
ICANN74 | Policy Forum – GAC Social
Monday, June 13, 2022 – 16:30 to 17:30 AMS

NIGEL HICKSON: Good afternoon everyone, ladies and gentlemen. Can we have everyone not sitting down to sit down? The last person not sitting down has to [indiscernible] [jokingly], and the last has to sing a solo. Okay. Let's start. And our Chair, Manal.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Thank you very much, Nigel, for helping out. Thank you, and welcome back everyone. As I said earlier, this is one hour dedicated for social networking. As we mentioned a couple of times, we had 150 new GAC representatives ever since our last face-to-face in Montreal in 2019. So as you may have felt yourself, people do not know each other and we need to try to break the ice, have everyone put a face to the name, get to know each other more and be more comfortable and familiar with colleagues and with the setup and encourage participation and encourage relationships between all of the GAC members and collaboration. So with that, again, I would like to thank everyone who contributed to this session. I'm here to be surprised like you all, so we will see how it goes. But I'm sure a lot of fun and interesting things are waiting for us. Right, Nigel?

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NIGEL HICKSON:

Yes, absolutely, indeed, it's going to be fun! And everyone has to participate. Because if you don't participate, you don't get to go to the drinks. So this is the -- [laughing] no, Julia is really the master here for this GAC session, and -- I have to take this mask off a bit -- but she's conceived this session so it's going to be fun. As Manal has said, it's to break the ice, a celebration, if you like, that we come together. Some of us have been together and have known each other before from previous lives, if you like, in the GAC or other institutions, but many of us have met for the first time. And those of us that were privileged to go to the Peace Palace yesterday -- and thank you, Alisa, and some meeting her for the first time and we will have opportunities as we go through the week for networking receptions that ICANN has kindly facilitated for after our sessions. Because this is how we work collaboratively together. We come together, talk together, understand each other and we make progress. So we're going to start by having this sort of ice breaker session where we will ask you a couple of polling questions, and I think Julia will pose what those are about.

JULIA CHARVOLEN:

Thank you, Nigel. So for those of you if you can log into Zoom if you are not logged in yet, because the polling will be happening there. There will be two questions for a few minutes for you to

answer. And in the meantime, I think you can hand it over to Alisa when you feel like it and we can review the poll results. Thank you.

NIGEL ROBERTS: Thanks very much. So is everyone on the Zoom call? Does everyone know what they're doing on the Zoom?

JULIA CHARVOLEN: It looks like we're getting answers in.

NIGEL ROBERTS: [laughing] that's good indeed. That's what we need, we need the answers. Okay. So should we go on to the questions, the second part of?

JULIA CHARVOLEN: We have an intervention from Alisa first.

NIGEL ROBERTS: Yes, so sorry. If I was following my script it would be all right. But the floor is yours.

ALISA HEAVER:

Thank you, Nigel. I just realized that every time I had the opportunity to speak, I actually haven't introduced myself because every time people had already said Alisa, the floor is yours. So I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Alisa Heaver, and I am the GAC rep for the Netherlands. I have a GAC alternate as well, Mark [indiscernible] he unfortunately is now following the IT conference from home -- well, remotely, so today he won't be here; tomorrow he probably will be.

I think I was asked what my expectations would be of this week, and I kind of already told that this morning as well, mostly to get to know and you work together to create better GAC consensus on certain topics as we have the opportunity to talk to each other during the breaks and get to know each other a bit more, discuss specific topics of interest. And if I speak for myself, I have already been discussing some of these issues amongst other GAC members this morning. Yeah, I hope everybody else is also taking this opportunity to do that.

I have also had a question of what to do in The Hague while you are here. If I may recommend one museum, I could highly recommend going to the Mauritshuis. Sorry if it's difficult to get it correctly. It's Mauritshuis, and it has the painting of the Lady with the Pearl Earring, it's really beautiful.

NIGEL HICKSON: And she knows the best bars and restaurants. It's a wonderful place, isn't it, The Hague? We are truly privileged to be here. So we will now go onto a couple of questions and then I think Julia will come back to the poll results a little later. So the first question actually is to Manal. So I will ask Manal a question. And yeah, I don't often get the chance to [chuckling] but Manal, think back to your early days. I mean, I know you were a child not long ago, but think back to your early days with ICANN and the GAC. What was really the biggest surprise for you about ICANN and the GAC?

