ICANN75 Policy Outlook Report

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Welcome to **ICANN75**

The ICANN75 Annual General Meeting (AGM) is a time for collaboration, education, transition, and celebration.

The ICANN community will discuss the accuracy of generic top-level domain registration data, Internationalized Domain Names, Universal Acceptance, and other priority topics in various stages of policy and advice development. A plenary session, proposed and developed by the ICANN community, will explore Internet fragmentation and the Domain Name System (DNS). I invite you to join, and encourage you to prepare for, these sessions by attending the Policy Update on Thursday, 8 September 2022, 16:00–17:30 UTC during ICANN75 Prep Week.

Educational opportunities available during the AGM include Tech Day, the DNS Security Extensions and Security Workshop, an information session about the Root Server System, and a presentation about recent publications of the Security and Stability Advisory Committee. The At-Large and Governmental Advisory Committees will dedicate capacity-building time for their members, and ICANN community groups will hold joint sessions with the ICANN Board. The AGM will also host membership sessions for the constituencies and stakeholder groups of the Generic Names Supporting Organization.

The welcome ceremony will include the announcement of the recipient of this year's Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building. The ICANN Board looks forward to presenting this award in person for the first time since its inception. The AGM will also feature the annual ICANN Community Leader Recognition Program, honoring 48 ICANN community leaders for their service. Some ICANN community groups have elected new chairs who will begin their terms at the end of ICANN75. Others are in the process of doing so, or will do so before the end of the year.

As you can see, the AGM has a lot to offer. Whether you are an experienced ICANN community member, an occasional participant, or a newcomer, I look forward to seeing you online or in Kuala Lumpur.

Best regards,

David Olive
Senior Vice President,
Policy Development Support

Managing Director,
Washington, D.C., Engagement Office

Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

What to Expect

Although members of the Internet number community will participate in sessions, the ASO will not be convening during ICANN75. The ASO conducts policy development work during Regional Internet Registry (RIR) meetings and on **mailing lists**.

Background

The ASO is defined in a **2019 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**, affirming the relationship between the names and numbers communities. The purpose of the ASO is to review recommendations on global Internet Protocol address policy and to advise the ICANN Board. Global policies are defined in the ASO MoU as "Internet number resource policies that have the agreement of all RIRs, according to their policy development processes, and ICANN and require specific actions or outcomes on the part of the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority or any other external ICANN-related body in order to be implemented." The ASO ensures that the policy development process has been correctly followed in each RIR community:

- African Network Information Centre
- Asia Pacific Network Information Centre
- American Registry for Internet Numbers
- Latin American and Caribbean Internet Addresses Registry
- Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre

The **ASO Address Council (ASO AC)** coordinates the global policy development work of the Internet number community and appoints members to the ICANN Board, the ICANN Nominating Committee, and other ICANN groups. The ASO AC consists of 15 members, three from each RIR.

ASO AC monthly teleconferences are open to observers. For more information, including the teleconference schedule, observer privileges, and remote participation details, visit the **ASO AC website**.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

What to Expect

During the ccNSO sessions, the country code top-level domain (ccTLD) community and others with an interest in ccTLD-related matters will discuss and receive updates on topics relevant to ccTLD managers. ICANN75 marks a milestone because for the first time, simultaneous interpretation will be available for a select number of ccNSO sessions. The enhanced language support will benefit the ccTLD community by deepening operational exchanges and advancing information-sharing. It is part of a pilot project that covers simultaneous interpretation in English, French, and Spanish for the next three ICANN Public Meetings.

The ccNSO program begins on Saturday, 17 September. The Domain Name System (DNS) Abuse Standing Committee (DASC) and the Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC) will hold working sessions. The ccNSO schedule will continue on Sunday, 18 September with other committee and working group sessions, including the Technical Working Group and the Strategic and Operational Planning Committee (SOPC). The third and fourth ccNSO policy development process (ccPDP) working groups will have their working sessions as well. The ccPDP3-Review Mechanism Working Group has developed a proposed mechanism for the review of the specific decisions on the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs. The ccPDP3-Review Mechanism Working Group aims to perform stress-testing of its policy recommendations. On Tuesday, 20 September during the ccNSO Policy Update, the ccPDP3-Review Mechanism Working Group will present its proposals and seek input from the ccTLD community. Later that same day, it will evaluate the input received.

Tech Day will take place on Monday, 19 September. Tech Day is a workshop open to all ICANN community members with an interest in technical, operational, and security topics. The ccNSO schedule will continue on Tuesday, 20 September, and will start with the ccNSO Policy Update, followed by a session that will explore the impact of legislative initiatives regarding geographical indications on ccTLD managers. The ccNSO will also hold joint sessions with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) and the ICANN Board.

On Wednesday, 21 September, during a ccNSO Governance Session, the Guidelines Review Committee (GRC) will present its proposals for ccNSO statement of interest and conflict of interest processes and seek input from the ccTLD community. The GRC will also alert the ccNSO membership about upcoming voting processes and work items. During a Universal Acceptance session, there will be a discussion on the role of the ccNSO and how to best serve the ccTLD community. ccTLD managers from different regions will share their experiences during a ccTLD News Session.

Finally, on Thursday, 22 September, there will be a meeting of the ccNSO Council. The ccNSO program will conclude with a wrap-up session by the Meetings Program Committee. All those interested in helping to shape relevant sessions for ccTLDs are welcome to attend. The detailed ccNSO schedule, including highlights of the topics covered and remote participation details for ICANN75, is available on the **ccNSO ICANN75 workspace**.

