Agenda Items 4 & 23: GAC Working Group on Participation in the ICANN Nominating Committee (NomCom) & NomCom Leadership

Issue

1. The GAC's public-policy-focused criteria for the NomCom to use in selecting appointees to the ICANN Board.

2. Issues relevant to whether and how the GAC should participate in the NomCom.

3. Discussions with the NomCom leadership on these issues.

Action required by GAC

GAC public policy criteria

At the Panama City meeting (ICANN 62) the GAC agreed on public policy-focused criteria to be submitted to the NomCom to use in selecting appointees to the ICANN Board.

These are attached.

The criteria were sent to the NomCom leadership on 8 August 2018. They have indicated that they wish to discuss this with the GAC at this session.

GAC participation in NomCom

There is currently no consensus in the GAC on whether the GAC should resume the position available to it on the NomCom.

The NomCom leadership have agreed to explain those NomCom procedures which may be a concern for some GAC members (for example, the requirement for confidentiality, which has been raised as possibly creating problems of accountability and transparency for the GAC).

Current position

The ICANN Nominating Committee (NomCom) is an independent committee tasked with identifying and selecting individuals for leadership positions. The ICANN Bylaws call for NomCom to make a specified number of appointments to: the ICANN Board of Directors (Board), the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council, the Country-Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council, and the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC).

The GAC has a position on the NomCom. However, this has been vacant for some years due to a lack of agreement within the GAC on the proper role for this position.

There was an exchange of views on NomCom issues on the GAC e-mail list in December 2017. Several members indicated support for the GAC taking up its (currently vacant) non-voting position in the NomCom. However, while this issue has been discussed several times in the GAC over the past four years, there is no GAC-wide consensus on this at present.

An external review of the NomCom was recently completed. It made recommendations on improvements to NomCom skills and training; recruitment of members; evaluation of candidates;

and communications between NomCom and the community and ICANN Board. An Implementation Planning Team is currently working on taking forward these recommendations.

Further Information

GAC NomCom Working Group website: https://gac.icann.org/working-group/gac-working-group-on-gac-participation-in-nomcom

ICANN NomCom: https://www.icann.org/nomcom2018

Document Administration

Title	GAC Working Group on Participation in NomCom & NomCom Leadership
Distribution	GAC Members
Distribution Date	Version 1.0: 2 October 2018 Version 1.1: 9 October 2018

ATTACHMENT

CRITERIA AGREED BY THE GAC FOR SUBMISSION TO THE NOMCOM JUNE 2018. Sent to NomCom 8 August 2018.

The GAC is of the view that the ICANN Board should include, collectively among its membership, members who have the following qualifications and attributes:

The personal qualities and experience identified by the ICANN Board in its periodic advice to the NomCom[1]

RATIONALE: It is a matter of good public policy that ICANN operate efficiently and effectively. The criteria identified by the Board appear to be a reasonable set of operational requirements for this purpose.

Experience of working with or in the public sector, including national or local government, public authorities or inter-governmental bodies.

RATIONALE: Experience in working or interacting with governments or public authorities would contribute to a good understanding by the Board of GAC input which represents the view of concerned/interested governments and inter-governmental bodies.

An understanding and appreciation of advancing the public interest through building partnerships and consensus

> RATIONALE: Understanding and appreciation of public-private partnerships and/or multistakeholder processes with track record in developing a consultative approach can facilitate a constructive resolution of matters.

Experience in the multicultural setting and understanding of the value and importance of diversity for ICANN as a global coordinator of the Domain Name System

> RATIONALE: Pursuit of diversity is a legitimate public policy goal, especially when it comes to a global organization that strives to be inclusive.

---

[1] Most recently https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/icann-board-to-nomcom-21dec17-en.pdf