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Thank you, Nigel. So early days, this is very far, with ICANN, frankly, the first thing that surprised me was the Board meetings held in public. I have never been to a Board meeting that is held in public with such a number of audience witnessing the discussions and everything.

But with the GAC it's a longer story. We were hosting the ICANN5. I was a new graduate and we were helping with the organization of the event, and ICANN at the time was a side event to our Internet annual event in Egypt. And my boss told me since we are the host, you have to go attend the GAC meetings. We're the government and the host, so go and attend. We were not

members but he spoke to the Chair at the time and told me everything is set, just go.

I went and I couldn't enter the room. It was locked with a key. And I was told that this is how the GAC meets, they meet behind locked doors, and it was physically locked with a key. I didn't know what to do because I have to report back to my boss that I attended the meeting and I couldn't tell him I couldn't get inside because the door was locked, it was not an excuse. But again, I was stuck. This is what I did. He had to call the Chair again, and I was allowed to enter and it was a very formal setup, I was very tense. I was very cautious not to be recognized as seeking the floor so I was very quiet. And a couple of years later I was attending an African event in Ghana, and they saw my name in the attendees so the GAC secretariat approached me and told me you are in Egypt? We don't have someone from Egypt in the GAC. Why don't you join the GAC? Just send me a formal letter. And that's it. And we did. I kept afterwards attending once in awhile, then regularly, and then became addicted. And yeah, here we are.

NIGEL HICKSON:

Thank you so much, Manal. We're very glad you became addicted. It's great to have you. I mean, I was asked to say a few words about my biggest surprise, if you like. But I'm a bit of a fraud really, I haven't been on the GAC that long at all. I have been

associated with it but a former colleagues of mine, Mark [indiscernible] who some may have known in our communications department in the UK, I was working with him in London and overseeing some of the work of the ITU and other institutions and he told me he went to meetings at ICANN. And at the time I wasn't really sure what ICANN was. But he said the great advantage of these meetings is that ICANN held meetings in nice places. So [chuckling] this seemed a good organization to follow.

Soon after that I had the privilege to join ICANN as a staff member and I worked with ICANN from 2012-2020. So not so much a reflection on the GAC as others more qualified to do, but I think really it's an observation of ICANN and really what a warm, if you like, family it is, and it was an absolute honor and pleasure working as a staff member for ICANN. It's a really caring organization, lots of really decent people that understand the difference in different backgrounds, so to me that was very noticeable. And I had the absolute pleasure of working for someone that -- actually someone that Manal worked for, Terrick [indiscernible] head of the government engagement in Geneva, he died a few years ago but worked with --

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Actually, he was the one that asked that I attend the meeting.

NIGEL HICKSON: [chuckling] I think the main thing is that the main experience is that you work with incredible people whether it's on the GAC, whether it's with ICANN or whatever we do, we work with people and we experience that. But please, others that have been on the GAC for a while. Please join in before we go to our second question. So please take the floor, just say who you are and if you have any reflections on your early days at ICANN -- sorry, your early days at GAC -- please contribute. Please just -- yes, go.

INDONESIA: Thank you, just sharing my experience in these nice GAC meetings. Because I learned -- well basically, I really learned how the Internet is organized when I started to join the GAC meetings. And one thing that's important is that all the GAC members (audio feedback) all of the GAC members here are nice, most of them are nice and they work, they're so focused until the job is finished. The first I remember is when we had a hot, very intensive discussion about [indiscernible] in Singapore, and the Chair was -- I forget.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Dreydon.

INDONESIA: Yeah, and my friends from EU had to wait for communication from Brussels until [indiscernible] provides us with dinner, so you can imagine how focused is the job. And I was like if only all the people in the world were like this, it seems to me.

And in the GAC, so many from different countries, different views. One country might think this is okay; another might think it is not. And I understand that. Every country has their own culture, their regulation, so I can learn from big countries to small countries, it's very interesting. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much and for all you have contributed.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: If I may, the long meetings that Ashwin is referring to that ended after midnight were on new gTLDs, so just a heads-up [chuckling]

NIGEL HICKSON: Please, anyone else? Yes.

UGANDA: Hello, everyone, Gloria [indiscernible] from Uganda. Finland was my first meeting and I put up my hand and I'm talking, and then I'm asked by my neighbor -- not saying who -- is that a position of

government? And I said no, this is what we're supposed to be discussing. And he said no, what you represent here is what the government is Uganda is saying. So since then before I give my opinion I must get clearance, which is quite interesting, but it has been a learning experience. Thank you very much.

