
MICHELLE DESMYTER: Welcome, everyone. Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening. Welcome to the At-Large Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group call on Thursday, the 15th of February 2024.

On today's call on the English channel, we do have Bill Jouris, Claire Craig, Raihanath Gbadamassi, Shah Rahman, Tommi Karttaavi, Ali AlMashel, Amrita Choudhury, Avri Doria, Bukola Oronti, Hadia El Miniawi, Judith Hellerstein, Marita Moll, Ricardo Holmquist, Sébastien Bachollet, and Sandra Rodriguez. We have no one on the Spanish channel. On the French channel, we have Aziz Hilali. We have received apologies from Satish Babu and Justine Chew. From staff today, we do have Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, and myself, Michelle Desmyter, on call management. Our Spanish interpreters today are Veronica and David, and our French interpreters are Jacques and Dominique.

We will have real-time transcription provided today and I'll share the link in the chat in just a moment. A friendly reminder to please state your name before speaking and to please speak slowly and clearly for our interpreters today. With this, I'll turn the meeting back over to Claire Craig. Please begin, Claire.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Thank you, Michelle. Michelle, just to advise that Jonathan also sent an apology for today's meeting. As some of you may know, Jonathan is not very well. But I think we can continue.

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.

Thanks, everyone, for joining. Looking forward to rich discussions. Our agenda, we start with the roll call which was done. Welcome and the aim of the meetings. We'll go to the action items shortly. Then we'll have an update from Cheryl and Tommi on the CIP project. I don't know if Cheryl has anything for 25 minutes, but that's the bulk of the meeting today. We also will talk about At-Large operations and governance discussions at ICANN79. We've talked a little bit about that agenda. Then we have a brief statement or contribution from Sébastien who wants to talk a little bit about the NETmundial Next Steps. Then we go into Any Other Business. Is there anything else that anyone would like to add at this point? Okay. I'm not seeing any hands up. So we go straight into the agenda and we go to the action items. That was good. Thank you. Great.

We seem to have completed most of our action items. The wiki page is up for ICANN79 prep meeting hosted by the Board. I just want to speak a little bit on that in a minute. Where we scheduled our next call for today, I think we may still be outstanding. I don't know if this has been done, to contact the persons who did proposals for the AFRs, which are supposed to be sent to their RALO leadership, to decide to send it to the regional GSE teams. I think that may still be outstanding, and so we need to address that.

The last one that seems to be outstanding, but I know that one isn't, from the 11th of the first was for the agenda to focus on the AFRs. That has been done because we have actually voted on that and that issue has been closed. So, just one outstanding item. I hope we can have that result soon before we go to ICANN79. Thank you so much staff for all that you've been doing and continue to help us to get these things done.

Go back to the agenda. Sorry. Please go back to the action items. The first action item there where it spoke about to open a page on the sessions to the planning for ICANN79 prep meeting hosted by the Board, we have three topics for that session. We actually had a meeting this morning with the persons who are more or less At-Large shepherds for the topics. The first topic is strategic planning. And what is supposed to be accomplished, the Board will solicit input from participants on the current development of FY26-30 ICANN Strategic Plan. In this Breakout Room, the Board host will seek input from attendees on how the input from the community, including through the various environmental scans, strategic trends, outlook sessions and other consultations can form the basis of the strategic objectives and goals for the next five-year strategic plan and what metrics should be included as part of the plan.

So we are still looking at developing one to three high-level talking points that convey the core message that ALAC would like to deliver to the community members, the ICANN Org, and the ICANN Board. For that session, there are five persons who have volunteered. They are Jonathan, Hadia, Judith, Cheryl, and myself. Part of telling you all of this is that feel free as community members, as members of ALAC and At-Large, to join any of these sessions. It's not just open to the ALAC members. It's open to our entire At-Large community. The sessions, you don't have to stick with one session, you can move from session to session if you wish to contribute. I will just talk through this quickly and just give you a chance if anyone wants to add something.

The second topic is the Board's role and responsibilities when Board adopted policies do not address the problem they were developed to solve. The shepherds for that are Justine, Cheryl, and Alan, hopefully.

