ICANN84 | AGM – GAC Strategic Planning Discussion
Saturday, October 25, 2025 – 10:30 to 12:00 IST

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Welcome back, everyone. Please take your seats. We're about to start. Thank you.

JULIA CHARVOLEN   Perfect. Hello and welcome to the ICANN84 GAC strategic planning session on Saturday, 25 October at 10:30 local time. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Community Participation Code of Conduct, ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior and the ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy.

During this session, questions or comments will be read aloud if submitted in the proper form in the Zoom chat pod. Interpretation for this session will include all 6 UN languages and Portuguese. If you would like to speak during the session, please raise your hand in the Zoom room. Please state your name for the record and the language you will be speaking. When speaking a language other than English, and please speak at a reasonable pace to allow for accurate interpretation. I will now hand the floor over to the GAC Chair, Nico Caballero. Thank you, over to you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you very much, Julia. Welcome back. I hope you enjoyed your coffee or tea. So, as I said before, we'll be discussing the GAC Strategic Planning and hopefully endorsing it by the end of the week. We can do some wordsmithing, we can talk about details and nuances during this session, and also during other sessions we will be having during the week. Next slide, please, Gulten.

So, I'll give you some background on the efforts to actually develop a Strategic Plan. We'll also delve into the again, as I said before, the nuances of the development of the 25-26 annual plan, which again, I expect, excuse me, that we will be endorsing at the end of the week. And then a walkthrough of expected outcomes within the annual plan itself for 25-26.

Next slide, please, Gulten. And next. So, in terms of some background I can give you at this point, let me read this very quickly so that, and especially for the benefit of the new GAC representatives in the room and online, the whole idea of the GAC strategic building goes back to strategic planning. Sorry, my coffee's not working well this morning.

The whole idea started before, actually before the San Juan, the ICANN79 San Juan meeting. Let me read that part so that everybody, so that we're on the same page. Building on a process initiated in December 2023 by the GAC chair and vice chairs, considering the GAC plenary discussion during ICANN79 San Juan and several consultations of the GAC membership intercessionally, the GAC finalized and endorsed the four-year GAC Strategic Plan for

24-28 and the corresponding 24-25 GAC annual plan, which is what we're going to be dealing with today.

So, the GAC expects that these strategic and annual plans will serve to bolster the GAC's proactive stance in ICANN deliberations, increase the committee's readiness to provide timely and effective advice and policy input, excuse me, and to assist in communicating the GAC's priorities with higher levels of governments, new GAC members, and ICANN stakeholders, among other things, and we'll get into the details right away.

Next slide, please. So, for the, I'll give the floor to Fabien, who's going to walk us through the nuances of the thinking process, the tracking, revision, refinement, the planning, and the flow and the workflow, so to say. So, Fabien, the floor is yours.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX   Thank you, Nico. And we'll go fairly quickly through this as a reminder of how the committee approached developing a Strategic Plan and annual plans. And so, the high-level vision was fairly simple and straightforward. The GAC leadership and the committee looked at long-term vision, which would be the Strategic Objective over four years.

Those Strategic Objectives inform an annual plan, which is composed of expected outcomes annually, and those expected outcomes help structure the work and specific action items in the

GAC by topic leads, in Working Groups, or GAC members themselves as they proceed with the committee's activity.

And there is sort of the possibility of feedback loop, which has been occurring over the past year with the development of the new annual plan, the second annual plan, because the experience in the work and the progress has informed revision of expected outcomes for the upcoming year. And we've seen also some slight edits of Strategic Objectives, so that feedback loop is happening. And so, what you see here, as I mentioned, the long-term perspective is reflected in the GAC Strategic Plan 24-28.

And so, here is a visual and a link to the Strategic Plan, and so I'll share here a link as well for you in the chat if you'd like to go in the document. Sorry, I was trying to be prepared to share the links quicker. There we go. So, the Strategic Plan, as I mentioned, once the annual plan will be endorsed, there will be a slight edit to it, so we'll publish a revised version, but the essence of the objective hasn't changed.

On the next slide, this is to show you that the expected outcomes are what is reflected in the annual plan, and you see here that we had a 24-25 annual plan. We now have a 25-26 annual plan, and those are published on the GAC website as well. And the latest version that is for endorsement here during ICANN84 in the Dublin Communiqué is the proposed annual plan for 25-26.

I'll speak quickly to the process since ICANN83 for the committee to consider this new annual plan. You may recall that this had been

discussed before ICANN83. There were a number of refinements brought into the annual plan after ICANN83. The GAC leadership was involved in the refinement, the review and the refinement of the draft, which was shared with the GAC in September. We received input, incorporated input into the draft.

The GAC leadership reviewed and refined again that final draft, which was sent to the GAC for final review in preparation for the endorsement during ICANN84 mid-October. So, this is the process we've been following.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Fabien, just one second. Can you go back? So, nothing precludes any GAC member from chiming in at this point and suggesting any edits, anything you would like to add at this point. It's not written on stone or anything. After the GAC final review, as Fabien correctly pointed out, you still have a chance to provide any kind of feedback at this point, and we hope we will do so maybe today or certainly during the week or during the Draft Sessions we will have if needed.

I would prefer not to do that in order to allocate enough time to the draft, to the communiqué drafting. But again, if worse becomes the worst we'll still have a chance there. But the whole thing has been already circulated a while ago, I would say. Just wanted to point out that you still have a chance to make any edits, corrections, or suggest anything. Thank you for that. Fabien, back to you.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX	Thank you, Nico. And so, I'll just show you, formally speaking, you recall that Nico presented how the GAC endorsed the Strategic Plan and the first annual plan in the Kigali communiqué, and so we expect that from a formal perspective standpoint, the endorsement would be done through the communiqué. We've already proposed draft text that would achieve that in the Dublin communiqué, which I'm showing here.

You will have received in your emails the link to this draft ICANN84 Dublin communiqué, and my apologies for sending the wrong link initially, but that's corrected now, so you should have the right link. And so again, formally speaking, we expect that the endorsement will take the shape of a text such as this in the Dublin communiqué, which we'll be discussing throughout the week.