NIGEL HICKSON:

Thank you. We can perhaps go on to our second question unless there's anyone else? Please just shout if I haven't seen you. But there are lots of opportunities for anyone to come in at any time. But our second question today sort of turns around things really so rather than hear from people with a bit more experience, let's hear from newcomers to this particular GAC meeting, so I call upon first my colleague, Rose, who will tell her impression -- really unfair after just a couple of days but that's how we work here.

ROSE:

Thank you so much for introducing me, Nigel, and it's been an absolute pleasure meeting everyone so far today and yesterday. So the biggest surprise to me about ICANN was the wealth of information they provide to new starters, webinars, details briefings on key issues, and that was so helpful to me, preparing for the policy forum in just four weeks' time, very grateful to ICANN for that, all of that information was a very good surprise.

And then the biggest surprise to me about the GAC was the collaborative nature of how the GAC works with many other groups in ICANN including the GNSO and others. Sometimes in forums, groups sometimes work in silos but here it seems everyone is working together. We obviously had an update from the GNSO earlier so it's really great to work together and draw upon each other's expertise to develop solutions.

And finally, to give my thanks to Alisa, in particular for yesterday's tour of the Peace Palace, for organizing that. It was a really great way to meet and be welcomed by so many people. Thank you so much for your time. I will hand it back to Nigel for now, and please come introduce yourselves to me, I would like to meet as many people as possible this week.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you, and great to have you here. So Ian from Australia to tell us a little bit about his experience.

IAN SHELDON: Thanks, Nigel. Ian Sheldon, GAC Australia. This is my fifth ICANN meeting, first in-person so I'm still relatively fresh to this space. My response was going to be much like Rose's, I should have coordinated. So I will speak more off-the-cuff. I think the biggest thing that surprised me was the richness and variety of the ICANN

community. It's so refreshing to hear people from all walks of life come and give their input on something as critical as the Internet.

The update earlier from Sebastian and hearing his child in the background and seeing him in his garden, for me that's fantastic and really represents the richness of the ICANN community. And I think in some international [indiscernible] things are structured and uptight, and I am really enjoying the variety in participants we get coming through ICANN. And I think that extends to my reflections of the GAC as well, how warm and how much of a general community there is. It was really refreshing to just wander over and grab coffee and strike up a conversation. On the whole, ICANN and GAC have been incredibly warm and welcoming. I was expecting ICANN to be impenetrable. And there was a steep learning curve but those that helped me get up to speed, it was really quite refreshing. Thank you, I will leave it there.

NIGEL HICKSON:

Thanks, Ian, you win the prize for the person who has come the greatest distance to this meeting. I should have said earlier, of course, that we're not just physical, we're remote as well and we have a lot of our esteemed colleagues. So put your hand up in the Zoom room, and we will look forward to your comments. And Annebeth from Norway has offered to give us her experience of

being a GAC member in those early years. But anyone new that wants to say anything about their experience? Yes, sorry.

PARAGUAY:

No, ladies first.

UNITED STATES:

Thank you. I have attended the same number of meetings as I have roughly, so first in-person meeting as a GAC rep. And I have sat in on several virtual meetings, participated in, but I think something that was a bit surprising just to go to question 2, Part 2 about the GAC, has been that I would have anticipated a bit more discussion from different -- many different GAC members. It's been my initial impression -- and while this certainly isn't a criticism to all those who do take the floor and intervene -- is that it has been mainly concentrated on a few different participants. I think that it would be great to have much more diverse participation across the GAC members and across the different countries.

So one of my hopes is that during this meeting I will be able to engage with folks who I haven't heard intervene or participate in the GAC meetings, and hopefully that in-person component can help with that a little bit more. But just I guess on a more practical and -- hopefully not a serious note, but just a practical reflection

that I am surprised that not more people are intervening and just wondering how we can encourage that.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much, Susan. Yeah, some really good points which we need to reflect on. I think it was Paraguay, was it?

PARAGUAY: That's right, Nicholas [indiscernible] GAC Paraguay. And I know you, Nigel, it's good to see you again face-to-face. Glad to see many other distinguished colleagues like Pär, Tracy, like Jorge and many others. Unfortunately I did not get to see old friends but good to see the new representatives as well, and I just wanted to talk about one of the things that still surprises me a lot, and that is the -- how can I say -- the acronym romance is still here. PDP, EPDP, SO, IDP, AC, and so on, so forth. And we were talking with some friends from England about maybe the need to translate to human language some of the important points discussed like DNS abuse and directly talk about phishing and spam and those things.

