

ICANN77 Policy Outcomes Report



ICANN|77
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Table of Contents

03	Letter from David Olive
04	Address Supporting Organization (ASO)
05	Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)
09	Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)
16	At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)
18	Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)
20	Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)
21	Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

A Successful ICANN77



Thank you for participating in the ICANN77 Policy Forum!

We hope the first ICANN Public Meeting held in Washington, D.C. was full of dynamic discussions and the continuation of substantive work. The ICANN organization (org) appreciates the proactive engagement of the ICANN community.

Written by the Policy Development Support function, the “ICANN77 Policy Outcomes Report” captures decisions and outcomes from the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. This report also reviews additional activities, looks ahead, and provides resources to enable sustained engagement on important issues.

The ICANN community develops and refines policies that ensure the security, stability, and resilience of the global Internet. ICANN org is proud to support consensus-driven policy and advice development by enabling efficient and effective participation in the multistakeholder model.

We look forward to seeing you for the ICANN78 Annual General Meeting in Hamburg, Germany.

Best regards,

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

David Olive

Senior Vice President,
Policy Development Support

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

Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

The ASO, including the ASO Address Council (ASO AC), did not convene during ICANN77.

Resources

The ASO AC coordinates the global policy development work of the Internet numbers community and appoints members to the ICANN Board of Directors, the ICANN Nominating Committee (NomCom), and other ICANN community groups. The ASO AC consists of 15 members, three from each region. For 2023, Hervé Clément serves as the chair, while Nicole Chan and Ricardo Patara serve as vice chairs. They represent Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre, the Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC), and Internet Addresses Registry for Latin America and Caribbean (LACNIC) regions, respectively.

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 meetings webpage](#).

The ASO conducts policy development on Regional Internet Registry (RIR) community mailing lists and during RIR meetings. For more information about current regional policy development, please refer to the latest ASO AC [updates](#).

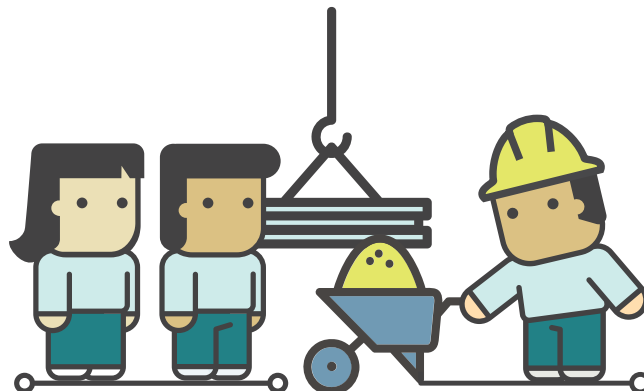
To stay informed about regional policy development, subscribe to the relevant RIR community mailing list:

- [AFRINIC Resource Policy Discussion](#)
- [APNIC Policy Special Interest Group](#)
- [ARIN Public Policy](#)
- [LACNIC Políticas](#)
- [RIPE Address Policy Working Group](#)

or attend an upcoming Regional Internet Registry meeting:

- [APNIC 56](#) | 7–14 September 2023 | Kyoto, Japan
- [LACNIC 40](#) | 2-6 October 2023 | Fortaleza, Brazil
- [ARIN 52](#) | 19-20 October 2023 | San Diego, California, United States
- [RIPE 87](#) | 27 November - 1 December 2023 | Rome, Italy

Please refer to the [ICANN77 schedule webpage](#) for all open session materials.



Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

Decisions and Outcomes

During ICANN77, the ccNSO held various sessions, which included Tech Day, eight ccNSO Members Meeting sessions, and a ccNSO Council session.

The ccNSO Council adopted the Board Report regarding the proposed policy on the mechanism for the review of the specific decisions related to the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of country code top-level domains (ccTLDs). As a next step, the Board Report will be submitted to the ICANN Board for adoption. The ccNSO Council also adopted the timelines for the Customer Standing Committee selection, the ICANN Board Seat 12 nomination process, and the ccNSO Council election. Moreover, the ccNSO Council agreed on the distribution of the ccNSO Council roles and responsibilities for the year ahead as part of its succession planning process and adopted the ccNSO Activity Portfolio for 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2025 as proposed by the ccNSO Council Triage Committee.

Additional topics for discussion included results from a ccNSO Council 360-degree feedback process. The aim was to improve the overall quality of the ccNSO Council through peer review of ccNSO councilors whose terms end by October 2023 and March 2024. Furthermore, the ccNSO Council discussed rebalancing the ICANN NomCom and a potential ccNSO submission regarding the Public Technical Identifiers Bylaws amendments. Finally, the ccNSO Council agreed on next steps regarding the ccNSO and Universal Acceptance. To learn more, visit the [ccNSO Council workspace](#).

