



## **At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)**

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ALAC Chair – Olivier Crépin-Leblond

March 16, 2012

### **Report from the Chair of the At-Large Advisory Committee from the 43<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of ICANN in San Juan, Costa Rica**

#### **At-Large Activities at the 43<sup>rd</sup> ICANN Meeting**

During the 43<sup>rd</sup> ICANN Meeting that took place 11-16 March 2012 in San Jose, Costa Rica the At-Large community was represented by a total of 54 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 At-Large Structures (ALSes), At-Large Liaisons, At-Large Delegates to the Nominating Committee (NomCom), At-Large Representatives on the Whois and SSR of the DNS Review Teams, and Representatives of the At-Large community.

At-Large Meetings that took place in San Jose included:

1. [LACRALO Capacity Building Session 1](#)
2. [ALAC and Regional Leadership Working Session 1](#)
3. [LACRALO with the ICANN Fellows Session 1](#)
4. [LACRALO Capacity Building Session 2](#)
5. [Future Challenges Working Group Meeting](#)
6. [ALAC Meeting with the NCSG](#)
7. [LACRALO Working Session](#)
8. [NARALO Monthly Meeting](#)
9. [New gTLDs Working Group](#)
10. [IDN Working Group](#)
11. [LACRALO Showcase](#)
12. [LACRALO with the ICANN Fellows Session 2](#)
13. [At-Large Meeting with the ICANN Board](#)
14. [At-Large Meeting with the GAC](#)
15. [ALAC: Policy Discussion - Part I](#)
16. [ALAC: Policy Discussion - Part II](#)
17. [At-Large Improvements Implementation Taskforce Workshop](#)
18. [LACRALO Capacity Building Session 3](#)

19. [LACRALO with the ICANN Fellows Session 3](#)
20. [Consensus Building: A Few Best Practices](#)
21. [LACRALO Capacity Building Session 4](#)
22. [At-Large Regional Leadership Meeting](#)
23. [AFRALO/AfrICANN Joint Meeting](#)
24. [ALAC & Regional Leadership Wrap-up Meeting](#)
25. [APRALO Monthly Meeting](#)
26. [LACRALO General Assembly Session 1](#)
27. [LACRALO with the ICANN Fellows Session 4](#)
28. [LACRALO Capacity Building Session 5](#)
29. [At-Large Improvements Taskforce Meeting with the SIC](#)
30. [LACRALO General Assembly Session 2](#)
31. [LACRALO with the ICANN Fellows Session 5](#)
32. [LACRALO Capacity Building Session 6](#)
33. [ALAC Executive Committee](#)

From March 11-16 2012, the ALAC and At-Large regional representatives in Costa Rica welcomed 34 representatives from Latin American and Caribbean ALSes taking part in the LACRALO Costa Rica Events

The LACRALO Costa Rica Events included:

- [A LACRALO Capacity Building Program](#) - A week-long series of capacity building sessions for LACRALO ALS representatives.
- [A LACRALO Showcase](#) – This event was comprised of several presentations on the theme of “Increasing participation of end users from Latin America and the Caribbean in ICANN and Internet Governance issues”.
- [A LACRALO General Assembly](#) – This LACRALO General Assembly, the first since March 2009, provided an opportunity for LACRALO to discuss issues of fundamental importance to their RALO.
- [Two LACRALO Working Sessions](#) - LACRALO ALSes participated in two Working sessions facilitated by Rodrigo de la Parra, VP of Latin America, and Elad Levingson, VP of Vice President of Organization Effectiveness. The sessions aimed at encouraging the LACRALO community to work together and at improving ALSes collaboration and participation in LACRALO and ICANN. The Working sessions resulted in the establishment of four working groups to strengthen LACRALO, namely, 1. Strategic Planning, 2. Communication, 3. Translation and 4. Governance.

The series of Capacity Building sessions had as a main objective to build capacity and raise awareness of ICANN policies, organization and activities to increase the effectiveness of the participation of the Latin American end-user representatives in ICANN's policy development process. Over six days of the Costa Rica Meeting, the program provided the representatives of LACRALO ALSes with briefings on the key policies, issues, activities and structure of ICANN. These briefings included presentations by the Chairs of several Advisory Committees and Supporting Organizations as well as ICANN staff, and allowed for open and interactive dialogue.

One of the highlights of the LACRALO Events was the [LACRALO Showcase](#) which included comments by Rod Beckstrom, President and CEO, ICANN; Steve Crocker, Chairman of the Board of ICANN; Alejandro Cruz, the Minister of Science and Technology of Costa Rica; Raul Echebarria, LACNIC CEO and Chair of ISOC Board of Trustees; Vanda Scartezini, Chair of the NomCom; and Sebastien Bachollet, ICANN Board Member selected by At-Large; Jose Francisco Arce, Chair of LACRALO; Dev Teelucksingh, Secretary of LACRALO and LACRALO members Sergio Salinas Porto and Cintra Sooknanan. The LACRALO Showcase gave a taste of the activities of the LACRALO ALSes and vibrant sights and sounds of Costa Rican folklore.

