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# ICANN's Geographic Regions

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DURBAN

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ICANN

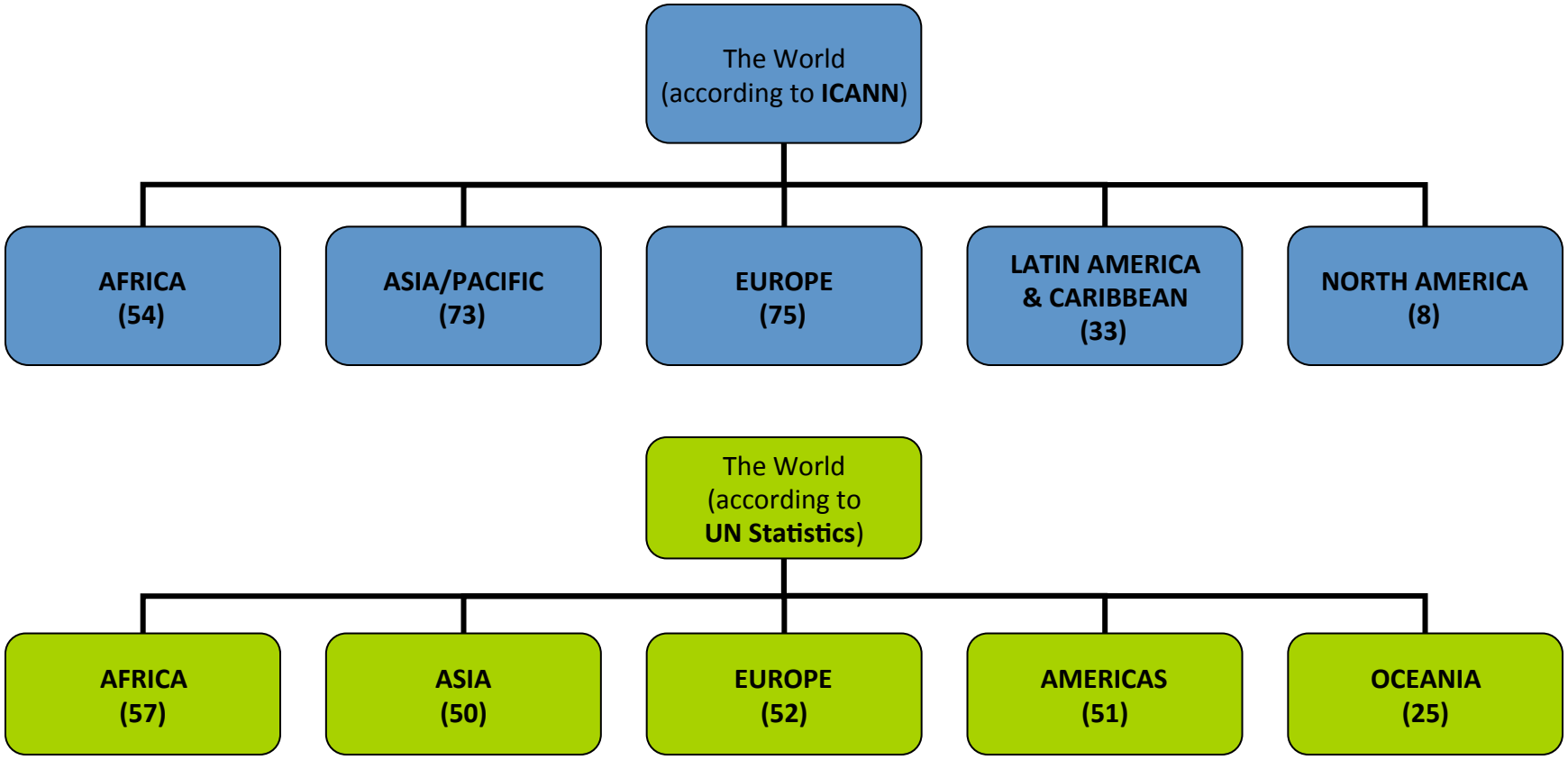
# Agenda

- What's the problem?
- The WG Recommendations
- Next Steps
- Q & A

# What's the problem?

- In 2000, the ICANN Board decided to assign countries and territories to geographic regions on the basis of the UN Statistics Division's existing classification.
- It seemed like a good idea to use an independent, internationally accepted allocation…
- …but here's what happened…

# The Two Regional Structures



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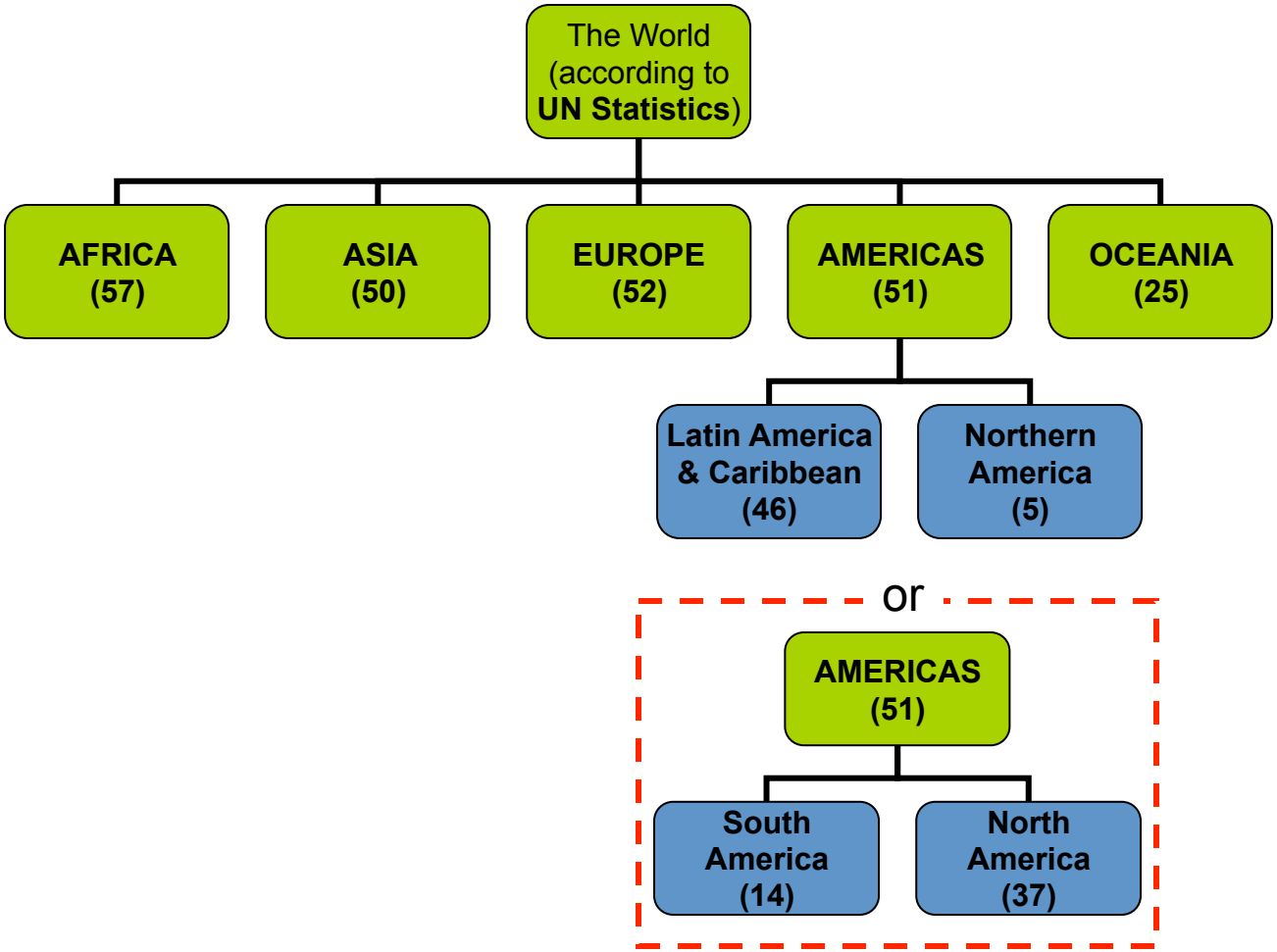