The description is that in this Breakout Room, the Board host will invite community feedback on how to handle situations where it becomes clear that community developed gTLD policies adopted by the Board are superseded by subsequent events or otherwise not able to or can no longer resolve the problems they were designed to address. There's currently no Bylaw or process for such a circumstance, other than the Board requesting that the community initiates another full policy development process, which, really, we know how those things go and how many years they can run for. We need to help them in this regard. As the Board continues to engage with the GNSO on the topic, the community is invited to bring some possible solutions. This is where we believe ALAC and At-Large have a good opportunity to jump in. We are also looking for one to three points here that we need to present to the Board on this specific topic.

Finally, the third topic is the environmental sustainability at ICANN. In this session or Breakout Room, the Board host will solicit community input on how to best advance ICANN's environmentally sustainable efforts in line with FY24 CEO Goal 8. Drawing on the expertise of the community will help shape the dialogue for more sustainable planning for ICANN meetings and operations. The shepherds for this are Pari, Hadia, and Cheryl. And again, we are looking for high-level points to drive this session.

So, I now invite a couple of comments or questions or volunteers, persons, who have not previously volunteered and would like to be part of these sessions. Please, let us know so at least we'll know that you are in the room. No comments, no questions? I was very clear?

Okay. Amrita had volunteered for the Sustainable Development Group. Okay. Good. Thank you, Amrita. I'm sorry that your name was not there, but we will add it. At this point in time, there is actually a Google Doc that we are working on and I will ask staff to add you to that Google Doc so that you can add your contribution there. Please feel free, not because you have selected for a particular topic. If you think that there is something that needs to be focused on in another topic, please share your ideas. This is really about having the community speak and listening to what the community has to say.

Okay. Great. I'm not seeing any hands. I'm not seeing any more comments. Bukola also volunteered for topic two. Sorry about that, Amrita. I hope you feel better soon.

Can we go back to the agenda, please? Great. So we move on ahead to item number three on the agenda. I will now turn the meeting over to Cheryl.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Thank you very much, Claire. I'm pretty confident and determined I'm not going to require our allocated 25 minutes. I'm not sure who thought 25 minutes was going to be necessary on an off week, in other words, a week when we're not meeting. But I do want to take this opportunity of bringing a number of you up to date on where we are in the scheme of things. If you don't mind, Michelle, could you just scroll up to the allocation of who's who in all this? Thank you very much.

I guess before I get into the meat and potatoes of what we did at the call, it bothers me just a tiny bit, ladies and gentlemen, that if you look

at that list of names and you look at the list of attendees at this call, there is some glaring oversight. I mean, it's great to see Bill and obviously, Sébastien and Amrita. But things that make me go "Hmm" a little bit, I know that there is some spares there, but we really do need to try and make sure that at least one person whose name is related to these regional inputs at least keeps their finger on the pulse of what's going on and has a role with this OFB Working Group. I guess it's not Tommi and my job to fix that, but I guess it is our job to raise that concern. I haven't spoken to him about it, but I suspect he's equally concerned about it as I am.

That being said, if you scroll back down now, thank you, Michelle, to our long list of things, there is no change in what was presented to our last OFB call on all of this. Continue to scroll down to look at some of the RALO's input. Thank you very much. I just wanted to let you know that at the meeting—just keep scrolling—we did manage to get through most but not all. Thank you. Just perhaps pop back up a little bit. That's fine. Perfect. Somewhere there. Most but not all of the ALAC—well, we certainly got through the ALAC, but through the regional At-Large organizations, we got all of the members being represented and handing in our homework to the CIP, the Continuous Improvement Program Community Coordination Group. We got through, I think, 9 or 10, which is about halfway through. The next meeting we have, we trust, we will hear from the rest of the parts of the ICANN community and their representatives with relation to what it is that they are doing and where the challenges are. It wasn't just ALAC and At-Large, we also heard from GNSO, GAC. I don't think we got to CC. Maybe we did. I'll have to check my memory banks.

I guess what concerns me is that not all of the regions have had the time, the energy or the inclination to reflect in this master sheet. I know it's not a requirement, but it would be strongly encouraged. Reflecting this master sheet, what it is, they believe their regions have done in terms of continuous improvement. Obviously, you can see RALOs there and our own. I'm not sure if they are my own, APRALOs there. That could have something to do with Tommi being out of one space and me being out of another. But it would be very good to see the rest of the RALOs take the good lead from the other RALOs and see if they can at least put a little bit into this master sheet simply because the optics looks better if we have it that way.

