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A Successful ICANN56 Policy Forum

Thank you very much for attending the ICANN56 Policy Forum! We hope the innovative format fostered collaboration and substantive policy and advice development work. ICANN will continue to evaluate and improve the Policy Forum format in line with the recommendations of the community-led Meeting Strategy Working Group. Your feedback is important to us.

This Post-ICANN56 Policy Forum Report captures highlights from the week including summaries of the cross-community sessions and updates from our Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. As you see from this infographic, it was a busy four days of robust debate, discussion, disagreement, and compromise.

ICANN congratulates and thanks Chuck Gomes and Keith Davidson, this year’s recipients of the Multistakeholder Ethos Award. This award honors members of the community who demonstrate dedication to ICANN’s multistakeholder model of Internet governance through many years of active participation and leadership.

Above all else, we aspire to support the core consensus-driven policy and advice development work of ICANN by enabling efficient and effective bottom-up participation and engagement in the multistakeholder model. Again, we appreciate your contributions to a successful ICANN56 Policy Forum.

Best regards,

David Olive
Senior Vice President,
Policy Development Support
General Manager, ICANN Regional Headquarters – Istanbul
ICANN56 by the Numbers

- **199 Sessions**
  - Organized into 7 separate tracks

- **1436 Attendees**

- **2,554+ Tweets about #ICANN56**

- **300+ Photos taken**

- **2,478 New visitors to schedule.icann.org**

- **730 Unique visitors to ICANN56 Mobile App**

- **2 Recipients of Multistakeholder Ethos Award**

- **347 Newcomers**

- **1st ICANN Policy Forum**

- **97,216+ Views of ICANN56 photos on Flickr**

- **31 Fellows**

- **20 Videos produced**

- **15 NextGen@ICANN**

- **430 Hours of recorded audio**

- **5 NextGen Ambassadors**
What Happened at ICANN56?

This cross-community session was led by Next Generation Registration Directory Services (RDS) Policy Development Process (PDP) working group chair Chuck Gomes, supported by vice chairs David Cake, Susan Kawaguchi, and Michele Neylon and by ICANN policy development support staff members Marika Konings and Lisa Phifer. During this session, working group members drew from their own experiences to share examples and attendees joined in a lively conversation about possible requirements which they believe should be supported by next generation RDS to replace WHOIS. Inputs gathered during this cross-community session are essential to inform this policy development process working group’s phase 1 recommendations. The discussion on this topic, including reflecting on the cross-community input received, continued during the PDP working group’s meeting the next day.

Next Steps

The working group will next confirm that the list of possible requirements—including those suggested during the cross-community session—is sufficiently complete to serve as the foundation for deliberations. The working group will then continue through its work plan to Task 12. The working group will systematically consider each possible requirement individually with the goal of trying to reach as strong a consensus as possible on working group support for a possible requirement, including how it is worded. Due to interdependencies, working group deliberation will likely be iterative, especially on fundamental questions pertaining to purpose, data, and privacy. As part of this process, the working group is expected to review the input received from GNSO stakeholder groups and constituencies as well as ICANN Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees.

Session Materials

Review the presentation, read the transcripts, or listen to the recordings of this cross-community session here. For the working group meeting materials please visit this page.
What Happened at ICANN56?

This cross-community session focused on the scope of the policy development process (PDP), particularly its current Phase One (of Two) where the Working Group is reviewing the rights protection mechanisms (RPM) that were developed for the new gTLD program of 2012. This topic had been selected so that the community’s input can be taken into account by the working group for the purpose of prioritizing the list of topics it will cover during the PDP. At its open meeting, the working group discussed the input that was provided during the cross-community session and continued its analysis of the first RPM it is reviewing—the Trademark Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedure (PDDRP). The two sessions in combination and attendance by non-working group members and participants from other parts of the community made for a very useful discussion.

Next Steps

The working group will use the feedback it received to finalize and refine the non-exhaustive list of topics to be covered in its RPMs review. The working group aims to complete its work on the Trademark PDDRP by late August, and will proceed to review the remaining RPMs in sequence, culminating in a planned initial report on its Phase One work before the end of 2017.

Session Materials

Review the presentation, read the transcripts, or listen to the recordings of this cross-community session here. For the working group meeting materials please visit this page and follow the working group’s progress on its collaborative workspace.
Charter for the CCWG on Auction Proceeds

What Happened at ICANN56?

