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Governmental Advisory Committee of ICANN (GAC-ICANN)



*Governmental Advisory Committee
Chairman*

THE ICANN GOVERNMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1999 – 2004

GAC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS'

WORKING GROUP ON INTERNET GOVERNANCE (WGIG)

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THE ICANN GOVERNMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE: 1999 – 2004

I. PREAMBLE

The GAC Chair is privileged and pleased to submit the present report to the Members of the United Nations' Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG) and to the international community as a whole.

The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) of [ICANN](#) comprises more than 100 national governments and international entities. It represents the platform by which governments provide advice and guidance to ICANN regarding the public policy issues associated with the Internet naming and addressing system. This report describes the origins, mandate, membership and working methods of the GAC, the schedule of meetings undertaken and the related documentation generated during the past six years.

The GAC has grown and evolved considerably since its inception in 1999. Its membership has increased from 23 in 1999 to over 100 in 2005, is drawn from all regions of the world, and represents a variety of government entities in national administrations, as well as several intergovernmental organizations. The Governmental Advisory Committee interacts with different elements within the ICANN community primarily during ICANN meetings, as well as through its working group liaisons with the respective ICANN supporting organizations. The principal liaison is performed by the GAC Chair's participation on the ICANN Board as a non-voting member.

The GAC's working methods are governed by its members' mutual interest to ensuring that the management of the domain name system is effective and takes into consideration national and, as appropriate, intergovernmental, policy objectives that have a bearing on ICANN's activities. The relationships between ICANN and GAC and their respective constituencies and memberships - the Internet community on the one hand and the governments and other public authorities on the other hand – reflects an international multi-stakeholder collaboration in the management of the Internet domain name system.

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II. SCOPE AND ACTIVITIES OF THE GAC

2.1 Origins and mandate

The question of public policy input to Internet management is not new. Although the Internet had evolved during the 1980's almost entirely in a research and defence-based environment, essentially among private parties, by the mid-1990's international organisations were participating, with the Internet Society, in the International Ad-Hoc Committee ([IAHC](#)) that was the first instance to address thoroughly the issues arising from the creation of new generic Top Level Domains ([gTLDs](#)).

The US government then initiated a public consultation in 1997 that resulted in the US Department of Commerce's [Green Paper](#). By 1997-98 a number of governments were actively negotiating with the United States about the outcome of the consultation process based on the US Department of Commerce's Green Paper and [White Paper](#)¹.

These early inputs to the process of internationalisation are reflected in several texts from that period, qualifying in several respects the leading role of the private sector in Internet management. Thus in the conclusions to the 1998 US DOC White Paper we find:

"The U.S. Government believes that the Internet is a global medium and that its technical management should fully reflect the global diversity of Internet users. We recognize the need for and fully support mechanisms that would ensure international input into the management of the domain name system. In withdrawing the U.S. Government from DNS management and promoting the establishment of a new, non-governmental entity to manage Internet names and addresses, a key U.S. Government objective has been to ensure that the increasingly global Internet user community has a voice in decisions affecting the Internet's technical management."

Consequently, the initial [ICANN Bylaws](#) (1998) provided for the Governmental Advisory Committee, stating that *"The Governmental Advisory Committee should consider and provide advice on the activities of the Corporation as they relate to concerns of governments, particularly matters where there may be an interaction between the Corporation's policies and various laws, and international agreements. The Board will notify the chairman of the Governmental Advisory Committee of any proposal for which it seeks comments Under Article II, Section 3(b) and will consider any response to that notification prior to taking action."*

This provision was amended in 2002 following the ICANN reform process, and explicitly includes a reference to *"public policy"* issues. The amended bylaws, among other things, also recognize the unique nature of the relationship between the GAC and ICANN, in noting that *"the Governmental Advisory Committee may put issues to the Board directly, either by way of comment or prior advice, or by way of specifically recommending action or new policy development or revision to existing policies."*

¹. Statement of Policy on "Management of Internet Names and Addresses" (Docket Number 980212036-8146-02), U. S. Department of Commerce, June 5, 1998.

GAC Chairman's report to WGIG

In 1999, the GAC adopted its own [Operating Principles](#), which state that:

“The Governmental Advisory Committee should consider and provide advice on the activities of ICANN as they relate to concerns of governments and where they may affect public policy issues.

