
ICANN85 Mumbai | CF – At-Large Leadership Welcome Session
Saturday, March 7, 2026 – 09:00 to 10:00 IST

MICHELLE DESMYTER

Hello and welcome, everyone, to the At-Large Leadership Welcome Session to ICANN85. My name is Michelle DeSmyter, and I am the Remote Participation Manager for today's session. Please note that this session is being recorded and governed by the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior and ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy. During this session, questions or comments will only be read aloud as submitted within the Q&A pod.

Interpretation for today's session will include English, French, and Spanish. If you'd like to speak during the session, please raise your hand in Zoom. When called upon, virtual participants will be given permission to unmute in Zoom. On-site participants will use a physical microphone to speak. Please state your name for the record, the language you will speak, if speaking a language other than English, and please speak at a reasonable pace. And with this, I will now hand the floor back over to Jonathan Zuck, ALAC Chair. Please begin.

JONATHAN ZUCK

Good morning, and thanks, everyone, for coming to the launch meeting here of ICANN85 in Mumbai. Excited to be back in India, always have a good time here. And we're closing in on the Next

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Round of gTLDs, and so I think discussions around that are going to heat up a little bit, and that's just weeks away. So, a lot of the discussions we're having around applicant support, around our objection process, etcetera, are going to really start to take on new relevance as we move forward.

I want to give the microphone to Leon, but before I do, I guess I'd like to ask everybody to take a moment right now to unwrap your headphones, plug them into the box, choose your language channel, so that we're not having to do that this moment somebody needs to speak a language other than English. Okay, with that, I would welcome our, I don't know, our sort of outgoing Board member, Leon Sanchez.

LEON SANCHEZ

Thank you, Jonathan. Not just yet, not just yet. I still have some work to do ahead of me, but yes. So, it's good that you have set up your headsets, so I will switch to Spanish as usual to try to take advantage of our wonderful interpretation services.

So, firstly, I'd like to thank you for welcoming me here once again. This has always felt like home for me, and as Jonathan said, my term is coming to an end on the Board, and I will likely be back with you, back home with you, as it were.

Now, you know that before the public meetings, the Board holds a workshop, and that serves to make progress on the issues that we're working on. We held a workshop in January, and took place

in Singapore. So, we spent time with the local community, with the staff from the Singapore office, and we looked over a number of different topics, and I'm sure you know all about that.

Some resolutions were adopted, and that's no exception. I mean, this meeting, again, has a very busy agenda. The Board and the community always have a lot of work to do, of course. And today, we're looking at the yearly strategy for ICANN. I'm actually going to have to leave at some point, because we have a meeting about this. We're revising the annual strategy, seeing if we have to make any adjustments, how we can make headway, and so on.

We're also going to have some meetings about updates on the 2026 round, the New gTLDs, and as Jonathan was saying, it is fast approaching. So, we've got some updates on that. We're also going to have some updates from the staff relating to the different events on Internet Governance. I mean, we know there's lots of geopolitical challenges at the moment.

There were events recently that, well, it might not seem like they impact Internet Governance, but when it comes to infrastructure and policies and governance, well, I mean, these events do impact those issues. We're also going to have updates on the RIRs, the current situation of each of them, and also updates on the Review of Reviews group.

One of the co-chairs is by my side here. So, we're going to see how things are going on that front, and one of the Board representatives in that group is me. So, not just as a liaison, but actually as a fully-

fledged member. So, we're working hard to make progress on that. There's also going to be updates in terms of financial issues, and also our preparation for the public meeting.

Well, we're going to have two Board meetings in the public ICANN meeting, and we're going to adopt different resolutions relating to different issues. So, seeing how we can reform the charters, for instance, of the different groups that make up the GNSO, and a number of other issues, for instance, relating to NomCom, the New gTLD program, the registry agreement. There are a number of different resolutions that are going to be discussed, and that will likely be adopted by the Board. So, these are the activities that we have on our plate.

We're also going to have a number of bilateral meetings with the community, which is, of course, something we always do, and we will, of course, be open to interacting with you. I want to take this opportunity, and I know that Jonathan will make the official announcement, perhaps I'm getting ahead of myself here, but I did want to take this opportunity to congratulate Justine on her election to take up seat 15 on the Board, and I want to say on behalf of At-Large, and of course, I know that she's going to work for the benefit of the full organization, but let's not forget about the spirit and the values of the At-Large community.

I'd also like to congratulate the other candidates who put their bids forward. When the list of finalists was published, I knew that both At-Large and the Board had won, because we were lucky enough to

have a number of excellent candidates in terms of capacity as regional representatives, diversity in terms of gender.