Additional Activities

During ICANN77, the ccNSO Meetings Program Committee (MPC) organized a session on ccTLD registration trends. Following an introduction of global registration trends for ccTLDs for the period of 2019–2023, ccTLDs from different regions explored highlights from the registration trends for their respective ccTLDs and shared what they believe are the main drivers of these trends. The ccTLDs also reflected on what the future looks like in terms of domain name registration trends.

The ccNSO Council Triage Committee confirmed with the ccTLD community the ccNSO Purpose and Goal Statement and the ccNSO Activity Portfolio for the period of 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2025, which the ccNSO Council then adopted. The ccNSO Council Triage Committee is dedicated to quickly reviewing incoming requests for input and making a suggestion to the ccNSO Council about how to react to the requests. To better balance this workload against the resources available, the mandate of the ccNSO Council Triage Committee also includes prioritization of the ccNSO Council work plan.

The ccNSO Strategic and Operational Planning Committee (SOPC) addressed the major findings regarding the ICANN FY24–28 planning relevant to ccTLDs and reflected on the progress since the ICANN74 Policy Forum one year ago. The committee also alluded to what ccTLDs may expect from it in the future.

The fourth Country Code Policy Development Process (ccPDP4) Working Group presented its latest draft proposals during the ccNSO Policy Update Session and informed the ccTLD community on what to expect leading up to the ICANN78 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in October 2023. ccPDP4 defines the criteria, process, and procedures for selecting Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLDs associated with the country codes assigned to countries, territories, or other areas of geopolitical interest listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard. The policy proposals address not only the IDN ccTLD string selection process, but also variant management, confusing similarity, de-selection, and review mechanisms.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

The year-long ccNSO 20th anniversary celebrations, which began during the ICANN76 Community Forum in March 2023, continued during ICANN77 with video contributions from ccTLD community members reflecting on the the history of the ccNSO, including its evolution and major milestones. Participants enjoyed an engaging trivia quiz as a unique and memorable way to celebrate.

The ccNSO Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC) organized a session on legislative initiatives relating to cybersecurity and how they affect ccTLDs. The ccNSO established the IGLC to coordinate, facilitate, and increase the participation of ccTLD managers in discussions and processes pertaining to Internet governance. ccTLDs from different ICANN geographical regions explored how various national or regional legislative initiatives relating to cybersecurity impact them. During the session, presenters also explored the challenges these initiatives pose for the Internet and the ICANN multistakeholder model, as well as potential points of interaction between the various legal frameworks.

ccNSO policy development working groups and other committees did not meet during ICANN77. The various working groups and committees prepared [updates](#) for each ccNSO Council meeting, which included information on each group's background, status, and next steps. Please refer to the [ccNSO ICANN77 session highlights](#) for detailed agendas and more information about the sessions held at ICANN77.

Next Steps

ccPDP3 Review Mechanism

The ccNSO Council approved the Board Report on the Proposed Policy for a Review Mechanism pertaining to decisions on the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs, collectively known as the second part of the third Country Code Policy Development Process (ccPDP3). The Board Report contains per requirements of Annex B of the ICANN Bylaws:

- The result of the members vote;
- The ccNSO recommendation, following the vote by the members of the ccNSO; and
- The Final Report, which contains the proposed policy process for the retirement of ccTLDs.

The ccNSO Council Chair will now submit the Board Report to the ICANN Board.

ccPDP4 IDN ccTLD (De)Selection

The fourth ccPDP defines the criteria, processes, and procedures for (de)selecting Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLDs associated with the country codes assigned to countries, territories, or other areas of geopolitical interest listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard. The results will eventually replace the IDN ccTLD Fast Track Process. The working group is expected to finalize its policy recommendations by the end June 2023, and there will be a Public Comment proceeding in the July to September 2023 timeframe.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

ccNSO and Universal Acceptance

Since September 2022, the ccNSO has explored its potential role in Universal Acceptance by adding value to the ccTLD and broader community and avoiding overlap with already existing work by the Internet community. During ICANN76, the ccNSO Council sought feedback from the ccTLD managers on the proposed roadmap for the ccNSO and Universal Acceptance. The roadmap is aligned with ccNSO core responsibilities and focuses on three elements that are expected to benefit ccTLD managers:

- Activate the Universal Acceptance Steering Group liaison;
- Create a ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee; and
- Explore further actions

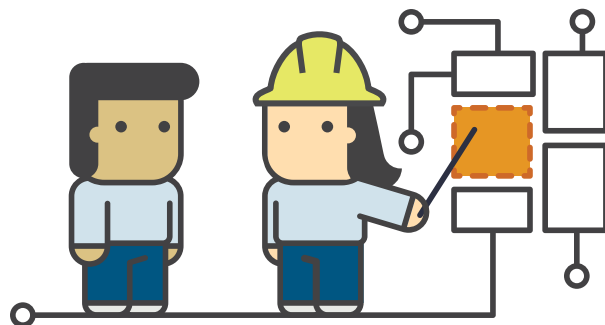
The terms of reference for the ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee have been drafted and are currently being reviewed by the ccNSO Council. Following adoption by ccNSO Council, the ccNSO Secretariat will launch a call for members.