The Advice of the Governmental Advisory Committee on public policy matters shall be duly taken into account by ICANN, both in the formulation and adoption of policies.”

The GAC Operating Principles also identify the range of public policy objectives that should be taken into account in ICANN's decision making, including:

- secure, reliable and affordable functioning of the Internet, including uninterrupted service and universal connectivity;
- the robust development of the Internet, in the interest of the public good, for government, private, educational, and commercial purposes, world wide;
- transparency and non-discriminatory practices in ICANN's role in the allocation of Internet names and address;
- effective competition at all appropriate levels of activity and conditions for fair competition, which will bring benefits to all categories of users including, greater choice, lower prices, and better services;
- fair information practices, including respect for personal privacy and issues of consumer concern; and
- freedom of expression.

2.2 GAC Membership

Members' representation in the GAC is determined by the respective participating governments themselves and due to the unique nature of the Internet is drawn from several branches of their governments. This results in a very rich and diverse membership representation in the GAC unlike any other intergovernmental forum to date. GAC members come from the Offices of the President or Prime Minister, Foreign Ministries, Ministries or Departments for Science and Technology, Research, Economic Affairs, Industry/Commerce, Telecommunications, Communications Regulatory agencies and/or specially created national entities dedicated to the promotion of the Information Society or Information economy.

Each GAC member designates an Accredited Representative, an Alternate Representative and one or more Advisers. The list of Members' representatives is published on the GAC web site. The diversity in national representation ensures that different points of view are brought to

GAC Chairman's report to WGIG

bear to the issues under consideration by the GAC.

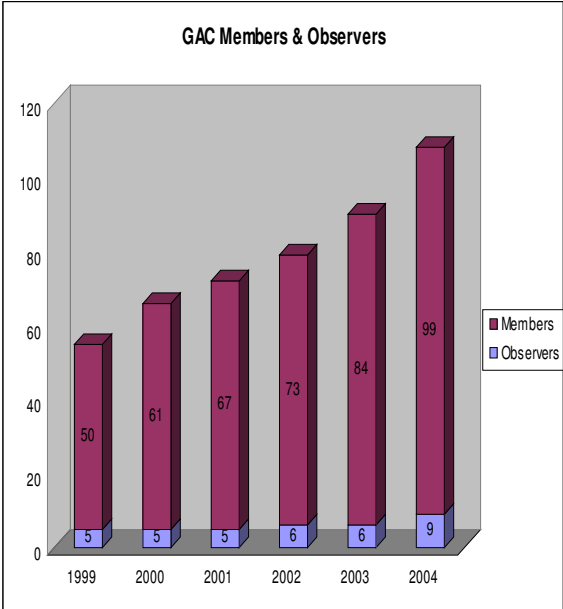
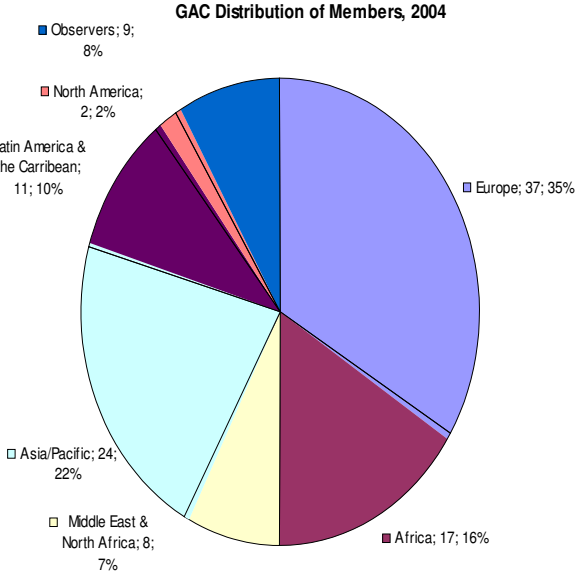
GAC Chairman’s report to WGIG

Each new member submits a formal request for membership which is processed by the GAC Secretariat and the designation of official representatives is acknowledged formally by the Chairman of GAC.

The charts below reflect the steady increase of members since the GAC’s inception. The first meeting in Singapore was attended by 23 delegations. By 2002, membership had increased to about 60 and, as of early 2005, [GAC membership](#) comprises 100 Members and 9 international organisations as Observers. During 2003-2004, 29 new governments or international observers joined the GAC and 29 other members changed their representative. Currently, several governments are considering GAC membership.

