
HYDERABAD – Public Safety Working Group Operating Guidelines (via PSWG)

Tuesday, November 08, 2016 – 09:00 to 09:30 IST

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OLGA CAVALLI: Hello everyone, good morning, buenos dias, bonjour, guten morgen. What else? Persian? How you say in Persian? (Non-English word or phrase). What else? Help me. And in Swedish?

OLOF NORDLING: God morgon.

OLGA CAVALLI: It's almost German.

Our chair, Thomas Schneider, he is in a meeting with the Board and he cannot make it, so I will be helping chairing this morning's session which goes up to 10:30. Then we have a break, and then there's the public forum. And then in the afternoon we have the communique; right?

So it's an intense day for us today.

So this session in the morning is for reporting from working groups to the plenary, to the GAC as a whole. And we have several reports. The first one is from the Public Safety Working

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Group chaired by our dear colleague Alice from Kenya -- from -- sorry, from African Union, from Kenya, but she is from Kenya. So I will give the floor to her, and thank you for being with us this morning.

Thank you.

ALICE MUNYUA:

Thank you very much, Madam Chair, and good morning, everyone.

The discussion today or the presentation today is on Public Safety Working Group document that was developed. It's called a guidelines document developed by the PSWG chair, co-chairs, with input from the GAC ACIG secretariat and Fabien, our GAC support.

And the purpose of this document is to address communication and coordination challenges that have emerged between the PSWG and the GAC as we experienced when we were engaging with the privacy/proxy accreditation process, GNSO PDP.

So just a reminder that the Public Safety Working Group was intentionally set by the GAC to draw upon expertise in law enforcement, consumer protection, as well as GAC membership. And GAC membership itself has -- had committed to facilitating

participation by their national experts. And that was in 2015 during the Singapore meeting.

So the document that was developed is actually meant to provide guidelines and much needed clarity to assist especially the subject matter experts who are the no necessarily members of the GAC, and who may not be familiar with GAC processes, to understand how the PSWG relates to the GAC. And in particular, the document reflects the position of the PSWG as a subsidiary working group of the GAC whose positions should be reviewed and endorsed by the GAC. So it actually sets out guidelines so that it helps the subject matter experts to follow GAC processes.

So, you know, the guidelines themselves outline the duties of PSWG members, the chairs and co-chairs. It also describes the working group's working methods that are specific to that group. Once again, the emphasis here is to remember that this working group is unique within the GAC working group because it draws upon law enforcement agents and others that are not necessarily GAC members.

So it's a live document, and which means that it will continually be updated, depending on -- especially depending on the evolving GAC operating principles.

The intention for presenting these guidelines is not for endorsement because the Public Safety Working Group itself has

not reached consensus on some of the issues, so we are still discussing it. And so what we are looking at is perhaps presenting it to you during the Copenhagen meeting for endorsement, depending on whether or not we will have finalized the current discussions.

And so my question to you is should this document -- because the PSWG discussed whether or not this document should exist in the first place and there was consensus that it should exist because then it provides subject matter experts with guidelines where they do not substitute their own judgment and opinions but are based -- they base their judgments and opinions on reasoned, coherent and time-tested GAC policy processes.

So I think -- you know, my first question to you, GAC colleagues, is whether or not a document like this should exist for our working group, the Public Safety Working Group. And you can see we are still -- And it just spells out exactly the roles and how we should phrase documents, what we are meant to do. Once a document is developed, it has to come to be discussed at the PSWG level and then brought to the GAC for endorsed for discussion first, and comment and endorsement before it becomes a GAC-endorsed position.

So I just wanted to share this document with you and hear whether or not it's useful and, you know, get your go-ahead for

the Public Safety Working Group to continue discussing it and, you know, working further on it.

Thank you.

Thank you, Olga.

OLGA CAVALLI:

Thanks to you, Alice.

Any comments, questions to our colleague Alice about the public safety group?

Iran, yes.

Go ahead.

Alice, is that okay?

IRAN:

Thank you. Good morning.

The question was is it useful or not and should you continue or not? That was the question? Yes, it is useful. Public safety. It is very useful. And continue, depending on the availability of the people, depending their devotion, depending on the amount of way the GAC should be done, yes, I think in our view it's useful and need to be continued. On this there are opposite views that no, it is not useful by others. This is my personal view.

Thank you.

OLGA CAVALLI:

Thank you, Kavouss. Any other questions, comments to Alice? Who else?

Oh, sorry, Gema, please.

SPAIN:

Thank you, Madam Chair. Yes, I think that document is -- is useful because, as you say, Alice, the Public Safety Working Group is populated with a lot of experts who are not GAC members appointed by -- by their relevant administrations. So they need to be familiar with GAC procedures. And I encourage the working group to continue discussing this document, fine-tuning it, although I think it's quite well spelled out. It's a complete document from my point of view, but if you need to discuss some details, I encourage you to do it.

When I reviewed it I only noticed that maybe the need for GAC endorsement or GAC mandate for the group needs to be reasserted each and every time that the PSWG wants to take an initiative. For instance, I've taken note of point 5, policy implementation, IRT membership. Membership of Implementation Review Team, that it says that PSWG members may respond to the call of volunteers and join a potential IRT.

And it doesn't say here that the GAC plenary has to give its green light to these members of the PSWG joining the IRT.

So maybe that's for clarification or it could be useful to repeat that here.

But apart from that, I think the document is quite well, and if you can up-vote it as soon as possible, I encourage you to do it.

Thank you.

OLGA CAVALLI:

Thank you, Spain.

Other comments? Other questions to the Public Safety Working Group chair?

Alice, you want to say something final?

ALICE MUNYUA:

Okay. Thank you very much.

I think the only thing -- Thank you for allowing us to continue discussing this document, and thank you, Gema, for that useful suggestion.

As I mentioned, the document is going to keep evolving as -- as the, you know, person to -- the evolving GAC operating principles and discussions that going on in there. So it will keep taking all

of that into consideration, and we will work on it and hope to present it for endorsement either before Copenhagen or during the meeting in Copenhagen.

So thank you very much.

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