



At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

ALAC Chair - Dr. Olivier Crépin-Leblond

Report from the Chair of the At-Large Advisory Committee to the 41st Meeting of ICANN in Singapore

24 June 2011

At-Large Activities at the 41st ICANN Meeting in Singapore

Overview of At-Large meetings & participation

During the 41st ICANN Meeting on 19–24 June 2011 in Singapore, the At-Large Community was represented by a total of 25 members from all five At-Large regions. These representatives included members of the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), officers of the five Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs), representatives of numerous At-Large Structures (ALSes), ALAC liaisons, At-Large delegates to the Nominating Committee (NomCom), and other representatives of the At-Large Community.

The ALAC held 17 major meetings in Singapore – 11 At-Large meetings and 6 cross-community meetings. It also participated in many more meetings and panels hosted by other ICANN communities and groups.

The following 11 At-Large meetings took place in Singapore:

- [ALAC and Regional Leadership Working Session 1](#)
- ALAC and Regional Leadership Working Session 2
- [ALAC Policy Discussion – Part 1](#)
- [ALAC Policy Discussion – Part 2](#)
- ALAC Meeting with the ICANN Board
- [At-Large Regional Leadership Meeting](#)
- [APRALO ALS Showcase](#)
- [APRALO Monthly Meeting](#)
- ALAC/At-Large Improvements Working Session
- [ALAC & Regional Leadership Wrap-Up Meeting](#), including a session with the ICANN CEO
- [ALAC ExCom Meeting](#)

At-Large wholly or partially organized and hosted the following 6 cross-community meetings:

- [Joint ALAC/GAC Meeting](#)
- [Joint ALAC/GNSO Commercial Stakeholder Group \(CSG\) Breakfast Meeting](#)

- Joint ALAC/Non-Commercial Users Constituency/Stakeholder Group (NCUC/SG) Meeting
- [Joint ALAC/WHOIS Review Team Meeting](#)
- Joint ALAC Executive Committee(ExCom)/Registrars Lunch Meeting
- [Joint AfrICANN/AFRALO Meeting](#)

At-Large members were also active in the meetings held in Singapore by other ICANN communities and groups. Furthermore, selected At-Large members prepared [reports](#) on these meetings, summarizing the issues of interest to the At-Large Community.

At-Large highlights in Singapore

The 41st ICANN Meeting saw much progress and many highlights for At-Large:

1) ALAC's productive meeting with ICANN's Board

The role At-Large has to play in the new gTLD program – both in helping to resolve outstanding applicant support issues and in outreach to end users – was again confirmed.

2) ALAC's productive meeting with ICANN's CEO

ICANN's CEO expressed the view that, if At-Large wished to proactively initiate certain policy issues – rather than only reacting to them – it would need to work toward such a proposal. As CEO, he *does* see the SO/ACs as evolving bodies; however, in his official capacity, he should not be guiding that evolution. The ALAC has recently created the new [Future Challenges WG](#) to facilitate its initiation of policy topics.

The CEO also thanked the ALAC for its valuable [statement](#) on the Notice of Inquiry (NOI) from the U.S. National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) regarding the renewal of the IANA Contract.

3) Enthusiastic APRALO Showcase

The particularly high-energy [APRALO Showcase](#) highlighted the diversity of the ALSes that make up APRALO. The region's newest ALS, [Netmission.ASIA](#), with members as young as 14 years of age, was represented in full force. Presentations were delivered by 5 ALSes, [Rajnish Singh](#) (APRALO's first chair), and [Dr. Ang Peng Hwa](#) (Director of the Singapore Internet Research Centre).

4) Progress regarding applicant support in the new gTLD program

During the joint ALAC/GAC meeting in Singapore, the discussion focused on the [Second Milestone Report](#) of the Joint Applicant Support Working Group (JAS WG). The results were quite promising.

A positive by-product of Singapore's ALAC/GAC meeting, as well as the follow-up session, seems to be a much closer working relationship between the two communities.

5) Collaboration with the GNSO's CSG

The ALAC co-hosted a joint breakfast meeting with the GNSO's Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG) in Singapore. The main question discussed was "What is the public interest?" In this exchange, much common interest was discovered between the two communities.

This meeting was the first-ever joint ALAC/CSG event and, more importantly, marked the launch of increased collaboration between these groups.

6) Collaboration with the GNSO's NCUC and NCSG

The ALAC and the GNSO's NCUC/NCSG met to work on enhancing and encouraging the education and protection of end users and registrants. In particular, the groups explored the way ahead on these fronts now that the new gTLD program has finally been launched, as well as the challenges in store for end users.

7) Collaboration with Registrars

In Singapore, the ALAC ExCom and a group of Registrars continued planning their joint work to create and host a vast array of educational material for end users. A spirit of enhanced collaboration prevailed.

8) ALAC/At-Large Improvements Project

On the Board's consent agenda in Singapore is a [motion to amend the ICANN Bylaws](#) in order to clarify the vital and ongoing role that the ALAC and At-Large play within ICANN. This role is central to ICANN's policy, accountability, and outreach functions. The proposed amendments have come out of the ALAC/At-Large Improvements Project and were initially recommended in the [Final Report of the ALAC Review WG on ALAC Improvements](#).

