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AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ALAC Statement on ICANN's Draft Vision, Mission & Focus Areas for a Five-Year Strategic Plan

Introduction

Tijani Ben Jemaa, ALAC member from the African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO) and ALAC Leadership Team member, composed an initial draft of this Statement after discussion of the topic within At-Large and on the Mailing Lists.

On 20 January 2014, this Statement was posted on the <u>At-Large ICANN's Draft Vision, Mission & Focus</u> <u>Areas for a Five-Year Strategic Plan Workspace</u>.

On that same day, Olivier Crépin-Leblond, Chair of the ALAC, requested ICANN Policy Staff in support of the ALAC to send a Call for Comments on the Recommendations to all At-Large members via the <u>ALAC-Announce Mailing list</u>.

On 25 January 2014, a version incorporating the comments received was posted on the aforementioned workspace and the Chair requested that Staff open an ALAC ratification vote on the proposed Statement.

On 31 January 2014, Staff confirmed that the online vote resulted in the ALAC endorsing the Statement with 14 votes in favor, 1 vote against, and 0 abstentions. You may review the result independently under: <u>http://www.bigpulse.com/pollresults?code=3657RBNHW3xkGjSihEl7jNG6</u>

Summary

- 1. The At-Large Advisory Committee considers the submitted "ICANN Draft Vision, Mission, and Focus Areas for a Five Years Strategic Plan" a comprehensive document addressing all the aspects of a future strategic plan.
- 2. The ALAC supports the ICANN vision as stipulated. Nevertheless, as the most important concern today is about the security of Internet and the trust in the Internet, the ALAC would prefer to include those aspects of trust and security in the paragraph describing the ICANN Vision in this way: "...to support a single, open, and globally interoperable Internet with a secure and trusted DNS". The same should be done in all focus areas paragraphs each time the unique and open Internet is mentioned.
- 3. The ALAC recommends that it is necessary to add another bold point to the "Developing a worldclass public responsibility framework" focus area section: "Engage and develop the End-Users community globally for full involvement in policy development and decision making processes."
- 4. The ALAC finds the other elements of the focus Areas well expressed and detailed. It appreciates this preliminary work to prepare for a future-oriented and concerted 5 years strategic plan and strongly supports that process.

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The ALAC supports the ICANN vision as stipulated. Nevertheless, as the most important concern today is about the security of Internet and the trust in the Internet, the ALAC would prefer to include those aspects of trust and security in the paragraph describing the ICANN Vision in this way: "...to support a single, open, and globally interoperable Internet with a secure and trusted DNS". The same should be done in all focus areas paragraphs each time the unique and open Internet is mentioned.

To reach the required trust and to make the internationalization meaningful, the ALAC believes that the IANA function should be internationalized as well. We advise to add the following bold point in the "Evolving ICANN's implementation of the multi-stakeholder approach for coordination" focus area section: "Further strive to prepare a framework for the internationalization of the IANA function."

We cannot speak about public interest without considering the end-users' interest. Hence the ALAC recommends that it is necessary to add another bold point to the "Developing a world-class public responsibility framework" focus area section: "Engage and develop the End-Users community globally for full involvement in policy development and decision making processes."

The ALAC finds the other elements of the focus Areas well expressed and detailed. It appreciates this preliminary work to prepare for a future-oriented and concerted 5 years strategic plan and strongly supports that process.