With the Continuous Improvement Program next steps, this is really just the level setting exercise where we are looking at what we are all doing separately, in other words, each individual group. We are not necessarily looking at the differences or the best practices or good ideas that are being shared. We do note that there was something that Sébastien and I attended recently, a very dynamic and a follow-up from previous work done by the ccNSO on how they are approaching their Continuous Improvement Program. What I believe we are seeing so far is a suitable fit for the purpose of the entity approach that's coming out. What we do with it then, I am unsure of.

Can I ask you, is it possible for us to—I do apologize, Michelle, this is coming at you from left of field—but if you could possibly grab from Andrew or Heidi or whomever might be available for you, the link to the talking points that I know Claire mentioned earlier that we are using for all of the ICANN79 activity. Thank you very much. If we just have a little look at some of our planning that we agreed under the auspices of the

OFB Working Group sessions at ICANN79—thanks so much, Heidi—of what we are going to be doing in our more interactive session. I think you can scroll down. I think it's page five, if you wouldn't mind.

In the points that Sébastien and I have put together—keep going, keep going, keep going. Keep going on to three. We need to get to five at least. There we go. There we go. Here we go. I think it just goes on to five, so scroll back up. You'll find it where you were. Keep going. A little bit further up, please. You're okay. Keep going up. Up is the opposite direction. That's down.

MICHELLE DESMYTER:

Do you want me to go—sorry about that.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Just a bit. Okay. The beginning part is just where we are and what we're going to do. We're in the middle of this, right. God, those days where I could just share screen and do these things. Never mind. If you just move to the previous page, that'll be fine. All I wanted to do is give an example. Keep going. I'm happy there. Perfect. Please stop. Okay. Are we all settled? It's like dropping pebbles into the water and watching the ripples.

I just thought it would be worthwhile bringing to this group's attention that what we're going to be focusing on at ICANN79 is also, I think Tommi and I trust, going to be where the next part of our work is likely to go within the CIP Working Group. That's to the then now we know who's doing what do we do then. As we promised, we're meeting in,

obviously, the Holistic Review, including its pilot, and our ongoing concern about the timing on all of that. But we're listed here, the workshopping. Under that second bullet point on the page there during ICANN79 At-Large sessions, we'll be workshopping with ALAC and the RALO leadership and At-Large members. I should put a capital in that A for At-Large. My apologies. To plan the next steps on how we are going to be meeting the objectives of the CIP-CCG. We're going to be talking about the range of methodologies for effective Continuous Improvement Programs and recognize that the CIP's role is to help us choose one. It seems to me that we need to talk about it at ICANN79 not just what we need to do for ourselves, but recognize that that may not fit perfectly for everybody else.

If you scroll a little bit further down to the top of page five. The other objectives there are—that's fine. Again, these are CIP Working Group objectives. What each individual community structure needs to carry out and implement all of these things. So we will be workshopping that from our own community's perspective. The regional leads need to come fully prepared, having thought about that particular question. And it may be that the regional leads are not the representatives in the CIP Community Group. So there needs to be a communication at the regional level.

But this is where the rubber hits the road. We're also trying to reach broad agreement on a CIP framework. That CIP framework is going to be where a great deal of course training is going to have to happen. We need to prepare for that during ICANN79. And obviously things like satisfaction survey from the community structures and the time timing

for other opportunities, that's straight out of the requirements set forward out of the Recommendation 3.6 from ATRT3.