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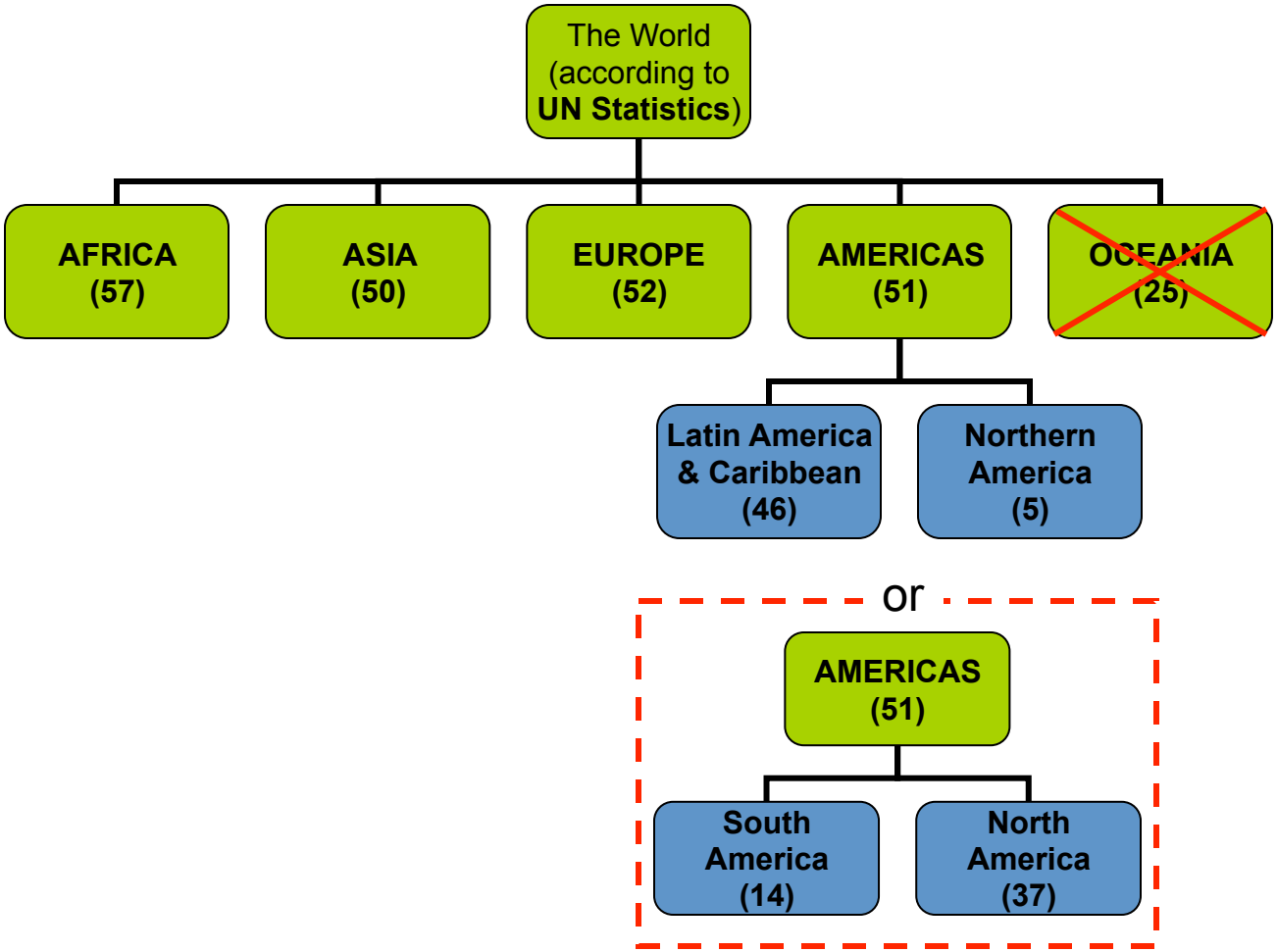

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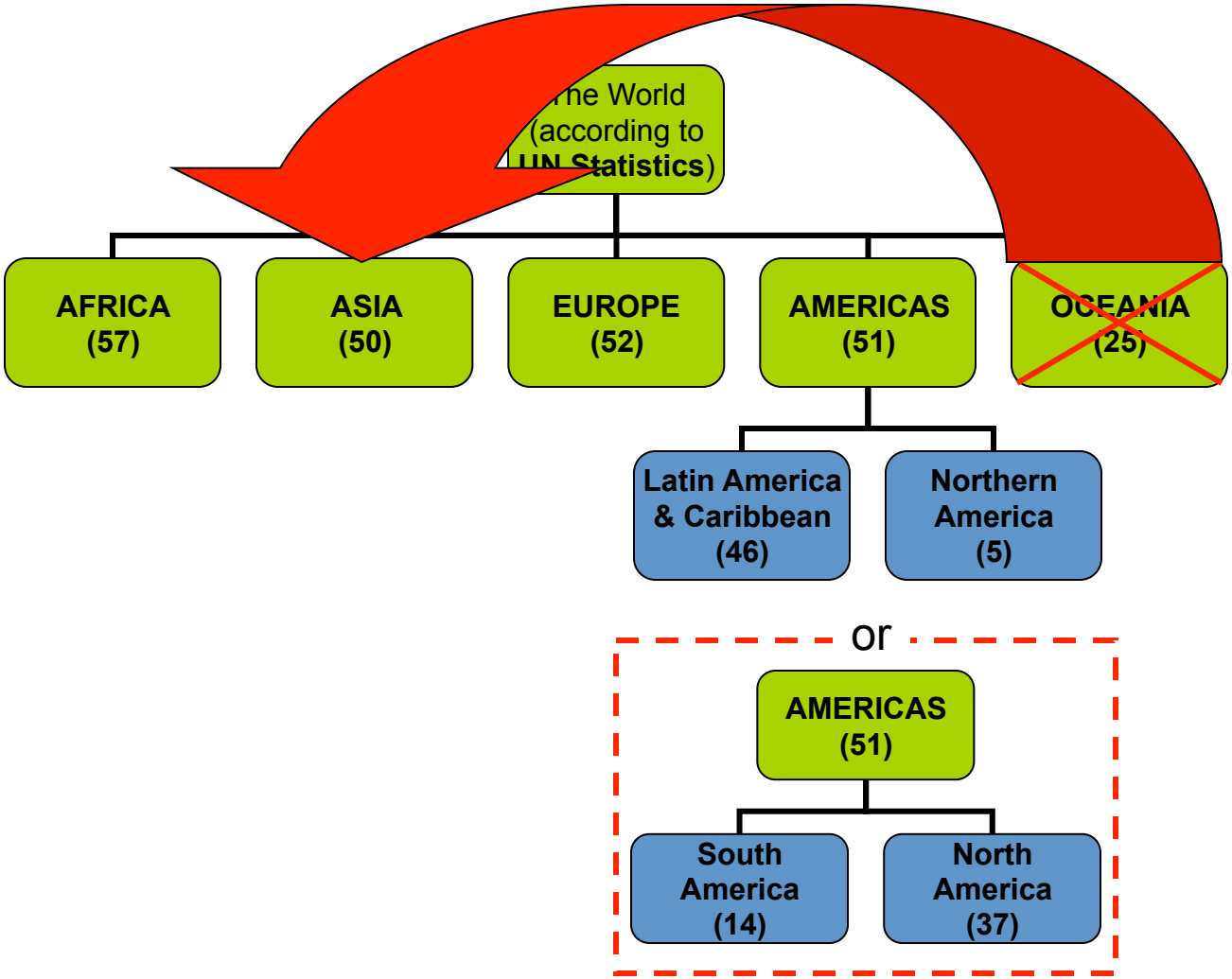