During this cross-community session, the drafting team formed to develop a charter for a cross-community working group on new gTLD auction proceeds presented it proposed draft. The potential cross-community working group would develop a proposal on the mechanism that should be created to allocate proceeds from the new gTLD auctions for eventual consideration by the ICANN Board. As part of this presentation, there was a short review of the background to this topic, an outline of the current stage of discussions, as well as an overview of the legal and fiduciary constraints that need to be factored in as part of the charter-drafting effort and subsequent cross-community deliberations. The session then focused on the latest draft of the charter and issues such as goals and objectives, guiding principles, scope, membership, participants and observers, and decision-making. The presentation was accompanied by a lively discussion and a substantial number of comments that the drafting team will consider in its subsequent deliberations.

Next Steps

The drafting team will review the input received during the cross-community session and make further updates to the charter as it deems appropriate. Once the drafting team has finalized its work on the proposed charter for a cross-community working group, this proposed charter will be submitted to all the ICANN Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees for their approval.

Session Materials

Review the presentation, read the transcripts, or listen to the recordings of this cross-community session here.
What Happened at ICANN56?
During this cross-community session, lively and robust discussion occurred over a range of broad topics, including community applications, geographic names, and new gTLD program reviews, among other topics. Input received will be considered by the various new gTLD related efforts underway. During its meeting, the working group made significant progress in reaching preliminary outcomes on some of the overarching issues it has begun considering. Separately, the working group leadership also participated in question and answer sessions with the Governmental Advisory Committee.

Next Steps
The working group will continue to monitor the various new gTLD related efforts underway within the community to ensure that the proceedings and outcomes are properly considered during its deliberations and before reaching any recommendations. Shortly after ICANN56, the working group anticipates forming a series of sub-teams to begin its consideration of a number of additional subjects identified in its charter, such as string contention, the application submission and evaluation process, community applications, objections, among many others.

Session Materials
Review the presentation, read the transcripts, or listen to the recordings of this cross-community session here. For the working group meeting materials please visit this page and this page, and follow the working group's progress on its collaborative workspace.
What Happened at ICANN56?
The Cross-Community Working Group (CCWG) chartered by the ccNSO and GNSO Councils to develop a Framework of Uniform Principles for Future CCWGs held an open dialogue session to discuss topics of major concern it had identified based on public comments received to its Initial Report. These issues were: (1) how to ensure diversity of representation in CCWGs; (2) handling exceptional budget and other resource allocation issues; (3) defining consensus; and (4) the role of a CCWG in implementing its recommendations. Many participants spoke on each of these topics, and the CCWG received a significant amount of excellent and substantive feedback.

Next Steps
The CCWG will finalize its Final Framework following ICANN56. It will review the community’s comments and either incorporate them or modify its current draft, as appropriate. The CCWG is scheduled to complete its work and submit the Final Framework to its Chartering Organizations for approval prior to ICANN57. The Final Framework may serve as a guide for the initiation of the next CCWG, likely on the new gTLD auction proceeds.

Session Materials
Review the presentation, read the transcripts, or listen to the recordings of this cross-community session [here](#) and follow the working group’s progress on its [collaborative workspace](#).
What Happened at ICANN56?

The objective of this cross-community session was to collect input and ideas for making ICANN activities more relevant, timely, and efficient. This could be achieved by finding ways of prioritizing topics, utilizing available mechanisms in optimal ways, and potentially conceiving new useful mechanisms. Community members of all backgrounds participated, sharing their own experiences and contributing ideas to improve accessibility and management of ongoing work at ICANN.

The session was led by the Governmental Advisory Committee chair Thomas Schneider as moderator. The moderator made introductory statements on potential approaches, within and across Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. This included improved planning and priority-setting, access to information and processes, coordination and sustainability with methods, timing across ICANN as a whole and within its various entities, and the potential need for additional support as well as tools. For each aspect, the moderator opened the floor and participants contributed with examples, issue analysis, and constructive suggestions for making ICANN work more efficiently in the future.

Participants noted that the search function on the ICANN website could be improved and that good remote participation tools are increasingly important to promote inclusiveness. Recent cross-community activity has proven the importance of building trust across Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. More participants would help share the workload, but it is also important to recognize the latency period from joining to volunteering.

