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ICANN72 | Virtual Annual General Meeting - At-Large Leadership Transition  
Thursday, October 28, 2021 – 11:30 to 12:00 PDT

DEVAN REED:

Welcome to the ICANN72 At-Large Leadership Transitions Call. My name is Devan Reed, and I am the remote participation manager for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and follows the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior.

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With that, I hand over the floor over to Maureen Hilyard.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you so much, Devan. And thank you everyone else who has helped to organize this session. It's a bit of a deviation from what we normally do, but there are so many people that seem to be leaving and arriving. So it seemed pretty obvious that it would give you all an opportunity to at least find out who the departing people are and the new arrivals are so that you get an idea of the busyness of the At-Large community and its leadership.

And I think one of the things that we've really tried to do within the At-Large community is to, first of all, recognize the work that's actually being done by our leaders and to acknowledge that they have a very important role within At-Large, and that we really need to make sure that we give them all the support that we can do so that the community thrives through good leadership within our section of ICANN. Can I have the next slide, please?

Okay, these are our departing leaders. Without going through every one individually, I do want to thank everyone on this list for the work that they've actually given to At-Large during their term. I suppose I do have to recognize the At-Large Advisory Committee that is my committee and the members who are there—Abdulkarim, Justine, Sylvia, and

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Carlos—whose work has been valuable within At-Large. So I really do appreciate ...

And I'm going to give them an opportunity to speak. I can't give an opportunity for every single person on the list because we've only got an hour. But like two or three minutes just to say a few words about your role on the ALAC and what you feel you've contributed to At-Large during your term.

I also want to acknowledge, too, the NomCom delegates because they are actually appointed by the ALAC—nominated by their RALOs, of course, but endorsed by and appointed by the ALAC itself. But Hadia, Amrita, Sébastien, and Glenn. There's also Vanda, but Vanda's in that transition. She has another year, so she's not a departing leader at this particular point in time.

But the NomCom has had an enormous amount of work that has actually been given, an additional load because of the whole virtual environment in which they've worked. And we're so proud that our At-Large delegates gave 100% effort to the work of the NomCom. And I've received some excellent reports on their commitment and dedication to the task. So it's been two years of hard slog for them, and I'm sure they'll welcome the break. And they're moving on to other things. But thank you so much to them.

And of course, someone else who is really the RALO chair, Sergio from LACRALO, departing as the RALO chair. But as you'll see later, he's reinventing himself into another role which we will see later on. But Sergio has been an amazing chair for LACRALO. The number of

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achievements that he has made in his time has been enormous, and it's been really great to see how LACRALO has developed. Just the new policies and the whole strategic plan that they have actually put together has just been amazing. And you can tell the difference in the way that the RALO has been operating.

So at this particular point in time, I hope that NomCom delegates don't mind, but I would really like the ALAC committee members, if they would like to say a few words, and Sergio as the RALO chair. I can give you—I'm looking at the time and how much we've got—probably about three minutes each.

So we'll start with Abdulkarim.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Okay. Thank you very much. I hope you can hear me.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Yes, we can.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Can you hear me? Okay, yeah. That's fine.

ALAN GREENBERG: Yes, we can.

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ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: It's been two years, and the last two years it feels like yesterday. And I would like to thank everyone [inaudible].

DEVAN REED: Abdulkarim, I'm sorry. If you're speaking, we're not able to hear you.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: [inaudible] of the At-Large community [inaudible].

MAUREEN HILYARD: Abdulkarim, you keep dropping. I wonder if ... Devan, is there any way that you can help Abdulkarim with his problem? A phone call, perhaps?

DEVAN REED: Yes. I can request a dial out to him. It'll just be a moment.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Okay. Abdulkarim, we'll send get a dial-out to you now. I know that Justine was not going to be able to come today. And while Abdulkarim's connection is actually being fixed up, Sylvia, would you like to say a few words? And we'll get back to Abdulkarim when he's ready.

SYLVIA HERLEIN LEITE: Hello. Can you hear me? Can you see me? Thank you. Thank you very much. It's quite an honor. I'm so emotional to be here with you today. I believe that we will all say more or less the same. It's been two very hard years. Quite interesting, on the other hand, with a lot of learning. It's

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been a completely different experience for us who are used to seeing each other's faces every three or four months. And when you thought that you knew it all, that you had experience ...

Because I was a LAC member before, but these two years have been so different and have allowed me to learn from the ICANN's ecosystem. So I am really thankful for the opportunity and the patience of the whole ALAC Team with me. The staff, of course, I would like to infinitely thank you because all of them, anytime you need anything, they are there for you.

