



Governmental Advisory Committee

Kuala Lumpur 20 July 2004

GAC Communiqué – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 18-20 July 2004.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) met in Kuala Lumpur, 18-20 July 2004. The participating GAC Members comprised representatives from 48 Members and 7 Observers.

The GAC welcomed new members who have applied for membership since the Rome meeting: Cameroun, Croatia, Indonesia, Lithuania, Ukraine and Slovakia.

GAC affirmed the election of two additional Vice Chairs: Professor Gabriel Olalere Ajayi, Nigeria and Luis Pablo Hinojosa, Mexico. GAC also decided to proceed to the election of Chair and Vice Chairs during the last three months of 2004.

II. MATTERS DISCUSSED

The GAC Plenary met 18-20 July 2004 and addressed the following matters:

1. Consultation with the ICANN Board

The GAC welcomed the briefings provided by the ICANN Board, which addressed current ICANN priorities and initiatives. In particular, the GAC welcomed ICANN's recognition of the value and significance of public policy input by the GAC to the ICANN community. Of particular note was ICANN's report on the development of its Contingency Plan. The GAC welcomes the participation by GAC representatives from all regions, together with members of the ICANN community, on an advisory body that would be called upon for advice and guidance.

GAC continues to attach importance to ICANN's timely requests for GAC advice on matters with public policy implications.

2. Consultation with Security Stability and Advisory Committee (SSAC)

GAC received a report from the SSAC on the redirection in the .com and .net domains and the adoption of DNSSEC in the Registries.

GAC welcomes the offer of the SSAC Chair to provide updates on these 2 issues and in particular, on the policy aspects involved.

3. GAC Principles for the Delegation and Administration of Country Code Top Level Domains (GAC ccTLD Principles)

The GAC continued its consideration of the up-dating of the GAC ccTLD Principles. Further work will be undertaken during the period up to the Cape Town meeting, when the paper will be finalised.

4. Country Code Names Supporting Organisation (ccNSO)

The GAC held a useful initial dialogue with the ccNSO, looks forward to working with the ccNSO and, in particular, welcomes the invitation to establish a GAC–ccNSO liaison group.

The GAC welcomed the intention of the ccNSO to operate in an open and inclusive manner which facilitates dialogue with all members of the ccTLD community.

The GAC encourages the ongoing extension of the ccNSO’s membership.

5. Generic Names Supporting Organisation (GNSO)

The GAC has extended its outreach and liaison with the GNSO and will engage in regular exchanges with the GNSO Council. In the near term, the GAC will focus attention on the public policy aspects related to the development of a new ‘Whois’ policy and the introduction of new top level domains.

6. Address Supporting Organisation (ASO)

The GAC encourages the conclusion of the MOU forming the Address Supporting Organisation (ASO). The GAC remains strongly committed to the principles of transparent and representative bottom-up processes within the ICANN framework of multi-stakeholder participation.

In order to further encourage the development of the Internet in the African region, the GAC supports the recognition of AFRINIC by ICANN as an RIR.

The GAC calls for the establishment of effective liaisons between the ASO and the GAC as well as other relevant supporting organisations and advisory committees. The GAC recommends that the ASO looks to broaden its membership to include a wider spectrum of interests.

7. WIPO II Recommendations

The GAC recalls the statements it made in the GAC communiqués in the Rio de Janeiro and Montreal meetings regarding the WIPO-II recommendations. The GAC thanks the joint working group for WIPO-II Process Issues for its work and welcomes its forthcoming final report.

8. GAC Kuala Lumpur Regional Forum

GAC conducted a Regional Forum on Saturday 17 July 2004 which workshops on IDN and IPv6:

8.1 Internationalised Domain Names (IDN)

The GAC recognises that the development and introduction of IDN requires the collaborative and coordinated efforts by various parties. The GAC appreciates the initiative by ICANN to organise the IDN workshop on 21 July 2004 to bring together the various stakeholders necessary such as linguistic experts, technical experts and other relevant parties to find acceptable solutions for IDN deployment taking into account its advice in Montevideo where the linguistic and cultural factors should be considered. In this regard, GAC appreciates and supports ICANN's efforts to promote and speed up IDN deployment.

GAC encourages ICANN to ensure that IDN standards and language tables take full account of the input from all stakeholders, including the local language communities concerned.

8.2 Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6)

The GAC takes note of the efforts that have been made towards the migration to IPv6, the current IPv6 status on various systems of the Internet, and future works to be done.

The GAC welcomes the ICANN Board's decision, and the subsequent revision of the administrative procedure by IANA, which allow the IPv6 addresses of TLD name servers to be added to the root zone. The GAC supports the effort of ICANN towards the deployment of IPv6.

The proceedings and presentations of the Regional Forum will be published separately by the GAC.

* * * *

Given our commitment to both the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) and ICANN processes, the GAC welcomed the ICANN Workshop on WSIS, which permitted the ICANN public-private, multi-stakeholder partnership to present its views regarding the specific role of the ICANN community in the forthcoming United Nations (UN) Working Group on Internet Governance and WSIS deliberations.

The Governmental Advisory Committee expresses warm thanks to the Government of Malaysia and the organisers for hosting the meeting in Kuala Lumpur and expresses its appreciation for the speakers who participated in the IDN and IPv6 workshops in the Regional Forum. The GAC also warmly thanks all those among the ICANN community who have contributed to the dialogue with the GAC in Kuala Lumpur.

The next GAC meetings will be in Cape Town 29 November-2 December 2004, including the Regional Forum.

Kuala Lumpur, 20 July 2004