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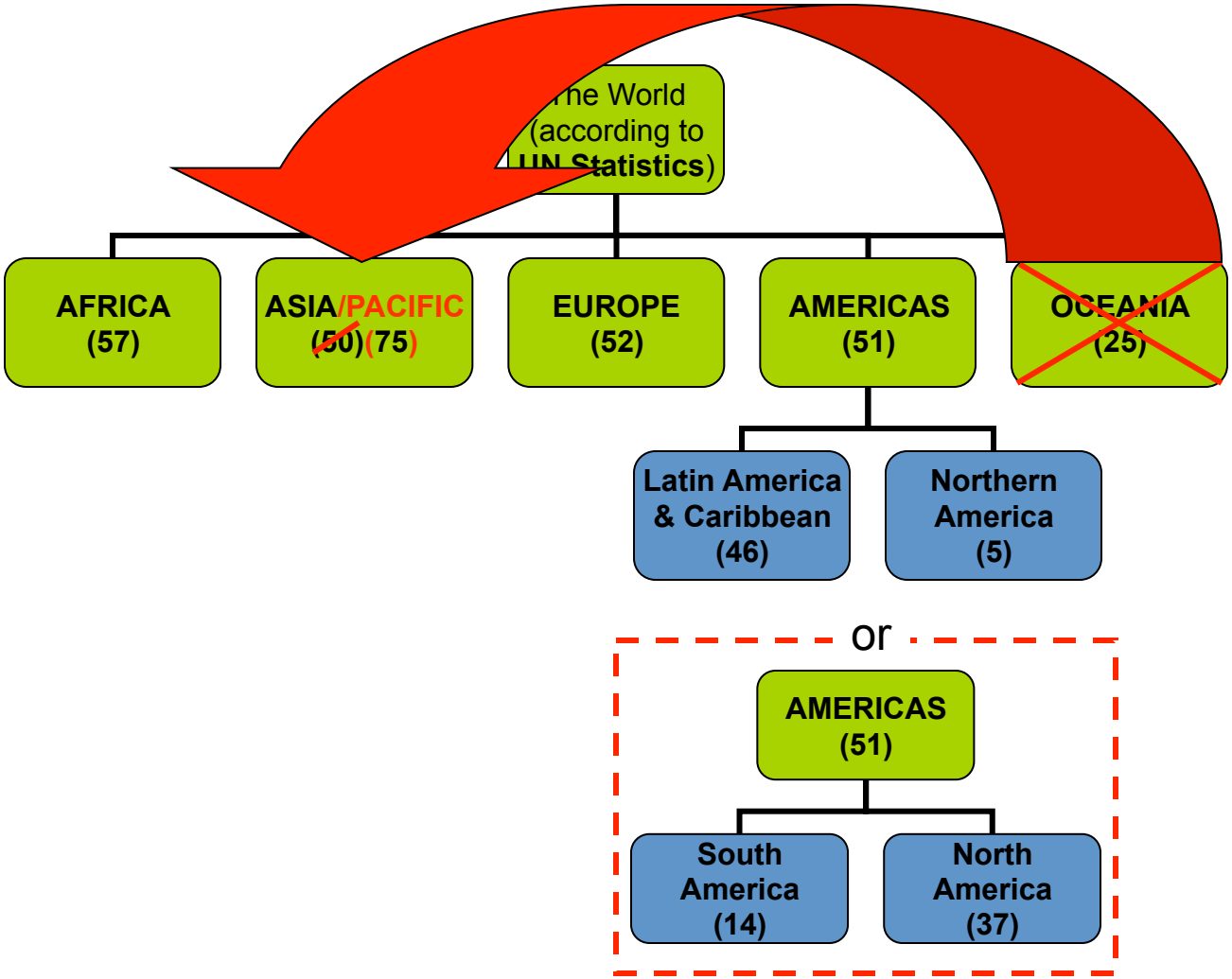

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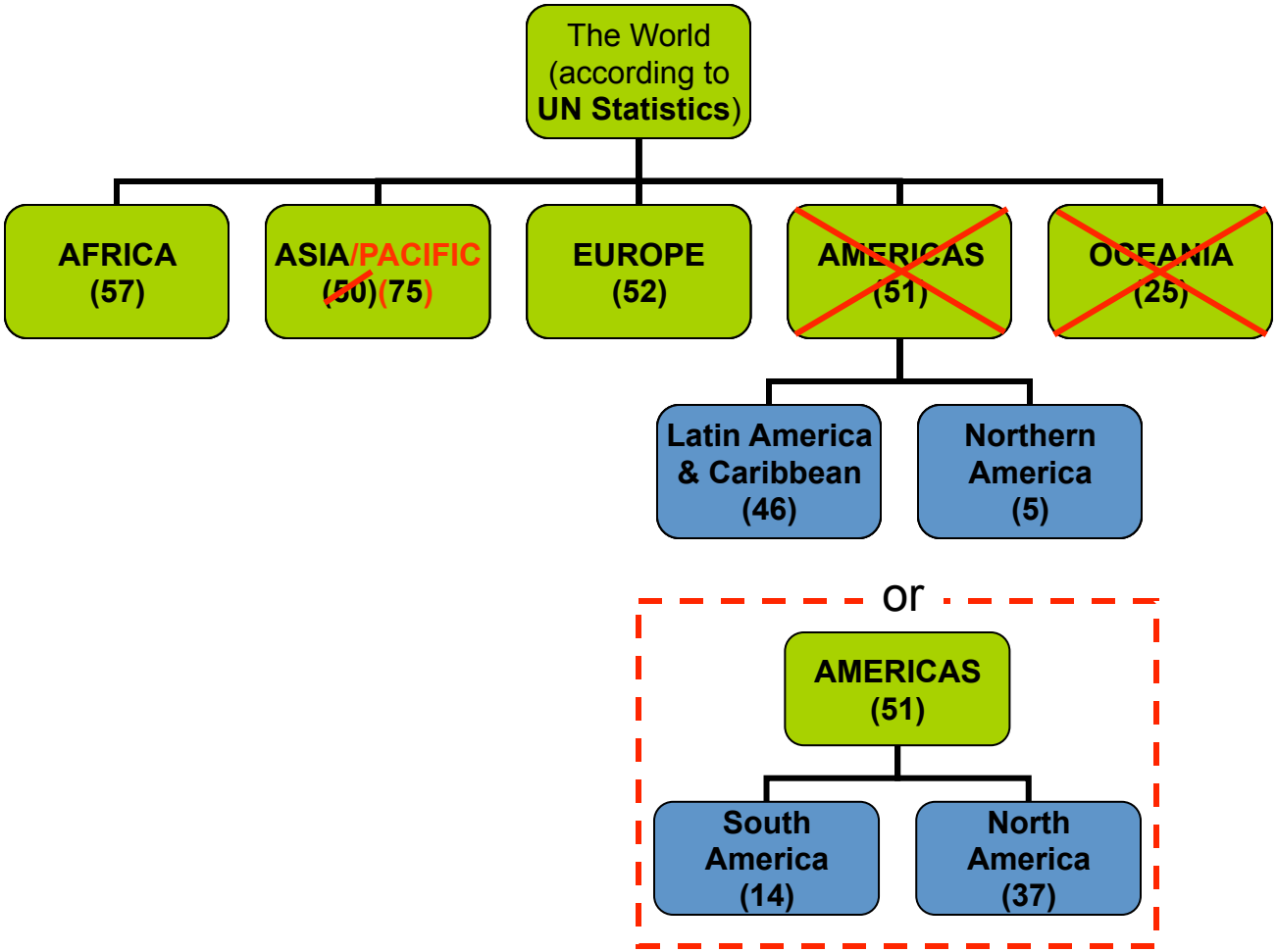

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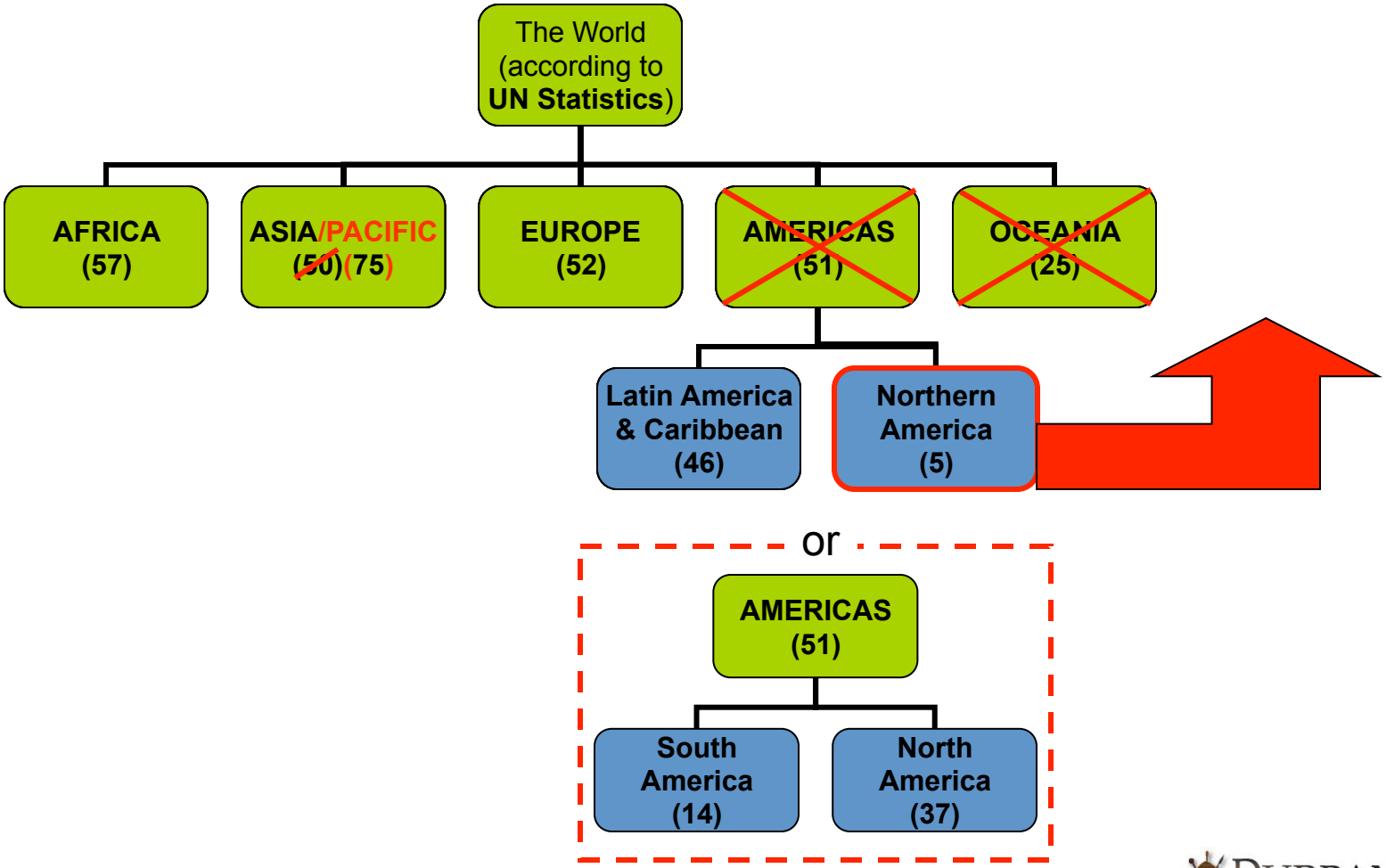