In addition to these At-Large meetings, the At-Large community members participated actively in many of the other meetings taking place during the 43<sup>rd</sup> ICANN Meeting either in person or using remote participation tools.

At-Large played a key role in the organization and running of two other cross-constituency meetings:

- [Consumer Metrics](#)
- [Joint DNS Security and Stability Analysis Working Group \(DSSA\)](#)
- [CSG-ALAC Meeting](#)

The At-Large members that participated in the 43<sup>rd</sup> ICANN Meeting actively took part in non-At-Large meetings as well. They prepared [reports](#) of these sessions, which provided summaries of the sessions as well as highlighting issues of importance to the At-Large community.

### **Highlights of the At-Large Community at the 43<sup>rd</sup> ICANN Meeting**

Among the many policy and process-related issues discussed during their meetings, there are several the ALAC would like to highlight:

- **At-Large Statement on the WHOIS Policy Review Team Draft Report**
  - The ALAC voted to adopt a statement on the [WHOIS Policy Review Team Draft Report](#). Two At-Large Briefing Sessions on WHOIS Policy

and the WHOIS Policy Review Team Draft Report were held in February and March 2012 to increase understanding of the issue and the draft Report.

- **ALAC Statement on the Reservation of Olympic and Red Cross Names in the gTLD Application Procedure**

- The [ALAC Statement on the Reservation of Olympic and Red Cross Names in the gTLD Application Procedure](#) notes with concern the recent activities of the ICANN Board, its staff, and the GNSO regarding the reservation of domain names related to the Olympic and Red Cross movements.
- The ALAC specifically advises and requests the ICANN Board to reconsider its directions regarding the Red Cross and Olympic names as being ultimately against the global public interest.

- **Approved Process for the ALAC to Submit Public Comments on and File Possible Objections to New gTLD Applications**

- The ALAC voted to adopt a [proposal for the ALAC to submit public comments on and file possible objections to the new gTLD application](#).
- In ICANN's new gTLD program, the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) has been given the opportunity to obtain funding from ICANN to file an objection to a gTLD application. Under Section 3.3.2 "Objection Filing Fees" of the gTLD Applicant Guidebook (AGB):

*"Funding from ICANN for objection filing fees, as well as for advance payment of costs...is available to the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)."*

*"Funding for ALAC objection filing and dispute resolution fees is contingent on publication by ALAC of its approved process for considering and making objections. At a minimum, the process for objecting to a gTLD application will require:*

- *bottom-up development of potential objections,*
- *discussion and approval of objections at the Regional At-Large Organization (RALO) level, and*
- *a process for consideration and approval of the objection by the At-Large Advisory Committee."*

- The [At-Large New gTLD Working Group](#) (New gTLD WG) was mandated to look at this and come with such a process for considering and making objections during the 7 month Objection Period. A review of the gTLD Application Process showed an opportunity for At-Large and ALAC to submit public comments on gTLD applications during the 60 day Application Comment Period (ACP).

- This proposal outlines how At-Large and ALAC will discuss and consider the submission of public comments to gTLD applications during the ACP and to consider and make objections to gTLD Applications during the 7 month Objection Period.
- **Creation of At-Large Sub-Committee on Outreach**
  - The ALAC agreed to create an At-Large Sub-Committee on Outreach that will discuss the topic of outreach. This Sub-Committee will send a call for membership shortly request at a minimum one representative from each RALO.
  - This WG will work with ICANN's Global Partnership to identify areas where interaction can take place.
- **AFRALO/AfrICANN Statement of the ICANN African Community on the New gTLD Applicant Support Program** – The ALAC wishes to make particular note of, and give the highest compliments to, the timely preparatory work of the African ICANN community (AfrICANN and AFRALO), on the [Statement of the ICANN African Community on the New gTLD Applicant Support Program](#). The Statement concluded that:
  - without the appropriate promotion of the Applicant Support Program in the developing countries, without the inclusion of a set of objective criteria for the financial need evaluation, and without the involvement of developing country experts in the process of evaluation, the Applicant Support Program will not be successful.

### **At-Large Activities between the 42<sup>nd</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> ICANN Meetings**

The At-Large community, consisting of the ALAC, five RALOs and 144 ALSes, continued its policy-making and outreach activities between the 42<sup>nd</sup> ICANN Meeting held in Dakar, Senegal in October 2011 and the 43<sup>rd</sup> ICANN Meeting held in San Jose, Costa Rica in March 2012.