These two years have been quite difficult, I was saying, but with a lot of growth professionally and also personally. I had big changes in my life, but I would like to say that—talking about LACRALO and ALAC and, of course, presenting LACRALO—I wanted to leave on record in this last session the work that Sergio and Harold allowed me to do in LACRALO because we always say that all the RALOs have to get involved in ALAC policy with the IDN and UAWGs, all of us were able to make our contributions. We were allowed to be part of that.

I think we brought LACRALO to ALAC, getting everybody involved in such an important matter. And we had the chance to organize the first UA course that had record participant numbers. And now NARALO is reproducing it.

I think that we can summarize that that was my grain of sand. But I will still lead that group because it's my passion—everything we have done—and I want to continue. Even when I'm not an ALAC member anymore, I will still be there. And I go away with peace of mind because

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the individual who will replace me, Carlos Aguirre, is so experienced and he is also very energetic about this. I'm quiet because I leave you in good hands. So thank you very much and see you soon.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you so much, Sylvia. It's been wonderful having you. Are we back with Abdulkarim? Just checking.

DEVAN REED: Yes, we have him on the audio bridge.

MAUREEN HILYARD: All right. Abdulkarim.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Okay. Thank you very much, Maureen. Apologies for the bad connection. I would just like to thank everybody from the leadership of the ALAC to everybody who has contributed to the work of the ALAC in the last one year. I would like to thank the leadership of AFRALO and the leadership of the other RALOs who have, one way or the other, contributed to the good work that the At-Large community has been doing.

I would like to finally also thank the incoming leaders and to also [inaudible] to the incoming leaders to continue the good work that we are leaving behind, and also to make sure that we keep flying the At-Large flag. Thank you very much.

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MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you so much, Abdulkarim. And I know that you're already involved in the IDNs group and as a UA ambassador as well. But you will still be, as you say, flying the flag for At-Large and the At-Large community. Thank you so much.

I note that Carlos isn't here, but Sergio is. Sergio, you may take the floor.

SERGIO SALINAS PORTO: Thank you, Maureen. It is a real pleasure to be able to meet with you, to be again with you in another ICANN meeting. Since 2006 until today, I have continuously been participating and been involved in this big family that is ICANN.

We all know what our region was like and what were the problems we experience in our region for so many years. I am living happy. I know Harold is happy, as well, when he lives. We've been reinvented, as you said, because we will be in other positions in the regions. Perhaps we will be less exposed, but we will be able to provide our input for the sustainable growth for LACRALO.

I'm also happy because after our work and after supporting our region and showing that our region can be organic within ICANN, we have new leaders. And these new leaders together with the drive provided by other leaders such as Harold or Carlos who support the processes ...

Well, as you know Augusto Ho and Clara Craig will also be [leading] there. And we know our region will experience significant progress. It

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will be very well organized and it will, at the same time, have the strategic view of contributing from a Latin American and the Caribbean scenario.

Unfortunately, because I was very busy, I have not been able to participate more intensely in ALAC. But now there is less pressure of putting the region to work, and so I will probably then be able to support those processes from now on.

So once again, let me thank my colleagues. Sylvia is leaving and I'd like to welcome Carlos, Augusto, and Claire, and just tell them that you will always have my support and the support of this collective structure we have now. The leadership does not rest on one person. It rests on a team, and this team has the multiple participation that we have achieved in LACRALO.

That's all for me, but then let me just say something before leaving. I'm going to be very honest with you. This would not have possible if we did not have this ALAC and this leadership by Maureen Hilyard in ALAC. I need to be honest, and that's why I have to say this. It has been an honor to be engaged as a LACRALO chair together with the ALAC chair. Thank you very much. That would be all for me.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you so much, Sergio. And I agree with what Cheryl has put in the chat. She says, "Congratulations to Sergio and all of the LACRALO Team on the great work done in their recent terms of service." I think that's [inaudible].

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Okay. I have just written apologies to Harold in the chat that I've missed him off as a departing leader and as an arriving leader. And Harold Arcos who, with Sergio, has been a major contributor to many of the changes that happened within LACRALO. And Harold, I would like to give you the floor as the departing secretary. But you're going to be reinvented as well in another role. But if you'd like to say a few words, please do.

HAROLD ARCOS:

Thank you, Maureen. Let me reaffirm what our great chair, our great Sergio has said. I want to thank all the team, all the ALAC Team. Since we reinvented this concept of the leadership, we have involved more chair. It has been a real challenge since the Barcelona meeting. And when these spaces are generated, we know that volunteers emerge. So the challenge actually is to create a space. And once that space is created, we will also be strong. We will always have resources and especially love to be able to work at the service of what we have to do to have a global and regional impact.

Let me thank Sergio for his trust. And I am willing and able. I trust in the discussions, in the debates, and in all the team. We have progressed significantly in LACRALO, and we are now undergoing a new phase to consolidate and to continue growing. And this will only happen if we are willing to continue learning.