And with that, let me go back to the slides here. So, I think now, Nico, we're ready for walking through the committee, through the plan and each of the Strategic Objectives and the expected outcome for in the annual plan, which should read here 24, 25, 26 and 24, 25. And so you may recall that for each of the Strategic Objectives, the GAC leadership have identified one or two caretakers, so they're listed here. So, if as a GAC member, you're interested in work in any of these, regarding any of these expected outcomes under those Strategic Objectives, here are the GAC leadership point of contacts.

Also, please note, and maybe the caretakers can mention that when they go through their part of the annual plan, that under each

of those Strategic Objectives and expected outcomes, there are GAC topic leads also involved in coordinating the work, leading and coordinating the work. So, those will be also important contact for GAC members who are interested to be more actively involved on specific issues.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Thank you for that, Fabien. By the way, and sorry to interrupt you, but let me point out again here that nothing precludes your participation in as a caretaker, if you want to in any of the nine Strategic Objectives. I mean, you're more than welcome to participate it's just a matter of, we assigned some of the vice chairs, given the fact that we needed somebody to be the caretakers, right?

So naturally, we basically talk to the vice chairs first, but again, you're more than welcome to participate in any of the nine SO, that's Strategic Objectives, taking into account that the topic leads, as also part of the team so far. Back to you, Fabien.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX   So, I think we're ready to go one by one through the Strategic Objectives when you're ready.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Sure, we are. As a matter of fact, we'll start with Strategic Objective one, which is not the most important, but one of the most important Strategic Objectives, which is the role, our role in the

ICANN ecosystem, right? And for that, I will give the floor, can you go back one slide, please? Because I got a little bit confused. Yeah, and the caretakers for SO 1, and you move the, there we go, thank you so much. I'll give the floor to my distinguished colleague from Switzerland, Jorge Cancio, please go ahead, the floor is yours.

JORGE CANCIO

Thank you, Nico. So, Jorge Cancio, Switzerland for the record, and caretaker for SO 1. As Fabien explained, this is the result of the consultation we have been having, and we hope we can endorse this text here during this meeting. Basically, as Nico mentioned, and I have like five minutes to do this, but we need then also, we have a surprise presentation on this that will need some time. It's about the role of governments within the ICANN ecosystem.

So, we've adapted slightly the Strategic Objective we had already adopted before, basically to highlight that we will also work as the GAC to assess whether current ICANN structures live up to the highest standards of openness, inclusiveness, transparency and accountability in the spirit of the multi-stakeholder approach, and also that those structures allow us as GAC a sufficient and meaningful opportunity to develop influence and modify policy processes and outcomes so that we have an effective influence in the wider ICANN ecosystem.

So, that's the Strategic Objective as such, and the expected outcomes we have identified during the next two years, well, one year and some months, 2025-2026, is of course the long-standing

outcome that other stakeholders understand our role better, and there we have also the possibility of a high-level governmental meeting, high LGM, and related to that, expected outcome 1.2, which is the possibility of organizing such a high-level governmental meeting.

If anyone is interested in hosting such in the next meetings, please approach us. I know that there are some conversations going on. The third, 1.3, is of course to keep on expanding on non-represented governments. We have about 180-something, four already, governments in the GAC, but of course we are not yet there with the whole list of it, and I know Nico has them very clearly on his agenda.

Eight are missing, at least from those in the UN, I guess. Then we want, of course, to promote the improvement of ICANN's multistakeholder approach in the light of the Sao Paulo multistakeholder guidelines. One is the transparency. We've been working on that already, so we are making good progress on the code of conduct on SOIs, where I think the GAC had a very important role.

The ICANN Review of Reviews, and we will come back shortly to this. We want also to have a more structured conversation with the ICANN Board on these issues, on the questions of, let's say, good governance of the ICANN ecosystem, and also to inspire the ICANN organization to take into consideration the Sao Paulo multistakeholder guidelines. Of course, we also want to continue

working with the ICANN government engagement team to showcase ICANN as a successful implementation of the multistakeholder approach.

1.5 is, of course, more focused on our influence on policy development process outcomes, that we keep on thinking about whether we are making the best use of our possibilities, and also whether there are any ways to improve the way the PDPs work, and this is also an ongoing process. I think the next PDP based or reflecting our advice from Prague might be a good test base.

And finally, 1.6, we still have a pending discussion on how we best engage with the ICANN nominating committee, so that's something we would like to discuss during the coming meetings. But I think we have today and this week a very important issue on the table, which is the ICANN Review of Reviews, and for this we have the participation at this table of my very dear colleague Manal Ismail, who is representing us together with Tracy Hackshaw in the cross-community efforts on a Review of Reviews. So, if possible, if Nico agrees, I would pass over the floor to Manal.

MANAL ISMAIL   Thank you very much, Jorge and Nico, and I'll try to be as brief as possible, but given the importance of the topic, as Jorge mentioned, and the very tight time frame we have, we should deliver the final report next August, and also it's on the agenda of a couple of our bilaterals as well, so we thought to put this quick

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internal GAC catch-up on the topic, so that you are ready to engage actively throughout the week.

We will go quickly through the purpose of reviews, which is the state of work so far by the group, questions for the ICANN plenaries starting on Monday, and also a hint at the GAC's unique situation per the current ICANN by-laws. If we go to the following slide, please.

So, this is the state of work of the group, and we are currently working on the purpose of reviews. So, the purpose of reviews is to assess whether ICANN is fulfilling its mission commitments, and when we looked at what are ICANN official commitments, we have found ICANN by-laws, ICANN articles of incorporation, Strategic Plan, operating and Financial Plan, but the question remains if there is anything else is missing. Some people talked about Standards of Behavior, Anti-Harassment Policy, the SOIs, so just brainstorming on whether you agree on this, we have missed anything, and I'll go through the specific questions in a while.

So we have four pillars under the purpose of reviews. First, ICANN's execution of its commitments in the articles of incorporation by-laws, Strategic Plan, and Financial and Operational Plan, and we worked through a breakdown of what does this mean to make sure that when we talk about this, we're talking about the same thing.

So ICANN's activities, processes, and culture remain consistent with its mission commitments and values. Board officers and senior management remain accountable to the global multi-

stakeholder community, the empowered community. ICANN is meeting its stated goals and objectives. ICANN is maintaining and, where necessary, improving robust mechanisms for public input, inclusiveness, accountability, and transparency, and if we go to the following slide, please.