Background

The ccNSO is one of the three Supporting Organizations within ICANN. Created in 2003 for and by ccTLD managers, the ccNSO develops and recommends global policies, such as the retirement of ccTLDs, to the ICANN Board. The ccNSO provides a global platform to discuss topics and issues of concern, build consensus and technical cooperation, and facilitate the development of voluntary best practices for ccTLD managers. Membership in the ccNSO is open to all ccTLD managers.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

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

Consult the **Quick Guide to the ccNSO** to learn more about its work and how it is organized. **Subscribe** to the ccNSO monthly newsletter to stay informed. Previous editions are available in the **archive**.

Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC+8. Please refer to the **ICANN75 schedule** for the most current information.*

Please refer to the **ccNSO ICANN75 session highlights** for detailed agendas and more information.

DNS Abuse Standing Committee
Saturday, 17 September | 15:00–16:00

The DASC is the core of the ccTLD community-driven process around DNS abuse. The DASC was created as a dedicated forum for ccTLD managers to discuss the important topic of DNS abuse and share information, insights, and practices. In keeping with the nature of the ccNSO, the purpose of the DASC is not to formulate any policy or standards. Instead, its overarching goal is to increase understanding and awareness of the issues pertaining to DNS abuse, promote open and constructive dialogue, and ultimately assist ccTLD managers in their efforts to mitigate the impact of DNS abuse.

The DASC will hold a working session at ICANN75 and discuss, among other issues, its outreach efforts, which includes a survey to gather information as useful input for next steps by the DASC. Relevant documents are available on the DASC **website** and **workspace**.

Internet Governance Liaison Committee
Saturday, 17 September | 16:30–17:30

The IGLC has been established to coordinate, facilitate, and increase the participation of ccTLD managers in discussions and processes pertaining to Internet Governance. The IGLC will hold a working session at ICANN75. Relevant documents are available on its **website** and **workspace**.

Technical Working Group
Sunday, 18 September | 09:00–10:00

Since 2006, the Technical Working Group has organized Tech Day, a workshop open to all ICANN community members with an interest in technical, operational, and security topics. The working group will discuss its working methods following a recent charter update.

ccPDP3 Working Session
Sunday, 18 September | 13:15–14:30
Tuesday, 20 September | 16:30–17:30

The ccPDP3-Review Mechanism Working Group has developed a proposed mechanism pertaining to the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of the delegated top-level domains associated with the country codes assigned to countries and territories in the ISO 3166-1 standard. The working group will hold two working sessions. One, to stress test the policy proposals, the other to evaluate the feedback received during the ccNSO Policy Update session held on Tuesday, 20 September. Relevant documents are available on its **website** and **workspace**.

ccPDP4 Working Session
Sunday, 18 September | 15:00–16:00

The ccPDP4 Working Group completed its review and discussion of the 2013 policy proposals for the Internationalized Domain Name ccTLD string selection process. The ccPDP4 consists of three subgroups: the variant management subgroup, the confusing similarity review subgroup, and the de-selection subgroup. All subgroups have completed their initial proposals. During ICANN75, the working group will hold a working session to perform the stress-testing of the draft policy recommendations. The working group charter, work plan, and other relevant documents are available on its **website** and **workspace**.

Strategic and Operational Planning Committee
Sunday, 18 September | 16:30–17:30

The objective of the SOPC is to provide input on the strategic and operational planning processes and related budgetary processes of ICANN and Public Technical Identifiers (PTI) that are relevant from a ccTLD or ccNSO perspective. It also coordinates, facilitates, and encourages the involvement of ccTLD managers in these processes. The SOPC will hold a working session during ICANN75. The working group charter, work plan, and other relevant documents are available on its **website** and **workspace**.

Tech Day
Monday, 19 September | 10:30–17:30

Since 2006, **Tech Day** has been part of ICANN Public Meetings. It provides a forum for both experienced participants and newcomers to meet, present, and discuss technical and operational registry topics, security, and other DNS-related work. During ICANN75, Tech Day will focus on DNS Security Extensions, DNS abuse prevention and mitigation, and other topics.

ccNSO Policy Update
Tuesday, 20 September | 09:00–10:00

The ccPDP3-Review Mechanism Working Group has developed a proposed mechanism with respect to decisions pertaining to the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of the delegated top-level domains associated with the country codes assigned to countries and territories in the ISO 3166-1 standard. The working group will present its proposals and seek input from the ccTLD community. Relevant documents are available on its **website** and **workspace**.

ccTLD News Session: Geographical Indications
Tuesday, 20 September | 10:30–12:00

The protection of geographical indications has recently reemerged in various regions as an area of increased regulatory attention and legislative initiatives. The latest examples are the European Commission **proposals** that aim to reform the European Union framework on geographical indications with special attention to enforcement issues linked to the registration of domain names as TLDs and second-level domains. This session will explore the potential impact of regulations and legislation on ccTLDs.

Joint Session: ccNSO and GAC
Tuesday, 20 September | 13:15–14:30

During this joint session between the ccNSO and the GAC, DASC and two ccPDP working groups will provide an update on their progress to date.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

Joint Session: ccNSO and ICANN Board
Wednesday, 21 September | 09:00–10:00

Please refer to the **ccNSO ICANN75 session highlights** for a detailed agenda of this joint session between the ccNSO and the ICANN Board.

ccNSO and Universal Acceptance
Wednesday, 21 September | 13:15–14:30

Universal Acceptance ensures that all domain names, including new TLDs, Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs), and email addresses are treated equally and can be used by all Internet-enabled applications, devices, and systems. Universal Acceptance provides a gateway to the next billion Internet users. This ccNSO and Universal Acceptance session will feature a discussion with ccTLDs, as well as with other stakeholders on the role of the ccNSO and how to best serve the ccTLD community.