ccNSO and DNS Abuse

In 2022, the ccNSO DNS Abuse Standing Committee (DASC) launched a survey to understand the ccTLD landscape with respect to handling the various aspects of DNS abuse. After analysis of the results, the DASC shared part two of the survey findings with the ccTLD community. Following community input, the DASC aims to provide further analysis of the survey results after ICANN77 and launch a second ccTLD survey in the fourth quarter of 2023. The DASC also announced the launch of its repository and email list. The repository aims to be an online information source about DNS abuse for the benefit of ccTLDs. In terms of new work items, DASC will focus on the following four questions:

1. Do data validation and registration policies for ccTLDs relate to DNS abuse, and, if so, how?
2. How can ccTLDs effectively work with registrars to mitigate DNS abuse?
3. What are the tools and measurements ccTLDs can use to mitigate DNS abuse?
4. Do ccTLD governance models and regulatory frameworks impact DNS abuse?

The DASC is the core of the ccTLD community-driven process around DNS abuse. The DASC is 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.



Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

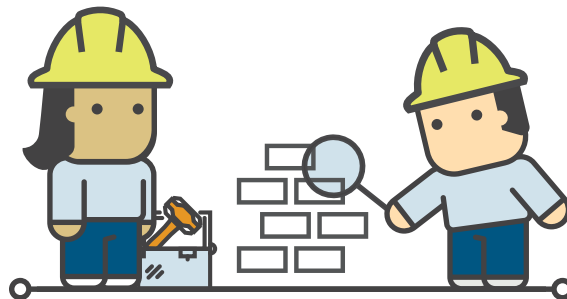
Resources

The [ccNSO](#) is one of the three Supporting Organizations (SOs) within ICANN. Created in 2003 for and by ccTLD managers, the ccNSO develops and recommends global policies to the ICANN Board, such as the retirement of ccTLDs. The ccNSO provides a 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.

The ccNSO is administered by the [ccNSO Council](#), which consists of 18 ccNSO councilors (15 elected by ccNSO members and three appointed by the ICANN NomCom). The ccNSO councilors are actively involved in determining the work and direction of the ccNSO. ccNSO councilors manage the PDP, lead and participate in [various ccNSO working groups](#), engage with the ICANN community on topical issues, and develop positions based on ccTLD community feedback. The ccNSO Council meets regularly during ICANN Public Meetings and through monthly teleconferences. ccNSO Council meetings are open to observers.

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](#).

Please refer to the [ICANN77 schedule webpage](#) for all open session materials.



Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

Decisions and Outcomes

During ICANN77, the GNSO organized 26 sessions, including GNSO PDP working group sessions, small team meetings, sessions devoted to stakeholder group and constituency work, GNSO Council meetings, and joint sessions with other ICANN community groups.

EPDP-IDNs

During ICANN77, the Expedited Policy Development Process on Internationalized Domain Names (EPDP-IDNs) Team held a working session each day focusing on the deliberation of Phase 2 charter questions related to variant management at the second-level. The team made substantive progress on three charter questions centered on the behavior of variant domains throughout their lifecycle. They reached preliminary agreements on several potential recommendations, such as requiring a future IDN registrant to identify a primary domain and requiring the transfer of a variant domain set all together to the same registrant and registrar for inter-registrar transfer. Furthermore, in response to the ICANN Board request in its 16 March 2023 [resolution](#), the team confirmed its current conservative estimation to complete Phase 2 by November 2025 but planned to provide a revised schedule taking into account several factors, which should reflect a shortened timeline.

Transfer Policy Review PDP

During ICANN77, the Transfer Policy Review Working Group held one session, during which working group members presented their preliminary recommendations related to the Transfer Emergency Action Contact (TEAC) and the Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy (TDRP). The working group also discussed the pros and cons of providing TDRP access to registrants. The working group will continue discussing the responses to its charter questions when it resumes its work after ICANN77.

GGP on Applicant Support

The GNSO Guidance Process (GGP) for Applicant Support Working Group has completed all of its tasks and is now focused on producing its preliminary Recommendations Guidance Report for Public Comment. During ICANN77, the working group had a session during which it reviewed the recommendations, guidance, rationale, and deliberations for Tasks 3-5, which relate to the identification and prioritization of metrics, including indicators of success. Following ICANN77, the working group will finalize the recommendations guidance, including Task 6 relating a methodology for allocating financial support where there is inadequate funding for all qualified applicants. The working group is expected to publish the preliminary Recommendations Guidance Report for Public Comment in July 2023.