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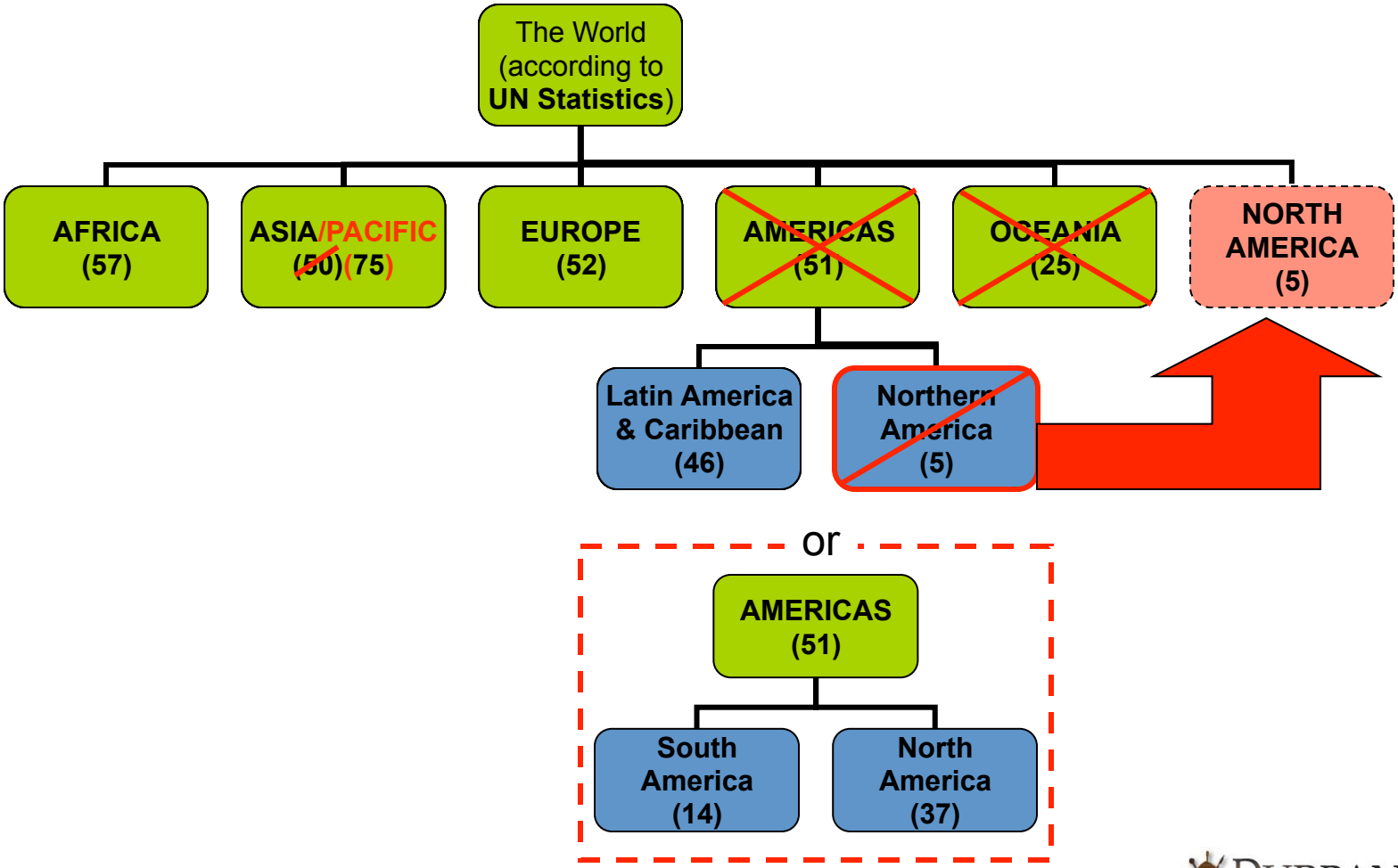

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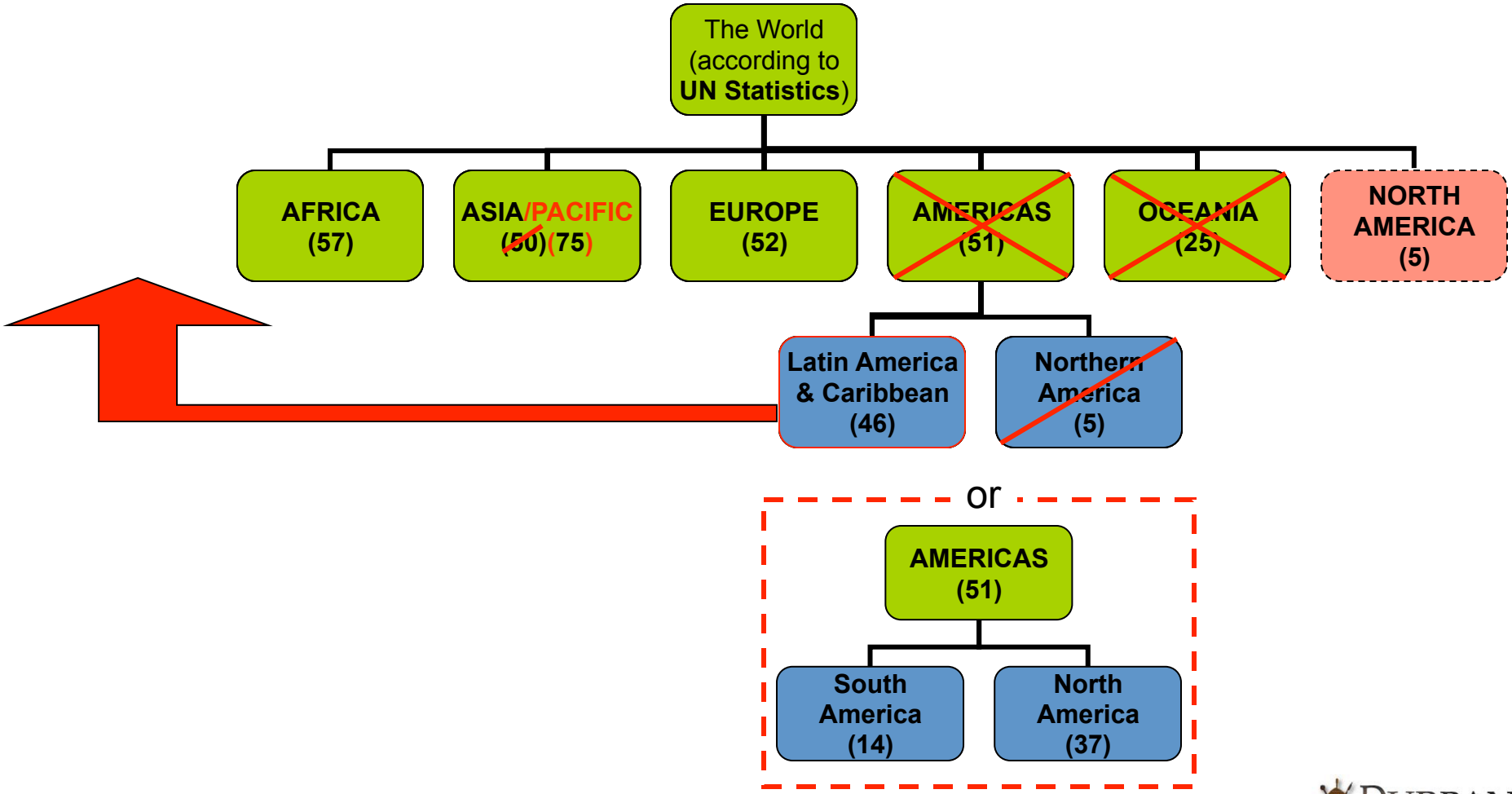