Governance of the ccNSO
Wednesday, 21 September | 15:00–16:00

The focus of this session will be to seek input from the ccTLD community on the proposed ccNSO statement of interest and conflict of interest processes. A subcommittee of the Guidelines Review Committee developed the proposals, based on previous consultation rounds. In addition, there will be a notice about upcoming voting processes and work items. This includes the impact of the inclusion of IDN ccTLD managers as members of the ccNSO on existing rules and operating procedures.

ccTLD News Session
Wednesday, 21 September | 16:30–17:30

Previous editions of the ccTLD News Sessions included a collection of case studies, statistics, new developments, trends, and more. The ccTLD News Sessions have been part of the ccNSO Members Meetings for several years. They have provided a global platform for both experienced and new people to meet, share experiences, and discuss ccTLD-related aspects. Please refer to the **ccNSO ICANN75 session highlights** for a detailed agenda. The agenda will feature a mixture of topics, ranging from marketing to policy-related matters and other issues.

ccNSO Council
Thursday, 22 September | 15:00–16:00

Topics discussed by the ccNSO Council will be made available on the **ccNSO Council workspace** closer to the meeting date.

Meetings Program Committee Wrap-Up Session
Thursday, 22 September | 16:30–17:30

The objective of the Meetings Program Committee (MPC) is to ensure a relevant program for ccTLD managers. What went well during ICANN75? What can the ccNSO do better? The MPC welcomes feedback from the ccTLD community. Join this wrap-up session, and help the ccNSO shape future sessions.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

What to Expect

The GNSO is the policymaking body responsible for generic top-level domains (gTLDs). Its members include representatives from gTLD registries, ICANN-accredited registrars, intellectual property interests, Internet service and connectivity providers, business, and noncommercial interests. The GNSO brings these different stakeholders and other parts of the ICANN community together to develop gTLD policy recommendations through a multistakeholder process driven by working groups and teams.

The GNSO Council will make progress on several policy development initiatives during ICANN75, concentrating their sessions on Saturday, 17 September 2022:

- The Transfer Policy Review Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group will discuss Public Comment submissions on its Phase 1A Initial Report.

- The Expedited Policy Development Process for Internationalized Domain Names (EPDP-IDNs) Working Group will hold two sessions to make progress on its deliberations.

- The gTLD Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team may discuss possible next steps in relation to the implementation of two recommendations included in the write-up for two assignments.

- The DNS Abuse Small Team is planning to share its outputs that will be discussed by the GNSO Council.

In addition, there are several recent developments regarding ICANN Board consideration of outputs from GNSO policy development efforts:

- The GNSO Council formed a small team to review the **Operational Design Assessment (ODA)**, which ICANN org developed to support ICANN Board consideration of the recommendations from Phase 2 of the EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data (EPDP-TempSpec). During ICANN75, ICANN org is expected to present its WHOIS Disclosure System design to the small team, aiming to help assess the financial sustainability of the System for Standardized Access and Disclosure (SSAD).

- ICANN org is conducting an **Operational Design Phase (ODP)** to deliver an ODA on the outputs produced by the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) PDP.

As part of its focus, the GNSO Council is undertaking continuous improvements of its PDPs and related practices. Before ICANN75, a Public Comment proceeding will open on the proposed changes to the Working Group Self-Assessment and Statement of Interest Requirements. Furthermore, the GNSO Council has launched a PDP improvements tracker, aiming to bring together improvements suggested in different venues and ultimately help ICANN deploy domain name policies developed through GNSO PDPs.

ICANN75 marks a time of transition for the GNSO Council with newly appointed councilors beginning their terms and the election of a new GNSO chair. During ICANN75, the GNSO Council will hold its public and administrative meetings on Wednesday, 21 September. The GNSO Council will hold two working sessions on Sunday, 18 September and a wrap-up session on Thursday, 22 September. The GNSO Council will also hold bilateral meetings with the ICANN Board, Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), and At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC).

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

Background

Transfer Policy Review PDP

Following receipt and review of the ICANN org **Transfer Policy Status Report**, the GNSO Council established a Transfer Policy Review Scoping Team that provided an **Initial Scoping Paper** in April 2020. A **Preliminary Issue Report** for a PDP was published for **Public Comment** on 12 October 2020, with an updated **Final Issue Report** submitted to the GNSO Council on 12 January 2021.

On 18 February 2021, the GNSO Council **initiated** the two-phase Transfer Policy Review PDP. The PDP will determine if changes to the policy are needed to improve the ease, security, and efficacy of inter-registrar and inter-registrant transfers. As recommended in the Final Issue Report, the PDP will address the following topics in sequence:

- The Gaining and Losing Forms of Authorization, AuthInfo Codes, NACKing transfers (Phase 1A)

- The change of registrant (Phase 1B)

- The transfer emergency action contact and reversing inter-registrar transfers, Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy, and ICANN-approved transfers (Phase 2)

The GNSO Council **adopted** the PDP working group **charter** on 24 March 2021. The working group adopted a representative model with set criteria and expectations for their members and chairs. With the chair identified and the membership established, the working group met for the first time on 14 May 2021.

The working group published its Phase 1A Initial Report for Public Comment from 21 June 2022 to 16 August 2022. During the Public Comment proceeding, the working group made progress on deliberations on Phase 1B charter questions.

During ICANN75, on Saturday, 17 September, the working group will hold one session to discuss Public Comment submissions on its Phase 1A preliminary recommendation.

EPDP on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)

The October 2020 **Final Report** of an IDN Scoping Team recommended an EPDP as the desired approach to address work related to IDN policy. In November 2020, the GNSO Council launched an initiation request for the EPDP-IDNs. In developing the EPDP-IDNs charter, the drafting team built on the existing body of work related to IDNs, such as IDN-related **recommendations** from the GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP, **IDN variant TLD implementation**, and **recommendations for the Technical Utilization of the Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR)**.