During this time-period, the ALAC submitted 14 Policy Statements and sent 3 Communications.

The topics of the ALAC policy statements and resolutions were as follows:

- [ALAC Statement on the Reservation of Olympic and Red Cross Names in the gTLD Application Procedure](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the WHOIS Policy Review Team Draft Report](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the ICANN FY 13 Budget Framework](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Initial Report on Universal Acceptance of IDN TLDs](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the IDN Variant Issues Project Draft Integrated Issues Report](#)
- [At-Large Events Roadmap Communication](#)

- [ALAC Statement on the Preliminary GNSO Issue Report on the Registrar Accreditation Agreement Amendments](#)
- [Comments on New gTLD Applicant Support Program - Financial Assistance](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Preliminary Issue Report on 'Thick' Whois](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Joint ccNSO and GNSO Working Group on Single Character IDN TLDs](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Preliminary Support Implementation Program](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Geographic Regions Review](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the .ASIA One and Two Character Allocation Proposal](#)
- [ALAC Letter to the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the 2012-2015 Strategic Plan](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Variant Issues Project Case Studies](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Draft Final Report of the Internationalized Registration Data Working Group](#)

Members of the ALAC, the Regions and our ALSes have been engaged directly with policy development and ICANN processes being conducted within or with other parts of ICANN these include but are not limited to:

- Two (2) Members in the [Geographic Regions Review Working Group](#)
- One (1) Member in the [ccNSO IDN PDP Working Group 1](#)
- Two (2) members in the [Consumer Metrics Project Discussion Drafting Team](#) (CCI DT )
- Two (2) members in the [DNS Security and Stability Analysis Working Group](#) (DSSA WG)
- One (1) member on the [International Olympic Committee \(IOC\) and Red Cross \(RC\) names discussion group](#)
- One (1) member on the [Framework of Interpretation Working Group](#) (FoI WG)
- One (1) member on the [WHOIS Survey working group](#)

The 5 RALOs have been exceptionally busy between the 42<sup>nd</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> ICANN Meetings. Their reports on their activities are available at:

- [AFRALO](#)
- [APRALO](#)
- [EURALO](#)
- [LACRALO](#)
- [NARALO](#)

During this period, 6 new ALSes were accredited and 5 organizations are currently going through the application process. Currently there are 144 ALSes.

The accredited ALSes are:

- [Internet Society Bahrain Chapter \(APRALO\)](#)
- [Internet Society Trinidad and Tobago Chapter \(LACRALO\)](#)
- [Internet Society Armenia Chapter \(APRALO\)](#)
- [The Ecuadorian Association for Free Software \(LACRALO\)](#)
- [National Association for Digital inclusion \(LACRALO\)](#)
- [Internet Society Cameroon Chapter \(AFRALO\)](#)
- [Internet Society Costa Rica Chapter \(LACRALO\)](#)

The organizations currently being reviewed are:

- [Media Education Center, NGO \(APRALO\)](#)
- [Wikimedia Austria \(EURALO\)](#)
- [National Association for Digital Inclusion \(ALCRALO\)](#)
- [Association of Notary Public Professional of Uruguay \(LACRALO\)](#)
- [Urdu Internet Society \(APRALO\)](#)

## **ALAC/At-Large Improvements Project – Status Update and Next Steps**

The At-Large Improvements Implementation Taskforce submitted the [ALAC/At-Large Improvements Project Taskforce submitted a Status Update report](#) with an integral [appendix](#) to the members of the Board Structural Improvements Committee. This status update outlines the significant progress made by the At-Large Improvements Implementation Taskforce toward the implementation of the ALAC/At-Large Improvements Recommendations. Specifically, this Status Update shows the current status of the ALAC/At-Large Recommendations as outlined in the Final Report of the ALAC Review Working Group on ALAC Improvements (9 June 2009) and further defined in the At-Large Improvements Implementation Project Plan (7 June 2010). The Update also provides the status of the series of Action Items aimed at implementing each of the Recommendations as developed by the four At-Large Improvements Working Teams between September 2010 and March 2011. As illustrated in the report, the At-Large Improvements Implementation Project is well on its way to completion with the majority of Recommendations and Action Items either fully or substantially completed.

### **A. Background of ALAC/At-Large Improvements Project**

On 9 June 2009, the Final [Report of the ALAC Review Working Group on ALAC Improvements](#) was published, incorporating input from two public-comment periods. In its 13 Recommendations, the Final Report identified key areas of needed improvement, focusing on At-Large's organization, effectiveness, participation, and relationship to other ICANN entities.



On 26 June 2009, the ICANN Board [resolved](#) to direct ICANN Staff to assist the At-Large community in developing a proposed implementation plan and timeline for the Recommendations in the [ALAC Review Final Report](#) (excluding the Recommendation to provide At-Large with voting seats) and to submit these to the [Structural Improvements Committee \(SIC\)](#) for review and Board approval.

