# ICANN75 Policy Outcomes Report



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## A Successful ICANN75



Thank you for participating in the ICANN75 Annual General Meeting (AGM)!

We hope the AGM facilitated 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 "ICANN75 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 that consensus-driven policy and advice development by enabling efficient and effective participation in the multistakeholder model. We look forward to seeing you for the ICANN76 Community Forum in Cancún, Mexico.

Best regards,

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## **Internet Fragmentation, the DNS, and ICANN**

This plenary session, proposed and developed by an ICANN community planning team, provided an opportunity to build a common understanding of Internet fragmentation and the challenges it presents to the ICANN mission. Discussants from several ICANN community groups shared the perspectives of the commercial and noncommercial sectors, end users, governments, security, and technical experts. The discussants also discussed the relevance of Internet fragmentation to the DNS. The plenary session explored the role of ICANN in this context. Two in-person moderators and one virtual moderator led the plenary session, encouraging participation from discussants and the in-person and virtual audiences. Over 300 participants attended the plenary session in person and over 240 participants attended remotely.

## **Highlights**

- Moderators Bruna Martins dos Santos (Noncommercial Stakeholder Group) and Pari Esfandiari (At-Large Advisory Committee) welcomed participants.
- Bruna Martins dos Santos also introduced the discussants: John Crain (ICANN organization), Ram Mohan (Security and Stability Advisory Committee), James Bladel (Registrar Stakeholder Group), Paul Wilson (Address Supporting Organization), and Farzaneh Badii (Noncommercial Stakeholder Group). Nigel Hickson (Governmental Advisory Committee) served as a remote moderator.
- A poll question asked, "Is the Internet currently fragmented?" and 53% of respondents answered yes, while 47% of respondents answered no.
- John Crain discussed the importance of ICANN multistakeholder work in defining norms and safeguards for the end users to experience a single interoperable Internet. John Crain noted that Internet fragmentation moved away from that understood set of expectations for end users.
- To describe Internet fragmentation, Ram Mohan used a metaphor of Internet islands without bridges to connect them, which shifts power and control from the end user to those that build these Internet islands. Ram Mohan then explained that Internet fragmentation can create failure of critical infrastructure and degradation of the user experience.
- Paul Wilson built on the island metaphor to further explain that islands are usually geographical, and that a package should be able to easily traverse between islands. Interruption of that data flow is also Internet fragmentation. Paul Wilson noted that Internet fragmentation tends to happen at a local level.
- James Bladel described Internet fragmentation for the business community as friction that prevents companies from reaching their customers.
- Farzaneh Badii stated that access to an interoperable, secure Internet is important for human rights because it allows all people to express themselves. Another definition of Internet fragmentation is when there is no alternative to connect to the Internet.
- The plenary session featured a word cloud where participants answered the question "What concerns you the most about Internet fragmentation?". The word cloud can be viewed on the <u>plenary session webpage</u>.
- The ICANN community agreed to continue discussions about Internet fragmentation.

## **Plenary Session**

#### Themes

Several themes emerged throughout the plenary session:

- There is no current universal, operational definition of Internet fragmentation.
- It is important to define terms used in Internet governance and ICANN processes to avoid confusion with end users, governments, and other forums.
- While the Internet is not yet fragmented, it is important to address this issue before fragmentation occurs.
- ICANN should address Internet fragmentation in a manner consistent with its mandate.

The ASO, including the ASO Address Council (AC), did not convene during ICANN75.

## **Next Steps**

ASO AC monthly teleconferences are open to observers. For more information, including the teleconference schedule, observer privileges, and remote participation details, visit the <u>ASO AC meetings webpage</u>.

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 <u>updates</u>. To stay informed about regional policy development, subscribe to the relevant RIR community mailing list.

## Resources

- AFRINIC Resource Policy Discussion
- APNIC Policy Special Interest Group
- ARIN Public Policy
- LACNIC Políticas
- <u>RIPE Address Policy Working Group</u>



During ICANN75, the country code top-level domain (ccTLD) community and others with an interest in ccTLD-related matters discussed and received updates on topics relevant to ccTLD managers. The ccNSO held various sessions which included Tech Day, ccNSO Members Meetings, ccNSO working group and committee working sessions, and ccNSO Council sessions. The Domain Name System (DNS) Abuse Standing Committee (DASC) launched a survey among members of the ccNSO and the broader ccTLD community with the goal to better understand the ccTLD landscape regarding DNS abuse and to determine how to best serve ccTLDs.