I think it was a very well-rounded list, people with great expertise, fully committed to the community and ICANN's mission. So, unfortunately, we've only got one seat on the Board, but it is, of course, a great pleasure that it is Justine who was selected to take up that seat that I currently hold. So, again, I just want to thank you all for all the support that you have provided over my term, the guidance, the wisdom that you have shared with me, which has allowed me to carry out some good work on the Board.

Now, I'm not saying goodbye just yet. A lot of work remains here until before October, so I hope to continue our fruitful cooperation and to continue working with you after I've finished my term on the Board. Thank you.

JONATHAN ZUCK

Thanks, Leon. And yes, next on the agenda is the announcement of the seat 15 Board selection. So, thanks, everyone. Thanks for participating. I really want to thank all the candidates that put their name up, and I thought we had a great Meet the Candidate call and that every one of them would have made a great member of the Board, including Maureen and Lito, Sébastien, et cetera, that all submitted their names for the Board.

But we're excited to have Justine enter the Board. We're saddened to have her leave our day-to-day activities as well because she's

done a stellar job in her role as GNSO liaison and others, and those would be very difficult shoes to fill, which is why we've got an expression of interest out to shadow her between now and the AGM so that somebody gets a sense of what that job actually entails. So, please respond to that if you didn't see the email. And congratulations, Justine.

All right. So, this next session is sort of the aims and objectives of the At-Large sessions here at ICANN, of which there are a few. I think what I would do is go around, rather than trying to poorly summarize the objectives of each of these myself, go around to the owners of them to talk a little bit about what's going to go on in that session and why you should be there, et cetera.

So, given the very next one is the Consolidated Policy Working Group, it's Consolidated Party Working Group. Avri, is that what you're doing? It says party in the agenda. That's why it was funny. So, Avri, I'm going to hand the microphone to you to tell us a little bit about our next meeting.

AVRI DORIA

Thank you. Avri speaking. So we have, first of all, one of our co-chairs is an online participant taking advantage of the hybrid nature of our meeting. So, I really hope that works. I'm hoping that Olivier is online so he too can add a couple words about what we're doing in CPWG. In the CPWG meeting, the Consolidated Party Working Group meeting itself, don't use that.

JONATHAN ZUCK

You said party.

AVRI DORIA

Party? Parties are cool.

JONATHAN ZUCK

Consolidated Policy Working Group.

AVRI DORIA

Party. I liked party. Don't use that. Don't use that. Okay, I will behave.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER

Don't use that.

AVRI DORIA

I will behave. In the Consolidated, never mind, CPWG. And now my brain is automatically stuck on the wrong one. Happens to me. So, anyway, in our normal meeting, we'll be going through some of our normal process and that meeting is largely not only to get some of the work done but to introduce anyone that's new to Consolidated Policy to see how it works and what it looks like and the routine we go through in terms of first following all of the policy development processes, Working Groups that go on, then looking at the IRTs, the

independent review teams, and then looking at some of the comments that have to go in.

So, we go through all of those things. So, we're going through a few this time, but we're also going to take some time and really focus on one of the PDPs that is just starting up having to do with DNS Abuse mitigation and the PDP-1 coming out of the GNSO that's just starting up that Justine has been educating us on for a little bit now and probably will continue for a while that there's a team with Eunice and others who will be talking about that and we may need to talk a little bit about what it means to have a team participating in a PDP, but we'll see how that goes when we're at the meeting. So that's pretty much what we'll be doing in Consolidated Policy Working Group.

Finally, I'm saying it now as often as I can to make sure that my brain gets re-triggered to what CPWG means. The Review of Reviews, I think it's a topic of its own within this and it's not a CPWG thing, it's an OFB thing. So, that's why I didn't bring it up.

JONATHAN ZUCK

Okay. Next, just chronologically, not in order of importance or anything, is the session we have after that is on the Art of Productive Meetings. So, Claire, if you're online, perhaps you can tell us a little bit about that.

CLAIRE CRAIG

Sure. Hello, everyone. This is Claire Craig for the record. This afternoon, well, yes, this afternoon your time, Natalie and I will be conducting a session called the Art of Productive Meetings. It's something that we would have done at the last meeting. It's one of the ALAC and At-Large development sessions and it's open to everyone.

The interesting thing about this session is that persons will be grouped by language so that they can work in the language of their choice. So, we will have three groups, English, Spanish and French, and each of the groups will be facilitated by someone who speaks that particular language and we would have some hands-on exercises so that at the end of the day, you would be aware of what is required, not only to be able to chair a meeting effectively, but also how to participate effectively in meetings, in upcoming meetings. So, we hope to see everyone there. Thank you very much.