Next Steps

The interactive session allowed for many proposals with the aim to start considering concrete recommendations for improving the situation. Preliminary conclusions from this session will be summarized for further consideration and future discussions across the ICANN community.

Session Materials

Review the presentation, read the transcripts, or listen to the recordings of this cross-community session here.
ICANN56 Wrap-Up/ICANN57 Planning

What Happened at ICANN56?
During this session, the ICANN Policy Development Support and Meetings team staff led a discussion with community participants to share feedback about the ICANN56 Policy Forum. Attendees explored what worked and what did not work and about all aspects of the community’s experience during the week. Utilizing audience participation via in-room microphones and a special live-poll over the ICANN56 mobile app, session participants explored the schedule format, the time available for policy-focused work, cross-community session formats, interactions with the ICANN Board, and opportunities for outreach, engagement and networking.

Next Steps
ICAN staff will be collecting, collating and curating all input received during the cross-community session and from survey responses received throughout the week on the ICANN56 mobile app. This feedback will be published on the ICANN Community Wiki, offering the opportunity for further contributions from the community. The information will be incorporated into planning for all future meetings.

Session Materials
Review the presentation, read the transcripts, or listen to the recordings of this cross-community session here.
What happened at ICANN56?

As part of the implementation of the IANA Stewardship Transition proposals, the five Regional Internet Registries and ICANN signed the Service Level Agreement on IANA Numbering Services. This agreement documents the arrangements for provision by ICANN of IANA numbering services. The SLA will only come into effect with the transition, and will have no effect whatsoever before that time. Read the agreement here.

The ASO also conducted a public session reviewing policy development across the five regions, and the ASO Address Council held its annual meeting during ICANN56. The next annual meeting of the ASO Address Council will take place at ICANN58.

Upcoming Work

Between now and ICANN57, the following meetings will take place across the Regional Internet Registries:

- **LACNIC 26** | 26-29 September 2016 | San Jose, Costa Rica
- **APNIC 42** | 29 September – 6 October 2016 | Dhaka, Bangladesh
- **ARIN 38** | 20-21 October 2016 | Dallas, Texas, United States
- **RIPE 73** | 24-28 October 2016 | Madrid, Spain

Get Involved

To contribute to Internet number resource policy development discussions, please join the mailing lists and working groups of the Regional Internet Registries:

- AFRINIC
- APNIC
- ARIN
- LACNIC
- RIPE

The ASO Address Council oversees and manages the global policy development process for the Internet numbering community. There are currently no global policy proposals.
Country Code Names Supporting Organization

What happened at ICANN56?

The ccNSO launched the initial phase of a policy development process on the retirement of ccTLDs and the development of a review mechanism for decisions on delegation, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs. This work will continue with the Issue Report expected by ICANN57.

The ccNSO actively participated in cross-community work at ICANN56 through joint meetings with the Governmental Advisory Committee and leading cross-community sessions on Country and Other Geographic Names as well as Operational Planning. The ccNSO also organized Tech Day for the broader community including workshops on operational topics and Member Meeting Days for the ccTLD community covering best practices in the industry.

Also, the ccNSO approved the application of the .dk ccTLD manager, welcoming Dansk Internet Forum (DIFO) as its 160th member. The ccNSO Council expresses its gratitude to Juhani Juselius for a successful cocktail reception through the generous hospitality and support of the Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority, the .fi ccTLD manager. Finally, the ccNSO Council wholeheartedly congratulates former ccNSO vice chair Keith Davidson for receiving the ICANN Multistakeholder Ethos Award recognizing his leadership and work.

Upcoming Work

The Issue Report on the retirement of ccTLDs and the development of a review mechanism for decisions on delegation, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs will be presented and discussed at ICANN57. The report will address the following topics:

- Whether or not the ccNSO should initiate the ccNSO Policy Development Process (ccPDP).
- Whether or not to initiate the ccPDP to develop a policy on a review mechanism first and defer the decision on retirement to a later stage, and if so, when that decision should be taken; and
- Whether or not to convene a taskforce or use another method to address these issues.

In addition, the report will include a proposed timeline for conducting each of the stages of the ccPDP.