Outcomes of ICANN's decision-making are in the public interest, transparent and accountable to the global multi-stakeholder community, again, the empowered community, in accordance with the transition, and communication channels are effective and accessible, and decisions and outcomes are reported clearly and openly.

And finally, under this point, ICANN duly takes into account the public policy advice of governments and public authorities, which refers to our advice here from the GAC.

The second pillar is the results of the SO, AC, and so it's the supporting organizations, advisory committees, and nominating committee, continuous improvement program, as they relate to each SO, AC and NC and to each other. So, it's a bit tricky, so overall, we are not getting into the details of what each and every SO, AC is doing, but whenever this matters to the global system, this is within the scope of work of this group.

Third is whether the overall structure and components of ICANN and its SOs, ACs, and NCs are fit for purpose, and D, whether the ongoing reviews in the future are fit for purpose. And of course, all this, so that where necessary, recommend improvements or paths

toward improvement for any problems found. Again, for the time, if we can go to the following slide directly, and these are the questions that will be posed on Monday.

So, we have two plenary sessions, one on Monday from 1:15 to 2:30 local time, and the other one on Thursday, same time. So, questions are, do you think that this first draft of purpose of reviews is heading in the right direction? And you will get to use the Mentimeter in answering, and this is a cross-community thing, so everyone will be participating, whether yes, no, depends, more information is needed, you will be given some options.

Next question is, what is missing from our list of purposes, if anything has been overlooked and needs to be added? And what are the things you think should be reviewed, if there are specific things that need to be reviewed when we get to the breakdown?

And finally, a review succeeds if it is what? And the Mentimeter allows for short and free text comments. So, I thought to bring this to everyone's attention so that you can start self-brainstorming or even together. I would have hoped we had more time to discuss this internally, because we also have the topic on our bilateral agendas with the ALAC on Tuesday, and with the NCSG on Wednesday.

So, I hope also if there is any direction or position from the GAC perspective, it would be good to know this so that Tracy and myself can be guided by any GAC input on this. So, we look forward to your active participation during the plenary sessions and during the GAC

bilaterals. Also joining the group as observers, we have allowed or agreed to allow observers to share views during the calls, so you can also actively participate to the work of the group as an observer.

There is an email address, inputonreviews@ICANN.org, where you can continuously provide any input to this email. And even confirmation that we are heading in the right direction would be also useful at this stage. If we can go to the last slide, and apologies for taking up. Good, thank you. So, this is just by way of background and for colleagues who may not be aware of the special GAC situation, particularly in regards of the current bylaws. So, I'll be oversimplifying this, but it's for the benefit of everyone.

So, if we talk about the two types of reviews, we have more, but if we talk about two types of reviews, the periodic reviews, which review ICANN structure and operations, sometimes also referred to as organizational reviews or SOAC reviews. And we have the specific reviews, and these are four reviews, accountability and transparency, security, stability and resiliency, competition, consumer trust and consumer choice, and the registration data services.

Each SO or AC used to do their own organizational reviews, except for the GAC. And the GAC enhancements used to come from the accountability and transparency review, and we do it through implementation of the recommendations. But also, it's an ongoing thing. I mean, we always try to enhance our work, and this is done

also by support staff, even without asking. So, it's anyway an ongoing process.

I thought to bring to your attention these extracts from the current ICANN bylaws, so under section 4. Periodic review of ICANN structure and operations and here it says the Board shall cause a periodic review of the performance and operation of each supporting organization, each advisory committee other than the GAC. And then under B, it says the Governmental Advisory Committee shall provide its own review mechanisms and under specific reviews.

Under the Accountability and Transparency Review, it says assessing the role and effectiveness of the GAC's interaction with the Board and with the broader ICANN community and making recommendations for improvement to ensure effective consideration of ICANN, of GAC input on the public policy aspects of the technical coordination of the DNS.

So again, I thought it's worth noting because I've been seeing references all the time to SOs, ACs, SOs, ACs, so nothing said that we're changing what the GAC has been doing and nothing said, we're leaving it as is, so it's not mentioned, so just also to be ready to engage on this if it comes up at any time. And with this, I thank you very much for the slot you allowed and over to you, yeah.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you very much, Manal. Two things, two very important things. Number one, not all, the rest of the eight remaining Strategic Objectives are not going to be this long, so do not worry, number one. Number two, thank you and congratulations for the hard work, Manal and Tracy and your team, for the detail and nuanced and very consistent presentation at a very important point in time. We're at a pivotal, I would say, moment right before the Next Round and there are many very substantive issues to discuss.

Before we open the floor, let me check, Jorge, that we're not forgetting anything. Is there anything you would like to add at this point before we open the floor? Because I see already two hands up, one from Indonesia and one from the USA, but the floor is yours. Please go ahead.

JORGE CANCIO

Maybe very quickly, Jorge, for the record. I would suggest that the information shared by Manal is shared by email by our staff so that we have time to prepare for the sessions, look into the summary, this is very useful summary from Manal and prepare accordingly for the sessions and the many questions and everything. But no, looking forward to the reactions to SO 1 and whatever.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so very much again. I have Indonesia, the USA, Denmark and Egypt. Ashwin, please go ahead.

ASHWIN SASONGKO SASTROSUBROTO	Thank you, Nico. Ashwin from Indonesia, for the record. I just want to make sure whether, because I haven't read all in detail, whether some Strategic Plans relating to internet is also made by the UN ITU, because UN ITU used to make also a Strategic Plan related to internet, just like, for example, cyber security agenda. And since many of us are, if not all, all of us are also members of UN ITU, whether in our Strategic Plan we will also see some sort of comparison, what the ITU Strategic Plan to internet and what our ICANN Strategic Plan to internet. Thank you.
NICOLAS CABALLERO	Thank you. Thank you very much, Indonesia. Well noted. I have the USA next.
SUSAN CHALMERS	Thank you, Manal, for the careful explanation of this topic. And the United States is pleased that this is included within the GAC Strategic Objectives. ICANN system of reviews was put in place to ensure ICANN accountability to the global internet community. But the reviews have been sprawling and inefficient, and the breakdown of the system is concerning. So, the United States will be closely monitoring the work of the review of reviews to ensure that it does not stray from the commitments that ICANN and the community made 10 years ago.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Thank you very much, USA. I have Denmark next.

