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ORIGINAL: English

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STATUS: Ratified

## AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### ALAC Statement on Recommendations to Improve ICANN's Office of Ombudsman (IOO)

#### Introduction

Alan Greenberg, ALAC Chair and ALAC Member of the North American Regional At-Large Organization (NARALO), Bastiaan Goslings, ALAC Vice Chair and ALAC Member of the European Regional At-Large Organization (EURALO), and Seun Ojedeji, ALAC Member of the African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO), developed an initial draft of the Statement on behalf of the ALAC.

On 11 January 2018, the first draft of the Statement was posted on its [At-Large Workspace](#).

On that same date, ICANN Policy Staff in support of the At-Large Community sent a Call for Comments on the Statement to the At-Large Community via the [ALAC Work mailing list](#).

On 13 January 2018, a version incorporating the comments received was posted on the aforementioned workspace and the ALAC Chair requested that Staff open an ALAC ratification vote.

In the interest of time, the ALAC Chair 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.

On 19 January 2018, Staff confirmed that the online vote resulted in the ALAC endorsing the Statement with 13 votes in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention. Please note that 93.33% (14) of the 15 ALAC Members participated in the poll. The ALAC Members who participated in the poll are (alphabetical order of the first name): Alan Greenberg, Alberto Soto, Andrei Kolesnikov, Bartlett Morgan, Bastiaan Goslings, Holly Raiche, Javier Rua-Jovet, John Laprise, Kaili Kan, Maureen Hilyard, Ricardo Holmquist, Seun Ojedeji, Tijani Ben Jemaa. One ALAC Member, Sebastien Bachollet, abstained. One ALAC Member, Hadia Elminiawi, did not vote. You may view the result independently under: <https://www.bigpulse.com/pollresults?code=431540gUvsUHKawsDDeFtqWtDt>.

## **ALAC Statement on Recommendations to Improve ICANN's Office of Ombudsman (IOO)**

The ALAC commends the subgroup and entire CCWG on ICANN Accountability for their work in producing this draft. The ALAC supports the draft as currently presented. Nevertheless, we would like to make a few comments for CCWG's consideration.

Recommendation 7: While we acknowledge and support gender diversity, we also suggest that language diversity be considered in Staff resource configuration, to the extent practical.

Recommendation 11: We recognize that the items proposed will address important, high-level policies expected to be observed by the Office of the Ombudsman; therefore, we do not believe restricting the Ombudsman from certain activities (i.e. socializing) as suggested by certain members of the [Community](#) is a necessary detail to codify in such policy. We expect the Ombudsman would understand their role, hence would observe his/her duties accordingly; Community policing of the Ombudsman should not be a solution to fix a performance issue.

Once again, we would like to thank the CCWG for their work and the opportunity to contribute to this process, and we look forward to continuing our engagement in the process.