GNSO Council Small Team: EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2

During this session, the EPDP on the Temporary Specification (TempSpec) on gTLD Registration Data Phase 2 Small Team continued its engagement with the ICANN org on the implementation of the Registration Data Request Service (RDRS). The discussion focused on the team's assignment to consider how to best promote and secure comprehensive use of the system by both potential requestors and ICANN-accredited registrars. The EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2 Small Team will continue its work and engagement with the ICANN org following ICANN77, leading up to the expected launch of RDRS in November 2023.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

Closed Generics Facilitated Dialogue

The participants in the ongoing facilitated dialogue on Closed Generic gTLDs held two sessions during ICANN77 to present a draft framework. The group, which consists of members appointed by the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), and the GNSO community, is currently seeking feedback on each of the elements of the draft framework through 15 July 2023. Individuals and community groups may provide feedback on this [draft framework](#) by emailing closed-generics-feedback@icann.org. The input received will inform the group's discussions on a possible final framework, which the group intends to complete in the third quarter of 2023. Broad community support for an agreed final framework will anchor additional policy work that the GNSO Council is expected to launch thereafter to build on the framework elements.

GNSO Council Meeting

During its meeting on 14 June 2023, the GNSO Council agreed to:

- A plan and timeline as agreed upon by the ICANN Board and the GNSO Council for consideration and resolution of the 38 pending recommendations from the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process;
- A GNSO Council project plan and timeline for policy work, or an alternate path, on how to handle closed generics for the next round of new gTLDs; and
- A project plan from the GNSO EPDP-IDNs identifying all charter questions that will impact the next Applicant Guidebook, along with considerations to ensure a consistent solution on IDN Variant TLDs with the ccPDP4 on IDN ccTLDs (in accordance with previous ICANN Board direction), and a timeline by when the EPDP-IDNs will deliver relevant recommendations to the GNSO Council.

The GNSO Council spent a full day discussing these timelines on 11 June 2023.

The GNSO Council also held a town hall, during which members of the ICANN community were invited to engage directly with the GNSO Council.

Lastly, the GNSO Council commemorated the late Pam Little and took time to recognize her significant contributions to the GNSO Council and the ICANN community.

Stakeholder Group and Constituency Sessions

CPH

The Contracted Parties House (CPH) consists of the Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG) and the Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG). The CPH held a joint session with the Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG) and discussed both making the Registration Data Request System successful and the amendments to the base gTLD Registry Agreement (RA) and the Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA). The CPH hosted a DNS abuse outreach session that included discussions on the background and scope of the contract negotiations, reviews of the RA and RAA amendments, and conversations on DNS abuse mitigation. The RrSG and the RySG both held membership sessions and continued discussions on DNS abuse.

NCPH

The Non-Contracted Parties House (NCPH) consists of the Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG) and the Noncommercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG). The CSG has three constituencies, while the NCSG has two constituencies. The NCPH did not hold any session during ICANN77.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

CSG

During the CSG Membership Session, there was an update on the ICANN Board Seat 14 selection process and a discussion about how to best move forward. The cohort also discussed building bridges with the NCSG and a meeting with their Executive Committee (ExCom) while in Washington D.C. Philippe Fouquart, the Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency (ISPCP) chair, presented an update on Closed Generics. There was a discussion on RAA/RA redlines and making the Registration Data Request System successful to prepare for the joint meeting with the CPH. Following ICANN77, the CSG chair will rotate to Mason Cole.

The CSG consists of the Business Constituency (BC), the Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC), and the ISPCP. The BC session included a presentation on WhoisXML API research on DNS abuse and a DNS Research Federation presentation. The IPC session included a report from the IPC president, a GNSO Council update, and a discussion on DNS abuse. The ISPCP session included discussions on technology topics of interest, a GNSO Council update, Closed Generics, and ICANN NomCom rebalancing.

NCSG

The NCSG had a Policy Committee session to discuss updates on the GGP on Applicant Support, Closed Generics, and the Statement of Interest task force. The NCSG Policy Committee also reviewed open Public Comment proceedings and the GNSO Council agenda.

The Noncommercial Users Constituency (NCUC) and the Not-for-Profit Organizations Constituency (NPOC) held a joint membership session which included policy updates, a discussion on why it is important for members to volunteer to write Public Comment submissions, and time for questions from both ICANN Fellows and NextGen@ICANN participants.

Next Steps

The GNSO Council and GNSO working groups will return to their regular work schedules between ICANN Public Meetings. GNSO community leaders will soon begin preparations for ICANN78.

Resources

Please refer to the [ICANN77 schedule webpage](#) for all open session materials.

- [GNSO website](#)
- [GNSO workspace](#)
- [GNSO news](#)
- [GNSO calendar](#)
- [GNSO on Twitter](#)
- [ICANN Learn course about the GNSO](#)

At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Decisions and Outcomes

During ICANN77, the ALAC, leaders of the Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs), liaisons, and various At-Large members held nine sessions. The sessions included two policy sessions, a joint session with the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC), four RALO sessions, an At-Large Welcome Session, and an At-Large Wrap-Up Session.