FINN PETERSEN   Thank you, Finn Petersen, Denmark, for the record. Just one point on 1.6. This is GAC discussion on the NomCom. I didn't saw it in the draft sent out in September, and I haven't actually seen it being coming from members of the GAC. Perhaps I was wrong. I tried to look back with it, but it was not possible.

                        Only to say that from our point of view, I don't think something fundamental have been changed, which will give a meaningful discussion here. I think we will still have the same concerns as we have previous, because the nominate from GAC will be under secrecy, cannot share anything. So, we are hesitant with this point. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Thank you very much, Denmark. Well noted as well. Indonesia, is that an all hand? Is that an all hand? Would you like to take the floor again? Oh, all right. Sorry, sorry. Okay. Thank you. Egypt, please go ahead.

CHRISTINE ARIDA   I'm here, Nico. So, thank you. Two points. On the point of the Review of Reviews, and I do appreciate all the work that Manal and Tracy have been doing and this comprehensive overview. I think with respect to the special, as Manal called it, the special status of the GAC, I think this is something that the GAC should put forward

proactively. I'm not sure where exactly, but I think we should be doing that since the topic of review of reviews is being handled in every single meeting here at ICANN84.

I would suggest that this is put proactively, possibly, I don't know if in the communiqué here. The second point on the issue of the NomCom, just I appreciate the point raised by Finn. I think if there should be a representative from the GAC, it could be pretty much like the GAC chair performs a liaison to the Board, where there are non-disclosures that are assigned, and in that sense, maybe it could be something of the sort. But in all cases, I think this is something that is worth discussing more and dedicating some time for it. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Thank you so much for that, Egypt. And thank you for telling me to be there. I'm joking. It could be the GAC chair, it could be any of the vice chairs, but certainly that's for us to discuss or any of any GAC representative, as a matter of fact. So, thank you so much for that. I have the Netherlands next.

MARCO HOGEWONING   Thank you, Nico. That would be me. It's Marco speaking for the Netherlands. I support what Egypt just said on the NomCom. I'm happy to look into this in future discussions, but I think those discussions would also really help if we have a concrete proposal on how the GAC participation in the NomCom would take place. It's

a rather complex situation we're in, so prefer to see some text before we go into the discussion.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Thank you so much, Netherlands. So, in that regard, I think it's for us to decide we can send an observer or a liaison with voting or non-voting rights. I mean, everything is on the table to discuss, or not at all, if we decide so. So, again we'll be discussing that. And we don't need to make a decision right now, today or tomorrow or next week by no means, you know. Thank you for bringing the point. Netherlands, is that an all-in?

MARCO HOGEWONING   Well, a quick two-finger comment, I think, pertaining to my previous comment. What's also really important, I think, at least for me, is to understand how the current NomCom terms of reference work, and how the GAC would fit in. We can propose anything, but it has to also work for the NomCom. That's why I'm asking for a proposal.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Perfect. Thank you so much, Netherlands. So, the floor is still open before we move on to Strategic Objective number two. And the floor is still open. Switzerland, would you like to say anything? Or we just move on? I mean, I'm okay, either way. I don't see any hands up. I don't see any hand online. So, we're good to move

forward. And thank you again, Switzerland and Manal and your team for this.

And remember the questions, they're going to be circulated, right? Or they have already been circulated? Okay, okay, okay. So, thank you so much. So, for SO 2, we'll have Zeyna and Ian, but it is my understanding, Zeyna, correct me if I'm wrong, that Ian from Australia will be presenting. So, the floor is yours, Australia. Please go ahead.

IAN SHELDON   Thank you, Nico. Ian Sheldon, GAC Australia, for the record. So, Strategic Objective number two actually follows quite nicely off of the reviewer reviews conversation that Manal just talked about. So, this Strategic Objective really is about looking at the work of the GAC, making sure that we are active and meaningful participants in the broader ICANN system. We can drive the issues forward that we care about within the multi-stakeholder process and that I guess our work is efficient and well tailored for the needs at hand.

I'll be reasonably brief. The main thing I wanted to draw your attention to here is the survey that's underfoot at present. I understand there should be a link to it at the conclusion of this session, but really what we're trying to do here is run a broad survey to get some feedback on some of the core things that drive our work, from everything from preparation, active engagement, participation, barriers to attending meetings themselves. So, this is one of the foundational pieces of work that we're looking to

undertake at present, and this will inform a lot of the rest of the work in Strategic Objective number two.

There are some other actions worth pointing out here as well. Of course, the work of the GAC Operating Principles Evolution Working Group continues to move forward, which I currently co-chair with my colleague Guo Feng from China. As part of this work, we'll also be looking to get a better understanding for how to interact with things like the continuous improvement framework as well, how the GAC should continue to take a closer look at its operations and how we should be responding to some of this broader review process.

Other new actions in the annual plan include consideration for developing a welcome package for new GAC members and looking at the communiqué drafting process, as well as looking at, I guess, new ways for the GAC to undertake its work. I did want to provide a brief call out. We're trying a new way of engaging with other community groups as well.

The ccNSO session later this week is a good example of us trying a slightly different approach to the work of the GAC and trying creative methods in engaging in our core discussions across the week. We've had quite a number of conversations with ICANN Org and the GE team around regional GAC coordination, how we can better facilitate some efforts in that regard, focusing on things that might be more directly pertinent to each of the various geographic regions.

Of course, the vice-chair, topic lead, liaison and appointees' system is still in place and that appears to be working quite well. I guess, of course, there's broader work here around making sure that our general agenda is meeting our needs as well. I might pause there. I will take the document as read, but I did just want to highlight a couple of core things worth drawing your attention to as well. I might pause there for questions, if there are any. Otherwise, I might hand back to Nico for the next agenda piece.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Thank you so very much, Australia. The floor is still open for comments or questions in this regard. There's one thing I wanted to comment. Can you go back to the slide? The regional efforts. So, in terms of regional efforts, at least coming from the Latin America region, there's already a proposal coming from a government, from a Latin American government, and the idea is to have a DNS development, DNS training center that will work both for technical training as well as diplomatic training hubs, so to say.

