AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ALAC Statement on the GNSO Policy & Implementation Initial Recommendations Report

Introduction

Holly Raiche, ALAC member from the Asian, Australasian and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO) and ALAC Leadership Team (ALT) member, composed an initial draft of this Statement after discussion of the topic within At-Large and on the Mailing Lists.

On 02 March 2015, this Statement was posted on the At-Large GNSO Policy & Implementation Initial Recommendations Report Workspace.

On 03 March 2015, Alan Greenberg, Chair of the ALAC, requested ICANN Policy Staff in support of the ALAC to send a Call for Comments on the Recommendations to all At-Large members via the ALAC-Announce Mailing List.

On 14 March 2015, a version incorporating the comments received was posted on the aforementioned workspace and the Chair requested that Staff open an ALAC ratification vote on the proposed Statement.

On 17 March 2015, Staff confirmed that the online vote resulted in the ALAC endorsing the Statement with 13 votes in favor, 0 vote against, and 0 abstention. You may review the result independently under: https://www.bigpulse.com/pollresults?code=4609dXriKhpJ5b7dWdujSbXM.

ALAC Statement on the GNSO Policy & Implementation Initial Recommendations Report

Report Section	ALAC Comment
General Comments	The ALAC generally supports the proposed principles, particularly that it must be based on the ICANN Multistakeholder Model and that the policy development processes must function in a bottom up manner. We particularly support the recognition that implementation is an integral and continuing part of the policy process that should allow for ongoing dialogue and collaboration with all stakeholders particularly including users.
Working definitions (Section 3)	No Comment
Policy & Implementation Principles (Section 4)	Our one concern is with the principles that apply to Policy and Implementation, specifically when new or additional policy issues are introduced in the implementation process. Those issues should rightly be referred back to the Chartering Organisation. But because those new issues may well include policy issues that involve public interest issues, resolution of the new issues must involve all impacted stakeholders, including those who can represent public interest aspects of the issue. However, the ALAC does have concerns about the ability of the GNSO to effectively address such issues where the desired outcomes of contracted parties are in direct conflict with those that support the public interest and Internet users.
Proposed Additional New GNSO Processes (Section 5)	The ALAC generally supports the introduction of new processes that may be able to deal with some matters in a more appropriate way. However, in more complex implementation processes, reference of issues back to the GNSO may have the overall effect of creating a very long implementation period. We suggest, therefore, stress testing to better understand the effect of the changes, and that the changes should be reviewed within a reasonably short space of time to ensure they have achieved their goal of better, and potentially speedier, responses to issues.