Year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Africa	2	3	3	7	13	17
Middle East & North Africa	3	4	4	5	6	8
Asia/Pacific	14	18	19	19	21	24
Europe	23	26	30	30	31	37
Latin America & the Caribbean	5	7	9	10	11	11
North America	2	2	2	2	2	2
Members	49	60	67	73	84	99
Observers	5	5	5	6	6	9
Total	54	65	72	79	90	108

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* Inter-governmental organisations and other regional entities acquired Observer status in 2004. Previously they were classified as Members.

2.3 GAC Meetings

The GAC usually meets just before and in parallel with ICANN meetings, which are held in different geographical regions of the world, and has done so twenty times since 1999. The GAC has also met separately on three occasions, once in 2000 to initiate what became the WIPO II process and twice in 2002, in the context of the ICANN Reform process. The agendas for GAC meetings are jointly organised by the Secretariat, the Chair, Vice Chairs and membership.

During 1999-2002, the 14 GAC meetings were organised by the initial Secretariat based in the Australian National Office for Information Economy (NOIE). The meetings during 2003-2004 (6 meetings) have been organised by the successor GAC Secretariat currently based in the European Commission's Directorate General for Information Society and the Media, (DG INFSO). The Agenda, Executive Minutes and meeting Communiqués are published on the GAC Website.²

Since Carthage, October 2003, GAC meetings have included a Regional Forum, a one-day event in open session with other members of the ICANN community, including Board members and staff from ICANN, ICANN supporting organizations, and civil society. The Regional Forums are intended to address Internet issues of particular relevance to participants from the local region and have become a useful means of introducing new GAC members to the ICANN community. Preparations are underway for Regional Forums in Mar del Plata, Argentina and Luxembourg in 2005.

2.4 Structure and working methods

The GAC by-laws contain provisions for elections of a Chair and Vice Chairs, which jointly assist in the planning and preparation for GAC meetings and, more generally, the management of the GAC work program in consultation with the convenors of GAC Working Groups and the GAC liaisons to different ICANN Supporting Organizations. The GAC Chair and Vice Chairs typically represent different regions of the world. While consensus deliberations and Communiqués are developed in plenary session, the GAC conducts detailed analyses and discussions on specific issues through its Working Groups. There are currently six Working Groups, covering the following issues:

- Generic Top Level Domains (gTLDs)
- Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs)
- Country Code Registries (ccTLDs)
- Domain Name System Security and Root Server operation
- Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6)

² . <http://www.gac.icann.org>

GAC Chairman's report to WGIG

- The future structure and organization of GAC and its Secretariat.

Individual GAC members also serve as Liaisons with ICANN and its Supporting Organisations and other Committees, as provided for by the ICANN Bylaws. The principal liaison function is carried out by the GAC Chair, who sits on the ICANN Board as a non-voting member. Other GAC representatives serve as Liaisons to the Security and Stability Committee, the [Root Server](#) Operator Community, the Generic Names Supporting Organisation ([GNSO](#)), and the At Large Advisory Committee ([ALAC](#)). The GAC has also created regional Liaison groups with the Country Code Names Supporting Organization ([ccNSO](#)) and the Address Supporting Organization ([ASO](#)). The GAC Liaisons engage in routine outreach and dialogue with their respective ICANN counterparts and provide the GAC membership with information and status reports on pending ICANN developments that have public policy implications for consideration and potential action by the GAC as a whole.

Apart from meeting physically in plenary and working group sessions, much of the work of the GAC takes place throughout the year online. The on line work in GAC is supported by the Members' Area of the Website, e-mail lists, discussion fora and monthly conference calls. The archive of all previous GAC meetings, the Communiqués that constitute the conclusions and the advice to ICANN, the minutes of proceedings and the lists of participants are readily available, in the public domain, from the GAC Website.