JONATHAN ZUCK

Thank you, Claire. And after that we'll be having our meeting with the fellows, which we've done with some frequency at ICANN meetings. So, they'll be coming and joining us and hopefully learning a little bit about what we do in At-Large because it has been a good synergy, I think, between the fellows and the At-Large community.

It's a good first home for fellows unless they have a specific objective to be a trademark attorney or something like that. So,

that should be a fun meeting as well. I don't think there's more to cover than that. We're going to just talk about, Claire is going to talk about her experience of being a fellow to, you know, making your way through the ALAC and we have others on the ALAC with that perspective that we can share with them as well. And after that there's a reception with the fellows here to end our day.

Then starting tomorrow, we have our ALAC open house in the morning. This is the session that we've started doing whenever anybody says we need 10 minutes, right? So, we used to end up putting them in our closing session or something like that and boxing out our own schedule. So, now we do this open house and invite them here.

And so, we have a number of interesting people to discuss IETF, multi-stakeholder governance, some research by Jan Schulte, an update on the Universal Acceptance draft recommendations, and an update from the Finance and Planning Committee. So, those are some of the things that are being covered that we invited to that open house. So, hope to see you all there. Next then tomorrow is the OFB working group meeting and for that I will go back to either Bukola or Claire. Who would like to speak?

CLAIRE CRAIG

I'll speak. Is Bukola on? If she is -- At that session tomorrow, we just want to remind everyone that item three is the Annual Strategy Review and Leon just spoke about that, that the Board is having their session today. We are also having our session tomorrow and

everyone in the OFB mailing list should have received the pre-read documents.

I am told that they would have been sent out to the mailing list. We are trying to get them linked to this session as well as also on Shed so that you can have access to that. So, please read it. We are asking all the RALOs Chairs to also attend this meeting as well as all ALAC members.

This is a really very important session as it would help us, as Leon said, to determine if there are any changes that are required to the ICANN strategy. We also would like to invite you to attend because there's also this session on our strategic priorities, how are we doing with respect to that and we will also be talking about our At-Large capacity building initiatives.

So, looking forward to seeing you all there. Again, this is an open session, so open to the At-Large community as well as others who would like to be there. Thank you.

JONATHAN ZUCK

Thanks, Claire. After that, we'll be having our meeting with the SSAC, some new initiatives coming from them. We'll see what their teams are working on. They've got DNSSEC for end users. We'll be talking about our own progress on our safe cyber campaign that includes a phishing course that's now out in pilot form for people to start trying to use it to teach with until we roll it out in a wider version.

So, that'll be our SSAC meeting. Then after that is a meeting with the ALAC and the ASO where I think we will be primarily learning about the ASO's work and RIR governance, et cetera. So, this is more of their show and us, you know, being educated, more educated about what they do.

Finally, in the afternoon is the At-Large session on the Review of Reviews, and for that I will pass the microphone to Avri.

AVRI DORIA

Thank you. Avri speaking again. So, yes, there will be many meetings not for At-Large ALAC but there will be many, many meetings at this meeting on the Review of Reviews. One of those is the one that we're having with ALAC and one of the things I wanted to say about it is that first of all, I apologize for all the other At-Large ALAC meetings I will miss because I will be doing Review of Review meetings even though it's ALAC that brought me to this party. I mean dance. So, but I will be there.

But anyhow, this meeting, we have many meetings that have been explaining where we are. Many meetings that sort of explain the problems as we've encountered them. One of the things that I feel I am lacking and I believe my partner in this, Jonathan, may also feel is that we don't know what you all think about all these things. We can guess. We can surmise. We can come up with an assumption that, you know, if I were an ALAC person from such and

such a country, then I might think this about what reviews, but we don't know.

So, what I'm asking everyone to do is there's very little to read. There's a table. There're a couple pages of notes. It's very light reading. We did not want to overburden people with reading, but instead of us explaining it once again, as I think I've explained it enough times for those of you that listened to be bored, but please, come with your opinions.

Come ready to be disagreeable. Come ready to sort of say what ought to be in a review. You know, there's some of you that do that quite adequately almost all the time, but most of you I've never heard of. I've never heard from in terms of what you think of reviews, what you think of the pattern we're coming up, what you think of the set of questions we've got.

And if you have any confusions about what it is we're doing or why or that, talk to me or Jonathan before, and Jonathan, I know you're a busy chair, but I volunteer your time as well, and talk to us after, but please use this meeting to tell us what you think about it all, and if you think it's totally brain dead, say so, and if you think it's a really good idea and we should do more of it, say so, but please, thanks.