But there are a couple of issues that come out of that, not the least of which is the framework is going to be developed during this next 12 months, but overlapping that is other work going on. I guess Sébastien is very likely to support Tommi and I in our concerns, some of the things we need to talk about and hear. If you could just scroll back up to where we talk about the Holistic Review just a little bit further up. That's fine. Thank you. Not too far. A little bit down where it says we believe we are now ready for—though implementation has not started, in our view, the cadence that is identified—and I'm not going to read that out, it's in the document. You can look at it. But I think it is a little bit concerning that the CIP activities references the initial development phase of the framework that we've just described is estimated to take 12 months. Fine, that's okay. To conclude December 2024, also fine, that's okay. That's our job. But the CIP assessment period is also to begin during 2024, but not conclude until three years later in 2027. Then, obviously, the second one follows and the third one follows after that. It also says in the charter through our work—and I put the quote in there for everybody—that the framework will be based upon the feedback received from each community removed, etc., etc., etc., and it will all be published, etc., etc., etc., and everything should be all very accountable and very transparent. But there is this issue. Here, if you can just scroll a little bit further. Up the other way, sorry. Perfect. Thank you. That's fine. Stop, stop, stop, stop, stop.

If the cadence is aimed to get the framework finished and then not start a Pilot Holistic Review before the framework is finished, we are wasting

way too many cycles. That some of these things should really be able to be run in parallel and not serially. I think it's extremely important that we make really, really clear during any of our talking point opportunities that lining these things up, as much as we love the train analogy that we often find ourselves using, these should not be seen as carriages that are one after the other, but rather a couple of lines running alongside each other heading in the same direction. So it's going to be the future point in time that all those carriages get put together. But we can have two engines running a couple of carriages alongside each other in the same direction.

Have I missed anything, Tommi, before I go to Sébastien?

TOMMI KARTTAIVI: I don't think so. I'm pretty sure that covers it and I don't have anything to add. So, to be continued this week?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Yes. It's to be continued. Sébastien?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you, Cheryl, for this point of situation. I think we have a problem of, I will say, communication. Because in the ATRT3, we never say that Holistic Review must happen after any work on the Continuous Improvement Program. We say that when and if Continuous Improvement Program delivers output, they will fill the work of the Holistic Review. But if not, we have to wait six years to start the Holistic Review, and then we will have to wait five years to do the next ATRT, etc.

We are really, I think, in trouble because it's not just what you say is very, very important, but it's also that in fact we are pushing away any other reviews, and that will be a concern. One day we are at the United Nations in New York somebody saying, "ICANN is not anymore accountable because even the review for ATRT is not done since few years and will not be done before few years. Stop ICANN and do something else." It will be our fault when I say our, not you and me, but our ICANN institution. It's not because we don't say it again and again, but it seems that—not for you, but maybe for me, it's my bad English with why people don't understand what we are saying about that. And we need to be concerned altogether. But once again, thank you very much for your work, Cheryl, on that. It's well done. Thank you.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Okay. Thank you. I'm just thinking we probably need to take our little train that could and turn it into a central station because you can have a number of parallel lines even running in different directions perfectly successfully as long as they're well-organized, orchestrated, and properly facilitated. Alan?

ALLAN GREENBERG:

Thank you. Just a little irreverent comment. And I understand the details of this say after the initial CIP-CCG or the framework. But nevertheless, the concept to deferring a Holistic Review until after something that is called a Continuous Program just is unique to ICANN. Thank you.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR:

Alan, very few true words have ever been said in my view. Anyway, there's an opportunity here to stop and pause. Claire, I'm hoping that with the rest of the team, and with that, I mean the rest of the team that are involved in representing the regions in the CIP-CCG, we may be able to help redirect some of these perhaps unintended consequences into a safer area, certainly for the longevity and sustainability. And I don't mean that in an environmental sense, I mean that actual sense, survivability of ICANN. This is really important stuff, ladies and gentlemen, as much fun as we might have in all of this. This may not be exciting. It may not seem terribly beyond navel gazing, but if you don't get it right and it's not seen to be right from the outside world, it is the thread that, as Sébastien suggested, can totally unravel an entity. Do remember, please, that the purposes of these Accountability and Transparency Review Teams, the Specific Reviews associated with ICANN other than ATRTs, as well as the Organizational Reviews are not just about making sure we're building a better model. It should do that. But it's also about how good that model looks to the outside world, how marketable that model is to attract "our customers," in other words, everybody who cares, and how easily that model could be broken and criticized by those who think they have perhaps a more profitable alternative.

