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AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ALAC Statement on Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP) Study 1: Proposed Final Report

Introduction

On 08 May 2020, Public Comment opened for [Name Collision Analysis Project \(NCAP\) Study 1: Proposed Final Report](#). 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, and Justine Chew, ALAC Member of the Asian, Australasian, and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO), volunteered for the drafting team of the ALAC statement.

On 27 May 2020, the CPWG decided that ALAC/At-Large should respond to the Public Comment by providing a general acknowledgement of this work product, and in particular, to express strong support for SSAC's onward action with Studies 2 and 3, while urging ICANN to do the same.

On [03 June 2020](#), Justine Chew shared the first draft of the ALAC statement. ICANN Policy staff in support of the At-Large community posted the draft to its workspace and issued a call for comments on the CPWG and ALAC mailing lists. There were no additional comments from the community, so a final call for comments was issued.

On [10 June 2020](#), the CPWG decided that the statement could move to the ALAC for ratification before submission to ICANN Public Comment.

On 10 June 2020, Justine Chew finalized the ALAC statement.

On 10 June 2020, the ALAC Chair, Maureen Hilyard, requested that the statement be ratified by the ALAC.

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The ALAC thanks OCTO, NCAP WP members and NCAP DG members for overseeing the work that has led to the NCAP Study 1 being completed with the production of this NCAP Study 1 Proposed Final Report, and we maintain our acknowledgment of the report as a useful primer on the subject of Name Collisions.

We note that the contractor engaged to perform Study 1 has made a recommendation in this proposed final report, summarized as follows:

"Given these findings, the recommendation is that Studies 2 and 3 should not be performed as currently designed All of that being said, this does not mean further study should not be conducted into name collision risks and the feasibility of potentially delegating additional domains that are likely to cause name collisions. Most notably, the Study 3 question of how to mitigate name collisions for potential delegation of the corp, home, and mail TLDs is still unresolved. However, the proposals for Studies 2 and 3, which were developed years ago, do not seem to be effective ways of achieving the intended goals."

The ALAC understands this recommendation to mean that the NCAP Studies 2 and 3 remain highly necessary, not only to facilitate further study into name collision risks associated with potential delegation of additional TLDs into the root zone, but also to determine effective mitigation steps to address such identified risks. We see such risks as potentially arising from delegations of any strings from the 2012 round of applications for new gTLDs still undergoing the contracting process, as a result of any new round of applications for new gTLDs, as well as in the management of ccTLDs. As the final report has noted, even the ICANN Board's question which the SSAC seeks to answer with Study 3 in respect of .CORP, .HOME and .MAIL as TLDs remains unresolved.

Therefore, we strongly support the SSAC in proceeding with Studies 2 and 3, and we also strongly urge the ICANN Board and ICANN Org/OCTO to take the necessary action to facilitate the conduct and funding of the NCAP Studies 2 and 3 in a manner agreeable by the SSAC.