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AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ALAC Statement on Draft PTI FY21-24 Strategic Plan

Introduction

On 20 April 2020, Public Comment opened for Draft PTI FY21-24 Strategic Plan. 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, under the newly formed Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group (OFB-WG) of the ALAC Finance and Budget Subcommittee (FBSC).

Holly Raiche, ALAC Member of the Asian, Australasian and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO), and Ricardo Holmquist, Chair of the OFB-WG, volunteered to be a part of the drafting team.

On 18 May 2020, Holly Raiche presented the At-Large issues of consensus regarding the Public Comment to the OFB-WG.

On 27 May 2020, after consultation with the community and WG members, Holly Raiche presented the first draft of the ALAC statement to the OFB-WG.

On 23 April 2020, Holly Raiche shared the draft of the ALAC statement. The first draft was posted to its At-Large workspace, circulated on the CPWG and OFB-WG mailing lists, and posted to the CPWG weekly agenda by ICANN Policy staff in support of the At-Large community.

On 01 June 2020, Holly Raiche finalized the ALAC statement.

On 01 June 2020, 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.

On 05 June 2020, staff confirmed the online vote resulted in the ALAC endorsing the statement with 12 votes in favor, 0 votes against, and 0 abstentions. Please note 80% (12) of the 15 ALAC Members participated in the poll. The ALAC Members who participated in the poll are (alphabetical order by first name): Bastiaan Goslings, Dave Kissoondoyal, Holly Raiche, Humberto Carrasco, Javier Rua-Jovet, Joanna Kulesza, Jonathan Zuck, Justine Chew, Marita Moll, Matthias Hudobnik, Maureen Hilyard, and Tijani Ben Jemaa. Three ALAC Members, Abdulkarim Oloyede, Carlos Raul Gutierrez, and Sylvia Herlein Leite, did not participate in the poll. You may view the result independently under: https://www.bigpulse.com/pollresults?code=1339458fx2NuFFA4LdgkzXqsA9x

ALAC Statement on Draft PTI FY21-24 Strategic Plan

The ALAC welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft PTI Strategic Plan and supports its five strategic objectives and strategies to achieve those objectives.

ALAC would like to particularly support the following elements of the Draft Plan:

Awareness of PTI's mandate and remit

Under Objective One, one of the targeted outcomes is '*improved alignment and awareness of ongoing unique identifiers activities within ICANN*'.

One of the suggested ways to achieve that objective, is to continue to "build on engagement efforts with oversight bodies such as the IETF Leadership, RIRs, CSC, and SO/ACs, as well as with the broader Internet community that uses the IANA services."

Further, one of the risks identified under Strategic Objective Five is:
PTI operates in silo due to a lack of clarity about the organization's remit within the broader ICANN org and community.

Noting that an outcome of Objective Five is "ICANN org and community aligned and educated about ICANN and PTI's remit in regards to the performance of the IANA functions," both suggest that these targeted outcome(s) and identified risk point to an important need for the publicizing of the critical role of PTI along with its remit in performing the naming function.

ALAC supports the development and implementation of an awareness and education campaign both within ICANN and in the larger Internet community on the critical role PTI plays in carrying out the 'naming function'.

Alignment of ICANN and PTI's Strategic and Financial Plans

The draft Strategic Plan notes that PTI is required to have a four year strategic plan and budget, while both ICANN's strategic Plan and budget are for five years.

The draft Strategic Plan makes it clear that the work of PTI and the resources to carry out that work and very closely tied to ICANN's Strategic Plan and Budget.

As the Draft Strategic Plan states in its introduction, one of the three key inputs into what PTI does is "the overall strategy of the ICANN organisation. Indeed, in ICANN's Strategic Plan, one of the first targeted outcomes is "Improved alignment and awareness of ongoing unique identifiers activities within ICANN org, the IANA customer community, and more broadly in standards development organizations".

Alignment of the budgets is also seen as critical. One of the risks identified in implementing a Strategic objective on security threats: 'Insufficient resources to continuously review and implement evolving security standards in the key systems used to deliver the IANA services.'

The ALAC supports implementation of steps to more closely align ICANN's and PTI's Strategic and Financial planning. This particularly includes ensuring that ICANN's budget provides sufficient funding for PTI to meet its strategic objectives. It should also ensure there is clarity on responsibility for tasks and no duplication of work.

Input into the development of ICANN policies

> One issue identified as a risk under Objective Three (on addressing the evolving needs of its customers) is as follows:
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> '*New community policies can trigger a significant increase in workload, and with insufficient lead time or commensurate resource adjustments, can impact overall IANA function.'*
>
> Indeed, privacy issues were specifically mentioned as one of the risks in achieving Objective One:
> *The evolving data privacy regulation landscape may have impacts on the level of transparency for the IANA registries, which may erode trust and accountability.*
>
> While the PTI's contract with ICANN prohibits PTI from publicly initiating, advancing of advocating any policy development to the naming function, PTI should respond to any requests for information and guidance to inform policy discussions that could impact on the naming function. Further, PTI should develop clear procedures to seek and capitalize on opportunities to inform the development or implementation of policies which PTI believes will impact its performance of the naming functions.

ALAC supports the development of mechanisms to ensure that PTI is given opportunities to provide input on the development of Policies that could impact in PTI's carrying out its functions under its contract with ICANN.