All right, open for questions. But here ends my lesson. Thank you. Hi, Avri. You've got to have something. Avri's got to have something to say about that. I've led with my chin, Avri. Come on.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Cheryl, thanks for that. I'm waiting to see Avri's hand go up. But in the meantime, I know we will talk about it in the next topic, but do you think that there is an opportunity at the ICANN79 to help some of the other regions to become more engaged? I know in that CIP session, it would be more for ALAC and what are our outcomes. But do you think that there's an opportunity to help them there? Or what do you think needs to be done? I don't know if that's a question. But clearly, there is a concern that the regions have not participated as much at this point in time. So how do we move that forward?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: You've got a regional lead with his hand up and you've got Avri. So take that in order and I'll mop up if there anything to do.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Thanks. Sébastien and then Avri.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you very much. We can discuss it in the OFB meeting during ICANN, but I guess it's still under work. But it was my suggestion to have that as a topic for the meeting of the RALO leads during the ICANN meeting. I don't know where we are with that because there were different points of view, but I really feel that it's a very important topic. And if we discuss that twice, it's not a problem because there are a lot to be done and to be understood by everyone. But it's something we take into account. And as we have a meeting of the RALO leaders, I hope that it will be one of the topics. Thank you.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Thanks so much for that, Sébastien. And having participated in that RALO leadership roundtable, I think that's an excellent place for that. You may not have the point persons or the shepherds for the CIP at the meeting, but at least you will have the leadership who could take it back to them. Because our CIP session at the ICANN will be pretty short and pretty focused, so we may not get to it, I don't know. So I'm glad that it is being covered somewhere. Thank you, Sébastien. Avri?

AVRI DORIA: Hi. Thanks. Just sort of saying stuff because I was called on. I really hadn't intended. I think that I agree with much of what Sébastien said, first of all. I didn't know that the knot had gotten quite as bad as it seems like he's portraying it. But I haven't really paid attention for three months. I sort of have been in my perspective changing mode over the last three months. But he's definitely right about the importance. And Cheryl's right, I totally agree. I don't know that we can get it right. I think the notion of getting it right is more optimism than I could ever find myself supporting. But I think we can move closer and closer. And I think that the knot such as there is is something that we should work on doing and really trying to understand. I'm not at a point yet where I understand the knot to look the way Sébastien does is everything being dependent on everything and backing each other up. I know that's the problem they're trying to solve. I know it's a problem we're all trying to solve. So yeah, I agree. And I wouldn't have spent that much time saying I agree. I would have kept my mouth shut, but you called on me. Thanks.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Claire speaking for the record, I have to remember to do that. Thank you, Avri. You know, sometimes we have to call on people because it's good to hear certain persons say certain things, even though we may know what it is. If certain persons say it, it sends a particular signal. So I am not apologizing for calling on you and for Cheryl prompting that calling on you as well. So thanks again. Alan, you may have the floor.

ALAN GREENBERG: Thank you. If there's going to be a meeting at ICANN79 on RALO leaders talking about the CIP, perhaps it would be a good idea to invite the CIP leads. Actually, people at the meeting who know what they're talking about.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Right.

ALAN GREENBERG: It does make meetings take a lot longer when the people know what they're talking about.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Yes. The only thing, Alan, I mean, the ones who are going to be there who are part of the travel, they should be invited and they should be made aware that this session is taking place. If they are not, at least if they can participate online virtually, then that can be an option as well.

So there should be a way to make them aware that the session is taking place and the timing for it. So thanks for that suggestion.

ALAN GREENBERG: And even perhaps tell them they're expected. If they're in the hospital, we'll forgive them. But nevertheless—

CLAIRE CRAIG: Yes, yes. Well, metrics, metrics, metrics. Sébastien, I see a new hand. Go ahead.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Thank you. Alan, you put a good question. But for the moment, the idea is at least to have the leadership of the RALO. Therefore the question is, for EURALO, it's okay. I will be on site and Natalia will be online. We are done for EURALO. For the other regions, yeah, first of all, I need to be sure that it will be a topic of this meeting. And then the second question is who will be invited? One from LACRALO or two from LACRALO who are not in a leadership position, you and some other? At least, it needs to be discussed. Thank you for raising this issue. I will hopefully discuss that. And Amrita is here also, and she's part of both. We, I guess, together will raise this issue with our colleagues and see how we can manage it. Thank you.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: If I may, Claire. Sébastien has sort of closed the circle on where I started. It was not by accident that I took us to who is in the CIP-CCWG

representing their regions, and who is in this meeting, and who has brought their homework into our agreed public facing report card? The ones that are in all of that space have done that, and I think that's a communication matter. And again, not Tommi or my problem to solve, we've done our homework and we know where we belong, but there might it'd be a little bit of work from a communications point of view with the ALAC/At-Large work on all of this. And maybe the question Alan raised has something to do with that. Anyway, I muted myself, that's interesting.

