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AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ALAC Statement on the Preferential Treatment for Community Applications in String Contention

Introduction

Rinalia Abdul Rahim, ALAC member from the Asian, Australasian and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO) and ALAC Executive Committee member composed an initial draft of this Statement after discussion of the topic within At-Large and on the Mailing Lists

On 5 August 2013, this statement was posted on the [ALAC Statement on the Preferential Treatment for Community Applications in String Contention Workspace](#).

On that same day, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Chair of the ALAC, requested ICANN Policy Staff in support of the ALAC to send a Call for Comments on the draft Statement to all At-Large members via the [ALAC Announce Mailing List](#).

On 9 August 2013, a version incorporating the comments was posted.

The Chair of the ALAC requested that ICANN Policy Staff in support of the ALAC open a five-day ratification vote on the Statement. This Statement was then sent to the Chair of the Board and the Chair of the Board's new gTLD Program Committee with a note that it was currently undergoing ALAC Ratification.

On 19 August 2013, Staff confirmed that the online vote resulted in the ALAC endorsing the Statement with 14 votes in favor, 0 votes against, and 0 abstentions. You may review the result independently under: <http://www.bigpulse.com/pollresults?code=3299kUc64M7r5tBjD9fkzMTE>.

Summary

1. Applications with demonstrable support, appropriate safeguards and strong emphasis on community service should be accorded preferential treatment in the new gTLD string contention resolution process.

ALAC Statement on the Preferential Treatment for Community Applications in String Contention

The ALAC notes that some of the new gTLD applications that are intended for communities and have wide public or grassroots support were not submitted as community applications. These applications are currently in contention with those that are not designed for the benefit of specific communities of interest and are driven purely by commercial considerations.

We firmly believe that applications with demonstrable support, appropriate safeguards and strong emphasis on community service should be accorded preferential treatment in the new gTLD string contention resolution process. We thus support the position of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) as per its Durban Communiqué dated 18 July 2013. We call on ICANN to review all 688 applications currently in contention and provide preferential treatment to applications that meet the characteristics of community applications.