ICANN | GAC
Governmental Advisory Committee

ICANN 76
COMMUNITY FORUM
CANCÚN
11–16 March 2023

GAC Meeting with the ALAC

Session 8

Contents

Session Objective

The GAC and the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) regularly meet during ICANN Public Meetings to discuss public policy matters of both interest to government stakeholders and Internet end-users.

Background

The ALAC is the primary ICANN-designated organizational home for the voice and concerns of individual Internet end users. Representing the At-Large Community, the 15-member ALAC consists of two members selected by each of the five Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs) and five members appointed by ICANN's Nominating Committee. Advocating for the interests of end-users, the ALAC advises on the activities of ICANN, including Internet policies developed by ICANN's Supporting Organizations.

The GAC and ALAC have been meeting at ICANN Public Meetings in order to coordinate and discuss ICANN policy issues of common interest. In the past they have worked to develop joint statements on certain policy and operational topics.

The ALAC has appointed Joanna Kulesza as liaison to the GAC. The GAC Point of Contact (PoC) seat is currently vacant since ICANN75. Their role is to facilitate policy and other internal community discussions among their groups and leaderships, while also preparing meeting agendas for joint sessions at ICANN Public Meetings.

Session Agenda

At ICANN76, the joint session will focus on the following topics:

- **Follow up on the 2017 joint Advice to the Board entitled "Enabling Inclusive, Informed and Meaningful Participation at ICANN: A Joint Statement by ALAC and GAC."**

In 2017, at the ICANN60 Abu Dhabi Meeting, the GAC and ALAC developed a joint statement on "Enabling Inclusive, Informed and Meaningful Participation at ICANN," stating that "in order to enable inclusive, informed and meaningful participation by all stakeholders at ICANN, the GAC and ALAC ask ICANN, inter alia:

- **To develop a simple and efficient document management system that allows** – even to non-insiders – **an easy and quick access to ICANN documents.** As a minimum, every document should have a title, a date and/or reference number; it should identify the author and indicate intended recipients, and make reference to the process it belongs to. Acronyms should be explained.
- **To produce executive summaries, key points and synopses for all relevant issues**, processes and activities, made easily understandable to nonexperts so that all stakeholders will be able (a) to quickly determine if a particular issue is of concern to them and (b) if yes, to participate in the policy process easily and effectively, on equal footing with other stakeholders. This should be done at least for issues put up for public comment."

Pursuant to the 2017 Joint ALAC-GAC Statement and 2018 ALAC follow-up statement, the ICANN Board introduced ICANN's development of the Information and Transparency Initiative (ITI), an operational activity to improve ICANN's content governance and infrastructure. ITI's goals include:
- Creating an integrated ongoing, operational process to govern, preserve, organize, and secure ICANN's public content.
- Implementing this governance through a new document management system (DMS), the content foundation for ICANN ecosystem-wide governance.
- Surfacing this content through a new content management system (CMS), which will serve as the backbone for ICANN's external web properties.
- Enabling a multilingual user experience (in the U.N. six languages)
- Upgrading and establishing a future-proof and content agnostic technology landscape.

In Cancún, the GAC and ALAC will be discussing the potential significant changes made through the ITI project and whether it addresses the committees' concerns.

Notably, on 31 August 2021, the Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) released an improved Public Comment feature. After several sessions and demonstrations with the community, the ITI and Policy Development Support functions were able to implement many of the changes that the community, including the ALAC and the GAC, requested.

On 1 March 2022, the Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) team created a new and improved section dedicated to [government and Intergovernmental Organizations (IGO)](#) work. The improvements include: keyword(s) search within Government Engagement (GE) publications and other GE content; a date range filter; and subscriptions to news alerts when new GE content is published.

On 19 October 2022, the Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) team made several improvements to the [Board Meetings](#) page. These include: filtering search by document type (agenda, approved resolutions, board briefing materials, minutes, preliminary report, secretary's notice), committee, board meeting type, and date; improving keyword search for documents and files; enabling email subscription alerts when new content is posted or updated; allowing users to download search results as a CSV file; and improving the overall layout and user experience.

Much of the initial effort to improve governance and infrastructure of ICANN's content has been completed, resulting in a robust platform called the Information Transparency Platform (ITP). In the remaining phases of the project, new features will be added to the ITP, as well as the entire ecosystem of ICANN sites, including the Supporting Organization and Advisory Committee sites.

- **Furthering the multistakeholder model – follow up to the plenary session.**

Both committees will be sharing their views and experiences relative to the preparations for the plenary session on "Looking Towards WSIS+20: How Can We Improve the Multistakeholder Model for the Future?".

- **DNS abuse in the context of contemporary policy advancements – coordinating the multistakeholder approach.**

The ALAC and GAC will discuss DNS abuse related issues (e.g. domain name registration data, next round of new generic top-level domains (gTLDs), contract negotiations, malicious vs compromised domains) and what can be done for the consumers' safety online.

Key Reference Documents

- [2017 Joint GAC-ALAC Statement activity page](#)
- [Follow-up to original GAC-ALAC statement (2018)](#) - Clarifying statement language (paragraph 1)

Document Administration

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