

Pre-ICANN56 Policy Forum Report



ICANN|56 | POLICY
HELSINKI | FORUM
27-30 June 2016

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Welcome to ICANN56



Welcome to Helsinki! I am pleased to present the Pre-ICANN56 Policy Forum Report. This report provides high-level overviews of the various cross-community sessions and updates from the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees.

This is a meeting of important firsts: Our first ICANN meeting in Helsinki, the first meeting of our new President and CEO, Göran Marby, and the first Policy Forum. ICANN hosts three international public meetings per year, but this ICANN meeting will be different. The ICANN56 Policy Forum will be a four-day meeting with sessions focused on policy and advice development work and outreach activities.

The Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees have taken the lead in organizing the program. Mornings are dedicated to individual and joint sessions of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. Afternoons will feature cross-community sessions exploring a variety of topics including ongoing policy development efforts.

There will be no official opening ceremony, no public meeting of the ICANN Board and no public forums. Networking receptions each night will allow participants to interact outside of work sessions. Instead, we will see robust debate, discussion, disagreement and compromise. This is the core work of ICANN: community-driven, consensus policy and advice development for the top-level of the Internet's naming system.

A global community of stakeholders and participants from many backgrounds, with various points of view help coordinate and support the Internet's unique identifiers. The Internet functions for everybody because everybody is invited to help make it function. Consensus policies developed by the multistakeholder model give our results both effectiveness and the greatest legitimacy.

Thank you to our generous hosts and to you for making the considerable commitment of time and effort to attend this meeting. No matter if you are an ICANN regular, an occasional participant, or a newcomer, I encourage you to engage actively in this meeting and enjoy Finnish hospitality.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

David Olive
Senior Vice President,
Policy Development Support
General Manager,
ICANN Regional Headquarters – Istanbul

Next Generation Registration Directory Services

What to Expect at ICANN56

During this cross-community session, Working Group members will draw from their own experiences to share examples and invite attendees to join in a lively conversation about possible requirements which they believe should be supported by a gTLD Registration Directory Service. Input gathered during this cross-community session are essential to inform this Policy Development Process Working Group's phase 1 recommendations on whether next generation registration directory services are needed to replace WHOIS and why.

Background

Pursuant to its resolution on 8 November 2012, the ICANN Board directed the ICANN President and CEO to launch a new effort to redefine the purpose of collecting, maintaining and providing access to gTLD registration data and consider safeguards for protecting data as a foundation for new gTLD policy and contractual negotiations. Moreover, the Board directed the preparation of an Issue Report on the purpose of collecting and maintaining gTLD registration data, and on solutions to improve accuracy and access to gTLD registration data as part of a Board-initiated GNSO policy development process (PDP). The Board then went on to pass a resolution that led to the creation of the Expert Working Group. The Board referred to this as a 'two-pronged approach' that is based on 'broad and responsive action' in relation to the reform of gTLD registration data.

To enable effective consideration of the many significant and interdependent policy areas that the GNSO must address, the Board approved a three-phase Process Framework. GNSO Councilors and Board members collaboratively developed the framework to structure this complex and challenging PDP for success. The framework also includes many opportunities for gathering input to inform this PDP and key decision points at which the GNSO Council will review progress made to determine next steps.

Session Details

Monday, 27 June | 15:00-16:30 | Hall A

This session will be led by Working Group Chair Chuck Gomes, supported by vice chairs David Cake, Susan Kawaguchi, and Michele Neylon and by ICANN Policy Development Support staff members Marika Konings and Lisa Phifer.

For the proposed agenda and more information about this Policy Development Process, please visit the Working Group [workspace](#).

Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs

What to Expect at ICANN56

The GNSO Council launched this Policy Development Process in February 2016. At this early stage of its work, the Working Group is keen to hear views from different segments of the ICANN community on what is and is not working about the rights protection mechanisms (RPMs) that were developed for the 2012 New gTLD Program Round. This includes the Trademark Clearinghouse and the associated protections offered through it such as Sunrise Registrations and Claims Notifications, and the new Uniform Rapid Suspension procedure (URS). As the Working Group begins to gather data on these RPMs, it is also interested in suggestions from the community regarding potential sources of data, possible use cases and other information that will facilitate its work.