Both the high-level discussions and training at a diplomatic level, but also training for the technical teams in terms of DNSSEC, cryptography, and new technologies in general. That is the first mention in terms of concrete proposals coming, I mean, regarding the regional approaches so far. I understand that there are some plans in other parts of the world as well, but so far, the only information I have, the only concrete information I have so far, is coming from the Latin America area.

I'll share with you further additional information as soon as I receive it. I have two hands, one from China and one from Portugal. So, China, please go ahead.

GUO FENG

Thank you, Chair. Guo Feng from China for the record. As mentioned by Ian, the Working Group on GAC or Printing Principle continues work. I want to take this opportunity to very briefly update you on the recent development. Several days ago, it was in October 14th, the Working Group had its conference call and we were talking about mainly three topics.

Topic one is the update on the GAC or printing principles following ICANN83. It's mainly about the 10-year proposal related issue, related to operating principle 22 and 31. And topic two is we reviewed the operating principle to try to finalize administrative changes discussed by the Working Group and we got a chance to continue to review some of the administrative changes regarding the operating principle.

And topic three is Continuous Improvement Framework. Rob from the GAC support team briefed us about the CIP framework and we think there's a value to connect this CIP, CEIF with the GAC printing principle effort. That's all. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you very much, China. I have Portugal and then Egypt and right after that, Colombia. Portugal, please go ahead.

ANA NEVES	Thank you very much. I'm going to speak in Portuguese. I would like to underline the importance of survey that Ian mentioned. Only 10% of the members of the GAC, according to what I heard, filled out the survey. I think it's very interesting, this survey and it's very helpful for everyone, for all the members of the GAC, old and new, for them to commit themselves with what they expect from the GAC. It's a pity that it's only 10% who have answered the survey, in my opinion, because this is an important project.

So please, I think it's important to answer this survey. I've seen several emails and I know some people do not have time but now that we are here in this meeting, present here, I think it would be very good for us to answer, fill out this survey. Thank you very much.

NICOLAS CABALLERO	Thank you, Portugal. I really agree with you, 100% agree with you. As a matter of fact, you can do it, I mean, they can do it right now. It's on the screen, you just grab your phones, scan the QR code and voila we can go ahead with that. Thank you so much. China, is that an all-hand? Guo Feng, is that an all-hand? Okay. So, thank you, China. Thank you, Portugal. And I have Egypt next.

CHRISTINE ARIDA	Yes, thank you, Nico. I wanted to come back on the issue of regional activities because I think that's a very important topic and I recall

that we used sometimes for Africa to do pre-ICANN one-day meetings where Africans would meet and do capacity building and things like that. It's unfortunate and this is something that I need to put on record. It's unfortunate that for a couple of meetings, including this one, the GAC Africa meeting usually takes place parallel to the GAC meetings, which is always a problem because GAC representatives from Africa are torn between going to that meeting or coming to, like today, it's going to take place coinciding with the capacity development session on New gTLDs.

It is a pity in my view. I'm not sure what the solution is, but I think we should also make some time during, I know this is difficult and the staff would tell me this is literally impossible, but maybe we can make time for some regional activities within our agenda at the meetings, because it is always very difficult for people to meet face-to-face outside the GAC schedule, but when they are here at the GAC meetings, which they usually are, they can actually meet even if for a brief time. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much for that, Egypt. That's precisely one of the reasons why these Latin American countries decided to actually implement this regional DNS training center. As a matter of fact, I did have a meeting with the president of that country, and they very kindly offered some land and some facilities, but again, that's a conversation for some other time. I just wanted you to be aware

that there are some regional efforts being discussed at the moment. I see your hand up, Niue. Please go ahead.

PÄR BRUMARK   I'm looking through some papers here, but on the screen, on the governmental side, the role of governments, I missed one thing. It's the word law, national law or local law. I'll go back here to the letter of incorporation of ICANN, which mentions very strictly that the relevant principles of international law, international conventions and applicable local law. So, I think government and local law should be in there.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Thank you, Niue, well noted. Thank you so much. The floor is still open. Any other comment or question before we move on to SO number three? I don't see any hand up. So, again, thank you for your contributions. Let's move on, Fabien. Thank you. There we go. So, the Strategic Objective number three is about the future round of New gTLDs. This is for granted, right, given the fact that in about six months we'll have the Next Round. And for that, Marco from the Netherlands and Thiago from Colombia are going to walk us through the details and the progress we have made so far. So, Marco, Netherlands, Colombia, the floor is yours.

MARCO HOGEWONING   Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good day again. If you're still here and not filling in survey, I'll be really brief. This is, of course, one of the

big topics. Anybody who has seen the agenda recognizes a lot of our objectives actually being operationalized at this meeting and the last meeting and probably the next meeting. And I think that's the key bit here. Of course, as we all prepare, we will enter into capacity building later today where we hope to prepare you even more for what is coming in the Next Round.

If you scroll down a bit, Fabien, slowly, we will also be addressing the GAC early warning process in a later session somewhere this week. We have worked it out. It should come up for approval. So, in all fairness, by the time we agree to this, some of these deliverables hopefully have been delivered and in particular also everything under 3.2. The Applicant's Guidebook is supposed to be approved by the Board in the meeting on Thursday. So, to that, yeah, I hope to see you all during the capacity development sessions.

Of course, I'm happy to hear if you think we're missing something in this list. As I said, a lot of this is getting hand and feet. Also, because we have a wonderful and very big team of topic leads with Tracy, Arida, Ken Ying, Thiago, myself, there's quite a lot of people involved in getting this off the ground. And of course, it is the next big milestone in April 26.

So, we've decided to not be too picky and leave everything in. But as I said, by the time the ink is dry on this document, we'll probably have seen that some of this is already passed in the ICANN sense. And I think that's it for now. Happy to see any feedback, comments,

and incorporate your expectations for the Next Round, I think. Thiago, did I miss anything?