JONATHAN ZUCK

Yeah, and if you just have no idea what reviews are or why we do them, et cetera, talk to us about that as well. There's a history to

them, and there's a reason that they sort of came into our lives at the behest of the Department of Commerce many years ago, and then were incorporated into the bylaws as part of the IANA transition, and so this is an attempt to be a fresh look at this process, to see what was working, what wasn't working, what could be done, you know, going forward where the priority should be.

ICANN does a lot of what we call navel-gazing sometimes, and it can get obsessive and time-consuming, and, you know, trying to figure out what the right amount of that is a challenge, and more is more when it comes to input and ideas on that, so we look forward to hearing from you. Okay, then I think the best next one to mention is the AFRALO-AfrICANN think tank session, so maybe tell us a little bit about that.

HADIA ELMINIAWI

Okay, so first off, I invite everyone to come to this session, and so we have evolved AFRALO-AfrICANN session to become more of a, like, think tank and a research-based session, so it's a research-based session, and so what we're doing this time, we are having two AFRALO fellows and one AFRALO member.

They looked at our past statements, and they picked three topics, and each one of them will be summarizing how AFRALO's position has evolved over time, and with respect to this specific topic, and they will also be looking at what's coming next, and how this topic, like, can, its path in the future, yeah, so yeah, please come, and this

is an experiment. Let's see how it goes. Let's see what the outcome of the session will be, and maybe we get some, like, beneficial results from it. Thank you.

JONATHAN ZUCK

Thanks, Hadia. I'll be there and encourage everyone to participate in that think tank experiment. Next meeting is the ALAC and the GAC, which we try to have bilateral with the GAC whenever possible, because we have so much alignment with them on a variety of issues.

This particular meeting, we'll be looking at the Latin Script Diacritics, DNS Abuse, and then also sort of looking forward on Internet Governance and the aftermath of WSIS+20 are sort of the three topics for the meeting with the GAC. Then next is our plenary on progressing the DNS Abuse mitigation agenda, and for that, can I ask you or to ask Steinar?

JUSTINE CHEW

Okay, Steinar is asking me to speak to this. All right; this is Justine. The session that we are talking about is on Tuesday, I want to say. Yeah, Tuesday, yes, okay, Tuesday, the second session of the day. This is the follow-up to something that we started in Prague last year, I think, ICANN83, and it is this time around we're going to be looking at three things, trying to cram three things into 90 minutes.

It's going to be a challenge. We're always short of time, but the first thing we're going to look at is because by Tuesday, we would have

had gone through the first four PDP1 sessions on associated domain checks, so we're going to try and get the temperature of the room from a few of the panelists that we've invited, and some of these panelists are going to be the members who are participating in that PDP.

At-Large, we have Steinar and Kathleen as our panelists, and it's just to see if there's any kind of like teething issues that we might want to be aware of, or what are the expectations of the members after having sat through four PDP sessions, what are the expectations going forward, what do they want to see being achieved out of that PDP.

The second thing that we're looking at is the issue of domain generation algorithms abuse through that particular channel, and we're going to have a presentation from one of the Public Safety Working Group members, Janos, to tell us about this framework that exists for that particular issue, and then we're going to have a discussion on how to take that forward within the community, because there's still question marks as to whether that particular issue should go through a PDP process to come up with policy, all right.

And the third one is just to again put the, onto the agenda, what are the next abuse gaps that the community thinks should be prioritized and taken forward. We've identified three so far, our GNSO Council has identified three so far, two of them, the

associated domain name checks, as well as the unrestricted access to API for bulk registrations.

That one is PDP2, the second one I mentioned is going to be PDP2, so it's going to be kind of back-to-back with the PDP1, and the third one is this thing about the DGAs, the Domain Generation Algorithms, but as I said, it's a question mark as to whether that's going to go through a PDP process. But other than that, there are also like over 30 other gaps that have been identified by the community through an iterative process, so we want to go back and have a look at those lists and see what the community thinks about which of those should be prioritized next, as in the fourth, the fifth, the sixth, and so forth.

JONATHAN ZUCK

Thank you. Also on Tuesday is the regional leaders meeting. I don't know whether or not, Amrita, if you want to speak to that, if there's a reason other people outside of regional leadership show up because of a conversation. I know one of the conversations that's kind of ongoing is between how ALAC and RALOs should cooperate. I don't see that on the agenda, but if there's something you think we should be aware of, I give you this opportunity.

