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## AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AL/ALAC/ST/0710/3

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STATUS: FINAL

### **ALAC Statement**

On Policy Development Process (PDP) Work Team (WT)

#### **Introduction**

By the Staff of ICANN

This statement on Policy Development Process Work Team (PDP WT) Initial Report was discussed by the At-Large Advisory Committee during its teleconference on July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and [endorsed](#) with a 8-0-0 vote.

On July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010, the At-Large Staff sent the Statement to the [public consultation process](#) on Policy Development Process Work Team on behalf of the At-Large Advisory Committee.

(End of Introduction)

The original version of this document is the English text available at [www.atlarge.icann.org/correspondence](http://www.atlarge.icann.org/correspondence). Where a difference of interpretation exists or is perceived to exist between a non-English edition of this document and the original text, the original shall prevail

## **ALAC Statement on Policy Development Process (PDP) Work Team (WT) Initial Report**

The ALAC appreciates the enormous task taken on by the Work Team and is suitably impressed with the 150 page of thoughtful deliberations in Interim Report.

The ALAC supports the efforts of the Work Team and offers comments on four specific issues:

### **Recommendation 15 – Fast Track Process**

The PDP process must be able to deal with enormously complex issues. However, there are also issues which are simpler and potentially those that need urgent attention. For these latter classes of PDP, the ALAC supports the development of a streamlined process which will require less volunteer and staff time, and less elapsed time.

### **Recommendation 21 – AC/SO Input into the Policy Development Process**

Over the last several years, the GNSO has voluntarily included the ALAC and At-Large into its various policy development and other activities. Such involvement has been equally beneficial to both the GNSO and to At-large. It is encouraging to see that such cooperation is being contemplated on a more formal basis and will be institutionalized.

### **Stage 3 – Working Group**

The GNSO has been using Working Groups for several years as was mandated in the GNSO reform process. Some of these Working Groups have performed well, and others less so. A number of recent PDPs have in fact stressed the WG model. Prior to formally institutionalizing the model, it may be appropriate for the PDP WT to undertake or commission a review of whether the WG model is in fact optimal for addressing PDP issues.

### **Recommendation 39 – Reports to the Board**

In line with a recent ALAC/NCSG statement on the Transparency of Staff Documents (<http://www.atlarge.icann.org/announcements/announcement-20may10-en.htm>), the ALAC strongly supports this recommendation. It is essential that a PDP WG and the GNSO know exactly how their work products are being presented to the Board prior to the Board discussing the results of any PDP.