Background

Despite being the oldest Consensus Policy at ICANN, the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) has never been comprehensively reviewed. In 2011, an Issue Report requested by the GNSO recommended that UDRP review be deferred until at least 18 months after the new URS had been in operation under the 2012 New gTLD Program. The current PDP seeks to review all the RPMs that have been developed by ICANN to date for all gTLDs and not just those launched under the 2012 New gTLD Program. The PDP is being conducted in two phases, with Phase One focusing on all the RPMs that were developed specifically for the 2012 New gTLD Program Round, and Phase Two focusing on the longstanding UDRP. When the Working Group completes the PDP, this will represent the first time that a cohesive and comprehensive review of these trademark protection mechanisms will have been conducted by the ICANN community.

Session Details

Monday, 27 June | 16:30-18:00 | Hall A

Apart from the cross-community session, the Working Group will also hold a meeting on **Thursday, 30 June from 08:00-10:30 in Hall B**. Both sessions are open to the public, and will be led by Working Group Co-Chairs Kathy Kleiman, Philip Corwin and J. Scott Evans, assisted by ICANN Policy Development Support staff.

Charter for the CCWG on Auction Proceeds

What to Expect at ICANN56

This [cross-community session](#) has been scheduled at ICANN56 to discuss the proposed charter for a Cross-Community Working Group (CCWG) on Auction Proceeds, including the identification of key issues requiring community input before finalization of the charter. ICANN Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees interested in chartering the CCWG are encouraged to participate as well as others that may be interested in joining the CCWG once the charter has been finalized and adopted.

Background

The new gTLD Program established auctions as a mechanism of last resort to resolve string contention. Most string contentions (approximately 90% of sets scheduled for auction) have been resolved through other means before reaching an auction conducted by ICANN's authorized auction service provider. However, it was recognized from the outset that significant funds could accrue as a result of several auctions. As such, these auction proceeds have been reserved and earmarked until the ICANN Board authorizes a plan for the appropriate use of the funds.

In March 2015 the GNSO started discussing a possible process for facilitating the conversation around new gTLD auction proceeds during the [ICANN52](#). As part of that discussion, it became clear that there was interest from the GNSO to commence formal conversations on the topic of new gTLD auction proceeds and following which, the GNSO Council reached out to other ICANN Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees to determine whether there would be interest to form a cross-community working group on this topic.

Session Details

Tuesday, 28 June | 15:15-16:45 | Helsinki Hall

This session will be led by the Chair of the Drafting Team, Jonathan Robinson, with the support of the Vice Chair, Alan Greenberg, as well as other members from the Drafting Team. The session will be opened by a brief overview of the proposed charter and identification of key issues requiring community input before finalization of the charter.

For further information about the Drafting Team and all relevant documents, please see the Drafting Team [workspace](#).

New gTLD Subsequent Procedures

What to Expect at ICANN56

During this cross-community session, the audience will be invited to discuss a set of topics that are of broad community interest, such as community applications, geographic names, new gTLD program reviews, amongst other topics. Input gathered during this cross-community session are essential to the various new gTLD related efforts underway within the community.

Background

The Policy Development Process on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures was initiated in December 2015 and chartered in January 2016. It is intended to determine what, if any changes need to be made to the existing policy recommendations from the 2007 Final Report on the Introduction of New gTLDs, such as:

- Clarifying, amending, or overriding existing policy recommendations;
- Developing new policy recommendations; and
- Supplementing or developing new implementation guidance

The existing new gTLD policy recommendations adopted by the GNSO Council and ICANN Board have “been designed to produce a systemized and ongoing mechanisms for applicants to propose new top-level domains.” These recommendations would remain in place unless the Working Group determines that changes are needed.

Session Details

Tuesday, 28 June | 17:00-18:30 | Hall A

Operational Planning

What to Expect at ICANN56

This cross-community session is intended to start dialogue on ICANN operational goals and related key performance indicators and metrics.