At its 19 June 2010 meeting, the SIC acknowledged receipt from Staff and the At-Large community of the implementation plan and timeline, entitled "[ALAC/At-Large Improvements Implementation Project Plan](#)," dated 7 June 2010, and resolved to recommend it to the ICANN Board for consideration.

At its 25 June 2010 Meeting, the Board [resolved](#) to direct ICANN's President and CEO to provide the Board with a [summary](#) of the "[ALAC/At-Large Improvements Implementation Project Plan](#)" dated 7 June 2010, for consideration at the next Board meeting, if practicable.

At its 5 August 2010 Meeting, the Board [resolved](#) to approve the ALAC/At-Large Improvements Project Plan and directed ICANN's President and CEO to take action according to the [ALAC/At-Large Improvements Implementation Project Plan](#) and report back on the progress at the 2010 Annual General Meeting.

On 10 December 2010, during ICANN's 2010 Annual General Meeting, the Chair of the ALAC provided an update on the ALAC/At-Large Improvements Implementation Project Plan in her [Chair's Report](#), prepared in collaboration with Staff.

At its 23 October 2011 Meeting, the SIC acknowledged receipt from Staff of the [ALAC/At-Large Improvements Project Milestone Report](#) dated 9 October 2011, which provided an update on the implementation of the Recommendations in the ALAC Review Final Report and transmitted it to the ICANN Board.

During the Board Meeting of October 28, 2011, the Board [resolved](#) to acknowledge receipt of the [ALAC/At-Large Improvements Project Milestone Report](#) and recognized the substantial amount of work done thus far by the ALAC and At-Large community toward implementing the ALAC/At-Large Improvements Recommendations.

## **B. Activity of the At-Large Improvements Implementation Taskforce between ICANN's 42<sup>nd</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> Meetings**

The At-Large Improvements Implementation Taskforce was established by the ALAC during the 42<sup>nd</sup> ICANN Meeting in Dakar. This Taskforce consists of [members](#) from each of the five At-Large Regional At-Large Organizations.



Since November 2011, the Taskforce has held [weekly meetings](#) in which it has systematically reviewed the remaining Recommendations and Action Items for their implementation identified by the At-Large Improvements Work Teams. The Taskforce has assigned the remaining Action Items to already-existing At-Large Working Groups and established timelines for their completion.

The Taskforce prepared a Status Update on the ALAC/At-Large Improvements Implementation Project which outlines the significant progress made by the [At-Large Improvements Implementation Taskforce](#) toward the implementation of the ALAC/At-Large Improvements Recommendations.

### **C. Activities of the At-Large Improvements Implementation Taskforce during the 43<sup>rd</sup> ICANN Meeting**

During the 43<sup>rd</sup> ICANN Meeting that took place in San Jose, Costa Rica, from 11-16 March 2012, the At-Large Improvements Taskforce held a [half-day workshop](#) as well as met with the members of the SIC.

The At-Large Improvements Implementation Taskforce Workshop focused on the drafting of the ALAC Vision Statement, review of remaining At-Large Improvements Implementation activities, and outlining steps to ensure that both the RALOs and their individual At-Large Structures as well as the At-Large Working Groups are fully integrated into the At-Large Improvements Implementation Project and any ongoing monitoring activities.

The members of the At-Large Improvements Implementation Taskforce met with the members of the SIC to discuss the status of the At-Large Improvements Implementation, steps toward the completion of the At-Large Improvements Implementation Project, and initial steps for the next review of the ALAC.

### **D. Proposed Next Steps for the Completion of the ALAC/At-Large Improvements Implementation Project**

The next steps of the At-Large Improvements Implementation Project will be determined primarily by the action items deriving from the At-Large Improvements [half-day workshop](#) to be held during the 43<sup>rd</sup> ICANN Meeting in Costa Rica.

These action items include informing the ALAC Executive Committee, At-Large Working Groups and Regional At-Large Organizations and their individual At-Large Structures of the tasks that they have been asked to implement or monitor.

A final report will be prepared for submission to the SIC and the ICANN Board during the 44<sup>th</sup> ICANN Meeting scheduled for 24-29 June in Prague.

## **A Note of Thanks**

The members of the ALAC and Regional leaders would like to extend their sincere thanks, appreciation, and recognition to the ICANN staff that support us, Heidi Ullrich, Silvia Vivanco, Matt Ashtiani, Gisella Gruber and Nathalie Peregrine, for providing 24/7 support to all parts of the At-Large Community. We would also like to thank the members of ICANN staff that provided exceptional briefings and engaged in stimulating discussion with us during the 43<sup>rd</sup>. ICANN meeting.