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AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ALAC Statement on Proposed Definition of Name Collisions and Scope of Inquiry for the Name Collisions Analysis Project

Introduction

On 02 July 2019, public comment opened for [Proposed Definition of Name Collisions and Scope of Inquiry for the Name Collisions Analysis Project](#). On the same day, an At-Large [workspace](#) was created for the statement. The At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) decided it would be in the interest of end users to develop an ALAC statement on the public comment. Justine Chew, member of the Asian, Australasian and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO) volunteered as penholder for the statement.

On 24 July 2019, the first draft of the ALAC statement was posted by Justine Chew for community comment. ICANN policy staff in support of the At-Large community sent a call for comments to the CPWG and ALAC mailing lists, requesting feedback.

On [31 July 2019](#) and [07 August 2019](#), the CPWG discussed the draft ALAC statement on the ICANN public comment. A final call for comments was sent to the CPWG and ALAC mailing lists.

On 11 August, the penholder finalized the statement, incorporating feedback from the community.

On 12 August 2019, the ALAC Chair, Maureen Hilyard, requested that the statement be transmitted to the ICANN public comment process, copying the ICANN staff member responsible for this topic, with a note that the statement is pending ALAC ratification.

ALAC Statement on Proposed Definition of Name Collisions and Scope of Inquiry for the Name Collisions Analysis Project

As the ICANN constituency representing the views of individual Internet end users, the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) considers the issue of Name Collision in the DNS an area of importance for the minimization of unintended consequences for end users. Name Collision occurs when a user, attempting to reach a private domain name, unintentionally reaches a misinterpreted public domain name, thus creating situations which not only undermines end user trust of the Internet but could also pose potential security issues.

In this respect, the ALAC supports the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) in its continuing efforts to address the issue of Name Collision and notes the progress made in moving the Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP) forward since the ICANN Board decisions of [2017-11-02](#), [2018.02.04.12](#) and [2019.03.14](#). And in particular, the ALAC notes the initiation of the NCAP Discussion Group (NCAP DG) in April 2019 and its facilitation of community participation in drafting the present Proposed Definition of Name Collision and Scope of Inquiry for the Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP) dated 1 July 2019 for public comment.

We appreciate the need to have a Name Collision definition for purposes of scoping the inquiry for the NCAP, in order for the NCAP Study One to be manageable and on point. Therefore, the ALAC supports the Proposed Definition of Name Collision and Scope of Inquiry for the Name Collision Analysis Project of 1 July 2019. Of particular importance to us are:

- (1) The recognition and inclusion of Type B situations (ie. B. In scope but not intended to be the subject of data studies) which provides built-in peripheral consideration of such situations with decision for examination through data analysis at a later stage if a compelling case were to arise within Study One; and
- (2) The possibility of amending the Definition of Name Collision and Scope of Inquiry for the Name Collision Analysis Project should further pertinent information come to light at a later stage either through the ongoing work of the NCAP DG, NCAP Working Party and/or input obtained from the party/ies eventually contracted to undertake NCAP Study One.