Following the adoption of final policy recommendations of the ccNSO Policy Development Process (ccPDP) on the Retirement of ccTLDs, the ccNSO Council closed the working group which developed the recommendations. The ccNSO Council also decided to:

- Seek legal clarification regarding the scope of section 8.8 of the ICANN Bylaws
- Establish a ccNSO Council drafting team, tasked with providing feedback on the draft Terms of Reference for the Holistic Review
- Create a small team of ccNSO councilors that will develop a roadmap for the ccNSO and Universal Acceptance, with future consultations expected going forward
- Continue discussions with the ICANN Board
- Use the ccNSO statement procedure to comment on the Initial Report of the Second Customer Standing Committee Effectiveness Review

To learn more about the ccNSO Council meeting, visit the ccNSO Council workspace.

## **Additional Activities**

With simultaneous interpretation available for a select number of ccNSO sessions for the first time, ICANN75 marked a milestone. The enhanced language support benefited the ccTLD community by deepening operational exchanges and advancing information-sharing in multiple languages. The simultaneous interpretation in English, French, and Spanish is part of a pilot project for the next three ICANN Public Meetings.

The ccNSO working groups and committees continued their work. Both the DASC and the Internet Governance Liaison Committee, the Technical Working Group, the Strategic and Operational Planning Committee, and the third and fourth ccPDP working groups held working sessions. 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. During the ccNSO Policy Update Session, the working group presented its proposals and sought input from the ccTLD community.

The ccNSO also held a session that explored the impact of legislative initiatives regarding geographical indications on ccTLD managers. During the ccNSO Governance Session, the Guidelines Review Committee (GRC) presented its proposals for ccNSO statement of interest and conflict of interest processes. It also sought input from the ccTLD community. The ccNSO GRC alerted the ccNSO membership about upcoming voting processes and work items. The ccNSO and Universal Acceptance session included a discussion about the role of the ccNSO and how to best serve the ccTLD community. Finally, during the ccTLD News Sessions, ccTLD managers from different regions shared their experiences and practices.

## **Next Steps**

During the ICANN75 ccNSO Governance session, the ccNSO GRC reminded ccNSO members about the upcoming vote to adopt the proposed new ccNSO internal rules to replace the current rules from April 2021. These changes were prompted by the inclusion of Internationalized Domain Name ccTLD managers as members of the ccNSO. Voting began after ICANN75. The new rules have a direct impact on the governance structure of the ccNSO, specifically on the respective roles of the ccNSO Council and ccNSO membership.

During ICANN75, the ccNSO Council created a small team of ccNSO councilors tasked with developing a roadmap for the ccNSO and Universal Acceptance. The roadmap should be aligned with the ccNSO role and focus on the results of the ccNSO and Universal Acceptance session during ICANN75. Future consultations are expected.

## Resources

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 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 Nominating Committee). The ccNSO councilors are actively involved in determining the work and direction of the ccNSO. 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 ccTLD community feedback. The ccNSO Council meets regularly at ICANN Public Meetings and on monthly teleconferences. ccNSO Council meetings are open to observers.

The detailed ccNSO schedule, including highlights of the topics covered, is available on the <u>ccNSO</u> <u>ICANN75 workspace</u>.

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



During ICANN75, the GNSO organized 40 sessions, including GNSO policy development process (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**

The Expedited PDP on Internationalized Domain Names (EPDP-IDNs) Team held two sessions. During the <u>first session</u>, the team discussed the plan to publish its Initial Report in two parts to enhance efficiency in its deliberations. In addition, the ICANN organization conducted a risk analysis presentation for the team, as quantifying risks associated with the introduction of IDN variants may help inform team deliberations.

During the <u>second session</u>, the team reviewed a strawman process flow of the New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Program. The EPDP-IDNs charter questions and preliminary recommendations are mapped to this process flow. The main purpose of this review is to analyze the feasibility of a stand-alone round for existing gTLD registries to apply for variants and to analyze the feasibility of activating variants between application rounds.