CLAIRE CRAIG: You did.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: I'm not sure how I muted myself because all I did was hit Return to say we need to wrap this section up. Thank you for the—

JUDITH HELLERSTEIN: I think Return mutes, too. Cheryl, Return mutes, too.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR: Well, that's fascinating. I'm very disappointed in hearing that because it means I can't type and talk at the same time. What will I do? Thank you. Back to you, Claire.

CLAIRE CRAIG:

Thank you, Cheryl. Thanks, everyone. I think this was a very engaging topic, especially the fact that there needs to be more enlightenment, the persons who have volunteered to take the lead on this. If they may not be aware of what their role is, I'd like to give people the benefit of the doubt. But we are almost at the end of February and work needs to be done by December. So we need to start getting it cracking, because sometimes we wait until the last minute to try to do everything then. So if this can be included in the RALO session, I will strongly suggest that that topic be included there and given some opportunity to be heard and voiced. So thanks for sharing those things, Sébastien, Alan, and Avri.

So moving on to the next topic. It's the session which would have been the OFB session but it's really At-Large Operations and Governance discussions. Can you please bring up the agenda? Great. So at that meeting, we agreed that there will be two sessions. Yes. It's a 60-minute session, as we would have discussed previously, starting with a five-minute introduction, then the two sessions are 25 minutes each. The first session would be getting ready for FY26-30 Strategic Plan, and the second session will be the Continuous Improvement Program Next Steps. As you see, both sessions are 25 minutes, which does not give us a lot of time. So it means that we have to be very deliberate in how the sessions are run and very deliberate in the topics and how it is covered.

So I met with the person who will be conducting these sessions last week. And we had some pretty good meetings. So I met with members of the Planning Team. From that meeting, we agreed that there will be a presentation by the team, but most of the time will be left for question and answers from persons attending. So we really want this session to be very interactive. It will focus on what the community can expect as

the next steps for how we can prepare for the Strategic Planning exercise, which was also mentioned to the Planning Team that we wanted to learn from the environmental scan, the findings from the environmental scan that would have taken place, and how they had analyzed that data. So that will be part of the presentation. But most of it will be around us talking to them about how we see our role in getting ready and how they see that we can help them to get ready for that Strategic Planning exercise. We do understand that the Strategic Planning exercises are Board exercise. However, as one of the major voices of the end user community, I think this is a good opportunity for us to engage with them to let them know how we can help in that exercise.

Then the CIP session, Cheryl also spoke about it. It will be about a 15-minute interactive session. She was limited to two major issues because trying to do more than that may take it into a direction where we may not be able to control it. And we may also introduce some polling so that we can gauge the temperature of the room and get feedback from persons who are in that session. We have spoken to ICANN staff also about having timers in the sessions so that person's really to ensure that we keep the meeting just on time and crisp and on track. Because when you have such a short period of time, you really don't want persons taking up a lot of time with getting into, as they would say, the weeds. So we probably will have like two minute timers for what happens at the public comments so persons will know that, keep your comments as succinct as possible.

So that's what I wanted to share on that. I'm seeing some comments, but please let me hear your feedback on what you think, if you think that this would work. Just your feedback on this, please.

Cheryl is saying we need the attendees to prepare and at least read and understand the talking points on the CIP-CCG. So yes, that is important, so that you really come prepared to have a rich fulsome discussion and be able to interact with the polls. Because sometimes one of the concerns we had is that people take a while to understand the polls and to respond to the polls. And in a short session like this, you can spend a lot of time waiting on people to respond to polls. So we need to recognize that.