2.5 GAC Advice to ICANN

2.5.1 GAC contribution to ICANN Reform 2002-2003

In late 2001, ICANN determined that a substantial reform of its organisation and procedures was necessary. The GAC focused on providing government input to the ICANN reform process during its meeting in Accra in March, 2002, followed by two ad-hoc meetings in Brussels and Canberra in April and May, 2002. The GAC meeting in Bucharest in June 2002 resulted in agreement on a substantive opinion emphasizing the responsibility of governments for public policy issues related to ICANN's management of the domain name system. The Bucharest Communiqué was followed up in Shanghai (October 2002) with more specific advice to ICANN regarding the drafting of revised Bylaws pertaining to the GAC and recourse to External Advice, notably from Inter-Governmental Organisations. Many of the changes in GAC's working methods during the past two years can be attributed to the additional responsibilities and powers assumed by the GAC during the ICANN reform process.

2.5.2 Public Policy Issues

The GAC endeavours to provide advice to ICANN on discrete issues with public policy implications that reflect a consensus among its members, while recognizing that national laws and policies may not be entirely comparable.

Country Code Top Level Domains (ccTLDs):

GAC Chairman's report to WGIG

The GAC developed guidelines to apply to the relationship between the Government, country code Registries and ICANN in 2000, with the *GAC Principles for Delegation and Administration of ccTLD Registries*. A substantive statement, the document is based on a triangular relationship of formal communications between the three parties. Although in principle voluntary, the GAC ccTLD Principles have been used by some governments as a guideline for national legislation and also have been applied in a number of instances of re-delegation of ccTLD Registries by ICANN. More recently, the GAC undertook a revision of the original ccTLD Principles and the new text retains the voluntary character of the principles, maintains the importance of local decision making and provides a framework for addressing cases of disputed re-delegation.

In addition, the GAC has promoted an exchange of information among members about the operation of their ccTLD Registries both by publishing case-studies on the Website and by discussing ccTLD issues in the Regional Fora. The GAC has also supported the constitution of the Country Code Names Supporting Organisation (ccNSO), by participating in the preparatory steering committee, issuing detailed advice and subsequently, by holding meetings with the ccNSO and establishing a Liaison group of GAC members from each region.

The up-dated GAC Principles also encourage the continued growth in membership of the ccNSO as the ICANN forum for participation by country-code registry managers. The GAC has also participated in two joint ICANN-ITU open meetings on ccTLD policies, held in Geneva, March 2003 and Kuala Lumpur, in July 2004.

Generic Top Level Domains (gTLDs):

The initial concerns of GAC members in the 1999-2001 time period regarding gTLDs revolved around ensuring increased competition and consumer choice. In addition to issuing a commentary on the process of introducing new generic and sponsored TLDs in November, 2000, the GAC provided advice that the use of country names as second level domains in new TLDs³ should be avoided, and proposed the reservation of country names in the *.info* Registry. This was done by reserving the names falling into the ISO 3166/1 list in English and in the official languages of the countries concerned, in Latin script. A number of these names have meanwhile been registered by the governments concerned for their use and nearly all the others remain protected through the ICANN reservation.

More recently, the GAC has identified the WHOIS policy development process, undertaken by the Generic Names Supporting Organisation (GNSO) at the request of the Board, as an activity involving important public policy considerations (e.g. access to WHOIS data by law enforcement, protection of personal privacy, consumer protection, etc.). Equally important is ICANN's proposed strategy for the introduction of new gTLDs, which raises competition, consumer choice, network stability and security, and internationalization issues. With regard

³ . An exception was made for the codes for airports and airlines in *.aero*, as these overlap with country codes to a certain extent. It was considered that the risks of confusion were minimal in this case.

GAC Chairman's report to WGIG

to the latter, the GAC has consistently urged ICANN to both support and further advance the realization of internationalized domain names.

Intellectual Property: Uniform Dispute Resolution Process (UDRP)

After the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) developed the UDRP, it was adopted by ICANN in 1999 as the basis for future trademark protection in the generic Top Level Domains, and endorsed by the GAC in several meetings and Communiqués.

Following the informal Sydney meeting, February 2000, a number of GAC members invited WIPO to extend the UDRP to ccTLD registries, and to extend protection to other categories of domain names. WIPO has made recommendations for UDRP for ccTLD Registries and, through the WIPO II process, has also recommended that a UDRP should apply to the names of countries and the names and acronyms of the Inter-Governmental Organisations (IGOs). The GAC has participated in a group composed of a variety of ICANN stakeholders to assess how the WIPO II recommendations can be implemented, and has consistently supported the protection of trademark rights in several Communiqués.

