



At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

ALAC Chair – Olivier Crépin-Leblond

June 29, 2012

Report from the Chair of the At-Large Advisory Committee from the 44th Meeting of ICANN in Prague, the Czech Republic

At-Large Activities at the 44th ICANN Meeting

During the 44th ICANN Meeting that took place 24-29 June 2012 in Prague, the Czech Republic, the At-Large community was represented by a total of 31 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 Prague included:

1. [ALAC and Regional Leadership Working Session 1](#)
2. [ALAC Meeting with the NCSG](#)
3. [At-Large Improvements Implementation Taskforce Workshop](#)
4. [At-Large New gTLD Working Group](#)
5. [ALAC 10 Year Anniversary Event](#) – Watch the [video](#)
6. [APRALO Monthly Meeting](#)
7. [At-Large Meeting with the ICANN Board](#)
8. [At-Large Meeting with the GAC](#)
9. [ALAC: Policy Discussion - Part I](#)
10. [ALAC: Policy Discussion - Part II](#)
11. [Joint At-Large New gTLD WG and Review Group](#)
12. [At-Large Registrant Rights and Responsibilities Working Group](#)
13. [At-Large Future Challenges Working Group](#)
14. [Expanded ICANN Academy Working Group](#)
15. [At-Large Regional Leadership Meeting](#)
16. [AFRALO/AfrICANN Joint Meeting](#)
17. [IDN Working Group](#)
18. [At-Large Rules of Procedure WG and ALAC Metrics Sub-Committee](#)

19. [At-Large Future Challenges WG Meeting](#)
20. [ALAC & Regional Leadership Wrap-up](#)
21. [ALAC Executive Committee](#)

Members of the At-Large community also played a key role in the organization and running of the Joint DNS Security and Stability Analysis Working Group (DSSA) Meeting.

In addition to At-Large meetings, the At-Large community members participated actively in many of the other meetings taking place during the 44th ICANN Meeting either in person or using remote participation tools. 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 44th ICANN Meeting

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

- **Completion of the ALAC/At-Large Improvements Project**
 - The ALAC/At-Large Improvements Taskforce submitted the [ALAC/At-Large Improvements Implementation Project Final Report](#) to the Structural Improvements Committee (SIC) for review during the Prague Meeting. The SIC has requested that the Board review the Final Report during the Board's next Meeting.
 - The Final Report outlines the activities and accomplishments of the ALAC and At-Large in completing this project. Specifically, it highlights the steps made by [At-Large Improvements Work Teams](#) and the [At-Large Improvements Implementation Taskforce](#) toward the full implementation of the ALAC/At-Large Improvements Recommendations.
 - As illustrated in the table below, and more fully in the Appendix of the Final Report, the At-Large Improvements Implementation Project Taskforce has completed the implementation of the Recommendations and Action Items. This completion consists of concluding finite activities or allocating responsibility to bodies of the ALAC and At-Large community, including the ALAC Executive Committee, At-Large Working Groups and Regional At-Large Organizations and their individual At-Large Structures, for activities requiring continuing monitoring and oversight.

ALAC/At-Large Improvements Implementation: Status of Recommendations				
Recommendation	Status (% Completed)			
	25%	50%	75%	100%
Rec 1: ICANN Bylaws				
Rec 2: Board Member ¹				
Rec 3: ALS-RALO-ALAC Structure				
Rec 4: ALS Education & Engagement ²				
Rec 5: Strategic & Operational Plans				
Rec 6: Cost Models				
Rec 7: Communication Tools				
Rec 8: Public Comment Period ³				https://community.icann.org/x/DYD7AQ
Rec 9: Translation Processes ⁴				
Rec 10: Home of Individual Internet Users				
Rec 11: Board Statement Regarding Rec. 10				
Rec 12: Input from Consumer Representatives				
Rec 13: Policy Advice Mechanisms ⁵				

¹ The Recommendation of the [ALAC Review Working Group Final Report](#) was accepted in its entirety by the ICANN Board, with the exception of the Recommendation that there should be two At-Large appointed, voting Board Members. The ALAC and the At-Large Community, while respecting the Board's decision on this matter (see: [22-June-2009](#) and [27-Aug-2009](#) ICANN Board Meeting minutes), discussed at length the merits and preferred options of having two Representatives on the ICANN Board. Moreover, the ALAC retains the hope that this will be reviewed in the future.

² Allocated to the ALAC Chair, the Executive Committee, and the Director for At-Large.

