AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ALAC Statement on the Proposed Renewal of .NET Registry Agreement

Introduction

Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Members of the Asian, Australasian, and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO), developed an initial draft of the Statement on behalf of the ALAC.

On 29 May 2017, the first draft of the Statement was posted on its At-Large Workspace.

On 30 May 2017, ICANN Policy Staff in support of the At-Large Community sent a Call for Comments on the Statement to the At-Large Community via the ALAC Skype Group Chat to solicit quick feedback.

On that same date, a version incorporating the comments received was posted on the aforementioned workspace and the ALAC Chair requested that Staff open an ALAC ratification vote.

In the interest of time, the ALAC Chair 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 06 June 2017, Staff confirmed that the online vote resulted in the ALAC endorsing the Statement with 12 votes in favor, 1 vote against, and 1 abstention. Please note that 93.33% (14) of the 15 ALAC Members participated in the poll. The ALAC Members who participated in the poll are (alphabetical order of the first name): Alan Greenberg, Alberto Soto, Andrei Kolesnikov, Garth Bruen, Harold Arcos, Holly Raiche, Javier Rua, Leon Sanchez, Maureen Hilyard, Sebastien Bachollet, Seun Ojedeji, Tijani Ben Jemaa. One ALAC Member, Wafa Zaafouri, didn't vote. You may view the result independently under: https://www.bigpulse.com/pollresults?code=100689aWbsr9xxpDqYinPLarDV.

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The ALAC does not have any comment to make on the changes to the content of the contract overall as we believe that much of it has been predetermined by agreement. However, the increasing cost of .NET domains is a concern as it would make them unaffordable and thus an accessibility issue for end-users, especially for those in already underserved regions. The proposed 10% annual increase which all goes to the registry is significantly high and should be re-considered. A query was raised as to whether or how .NET funds are returned to serve the Internet community in line with the redistribution of .org funds into the community by the Internet Society, to support Internet development.