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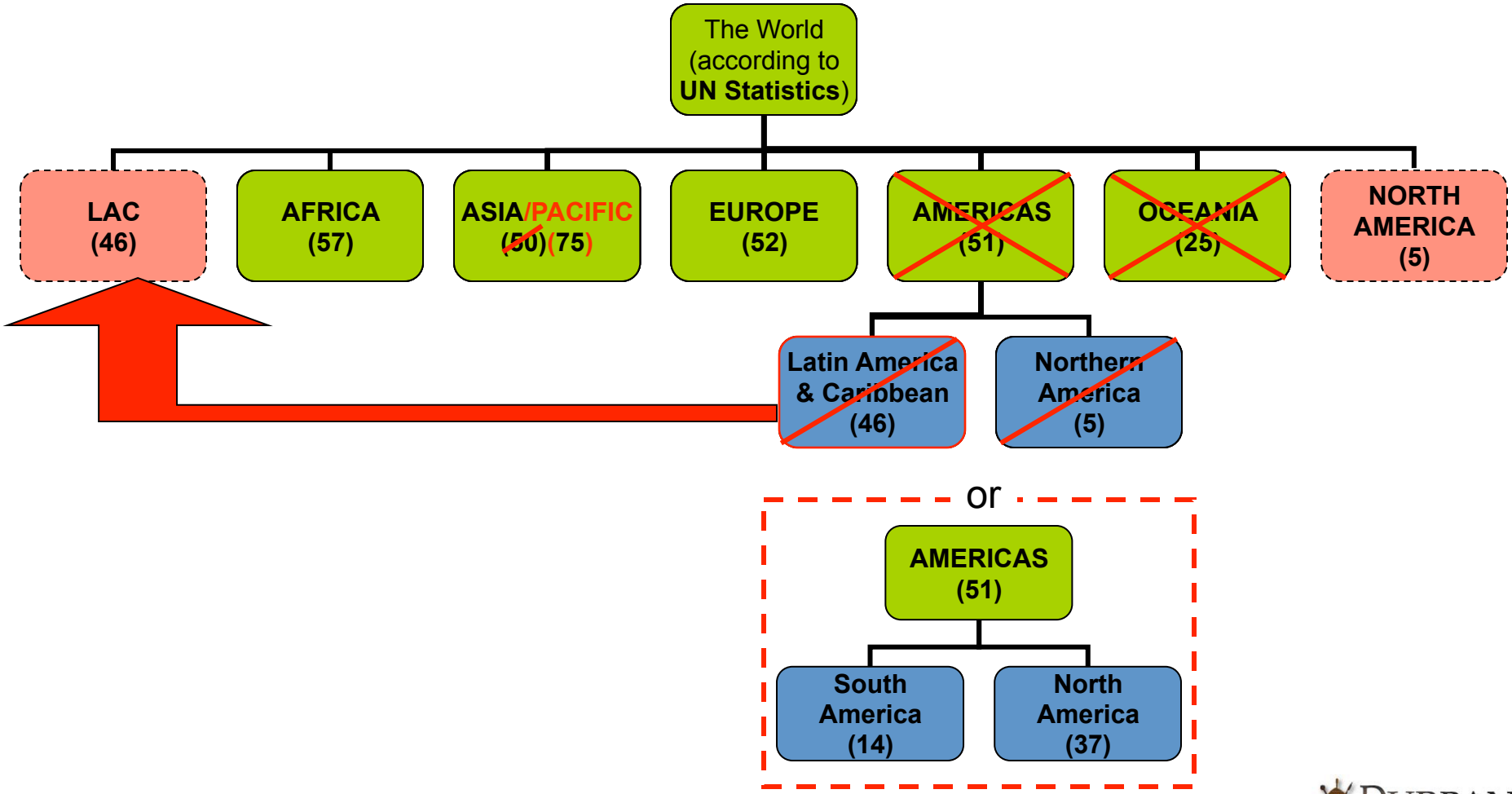

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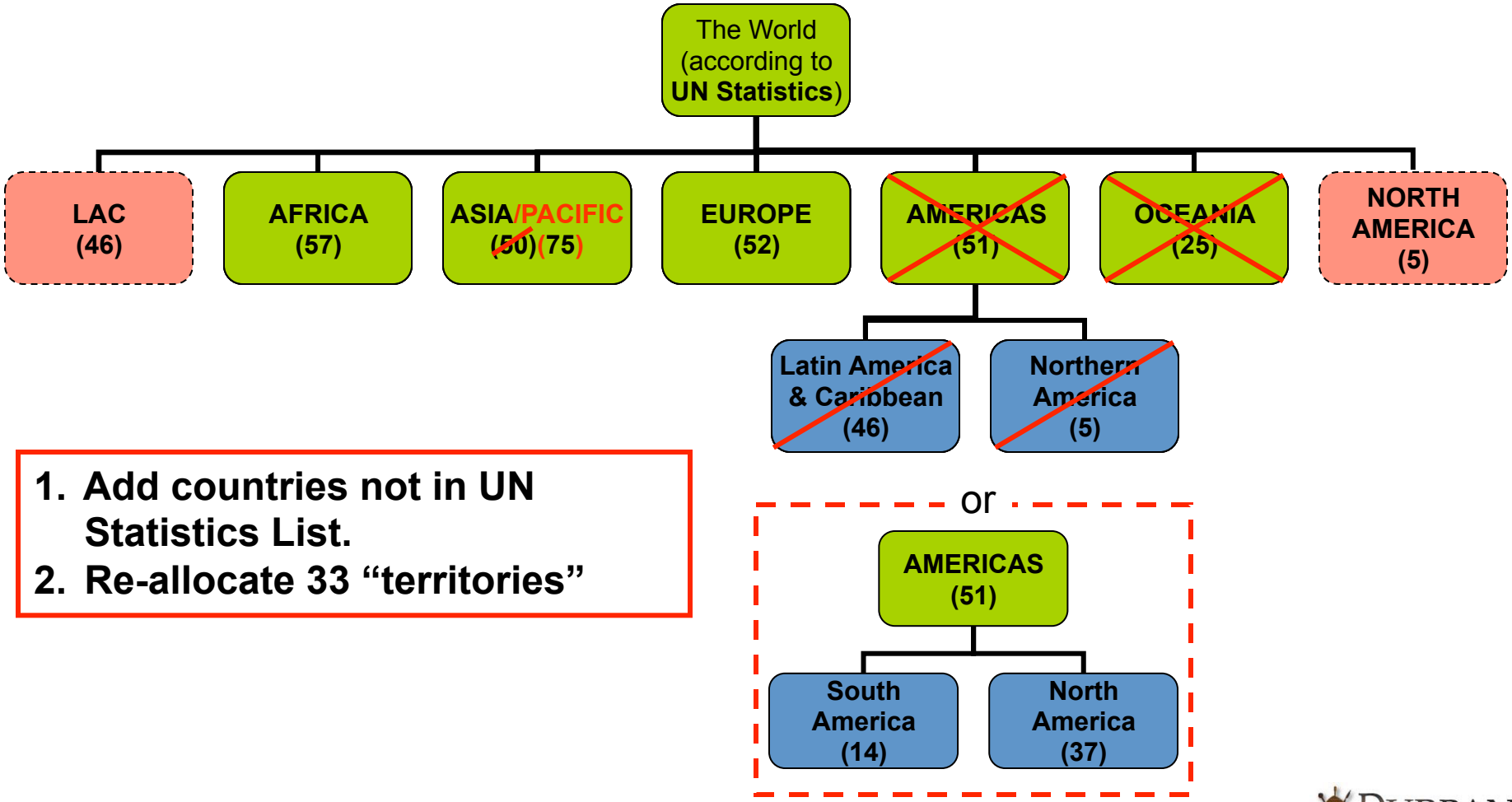


1. **Add countries not in UN Statistics List.**
2. **Re-allocate 33 "territories"**