Access to, and use of, Whois data

The Domain Name System (DNS) generates and uses databases derived primarily from the original registration of domain names. The primary set of data is that registered with the Registrars and the TLD Registry concerned. A limited sub-set of such registration data is normally made available as a publicly accessible database by using the Whois protocol. Thus 'Whois' provides a publicly available tool to inspect various pieces of information about Domain Names and their Registrants. It can also provide information on a given Internet Protocol (IP) address.

Publicly available Whois data includes information, such as the identity and co-ordinates of the Administrative and Technical contacts for each domain name on the Internet. However, legal availability of such data may vary among different jurisdictions.

In this context, ICANN's constituent groups including the GAC are addressing the question as to which categories of registration data should be publicly available through Whois, and for what purposes.

Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6)

Introducing IPv6 in parallel with continued widespread use of IPv4 requires significant planning, organisation and investment to maintain interoperability throughout the process. The fact that IPv6 will permit a vastly greater number of end-points on the Internet in the future has generated considerable interest among GAC members, and has been discussed during the Regional Forums in Kuala Lumpur and Cape Town in 2004.

GAC has encouraged the deployment of IPv6 on several occasions and ICANN and the operators have responded, notably by facilitating IPv6 deployment in the Root Server system and in DNS name-servers since the Kuala Lumpur meeting in July 2004. In most other respects the implementation of IPv6 falls outside the scope of ICANN's direct responsibilities. Consequently, since ICANN has already introduced IPv6 into the Root Server System, most other aspects of the implementation of IPv6 will fall to other operators and

stakeholders.

Internationalised Domain Names (IDN)

Due to the rapid growth of the Internet globally, there has been much increased attention in recent times to IDN i.e. the possibility of using the scripts of written languages in the domain name system other than the more familiar ASCII characters. Much of the challenge in introducing IDN is the extension to the use of other non-ASCII scripts such as Arabic script, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Cyrillic and the various scripts of the Indian sub-Continent. Some of these scripts are used in some of the major world languages such as the Arabic script for the Arabic language, and in other cases the same Arabic script is used in a completely different language such as Malay. The written form of the Malay language utilising the Arabic script is called Jawi.

Working in a multi-stakeholder environment, ICANN has taken steps to increase the profile of IDN within the DNS and worked towards implementing IDN within the current Internet infrastructure. However, implementing IDN cannot be achieved through ICANN and GAC alone. For each script group, there is a significant 'local' effort required to develop and identify the necessary technical code points for a given script and to ensure that there are no conflicts within a given script that may be in use in different parts of the world.

DNS Security and the Root Server System

Both ICANN and the GAC focused on the security aspects of the domain name system after the 9/11 events. Shortly thereafter, ICANN constituted the Stability and Security Advisory Committee ([SSAC](#)). GAC created a specific working group for security aspects in 2003 and since then has maintained a close liaison with the SSAC. At the GAC's request, the Chair of the SSAC has provided periodic reports on the work of the SSAC, and the GAC has also been briefed in detail about the geographical diversification of the Root Server System through any-casting to multiple "mirror" servers.

Report by:

Mohamed Sharil Tarmizi

Chairman,

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GAC Chairman's report to WGIG

Attachment: Summary of GAC advice to ICANN, 1999-2004.

SUMMARY OF GAC ADVICE TO ICANN, 1999-2004

This table highlights the main topics that were addressed by GAC in 20 plenary meetings, 1999 – 2004, as reported in the corresponding GAC Communiqués and related documents. For more complete information please refer to the published text of the GAC Communiqués which can be found on the GAC website at www.gac.icann.org.