Additional Activities

Policy Sessions

Two sessions in the policy work stream focused on At-Large positions related to generic top-level domain (gTLD) policy development.

An End User Perspective: The Next gTLD Application Window

This session provided a regional end user perspective on the upcoming New gTLD Next Round. ICANN Board members participating in the session reiterated that the ICANN Board is seeking ways to reduce barriers for new registries. The RALOs also provided updates from their members, including suggestions on how to sustain pro bono support for new applicants and provide an inclusive environment for new registries.

During this session, it was agreed that a reduction in barriers is needed to encourage new applications from underserved regions. Recommendations for pro bono support included fee reduction programs and access to regional legal expertise through a possible incubator pilot program proposed by the North American Regional Organization (NARALO). It was also agreed that further coordination with the ICANN org Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE) function to develop frequently asked question guides and the aforementioned pilot incubation program could make pro bono support sustainable.

The At-Large community will continue to provide input through the GNSO Guidance Process on Applicant Support on the provision of pro bono services and the utility of fee reductions for applicants in underserved regions.

Unfinished Business: The Challenges of Auctions

This was the fourth At-Large hosted community session related to the New gTLD Next Round and specific topics of interest. The session discussed ways to minimize the gaming of auctions while maximizing participation of applicants from underserved regions. Panelists provided different approaches to what the ideal mechanics for auctions could look like. Session participants noted that there is no current ICANN policy on auctions due to lack of consensus. Previously, the ALAC and the GAC provided statements recommending the elimination of the use of private auctions. Discussions are expected to continue following ICANN77.



At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Joint Sessions

Meeting with other ICANN community groups is important to the ALAC because it allows for open dialogue and new perspectives. The ALAC held several joint sessions with other Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees.

- The ALAC held a meeting with the leadership of the GAC before ICANN77. Topics discussed included the New gTLD Program Next Round, DNS abuse, and an update on their Joint Statement on Enabling Inclusive, Informed, and Meaningful Participation at ICANN.
- The ALAC held a meeting with the GNSO Council before ICANN77. Topics included the next round of new gTLDs and DNS abuse.
- The ALAC and the SSAC held a meeting during ICANN77 which discussed topics of mutual interest, including alignment on the next round of new gTLDs, collision work, a review of inputs to the Transfer Policy Review Policy Development Process, and a discussion of .zip.

RALO Activities

The RALOs engaged in several activities during ICANN77 which highlighted the specific interests of their regions.

RALO Coordination

Leaders of all five RALOs met to discuss their topics of mutual interest which benefited from coordinated action among the RALOs. Interim ICANN President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sally Costerton attended the meeting and had a conversation with RALO leaders. Issues discussed included the [Fiscal Year 2024 Additional Budget Request on a RALO Digital Welcome Package](#), a discussion of a RALO-hosted ICANN 25th anniversary event, and initial planning for ICANN78.

AFRALO

Members of the African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO) and the African ICANN community discussed the topic “Improvement of African Participation in ICANN.” They agreed on a statement that included several recommendations to improve participation of Africans in ICANN. The statement also addressed one of the pillars of the African Regional Plan for fiscal years 2021–2025.

NARALO

The [NARALO Roundtable](#) focused on the topic “Government Activity to Expand Broadband Access in the United States and Canada.” Panelists included government and private sector speakers who have explored and analyzed federal, state, and local initiatives to make broadband more available, affordable, and usable.

The [monthly NARALO meeting](#) was held as a town hall, which enabled debate and exchange of ideas. NARALO members heard a review of the NARALO Fiscal Year 2023 accomplishments, a recount of the impact of the NARALO 2022 General Assembly, and an update on the topic “Mobilizing Individual Members.” Also, the session included presentations about NARALO outreach and engagement and NARALO social media activities, as well as an ICANN NomCom update by the ALAC delegate from the North American region. Finally, the session included a discussion on the next steps on the At-Large Loop and the At-Large Campaign Playbook.

NARALO also held a networking event for NARALO members and NextGen@ICANN participants from the North American region.

At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Operations Sessions

At-Large held a Welcome Session that included an update from Leon Sanchez, ICANN Board member selected by At-Large, a review of the ICANN77 At-Large Talking Points, an overview of the At-Large ICANN77 Session Report templates, and an update on the [next steps on the At-Large Loop](#).

During the At-Large Wrap-Up Session, ALAC liaisons provided updates followed by a review of the [session reports](#). The winners of the At-Large social media contest were also announced. A preview of [ICANN78](#) was presented.

Next Steps

The ALAC and the At-Large working groups will continue their work on policy, outreach and engagement, and operational activities. Planning for ICANN78 will continue in the upcoming weeks.