#### **Transfer Policy Review PDP**

The Transfer Policy Review PDP Working Group published an Initial Report on Phase 1A topics for Public Comment on 21 June 2022. The working group began its review of Public Comment submissions in September 2022 following closure of the submission period. During its ICANN75 <u>session</u>, the working group discussed feedback on preliminary recommendations 1 and 2. The feedback suggested eliminating the Losing and Gaining Forms of Authorization (FOA) and replacing the Losing and Gaining FOA with notifications to the Registered Name Holder along with increased security measures for the Transfer Authorization Code (formerly the AuthInfo Code).

#### gTLD Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team

During its ICANN75 <u>session</u>, the Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team provided attendees with an <u>overview</u> of its write-up for assignments 1 (current enforcement and reporting) and 2 (measurement of accuracy) and the related recommendations. In addition, the team started deliberations on a registrar survey that is intended to allow registrars to report on the status of the accuracy of domains under management. The results of this survey are expected to help inform work on assignments 3 (effectiveness) and 4 (impact and improvements).

#### **GNSO Council Small Team: DNS Abuse**

The GNSO Council Small Team on DNS Abuse held a <u>session</u> to share the expected outcomes of the effort to be included in its report. The team discussed its multi-pronged approach, where outreach and collaboration with the community, alongside possible contractual negotiations, could be done in parallel. In addition, the GNSO Council could pursue a PDP if further mitigations are needed. The small team will deliver its report to the GNSO Council shortly after ICANN75. The GNSO Council then determines whether it will pursue any recommendations suggested in the report.

#### **GNSO Council Small Team: EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2**

The EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2 Small Team organized two sessions during ICANN75. The <u>first session</u> focused on an ICANN org <u>overview</u> of the WHOIS Disclosure System Design Paper, followed by a question and answer session. The design paper outlines a system that would simplify the process for submitting and receiving requests for nonpublic gTLD registration data for both requestors and ICANN-accredited registrars. The design was requested by the GNSO Council to inform its discussions with the ICANN Board regarding the System for Standardized Access and Disclosure to Nonpublic gTLD Registration Data recommendations. The <u>second session</u> allowed the small team to start its consideration of the design and whether to recommend that the GNSO Council confirms its support to the ICANN Board to move forward with the implementation of the WHOIS Disclosure System.

#### **GNSO Council Meeting**

During Part 1 of its meeting on 21 September 2022, the GNSO Council considered:

- An update from Public Technical Identifiers
- Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team assignments 1 (enforcement and reporting) and 2 (measurement of accuracy) write-ups and a process for finding a new chair
- Proposed updates to the GNSO Operating Procedures: working group self-assessment and GNSO statement of interest procedures
- PDP improvements tracker next steps
- Proposed design of the WHOIS Disclosure System and next steps for the GNSO Council
- Update from the Universal Acceptance Steering Group
- Confirmation of approach for term limits for the GNSO liaison to the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

The GNSO Council also bid farewell to outgoing councilors.

During <u>Part 2</u> of its meeting, following the induction of new councilors, the GNSO Council held its annual election for GNSO chair.

#### **Wrap-Up Session**

The GNSO Council held a <u>wrap-up session</u> on 22 September 2022 focused on:

- Review of GNSO Council liaisons and GNSO Council committee leadership open positions
- Potential next steps on the WHOIS Disclosure System
- GNSO Council response to the GAC ICANN75 Communiqué
- Open Public Comment proceedings of potential interest to the GNSO Council
- The upcoming GNSO Council Strategic Planning Session
- · Potential evolution of the GNSO Council Standing Committee on the ICANN Budget and Operating Plan
- Next steps on PDP improvements

## **Additional Activities**

During ICANN75, the GNSO held bilateral sessions with the ICANN Board, the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), and the GAC.

The ICANN Board and GNSO Council discussed:

- · Collaborative actions the ICANN community, Board, and org can undertake to advance strategic priorities
- PDP Improvements Tracker
- WHOIS Disclosure System

## **Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)**

#### The ALAC and GNSO Council discussed:

- DNS abuse, including an update from the GNSO Council Small Team on DNS Abuse
- Observations of the Operational Design Phase (ODP) concept

The GAC and GNSO Council discussed:

- WHOIS Disclosure System
- Subsequent rounds of new gTLDs
- DNS abuse
- gTLD registration data accuracy

A GNSO Working Session was held on 18 September 2022.