9) ALAC Statement on the Draft FY12 Operating Plan and Budget

In Singapore, ALAC members ratified the [ALAC Statement on the Draft FY12 Operating Plan and Budget](#), which had been submitted to both the Board and the staff member responsible for the associated public comment period. The statement addresses the gap between ICANN's Strategic Plan and the funding received by At-Large in the Draft Budget.

At-Large Activities Between Silicon Valley and Singapore

The At-Large Community continued – indeed, ramped up – its policy-making and outreach activities between the 40th ICANN Meeting in Silicon Valley/San Francisco in March 2011 and the 41st ICANN Meeting in Singapore in June 2011.

The highlights of these activities are described here:

1) Success in increasing the amount and bottom-up character of ALAC's policy input

In the three months leading up to Singapore, the ALAC had extraordinary success in further increasing both:

- The number of policy comments it offers; and
- The input into these comments from the At-Large “edges” – i.e., from the RALOs and ALSes – in order to strengthen the bottom-up quality of these comments.

During this period, the ALAC submitted an unprecedented [16 policy statements](#). These statements are listed in the Appendix to this report.

Even further increasing the input of At-Large's ALSes into the At-Large policy advice process is a major focus of the [ALAC/At-Large Improvements Project](#). The recommendations to come out of this project shortly will call for educational materials that better explain ICANN's policy issues to the ALSes, the translation of these materials into more languages, and earlier “warnings” of ICANN's approaching policy comment periods.

2) Increased cross-community collaboration

At-Large's collaboration with ICANN's other communities and groups takes many forms, from informal interaction to cross-AC/SO work groups (such as the ALAC/GNSO RAA WGs). Leading up to Singapore, the ALAC significantly increased its collaborative efforts – and plans to continue to do so.

[With the GAC](#): The ALAC ExCom held its first teleconference with the GAC Chair regarding shared interests in May 2011. Topics included the new gTLD launch, the GAC Scorecard, and the JAS WG.

[With the Registrars](#): As a follow-up to their meeting at the 40th ICANN Meeting, the ALAC organized an ALAC-Registrar call in May 2011. Topics included the joint production of Internet-consumer educational material (which does not market any particular registrar) and its being housed on an ICANN-managed Web site.

3) Support and guidance of the SO/AC New gTLD Joint Applicant Support Work Group (JAS WG)

The ALAC considers the issue of applicant support within the new gTLD program to be a deal-breaker for ICANN's legitimacy as the coordinator of the Internet's identifiers. For this reason, the ALAC has given its full support to the JAS WG's admirable and Board-directed work.

The ALAC (independent of the GNSO) reviewed, commented on, ratified, and submitted to the Board both the WG's [First Milestone Report](#) and, in May 2011, its [Second Milestone Report](#). The latter report focuses on the reasons certain gTLD applicants should receive support and the WG's recommendations in these areas:

- The criteria that should qualify an applicant for support;
- What kind of support should be provided; and
- How this support process relates to the procedures in the gTLD Applicant Guidebook.

4) *At-Large's new ALSes*

In June, the ALAC approved four ALS applications. [Netmission.ASIA](#) and the [Internet Society India Kolkata Chapter](#) joined APRALO; [INGO European Media Platform](#) and [The Ukrainian Internet Association](#) joined EURALO. This brings the total number of ALSes in At-Large to 134.

Also in June, the ALAC rejected an ALS application from [FORCAS \(Forum des Cadres Scientifiques pour le Développement\)](#) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

5) *The ALAC's statement on the eG8 Forum*

With the [Statement of the ALAC on the eG8 Forum](#), the ALAC registered its strong objection to the G8 governments' failure to invite representatives of Internet end users and civil society to the Forum, while, in fact, further skewing participation toward commercial interests via the Forum's sponsorship requirements.

The ALAC sent this statement, in English and French, to the eG8 Forum organizers; the Elysée Palace; the ICANN CEO and Board; the GAC Chair, Secretary, and French representatives; and a number of public platforms. Distribution of a statement this widely was a first for the ALAC.

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Appendix: ALAC Policy Statements in the Three Months Leading up to the 41st ICANN Meeting

During the period from the 40th ICANN Meeting in March 2011 to the 41st ICANN Meeting in June 2011, the ALAC submitted an unprecedented [16 policy statements](#). These statements are listed here.

- [ALAC Statement on the Draft FY12 Operating Plan and Budget](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Academia Representation on NomCom](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the eG8 Forum](#)
- [ALAC Statement on Proposal for Renewal of the .NET Registry Agreement](#)
- [ALAC Comments on JAS WG's Second Milestone Report](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Applicant Guidebook](#)
- [Proposed ALAC Statement to the ICANN Board on the RAA Negotiations](#)
- [ALAC Statement on Post-Expiration Domain Name Recovery Working Group Proposed Final Report](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Proposed Framework for the FY12 Operating Plan and Budget](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Whois Review Team](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Draft Proposal for the Study of Issues Related to the Delegation of IDN Variant TLDs](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Stability, Security, and Resilience of the DNS Review Team \(SSR-Team\)](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Proposed Recommendation for a Global Outreach Program](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Inter-Register Transfer Policy Part B WG Proposed Final Report](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Proposed New GNSO Policy Development Process](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the 2011 GAC gTLD Scorecard](#)