

ccNSO / ALAC Liaison Report August 21st 2014 Submitted August 8th 2014

(Five summaries with links to full versions)

28 June 2014

ALAC Statement on the ICANN Draft Five-Year Strategic Plan (FY16 – FY20)

Summary

1. The ALAC acknowledges the efforts by ICANN to incorporate the various comments from “[ICANN's Draft Vision, Mission & Focus Areas for a Five-Year Strategic Plan](#)” in this document and suggests an attempt to summarise the strategic plan on one page be kept.
2. The ALAC wonders if any analysis was done for previous ICANN Strategic Plans as to whether the objectives from prior Strategic Plans were achieved or not.
3. The ALAC notes the lack of translated versions of this document from the beginning of this public comment.
4. The ALAC suggests ICANN to: 1) Add a focus on improving the technical universal acceptance of Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) at the application level under Focus Area #2; 2) include a focus on improving the logistical support needed for ICANN’s Board, Staff and the various ACs and SOs under Focus Area #3; and 3) reword the sentence under Focus Area #4.1 as “Ensure ICANN’s stakeholder groups’ role in the evolving Internet ecosystem is clear, recognized, and well understood worldwide.”

Link to full Statement [{LINK}](#)

19 July 2014

ALAC Statement on the Draft FY15 Operating Plan and Budget

Summary

1. The ALAC finds the draft operating plan and budget well designed and presented, but the ALAC wishes to express the following observations and questions:
 - 1.1.2** How was the 33 million registrations figure in FY15 calculated?
 - 1.4** Please clarify how can the “impact of FY14 capital investments (Salesforce.com, Digital Platform, website, etc.)” be “depreciation expenses?”
 - 1.6** Please clarify how can the \$3.7M increase in “GSE/Gov.Eng./Public Resp” represent 117.2%? Furthermore, the YOY operating expenses growth appears to be taking neither the USG transition (B) nor the other priority areas (C) into consideration.
 - 1.7** After more than a full year of experience, predicting the number of new registry for FY15 is a simple exercise. Thus, the risk of a slower ramp up of registries could not be high.
 - 3.1** If increase in staff costs for the program is not duplication, and those expenses were subtracted from the normal ICANN budget, it should be clearly mentioned.
 - 3.1 / 3.4.** For FY13, there should not be any difference between the April 2014 and the June 2013 estimations since June 2013 is the end of FY13 with figures that are not estimations but actual values.
2. The ALAC hopes that the planning process for FY16 and the interaction with the community will be improved significantly so that the remarks of the community may impact the final plan and budget.

Link to full Statement [{LINK}](#)

27 July 2014

ALAC Statement on the Universal Acceptance of TLDs Draft Roadmap

Summary

1. Universal Acceptance is very important for upholding the public trust in the evolving Domain Name Ecosystem, and for facilitating the participation of broad sections of populations in the world.
2. The ALAC appreciates ICANN's efforts to release the draft roadmap, as it will be of significant benefit to end-user communities.
3. The ALAC stresses the importance of ensuring that there are frequent and free-flowing interactions between the large number of stakeholders working together to achieve Universal Acceptance.
4. The ALAC recommends the creation of an intermediate-term, cross-community mechanism that not only facilitates stakeholder interactions, but also allows organizational retention of issues and learning.
5. The ALAC recommends monitoring of progress of the UAI based on jointly identified indicators.
6. The ALAC reiterates the need for ongoing advocacy with all stakeholder communities, particularly end-user communities, for the dissemination of information on Universal Acceptance.
7. The ALAC recommends that ICANN explores the use of mechanisms that allow quick validation of TLDs so as to enhance end-user trust.
8. The ALAC suggests that advocacy and outreach efforts targeting end-users need to be undertaken in consultation with the At-Large community.

Link to full Statement [{LINK}](#)

31 July 2014

ALAC Statement on the Report: Supporting the Domain Name Industry in Underserved Regions

Summary

1. The ALAC strongly supports the concept of supporting the DNI in underserved regions but notes that simply increasing the DNI without corresponding increases in demand will not be helpful.
2. The evolution of DNI programs should adhere to the following principles: 1) While increasing DNI penetration, the standards of suppliers should not be lowered; 2) education at all levels is key; 3) the processes to become a registrar should be clarified and simplified with training and support; 4) the demands placed on registrars should be reasonable based on local cost-of-living and related financial constraints; 5) the second new gTLD round should give preference to applicants from developing economies and undertake an outreach program to ensure a better understanding; and 6) technical and legal supports should be provided to new gTLD applicants in underserved regions.

Link to full Statement [{LINK}](#)

The 2nd At-Large Summit (ATLAS II) FINAL DECLARATION

Five years after the first At-Large Summit (ATLAS I, Mexico City, March 2009), the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) chose "The Global Internet: the User Perspective" as the overall theme for its second At-Large Summit (ATLAS II, London 2014). Internet end-users and/or their representatives, as well as many representatives of At-Large Structures (ALSs) participated in a week of meetings and 2 days of brainstorming sessions in order to develop a range of recommendations and observations on the future direction of ICANN.

Link to full Statement [{LINK}](#)

Respectfully submitted
By Ron Sherwood (ccNSO/ALAC Liaison)