AMRITA CHOUDHURY

Thank you, Jonathan. Amrita, for the record. This meeting would be interesting for, I think, the entire ALAC, not only the RALOs, primarily because the GAC plans to have an upgraded way of

supporting in outreach and engagement, so that would be interesting, and that would also help to tie in between what the RALOs are doing, what At-Large/ALAC can support, as well as the coordination now and in the next financial year. So, I think those bridges need to be made, and if the ALAC members also are there in the room, I think that would be good.

JONATHAN ZUCK

Thank you. Okay, and then next on Wednesday is the ICANN Board meeting with the ALAC. We'll be talking about Strategic Plan. We'll be talking about Review of Reviews and sort of what their expectations are and ours are out of that process, and then also some questions about how the Board, when it accepts recommendations, either through policy development or reviews, and later wants to roll them back, what is that process going to look like, and how will it be done in such a way that it doesn't undermine the multi-stakeholder model that we're trying to preserve.

So that's going to be a topic of discussion, for sure, with the Board. And then there's a session on At-Large preparations for the Next Round, and I see Amrita's name next to that as well. Do you want to talk?

AMRITA CHOUDHURY

Thanks, Jonathan. This is going to be more of an educational session because of the way things are developing, but it is primarily on the ALAC's Next Round procedure for filing comments and

objections. There will be a discussion on the timelines, what the objection procedure is to be.

Hannah is going to speak, Dave is going to speak, then what the discussion guidelines for reviewing applications are, how to participate, which Alan is going to speak, and then people can discuss questions and Hannah will be sharing what the next steps are. I think from ALAC's perspective, this is an important one, especially when the new round is going to happen. There would be objections also coming. Thank you.

JONATHAN ZUCK

Okay, excellent. Thank you. And then finally, a joint meeting with ALAC and OCTO. Natalie, did you want to talk a little bit about? Okay, I have you on your name popped up here. Do you want to talk about it a little bit, Justine? I don't like that look on your face, Natalie.

JUSTINE CHEW

Nati, do you want to take this?

NATALIE TERCOVA

I did not expect this, so if you are willing to, I guess that's more comfortable. Thank you.

JUSTINE CHEW

Okay. Well, Ms. Nati, or Dr. Nati is supposed to moderate this, actually. But anyway, it's part two, I guess, of this conversation that

we're having with OCTO, in particular the Security, Stability and Research Department of OCTO, the Office of the Chief of Technology. And we had a webinar, I want to say two weeks ago, to just recap on what they presented in terms of what their aims are, what they are looking at currently in aid of DNS Abuse mitigation, and they talked to us about some of the tools and some of the research that they were doing.

So, this session on Wednesday is going to be part two, so following on of what they elaborated on before two weeks ago. So, if you have an interest in what ICANN, in particular the research side of things, under OCTO is doing to help with the DNS Abuse mitigation agenda, then please come and join us in that session. Thanks.

JONATHAN ZUCK

Thank you, Natalie and Justine. That should be a very interesting session, so I hope to see you all there. The final session for us is our wrap-up session, and I don't know if it's the right time to bring it up, but I'll bring it up. What I hope to have happen, and this goes for the ALAC call and for this wrap-up session, is for people to bring to our attention things that they saw or heard over the course of the meeting that they think the At-Large community should pay attention to.

In other words, we don't really need a summary of what everyone else at ICANN is up to, it's more like I heard this and immediately

thought, wow, the At-Large community should be paying attention to this discussion that took place during the meeting.

And so when we talk about session reports, we're not going to write them up anymore, but instead what I'm hoping is that as you attend meetings around the ICANN meeting, that you'll raise the alarm, you'll raise the issue if something has come up that we ought to be thinking about intervening into writing about, et cetera, that's the purpose of the wrap-up session, all right?

So I'm just putting that out there generally, that I'm hoping that as you attend sessions, you just have an ear open toward what should be escalated, for lack of a better term. And that is all of the meetings of, okay, your head moved in awfully fast, like no it's not, of the At-Large organized sessions. And so, with that, we're going to talk a little bit about our own messaging for this meeting. And for that, I'm going to hand the microphone to Avri.

AVRI DORIA

Thank you. I like this notion of wow reports, sort of report on anything that made you go wow. So, this, and I bring that up not just because it was a spurious comment, but because that's a lot what the At-Large messaging points are. It's sort of not only the reporting back on anything that made you go wow, but it's also the responses and the how we should be treating those topics when they come up.

Now some of these have already been spoke about, and we're certainly not going to divide into them in any depth in the next 18 minutes, or actually I probably don't have the full 18 minutes, but some of that. But also, on none of these am I the expert. I'm kind of like, you know, I dabble and all. In each one of those though, there's somebody here in this room or online that is the expert that should be leading these discussions.