GAC Meetings – March 1999 to July 2000

GAC MEETING	Singapore March 1999	Berlin May 1999	Santiago August 1999	Los Angeles Nov. 1999	Cairo March 2000	Yokohama July 2000
RELATIONS WITH ICANN		GAC Membership Criteria: amend the Bylaws	Supports geographical diversity and international representation	Takes note of ICANN/DOC/NSI agreements	Comments on the election process for At Large membership	Detailed commentary on ICANN Budget issues. ccTLDs should pay their contributions to ICANN
GAC WORKING METHODS	Commits to implement efficient procedures	GAC adopts the Operating Principles			Identified priorities for future workplans	
GTLD POLICIES					New TLDs should avoid ISO codes.	Will discuss further
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY		Endorses WIPO-I Report on trademarks and UDRP				
CCTLD POLICIES		Requests prompt redelegation on request of public authority	Re-Statement of basic principles included in the preamble to the Operating Principles	Continued discussions	Adopts the ccTLD Principles.	Confirms support for GAC ccTLD Principles. Recommends that ICANN write to governments to confirm current delegations.
WHOIS		Supports transparency and reliability of registration data				
GEOGRAPHICAL DIVERSITY			Considers that the criterion for eligibility for election should be "Citizenship"			For geographical regions, ICANN should refer to existing international norms.

GAC Chairman's report to WGIG

GAC MEETING	Singapore March 1999	Berlin May 1999	Santiago August 1999	Los Angeles Nov. 1999	Cairo March 2000	Yokohama July 2000
OTHER MATTERS		Reference to domains containing registration restrictions.			Support for an effective process for election of At Large representatives	

GAC Chairman's report to WGIG

GAC Meetings – November 2000 to March 2002

GAC MEETING	Marina del Rey Nov. 2000	Melbourne March 2001	Stockholm June 2001	Montevideo Sept. 2001	Marina del Rey Nov. 2001	Accra March 2002
RELATIONS WITH ICANN			Detailed commentary on the desirable pre-conditions for "test-bed environments".		Cooperation with ICANN on Security and Stability issues. Takes note of At Large Membership issues	Extended discussion of ICANN Reform
GAC WORKING METHODS		Re-election of First Chair. GAC establishes three working groups	Outreach activities prioritised. Creation of Vice-Chair positions	Priority for Outreach activities		
GTLD POLICIES	Detailed Opinion to given to the ICANN Board		Requests ICANN publish information about the policies of the new TLDs.	Encourages evaluation of new gTLDs (not done yet). Authorises use of alpha-2 codes in <i>.aero</i> to represent airlines.		Envisages creation of a new TLD for the use of governments. (Not followed up)
ccTLD POLICIES	Confirms support for GAC ccTLD Principles. Requests ICANN advise on the execution of redelegation requests.	Reaffirms support for the GAC ccTLD Principles and for trilateral communications	Recalls request to ICANN to write to governments to confirm designation of current ccTLD managers.	Appreciates that ICANN is using the GAC ccTLD Principles. First reference to ccNSO.		
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS				Recommends reservation of country names in <i>.info</i>	Continued discussions on Dot Info issues.	
IDNs		Detailed commentary on the pre-conditions for successful introduction of IDNs	See test bed environments.	Reaffirms pre-conditions for successful introduction of IDNs		
IPv6				IPv6 First reference.	Encourages ICANN to promote IPV6	Supports deployment of IPV6
OTHER MATTERS						

GAC Chairman's report to WGIG

GAC Meetings – June 2002 to October 2003

GAC MEETING	Bucharest June 2002	Shanghai October 2002	Rio de Janeiro March 2003	Montreal June 2003	Carthage Oct. 2003 1 st Regional Forum
RELATIONS WITH ICANN	Continued discussion of ICANN Reform Issues detailed opinion . Recommends improvements in procedures for consultation between ICANN and GAC	Reaffirms decisions in Bucharest. Adopts detailed amendments to ICANN Bylaws regarding GAC responsibilities and “external advice”. Agreed to non-voting GAC Liaison to ICANN Nominating Committee.	Continues to focus on ICANN Reform. Appointed Liaisons		New Registry Services – GAC notes that GNSO will formulate a proposal. Takes note of Anycast for Root Servers. Encourages Root server operators to make more information available and increase awareness.
GAC WORKING METHODS		Discussion of GAC priorities. Secretariat transition. Priority of outreach confirmed.	Confirmed CVC election Constituted new Working groups. Reinforcing Outreach activities.	Outreach confirmed with a view to Carthage meeting. Reinforce communications among GAC members on a regional basis.	GAC debates Structure and Finance. Regional Forum concept to be extended to encourage Outreach.
ADDRESSING POLICIES			Took note of consultations with the RIRs		
WHOIS				Whois: further consideration at future meetings	Refers to GAC efforts to compile information on Whois.
ccTLD POLICIES	Joint working group with ICANN and ccTLDs to improve interactions, including out-of-country registries.	Requests ICANN to be more efficient in up-dating the IANA database for ccTLDs.	Supports creation of the ccNSO Comments on trade-marking of ISO ccTLD Codes	Restated advice on ccNSO and concurs with the revised ICANN Bylaws.	Pending re-delegations continue to cause concern. Recalls advice on ccNSO
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS	Agrees procedure for the release of country names in Dot Info.	Agrees to put the WIPO II report on GAC work program. Continues to monitor country names in Dot Info.	Recommends implementation of WIPO II recommendations . Creation of a joint working group	Recalls advice on WIPO II and requests progress from the joint working group	Regrets delays in the WIPO II working group
IDNs		Welcomes progress in IETF; recalls advice to exercise care in introducing IDNs.	Comments on IDN and expectations for the IDN working group (not fulfilled yet.)	Took good note of ICANN decisions to implement IDN	
IPv6	Further support for IPV6.	Encourages activity on IPv6			

GAC Chairman's report to WGIG

GAC MEETING	Bucharest June 2002	Shanghai October 2002	Rio de Janeiro March 2003	Montreal June 2003	Carthage Oct. 2003 1st Regional Forum
OTHER MATTERS					

GAC Meetings – March 2004 to December 2004

GAC MEETING	Rome March 2004 2nd Regional Forum	Kuala Lumpur July 2004 3rd Regional Forum	Cape Town Dec. 2004 4th Regional Forum
RELATIONS WITH ICANN	Welcomes the intention of the ICANN board to prioritise and schedule principle actions.	Welcomes ICANN's recognition of value of public policy input. Notes ICANN's contingency plan. Continues to attach importance to timely requests for GAC advice.	ICANN Letter to GAC of 1December 2004. Takes note of publication of ICANN Strategic Plan.
GAC WORKING METHODS	Re-election of a Vice Chair. Creates GNSO Working Group (WG1) Appreciation for the Regional Forum. Need to communicate effectively with non member countries.	Affirmed election of two new Vice Chairs. Decided to elect Chair and Vice Chairs before end 2004.	
ADDRESSING POLICIES		Encourages ICANN ASO MOU; Calls for effective liaison with ASO. ASO to broaden its member-ship.	Consulted with ASO members Welcomed MOU between ICANN and NRO/ASO. Constituted GAC/ASO Liaison group. Welcomed constitution of Afrinic.
GTLD POLICIES		Extended liaison with GNSO; focus on new TLDs.	Restates support for increased competition and for security and stability.
WHOIS		GAC will focus on Whois policy	Recognises public policy dimension of Whois; consulting with members and with GNSO
ccTLD POLICIES	Welcomes formation of ccNSO. Took note of WG 4 report. Further discussion in KL	Creates CCNSO-GAC Liaison Group. Welcomes inclusive CCNSO. Further work on GAC ccTLD Principles update by Cape Town.	Endorses Final Public Draft of the updated principles, for publication. Intends to adopt the text at Mar del Plata. Members of joint liaison group with appointed by ccNSO.
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS	Urges the working group to turn to implementation issues.	Recalls previous advice on WIPO II recommendations.	Recalls advice on WIPO II, encourages all parties resolve the matter without delay.
IDNs		Takes note of the proceedings of the Regional Forum. Encourages ICANN to ensure that IDN tables and standards include input from local communities	

GAC Chairman's report to WGIG

GAC MEETING	Rome March 2004 2nd Regional Forum	Kuala Lumpur July 2004 3rd Regional Forum	Cape Town Dec. 2004 4th Regional Forum
IPv6	Asks the ICANN Board to keep due attention to IPV6	Takes note of the proceedings of the Regional Forum. Welcomes addition of IPv6 addresses of name servers in the root zone.	Takes note of the proceedings of the Regional Forum.
INTERNET GOVERNANCE		Welcomed ICANN WSIS workshop	Members participated in WSIS workshop. Exchange of views with Chair and Executive Coordinator of WGIG. Agrees to submit a factual report to WGIG through the Chair.
OTHER MATTERS	Takes note of Any-cast mirror roots policies.	Briefing from SSAC on re-direction of domains and adoption of DNSSEC.	