On 10 May 2021, the drafting team submitted its deliverables to the GNSO Council for its consideration. The EPDP-IDNs is expected to provide the GNSO Council with policy recommendations on:

- The definition of all gTLDs and the management of variant labels

- How the IDN Implementation Guidelines should be updated

On 20 May 2021, the GNSO Council approved the initiation request for the EPDP-IDNs and adopted its charter. The EPDP-IDNs working group held its first meeting on 11 August 2021.

By the end of August 2022, the working group completed its first pass of substantive deliberations on more than half of its charter questions, specifically:

- Group 1 charter questions related to the definition of all gTLDs using the RZ-LGR;

- Group 2 charter questions related to the "same entity" principle at the top-level; and

- Group 3 charter questions related to variants' impact on the New gTLD Program.

In addition, a small group within the EPDP has completed its work on string similarity review related deliberations. The working group is also conducting outreach activities to seek critical input externally.

The working group plans to submit a project change request to the GNSO Council, proposing to first publish Part 1 of its Initial Report by focusing on recommendations on variant management at the top-level. Due to additional data collection needs, the working group would like to defer substantive deliberation of the second-level related topics.

During ICANN75, the working group will conduct two back-to-back working sessions on Saturday, 17 September. It will discuss which remaining charter questions should be included in Part 1 of the Initial Report, and make progress on topics within its charter.

gTLD Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team
The GNSO Council adopted the **formation and instructions** of the gTLD Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team during its meeting on 22 July 2021. The scoping team has been tasked to consider a number of accuracy-related topics, such as current enforcement and reporting, measurement of accuracy, and effectiveness. These considerations are expected to help inform its deliberations on whether any changes are recommended to the GNSO Council to improve accuracy levels and how these changes would be developed (i.e., a recommendation to change existing contractual requirements may necessitate a PDP or change through contractual negotiations).

The scoping team began its deliberations in October 2021, focusing its efforts on the assignments that the GNSO Council provided in its **instructions**. The team is in the process of finishing the write-up for assignments #1 (enforcement and reporting) and #2 (measurement of accuracy). Following its review of proposals to assist in the measurement of accuracy, the team is leaning toward proposals that do not require access to gTLD registration data, such as a registrar survey or registrar audit.

The ICANN Board has directed ICANN org to develop scenarios for how it could obtain legitimate access to gTLD registration data to confirm accuracy that could be tested with the European Data Protection Board (EDPB). The EDPB response is expected to help inform further consideration of proposals by the scoping team that do involve access to gTLD registration data. Additional data gathered is expected to help inform its deliberation on assignments #3 (effectiveness) and assignment #4 (impact and improvements). The team also recently engaged with ICANN org to discuss those possible scenarios.

On Saturday, 17 September, the gTLD Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team will conduct one session to discuss next steps in relation to a possible registrar survey to gather data and inform its assessment of the current state of accuracy.

DNS Abuse Small Team
During ICANN72, the GNSO Council agreed to initiate a small team on DNS abuse and subsequently, the small team received an **assignment** from the GNSO Council. It captured the numerous efforts already underway focusing on DNS abuse, but sought to focus team attention on the narrow question of whether there are DNS abuse issues that are inadequately mitigated and should be best addressed through policy development.

The small team began meeting in February 2022 and, as its first step, requested community groups to articulate what DNS abuse problem(s) exist that specifically require policy development. The small team received inputs from the ALAC, GAC, Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC), the DNS Abuse Institute, and several GNSO Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies. The small team also received input from ICANN Compliance on a number of questions, which helped provide better understanding of the contractual enforcement of DNS abuse-related provisions. The small team is now finishing its recommendations to be submitted to the GNSO Council, taking into account input received.

The small team plans to conduct one working session on Saturday, 17 September. It is expected to work toward finishing its report for GNSO Council consideration.

EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data

On 17 May 2018, the ICANN Board approved the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data to allow contracted parties to comply with existing ICANN contractual requirements, while also complying with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The adoption of the Temporary Specification triggered the requirement for the GNSO to complete a consensus PDP within the expedited time frame of one year.

On 19 July 2018, the GNSO Council initiated the two-phase EPDP-TempSpec

- Phase 1 aimed to decide whether the Temporary Specification should be confirmed by 25 May 2019. Phase 1 of the EPDP-TempSpec concluded in March 2019. An **Implementation Review Team** is tasked with implementing the **ICANN Board approved** Phase 1 policy recommendations.

- Phase 2 focused on the discussion of SSAD and additional topics held over from Phase 1. Phase 2 work concluded in September 2020, with GNSO Council **adoption** of its recommendations. The EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2 Final Report sets recommendations for the SSAD as well as for the "Priority 2" topics (e.g., data retention and city field redaction).

The GNSO Council consulted with the ICANN Board on the financial sustainability of the SSAD, and the concerns expressed within minority statements, including whether a further cost/benefit analysis should be conducted before the ICANN Board considers all SSAD-related recommendations for adoption. During ICANN70, the ICANN Board directed ICANN org to initiate an **ODP for SSAD-related** recommendations. On 25 January 2022, ICANN org delivered the **Operational Design Assessment (ODA)** to the ICANN Board.

The GNSO Council formed the EPDP Phase 2 Small Team tasked to analyze the ODA and provide the GNSO Council with feedback. The small team submitted its **preliminary report** to the GNSO Council on 4 April 2022, expressing the view that the ODA does not provide sufficient information to assess the cost/benefit of the SSAD. The small team also recommended the implementation of a "proof of concept" approach to gather data and test assumptions, aiming to help assess the financial sustainability of the SSAD.