Resources

Please refer to the [ICANN77 schedule webpage](#) for all open session materials.

At-Large Web Pages

- [At-Large homepage](#)
- [Membership](#)
- [Policy Summary](#)

At-Large Workspaces

- [At-Large ICANN77 workspace](#)
- [ALAC workspace](#)
- [ALAC Policy Advice Development](#)
- [At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group](#)
- [At-Large Operations, Finance, and Budget Working Group](#)
- [At-Large meetings](#)
- [At-Large governance](#)

At-Large Social Media

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [YouTube](#)

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

Decisions and Outcomes

During ICANN77, the GAC conducted more than 18 hours of sessions, including nine hours of discussions on substantive and operational topics and more than seven hours devoted to GAC Communiqué drafting. Those efforts culminated in the publication of the [ICANN77 GAC Communiqué](#) on 20 June 2023.

The GAC ICANN77 Communiqué included GAC Consensus Advice on four topics:

1. Predictability in new generic top-level domain (gTLD) applications
2. Registry Voluntary Commitments and Public Interest Commitments in new gTLDs
3. Applicant support in new gTLD applications
4. Auctions as mechanisms of last resort and private resolution of contention sets in new gTLDs

The GAC ICANN77 Communiqué also included a follow-up on previous GAC Advice regarding privacy and proxy services. It also contained statements regarding seven different issues of importance to governments:

1. Closed Generic gTLDs
2. Registry Voluntary Commitments and Public Interest Commitments in new gTLDs
3. GAC Consensus Advice and GAC Early Warnings in new gTLDs
4. DNS abuse
5. Registration data accuracy
6. Registration Data Request Service
7. Registration Data Consensus Policy

Of the 182 member governments and 38 observer organizations in the GAC, representatives from 73 member governments and eight observer organizations participated in ICANN77.

Additional Activities

GAC Capacity Development Workshop

On 11 June 2023, the GAC conducted a Capacity Development Workshop (CDW) that focused on GAC interest in, and follow-up regarding, DNS abuse matters.

This initiative was part of a wider GAC capacity development effort introduced during the ICANN75 AGM and subsequently re-focused during ICANN76. Thanks to the contributions of GAC Public Safety Working Group topic leads, ICANN org Global Domains and Strategy (GDS) and Contractual Compliance, and the Contracted Parties, the workshop was the culmination of a three-event arc that included two intersessional webinars about DNS abuse. The final event in Washington, D.C., was designed to enable interested GAC participants to understand and contribute to the current Public Comment proceeding on the proposed amendments to the base gTLD Registry Agreement and Registrar Accreditation Agreement.

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

Language-based breakout groups conducted at the end of the CDW provided an opportunity for many GAC participants to brainstorm, in their native language, on the ICANN Public Comment process and DNS abuse issues. One of the key outcomes of the CDW was that a number of governments stepped forward to join a drafting group. This “small group” is expected to develop an initial draft of a GAC Public Comment submission for wider review shortly after ICANN77.

Considering continued positive feedback from CDW participants, the GAC intends to focus its next GAC capacity development efforts before and during ICANN78 on further GAC discussion and information sharing on topics of priority to governments, in particular the topic of emerging technologies with potential future impacts on the DNS.

Bilateral Sessions

During ICANN77, the GAC conducted bilateral sessions with several ICANN community groups, including the ICANN Board and GNSO Council leadership.

GNSO Council Leadership

With the GNSO Council leadership, the GAC discussed matters related to:

- Subsequent rounds of new gTLDs, including
- New gTLD Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) Operational Design Assessment
- Closed Generics Facilitated Dialogue
- GNSO Guidance Process on Applicant Support
- DNS abuse mitigation
- Registration Data Request System
- Accuracy of gTLD registration data
- Intergovernmental organization (IGO) protections
- GNSO Council response to GAC Communiqué issues of importance
- Transparency in the GNSO PDP and related statements of interest

ICANN Board

With the ICANN Board, the GAC discussed:

- The New gTLD Program Next Round, including:
- Predictability in new gTLD applications
- Registry Voluntary Commitments and Public Interest Commitments
- Applicant support
- GAC Consensus Advice and GAC Early Warnings
- Auctions as mechanisms of last resort and private resolution of contention sets
- Privacy and proxy services accreditation implementation

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

This summary of the bilateral session between the ICANN Board and GAC during ICANN77 does not replace proper consideration of advice, Public Comment submissions, or correspondence.

GAC Chair Nicolas Caballero opened the bilateral session, beginning with some developments over the past few months. Chair Caballero set the tone for the session to focus on GAC advice stemming from preparations made by numerous GAC members. General discussion topics included the rebalancing of the ICANN NomCom and the SubPro PDP Final Report. Of particular importance to the GAC in terms of questions to be answered by the ICANN Board during this session included the topic of privacy and proxy services accreditation implementation.