And my notion about being the leader or being the expert is you should be willing to talk about it any time. Any time it comes up, you should have something to say. You should have something to say either about what's disturbing or what's good or what have you, what you really like.

So, let me go through the topics. You know, the Internationalized Domain Names and Universal Acceptance. This is something that, you know, At-Large and ALAC has been talking about forever, has been, I'm starting to speed up, has been pushing on forever. We made a comment not all that long ago about, gee, what's happening? Is the New gTLD paying enough attention to it? Are we putting enough requirements on registries and registrars and ICANN to support all this stuff?

So there's a lot of discussion going on. There's a lot. What are our message points? What are the points that at this meeting are saying, gee, this is really critical to us? Or counter-wise, what are we beginning to hear that's troubling, that's concerning, that says, you know, in terms of supporting the, you know, the end user,

there's something to be said here. There's something to be done. Anybody have something to add? Any experts on IDN and Universal Acceptance that want to talk about what it is we should be talking about? No. I guess there's nothing to worry about then. Yes, Hadia.

HADIA ELMINIAMI

Okay, thank you. So, basically, I think what we need to be talking about now is adoption. So, we've been doing a lot of awareness and now it's time to focus more on adoption. And I would also mention here Universal Acceptance Day, which is, and I know many of At-Large RALOs have their proposals approved and they're going to have their own day. And I also think that this time they are focusing on adoption.

So, although we have less sessions or accepted proposals than before, but because most of them are focusing on adoption, it needs more time and more people. And one other thing also, I would say that AFRALO is having a Regional Universal Acceptance Day as well. And we will be focusing on showcasing adoption cases from the Africa region.

We also have the Global Stakeholder Engagement Team is going to help AFRALO members whose webpages are based on WordPress to become UA ready. We are also going to highlight the adoption of Universal Acceptance in curriculums of universities. And we are also going to showcase some of the work that UNESCO has been doing in partnership with ICANN.

AVRI DORIA

Justine, were you putting your flag up and down because you wanted to say something or someone else? Oh, okay. Sorry, I didn't see that. Please go ahead.

SATISH BABU

Thanks, everybody. Satish for the record. So, apart from the UA Day, which is our annual kind of work, we also have the draft guidelines up for Public Comment. So, ICANN had actually put together an Expert Working Group late last year to figure out what next to do with Universal Acceptance. And that working group has put out its recommendations in the form of a draft report. And currently, we have constituted a Small Team which is looking into it, which will come out with recommendations. Thank you.

AVRI DORIA

Okay, thank you. Talk to these folks. Did I have any? Oh, yes, please.

SANDRA RODRÍGUEZ

Thank you, Avri. Sandra Rodríguez for the record. I'm going to speak in Spanish. When it comes to UA Day, I'd like to highlight how important it is for our region. There are 13 events in Latin America. In the El Salvador event, which or last week, we held a meeting with members of UNESCO. And we're particularly pleased that UNESCO is on board with holding the UA Day 2026 in El Salvador.

Alongside Lito Ibarra, we're working on this for the 15th of April. And as Hadia said, there have been technical discussions. And we've also had the presence of some colleagues from Brazil, Daniel Fink. And as Satish was mentioning, there's an expert group that is working. But there doesn't seem to be quite a good level of inclusion of technical experts or inclusion of academia. If there's no training, then we can't move towards adoption.

So, in Mexico, there's work that's being carried out. And I'm working in El Salvador with universities on national curricula for Universal Acceptance.

AVRI DORIA

I've got Claire. And then I've got Justine. And then I'll probably move on to the next topic. So, Claire, please.

CLAIRE CRAIG

Thanks, Avri. This is Claire Craig for the record. I just want to make a plug for the OFB session on tomorrow, primarily because of that ICANN Strategic Review that is taking place. This is because on Wednesday morning, one of the questions that has to be answered with the Board, from the Board, is from our perspective, that's the ALAC's perspective, what is the top emerging trend that may impact ICANN that you think the Board should consider?

So, we do have some notes from the last meeting that we had. But we believe that at the meeting tomorrow, other information may surface. And if so, that could guide the conversation with the

Board. So, it's really very important for persons to attend that meeting tomorrow and share there and participate in this exercise. Thank you so much.

AVRI DORIA

Thank you, Claire. Justine?