Part 1 focused on:

- Evolution of the Multistakeholder Model Project
- Preparation for bilateral sessions
- GNSO chair candidate question and answer session

#### Part 2 focused on:

- ICANN org Global Domains and Strategy update and dialogue
- PDP Improvements Survey Report
- Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) dialogue

After GNSO Council approval of policy recommendations on these topics, work on the following initiatives continues.

#### **New gTLD SubPro PDP**

On 12 September 2021, the ICANN Board directed ICANN org to initiate an ODP for the outputs of the GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) PDP Final Report. The ODP began in December 2021. It is expected to support ICANN Board consideration of the outputs. During ICANN75, the ICANN org ODP team held a <u>session</u> to provide an update on the work in progress, provide an overview of the planned business process design, and answer questions about the ODP.

#### **RPMs PDP**

On 16 January 2022, the ICANN Board adopted the Phase 1 consensus recommendations from the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs PDP. Phase 2 of the RPMs PDP will be a review of the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP). To assist the GNSO Council in developing the charter and scope of work for Phase 2, ICANN org drafted a Policy Status Report on the UDRP. The Policy Status Report provides an overview of the UDRP to support GNSO assessment of the effectiveness of the UDRP for its intended purposes. The Policy Status Report was published for Public Comment. Taking into account Public Comment submissions, the final Policy Status Report was presented for the consideration of the GNSO Council during the 25 August 2022 meeting.

## **EPDP-IGOs**

The EPDP on Specific Curative Rights Protections for Intergovernmental Organizations (EPDP-IGOs) delivered its Final Report to the GNSO Council on 4 April 2022. During ICANN74, the GNSO Council approved and recommended that the ICANN Board adopt all five final EPDP-IGOs recommendations as documented in the Final Report. In October 2022, a Public Comment proceeding will be opened on the consensus recommendations in preparation for ICANN Board consideration.

## **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 membership meeting and received an update on the work of the GNSO Council Small Team on DNS Abuse, a preview of discussions at the Contracted Parties Summit, and an update on discussions with European Union Data Protection Authorities. The CPH held a joint session with the Commercial Stakeholder Group and discussed next steps on DNS abuse. The RrSG and the RySG both held membership sessions and continued discussions on DNS abuse and plans for the upcoming Contracted Parties Summit.

#### NCPH

The Non-Contracted Parties House (NCPH) consists of two stakeholder groups: the **Commercial Stakeholder Group** (CSG) and the Noncommercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG). The CSG has three constituencies, and the NCSG has two constituencies. The NCPH did not hold a session during ICANN75.

#### CSG

During the CSG Membership Session, ICANN org provided updates about new gTLD auction proceeds and prioritization plans. There was also discussion about gTLD registration data accuracy.

The *Business Constituency* session included a presentation about phishing trends and policy discussions. ICANN Contractual Compliance also joined the session.

The *Intellectual Property Constituency* session included updates from GNSO councilors, updates on open Public Comment proceedings, and ICANN org updates on the Pilot Holistic Review.

The Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency (ISPCP) session included GNSO Council updates, development of ISPCP positions on gTLD registration data accuracy scoping, and a presentation from ICANN org on the Pilot Holistic Review.

#### NCSG

During the NCSG Membership Session, ICANN org provided an update on the Policy Transition Program. In addition, the NCSG held discussions about policy strategy and completed its leadership transition. The NCSG Policy Session included updates from representatives participating in the various GNSO PDPs and a review of the GNSO Council agenda.

The *Noncommercial Users Constituency* held a membership session which included a discussion about the Applicant Support Program, the NCSG draft position on DNS abuse, and a presentation on privacy.

The *Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency (NPOC)* held a membership session which included discussions on rebalancing the ICANN Nominating Committee, current policy development in which NPOC is participating, and the sustainability of ICANN.

## **Next Steps**

The GNSO Council and GNSO working groups will return to their regular work schedules between ICANN meetings. GNSO community leaders will begin preparations for ICANN76 shortly.