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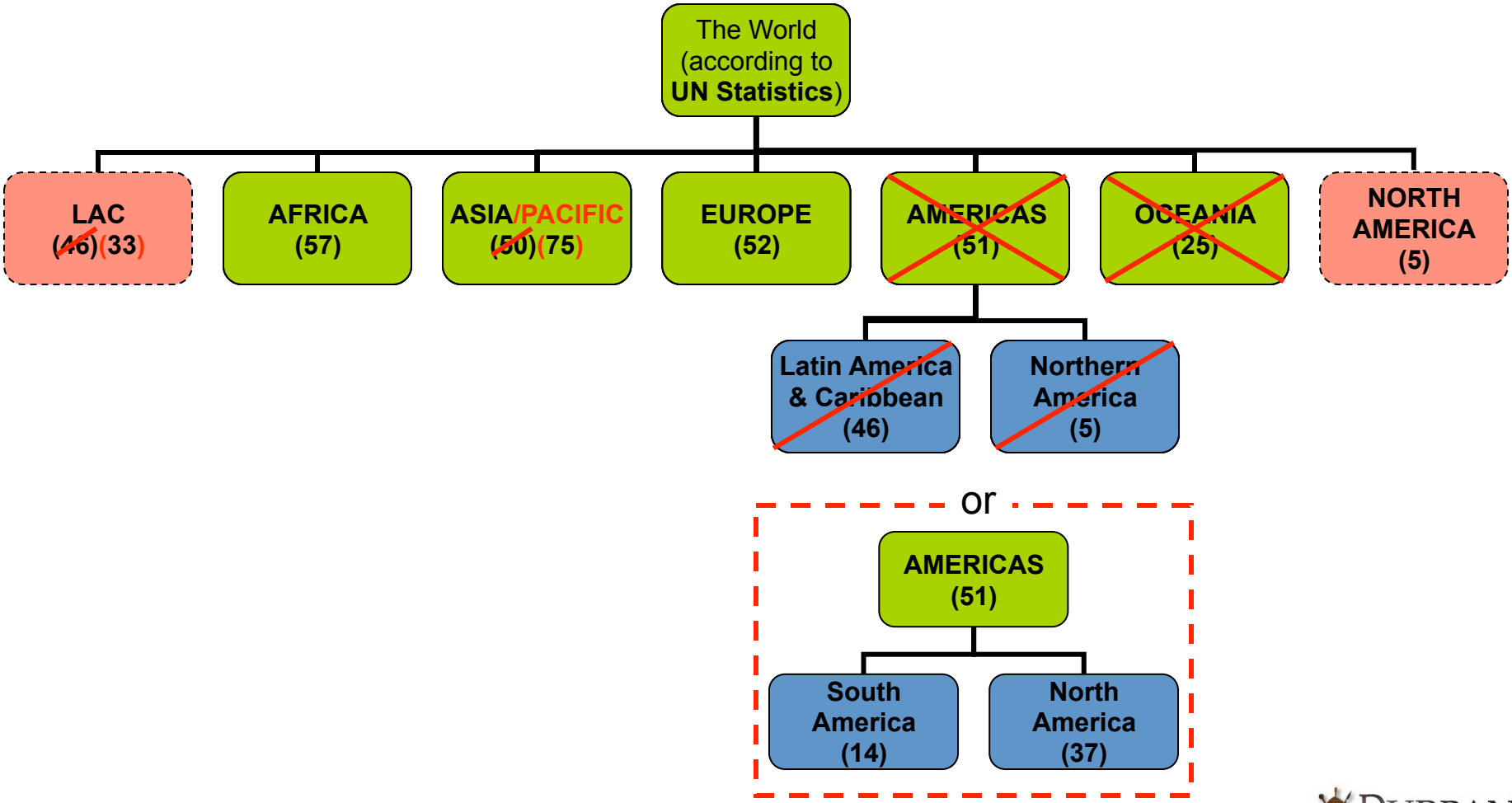

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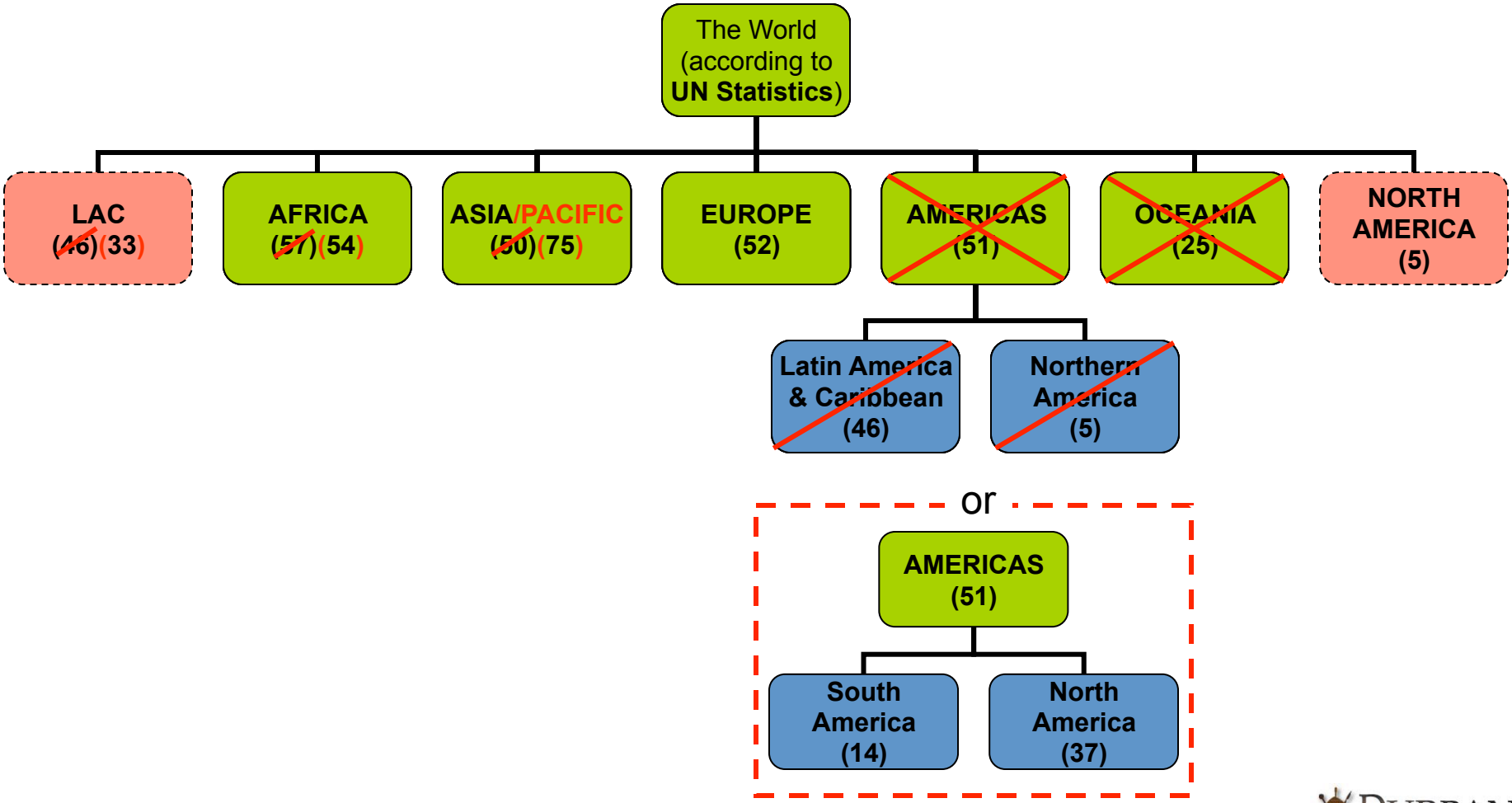