So let me send a big hug to the whole community. We will continue serving from our new roles, from our new positions. And of course, we will continue having the same commitment to grow as a region and to

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have a greater impact in the global agenda, which is the agenda that we want to work on and show around the globe, and especially in our region.

So once again, let me thank you for this opportunity to serve you from a regional space with a global purpose. Thank you, Maureen, for giving me the floor. And we will continue to work together. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Awesome. That is awesome. Thank you so much, Harold. And very well said, on behalf of your region as well. I do appreciate the great support that you gave Sergio and the rest of your LACRALO leadership team during your time as a secretary. But better things to come, I suspect.

If we have some extra time, I will give time to the delegates who were departing. I'm so sorry. We just have to make sure that we fit in, during this very tight hour that we have for this particular session which was so important we wanted to give some time for it anyway. But can I have the next slide, please?

This is it. I'm looking at it. Okay, this is welcoming our new leaders. And of course, we have four new leaders in our ALAC with Raymond, Naveed, Carlos, Laura, and me in the At-Large Advisory Committee.

I put on Nominating Committee after them because, as I mentioned before—Oh, I just noticed that I made a spelling mistake Ali's name. The nominating committee is actually appointed by the ALAC, so that's why they're associated there.

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And then, of course, we have our regional leaders who actually now join the At-Large Leadership Team, the ALT+. We've got Augusto and Claire from LACRALO. And we also have Sergio and Harold—who I had missed off, very unfortunately—who are the elected positions as the vice president and the secretary. So they will join that group as well.

And then we also have a new working group leader, Natalia Filina, who is going to be co-chairing the Outreach and Engagement group. And I think when I made that suggestion to the ALAC members, it was really inspired by the great co-leadership of the CPWG. It made sense that there was a shared role within the Outreach and Engagement because there are two distinct areas there—the outreach and the capacity building and engagement work—that are involved.

So we're going to be sharing those roles so that it isn't so onerous all on one person. And I think that Daniel and Natalia will work really, really well together and complement a lot of each other's skills.

I'm sure we'd all like to, if they're here ... And of course I can appreciate that this is a difficult time for people to come along to every single session. I would like to see them at every single session, especially our sessions, but I know that it isn't always possible. But if they are here, I would like to have a couple of minutes just to introduce yourself to the rest of the team and let us know what your interests are with regards to At-Large and how you think you can contribute.

So first of all, I know Raymond's here. Raymond, can we hear from you first?

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RAYMOND MAMATTAH: Hello. Good evening. Greetings from Accra, Ghana. I'm delighted to be a part of the ALAC, and I'm hoping to contribute to having a very fruitful tenure during our stay in office. I'm hoping to contribute in various ways, especially with Outreach and Engagement, and also learn more about policy development issues. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you so much, Raymond. I've just been warned that we've only got a few minutes left. [Inaudible] for a little bit longer. Is Naveed here?

RAO NAVEED BIN RAIS: Yeah, I'm here. Can you hear me?

MAUREEN HILYARD: We can.

RAO NAVEED BIN RAIS: Okay. I'm really excited to be on this. Maybe I have come to the ICANN world through the Fellowship Program around six or seven years ago, and I've always been attracted by the work and the [inaudible] that you get by being an ALAC member. And I'm glad I'm here.

I have a technical background. Basically I'm a professor of computer engineering with specialization of networks and distributed systems. But I've been in a lot of different capacities in the past like presided the ISOC chapter and I have been to IETF and many other forums. And I've

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been in ICANN, affiliated with [NCUC] for some time. And then with RSSAC as well because of my technical background. So I look forward to working with the everyone. Most of the people I know and I look forward to meeting everyone at some point in time, I guess.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you.

RAO NAVEED BIN RAIS: Thank you very much.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Naveed. Sorry, Carlos and Laura. Just very, very briefly if you don't mind, but I would like to get a hello at least from both of you. Carlos.

CARLOS AGUIRRE: Thank you, Maureen. I hope you can hear me fine. I'm in Córdoba in Argentina, in the center of the country. It is a great pleasure for me to be here and in my third period as an ALAC member. Since 2006 I've been a founder of this RALO, and I've also been a member of the GNSO. So I do have some experience in these issues in spite of the face that I've been working in the region only in the past nine years. But them I'm going back to ALAC right now and I hope to give everything from me and to take a lot as well.

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I've been teaching at the university for the past 17 years. I teach Internet Governance there, so I actually need some more material to give to my students. I have also been working in many working groups within ALAC. I've been the liaison with the NCSG. I've also led Participation and Engagement and some other working groups where I've collected a significant amount of experience. And I hope to do this now as well.