THIAGO DAL TOE

No, Marco, thank you. I think you covered it all. It's just very important for us. We mentioned that we want for all of you, all of us as GAC members to be prepared when this new round comes so we actually know what our role is and what are the individual things that we need to look into these different applications and what are the options that we have in order to voice our concerns from our national perspective. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you very much, Colombia, Netherlands. I have a question for the floor. Who was around 13 years ago when the 2012 round was being discussed? Anybody in the room? Two, three, four, five, six people in the room. Six out of 184. That's quite interesting. So we're going to be talking about this during the capacity building sessions as well.

And I myself, because I'm going to be there as well, from my point of view, from my perspective, and I might be wrong and I stand to be corrected, but I did prepare some notes, traveling back to the Neanderthal times check my agenda at the time and prepare some observations to share with you during the capacity building sessions. So, again, thank you for that. Colombia? Yeah, go ahead.

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THIAGO DAL TOE

Thanks, Nico. Thanks for reminding me about the capacity development. It's very important for everyone here to participate. And please keep in mind that there's no idiot questions. There're no idiot comments. We please need you to voice your opinions, your concerns, your questions, because that's going to help us identify exactly where are the gaps in knowledge and what we need to stress as we prepare for this new round. So, it's very important that you participate. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much again, Colombia, Netherlands. Comments or questions for them at this point before we move on? And I see India. Please go ahead.

T. SANTHOSH

Thank you, Chair. Santosh for the record. So, there is an application support program, which is for the non-government organization, which ICANN has come up. So, as we go to the statistics, only four or five companies, I mean, we don't know who are they, are being, I mean, they are eligible for the application support program.

Now, as we say that each country is supporting capacity building or would like to have more application into it. Again, our request to the ICANN Board is whether they can have a linkage with the successful applicants from a respected country and share it with

the GAC so that we can increase more participation in this application support program. We're just missing. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Thank you for that, India.   Netherlands.

MARCO HOGEWONING   And thank you, India, for that comment. There are several sessions, including the one with the Board, but also a couple of New gTLD discussions where we'll be diving further into the Applicant Support Program.   I hear you, and as the Netherlands, I can probably agree, but in terms of this particular document, I mean, we as caretakers are still open to changes, but I think we also have to recognize that, as I just mentioned, paragraph 3.3, the application window for ASP will close on the 19th of November.

So I'm afraid that within the context of this particular document, the annual plan, there is little we can change, but I'm happy to hear people from the floor, if we would change tech. Putting my Dutch hat up, I, for one, would be really interested to get a bit of a post mortem analysis on why exactly this didn't work out as we all envisioned. Maybe such an analysis should be done after the application window closes, but so I'm happy to entertain the thought of adjusting this text based on what we know now on the ASP and knowing that, in all honesty, I don't think there is much room to adjust the current ASP, given the timelines we're in. But

that's maybe also something to park or take back to the mailing list. I don't know, Mr. Chairman.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Thank you so much for that, Netherlands. Except for the post mortem part of the idea, I agree very much with you. I have the European Commission next.

GEMMA CAROLILLO   Thank you very much, Chair. Gemma Carolillo for the European Commission. So, in terms of the plan, I would support the idea that Marco raised to perhaps review slightly the text in terms of focusing on what's going to be relevant from now on, because we have still a lot of kind of legacy of what has been very important until now.

So the Application Guidebook, the ASP, which I'm not saying is not important any longer, but there is very little that progressively we can do about it, rather than analyzing the results of the program itself. And focusing really, I think I would say, is the first priority on the GAC readiness. In particular, I'm wondering, but perhaps this has been contemplated already, whether as part of GAC readiness there could be the possibility of seeing sort of case studies from the previous round that would still be kind of relevant for this round, so that we could examine some of the applications and situations that took place in 2012, so we get really hands-on. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much for that, European Commission. Any other comment? UK? Yeah, please go ahead.

CRAIG STANLEY-ADAMSON

Thank you very much. Craig Stanley-Adamson, UK, for the records. Just a quick point from me. I know capacity building has been mentioned a couple of times there, and I see in 3.3, it talks about significantly boosting outreach and engagement efforts. Just to me, outreach and engagement seems quite the sort of the same thing.

Is there not something we might want to put a little bit more action, a little bit more concrete in there, sort of outreach, something to do with capacity, something to do with upskilling or something in this process, as well, just to make it a little bit more action-oriented, potentially, rather than just read a little bit vague, to be outreach and engagement at this point? Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much, UK. To be fair, I really think, and this is my personal opinion, but I really think that they're doing a good job in terms of reaching out and trying to engage participants. But there's no way you can force the private sector to participate, or for that matter, the public sector, as well.

I don't know what the answer is, and it would be good to have some good professional marketing analysis, and that's not even within a remit at this point as GAC representatives. But again, it is what it is,

and it is my understanding that so far, and I stand to be corrected here, but there are only two applicants from the, or three, from the underserved regions. Is that correct, Tracy? Three applications so far in the final stages, or can you give us an update in that regard? UPU, please go ahead.

TRACY HACKSHAW

So, I think the data is still coming in, but I think you're correct. I'll have to double-check what the latest data is. The challenge we have is that, as India has sort of alluded to, we don't have more precise data. So, even if it's from a region that's underserved, we don't know what country it is because that is not information that's available.

And secondly, there's this issue of whether it's applicants that are through the system or that are being reviewed. So, that is the little bit nuance that we have there. We're not sure exactly which of those are underserved, that are through, versus that are being reviewed. Those are the kinds of nuances. So, I think that information is coming in the last session, at least the capacity development will come up for sure. So, stay tuned.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you very much, UPU. I have Netherlands and the UK. Netherlands?

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MARCO HOGEWONING

Yeah, I think I'm looking at my Zoom screen. I see that staff helpfully put up the session. I would like to highlight that the last session of today and the first session of tomorrow morning being dedicated for the GAC to discuss the Next Round. The benefit of that discussion is that we'll also have ICANN staff in the room. So, I think that this in-depth discussion is better placed there and we move on with the Strategic Plan that would be my proposal.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you, Netherlands. I have the UK next.

