AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ALAC Statement on the Draft Final Report ccNSO Study Group on the Use of Country and Territory Names as TLDs

Introduction

Eduardo Diaz, ALAC member from the North American Regional At-Large Organization (NARALO) composed an initial draft of this Statement after discussion of the topic within At-Large and on the Mailing Lists.

On 6 July 2013, this Statement was posted on the At-Large Draft Final Report ccNSO Study Group on the Use of Country and Territory Names as TLDs 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 18 July 2013, this Statement was discussed in the ALAC & Regional Leadership Wrap-up Meeting. During that meeting, the draft Statement was discussed by all At-Large members present, as well as those participating via Remote Participation.

The Chair of the ALAC then requested that a ratification vote be held on the Statement. Staff then confirmed that the vote resulted in the ALAC endorsing the Statement with 10 votes in favor, 0 votes against, and 0 abstentions.

You may review the result independently under: https://community.icann.org/x/7FB-Ag.

The Chair then requested that the Statement be transmitted to the Public Comment process, copying the ICANN Staff member responsible for this Public Comment topic.

Summary

1. The ALAC supports all ccSG recommendations and urges the ccNSO Council to readily accept its advice that the ICANN Board extends the current rule in the new gTLD Applicant Guidebook regarding the exclusion of all country and territory names in all languages, for consecutive rounds of new gTLD applications.
2. The ALAC congratulates all members of the ccSG Team on the quality of this valuable work and thanks them for their time and efforts.
3. The ALAC looks forward to working with the ICANN Community to implement these recommendations.

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The ALAC recognizes the importance of the work carried by the ccNSO Study Group (ccSG) on the use of country and territory names and empathizes with its efforts in trying to shuffle through the complexity involved in categorizing them.

The ALAC supports all ccSG recommendations and urges the ccNSO Council to readily accept its advice that the ICANN Board extends the current rule in the new gTLD Applicant Guidebook regarding the exclusion of all country and territory names in all languages, for consecutive rounds of new gTLD applications. This extension should remain until the feasibility of creating a definitional framework to provide consistent treatment of these names is determined.

The ALAC congratulates all members of the ccSG Team on the quality of this valuable work and thanks them for their time and efforts. We look forward to working with the ICANN Community to implement these recommendations.