So thank you very much for this opportunity, and let me say that this is associated to the work from Sergio, from Harold, from Sylvia in the region. They are the outgoing members, and they have set a very high bar to substitute them. So it's a pleasure for me, and I am here to be at your disposal. Thank you.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you, Carlos. And it's so great to see that we're actually drawing people back into At-Large. And that GNSO background is certainly going to be of value to us in the CPWG, I'm sure.

And of course next we've got Laura. And of course, Laura, although she's brand-new, she too comes with some experience already, especially within the ... Oh, she'll tell you herself. Anyway, let me just introduce you to Laura. Please.

LAURA MARGOLIS:

Well, thank you very much, Maureen. Happy to see you all. Well, for those who don't know me, my name is Laura Margolis and I am from Uruguay. I'm sorry. I will turn my camera off because my connection is not so good.

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I'm delighted being here, sharing this presentation. And I am willing to collaborate in this space and in other projects that are going to be done and are being done.

As Maureen said, until this meeting, I was a ccNSO councilor for three years, also elected from the NomCom. So I know the effort that it means to interact and participate in these spaces. So you will count on me in anything I can help. And I'm willing to start working with this great team. Thank you very much. Also, Maureen, for your very warm welcome and also to the staff. And I give you the floor back. And thank you once again.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you, Laura. Really looking forward to working with this new team—as well as the old team, of course. But it's really good to the fresh faces and to hear that you come with a range of skills and experience that's going to be really valuable to us on the ALAC.

I'd really like to now skip to the new regional leaders who ... I mean, when we look at it, the regions are where the real work takes place as well because from the regions, we get our members that participate in our working groups. The CPWG is very important with regard to policy.

And I know that people like Carlos and Laura coming in from other sections of the ICANN community will bring a wealth of knowledge with regard to the positions of other communities within ICANN which will be of value to us. So these leaders of the regions that we have here are going to be very, very important to us.

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But I would really like to hear from Augusto and Claire as new leaders—well, Claire’s been with us a little while—to hear from them to introduce yourselves to the rest of our community. Augusto first.

AUGUSTO HO: Thank you very much.

INTERPRETER: There’s an audio problem with Augusto.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Okay. Will staff fix that up for us, please? Perhaps while we're waiting, then, can we speak to Claire? Is Claire here? Yes, she is.

CLAIRE CRAIG: Hello. Good after, good morning, good evening, wherever you are. This is a surprise. I didn't expect to be speaking today, but thanks for giving me the opportunity to address you all, Maureen. I am fairly new to ICANN. I started as a Fellow. First ICANN meeting was in Denmark. So I’m going to be hitting the floor running because I did not have the opportunity to be the assistant secretary ... Because the assistant secretary of LACRALO actually left and I was asked to come in earlier this year. So it's just a couple of months that I have been shadowing Harold who has been really, really very good.

So I am looking forward to this opportunity. I am hoping to bring a Caribbean perspective to the whole area of policy development and to

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see how some of the things that we do and some of the experiences that we have, how it lines up with some of the policy implications for ICANN across the globe. So I am looking forward to working with a team, to working with Augusto and the rest of the ALAC members.

And I'm seeing Glenn in the background there who's been in my corner from day one. Looking forward to working with you too, Glenn. So thank you all very much.

MAUREEN HILYARD:

Thank you, Claire. And lovely to meet you. It's nice to see in a new face from the Caribbean. So that's really great.

Okay. So have we got Augusto back, Devan?

AUGUSTO HO:

Yes. Here I am. Sorry for the signal. I know that this has been a hard time for all, but also for me it's been a huge challenge to take over the responsibility of this position, especially because I never had the chance to meet you face to face, all of you. But I'm happy to have an experienced and committed team with good ideas to keep promoting the region.

On my side, the experience I had by leading and chairing other groups and professional associations, in similar areas I will invest that experience to serve the community and in the [reliance] that we will work hand in hand. Thank you so much.

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MAUREEN HILYARD: Thank you, Augusto. And we're really looking forward to working with you as well. We've got a few minutes and—

DEVAN REED: Maureen.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Yes?

DEVAN REED: I'm so sorry, but we are 10 minutes over. So we're going to have to end so the interpreters can take a break.

MAUREEN HILYARD: Oh, sorry. Okay, all right. I thought this was going to be an hour. Sorry, people. It looks like we're going to have a little break and then we'll be moving to the wrap-up. Okay?

My apologies. I thought this was a longer session than it is. But great to see so many participants here. Thank you very much. I'll see you in about 20 minutes in the wrap-up session. Bye.

DEVAN REED: Thank you all for joining us. You can go ahead and remain in the room if you had like while the Transition .This will be the same Zoom link we use for the next session. Go ahead and stop the recording.

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