But anyway, just wanted to mention the acronym romance, as I call it, is still around. And very happy to be here. Unfortunately, I couldn't make it yesterday to the Peace Palace, and thank you again, Alisa for the invitation but my flight got delayed; I got here

at 4:00 p.m. and only got to the hotel like at 5:00 p.m. So anyway, I wanted to share that, thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON:

Thank you very much. And again, thank you for coming all this distance, greatly appreciated. Were there others? I think my eyesight is not as good as it should be. Anyone else? There are other newcomers that might want to contribute. Julia is waiving her hand. Please, sir, introduce yourself.

FRANCIS CUBAHIRO, GAC VICE-CHAIR: Thank you very much. My name is Francis Cubahiro from Burundi, a new GAC Vice Chair. And my experience is amazing, been mostly involved in IT activities, and I remember when the [indiscernible] ICANN [indiscernible] came six years ago to meet my minister, so explaining ICANN and -- yeah, okay. And what was difficult for me, hard to explain that my colleague from [indiscernible] said, the acronyms, empowering community, and we are a French country so to translate sometimes, something is becoming very big. And so the multi-stakeholder approach, so when you go there you have the same position like one of registrars, GNSO, and you go to the GAC, you represent the country -- and to organize a meeting with minister of foreign affairs, especially when about the voting, we spend a lot of night and days, working Sundays, to say okay, we have countries

supporting. So Frances, not your thing, be quiet. And it was [indiscernible] so to vote at the last minute, I remember I had some trouble with Madam Julia -- I do apologize because I waited for the last moment because in my country, we say okay, we have many people, we have to take into account some countries. So coming back to my country, I have to give a briefing. So ministers were in front of me, it was like explain.

And another thing that was funny. When I was appointed to be the Vice Chair -- so okay, you will need a budget? [chuckling] You will need more stuff? And as I said, when we translate into French, this president [indiscernible] Burundi, it's very sensitive. And sometimes for them to take the floor, we have to deal with these ministers -- okay, I will send you something. You have to be careful.

But the good thing, we have sold the management of our [indiscernible] I remember it took us almost one year then in the 2018 or 2017 in Barcelona, so we invited one of the key persons. The key person is the presidency, our chairman of regularity, so he came and I said okay come, listen, because he was one of the persons who had to sign for the MOU between regularity ministry register strer so after one week, that one has been sent. Because sometimes they don't have more. He goes no, no, this one is in our decree, we are responsible. [laughter]

And I do thank the GAC, they allow us to come to Barcelona with protocols. And another thing I remember was last year, because now they see that, that Internet companies are making a lot of money, so they put a new tax on the data. So that means [indiscernible] approach from ICANN. So we had the meetings and went to the meetings because they see incomes. So we explain to them, to the whole Internet community, after one month the minister of finance says okay, I agree, I remove this tax. That is the thing that for me it was an amazing experience I had. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON:

Thank you so much for that. And you have lots more experiences to share, I'm sure. Perhaps we could go to the third question which I can read out -- oh, there we are. So this is sort of what advice have you given to newcomers or experienced people who are attending this meeting? In other words, I think this picks up a bit of Susan's point, how we can all sort of contribute to these meetings. And of course it's not easy, it's quite difficult, especially for those that are new to be able to pick up all the different processes and understand where we are on a certain issue.

But we have someone that understands perhaps better than most of us where we are on different issues, and that is our -- oh,

did you want to comment on the last? Sorry, I do apologize, I'm useless at this [chuckling].

ARGENTINA:

Thank you. Gabriela from Argentina from the ministry of foreign affairs, and I am very grateful to be here today in The Hague in person. And it's a great experience, it gets the topics much deeper than remotely. And I also want to thank Alisa for the welcome and the visit here to the palace, it was great. And also to Susan and what you were talking about how to engage participation here. And it's a question that I am also asking to myself when I say how I can engage governmental bodies in my country in ICANN? Where I come from it's a different context maybe and where we have a priority [indiscernible] Internet -- how we can expand access to Internet in an affordable way and maybe [indiscernible] such important topics that we should discuss at the same time while doing the [indistinct] of the access also discussing Internet governance.

