

ICANN | GAC

Governmental Advisory Committee

20 December 2018

Mr. Cherine Chalaby
Chairman of the Board
Mr. Maarten Botterman
Board Member
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

RE: GAC Clarification of Barcelona Communiqué Attachment Language – Follow-up to Original Joint Statement by ALAC and GAC (Abu Dhabi)

Dear Mr. Chalaby and Mr. Botterman,

Thank you very much for taking the time to facilitate our discussions during the Board-GAC Communiqué clarification call on 28 November 2018. One of the matters discussed on the call was the Board's request to clarify language provided in the last paragraph of the statement entitled "**Follow-up to the original joint statement by ALAC and GAC (Abu Dhabi, 2 November 2017)**" that accompanied the GAC's Barcelona Communiqué as an attachment.

In that follow-up statement, the ALAC and GAC asked the Board to direct ICANN to produce executive summaries of key documents to enable non-expert stakeholders "*to quickly determine, whether a particular issue is of concern to them, and if yes, to participate in the process easily and effectively, on equal footing with other stakeholders, even if ICANN is not in their full-time focus.*" The follow-up statement noted that ICANN provided timely and comprehensible information in the context of the IANA transition process and asked that ICANN provide "the same level of effort ... and the same service be provided to the community concerning information on all other relevant issues."

On the clarification call you asked the GAC to clarify what was meant by the phrase "*requesting these services for 'all other relevant issues'*" in the last paragraph of the joint follow-up statement.

What is meant by "*all other relevant issues*" are any topics put out for public comment, and also other issues relevant and important enough for the ICANN community to merit being understood and becoming the subject of informed and meaningful discussion within and among stakeholder groups. In the view of the GAC, all public comment opportunities should be accompanied by executive summaries, infographics and other appropriate mechanisms that can make the topics, the context and the importance of the subject matter of the comment proceeding better understood by the community.



Thank you very much for your continued engagement with the GAC on this topic. Committee members look forward to the formal ICANN Board response to the Barcelona Communiqué later next month.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Manal Ismail". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'M'.

Manal Ismail
Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee