

## **The Non Commercial Users Constituency (NCUC)**

*Re: NCUC's Response to the Letter submitted by NPOC on travel allocations for Dakar*

October 19, 2011

Dear Dr Crocker,

NCUC understands that you have received a letter from the Not-for-Profit Organization Operational Concerns Constituency (NPOC) expressing concerns about the travel allocations for the forthcoming meeting in Dakar. Despite the fact that we have not seen the content of this letter, we would like to take this opportunity and respond to the issue of travel allocation.

1. On 8 September 2010, Bill Drake wrote to the NCSG Policy Committee (on which NPOC is represented), the Chair of the GNSO, and ICANN staff saying that he would be unable to go to Dakar and would likely be unavailable for remote participation. Bill had been re-elected for a second term on the GNSO Council in November 2010, well before the finalization and approvals by the Board and NCSG membership of the NCSG charter. Given that another NCUC-affiliated councillor is also unable to go to Dakar, in order to ensure that NCUC is adequately represented in Council meetings, the Executive Committee appointed Konstantinos Komaitis as his Temporary Alternative under GOP (4.5.3.c) and reallocated the travel support accordingly. Having been apprised of Bill's unavailability and the proposed solution, none of the parties mentioned above objected to NCUC reallocating its travel funding.

2. Two of the three Board-appointed NCSG councillors, Rosemary Sinclair and Rafik Dammak, cannot come to Dakar either. NCSG Executive Committee member Milton Mueller suggested that the funding for one of these councillors be given to the NPOC chair, Amber Sterling. However, Amber said that she was unavailable to attend. After open discussions on the SG mailing list and within the SG executive and policy committees, it was decided to allocate the two slots to the outgoing and incoming NCSG chairs, Avri Doria and Robin Gross.

3. Due to ICANN's tight deadlines for travel support, their nominations went in approximately 3 days before Alain Berranger was nominated by NPOC to receive the support.

4. The NCSG executive and policy committees were not notified or informed prior to receiving Dr Crocker's note about ICANN agreeing to fund Mr Berranger to Dakar. We feel obliged to record our disappointment at the fact that this sends a possible message to the GNSO community that it is possible to do a run around SG and GNSO processes by complaining directly to the Board.

We hope this note sufficiently clarifies the matter, which we believe was handled transparently, fairly and appropriately. Please let us know if you or the Board have further questions. We will be happy to discuss this issue further with the Board in Dakar.

Sincerely

Dr. Konstantinos Komaitis, Chair of the Non-Commercial Users Constituency (NCUC)

Dr. Milton Mueller, NCSG Executive Committee  
Mr. Rafik Dammak, NCSG Executive Committee