



What's Happening in GAC

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The GAC ...

- Governmental Advisory Committee to ICANN:
 - Chairman (Latvia)
 - 3 Vice Chairs (Brazil, France, Senegal)
 - GAC secretariat (India)
 - Member countries (over 100)
 - Observers (around 10)
- Meets 3 times a year in conjunction with the ICANN meetings
- Visit www.gac.icann.org

Role ...

- Governments are a stake-holder and have interests that needs to be represented.
- GAC is a mechanism that brings Governments into contact with ICANN
- ICANN is not an Inter-governmental organisation. It does not have a Treaty. As such GAC is a **advisory** committee
- Provides advice to ICANN on issues of public policy, as requested.
- But GAC can also indicate to ICANN when we see issues coming up, where governments may have an interest (i.e. specially in matters where there may be interaction between ICANN policies and national laws or international agreements)

Role ...

- Bylaws Article XI, Section 2(1) provides for functional basis of GAC within ICANN community
- Basis for providing advise to ICANN defined in ByLaws
 - When GAC provides advise it carries special weight
 - Bylaws state that GAC advise must be taken into account by ICANN Board
 - If not acted upon, mechanisms to discuss & find solution
 - If no solution is found full explanation must be given

Challenges ...

- Incorporating governments diverse views in its advice to ICANN, taking into consideration the different laws, policies and cultures of member countries
 - Govts have different views on policy issues
 - Not always easy to reach compromise
- Keeping pace with Internet dynamics and giving timely advice
 - Challenge for policy makers. Most GAC reps do not work on GAC files full-time

Topics ...

- Public policy principles related to the implementation of new gTLDs
 - Government's interest in protecting, geographic, cultural and religious characteristics
- Public policy principles related to the gTLD WHOIS service
 - Reaching consensus between desire to protect personal data and legitimate need to identify those behind domain names
- Guidance on matters related to the introduction of Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) in the root
- Principles for the delegation and management of IDN ccTLDs
 - Two areas which would be of interest to ccTLD's



Topics ...

- Recommendation on Government role in IPv4 exhaustion and IPv6 deployment
- Awareness on Internet security as an underlying feature in all priority issues
- Capacity building of government representatives on topics of relevance

Topics ...

- GAC working methods to improve GAC efficiency
 - Focus on priority issues
 - Adopt an annual/bi-annual work program reflecting GAC's priorities, outlining objectives, deliverables and defining delivery timelines
 - Increase Inter-sessional online work (i.e to address issues between face-to-face meetings)
 - Synchronize with ICANN strategic priorities and decision-making timelines

GAC interface and liaisons

- GAC work across ICANN topics ensured through Liaisons and Liaison Groups
 - The ICANN Board: [Janis Karklins](#) (GAC Chairman)
 - Root Server System Advisory Committee : [Thomas de Haan](#)
 - Security Advisory Committee : [Stefano Trumpy](#)
 - At Large Advisory Group : [Carlos Valdez](#)
 - Technical Liaison Group : [Stefano Trumpy](#)
 - Nominating Committee: [Jayantha Fernando](#) (2006-07)



- GROUP LIAISONS

- Generic Names Supporting Organization :
 - Suzanne Sene
- Country Code Name Supporting Organization :
 - Martin Boyle (UK)
 - James Kilaba (Tanzania)
 - Hisashi Yoshitake (Japan)





- **GROUP LIAISONS**

- Address Supporting Organization :
 - Thomas de Haan (The Netherlands)
 - Antenor Corrêa (Brazil)
 - Hisashi Yoshitake (Japan)
 - Palesa Banda (South Africa)
 - Suzanne Sene (US)

Outreach ...

- GAC is actively outreaching to new member countries to:
 - Increase global awareness about the GAC
 - Increase participation in important Internet management issues
 - Ensure advice to ICANN reflects the diversity of the international community

Membership ...

- National governments and governments of distinct economies (members)
- Inter-governmental organisations and treaty organisations (observers)
- Each member may appoint an accredited representative who may be accompanied by an adviser(s)
- List of Members and Observers
 - <http://gac.icann.org/web/contact/ reps/index.shtml>

Membership ...

- Non member states can send letter to join:
GAC Secretariat
1016, Electronics Neketan,
6 CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi 110 003 - India
Phone: +91-11-24301 116
- OR Please send email to:-
 - gacsec@gac.icann.org

Why Participate ...

On a country level, participation is important:

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

Why Participate ...

On a regional level, participation:

- Introduces to the international agenda topics that may be un-tackled and are of interest to a certain regions
- Gives more weight to topics of common interest in a certain region
- Establishes a needed channel with related activities taking place on a regional level

How to Participate ...

- Become a member by sending a letter to GAC secretariat (should meet membership requirements)
- Contribute to the online work (mailing list, forum)
- Participate at conference calls
- Attend the face to face meetings:
 - next one is in Paris during the ICANN meeting
- Help bring issues and debate to your own country and to the region
- Participation vital in the context of IDN “fast track process”



Thank you

APTLD Meeting - KL -
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