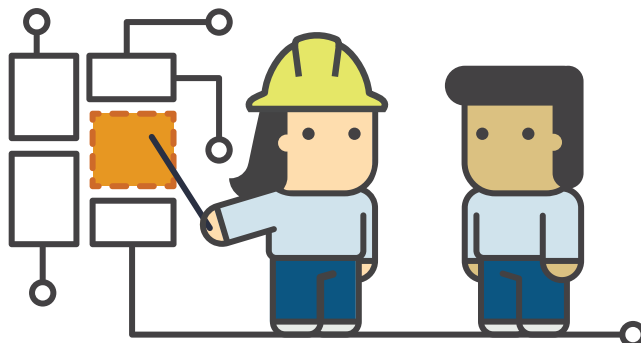
Background

By fostering a cross-community discussion on operational planning, ICANN hopes to evolve focus from dialogue on financial aspects of its Operational Plan and Budget. If successful, this type of interaction will become part of the planning process at ICANN.

Session Details

Tuesday, 28 June 2016 | 17:00-18:30 | Veranda 2

The session will focus on ICANN outreach programs and hub strategy, among other topics.



Country and Other Geographic Names

What to Expect at ICANN56

The Cross-Community Working Group (CCWG) is currently focused on the use of 3-letter country codes as TLDs. The CCWG is aware of other discussions relating to geographic names, noting diverging interests and opinions across all communities. The purpose of this cross-community session is to solicit community views on the different issues related to the use of country and other geographic names as TLDs. The session will also explore the feasibility of a harmonized framework that could inform and enhance the policy efforts around the use of these names as TLDs.

Background

The objective of the CCWG is to review the current status of representations of country and territory names, as they exist under current ICANN policies, guidelines and procedures. The CCWG draws upon the collective expertise of the participating Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees and others, and on the initial analysis of the ccNSO Study Group on the Use of Names of Countries and Territories as TLDs. Secondly, the CCWG aims to provide advice regarding the feasibility of developing a uniform definitional framework that could be applicable across the respective Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. The scope of the CCWG is limited to:

- Representations of names of countries, territories and their subdivisions listed on or eligible to be listed on the Alpha-2 code International Standard for country codes and codes for their subdivisions (ISO 3166-1). Other geographical indicators, such as regions, are excluded;
- The use of country and territory names as top-level domains. The use of country and territory names as second- or other level domains is excluded.

Session Details

Wednesday, 29 June | 15:15-16:45 | Helsinki Hall



Draft Framework of Principles for Future CCWGs

What to Expect at ICANN56

The Cross-Community Working Group (CCWG) to Develop a Framework of Principles for Future CCWGs published an initial Draft Framework for public comment in February 2016. At ICANN56, the CCWG will discuss the changes it made to the Draft Framework as a result of public comments received, with a view toward preparing a Final Framework for submission to its Chartering Organizations for their review before ICANN57. ICANN56 provides the community with a final opportunity to provide the CCWG with comments and suggestions before the CCWG completes the Final Framework.

Background

CCWGs are used increasingly by the ICANN community to address issues that cut across more than one Supporting Organization and Advisory Committee. However, at present there are no community-agreed principles governing the initiation, chartering, operations, decision making mechanisms, and closure of CCWGs. The ccNSO and GNSO Councils chartered this CCWG to develop a framework of uniform principles to guide future CCWGs. Should the Final Framework be adopted by the ccNSO and GNSO Councils and accepted by the other Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees, its principles and recommendations will be applied to future CCWGs, starting potentially with the proposed CCWG on Auction Proceeds.

Session Details

Wednesday, 29 June | 16:30-18:00 | Hall A

The CCWG invites all interested community members to its open session where it will discuss the topics of most concern based on the public comments received on the Draft Framework. These topics are: ensuring diversity; budget and resource allocation concerns; defining consensus; and the role of a CCWG in implementation of its recommendations. The session will be moderated by CCWG Co-Chairs Becky Burr (ccNSO) and John Berard (GNSO), assisted by ICANN Policy Development Support staff.