The ccNSO will also move forward with the selection process for its members on the Customer Standing Committee in preparation for implementation steps as part of the IANA Stewardship Transition. Furthermore, the ccNSO will continue to improve its own accountability and transparency including analysis of its recent survey.

Get Involved

Membership in the ccNSO is open to all ccTLD managers responsible for managing an ISO 3166 country-code top-level domain. More information on how to join is available on this page. In order to encourage global engagement, all ccTLD managers—both members and nonmembers—participate in working groups and attend meetings, either in person or via remote participation tools. Learn more on the ccNSO website.
What happened at ICANN56?

The GNSO participated actively in the ICANN56 Policy Forum. The objective of this meeting was to focus on policy development activities and foster interactions between the GNSO and other SOs and ACs through cross-community sessions.

The cross-community sessions provided an opportunity for broad input into the three ongoing policy development processes: New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures, Next Generation Registration Directory Services, and Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs. The cross-community sessions were an important precursor to working meetings of these groups, during which substantive deliberations on key issues continued.

The GNSO also held important bilateral meetings with the GAC and ICANN Board members allowing for exchanges of views on topics such as the status of the GAC-GNSO Consultation Group, Privacy & Proxy Services Accreditation Issues and the outstanding IGO/Red Cross recommendations.

During its public meeting, the GNSO Council took the step of establishing a drafting team to develop an implementation plan for the new and additional GNSO powers and obligations under the post-transition ICANN Bylaws. The GNSO Council also adopted the final status update on the GNSO PDP Improvements and extended the mandate of the GNSO Liaison to the GAC. Furthermore, the GNSO Council discussed:

- The ICANN Board Request concerning the Expert Working Group Final Report on Internationalized Registration Data
- Status of selection of primary and alternate delegates from the GNSO to the Customer Standing Committee
- Progress update from the Cross-Community Working Group on Internet Governance
- Next steps in relation to the GNSO Review and especially what mechanism should be tasked with developing the implementation plan

Upcoming Work

Over the next few weeks the GNSO policy development working groups will resume their regular schedule of meetings. A drafting team will undertake a major area of work examining GNSO powers and obligations under the new ICANN bylaws. This drafting team is expected to provide the GNSO Council with an implementation plan by the end of September 2016.

Planning for ICANN57 will soon be underway as well. Major milestones such as GNSO Council elections and the Annual General Meeting activities are already being scheduled. The GNSO Council together with support staff will confirm what policy, outreach, and cross-community sessions will take place.

Get Involved

To learn more about ongoing GNSO policy development processes, read the GNSO Policy Briefing and track the GNSO Council Action Item List. Also watch Chuck Gomes discuss WHOIS or Kathy Kleiman on the importance of Rights Protection Mechanisms.
What happened at ICANN56?

The ALAC focused on process related matters important to the organizational effectiveness of the At-Large Community. These included the ratification of the revised ALAC Rules of Procedure, the establishment of the ALAC Appointee Selection Committee, and the decision on the selection process of the ALAC Liaison to the Consumer Standing Committee (CSC).

The At-Large Review was also a focus. The independent examiner met with the community, observed many sessions, and conducted qualitative interviews throughout ICANN56.

On the Regional At-Large Organization front, the EURALO General Assembly and the Joint AFRALO-AfrICANN Meeting were held. RALO leaders also met and agreed to establish a small taskforce focusing on the implementation of the Document Production Pilot Program.

To continue outreach and engagement efforts, At-Large leaders met with NextGen students and ICANN Fellows to enhance their understanding of the At-Large Community.

Upcoming Work

The selection process for the ALAC Liaison to the CSC will start in early July to meet the 22 July 2016 deadline.

The At-Large Review will continue: Independent examiner ITEMS will distribute a global survey in the wider At-Large Community and conduct more qualitative interviews with At-Large members and other stakeholders. To encourage greater participation, ITEMS will also present in webinars to be held by each RALO.

Post-Second At-Large Summit (ATLAS II) activities will come to an end. The ATLAS II Implementation Taskforce will review and finalize the Implementation Report and forward it to the ALAC for ratification. The ratified report will be submitted to the ICANN Board and presented at ICANN57 as the final deliverable of ATLAS II.

APRALO and NARALO will be planning for their upcoming General Assemblies. In addition, a web-based, centralized database of At-Large Structures will be fully developed and verified by RALO leaders and At-Large Structures representatives to consolidate and preserve application, contact, and communication information.