Subsequently, the ICANN Board directed the ICANN org to design such a "proof of concept," which is now known as the "WHOIS Disclosure System." During ICANN75, the small team will hold two sessions on Saturday, 17 September. ICANN org is expected to present on the WHOIS Disclosure System design, and the small group will begin its review to be able to advise the GNSO Council on next steps.
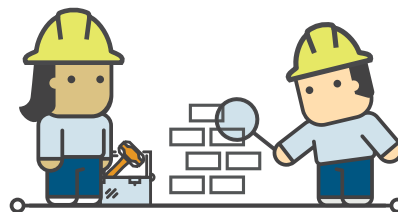
Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP

The New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group began its work on 22 February 2016. Over the course of several years, it convened several subgroups and undertook extensive deliberations on the list of topics in its charter. This work included numerous opportunities for input, including Public Comment on its **Initial Report**, **Supplemental Initial Report**, **Additional Supplemental Initial Report from Work Track 5**, and **Draft Final Report**. The working group submitted its **Final Report** to the GNSO Council for its consideration on 18 January 2021, with over 300 outputs for 41 topics. Only two outputs did not receive consensus or full consensus support from the working group.

On 18 February 2021, the GNSO Council unanimously **approved** the outputs achieving consensus or full consensus contained in the Final Report. On 24 March 2021, the GNSO-adopted outputs and the **Recommendations Report** were sent to the ICANN Board for its review. On 12 September 2021, the ICANN Board directed ICANN org to initiate an **Operational Design Phase (ODP)** for the Final Report outputs. The ODP began on 3 January 2022.

As the ODP continues, the GNSO Council is expected to conduct additional work in the form of a GNSO Guidance Process (GGP) on a specific New gTLD Subsequent Procedures topic: Applicant Support.

In addition, on 6 March 2022, the ICANN Board sent a **letter** and **framing paper** to the GNSO Council proposing an ICANN Board-facilitated process for a GAC-GNSO Council dialogue on the topic of Closed Generics. Closed Generics was one of the topics within the PDP charter, but the working group was unable to come to agreement on recommendations for this topic. The GNSO Council provided a **response** to the ICANN Board that it is willing to pursue next steps on a facilitated dialogue.

After ICANN74, the GNSO Council had the following developments on this effort:

- Provided input on the criteria for the facilitator and agreed with the ICANN Board suggestion;

- With the GAC, jointly invited the ALAC to appoint a member and an alternate; and

- Sought to identify GNSO members to begin the effort.

More Information

Read the **GNSO Policy Briefing** to prepare for ICANN75. Those interested in GNSO policy activities are welcome to attend the GNSO Policy Update webinar during ICANN75 Prep Week on Wednesday, 7 September.

Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC+8. Please refer to the **ICANN75 schedule** for the most current information.*

PDP Working Groups and Scoping Team Working Sessions

EPDP-IDNs
Saturday, 17 September | 09:00–10:00
Saturday, 17 September | 10:30–12:00

Transfer Policy Review PDP
Saturday, 17 September | 10:30–12:00

Accuracy Scoping Team
Saturday, 17 September | 09:00–10:00

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

DNS Abuse Small Team
Saturday, 17 September | 13:15–14:30

EPDP Temporary Specification on gTLD Registration Data Phase 2
Saturday, 17 September | 15:00–16:00
Saturday, 17 September | 16:30–17:30

GNSO Council

GNSO Council Working Session
Sunday, 18 September | 09:00–10:00
Sunday, 18 September | 10:30–12:00

GNSO Council Meeting
Wednesday, 21 September | 13:15-15:15

GNSO Council Wrap-Up Session
Thursday, 22 September | 15:00–16:00
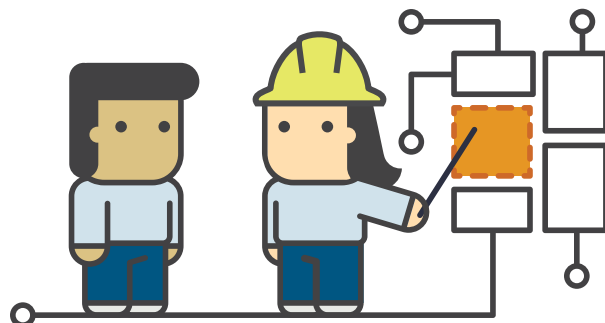
Joint Sessions

GNSO and GAC
Monday, 19 September | 16:30–17:30

GNSO and ICANN Board
Tuesday, 20 September | 09:00–10:00

GNSO and ALAC
Wednesday, 21 September | 16:30–17:30

At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

What to Expect

The At-Large Advisory Committee, leaders of the Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs), liaisons, and At-Large members will hold 17 sessions in the three At-Large work tracks of policy, outreach and engagement, and operations. The sessions will include two policy sessions, one capacity building session, two operations update sessions, five joint sessions, four RALO sessions, an At-Large welcome session, and two wrap-up sessions. The Annual General Meeting will also see a change in several At-Large leadership positions, including At-Large chair.

Background

At-Large is the name for the community of individual Internet users who participate in the policy development of ICANN. Currently, more than 250 At-Large Structures and 142 individuals organized into five RALOs represent the views of individual Internet users.

The ALAC consists of 15 members and serves as the primary organizational home within ICANN for individual Internet users. The role of the ALAC is to consider and provide advice on the activities of ICANN as they relate to the interests of individual Internet users.

The work of the At-Large community takes place primarily in working groups divided into three tracks: policy; outreach, engagement, and capacity building; and operations. At-Large conducts its work through regular teleconferences and active participation during ICANN Public Meetings.

Learn more about the At-Large community, its activities, and how to join on the **At-Large website** and **At-Large workspace**. Also, **two ICANN Learn courses** provide additional information on how to start and sustain involvement in the activities of the At-Large community.

Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC+8. Please refer to the **ICANN75 schedule** for the most current information.*

All ICANN75 At-Large sessions, including their dates and times, are listed on the **At-Large ICANN75 workspace**. This workspace also includes other information related to At-Large activities during ICANN75.

Policy Work Track

At-Large Policy Update
This session will focus on updates related to At-Large policy advice priorities. The discussion will include updates on At-Large positions related to the New Generic Top-Level Domain Subsequent Procedures Operational Design Assessment as well as on various Generic Names Supporting Organization Policy Development Processes and scoping teams. The **At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group** will develop content for this session. This session will be held on Sunday, 18 September, 15:00–16:00.

A Perspective on Internationalized Domain Names
This session will focus on At-Large priorities related to IDNs and Universal Acceptance. The At-Large community received an Additional Budget Request (ABR) in Fiscal Year 2022 to engage a professional survey organization to conduct a survey on a topic of interest to Internet end users. Following significant research and discussion, the At-Large End User Working Party agreed to focus on Internationalized Domain Names and Universal Acceptance among Indian end users in the Hindi language. Working with an Indian-based professional survey organization, the data collected from this survey will inform Internet end users, the ICANN community, and ICANN organization.

This session will allow both At-Large members and the ICANN community to review the survey results and discuss next steps. The At-Large End User Survey Small Team will develop content for this session based on the results of a professional survey. This session will be held on Monday, 19 September, 13:15–14:30.

Outreach, Engagement, and Capacity Building Work Track

During ICANN75, outreach and engagement activities will include social media plans organized by the At-Large Social Media Working Group. Additionally, there will be several sessions hosted by the RALOs which will include issues related to outreach and engagement.

At-Large Capacity Building Workshop: The Art of Leadership

This session is part of the At-Large Capacity Building Workshop series. This interactive session will focus on the shared knowledge and skills that contribute to effective leadership in the context of At-Large and the ICANN community. Drawing on the expertise of current leaders and the input of all participants, this workshop will provide valuable insights into the skill sets of successful leadership. The session will be held on Wednesday, 21 September, 15:00-16:00.

RALO Coordination

The leadership of the RALOs will hold two coordination meetings to discuss strategic goals for outreach and engagement, operational issues related to upcoming General Assemblies and, for the first time, a session dedicated to RALO policy issues. This RALO policy session, scheduled for Tuesday, 20 September, 10:30–12:00, will focus on the topics of the strength of diversity in Internet and domain name policymaking and look at the impact of the General Data Protection Regulation. Both sessions are open to interested members of the At-Large and ICANN communities.

AFRALO

The African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO) and African At-Large community will hold their traditional AFRALO meeting to discuss a statement on the topic of Universal Acceptance as a means of accessing the Internet in local languages. This session is scheduled for Wednesday, 21 September, 13:15–14:30.

APRALO

The Asia, Australasian, and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO) will welcome all At-Large members, the ICANN community, ICANN75 Fellows and NextGen participants, and Malaysian university students to its APRALO Outreach Session. The first part of this session will cover APRALO operational issues while the second part will be an opportunity for all participants to interact on topics of interest to the region. This session will take place on Tuesday, 20 September, 13:15–14:30.

Operations Work Track

At-Large will hold three other sessions related to operational issues. These sessions include a Welcome Session which will include an overview of the At-Large sessions taking place during ICANN75 and a review of At-Large talking points. This session is scheduled for Saturday, 17 September, 13:15–14:30. At-Large will also hold two successive Wrap-Up Sessions which will focus on the highlights of ICANN75 and the change of At-Large leadership. The two Wrap-Up Sessions will be held Thursday, 22 September, 15:00–17:30.

At-Large Operations Update

This session will focus on updates related to At-Large operation and governance priorities. This will include At-Large perspectives on the Evolution of the Multistakeholder Model Project and At-Large positions related to the ICANN org Prioritization Framework Pilot Project. There will also be a review of the annual cycle of Public Comment submissions and advice related to operations and governance matters. Content for this session is developed by the At-Large **Operations, Finance, and Budget Working Group**. This session will be held on Sunday, 18 September, 10:30–12:00.

Diversity Survey on ICANN Leadership Groups

This session will focus on the results of a Leadership Diversity Survey which was created as part of an ABR by the European Regional At-Large Organization to design a study about diversity in the context of the Work Stream 2 (WS2) recommendations of the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability. The survey was designed to gather diversity data about leadership at ICANN based on the seven diversity categories determined by the **WS2 Diversity subgroup**. This session will be held on Monday, 19 September, 16:30–17:30.

Joint Sessions

Meeting with other Advisory Committees, Supporting Organizations, and the ICANN Board is important to the ALAC because it allows for open dialogue and new perspectives. During ICANN75, the ALAC will hold several joint sessions:

- The ALAC will meet twice with members of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC). The first session will focus on ALAC and GAC cooperation in the area of capacity building. The second session will include discussions about Internet Fragmentation, the Domain Name System (DNS), and ICANN; Closed Generics; and examples of local ALAC and GAC cooperation.

- The ALAC will meet with the Security and Stability Advisory Committee to discuss issues of mutual importance on Sunday, 17 September, 13:15–14:30.

- The ALAC will also meet with the GNSO Council to discuss DNS abuse, specifically the work of the GNSO Council Small Team on DNS Abuse and an initial discussion on the Pilot Holistic Review Terms of Reference. This session is scheduled for Wednesday, 21 September, 16:30–17:30.