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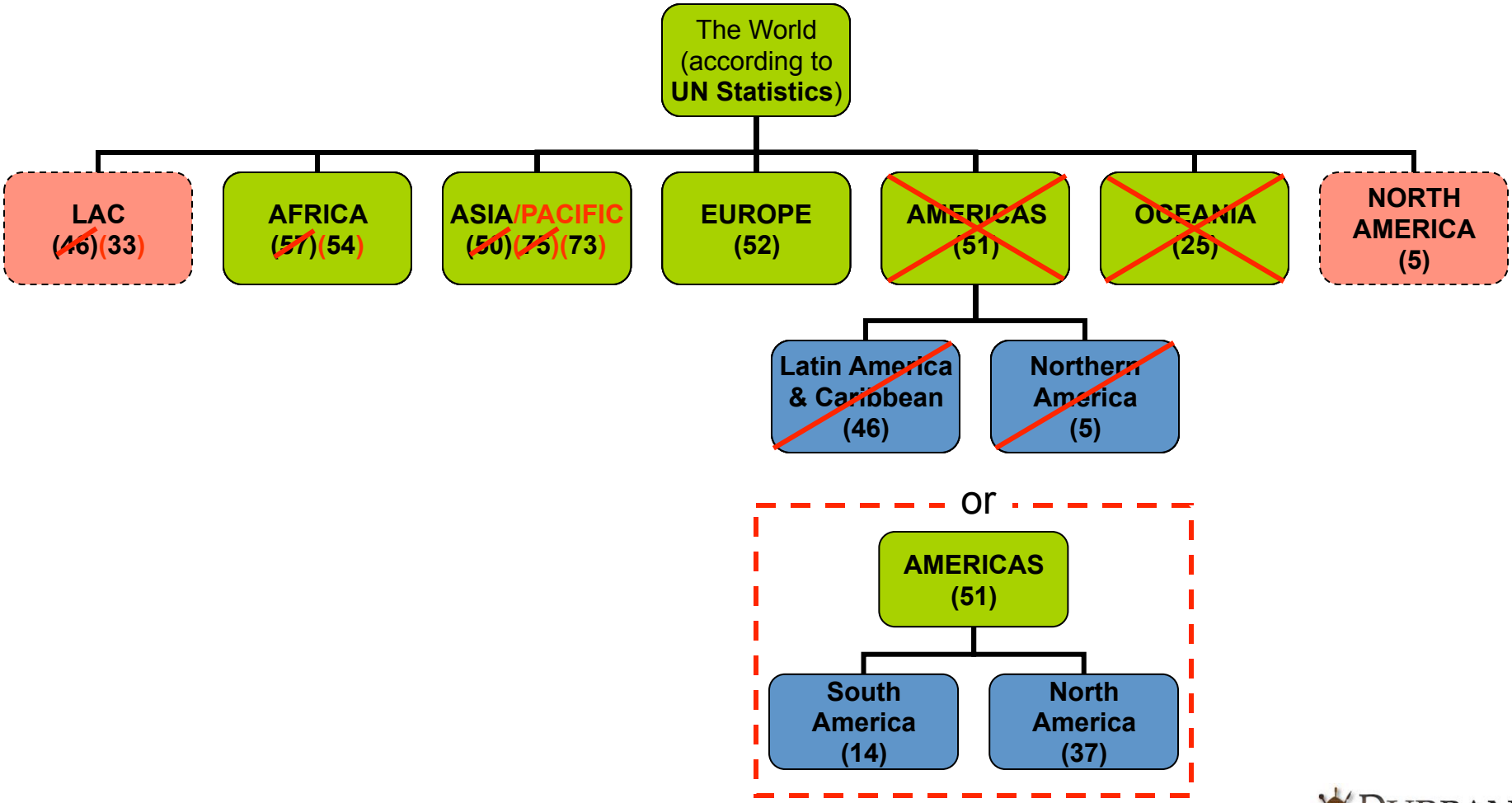

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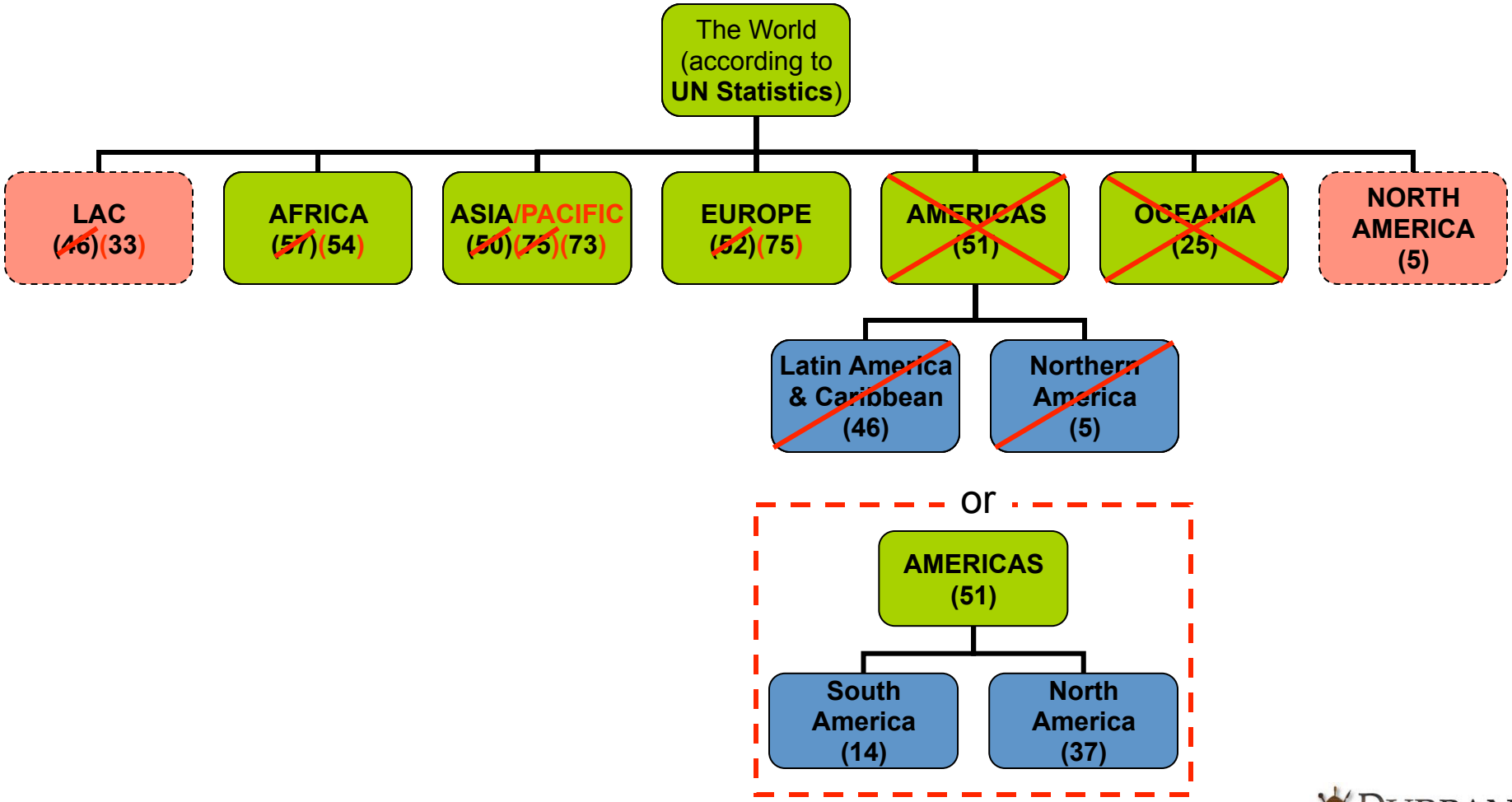