Workload Scheduling and Management

What to Expect at ICANN56

The objective of this session is to collect input and ideas for making ICANN activities more relevant, timely and efficient by finding ways of prioritizing topics, utilizing the available mechanisms in optimal ways and potentially conceiving new useful mechanisms.

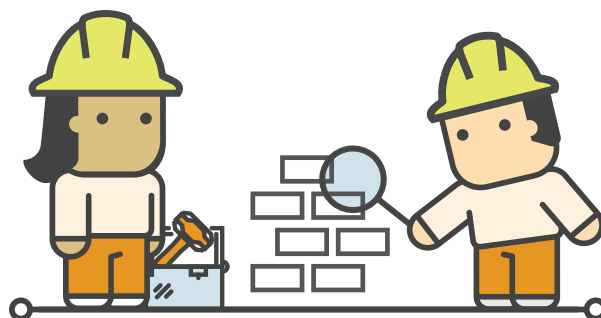
Background

Over the years, the manifold of topics and issues to address in parallel within ICANN has frequently stretched the capacity of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. This caused delays as well as “volunteer fatigue.” and voices have been raised for a more orderly prioritization and organization than the de fact prioritization that necessarily occur in overload situation.

Session Details

Thursday, 30 June | 15:15-16:45 | Hall A

This will be an interactive session led by Thomas Schneider, GAC Chair, as moderator. Introductory statements and questions will be made on aspects like differences in planning methods, timing across ICANN as a whole and within its various entities, and the potential need for additional support. For each aspect, the floor will then be open for participants to contribute with illustrations, issue analysis and constructive suggestions for making ICANN work more efficiently in the future. Outcome notes will be prepared in real time and be made available before the end of the day.



Address Supporting Organization

What to Expect at ICANN56

As part of the implementation of the IANA Stewardship Transition proposals, the Service Level Agreement on IANA Numbering Services between ICANN and the RIRs has been approved and will be signed at this meeting. The ASO Address Council (ASO AC) will be in work sessions throughout the week as well.

Background

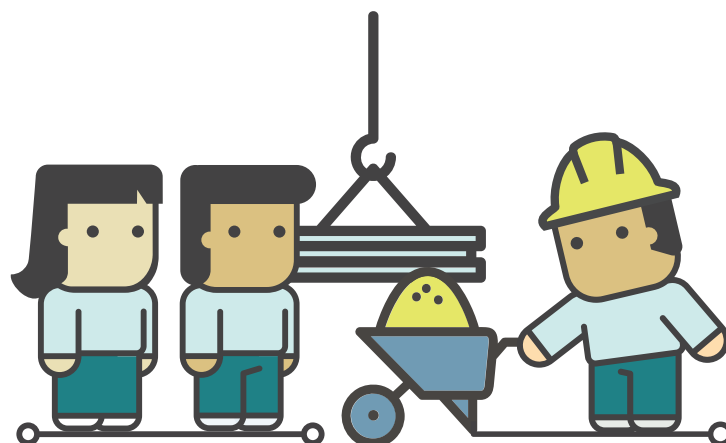
The ASO was established in 2004 through a Memorandum of Understanding between ICANN and the Number Resource Organization (NRO), representing the Internet number community and the five autonomous regional Internet registries (RIRs): AFRINIC, APNIC, ARIN, LACNIC, and RIPE. The RIR CEOs coordinate their work on behalf of the Internet number community through the NRO Executive Council.

The RIRs receive blocks of number resources from IANA in accordance with the established global policies. Each RIR then allocates such resources within its region according to regionally established policies. The users of these resources are local internet registries (LIRs), which are typically Internet or connectivity service providers; national internet registries (NIRs), which coordinate Internet resources at a national level; and end user companies, typically companies that are large enough to manage their own Internet resources.

The NRO Number Council is an elected body that coordinates the global policy development work of the Internet number community. Through the Memorandum of Understanding from 2004, the NRO Number Council acts as the ASO AC at ICANN. The ASO AC has 15 members, three from each region. The ASO AC oversees and manages the global policy development process and also appoints members to the ICANN Board, the Nominating Committee and other ICANN groups.