³ The Director for At-Large has consulted with the ICANN Staff responsible for the implementation of the Public Comment Enhancements regarding Recommendation 8 of the ALAC/At-Large Improvements Implementation Project. Following discussion between the Director for At-Large, the ALAC Chair and the Chair of the ALAC/At-Large Improvements Taskforce, the ALAC confirmed its understanding that the guidelines for Public Comments recognize flexibility in extending the Public Comment period beyond the minimum requirements. The ALAC may, on a case-by-case basis, request extensions of 5, 10, 15, 21 or 30 days (in exceptional circumstances). Such requests will be made directly to the Staff person responsible for the specific Public Comment period thereby notifying them that the ALAC intends to submit a comment. The ALAC further requests that a Staff response to such requests for an extension to a Public Comment period be granted or denied in an expeditious manner. If the request is denied, the ALAC may use its right to submit advice to the ICANN Board as per the [ICANN Bylaws](#). We note that the [ATRT implementation process includes the following relevant text](#):

16. Public notice and comment processes should provide for both a distinct "Comment" cycle and a "Reply Comment" cycle that allows community respondents to address and rebut arguments raised in opposing parties' comments.

17. As part of implementing recommendations 15 and 16, timelines for public notice and comment should be reviewed and adjusted to provide adequate opportunity for meaningful and timely comment. Comment and Reply Comment periods should be of a fixed duration.

The ALAC and its Improvements Taskforce established that the ALAC Chair, the ALAC Executive Committee and the Director for At-Large will continue to monitor this issue and will provide input to the Senior Director for Participation and Engagement and the Board PPC.

⁴ Allocated to the Executive Committee.

⁵ Allocated to the ALAC/At-Large Policy Review Committee standing committee.

- **ALAC 10 Year Anniversary Event**

- The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) and the At-Large community commemorated the 10 year anniversary of the ALAC (2002-2012) in Prague. This event consisted of a panel of former ALAC Chairs, including Jacqueline Morris and Cheryl Langdon-Orr, the current Chair, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, and “ALAC historian” Wolfgang Kleinwächter. The panelists discussed the challenges and opportunities they faced during their terms as ALAC Chair, the achievements of the ALAC, and their vision for its future. ICANN Chairman of the Board, Steve Crocker, and ICANN’s new CEO, Fadi Chehadé, also spoke. The Event included a slide show, a question and answer period and concluded with cocktails. Watch the [video](#).
- In the years since its inception, the ALAC has significantly increased its contribution to the ICANN Policy development process in terms of both quality and quantity of statements (0 statements in 2002, 40 statements in 2011, and 15 statements between January and April in 2012) submitted to the Public Comment Period. The ALAC has created over 15 active Working Groups and Sub-Committees that contribute toward the ALAC’s policy development. The ALAC contributed to the formation of the 5 Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs), which are also celebrating their 5 year anniversaries. In terms of outreach and capacity building, the ALAC has also successfully held an At-Large Summit in 2009 and has more recently held RALO capacity building sessions and General Assemblies during ICANN Meetings.
- The ALAC 10 Anniversary Event in Prague will be the start of commemorative activities through the end of the year.

- **[ALAC Statement on the Draft – ICANN Language Services Policy](#)**

- The ALAC voted to adopt a Statement on the Draft-ICANN Language Services Policy on 28 June. In its Statement, the ALAC noted its appreciation of the considerable work that has gone into the preparation and presentation of the DRAFT – ICANN Language Services Policy and Procedures document, as a next step in the evolution of these essential services to a Global Multi-stakeholder Organizations. The Statement addressed specific issues related to interpretation and translation of particular interest to the At-Large community. Appended to the Statement was a specific review and comments on the draft Language Services Policy prepared by LACRALO.

- [**ALAC Statement on the Public Comment Solicitation for FY13 Community Travel Support Guidelines**](#)
 - The ALAC voted to adopt a statement on the FY13 Community Travel Support Guidelines. The ALAC thanked ICANN for the continued travel support, as it is essential for At-Large to carry out its mandate. However, the Statement made three points:
 - The concept of re-purposing the funding allocated to 10 regional leaders towards regional assemblies has repeatedly been rejected by the ALAC for very well documented reasons. Having regional leaders present at all ICANN meetings is absolutely necessary for the At-Large to be effective. Moreover, it is incorrect to state that this is how the regional participation in Dakar and Costa Rica were funded. In both cases, separate funds were made available. These obsolete references in both section 3 and 5 should be removed.
 - Regarding how regional assemblies or summits should be funded, the ALAC is in on-going dialogue with senior ICANN financial management. This is documented in section 6 on Special Requests.
 - Regarding the concept of At-Large only requiring support during its "startup", it has always been clear to all of those actually involved in At-large that to withdraw travel support would effectively kill the any semblance of At-Large and ALAC effectiveness. It is true that some have proposed lower or no funding, but that concept has never been implemented, nor should it be if ICANN wants to have the input of the world's Internet user community.
-
- [**ALAC Statement on the ICANN Board's Closed Session on 23-June-2012 to Adopt the Draft .com Renewal Agreement**](#)
 - The ALAC voted to adopt a statement on the ICANN Board's Closed Session on 23-June-2012 to Adopt the Draft .com Renewal Agreement. In this Statement, the ALAC expressed its disappointment with the Board's decision to meet in a closed session on Saturday 23 June to [adopt the draft .com renewal agreement](#). ICANN Staff had placed this topic on the Thursday 28 June Public Forum agenda well before the start of the 44th ICANN Meeting and the the .com renewal item remained on the public forum topic list after the Board voted to adopt the draft .com renewal agreement. Although the ALAC was aware that the .com agreement was on the Board's agenda, the ALAC