Yes, Sébastien, I see your hand is up. Please go ahead.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you, Claire. Thank you for having those two topics. I think are very important. Those two topics will deserve 90 minutes session each that I guess we will try to do with what we have. Yes, definitely, it's important that participants both on-site and online can prepare. It's very important that we need to remind people. I guess it's not just for this meeting but for all the At-Large and ICANN meetings we need to come prepared. Thank you.

CLAIRE CRAIG:

Thank you, Sébastien. Any other comments, suggestions? I'm seeing there's stuff in the chat, so okay, great. We move on to the next item.

Sébastien, you have the floor on that one, talking to us about NETmundial Next Steps.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Thank you very much. Amrita, if you want to jump in, feel free. I don't know if it's remind, but maybe for some it's to inform, that this year it will be 10 years at NETmundial, and the declaration was made on April 23rd and 24th of 2014. The Brazilian community is organizing. I am not sure about how it's really organized and how open it is, but their organizing on-site meeting in Brazil, the 29th and 30th of April. As chair of the RALO, we have decided to organize the roundtable across relevant table on the 23rd, 10 years after, like we have organized for the 25th anniversary of ICANN in September last year. We don't have yet the program but we are working on it. It's just to give you the information. It will be at 14:00 UTC time. I hope that it will be interesting. We will come back with the program as soon as it's organized. Thank you for letting me give the information to your community and your group. Thank you.

What day? The day for this roundtable, 23rd of April, 14:00 UTC. Just 10 year after the event. Thank you.

CLAIRE CRAIG:

Thank you for this, Sébastien. I know you also mentioned that at the CPWG meeting. Since it's at the OFBWG meeting, my question is—I know you're doing something at the EURALO, and that's the roundtable that you're setting up—how do you see the OFB Working Group contributing in any way? Or do you see the OFB contributing in any way to this discussion?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: First of all, it's not the EURALO roundtable. It's a cross RALO roundtable.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Oh, okay. A cross RALO.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: That is very important. We have already the five regions. But it will not be us who will be talking, it will be the people where we set up NETmundial, where is NETmundial, or who follow what was done with the declaration. Therefore, I would say, it's not too much of a celebration. It's much more what's happened. Because a lot of people today don't know about it, and very few places where we talk still about the declaration and some of the things that the declaration was a very, very important and good one. It's why we need to put it back on the communication today. It's why we are organizing that, like the 25th anniversary of ICANN. Thank you.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Okay. Thanks for that. But if you see that there is an opportunity for us to have anything, not just an announcement in the working group, but for the working group to be more engaged in that, please feel free, let us know. We can have a time slot for it moving forward. Because these are some of the things that we should be focusing on, the things that aren't part of the CPWG Working Group, policy type, DNS abuse issues, those kinds of things. So thanks. Yes, Sébastien? Is that an old hand?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: No, that's a new one. It's just to say that I feel that it's important to have this discussion here about what will happen in Brazil, more than what we will do for the roundtable. It's what will happen, the 29th and 30th of April in Brazil that must be a topic, and I don't own it at all. I can participate. I assume that Amrita has more information than me on that specific one. But yes, this meeting, how we will raise the voice of end user during this session is an important topic for the OFB Working Group. Thank you.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Thanks for that, Sébastien. I support that. I guess we can have some discussion at ICANN79 and move forward when we return, how we can fit something like that into our agenda for upcoming meetings. Thanks again.

So we move back to the agenda. The next item, Any Other Business. Is there anything else that anyone would like to discuss? Well, we just have a few minutes before the end of the call. Sébastien, is that an old hand that's up?

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET: Yes, that's an old hand. Sorry.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Okay. All right. Good. So the next item for the next call. Now, this is me personally, I've had a concern that we have at ALAC, there is a

requirement for ALAC members to attend CPWG meetings and OFB meetings. But in some regions, the time of the calls can be so unfriendly. I know there are people like Cheryl who does that and continually does it. I'm just calling on some persons I know. Amrita, this is probably not a very nice time for her as well, Justine. Those are some of the people I know, but I'm sure some others who may not be able to attend, and so we cannot hear their voice in these meetings.

