule. So I believe that if we do not get to an agreement in the subsequent procedure PDP, we don't know if we can continue with a reserve name [list] or not, then perhaps we might be blocking ourselves in this situation. We are not growing, as Tony said before, so the social media is defeating us. We are seeing now that ICANN is running out of funds, and we are talking about a future round that will not take place before 2020 or 2022, because this is a relevant topic for all regions.

So I support my co-chairs Olga and Javier and I urge you to participate in the subsequent round procedure and in the work of the Work Track 5. So I invite you all to participate in this session on Wednesday morning.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you, Carlos, for the invitation. Maritza.

MARITZA AGUERO: Just to tell you that we have received a request by a new ALS. This is [ACI] foundation. This request has to do with a request made by the indigenous ambassador at ICANN60, Ruben Hilare-Quispe. Even though ratification is still pending, there is no opposition to this accreditation, to this new request for the new ALS. So I believe it will be a great contribution to the region and to the diversity that we were discussing. So thank you.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you very much, Maritza, and we would love to welcome this new ALS. And now I will give the floor to Gerard and Olga. I will give the floor to Gerard first. And if you don't know Gerard, I know he is over there so please raise your hand, Gerard. He's a journalist, he has been following up ICANN activities and LACNIC activities for a long time and he's quite involved in the governance processes of the LAC region. So it's a pleasure for us to have you here, Gerard.

GERARD BEST: Gerard Best, not just LACNIC of course but also ARIN, CaribNOG, [work with] the CTU and several other organizations who are actively playing a role in developing the Caribbean Internet

development space. The perspective that I'm coming from, as Rodrigo said I'm a journalist and I'm particularly interested in the recent announcement launch of VDECC, an initiative launched by ICANN in the Caribbean. The perspective that I'm coming from and the reason for which this is greatly of interest to me is that I'm particularly interested in different ways in which an initiative like this that focuses on the DNS industry and promises to open the doorway for DNS entrepreneurship.

I would like to have – while me personally, I'm excited about the opportunity that it represents for Caribbean entrepreneurs and those willing to take the risk and make the effort to take advantage of the opportunity, I would also like to have a sense of what should be some reasonable expectations on my part and on the part of the others who would also be very excited by the possibility. In that light, I would like to ask some questions that – maybe I should just say that I will be continuing to ask both Daniel and Albert questions about that. In particular, questions about what we should expect as foreseeable challenges for those of us who are interested in taking up those opportunities, what are some practical steps that ICANN in particular proposes us to take.

It was very encouraging to see the layout of the upcoming VDECC events across the Caribbean, but beyond the events themselves and the creation of the content to populate the

VDECC website, what are some practical steps that will be taken to build capacity in the region? And also, how should we start thinking about success in this sense? What would be some reasonable expectations that we should have for 2018, for 2019, for 2020? Those are some of the questions that I have looking beyond the announcement and [inaudible] into the future of the VDECC initiative.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you, Gerard, and it's good to have you doing the follow-up. We have metrics, these help us to be up and running in our commitment and to be able to report on our activities. Olga, please.

OLGA CAVALLI: I would like to say that the Internet governance school of Internet, we'll organize our workshop, a training course at the OAS in April and May. And you know we provide a grant to all participants, but if there are colleagues in the region that would like to come but without having a hotel, you are more than welcome to come. We have some available slots still.

The school received 850 requests for grants. It was really difficult to select the 200 Fellows, but we may have other Fellows coming. Of course, we will have remote participation with video

streaming in Spanish and in English, and we will have also simultaneous interpretation. Many of you were able to participate, and Bernadette was the host of our school in 2014 in Trinidad and Tobago.

So that is my message. If you're interested in participating, please let me know and we will see if we can have you as a Fellow.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Our last comment comes from Flavio. He comes from Colombia. Would you like to introduce yourself, please?

FLAVIO ADNRE GARCES HEREDIA: Thank you very much for the presentation. Hello, everyone. I am Flavio Garces, I am a student of law in Colombia. I am one of the Fellows of this year for ICANN61. My first comment has to do with this: I would like to say that from my perspective, from someone coming from outside, I see that there is wide openness in ICANN for the community that would like to participate, and the approaches that you mentioned here show that.

Despite the difficulties, I see that you're willing to keep on working, and I would like to say something. Fellows or Newcomers coming from Latin America would love to be

present, and perhaps we would like to participate in the constituencies. In my case, there is Latin American [person] in a constituency, and we may want to have a contact for us to be able to participate. So it would be good that at the end of each LAC session or at the end of ICANN meetings, Newcomers are already engaged so that we don't have to wait for them to find a space to talk to you.

And finally, the geographic TLD, this is an advisory program for users and NPOC – well, let me tell you that I will be after you because I want to participate and I am very interested in the proposal that has to do with digital identity. As a young person, I understand that we prefer a social network, but of course, we need to promote professionalism in terms of domain names. So thank you very much, and I will be after you. Thank you.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: Thank you very much, Flavio. Now we will take the picture because we need to empty the room as soon as possible.

ALBERTO SOTO: For the Fellow, the person coming from the Fellowship program, in LACRALO we contacted Siranush and we want her to give us the e-mails of the Fellows so that we can contact them and bring them to ICANN.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA: If you could please leave in this room, the photographer will be waiting for us to take a picture.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]