Session Details

The ASO/NRO will conduct a public session on **Monday, 27 June**, and the ASO AC will hold its annual meeting on **Thursday, 30 June**.



Country Code Names Supporting Organization

What to Expect at ICANN56

The ccNSO will start on Monday with [Tech Day](#), a workshop open for all community members with an interest in technical topics including registry work and security. Tuesday and Wednesday are [ccNSO Member Days](#), where the ccTLD community will discuss a number of issues affecting a cross-section of the world's country codes. A detailed ccNSO schedule for ICANN56 is available [here](#).

Background

The ccNSO is a body within ICANN created for and by country code top-level domain managers. Since its creation in 2003, the ccNSO has provided a forum for ccTLD managers to meet and discuss topical issues of concern to ccTLDs from a global perspective. The ccNSO provides a platform to nurture consensus, technical cooperation and skill building among ccTLDs and facilitates the development of voluntary best practices for ccTLD managers. It is also responsible for developing and recommending global policies to the ICANN Board for a limited set of issues relating to ccTLDs, such as the introduction of Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLDs. Membership in the ccNSO is open to all ccTLD managers responsible for managing an ISO 3166 country code top-level domain.

The [ccNSO policy development process](#) is managed by the ccNSO Council, which consists of 18 Councilors (15 elected by ccNSO members, three appointed by the ICANN Nominating Committee). The Councilors are actively involved in determining the work and direction of the ccNSO: they lead and participate in various ccNSO working groups, they engage with the community on topical issues, and they develop positions based on community feedback. The ccNSO Council meets regularly at ICANN meetings and on monthly teleconferences. All documents, minutes of meetings, resolutions and discussions are published on the [ccNSO website](#).

Session Details

During ccNSO Member Days, the ccTLD community will exchange best legal and marketing practices. Most importantly, the ccNSO will launch an important policy development process regarding the retirement of ccTLDs and the development of a review mechanism for the decisions on delegation, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs.

The ccNSO will also focus on the IANA Stewardship Transition and ICANN accountability, including progress on the implementation of the CWG-Stewardship (Tuesday) and CCWG-Accountability proposals (Wednesday). The ccNSO plans to explore its own accountability and transparency and discuss the selection and appointment of members to the Customer Standing Committee and the Root Zone Evolution Review Committee.

On Tuesday afternoon, there will be a [joint meeting](#) of the ccNSO with the Governmental Advisory Committee. The session will include an exchange on the policy development processes relevant to the ccTLD community and the survey on governmental relations with ccTLD managers recently conducted by the GAC Working Group on Under-Served Regions.

Generic Names Supporting Organization

What to Expect at ICANN56

The Policy Forum format provides a stronger emphasis on policy development work with the aim of undertaking significant work within the GNSO. The GNSO will lead several cross-community sessions and also maintain a busy schedule of working group meetings.

Background

The [GNSO](#) is the policymaking body responsible for generic top-level domains, such as .com, .net and .org. Its members include representatives from gTLD registries, gTLD registrars, intellectual property interests, Internet service providers, businesses and non-commercial interests. The GNSO addresses a broad range of gTLD policies dealing with issues such as the introduction of new gTLDs; domain name registrations, expirations, renewals, and transfers; the Uniform Dispute Resolution Process (UDRP); internationalized domain names; WHOIS data (information that registrants provide when registering a domain name and that registrars or registries collect); and the Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA). The GNSO brings together different interests to address these and many other questions using a bottom-up process, driven by working groups run by community volunteers.

The 21 members of the GNSO Council govern policy development in the GNSO, make policy recommendations to the ICANN Board and appoint two members to the ICANN Board. GNSO Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies appoint 18 of the 21 members. For voting purposes, the Council has two houses. The Contracted Parties House holds the gTLD Registries and Registrars Stakeholder Groups, while the Non-Contracted Parties House holds the Commercial and Non-Commercial Stakeholder Groups. The ICANN Nominating Committee appoints three Council members, two of which are voting members with each one assigned to one House. The third appointee is not assigned to any particular house and is non-voting. The Council also includes formally appointed but non-voting Liaisons from other groups, such as the At-Large Advisory Committee and the Country Code Names Supporting Organization ccNSO.