JUSTINE CHEW

Thanks, Avri. This is Justine. So, it's interesting to listen to all these perspectives that are coming up from AFRALO and LACRALO in particular. But I would like to encourage you to not just speak at this arena. If you have concerns, please raise them tomorrow at the ALAC open house. Edmon is going to be there to talk about this particular set of policy recommendations that have gone up for Public Comment. And those of you who are already looking at those recommendations, please don't keep them to yourself.

Bring them to CPWG and we can discuss them because we can also put in a statement, a Public Comment statement to this particular set of policy recommendations. In addition, Claire also correctly pointed out that wherever we can raise this as an issue of importance, we should try and do that. So, the ALAC opportunities to raise it via the strategic review of ICANN priorities is also an important arena. Thank you.

AVRI DORIA

Thank you. I'm going to move on to the next topic. I don't know that there's much to be said there because there already was a

good introduction with the introduction to the session. Though something I want to add about that one that I go, oh, wow, is this one is taking human rights impact assessments seriously.

This is something that's really quite new for us. Some of us that have been yelling about, you know, human rights impact assessments for over 20 years find this extremely exciting, almost as exciting as the work in UA for those that have been fighting for that for decades.

So, I just wanted to bring up that that's something. I don't know if anybody else had anything they wanted to add before I move to New gTLD Next Round. We only have less, you know, about eight minutes for these topics. I really find that I entreat people to talk and then I don't have any time to let them talk. Not so good of me. But anyway. Huh?

JONATHAN ZUCK

Like Lucy with the football.

AVRI DORIA

I am not. Anyway. There's the New gTLD program Next Round. You know, we've had lots of discussions there about objections and what rights and abilities and capabilities At-Large and ALAC should have done that. I'm not sure that that was ever adequately resolved. But it's another one of those where we walk around saying, it's what is. So, you know, oh, it's what is. But anyhow,

there's a lot to talk about with the new gTLDs coming out, including the fact that some people question, are we rushing?

Anyway, there's Latin Diacritics PDP, which is winding its way. It's had comments. We like it. Interesting issues have come up that aren't really part of this PDP. But what about all the other languages that have diacritics that aren't variants that we haven't dealt with? Are these rules that are going to apply for all of them? Or will we have specific sets of diacritic rules for every language that comes up with diacritics?

I have no idea what the answer to that is. But that is a question I heard someone ask. And I went, wow, that's a cool question. Review of Reviews. I don't want to talk about that at the moment. But we're talking about it all week. You know, as I said, come speak your piece, please. Continuous Improvement Program Community Coordination Group.

Anybody have anything to say about that? I have nothing. It's important. You're all doing it in yourselves. I'm not participating in any of those because I'm kind of like this lone thing out there. And don't do that kind of improvement. No, I'm constantly trying to improve myself. But, you know, that's a big topic that's going on. We refer to it in Review of Reviews. But in Review of Reviews, we've made reviewing that off limits. Or not we. Those that gave us our limits made reviewing the CIP off limits. So, we talk about it around about. We're not reviewing it.

So, those of you that are involved in it, it's important. Strategic properties and operational planning. I got a hand up from Sébastien. Please, Sébastien. Do you have a microphone? And Cheryl online. Okay. Oh, Cheryl first, please.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR

Thank you very much, Avri. Hopefully my audio is okay in the room. Just on the Continuous Improvement Plan, within the OFB working group meeting this weekend, we will be taking a little dip into that space. So, that's another opportunity for people to bring their wow moments.

I'm not sure they're going to have many, but they can try. But we will be dipping in a little bit there. But an important thing for the ALAC to consider is that just like the last time we discussed this at an ICANN public meeting, it is more than time for every ALAC member to have availed themselves of the opportunity to have their name associated with at least one of the current Continuous Improvement Program objectives within the plan.

So, I'm pretty sure there's a few ALAC members who need to pick and choose this weekend and commit to a particular direction that they'll like to follow. Thank you.

AVRI DORIA

Thank you. Sébastien, please.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET

Sébastien Bachelet, I will speak in French. Thank you. Thank you to the interpreters. I wanted to make a connection between the two subject matters that you brought up. I was asking myself a question pertaining to the Review of Reviews to the CIP. I wonder if what we are doing on a Review of Reviews is not a CIP. We are talking about a program of Continuous Improvement, and we are looking at silos, at subgroups. But I wonder if the CIP is not already included in the Review of Reviews. Thank you. Thank you.

AVRI DORIA

Well, there certainly is a little bit of discussion about the ones that are going on and how it fits with the rest of the silos as you term them. But you're right. It itself is not being spoken of. But its relation to other things is indeed being spoken of. Anyway --

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET

Sorry, it's not the relationship, it's --

AVRI DORIA

Seems like a good discussion for --

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET

Review is -- continuous improvement program for the whole organization that we need to take into account. Sorry.

