

ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

AP TLD meeting
Dubai, 3 June 2007

About GAC

- Governmental Advisory Committee to ICANN – about 100 members and 10 observers
- A Chairman and 3 Vice Chairs representing geographical and development diversity
- GAC secretariat – currently hosted by the Government of India
- Meetings are held 3 times a year in conjunction with the ICANN meetings
- www.gac.icann.org

GAC's Role

- Provides advice to ICANN as requested, on issues of public policy
- Also raises issues of government concern, especially in matters where there may be interaction between ICANN policies and national laws or international agreements

GAC's Challenges

- Incorporating members' diverse views in its advice to ICANN, taking into consideration the different laws, policies and cultures of member countries
- Keeping pace with Internet dynamics and giving timely advice

GAC Accomplishments

- Principles for the delegation and management of ccTLDs
(http://gac.icann.org/web/home/ccTLD_Principles.rtf)
- GAC revitalization
- Public policy principles related to the introduction, delegation and operation of new gTLDs
(http://gac.icann.org/web/home/gTLD_principles.pdf)
- Public policy principles related to the gTLD WHOIS services
(http://gac.icann.org/web/home/WHOIS_principles.pdf)

Current Topics

- Guidance on matters related to introduction of International Domain Names (IDNs)
- IPv4 exhaustion/ IPv6 introduction best practices
- Internet security is an underlying feature in all priority issues
- Capacity building of government representatives
- Involvement in PDP at early stage

GAC work on IDN

- GAC WG on IDN (chaired by India)
- GAC representative on ICANN President's Advisory committee for IDNs (Mr.P.Agrawala, India)
- ccNSO and GAC joint working group on introduction of IDNs in cc space
 - Created with Board Resolution in December 2006
 - Expect to deliver in June 2007 a set of questions which need to be answered before introduction of IDN in cc space
 - Answers will be developed jointly in coming months

Introduction of IDNs

- Systemic approach or "case-by-case" approach
- Differences between gIDNs and ccIDN
- Should introduction of g and cc IDN be synchronized?
- How ICANN should respond to this challenge?

IDN in cc space

- Different set of issues involved in comparison with IDN in generic space
 - Existing two letter code can not be applied in all scripts
 - Accepted reference table exists only for ASCII script (ISO 3166)
 - State sovereignty issue involved

IDN in cc space

- Systemic architectural aspects – general issues
 - What is ccIDN from the perspective of the current architecture?
 - Should universally recognized reference table be developed? By whom? How fast?
 - How many ccIDN can a country/territory possess?
 - How many ccIDN can use the same character set?

IDN in cc space

- Operational aspects on global level
 - Should ICANN resolve all systemic and technical issues before introduction any ccIDN?
 - Should ICANN develop a universal policy and apply/recommend it to all counties/territories
 - Should countries/territories develop their own strategy?
 - Sovereignty aspects
- Operational aspects on national level
 - Should ccIDN be run by incumbent ccTLD operator?

How GAC is working?

- 6 working groups concentrating on current issues regarding the DNS management :
- *WG1: gTLDs and WHOIS data*
 - *WG2: IDNs*
 - *WG4: ccTLDs*
 - *WG5: Root Server Operation and DNS Security*
 - *WG6: Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6)*
 - *WG7: GAC reform and methods of work*
- Joint activities with other SOs and ACs

GAC Outreach

- GAC is actively seeking new members especially from countries in which the Internet is still developing:
 - To increase global awareness
 - To increase participation in important Internet management issues
 - To ensure advice to ICANN reflects the diversity of the international community

Why Participate?

On a country level:

- To provide advice to ICANN on issues of public policy as they relate to government's concerns
- To ensure consideration of country's laws, policies and culture in all GAC advice to ICANN
- To raise topics of priority to the country
- To learn about other views on topics of interest and get introduced and exposed to hot topics in other countries

GAC members from Asia Pacific region

20 members on the GAC list:

ae, af, au, cx, hk, ir, jo, jp, kr, kw, my, nz, qa, sa, sg, th, tv, cc, tw, vn

How to participate?

What does a member do?

- Have one representative and 1 or 2 advisers
- Participate in meetings and teleconferences
- Join on-line discussion on topical issues

How to join the GAC?

- Letter to the Chairman of the GAC
chair@gac.icann.org

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Hope to see you in future
GAC meetings

Janis Karklins
Ambassador of Latvia
Chairman of the GAC