So one of the things that we are suggesting is that for a biggest spread of the time, so right now the spread is 16:00 hours and 18:00 hours, which does not make a lot of difference, and we are thinking of setting up a Doodle to change the spread to either 16 and 21, or 14 and 18. Before we send that out, we just wanted to get a little bit of feedback. We just have two minutes, but if I could just hear back from some of you. Sébastien, I see your hand is up.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET:

Really, I don't think you need to send the Doodle. Either you decide that it's each eight hours, a new term, eight hours, eight hours, eight hours for three weeks, or you pick up two time and you do it. Because if you ask me if I want to have a meeting in middle of the night, I will say no. I hope that Cheryl will say no also even if she's doing it very well. But we will say no. And what will Doodle give you? We, as a majority of the people are from Europe and North America, therefore it's the same timing, really, for that you don't need to Doodle. Take the timing of the world, and decide the time for the meeting, and let's go.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Thanks, Sébastien. Maybe it's more like a poll, because we looked at the spread and it's 16 and 21 or 14 and 18. So just to find out from persons which one they think would work best for them. Amrita, I didn't ask for more time. So if we could just go through. And I closed the queue after Alan. Amrita, go ahead.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY: Thank you, Claire. The thing which Cheryl also mentioned, two hours difference doesn't make any change for us. For example, specifically if you're looking at the APAC region, 16 and 18 doesn't make any difference for any of us. 18 would be past midnight 16, would be before midnight. So, perhaps if you can keep it at two different times in the [inaudible] reason, for example, if I give my example, 14:00 UTC for me would be somewhere around 7:30 pm and an 18:00 UTC would be another plus four hours. For Justine, it would be plus two hours, six hours. I suppose, Cheryl it is early morning. So I think rather than keeping too close time slots, if you keep two, say a 13 and even a 16 or 17, whatever suits others. At least there will be one call which we can attend. Some amount of load sharing definitely would be appreciated then people who have been facing the time slot issues for long. And that's why many times we can't... It's not because we don't want to, we can't because the next day we have to go. We also have to function in our day job. So a bit of load sharing would definitely help.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Surely, I really appreciate that, Amrita. Hence, the reason that this is being discussed. Pari?

PARI ESFANDIARI: Thank you. Like Sébastien, I don't think there is a need for voting. It's only fair that we split the time globally and allow everybody to have sometimes difficult times, sometimes more convenient. In addition, I want to emphasize that the requirement is either to attend but also recordings are available, and people who cannot attend they can listen to recording at the end. It's a voluntary work and we all have other jobs too we are doing. So if somebody cannot attend for whatever reason, the recordings are available. I think it's only reasonable to expect them to listen to the recording, and that balances the whole thing. Thank you.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Thank you, Pari. Yes, the thing with the recording, though we don't get to hear your side of it, you just have to follow what was said. But we really want to hear from you and make this thing work for us all. Alan? I know I have closed the queue after Alan. Well, I hope you will be very, very short. Yes, Alan.

ALAN GREENBERG: I'll be short too, and I'll be cynical. I'm afraid having done this for a number of years, there's a bunch of people who don't show up at meetings regardless of the timing. And if it's a requirement for the ALAC, then I think the ALAC chair should be approaching them and finding out what the issue is.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Okay. That makes sense to me.

ALAN GREENBERG:

To be fair, we also have people who cannot attend meetings during their daytime because of their day job requirements. It's not always a time of day issue. At this meeting, we have something like eight or nine ALAC members. That's pretty good attendance, given the history. But I think if it's an issue of ALAC members attending, then we have to actually find out what's going on. Just changing the time randomly, I'm afraid change in the time does not necessarily fix the problem. Thank you.

CLAIRE CRAIG:

Thanks. That's a good perspective there, Alan, and maybe we could reach out to some of them. But I do think we need a wider spread. I think the two-hour spread is like apples and apples. So we will look at that wider spread.

Thank you all. Thank you all, everyone, for attending this meeting today. I think we had a really good discussion. I really am sorry for taking you four minutes over the time. We do apologize to our interpreters. Thank you, staff, for facilitating this meeting. Looking forward to seeing all of you at ICANN79 and on some of the calls next week for Prep Week. Thanks again. Enjoy the rest of your day. This is Claire signing off. Bye-bye.

MICHELLE DESMYTER:

Thank you, everyone. Meeting adjourned. Take care.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]