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**AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ADDITIONAL ALAC STATEMENT ON ICANN DRAFT FY20
OPERATING PLAN AND BUDGET AND FIVE-YEAR OPERATING
PLAN UPDATE**

Introduction

On 17 December 2018, public comment opened for the [ICANN Draft FY20 Operating Plan and Budget and Five-Year Operating Plan Update](#). The At-Large Consolidated Working Group (CPWG) decided it would be in the interest of ALAC to develop a statement on behalf of Internet end users. Maureen Hilyard, ALAC Chair and Tijani Ben Jemaa, African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO) ALAC Member, volunteered as co-penholders for the ALAC statement. The statement was submitted to public comment on 08 February 2019 and is currently pending ALAC ratification.

On 12 February 2019, the ALAC Chair determined to submit an additional ALAC statement on [ICANN Draft FY20 Operating Plan and Budget and Five-Year Operating Plan Update](#) in accordance with new rules regarding [FY20 Additional Budget Requests \(ABRs\)](#). As ABRs are no longer intended to request travel support to ICANN meetings, the ALAC decided to submit an additional comment to the FY20 Budget public comment.

On 13 February 2019, the ALAC Chair, Maureen Hilyard, requested that the statement be transmitted to the ICANN public comment process, copying the ICANN staff member responsible for this topic, with a note that the statement is pending ALAC ratification.

ADDITIONAL ALAC STATEMENT ON ICANN DRAFT FY20 OPERATING PLAN AND BUDGET AND FIVE-YEAR OPERATING PLAN UPDATE

The ALAC requests two travel slots to support the attendance of active At-Large policy/outreach leaders in At-Large work session activities at ICANN meetings.

Since FY17, At-Large has been provided with two travel slots for participants who are active in the community, particularly with regard to ICANN policy, capacity building, as well as outreach and engagement strategy. At-Large needs this incentive for individuals to become actively involved in policy and outreach and engagement activity.

The At-Large community encourages greater engagement at a grassroots level in ICANN policy. This is a stated goal within current and ongoing [At-Large Review Implementation Plan](#), and this goal requires collaborative effort across the ALAC and RALOs to disseminate communications and relevant information within At-Large, the community which represents the interests of four billion Internet end users within the ICANN ecosystem.

At-Large is also focusing on developing more individuals for leadership in policy across the community, which is the principal purpose of ATLAS III. However, it is not strategically relevant to encourage volunteers to assume a leadership role if there is not an incentive which encourages their greater participation. Depending on their background and interests, At-Large leaders contribute not only to their community, but to the entire ICANN ecosystem. These travel slots provide an incentive to contribute to At-Large, making the most of opportunities in the community, such as leadership roles within Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs) and the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), and community working groups.

During a debrief at the ICANN63 Annual General Meeting (AGM), the ALAC discussed the need for their session format to move away from the traditional presentation towards an innovative, interactive format, in which participants are more actively involved in the discussions with leaders. Looking ahead to the ICANN64 Community Forum, the leaders of key organizational structures within At-Large – policy and outreach and engagement – are prioritized for these travel slots. These leaders will develop more inclusive, relevant, meaningful and interactive At-Large working sessions at ICANN Meetings. These At-Large working sessions may be in workshop format, or question and answer format. The chairmanship of these meetings may be shared with other ALAC leaders.

To that end, the two travel slots will support critical components of the ICANN Strategic Plan, namely:

“1.3 Evolve policy development and governance processes, structures and meetings to be more accountable, inclusive, efficient, effective and responsive.”

“3.3 Develop a globally diverse culture of knowledge and expertise available to ICANN’s Board, staff and stakeholders.”

“4.3 Participate in the evolution of a global, trusted, inclusive multistakeholder Internet governance ecosystem that addresses Internet issues.”

*“5.3 Empower current and new stakeholders to fully participate in ICANN activities.
- Balanced regional participation of ICANN stakeholders, especially those from under-represented, developing economies and communities.”*

The deliverables of this request include:

- Increased participation by At-Large members in At-Large activities;
- Increased interest in taking up a leadership role within At-Large activities – working groups, representative roles in cross-community or external activities, RALO & ALAC leadership roles;

- Uptake by a group of new leaders within At-Large having gone through the ATLAS III Leadership Development program and other leadership development opportunities.

These two travel slots for each ICANN Meeting are integral to a vision for new leadership within At-Large, at both the ALAC and regional level. The At-Large community aims to continually mold leadership within the community; leadership which will promote and demonstrate appropriate engagement in both At-Large and ICANN policy activity.