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AT-LARGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Joint ALAC/NCSG Statement on the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) System

Introduction

By the Staff of ICANN

After preliminary discussions, members of the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) and the Non Commercial Stakeholders Group (NCSG) met during the Toronto ICANN Meeting and discussed the URS. It was resolved that a Joint Statement be drafted.

The following individuals co-drafted an initial version of this Statement after discussion of the topic:

- Evan Leibovitch, ALAC Vice Chair, At-Large member from the North American Regional At-Large Organization (NARALO), and ALAC Liaison to the NCSG;
- Carlton Samuels, ALAC Vice Chair and At-Large member from the Latin American and Caribbean Islands Regional At-Large Organization (LACRALO);
- Alan Greenberg, At-Large member from NARALO and ALAC Liaison to the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO);
- Kathy Kleiman, member of the NCSG; and
- Robin Gross, Chair of the NCSG.

On 18 October 2012, this Statement was discussed in the [ALAC & Regional Leaderships Wrap-up Meeting](#).

During the meeting, a call for comments on the draft Statement was sent to all present At-Large members, as well as those participating via Remote Participation.

The Chair of the ALAC then requested that ratification be held on the Statement.

Staff confirmed that the vote resulted in the ALAC endorsing the Statement with 12 votes in favor, 0 votes against, and 0 abstentions. You may review the result independently under: <https://community.icann.org/x/uoY3Ag>

The Statement was then read by the Chair of the ALAC and the Chair of the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group, Robin Gross, during the [18 October 2012 ICANN Toronto Public Forum](#). The Chair then requested that the Statement be sent to the Chair of the ICANN Board, with a copy sent to the ICANN Board Secretary.

[End of Introduction]

The original version of this document is the English text available at <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.

Joint ALAC/NCSG Statement on the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) System

We would like to call the community's attention to the current status of the Uniform Rapid Suspension system, or URS.

As a method to protect brand owners and Internet users against clear and obvious instances of domain abuse, the URS was a carefully crafted community-wide consensus. It involved many ICANN constituencies and hard-won compromises that we can both support and defend.

Recently, attempts have been made to re-open URS policy because of cost-related push-back from ICANN's first and only choices of service providers so far. Our communities are concerned that important protections to both users and brand owners could be negatively impacted in the name of cost cutting. We ask ICANN to make every effort necessary to seek providers capable of implementing the URS as it now exists, and demand it make no substantive changes to the URS without the same level of cross-community support that led to the current consensus.