

4 October 2019

## **ALAC-GAC intersessional call, 30 September 2019**

Report by Yrjö Länsipuro, ALAC Liaison to the GAC

### **Agenda:**

1. *Updates on EPDP*
2. *Cooperation in capacity building*
3. *Subsequent Procedures*
  - *ALAC participation in the GAC focal group on new gTLDs*
    - *Global Public interests and safeguards (highly regulated sectors, verified TLDs, registration restriction, DNS abuse)*
  - *Geographic Names*
4. *Next steps/AOB*

1. Hadia Elminiawi, one of the two ALAC representatives at the EPDP, presented an update on the work of its second phase, focusing on issues on which she thought the ALAC and the GAC could find common ground and potentially issue another joint statement<sup>1</sup>. Listing such issues, she mentioned the importance of complying with the GDPR and other relevant data protection laws related to gTLD registration data; the need for a standardized system for disclosing non-public gTLD registration data for those with legitimate interests and lawful grounds for processing it, accreditation/authorization issues; data accuracy; implementation of the distinction between natural and legal persons; technical contact information; and requirements of research pertaining to the security and stability of the Internet.

Manal Ismail, the GAC Chair, agreed that these topics presented great potential for cooperation. Since the GAC EPDP experts could not attend, discussion will continue afterwards.

2. Joanna Kulecza, Co-Chair of the At Large Capacity Building Working Group, noted that a joint ALAC-GAC capacity building event back-to-back with ICANN66, as originally planned, would have been challenging because the ALAC will be busy with ATLAS III. Instead, Maureen Hilyard, the ALAC Chair, welcomed interested GAC members to take advantage of ATLAS III and in particular to attend the Joint ALAC-GAC-NPOC Communications and Capacity Building Session, Saturday 17:00 – 18:30.

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<sup>1</sup> At ICANN64, the ALAC and the GAC issued a joint statement on Phase 1 issues of the EPDP [https://atlarge.icann.org/advice\\_statements/13255](https://atlarge.icann.org/advice_statements/13255)

Next GAC capacity building workshops are planned for ICANN67 and ICANN68.

Within the last one and a half years, there have been a hundred newcomers at the GAC meetings. Thus, capacity building needs are huge and efforts need to be focused on current important issues like EPDP and SubPro to bring members on speed.

3. At ICANN65, when ALAC-GAC policy cooperation was discussed, it was suggested that instead of setting up a new joint group, interested At Large members could be invited to participate in the work of the newly formed GAC Focus Group on ComPro. However, as Luisa Paez, the Chair of the Focus Group explained, so far the group has focused more on capacity building than on formulating GAC positions on the issues, let alone interacting with another constituency. She expressed interest in learning how ALAC is building capacities for At Large participation in the ComPro PDP and how it has organized the work across the many work tracks.

Justine Chew, the ALAC Liaison to the SubPro PDP, explained the role of ALAC Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) in coordinating the policy work and following complicated processes such as SubPro. She noted that there are many similarities in GAC and ALAC thinking on ComPro that could and should lead to taking common positions on appropriate issues.

Christopher Wilkinson, one of active At Large WT5 members, thanked the GAC for the efforts that Olga Cavalli, GAC Co-Chair of WT 5, has put in the work track, but wished that the GAC would speak with more voices at its meetings, explaining that numbers do make an impact in fact even if in theory they shouldn't.

4. As to next steps, Yrjö Länsipuro, the ALAC Liaison to the GAC, suggested that the discussion be continued under the same agenda at the joint meeting at ICANN66 (Tuesday 5 November, 14:15 -15:00) . Manal agreed and expressed the hope that progress on various issues would take place before Montreal.