## **Resources**

- GNSO website
- <u>GNSO workspace</u>
- GNSO news
- GNSO calendar
- GNSO on Twitter
- ICANN Learn course about the GNSO



The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), leaders of the Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOS), liaisons, and At-Large members held 17 sessions in the three At-Large work streams of policy, outreach and engagement, and operations. The sessions included two policy sessions, one capacity building session, two operations sessions, five joint sessions with Supporting Organizations (SOs) and other Advisory Committees (ACs), four RALO sessions, an At-Large Welcome Session, and two wrap-up sessions. There were also several At-Large leadership position changes, including At-Large chair.

## **Additional Activities**

## **Policy Work Stream**

Two At-Large sessions within the policy work stream focused on At-Large positions related to policy development.

## **At-Large Policy Update**

This session provided updates related to At-Large policy advice priorities. The discussion addressed At-Large positions related to the New Generic Top-Level Domain Subsequent Procedures Operational Design Phase. Various Generic Names Supporting Organization policy development processes and scoping efforts were also discussed. The At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group developed the content for this session.

#### **A Perspective on IDNs**

This session focused on increasing the number of Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs). Presentations focused on addressing the technical and operational challenges, following relevant international standards and protocols, and implementing community-developed rules to determine the validity of IDNs from a language and script perspective. Individual end user perceptions on the availability and usability of IDNs were also discussed in light of a recent At-Large survey on IDNs and Universal Acceptance among end users in the Hindi language.

#### **Outreach, Engagement, and Capacity Building Work Stream**

During ICANN75, outreach and engagement activities included an Asian, Australasian, and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO) student briefing that provided approximately 30 Malaysian university students an overview of ICANN, At-Large, and APRALO.

#### At-Large Capacity Building Workshop: The Art of Leadership

This interactive session, which is part of the At-Large Capacity Building Workshop series, focused on how shared knowledge and skills 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 provided valuable insights into the skill sets of successful leaders.

#### **RALO Coordination**

The leadership of the RALOs held two coordination sessions. The first-ever RALO Policy Session focused on end user impacts of the General Data Protection Regulation. The second RALO coordination session focused on strategic goals for outreach and engagement, including the upcoming RALO general assemblies and operational issues related to At-Large Structures and Individual Member mobilization.

#### **AFRALO**

Members of the African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO) and African At-Large community discussed a statement on Universal Acceptance as a gateway to accessing the Internet in local languages.

## **APRALO**

The APRALO session addressed operational issues and provided an opportunity for ICANN org Global Stakeholder Engagement to update members.

#### **Operations Work Stream**

At-Large held several sessions about operational issues including a welcome session and two wrap-up sessions that focused on the highlights of ICANN75 and the change of At-Large leadership. In addition, two other sessions focused on At-Large positions regarding ICANN org operations and governance work.

## **At-Large Operations Update**

This session provided updates about At-Large operational and governance priorities including At-Large perspectives on the Evolution of the Multistakeholder Model Project and its positions related to the ICANN org Prioritization Framework Pilot Project. There was also a review of the annual cycle of Public Comment proceedings and advice related to ICANN org operations and governance matters. The At-Large Operations, Finance, and Budget Working Group developed the content for this session.

## **ICANN Leadership Diversity Survey**

This session focused on the results of an ICANN community leadership diversity survey in the context of the Work Stream 2 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 seven diversity categories.

## **Joint Sessions**

Meeting with other ACs, SOs, and the ICANN Board is important to the ALAC because it allows for open dialogue and new perspectives. During ICANN75, the ALAC held several joint sessions:

- The ALAC met twice with members of the Governmental Advisory Committee. The first session highlighted ALAC and GAC cooperation in the area of capacity building. The second session included discussions on Internet fragmentation, closed generics, and examples of local ALAC and GAC cooperation.
- The ALAC and the Security and Stability Advisory Committee discussed issues of mutual importance, including the Name Collision Analysis Project.
- The ALAC and the GNSO Council discussed DNS abuse, specifically the work of the GNSO Council Small Team on DNS Abuse, and observations regarding the Operational Design Phase concept for new gTLD subsequent procedures, and the System for Standardized Access and Disclosure.
- The ALAC and the ICANN Board discussed ALAC Advice on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures ODP and advice improvements.