ESTHER MARGARETHE JAROMITSKI

Thank you so much, Nico, UK, for the record. We just wanted to come back to the point that Marco made earlier about the post mortem analysis of what happened with the ASP, and we would support that because we think it would offer really valuable insights to what can be done better in the next type of project like this. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much, UK. I don't see any other hand, so maybe we can move forward. Next slide, please. Sorry, next slide. Next strategic, Fabien?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX

Just a quick time check. We're down to 20 minutes for the six remaining Strategic Objectives, so three minutes each, if we can.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Very good point. But as I said at the beginning, not everything is going to be as long as the Strategic Objectives 1, 2, and 3, because those are kind of like the core business kind of like a Shakespearean to be or not to be kind of thing like for the GAC, and that's why it took a little bit longer, but no worries. There should be enough time. Is that an all-hand, UK? Oh, okay. So, for the DNS Abuse topic, I'll give the floor to Colombia. Please go ahead, Thiago. The floor is yours.

THIAGO DAL TOE

Thank you, Nico. I'm sorry to say that DNS Abuse is one of those topics that is quite interesting and merits a lot of attention to, but basically, we have, as you know, our four-year Strategic Objective, 2024-2028. We have some expected outcomes, and here it also comes the issue where we, again, issued a survey, and we're really welcoming, and we would like for the majority of the committee to participate whenever such activity is put forward.

So we really appreciate if when you get those emails that requires your input that we can easily do it. Generally, these types of surveys won't take you more than 10, 15 minutes, depending on the information that you may gather from your particular areas, but we do have some expected outcomes from 4.1 to 4.7, and let's look a bit really fast on 4.1. We have commitments from support, further commitments from contracted parties in ICANN Org to prevent and

mitigate DNS Abuse, monitor the contracted parties' progress in implementing their DNS Abuse contracts.

We're also encouraging the development and promotion of guidelines regarding implementation of the contractual obligations, best practices, cross-industry collaboration. We have the outcome to develop a better understanding of market dynamics in the domain industry and look at the business models, domain registration flows, and new trends and new technology developments.

We are also looking to increase the availability of training and briefing material on the fundamentals of DNS Abuse. I think that would be for the benefit of all of GAC members, not only newcomers, but also for those that have been here for many years. There're always new things that we can learn. Also tailored training and briefing materials to the GAC.

And finally, to provide GAC members with examples and best practices, guidelines, and trusted notifier programs, for example, that we've been discussing that we can learn and perhaps suggest in our countries to make some sort of implementation. Before we wrap this one up, I really want to thank the topic leads. I want every committee member to know who they are, so that you can approach them beyond a coffee break or whenever you need something from them, which is the European Commission, the US, and Japan, who are leading this topic very well, very committed.

And obviously, we always have the help from Fabien, who does an excellent job. So, my role as caretaking is almost none. Thank you so much.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Thank you so very much, Colombia. Thank you for making use of the time so efficiently given the fact that we're a little bit time constrained. Thank you so much. And bear in mind, I'm not trying to preclude your comments or questions or your participation in this regard, but we'll have enough time to discuss DNS Abuse during future sessions. So, Strategic Objective number five deals with domain registration data. And for that, I'll give the floor to Australia. Ian, please go ahead.

IAN SHELDON   Thanks, Nico. I'll be reasonably brief with this, taking the text as read. So, key actions in this section include seeking a swift conclusion to the timeline for responses to Urgent Requests for registration data. So this includes supporting the PSWG's efforts to develop authentication solutions for law enforcement.

The GAC will also continue urging the Board to maintain and enhance the Registration Data Request Service, RDRS, after its pilot period ends, as well as work to identify a path to efficient enhancement of the RDRS. And finally, we've also updated the GAC's existing objectives in relation to distinguishing the

registration data of legal entities and natural persons, Privacy Proxy Service Accreditation and Registration Data Accuracy.

So, these are ongoing pieces of work, which the GAC will look for opportunities to progress. I might pause there to see if there are any questions or perhaps any comments from the topic leads themselves.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   That was quick. Thank you so much, Australia. I don't see any hand up. So, again, I don't see any hand online or in the room, which means that the message was conveyed successfully. Thank you so much, Australia. Still one last chance. No hand. Perfect. So, for Strategic Objective number six which is universal acceptance, I'll give the floor to Egypt. Christine, please go ahead.

CHRISTINE ARIDA   Thank you, Nico. So, on that Strategic Objective, the idea is to collaboratively work to promote the multilingual internet to provide universal acceptance by ensuring that all domains, including new top-level domains, internationalized domains, and all email addresses are actually equally accessible from all internet-related devices, applications, sites, and systems.

So, the expected outcomes are one, an information sharing to all GAC members so that GAC members are actually well informed about ICANN goals in that area, and different efforts that are happening not only within the ICANN community or the wider

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multistakeholder community, but also within intergovernmental entities such as the ITU and also the broader industry vendors and so forth.

The second outcome which we're looking at is to actually identify opportunities for individual governments to support efforts in those directions, whether it's in their own countries or across different regions, and also to collaborate, for them to collaborate with respective ccTLD operators in their countries so that they can engage with the registrar and registry communities to advance Universal Acceptance.

One other outcome is actually to look at future New gTLDs in order to make sure that IDNs and related UA activities are actually well addressed in the new round. Then cross-community collaboration in terms of working with different ICANN communities, most notably ccNSO and others, as is appropriate and as is needed. Also, follow-up on the activities of the ICANN expert group on UA to which the GAC has an appointee.

It is worth noting that there is a working group on universal acceptance, which is I believe co-chaired by Egypt and Nigeria, if that still holds. I know there has been some changes with the Nigerian delegation, but that's the point. I invite interested GAC members to join that working group and to follow the activities there, but also to engage in their national ecosystem to see how that topic could be advanced. Thank you, Nico. Back to you.

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NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you, Egypt. That was quick as well. Thank you so much. Making good use of the time is always a good thing. Questions or comments for Egypt? I mean, anything regarding UA? I don't see any hand in the room or online. Okay, so thank you again, Egypt.

Next topic is New Technologies. I'll be very brief. Christine, unless you want to go ahead first as regarding new technologies, I'll be very brief. I'm not going to read the whole thing. I'll be very quick and very brief. As a matter of fact, tomorrow during the third Capacity Building Session, we'll experience directly how new technologies directly affect the DNS ecosystem. In this case, we'll be talking about machine learning and AI.