ICANN Board Chair Tripti Sinha introduced ICANN Board members in attendance, including ICANN Board Vice Chair Danko Jevtović, Board member Avri Doria, Board member Becky Burr, and Interim ICANN President and CEO Sally Costerton.

The ICANN Board opened the discussion with Registry Voluntary Commitments (RVCs) and Public Interest Commitments (PICs). Proposed GAC advice on this topic advises the ICANN Board to ensure that any future RVCs and PICs need to be enforceable through clear contractual obligations, and consequences for the failure to meet those obligations should be specified in the relevant agreements with Contracted Parties. The GAC advises that additional mandatory or voluntary PICs should remain possible in order to address emerging public policy concerns. From the ICANN Board's point of view, there was a commitment to the GAC that anything that would be inserted into new gTLD contracts must be enforceable.

GAC participant Nigel Hickson (United Kingdom) thanked the ICANN Board for the input and constructive responses and asked if the ICANN Board would consider a potential ICANN Bylaws amendment as an option for enforcement of RVCs and PICs. This possibility of pursuing a potential ICANN Bylaw amendment has not been excluded from possible paths that could be taken with respect to RVCs and PICs.

Next, the ICANN Board discussed the pending recommendations from the New gTLD SubPro PDP Final Report – specifically, Recommendation 17.2 regarding expanding the scope of financial support provided to Applicant Support Program beneficiaries beyond the application fee to also cover costs such as application writing fees and attorney fees related to the application process. While the ICANN Board is very receptive to applicant support, the SubPro recommendation was deemed too open-ended in its current form to be accepted with regard to the ICANN Board's adoption of a subset of the SubPro recommendations in March 2023.

The GAC provided examples of applicant support they would like to see implemented, including reducing or eliminating application and registrar fees to applicant support recipients. The ICANN Board looks forward to keeping open communication with the GAC and GNSO Council to continue improving applicant support for the next round of new gTLDs.

On the topic of auctions of last resort, the ICANN Board cautioned the GAC that while the recommendations do not contain a prohibition on private auctions, they also do not enable them. At the moment, there is not a complete answer to the GAC's proposed advice for consideration, which advises the ICANN Board to ensure that auctions of last resort are not used in contention between commercial and noncommercial applications and to ban or strongly disincentivize private auctions.

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

Next, the GAC had two proposed pieces of advice for the ICANN Board:

1. To not accept Recommendation Guidance 30.2 regarding the timing of GAC Consensus Advice on future categories of TLDs, in particular applications oriented to disincentivizing any such advice being submitted after the finalization of the Applicant Guidebook; and
2. To adopt Recommendation 30.6 with the inclusion of the compromise language submitted by the GAC noting, “Government(s) issuing Early Warning(s) must include a written explanation describing why the Early Warning was submitted and how the applicant may address the GAC member’s concerns to the extent feasible.”

Future discussions between the ICANN Board and GAC were encouraged to better understand the viewpoints of both sides.

GAC participant Jorge Cancio (Switzerland) asked the ICANN Board if there were any issues that were “showstoppers.” The ICANN Board responded negative at this time, and ongoing discussions would be important.

GAC observer Nigel Cassimire (Caribbean Telecommunications Union) provided a “small country perspective on the Applicant Support matter,” and GAC participant Rosalind Kenny-Birch (United Kingdom) asked about ICANN’s financial commitment to the Applicant Support Program. The ICANN Board noted that it is “inclined to do whatever can be done in a way that is sustainable, reasonable, and really supports applications that will be successful.” The interim ICANN President and CEO expressed commitment to continue this dialogue with the GAC.

GAC participant Kavouss Arasteh (Iran) asked about which characteristics ICANN is going to consider when making determinations for access to Applicant Support. The ICANN Board responded that the determining factors could come from many different perspectives, including geographic location and languages spoken.

Responding to GAC Advice from ICANN76, the ICANN Board discussed privacy and proxy services. This included an update about the ICANN org’s progress on the Registration Data Request Service (RDRS). While the pilot of the RDRS will not include the new approach to implement privacy and proxy accreditation services based on GAC advice, it could be a vehicle for this going forward and a priority for the ICANN Board.

GAC participant Laureen Kapin (United States) was encouraged by this update and seconded that implementation will be an important focus for privacy and proxy services. While specifics for the approaches used for this task were not discussed, the ICANN Board noted that the goal is to make small changes in implementation creatively to generate a large impact.

Finally, GAC observer Brian Beckham (World Intellectual Property Organization) asked for an update on the implementation of the Expedited PDP on Specific Curative Rights Protections for IGOs. The Board explained the implementation plan is currently being developed and there will be updates for the GAC and ICANN community as soon as it is available.

GAC Chair Caballero thanked the ICANN Board and closed the joint session.