AVRI DORIA It is a redefinition that would be a lot of fun to play with, but it will probably confuse us all.

SÉBASTIEN BACHOLLET Sometimes I play, and it's fun.

AVRI DORIA Okay. Next thing is FY26 Strategic Priorities and Operational Planning. I don't know if Claire or any OFB type person wants to say anything about that. I have absolutely nothing to say about it. I see no one else. We are running out of time. Please, Claire.

CLAIRE CRAIG This is Claire again. Just to say that we are supposed to be looking at the ALAC Strategic Priorities, mapping where we are, and as we just said, we are going to be tying this back to the ALAC CIP. And we would need volunteers to put their names next to some of the items for commitment. So, we're looking forward to that. Thank you. Is that my audio--?

AVRI DORIA I think we were able to get the message that we should really come to OFB because you will be looking at that and you need more volunteers to do stuff. Okay. The last one is World Summit on Information Society, WSIS+20. We've already talked a little bit. I say WSIS+20 is gone, what's next? But I leave that topic alone and I've talked too long. So, I pass it back to Jonathan. Thank you.

JONATHAN ZUCK

And thank you, Avri. And everybody, please take a look at the talking points document. The Shepherds all made a point to put in the positions we've taken on each of those issues. And so that's something to familiarize yourself with on your flight here. And if not, then tonight when you're having trouble getting to sleep.

So please take a look at the talking points document and familiarize yourself with it for your hallway conversations. So, I'm going to close the meeting, but please stay seated for a couple seconds so that Gisella can give us some housekeeping and logistics information before you rush off to the break. All right.

So, with that, I call this opening session of the At-Large closed. Thank you, everyone. And stay seated for just a second. And Gisella, we hand the microphone to you.

GISELLA GRUBER

Thank you, Jonathan. This is Gisella. Can everyone hear me?

JONATHAN ZUCK

Yes.

GISELLA GRUBER

Excellent. Well, wishing everyone a very warm welcome to Mumbai. Although I'm not sitting there with you in person, I'm definitely with you in spirit and on the other side of the Zoom room.

I hope you've all settled in well with the wonderful hospitality that I do see in Mumbai.

As everyone is aware and mentioned during this session, we have a very busy week at the Community Forum here in Mumbai. So, just a few reminders for the week ahead that is keeping you from going to the coffee. I send a daily At-Large schedule update by email. So, please do let me know if you haven't received it. And although it does look very long, it has all the necessary links on that email. May it be for the main ICANN schedule or our At-Large wiki agenda pages.

Please do read that email that I send through or at least scan it. The Zoom rooms, just a reminder that they are only posted to the schedule 24 hours ahead of time. And for the sessions, please arrive on time, especially after the coffee breaks, as this is where we tend to meet many of the other ICANN community members and do networking.

Attendance is taken at the beginning of each session. And if you do have a conflicting schedule, please inform staff. So, either by going up to them or sending us a quick email. Reminder, as I couldn't see the table there, ALAC members and RALO leaders are encouraged to be seated at the main table. And if you're able to, please do log into Zoom.

So, after the sessions, a reminder about your tent cards, either take them with you, or please hand them back to staff in the room. We only have one copy per person for the meeting. And a few

important points to remind you of as well is that the food vending points are here on the third floor. And even better, the coffee break is just outside the room. And I believe the coffee is served all day long, not only here on the third floor, but also on the first and second floor.

So, many opportunities during sessions and if you don't have a meeting at any time, to be networking with people and to have a beverage. On Monday evening, we've got the welcome reception. This is hosted by a local host. And I believe dinner will be served. That is what we have on the schedule. And I'm just waiting to hear back whether this is a ticketed event, or whether you will just need your badge.

Again, I will keep everyone updated. Other than that, At-Large staff remains at your disposal for anything you may require during this week. And that is for all our remote participants and our in-person participants. And I would like to thank Susie Johnson for joining us this week to assist us on the ground with Heidi and Silvia and Ozan. And I would like to thank Yesim and Michelle for joining us remotely.

Fortunately, we've kept their joining times to hopefully bearable for them to be able to assist us with the remote participation. And as mentioned, I will be joining you from the beautiful city of Perth. I'm very sorry I'm not able to be with you, but I will see hopefully everyone in Seville. And with this, you may now go and have a

coffee. And the next session is in exactly 26 minutes back in this room. Thank you very much.

MICHELLE DESMYTER

Recording stopped. Thank you, everyone. Meeting adjourned. Bye, all.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]