## **Next Steps**

Over the next several months, the ALAC and the At-Large working groups will continue their regular work on policy, outreach and engagement, and operations activities. The RALO leaders will continue planning for three general assemblies.

## Resources

#### **At-Large Web Pages**

- <u>Membership</u>
- Policy Summary

## **At-Large Workspaces**

- ALAC workspace
- ALAC Policy Advice Development
- <u>At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group</u>
- <u>At-Large Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group</u>
- <u>At-Large meetings</u>
- <u>At-Large governance</u>

## **At-Large Social Media**

- Facebook
- <u>Twitter</u>
- YouTube



The GAC leveraged ICANN75 to conduct more than 23 hours of open sessions and discussions, including eight hours of discussions on substantive and operational topics and another six hours devoted to GAC Communiqué drafting. Those efforts culminated in the publication of the <u>GAC ICANN75 Communiqué</u> on 26 September 2022.

The GAC ICANN75 Communiqué included GAC statements regarding seven different "Issues of Importance" to governments including the topics of subsequent rounds of new generic top-level domains (gTLDs), digital inclusion and Internet connectivity, ICANN strategic planning, the WHOIS Disclosure System, Domain Name System (DNS) abuse mitigation, Internationalized Domain Names, Universal Acceptance, and accuracy of gTLD registration data.

During ICANN75, the GAC also concluded chair and vice chair elections. All elected candidates will begin their terms at the conclusion of ICANN76 in March 2023.

## **Additional Activities**

## **Capacity Building Weekend (CBW)**

The GAC conducted a well-attended, productive, and informational capacity-building event from 17–18 September 2022 on topics of interest to GAC participants, including:

1. Onboarding basics (e.g., describing the GAC, its operations, and its place in the ICANN multistakeholder community)

2. Important GAC topics (e.g., subsequent rounds of new gTLDs, DNS abuse mitigation, and WHOIS/Registration Directory Service matters)

**3**. Overview of the DNS (e.g., introduction to country code top-level and gTLD registries and the roles and responsibilities of registries and registrars in the DNS)

The CBW was an opportunity for GAC participants to learn the basics or increase their knowledge on structural and operational aspects of the ICANN multistakeholder model. It was also a chance for GAC attendees to become acquainted with different ICANN community groups in order to facilitate future dialogue and to share experiences and best practices to enhance GAC internal collaboration on ICANN matters.

In light of the positive feedback received, the GAC Underserved Regions Working Group is contemplating organizing online capacity building sessions before the next educational event during ICANN76.

## **Bilateral Sessions**

The GAC conducted bilateral sessions with several ICANN community groups, including the ICANN Board, the At-Large Advisory Committee, the Country Code Names Supporting Organization, and members of the Generic Names Supporting Organization, including the GNSO Council leadership.

With the ICANN Board, the GAC discussed collaborative actions the ICANN community, Board, and org should undertake to advance strategic priorities. The two groups also discussed GAC interest in the distinct topics of GAC Advice, global Internet access and connectivity, the proposed WHOIS Disclosure System, DNS abuse mitigation, and compliance enforcement. ICANN Board comments and reactions to GAC statements and questions are available in the transcript of this session appended to the GAC ICANN75 Communiqué.

With the ALAC, the GAC explored topics of mutual interest, including: Internet fragmentation; subsequent rounds of new gTLDs; closed generics, including an upcoming facilitated dialogue with the GNSO Council; and local cross-community cooperation.

With the ccNSO, GAC members learned about ongoing policy development and the ccNSO DNS Abuse Standing Committee.

With members of the GNSO, GAC participants discussed matters related to the proposed WHOIS Disclosure System; subsequent rounds of new gTLDs, including the Operational Design Phase, the GNSO Guidance Process on Applicant Support, and closed generics; DNS abuse; and the accuracy of gTLD registration data.

## Planning

The GAC tailored its agenda to high priority topics while maintaining flexibility for GAC attendees to participate in other activities. This planning also allowed GAC member representatives to devote appropriate time for the discussions needed to develop the GAC ICANN75 Communiqué. Particular topics featured during targeted GAC sessions included DNS abuse mitigation, subsequent rounds of new gTLDs, and WHOIS and gTLD registration data matters.