Get Involved

There are three ways to become an official member of the At-Large Community. Members participate in working groups, gain knowledge about issues concerning end-users, influence policy advice development, and advance accessibility and inclusion at ICANN.
What happened at ICANN56?

The GAC held 24 plenary sessions and eight working group sessions at ICANN56. All GAC plenary sessions were conducted as open meetings. The GAC sessions focused on input to current GNSO policy development processes, next steps regarding the IANA Stewardship Transition, internal matters and advice to the ICANN Board. Internal matters included updates from GAC Working Groups on Public Safety, Human Rights and International Law, and Geographic Names. The GAC also reviewed its Operating Principles.

GAC working groups met each day prior to the GAC plenary sessions. Plenary sessions covered general topics, including a GAC capacity building session with a presentation from the ICANN Government and IGO Engagement team, and more detailed matters, like protection of IGO acronyms. The final GAC session concluded in issuing the traditional GAC Communiqué, including GAC advice to the ICANN Board.

Community engagement took place at both the bilateral and cross-community levels: The GAC met with the ccNSO, GNSO and SSAC and played a leading role in the cross-community session on Workload Management and Scheduling while participating in other cross-community sessions.

The GAC welcomed six new governments as Members at ICANN56. This brings total GAC membership to 168 national governments and distinct economies as Members and 35 Inter-Governmental Organizations, IGOs, as Observers.

Background

The GAC provides advice on public policy aspects of ICANN’s responsibilities with regard to the Domain Name System. The GAC is not a decision-making body. It advises ICANN on issues that are within its scope. GAC advice has a particular status under the ICANN Bylaws. Its advice must be duly taken into account by the ICANN Board, and when the ICANN Board proposes actions inconsistent with GAC advice it must give reasons for doing so and attempt to reach a mutually acceptable solution.
What happened at ICANN56?

The RSSAC held eight working sessions, a public session, and a formal meeting during ICANN56. Work sessions focused on finalizing the work of Workshop 2. The public session provided updates on current RSSAC and Caucus work including an overview of RSSAC002 version 3: Measurements of the Root Server System. During its formal meeting, the RSSAC approved version 2 of its Operational Procedures, a public comment submission on the draft charter of the Root Zone Evolution Review Committee, and a statement on the client side reliability of root DNS data.

Upcoming Work

In the coming weeks, the RSSAC will continue to advance the outcomes of its Workshop 2 report in preparation for Workshop 3 in October 2016. The Caucus will convene at IETF 96 to discuss its work including the ongoing technical analysis of the naming scheme used for individual root servers. The RSSAC will also soon review a report documenting the history of the root server system.

Get Involved

The RSSAC invites DNS and root server system experts to submit a statement of interest to the RSSAC Caucus Membership Committee. Applications are reviewed and evaluated for membership in the Caucus. The Caucus carries out the essential work of the RSSAC. There are 74 members (47% of whom do not work for root server operators), broadening the base of technical expertise contributing to RSSAC work. To learn more about how to join, please visit the Caucus webpage.
What happened at ICANN56?
The SSAC, in coordination with the Internet Society’s Deploy360 Programme, held a workshop on DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) on Monday, 27 June. This session was a public presentation and discussion with those actively engaged in the deployment of DNSSEC.

Topics covered in the DNSSEC Workshop included:
- Maps depicting current DNSSEC deployment;
- Presentations on DNSSEC adoption and trends;
- A panel discussion on deployment challenges; and
- Technical presentations on key signing key rollover, zone signing key length, and DNSSEC encryption algorithms.

Upcoming Work
The DNSSEC Workshop has been a part of ICANN meetings for several years and has provided a forum for both experienced and new people to meet, present and discuss current and future DNSSEC deployments. The DNSSEC Workshop Program Committee will shortly begin work on the planning of the DNSSEC Workshop to be held at ICANN57.

Get Involved
The DNSSEC Workshop at ICANN56 included a presentation on how to get involved, with links to the Deploy360 Programme and other deployment activities. In addition, as the first step in planning for the DNSSEC Workshop at ICANN57, the DNSSEC Workshop Program Committee will distribute a Call for Participation to the DNSSEC deployment community. Members of the community are encouraged to send proposals in the topic areas described in the Call for Participation.