Session Details

Please see the [ICANN56 schedule](#) for details about GNSO sessions, including:

Bilateral Meetings with:

- ICANN Board
- Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

Policy Development Process Working Group Meetings

- New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures
- Next Generation Registration Directory Services
- Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs
- IGO-INGO Curative Rights

Implementation Review Team Meetings

- Thick WHOIS
- IGO-INGO Protection

At-Large Advisory Committee

What to Expect at ICANN56

The ALAC will focus on process related matters important to the organizational effectiveness of the At-Large Community. These include the revitalization of [At-Large Working Groups](#), the [criteria and expectations of At-Large Structures \(ALSes\)](#), the [updated ALAC Rules of Procedure](#), and the implementation of [approved FY17 special budget requests](#). The ALAC will also discuss the new ICANN bylaws and the ongoing work of the CCWG-Accountability and various GNSO policy development working groups. The [At-Large Review](#) independent examiner will meet with the At-Large Community to conduct qualitative interviews. To continue its outreach and engagement effort, the ALAC will meet with the NextGen participants and the ICANN Fellows to enhance their understanding of the At-Large Community.

Background

Within ICANN, the At-Large Community represents the interests of Internet end users. The membership consists of 200 At-Large Structures (ALSes) around the world and an increasing number of individual members. Whether it is an Internet-related consumer rights group or a public-minded individual, At-Large members share a passion for ensuring that the Internet continues to serve the global public interest. ALSes and individual members are organized into five Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs) based on their geographic regions. As the communication forum and coordination point, RALOs promote the participation of ALSes and individual members in ICANN activities.

Within the At-Large Community's bottom-up, tiered structure, the 15-member At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) represents the At-Large Community, consisting of two members selected by each of the five RALOs and five members appointed by ICANN's Nominating Committee. The ALAC advises on the activities of ICANN, including Domain Name System policies developed by the Supporting Organizations; it also plays a vital role in outreach and engagement programs. Visit the [At-Large website](#) to learn more.

Session Details

The [EURALO General Assembly](#) will be held on **Tuesday, 28 June, 08:00-10:30**. Participants will discuss the EURALO Annual Report, which includes the review and redraft of the EURALO Articles of Association, as well as the launch of the EURALO ALSes Engagement Taskforce. EURALO will also co-host a networking event with the ICANN Civil Society Engagement group on that same day from **18:30-19:30**.

Other sessions include the [joint meeting](#) between the ALAC Leadership Team and the GAC Leadership Team, the [joint meeting](#) between the ALAC and the Intellectual Property Consistency (IPC), and the [At-Large Leadership Wrap-Up Session](#). For details of other sessions, including meetings of the At-Large Regional Leadership, other RALOs, and At-Large working groups, click [here](#).

Governmental Advisory Committee

What to Expect at ICANN56

The GAC will focus on internal matters, follow up on current GNSO policy development processes where GAC input is strongly required, as well as discuss next steps regarding the IANA Stewardship Transition.

Internal topics will include updates from GAC Working Groups such as Public Safety, Human Rights and International Law, Geographic Names. The GAC will also review its Operating Principles and meet with the GNSO, ccNSO, and SSAC.

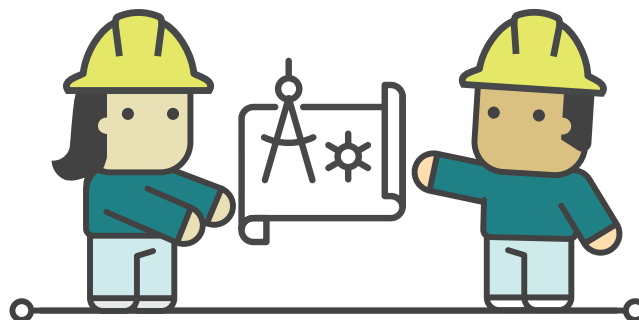
Background

The GAC provides advice on public policy aspects of ICANN's responsibilities with regard to the Domain Name System. The GAC is not a decision-making body. It advises ICANN on issues that are within its scope. GAC advice has a particular status under the ICANN Bylaws. Its advice must be duly taken into account by the ICANN Board, and when the ICANN Board proposes actions inconsistent with GAC advice it must give reasons for doing so and attempt to reach a mutually acceptable solution.