- The ALAC will also hold a discussion with the ICANN Board. This session will take place on Monday, 19 September, 15:00–16:00.
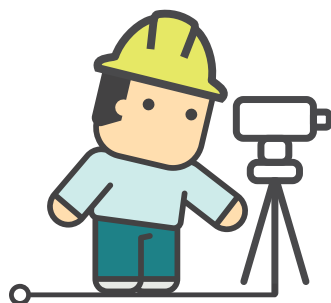
Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

What to Expect

During ICANN75, the GAC plans to conduct nearly 20 hours of discussions on Domain Name System (DNS) policy topics and operational matters and to devote more than five hours to the development of the GAC ICANN75 Communiqué.

The GAC leadership and membership will continue their work on several topics that have attracted priority attention from governments throughout the last three years:

- Subsequent procedures for the next round of generic top-level domains (gTLDs), including:

    - How to resolve discussions regarding the treatment of closed generics

    - Developments regarding the ongoing ICANN org) Operational Design Phase on this topic

- Registration Directory Services (RDS)/WHOIS and data protection policies

- DNS abuse mitigation measures

The GAC ICANN75 schedule includes discussions on all these important matters. There are also additional opportunities for GAC participants to join cross-community discussions, collaborate with other ICANN community groups, and attend the Public Forum and ICANN Board meeting.

Capacity Building Weekend

Recognizing that over 160 new participants have joined the GAC in the last three years, the GAC plans to conduct an eight-hour Capacity Building Weekend on Saturday, 17 September and Sunday, 18 September. Sessions will focus on three main themes, including how to participate in the GAC, current priority topics for the GAC, and roles and responsibilities.

Seven sessions will help onboard new GAC participants and reinforce the knowledge of more experienced delegates. Specific sessions will include presentations on the role of the GAC in ICANN and how it develops consensus advice to the ICANN Board. There will also be sessions offering background and context for the current priority topics for the GAC and why they are important to governments. Representatives from gTLD registries and registrars and country code top-level domain managers will help GAC Capacity Building Weekend participants learn how those stakeholders interact with governments and how they manage their regular operations.

Feedback on this programming will guide planning for more capacity building during the intersessional period between ICANN75 and ICANN76.

Agenda

GAC sessions will begin with an overview and introductions by all GAC representatives in attendance. Time permitting, the GAC chair will also review recent work progress and GAC accomplishments since ICANN74, including GAC public correspondence, the ICANN Board scorecard response to the GAC ICANN74 Communiqué, and plans for the joint session between the GAC and ICANN Board during ICANN75.

Additionally, the GAC agenda will feature: strategic planning on DNS abuse mitigation matters; discussions of recent developments regarding preparations for the next round of new gTLDs; progress on RDS/WHOIS and data protection matters; drafting of the GAC ICANN75 Communiqué; and interactions with the ICANN Board, At-Large Advisory Committee, Country Code Names Supporting Organization, and the Generic Names Supporting Organization.

The GAC preparation process continues to evolve. GAC members identified specific objectives for each session to help focus discussions. Written briefings for GAC members will be supplemented with webinar briefings from ICANN org and GAC topic leads. Finally, the GAC plans to conclude its 2022 GAC chair and vice chairs election period, and the next GAC leadership team will be announced. Their terms will begin in March 2023.

Background

GAC membership consists of national governments and distinct economies recognized in international forums. Multinational governmental and treaty organizations as well as public authorities participate in the GAC in an observer capacity. There are currently 179 GAC members and 38 GAC observer organizations.

The GAC provides advice on the public policy aspects of ICANN's responsibilities with regard to the DNS. GAC consensus advice has a particular status under the ICANN Bylaws. Such advice must be duly taken into account by the ICANN Board, and if the ICANN Board proposes actions that would be inconsistent with GAC consensus advice, it must provide reasons for doing so and attempt to reach a mutually acceptable solution with the committee.

Further information about the GAC and its various work efforts, processes, and operating principles can be found on the **GAC website**.

Session Details

All GAC sessions will be open to the ICANN community. Each GAC session will feature simultaneous interpretation in the six United Nations languages. The GAC aligned its agenda with other ICANN75 sessions for the convenience of all participants. GAC members have also been active participants in planning the ICANN75 plenary session on "Internet Fragmentation, the DNS, and ICANN."

The principle of openness will be particularly evident during the GAC Communiqué drafting sessions scheduled for Tuesday, 20 September; Wednesday, 21 September; and Thursday, 22 September. The GAC continues to build on previous drafting process improvements. Based on those successful experiences, the GAC has provided opportunities for contributions before ICANN75 begins and has scheduled more than five hours of document discussion and drafting time during ICANN75.

Details regarding specific GAC plenary sessions can be found on the **GAC ICANN75 agenda webpage** where all session briefings, descriptions, materials, and presentations will be published.
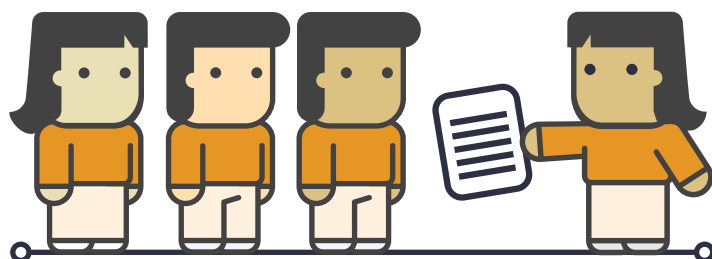
Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

What to Expect

The RSSAC will conduct two RSSAC Caucus work sessions and an RSSAC work session to advance its work and discuss various internal matters, including an update of "RSSAC002v4: RSSAC Advisory on Measurements of the Root Server System" and an update of "RSSAC001: Advisory on Service Expectation of Root Servers." The RSSAC will have a joint session with the ICANN Board, and the RSSAC Caucus will conduct its second meeting of the year. The RSSAC will also offer a tutorial on the root server system (RSS). Finally, the RSSAC will also conduct its monthly meeting and will continue to raise awareness about its recent **publications**, namely "RSSAC047v2: RSSAC Advisory on Metrics for the DNS Root Servers and the Root Server System," "RSSAC058: Success Criteria for the RSS Governance Structure," and "RSSAC059: RSSAC Advisory on Success Criteria for the Root Server System Governance Structure."