GAC member representatives also contributed to the planning and implementation of the plenary session. The session, inspired by a GAC proposal, explored issues surrounding Internet fragmentation, the DNS, and ICANN. GAC delegates also had the opportunity to attend the session on geopolitical, legislative, and regulatory developments.

Building on recent virtual-only ICANN Public Meeting experiences, the GAC again utilized ICANN org-provided real-time interpretation services during all GAC plenary sessions in the six United Nations languages and Portuguese.

During ICANN75, the GAC welcomed its 180th member government, Saudi Arabia. Of the 180 member governments and 38 observer organizations, representatives from 76 member governments and six observer organizations participated in ICANN75.

## Resources

More detailed information about GAC sessions during ICANN75, including briefings, presentations, transcripts, and recordings can be found on this <u>webpage</u>.



## **Activities**

The RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus had three work sessions throughout the week to advance work items and discuss various internal matters, including updates to two RSSAC publications: "RSSAC001: Advisory on Service Expectation of Root Servers" and "RSSAC002v4: RSSAC Advisory on Measurements of the Root Server System." In addition, the RSSAC conducted its monthly meeting. The RSSAC Caucus also met.

The RSSAC offered an information session about the Root Server System (RSS) and received an update from the ICANN Government and International Governmental Organizations Engagement team on recent legislative and regulatory developments.

## **Next Steps**

The <u>RSSAC Caucus</u> consists of DNS 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 appoints RSSAC Caucus members through the RSSAC Caucus Membership Committee. All RSSAC members are members of the RSSAC Caucus. There are over 100 members of the RSSAC Caucus from more than 20 countries.

There are currently two active <u>work parties</u> in the RSSAC Caucus. The next RSSAC Caucus meeting will be conducted in conjunction with Internet Engineering Task Force 116 in Yokohama, Japan, on Sunday, 26 March 2023.

## Resources

All RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus work sessions, the RSS information session, the joint session of the ICANN Board and RSSAC, the RSSAC meeting, and the RSSAC Caucus meeting were open to observers:

- <u>RSSAC Work Session</u>
- RSSAC Caucus Work Sessions: <u>Part 1</u> and <u>Part 2</u>
- <u>RSSAC Discussion on Recent Legislative/Regulatory Activities</u>
- Joint Session: ICANN Board and RSSAC
- <u>RSS Information Session</u>
- <u>RSSAC Caucus Meeting</u>
- <u>RSSAC Meeting</u>
- For more information, including meeting minutes and a publications library, please visit the **RSSAC webpage**.

## **Activities**

The SSAC held its Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and Security Workshop during ICANN75. This workshop included a discussion with presenters actively engaged in DNSSEC deployment and other Internet security issues. Registries, registrars, Internet service providers (ISP), 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 resources.

During ICANN75, the workshop was divided into three sessions. Session one contained general presentations on DNSSEC, novel usages, and proposals to solve some bottlenecks in DNSSEC. Session two focused on DNSSEC provision automation by registries, registrars, and handling multiple signing parties. Session three featured presentations on Root Zone DNSSEC and the "Knowledge-sharing and Instantiation Norms for DNS and Naming Security" initiative.

The SSAC also held a session to provide updates on topics it is currently examining:

- Detailed presentations on SAC121: SSAC Briefing on Routing Security and SAC120: SSAC Input to the Generic Names Supporting Organization Expedited Policy Development Process on Internationalized Domain Names
- Name Collision Analysis Project
- Delegation signer record automation
- Evolution of DNS resolution

The SSAC also held bilateral sessions with the Public Safety Working Group of the Governmental Advisory Committee, the Root Server System Advisory Committee, the At-Large Advisory Committee, and the Generic Names Supporting Organization Council.

## **Next Steps**

The DNSSEC and Security Workshop Program Committee will plan the next DNSSEC and Security Workshop to be held during ICANN76. The SSAC will also continue to develop reports, advisories, and comments on a range of topics.

## Resources

- DNSSEC and Security Workshop: Part 1, Part 2, and Part 3
- <u>NCAP Discussion Group workspace</u>
- <u>SSAC Introduction</u>
- <u>SSAC Operational Procedures</u>
- <u>SSAC publications</u>
- <u>SSAC website</u>