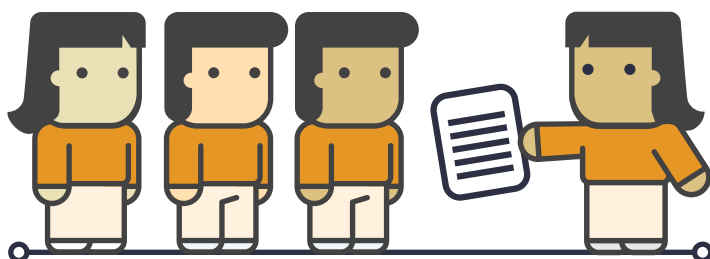
Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

Other Sessions

The GAC tailored its agenda to priority topics while maintaining flexibility for GAC member representatives to participate in other activities like the ICANN Board update session on the search for the next ICANN President and CEO and the 2023 ICANN Community Excellence Award ceremony. This planning also allowed GAC member representatives to devote appropriate time to develop the ICANN77 GAC Communiqué.

Resources

Please refer to the [ICANN77 schedule webpage](#) for all open session materials. More detailed information about GAC sessions during ICANN77, including the CDW, briefings, presentations, transcripts, and recordings can be found on this [webpage](#).



Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

Activities

The RSSAC had a work session to advance work items. The work session focused on root server system (RSS) security incident reporting and featured a discussion about the newly established RSSAC Caucus work party on the topic.

In addition, the RSSAC conducted its monthly meeting and held a closed session with the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC). During its monthly meeting, RSSAC approved the statement of work for a new RSSAC Caucus work party and initiated the RSS Security Incident Reporting Work Party. The RSSAC also had a closed session on RSS messaging.

Next Steps

The [RSSAC Caucus](#) consists of DNS experts who have an interest in the RSS, thus 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.

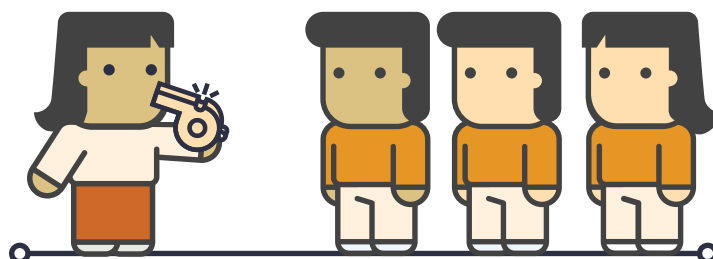
The RSSAC appoints RSSAC Caucus members through the RSSAC Caucus Membership Committee. All RSSAC members are members of the RSSAC Caucus. There are more than 100 RSSAC Caucus members from more than 20 countries.

There are currently two active [work parties](#) in the RSSAC Caucus, studying:

- RSSAC001v2: Service Expectations of Root Server Operators
- Root Server System Security Incident Reporting

Resources

Please refer to the [ICANN77 schedule webpage](#) for all open session materials. For more information, including meeting minutes and a publications library, please visit the [RSSAC webpage](#).



Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

Activities

The SSAC held its Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and Security Workshop during ICANN77. This workshop focused solely on the topic of DNSSEC Delegation Signer (DS) record automation. Registries, registrars, Internet service providers, and others who plan to deploy DNSSEC benefited from the presentation and discussion of the deployment experience. Anyone with an interest in the deployment of DNSSEC—particularly registry, registrar, and ISP employees with technical, operational, and strategic planning roles—is encouraged to review the workshop materials.

During ICANN77, the workshop contained several panels and presentations on the following topics:

- The vision for the future of DNSSEC deployment applications;
- How DNSSEC fits into ICANN’s strategic and operational plans;
- The ICANN org’s efforts to train, promote, and support DNSSEC adoption at the root and registry levels;
- Automation of DS updates in generic top-level domain space and the role of the Registry Services Evaluation Policy in enabling DS automation;
- Experiences of country code top-level domains in implementing DS scanning;
- DNSSEC bootstrapping methods and open issues;
- The scalability of scanning; and
- Implementing generalized DNS notifications as a means to simplify DS automation.

The SSAC also held joint sessions with the RSSAC and the ALAC to provide updates on recent publications and current topics it is examining:

- Name Collision Analysis Project;
- DS record automation;
- Evolution of domain name system resolution; and
- Registrar name server management.

Next Steps

The DNSSEC and Security Workshop Program Committee will plan the next DNSSEC and Security Workshop to be held during ICANN78. The SSAC will also continue to develop reports, advisories, and comments on a range of topics.

Resources

Please refer to the [ICANN77 schedule webpage](#) for all open session materials.

- [NCAP Discussion Group workspace](#)
- [SSAC Introduction](#)
- [SSAC Operational Procedures](#)
- [SSAC publications](#)
- [SSAC website](#)