

11 December 2014 NGPC Agenda

Consent Agenda

- 1. Approval of Minutes from 12-14 October 2014 and 7 November 2014**

Main Agenda

- 1. ALAC Statement on Public Interest Commitments**
- 2. AOB**

ICANN NGPC PAPER NO. 2014.12.11.2a

TITLE: **ALAC Statement on the Public Interest
Commitments**

PROPOSED ACTION: **For Discussion**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The NGPC is being asked to take action to address the ALAC's [statement](#) dated 16 October 2014 entitled "ALAC Statement on the Public Interest Commitments" (the "ALAC Statement"). The ALAC Statement advises the Board to immediately cease contracting of or delegating the 28 TLD strings identified by the GAC as requiring enhanced safeguards ("Category 1, Safeguards 1-8"), pending further community review and subsequent changes to the Public Interest provisions of the New gTLD Registry Agreements. Some of the strings included in the Category 1 Safeguards referenced in the ALAC Statement are: .pharmacy, .medical, .doctor, .lotto, .casino, .bank, .charity, .cpa, .corp and .gmbh. (See <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/resolutions-new-gtld-annex-2-05feb14-en.pdf>) As part of its statement, the ALAC noted that it was "deeply concerned about numerous identified problems with procedures related to Public Interest Commitments (PICs)" and that ICANN continues to sign registry agreements for the highly sensitive strings despite the repeated concerns expressed by the ALAC, GAC and broader community. The ALAC urges that the public interest protections be enhanced.

At its 7 November 2014 meeting, the NGPC discussed the ALAC Statement and the sense of the NGPC at that time was to continue to move forward with the contracting process for New gTLDs. The NGPC agreed that it would provide a substantive response to the ALAC Statement to address how the NGPC has considered and taken action to address the issues raised in the ALAC Statement.

On 19 November 2014, the ALAC [issued a follow-up](#) to its 16 October Statement (the "Follow-Up Statement"). The Follow-Up Statement notes that the ALAC New gTLD Working Group has undergone a review process related to concerns about the PICs, and highlighted that the greatest concerns include "the lack of public oversight, the temporary

and arbitrary nature of the ‘optional’ PICs, and an unsure and adversarial enforcement process that created significant obstacles for reporting of breaches.” The Follow-Up Statement includes an analysis of the Working Group’s review.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

In response to the ALAC Statement, staff recommends that the NGPC:

1. affirm its previous direction that staff continue with New gTLD operations, including entering into registry agreements with successful new gTLD applicants based on the currently approved New gTLD Registry Agreement;
2. provide a substantive response to the concerns in the ALAC Statement consistent with the NGPC’s discussion at its 7 November 2014 meeting, a draft of which is included in the Reference Materials; and
3. offer to meet with ALAC during ICANN 52 to discuss any remaining concerns ALAC may have regarding the Public Interest Commitments and the Public Interest Commitment Dispute Resolution Process.

Signature Block:

Submitted by: Christine Willett

Position: Vice President, Operations Global Domains Division, ICANN

Date Noted: 8 December 2014

Email: christine.willett@icann.org

Text Superseded by 19 December 2014 Correspondence from Cherine Chalaby to Alan Greenberg regarding ALAC Statement on Public Interest Commitments: <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/chalaby-to-greenberg-19dec14-en.pdf>

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New gTLD Program Committee Members,

Attached below please find Notice of the following New gTLD Program Committee Meeting:

11 December 2014 – NGPC Meeting at 22:00 UTC. This Committee meeting is estimated to last 90 minutes (though may likely conclude in less time).

<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/fixedtime.html?msg=Board+New+gTLD+Program+Committee+&iso=20141211T22&p1=%3A>

Some other helpful time zones:

11 December 2014 – 2:00 p.m. PST Los Angeles, CA

11 December 2014 – 5:00 p.m. EST Washington, D.C.

11 December 2014 – 11:00 p.m. CET Brussels

12 December 2014 – 6:00 a.m. CST Taipei

12 December 2014 – 9:00 a.m. AEDT Sydney

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Materials can be found [here on BoardVantage](#).

If you have trouble with access, please let us know and we will work with you to assure that you can use the BoardVantage Portal for this meeting.

If call information is required, it will be distributed separately.

If you have any questions, or we can be of assistance to you, please let us know.

John Jeffrey
General Counsel & Secretary, ICANN
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, California 90094-2536