was not aware of the intent to approve the agreement at its closed session.

- The ALAC comment is not with regard to the merits of the Board's action nor on the content of the .com agreement. The process followed by the Board is objectionable at a time when ICANN is subject to increased scrutiny. To give the impression that the Board is interested in additional community comments, but then make a decision five days earlier is not appropriate. It is imperative that the Board hold itself to the highest standards of transparency and accountability that it is mandated to uphold.

- **Statement of the ICANN African Community on the Low African Participation in the Applications for New gTLDs**

- 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 Low African Participation in the Applications for New gTLDs (EN/[FR](#))
- The Statement noted the low participation of African participation in the request for new gTLD applications, recognized that this may increase the digital divide, and included recommendations for ICANN, the African private sector, African accredited Registrars, and African civil society.

At-Large Activities between the 43rd and 44th ICANN Meetings

The At-Large community, consisting of the ALAC, five RALOs and 144 ALSes, continued its policy-making and outreach activities between the 43rd ICANN Meeting held in San Jose, Costa Rica in March 2012 and the end of the 44th ICANN Meeting held in Prague, the Czech Republic in June 2012.

During this time-period, the ALAC submitted 14 Policy Statements and one Communication.

The topics of the ALAC Policy Statements and Communication were as follows:

- [ALAC Communication to the ICANN Board on the .Com Renewal](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Public Comment Solicitation for FY13 Community Travel Support Guidelines](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Draft – ICANN Language Services Policy](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the DRAFT Statement of ICANN's Role and Remit in Security, Stability and Resiliency of the Internet's Unique Identifier Systems](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the WHOIS Policy Review Team Final Report](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the ICANN Draft FY13 Operating Plan and Budget](#)

- [ALAC Statement on the Proposed Revised Process for Handling Requests for Removal of Cross-Ownership Restrictions on Operators of Existing gTLDs](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Internationalized Domain Name \(IDN\) Variant Issues Project \(VIP\) Proposed Project Plan for Next Steps](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the ICANN Board Conflicts of Interest Review - Revised Conflicts of Interest Policy and Related Governance Documents](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the .com Registry Agreement Renewal](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Fake Renewal Notices Report](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Verisign Request to Implement Redemption Grace Period \(RGP\) for .name](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Draft Advice Letter on Consumer Trust, Consumer Choice, and Competition](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the Security, Stability & Resiliency of the DNS Review Team \(SSR RT\) - Draft Report](#)
- [ALAC Statement on the ICANN Board Conflicts of Interest Review - Revised Conflicts of Interest Policy and Related Governance Documents](#)

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)
- Three (3) 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](#) (Fol WG)
- One (1) member on the [WHOIS Survey working group](#)
- One (1) member on the [Locking of a Domain Name Subject to UDRP Proceedings Policy Development Process Working Group](#) (LOCK WG)

The 5 RALOs have been exceptionally busy between the 43rd and 44th ICANN Meetings. Their reports on their activities are available at:

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

During this period, 2 new ALSes were accredited and 5 organizations are currently going through the application process. Currently there are 144 ALSes.

The accredited ALSes are:

- [Media Education Center, NGO \(APRALO\)](#)
- [Wikimedia Austria \(EURALO\)](#)

The organizations currently being reviewed are:

- [Ray Services \(AFRALO\)](#)
- [Chadian Association for the Promotion and Development of the Internet in Chad \(AFRALO\)](#)
- [National Association for Digital Inclusion \(ALCRALO\)](#)
- [Association of Notary Public Professional of Uruguay \(LACRALO\)](#)
- [Urdu Internet Society \(APRALO\)](#)

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 44th ICANN meeting.