



AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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ALAC Statement **On the ALAC Statement on GNSO Working Group Guidelines**

Introduction

By the Staff of ICANN

The attached Statement constitutes the official response of the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) on the recent public consultation on the [GNSO Working Group Guidelines](#). The Statement was [initially drafted](#) WG by Olivier Crepin-Leblond, Chair of the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), and Evan Leibovitch, Vice-Chair of the ALAC on 15 February 2011.

The Statement was sent to the ALAC Working list for comments on 15 February 2011. A second version, the present document, reflects the comments received.

On 16 February 2011, the Chair of the ALAC asked At-Large Staff to forward the ALAC Statement on the ALAC Statement on GNSO Working Group Guidelines to the GNSO Chair and Vice-Chairs for consideration at their Council Meeting of 24 February 2011.

[End of Introduction]

The original version of this document is the English text available at www.atlarge.icann.org/correspondence. Where a difference of interpretation exists or is perceived to exist between a non-English edition of this document and the original text, the original shall prevail

ALAC Statement on the ALAC Statement on GNSO Working Group Guidelines

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the GNSO Working Group Guidelines, as approved by the Policy Process Steering Committee (PPSC).

The ALAC supports the recommendations included in this document, especially those for a Working Group Model, since this Model has the potential to enhance the policy development process by making it more inclusive and representative. We believe that thanks to this new model, the whole policy development process will be more effective and efficient.

Specifically, we recommend that the GNSO involves active representation from other constituencies -- and in particular ICANN's standing Advisory Committees -- in policy development Working Groups, from the beginning. Such early involvement ensures widespread community investment in the policy process, especially from stakeholder representative groups that are strategically mandated by ICANN bylaws to be involved in policy. Early community participation in policy issues avoids the need to resort to corrective measures that are never as effective as "doing it right the first time". Such corrective measures, a number of which have proliferated to address deficiencies in the existing policy process, exact a significant cost in time delay, human resources, and monetary expense by both ICANN and third parties.

The experience gained by the ALAC in relating with its global constituency allows it to further recommend that, from the initial stage of a trans-constituency group contributing to policy formation, sufficient attention be given to enabling the proper participation of our communities worldwide, including by making available the appropriate linguistic services, when these are requested and their cost justified.