And Nicholas was talking about the acronyms, and I would add also the amount of processes and acronyms and policies and dates and names of the reports instead of the substance of the discussion. And this is something -- because I would know more and better if I'm talking about the substance; I will know which is my red line in the national position. Thank you very much.

NIGEL HICKSON: Thank you very much, it's great to see you here. And we have had great experiences in Buenos Aires.

JORGE CANCIO: Jorge Cancio from the Swiss government. It would be presumptuous for me to give you advice, but my personal experience may be useful for you. I think one of the key characteristics of features of ICANN is that it's not only a multi-stakeholder body, our community, but that you actually make decisions at the end of the road. So maybe as the GAC, we don't make the final decision but we are part of the decision-making process. And this is very different to many other multi-stakeholder venues which have been growing these last years.

And maybe to some younger people this is nothing new because everything is multi-stakeholder. But what is different here to a certain extent is that in other places you just talk, you just exchange views. But here, in the end it's really decisions. And you have an influence on how the domain name system actually works, which holds our Internet together. So that is I think very, very important. And maybe the processes, the acronyms are complicated, but it's also learning by doing, in a way. So don't be

shy, don't be afraid, nobody knows everything, and you will learn by doing, by engaging.

And many times even if you know an issue, you know it only from your side, from your perspective, normally in this place the government perspective. And you know government perspective is also a myriad of perspectives because it's different than when you are in foreign affairs, than a technical ministry, than a different place in the government. So what makes also the experience very rich is that you will interact -- if you engage, you will interact with people coming from the private sector and from very different parts of the private sector, from civil society, from the technical community. So it will give you a more -- yes, multifaceted experience.

And sometimes it won't be easy because even if you are talking in English -- which is for many of us not our native language. But you have a common language but you have very different background because people are not only coming from different cultures, from different regions and countries in the world, they are coming from different professional backgrounds. And a lawyer from the US, for instance, will have a very different style of interacting with you than a colleague from an Asian country than somebody from a civil society organization from South America. So this gives you a very rich experience. And in the end you have to agree on things.

Because if you don't agree, you don't make progress. You are here not only to exchange opinions; you are, in the end, to arrive at solutions.

So my advice, if I may say so, would be engage, really seize the opportunity of exchanging and working together with people from very different backgrounds. And don't be shy, don't be afraid, it's learning by doing. Thank you.

NIGEL HICKSON:

Thank you very much, and I think very wise advice indeed. And thanks for all that you do in the ICANN community. I'm going to turn to my left to Tracy, because he's always good at giving advice but also he's got experience as both a government representative from the government advisory committee and a long-standing member but also now for working for an international organization.

TRACY HACKSHAW:

Thank you, Nigel. And I could also say that I have some experience, like I sat in that seat during the gTLDs as Vice Chair when we had late meetings, we were buying pizza for people and so on, interesting times.

I want to start with a joke. Could you imagine that at one time the GAC had a horseshoe table setting? Do you remember that? We sat in a horseshoe, adjusted the seat -- this is my seat, this is my seat. And what would happen if we had new seating like that in the pandemic? Can you imagine the size of the horseshoe? It's a thought [chuckling]. Obviously things have changed a lot in the GAC over the last ten years or so, and it's good to see we're still here.

One of the things I did want to say, I guess to echo what Jorge was saying and even respond to what Susan was saying, as GAC representatives you also have to remember, in the government case you represent governments. Depending on how you view that, you represent your people, right, your country, your citizens. How many of us as GAC reps speak to the people you represent? One of the complaints that has always come through, especially in underserved countries, is I don't know who my GAC rep is. Who are they? How can I engage with ICANN? I don't know who they are. And you can go online and see who they are but you don't talk to them, you don't say I'm open for feedback, can you tell me what you would like me to say at the GAC meeting? In terms of the Internet, what are your thoughts, your views? And that would help you?

I think -- I'm maybe stepping on [indiscernible] with people who have official positions but in terms of the lack of participation, if you can come with views and thoughts from your own country, the citizens, the young people, those involved with the Internet, then you are able to contribute here by saying, for example, I spoke to a young person who said that, xyz, that gTLDs, I don't understand what they mean, what this is about, its acronyms are not useful, whatever. But it gives you context. And I think for every GAC representative, that is the thing I would want to most recommend to everyone. Engage with your constituency, your stakeholders, not only the government office, the capitol, but also the stakeholder environment -- come to those positions, come to the meeting, and you can participate fully because you have a view you can express. Thanks very much.