Background

The **RSSAC** advises the ICANN community and the ICANN Board on matters relating to the operation, administration, security, and integrity of the RSS. The RSSAC consists of representatives from the root server operator organizations and liaisons from the partner organizations involved in the technical and operational management of the root zone.

The **RSSAC Caucus** is composed of Domain Name System experts who have an interest in the RSS, broadening the base of diverse technical expertise available for RSSAC work. The primary role of the RSSAC Caucus is to perform research and produce publications on topics relevant to the mission of the RSSAC.

The RSSAC Caucus Membership Committee appoints members of the RSSAC Caucus. In addition, all RSSAC members are members of the RSSAC Caucus. Currently, there is no active work party in the RSSAC Caucus. Please view information about previous RSSAC Caucus work parties on the RSSAC Caucus **webpage**.

Session Details

Session times provided in this report are in UTC+8. Please refer to the ICANN75 schedule for the most current information.

RSSAC Work Session
Saturday, 17 September | 13:15-14:30

RSSAC Caucus Work Sessions
Sunday, 18 September | 10:30-12:00
Tuesday, 20 September | 10:30-12:00

Joint Session: ICANN Board and RSSAC
Monday, 19 September | 16:30-17:30

RSS Information Session
Tuesday, 20 September | 09:00-10:00

RSSAC Caucus Meeting
Tuesday, 20 September | 13:15-14:30

RSSAC Meeting
Wednesday, 21 September | 09:00-10:00

Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

What to Expect

The SSAC will hold a workshop on Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and Security during ICANN75. DNSSEC continues to be deployed around the world at an accelerating pace. Now that DNSSEC has become an operational norm for many registries, registrars, and Internet service providers, this workshop will provide the opportunity to hear about what the SSAC is learning as it deploys and manages DNSSEC.

The SSAC will also present on its recent publications, "SAC120: SSAC Input to GNSO IDN EPDP on Internationalized Domain Name Variants" and "SAC121: SSAC Briefing on Routing Security." In SAC120, the SSAC provides written input on matters pertaining to Internationalized Domain Name variants to the Generic Name Supporting Organization Expedited Policy Development Process on IDNs. In SAC121, the SSAC discusses the security and stability of the Internet's routing system. The report provides a tutorial-style discussion accessible to a non-technical audience, including policymakers and legal experts.

The SSAC will also provide updates on topics currently under examination by the SSAC during its information session, including the changing nature of Domain Name System resolution, Delegation Signer record management automation, and the Name Collision Analysis Project.

Background

The SSAC advises the ICANN community and the ICANN Board on matters relating to the security and integrity of the naming and address allocation systems of the Internet. This includes operational matters such as those pertaining to the correct and reliable operation of the root name system, administrative matters such as those pertaining to address allocation and Internet number assignment, and registration matters such as those pertaining to registry and registrar services like WHOIS.

How Do I Participate in the SSAC?

For information on how to participate in the SSAC, see the **SSAC Operational Procedures** and the **SSAC Introduction**.

Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC+8. Please refer to the **ICANN75 schedule** for the most current information.*

SSAC Information Session

Wednesday, 21 September | 09:00-10:00

The SSAC will review its recent publications and ongoing work for the ICANN community. The session will include a question and answer segment. The SSAC invites anyone interested in its work related to the security and integrity of the naming and address allocation systems of the Internet to participate.

DNSSEC and Security Workshop

Wednesday, 21 September | 13:15-14:30, 15:00-16:00, and 16:30-17:30

This session is a public presentation and discussion with those actively engaged in the deployment of DNSSEC. The DNSSEC and Security Workshop also focuses on various emerging security-related issues such as DNS over TLS/DNS over HTTPS impacts and potential abuses, impacts of Resource Public Key Infrastructure deployments, Border Gateway Protocol hijacking, and other Internet-related routing issues.

Anyone with an interest in the deployment of DNSSEC and DNS security, particularly registry, registrar, and Internet service provider employees with technical, operational, and strategic planning roles may want to attend.

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC+8. Please refer to the **ICANN75 schedule** for the most current information.*

Internet Fragmentation, the DNS, and ICANN

Wednesday, 21 September | 10:30–12:00

This plenary session provides an opportunity for the ICANN community to build a common understanding of Internet fragmentation from the perspective of and the challenges it presents to ICANN's mission. Discussants will define Internet fragmentation and then discuss its relevance to the Domain Name System. The plenary session will also explore the role of ICANN in this context. The plenary session will take the form of a roundtable with a moderator asking questions of the discussants. In-person and remote participants will be part of the dialogue.

Root Server System Governance Working Group

Saturday, 17 September | 15:00–16:00, 16:30–17:30
Sunday, 18 September | 15:00–16:00, 16:30–17:30
Tuesday, 20 September | 15:00–16:00, 16:30–17:30

The ICANN Board convened the Root Server System Governance Working Group (GWG) to develop a final model of root server system (RSS) governance and root server operator (RSO) accountability based on RSSAC037. To inform the development of the final model, the Root Server System Advisory Committee published success criteria for RSS governance. Since ICANN74, the GWG has discussed three fundamental topics:

- Defining capture of the RSS

- Determining if a requirement exists for portability of RSS governance

- Identifying RSO yields and RSS gains

The GWG expects to finish these discussions during ICANN75 and determine what model of RSS governance best meets the success criteria.