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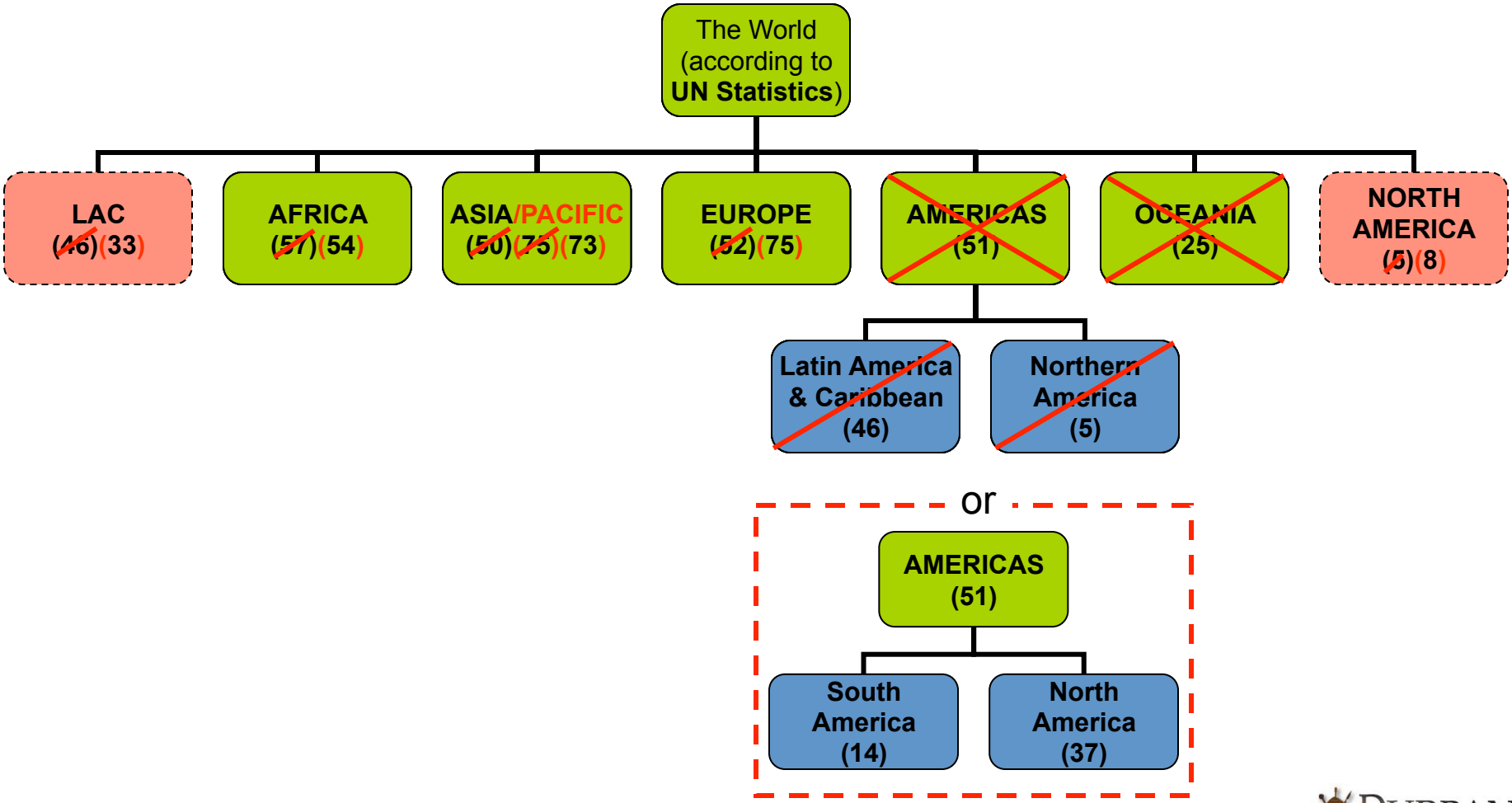

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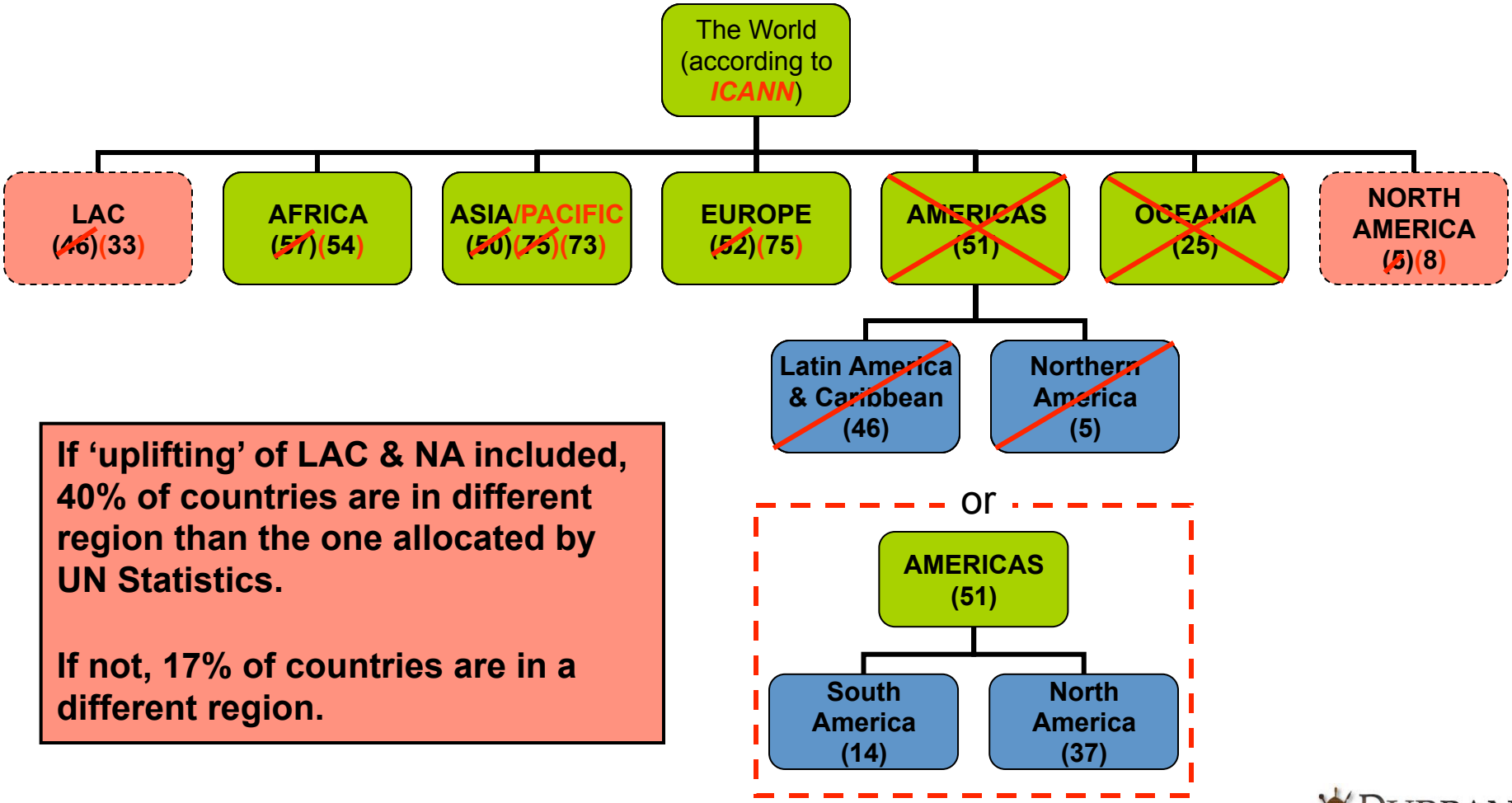


**If 'uplifting' of LAC & NA included, 40% of countries are in different region than the one allocated by UN Statistics.**

**If not, 17% of countries are in a different region.**

# What's the problem?

- So have we been using an independent, internationally recognized allocation,
- or has ICANN devised its own allocation?
- Can it be improved?

# What's the problem?

- Some countries/territories want to change Region, or create new regions.
- Some Regions may be too large.
- ICANN Board looks at individuals , nationality and residency while some SOs/ACs look at countries/ territories.  Rules cannot be identical.

# Investigating the Problem

- WG in place since 2009
- Exhaustive research, investigations and community contacts
- 3 reports (initial, interim and draft final)
- Multiple community interactions (workshops, comment periods and community meetings)
- Work has resulted in a “Final” Final Report that is now published

# WG Recommendations

- Although the original geographic regions may not be ideal, impractical to change them at this stage.
- ICANN should take ownership of its Geographic Regions Framework based upon the current assignment of countries to regions.

# WG Recommendations

- Regional framework to be used for make-up of ICANN Board and to be default diversity requirement for SOs and ACs.
- However, SOs and ACs should have the flexibility to develop own rules, subject to Board approval.

# WG Recommendations

- The ICANN allocation of countries to Regions based upon *status quo*.
- Stakeholders in countries/ territories may pursue re-assignment to a geographic region that they consider to be more appropriate for their jurisdiction.

# WG Recommendations

- ICANN should seek ways to recognize and accommodate Special Interest Groups to promote the interests and unique attributes of stakeholder communities that may not clearly fit into the formal top-down regional structures.
- These “bottom-up” groupings would be complementary to the formal regional framework, and would not replace it.

# WG Recommendations

- The Board maintain oversight over the existing framework at all levels within the ICANN organization and review the effectiveness of its application at regular five-year intervals.

# Next Steps

- Participating SOs and ACs have a full 90 days after the conclusion of the Durban meeting (17 Oct 2003) for their communities to discuss the Final Report recommendations and, if they choose, to submit a written statement back to the Working Group.
- Any such statement will accompany the Final Report when it is submitted to the ICANN Board prior to the Buenos Aires meeting.

# Working Group Members

- Adiel Akplogan (ASO/NRO)
- David Archbold (ccNSO) Chair
- Fahd Batayneh (ccNSO)
- Ching Chiao (GNSO) From November 2011
- Olga Cavalli (GNSO) Until October 2011
- Zahid Jamil (GNSO)
- Cheryl Langdon-Orr (ALAC)
- Carlton Samuels (ALAC)
- Paul Wilson (ASO/NRO)

## ICANN Staff Support

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# Questions & Answers

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