We're not going to be talking about ChatGPT or deep seek or grok or anything like that. We're going to be talking about algorithms that directly affect-- Well, I don't want to get into details, but we'll see that tomorrow on the one hand. Wearing the information and gathering an issue monitoring phase of the work, so to say, and that's why I refer to Artificial Intelligence and machine learning tools. Basically, how those algorithms and depending-- Again, as everybody knows, all technologies have dual use. It's like a knife. You can use a knife to cook and prepare some good food, some good pizza, whatever, but you can also use that as a weapon to commit crimes and so on. That's the typical example we give as regarding the internet.

The same thing applies to machine learning and those AI algorithms. Again, I'm not talking about LLMs. LLMs being, as I said before, ChatGPT and Google Gemini and all those. There's like a hundred or more AI chat bots. That's just a tiny, that's a little part, but the most famous part of the whole Artificial Intelligence fuss. That would be 7.2. I don't want to spend too much time there because we'll get into details tomorrow. There are other things to take into account, internet of things, IoT and blockchain and blockchain technologies and blockchain technologies as related to the DNS as well, but we don't have time to talk about that now.

Also, and very important, cryptography and security and symmetric and asymmetric cryptography and all that kind of stuff, and the new PQC, post-quantum cryptography. I don't want to scare you. We're not going to be talking about very technical issues tomorrow. We're going to be concentrating on AI and its effect on the DNS industry, which is a remit.

Then in general, we'll be monitoring new technologies, standards and practices, because whether we like it or not, they will be affecting the way we do business, just as internet in the 1990s had, I would say, a fantastic effect on the way we work, on the way we communicate, and so on and so forth. That's all I have so far in terms of resources.

If you can scroll down a little bit, please. Basically, you can talk directly to me or to any of the vice chairs for that matter, but there's also the CTO, the OCTO, the CTO office within ICANN. His name, by

the way, is John Crane. I don't know if he's in the room today. He's got a thousand things to do. I'm not sure. He's probably not in the room, but in any case, you can talk directly to me or to any of the vice chairs or to OCTO within ICANN.

With that, if there are questions, let me check the I don't see any questions. I don't see any hands, so I assume there are no comments, and with that, let me give the floor to Switzerland and Egypt, who's going to walk us through Strategic Objective number eight, Internet Governance Awareness. Jorge?

JORGE CANCIO   Thank you, Nico. Jorge, thank you for the record. I'll try to be very brief. Basically, this is about internet governance awareness to make our colleagues here in the room aware of what is happening in the wider internet governance context. As we have very clearly said for clarity, the WSIS+20 review is a UN process. Regarding WSIS+20, the GAC serves only as a forum to provide its members with information about this process, and accordingly, the activities are similar.

It's to share information about what ICANN Org does in this field so that you are informed. This is what is under 8.1, and also to share information amongst each other. Here in the GAC, this is 8.2, probably in the form of GAC webinars. We had a very successful GAC webinar organized by Christine and Anna Neves some months ago, and of course, if we have a high-level governmental meeting as we did in Kigali, Internet Governance linked to the DNS

administration would probably be a topic. So, I think that's all. I don't know if Christine, you want to compliment?

CHRISTINE ARIDA   Thank you, Cancio. You've said it all. I think just to add that we're having a meeting tomorrow with the co-facilitators of the WSIS+20 process, which falls under this information sharing where we would be probably informed about the process and what is happening in on that respect. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Thank you so much for that, and everybody will have a chance to ask them any kind of question during or after, or even before, because they're going to be here a little bit earlier, if I understand correctly. So, thank you so much for that. We don't actually have time for questions in this regard, so we'll go directly to Strategic Objective number nine, and for that I'll give the floor to the Netherlands. Marco, all yours.

MARCO HOGEWONING   Thank you. It's a very big topic, but in terms of the document, we kept it light and small. We have, of course, been engaging with the ASO and the RIR over the last few months, last years even. The aim is to continue this, and just as with part of the gTLD, one of the key deliverables under this is actually the ASO coming forward with a new RIR governance document that's currently in the making. It's open for Public Comments.

So, in that sense, I hope, looking at the 2025-2026 timeframe, to deliver on these deliverables relatively fast and preferably before we hit the New gTLD round. And open for, well, I guess the questions will be taken offline, looking at my clock.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   That was quick. Thank you so much, Netherlands. We still have a good three minutes for comments or questions. And I know that's the only thing that is separating us from lunch, but again, I'm in your hands. I'm just the GAC chair. So, I see no hands online. I see no hands in the room. Australia? There are no questions. Australia, would you like to take the floor?

IAN SHELDON   Thanks, Nico. Just two brief points from me. Please fill out this survey. Like Anna mentioned, participation rate is reasonably low, a vital part of collecting data or insight into the operations of the GAC. So, if you do have concerns or any thoughts, put them in here, but you're also very welcome to come speak to any of the leadership about broader feedback or thoughts on the operations of GAC as well.

And if you do take the time to fill out the survey here today by sending QR code, please see my colleague Dale, who can give you a Tim Tam as well. So, just a bit of extra inducement for getting those numbers up. And finally, there's an Asia-Pacific GAC lunch catch-up, Wicklow room 1 on level 2 at 12:15. So, if you are from

the Asia-Pacific and you're here today, please join us for a sandwich and a chat. Thanks, Nico.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Thanks so much, Australia. So, before we wrap up, just two things. The first one being, we can take the Strategic Plan for 25-26 as endorsed, or you think we need another full session for that. The material has been already circulated. We discussed, we shared with the-- Netherlands? Yeah.

MARCO HOGEWONING   I'm all for endorsing it here right now, but given the comments and the discussion we just have for the ASP, I would like to enter the caveat that we might want to change a bit of the ASP text. I think that was what we were alluding to during the discussion we just have. So, I'm happy to endorse it, barring paragraph 3.3. Okay.

NICOLAS CABALLERO   Perfect. We can do that. Not right now, of course. So, just a couple of housekeeping details. We're going to have a lunch break now till 1:15, and right after that, we'll be having the Capacity Building Session number one, one out of three, right? We'll have two capacity development sessions today and the third one tomorrow. So, with that, enjoy your lunch. We'll reconvene at 13:15. Thank you so much.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]