NIGEL HICKSON:

Tracy, that was superb. Thank you so much for all you have done as well. I don't know why I'm thanking you, but you make a major contribution over a number of years.

I'm conscious of the time and keeping people away from cocktails, so let's go on to the last question, if we may, and then we might have time for a couple of further interventions. Sorry?

SPEAKER: Nigel, we have Luisa on Zoom.

LUISA PAEZ: Thank you, Nigel, and thank you for moderating the session with such enthusiasm. This is Luisa Paez, Canadian rep. And thank you to all of those who helped organize this session. We are coming to the end of the session, just a few comments for newer GAC members, and some of them have already been shared but just echoing those. First of all, similar to what Jorge was saying, well encouraging GAC members to ask questions and really own the space when it comes to GAC meetings, as we are all constantly learning, even for GAC members that have been in the role for five or more years.

The other comment as well, what Tracy was saying, the importance of really reaching out to all of your stakeholders at home before ICANN meetings and really taking advantage to interact with those stakeholders present at ICANN meetings and even stakeholders from other countries, really enriching. A lot of times they have the deep expertise and working directly on a lot of these very complex issues.

And another point is also encouraging new GAC members. That I believe is one of the best ways to learn the issues and learn how ICANN org works and the GAC is to volunteer, perhaps even in a

Chair or co-chair role in a GAC Working Group or as a vice chair. Even if you are new, you will be very much supported by the GAC support staff, and I would say it's one of the best ways to learn the issues. And finally, echoing what others have said about the importance of really focusing on capacity building efforts, and this has been a priority for a long time for the GAC. New GAC members have joined, more complex, it keeps evolving so perhaps we could consider organizing again through the Underserved Region Working Group alongside the government engagement team, we organized a very productive one-day GAC capacity building workshops before the meeting. Perhaps we could explore those again.

NIGEL HICKSON:

Thank you very much, Luisa. Great to see you, and sorry for omitting you earlier. And I think I just want to turn to Shi, if I may. And this is really our fourth question. What are you looking forward to in The Hague? And you can be very honest with us if you like.

SHI YOUNG CHANG, GAC VICE-CHAIR: Thank you, Nigel. And I am a GAC representative from the public of Korea and also Vice Chair. There are two things I'm looking forward to at this ICANN meeting. First of all, I just want to get an update or newest information regarding the

[indiscernible] topic such as gTLD, DNS abuse, and who are in positions -- I only got all the information from the previous [indiscernible] conversation so I have a lot of assignments to digest that information, so that is my assignment.

And secondly, I want to share with as many, make as many friends as I can to share opinions about issues. So want to know other countries' stance on issues. They all have different backgrounds and agencies and government stances So want to exchange those views. And it seems like ICANN gives us a chance to meet different people from different worlds but worried about the same issues regarding shared governance. So I think this is a chance to exchange those views with many people. So I'm looking forward to making those friends in this ICANN meeting. So thank you, and that's all.

NIGEL HICKSON:

Great. Thank you very much indeed. And I think we now are sort of drawing to the close but Manal, perhaps I can turn it over to you to say a few words in conclusion about some of the really I think pertinent observations that have been made. And thank you so much everyone for contributing to this. This is not the end of -- well, it's the end of the session but it's not the end of this dialogue. We're going to be meeting together, as I say, in many others. So let's all talk together and learn from our experiences.

And one point I was going to make and my last, don't worry about saying things that are not 100 percent right. If you see what I mean, and this is -- falling to Jorge to a certain extent. We were there in the early days, and this is complex and we don't always get it 100 percent right as we go to the microphone, as you have experienced with me. So don't worry, we're all in this together. Manal.

MANAL ISMAIL, GAC CHAIR: Thank you very much, Nigel, Julia, and to everyone who contributed. I think now we can create the GAC social committee. So thank you very much. This has been brilliant. And thank you all for the feedback. It was fun but it was also very informative to us. We will be mindful of the acronyms, and we will make sure we provide you with all the information you need, as Jorge and Nigel mentioned. No one knows everything so please feel free to speak up and engage. And also feel free to reach out individually to colleagues or to myself and GAC Vice Chairs or to the GAC support staff as well.

With that, I hope you can go home with a friend in every country around the globe. And I think we can conclude. Please be back in the GAC room tomorrow at 900 local time, 700 UTC. We will start

tomorrow with the preparations for our bilateral with the Board.
Thank you very much, and have a good rest of your day. Thanks.
[applause]

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]