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AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ALAC Statement on Implementation Plan for the GNSO Consensus Policy Relating to the Protection of Certain Red Cross Names

Introduction

On 23 October 2019, Public Comment opened for [Implementation Plan for the GNSO Consensus Policy Relating to the Protection of Certain Red Cross Names](#). 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, ALAC Member of the Asian, Australasian, and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO) volunteered as penholder for the ALAC statement.

On 28 November 2019, Justine Chew posted the first draft ALAC statement on the topic to the workspace for At-Large Community discussion. ICANN policy staff in support of the At-Large community sent a call for comments to the CPWG and ALAC mailing lists, and comments were gathered on the workspace and mailing lists.

On 04 December 2019, the [statement was updated](#) to reflect a correction in a referenced ALAC statement on the topic.

On [11 December 2019](#), after weekly CPWG meetings and the call for comments on the CPWG and ALAC mailing lists, the penholder presented the final draft of the ALAC statement on Implementation Plan for the GNSO Consensus Policy Relating to the Protection of Certain Red Cross Names.

On 12 December 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 Implementation Plan for the GNSO Consensus Policy Relating to the Protection of Certain Red Cross Names

The ALAC appreciates all the work that has taken place since 2014 which leads into the implementation of this updated Protection of IGO and INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs Policy consensus policy. In particular, we have followed and supported the work of the Reconvened IGO-INGO PDP Working Group as presented in its Initial Report on the Protections for Certain Red Cross Names in all gTLDs – Policy Amendment Process of 20 June 2018 (see: [AL-ALAC-ST-0718-03-01-EN](#)), and the recommendations in its Final Report of 5 August 2018 (see: [AL-ALAC-ST-1218-04-01-EN](#)).

As a worldwide internationally recognized humanitarian aid organization, and one that has been regularly the target of those seeking to fraudulently extract donations, the ALAC believes that the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (incorporating National Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies, and the International Committee of the Red Cross) should be given the benefit of protection to its various identifiers, designations and/or acronyms as intended by the policy changes proposed for implementation in the said updated consensus policy. Implementation of the same, which we strongly support, helps resolve the issue of inconsistencies between the GAC's advice and the GNSO's previous policy on the affected Red Cross and Red Crescent names, which has been outstanding since 2013.

Further the ALAC supports the proposed changes in respect of the "*1. Red Cross: Specific Designations protected under the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols*" list, "*2. Red Cross: Acronyms*" list, and "*3. Red Cross: The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and its components*" list. In particular, we applaud the inclusion, into the third list, of names of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and of its respective components including the exact match names of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation in the six UN languages and of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. We also view as necessary the proposed action to recognize changes to the official names of the Red Cross Society entities, including component names, in Eswatini and Macedonia, respectively.

While reasonable financial or other resource costs that may arise during work on implementation of this updated Protection of IGO and INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs Policy consensus policy is to be expected, we are particularly appreciative that the ICANN Board has noted no fiscal or ramifications are envisaged on ICANN, the community or the public, in implementing the adopted policy.