GAC membership consists of national governments and distinct economies recognized in international forums. Multinational governmental and treaty organizations and public authorities (including all the UN agencies with a direct interest in global Internet governance such as the ITU, UNESCO and WIPO) participate in the GAC in an observer capacity.

Session Details

GAC Working Groups will be meeting from **08:15-09:15** prior to the GAC plenary sessions. The GAC Capacity Building session, with a presentation from the ICANN Government and IGO Engagement team, will take place on **Monday** from **11:30-12:30**. More details regarding GAC sessions can be found on the [ICANN56 schedule](#) as well on the [GAC website](#) where all presentations will be posted.



Root Server System Advisory Committee

What to Expect at ICANN56

The RSSAC will have eleven working sessions throughout the week discussing various internal matters and will actively participate in the various cross-community sessions.

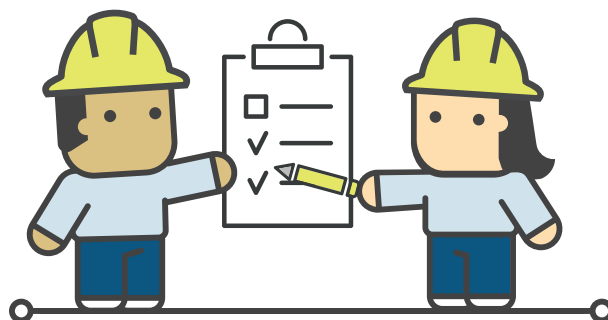
Background

The [RSSAC](#) is responsible for advising the ICANN Community and Board on matters relating to the operation, administration, security, and integrity of the authoritative root server system. The RSSAC consists of representatives from the organizations responsible for operating the world's 13 root name servers and liaisons from the partner organizations involved in the stable, technical, and operational management of the root zone.

In 2014, the RSSAC launched the Caucus of Domain Name System and Root Server System experts to carry out its essential work. There are 74 Caucus members (47% of whom do not work for root server operators), broadening the base of technical expertise contributing to RSSAC work.

Session Details

The RSSAC Public Session is **10:45-11:30** on **Monday, 27 June** in Helsinki Hall.



Security and Stability Advisory Committee

What to Expect at ICANN56

The SSAC will hold a workshop on DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) on Monday, 27 June. This session is a public presentation and discussion with those actively engaged in the deployment of DNSSEC. Registries, registrars, ISPs and others who plan to deploy DNSSEC services will benefit from the presentation and discussion of the deployment experience.

Anyone with an interest in the deployment of DNSSEC, particularly registry, registrar and ISP representatives with technical, operational, and strategic planning roles. The DNSSEC Workshop has been a part of ICANN meetings for several years and has provided a forum for both experienced and new people to meet, present and discuss current and future DNSSEC deployments.

Background

The SSAC advises the ICANN Community and Board on matters relating to the security and integrity of the Internet's naming and address allocation systems. This includes operational matters (e.g., matters pertaining to the correct and reliable operation of the root name system), administrative matters (e.g., matters pertaining to address allocation and Internet number assignment), and registration matters (e.g., matters pertaining to registry and registrar services such as WHOIS). For more information visit the [SSAC website](#).

Session Details

The topics covered in the DNSSEC Workshop include: maps depicting current DNSSEC deployment; presentations on DNSSEC adoption and trends; a panel discussion on deployment challenges; and technical presentations on key signing key rollover, zone signing key length, and DNSSEC encryption algorithms. The DNSSEC Workshop concludes with a brief presentation on how to get more involved in DNSSEC deployment.