

ICANN70 Policy Outcomes Report



ICANN|70
VIRTUAL COMMUNITY FORUM

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A Successful ICANN70



Thank you very much for participating in the ICANN70 Virtual Community Forum!

We hope the fourth virtual ICANN Public Meeting allowed for dynamic discussions and the continuation of substantive work. We appreciate the proactive engagement and robust participation of our global community.

This ICANN70 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 resiliency of the global Internet. The ICANN organization is proud to facilitate this work and to support the core, consensus-driven policy and advice development work of the community by enabling efficient and effective bottom-up participation in the multistakeholder model.

We look forward to seeing you online during the ICANN71 Virtual Policy Forum.

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

Registry Voluntary Commitments: Getting it Right

Overview

Registry Voluntary Commitments (RVCs), formerly known as Voluntary Public Interest Commitments (PICs), are recommended in the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process (PDP) Final Report as the primary means by which registries will make voluntary commitments to the community regarding a particular gTLD. In the 2012 New gTLD Program, these commitments were often proposed to address concerns expressed by the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC).

In both cases, there is a question about their utility as a means for registry operators to make clear contractual commitments to the wider community as well as their enforceability by ICANN. Recently, the ICANN Board asked the GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group if, in recommending the continued use of RVCs, it had considered the post-IANA Stewardship Transition ICANN Bylaws that specifically limit its contracting powers to what is in service of its mission and prohibit ICANN from passing judgment on content. This plenary session discussed the pros and cons of RVCs as well as possible improvements moving forward into implementation.

Program

GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group Co-Chair Jeff Neuman provided an overview of the topic, and At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) Vice Chair Jonathan Zuck moderated the [plenary session](#). Participants included:

- Greg Shatan, ALAC
- Alan Greenberg, At-Large community
- Anne Aikman-Scalese, Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC)
- Kathy Kleiman, Noncommercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG)
- Sheri Falcon, Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG)
- Becky Burr, ICANN Board
- Jamie Hedlund, ICANN Contractual Compliance

Alan Greenberg and Kathy Kleiman highlighted different viewpoints about the use of RVCs in light of some controversial examples. Greg Shatan and Kathy Kleiman discussed concerns about enforceability in light of the ICANN Bylaws. Becky Burr commented on other options for enforceability. Jamie Hedlund noted that ICANN Contractual Compliance will enforce clear and unambiguous RVCs that are incorporated into a registry operator contract. Hedlund also noted that, since 2012, there have only been two cases in which a panel has been constituted pursuant to the PIC Dispute Resolution Process, and as a result, ICANN made minor revisions to the PICDRP to increase transparency. Alan Greenberg and Anne Aikman-Scalese also described ways in which RVCs could be enforced, including via the PIC Dispute Resolution Process.

Sheri Falcon explained how registry operators are updating their RVCs when they are no longer fit for purpose and how registry operators are enhancing or revising existing RVCs. The discussants also participated in a lively chat exchange and a question-and-answer session with participants. In light of the recommendations from the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process, which will now be presented to the ICANN Board for consideration, the ICANN community expects to continue its discussion of RVCs and the role of ICANN Contractual Compliance.

Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

The Address Supporting Organization Address Council (ASO AC) did not convene during ICANN70.

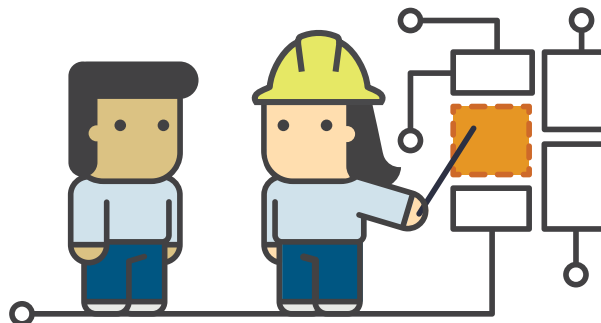
Next Steps

ASO AC monthly teleconferences are open to observers. For more information, including the teleconference schedule, observer privileges, and remote participation details, read [here](#).

The ASO conducts policy development on Regional Internet Registry (RIR) community mailing lists and at RIR meetings. For more information about current regional policy development work, please refer to the [latest ASO AC update](#). To stay informed about regional policy developments, subscribe to an RIR community mailing list.

Resources

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



Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

Decisions and Outcomes

ICANN70 marked a time of transition for the ccNSO Council with five outgoing councilors, including the chair of the ccNSO, and five newly appointed councilors. On Thursday, 25 March 2021, the ccNSO Council appointed Alejandra Reynoso (.gt) as chair and Jordan Carter (.nz) and Pablo Rodriguez (.pr) as vice chairs of the ccNSO Council through ICANN73. Read more about the ccNSO Council [here](#).

The [ccNSO Members Meeting](#) focused on the following sessions:

- **[Country Code Top-Level Domains \(ccTLDs\) and the Future](#)**

ccTLD stakeholders expect ccTLD operators to be resilient and future-proof. The keynote address by Olaf Kolkman during the **first part** of this session explored what is needed to protect and enhance the future of the Internet. Roelof Meijer (.nl), Anil Kumar Jain (.in), and Frederico Neves (.br) presented about major developments and how to address them. During the **second part** of the session, the audience and panelists exchanged views on making ccTLDs future-proof.

- **[Question-and-Answer Session: ccTLD-Associated ICANN Board Members](#)**

ccNSO-appointed ICANN Board members, Patricio Poblete and Nigel Roberts, attended a question-and-answer session to share their experiences as ICANN Board members. ICANN Board Chair Maarten Botterman, Vice Chair León Sánchez, and other ICANN Board members associated with the ccTLD community, including Becky Burr, Danko Jevtović, and Lito Ibarra also contributed to the discussion.

Tech Day during ICANN70 featured greater engagement with the broader community. The detailed ccNSO schedule, including a summary of topics covered, is available on the [ccNSO workspace](#).

Additional Activities

Although not all ccNSO working groups and committees met during ICANN70, they continued their work according to their regular schedule. A few highlights from the ccNSO working groups and committees include:

ccPDP3: Retirement of ccTLDs and Review Mechanisms

Phase 1: ccPDP3 Working Group on the Process to Retire ccTLDs (ccPDP3-RET)

The third ccNSO Policy Development Process (ccPDP3) is tasked with developing and proposing policy for the retirement of ccTLDs. In February 2021, the ccPDP3-RET Working Group concluded its work by unanimously supporting the policy recommendations pertaining to the retirement of ccTLDs. The Public Comment proceeding for the Initial Report on the Retirement of ccTLDs closed on Wednesday, 14 April 2021. Read more about the ccPDP3-RET request for Public Comment [here](#).

Phase 2: ccPDP3 Review Mechanisms Working Group (ccPDP3-RM)

The ccPDP3-RM Working Group focuses on the development of a review mechanism for decisions regarding the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs. To date, the group has identified:

- Decisions subject to such a review mechanism.
- Who has standing to submit a review.
- What applicable internal mechanisms for redress exist.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

Currently, the working group discusses the processes and procedural requirements for the review mechanism itself. The working group prefers a two-step mechanism, including a review by an independent examiner and building upon the internal IANA complaint process. The two-step approach is still under discussion. For more information, visit the [ccPDP3-RM workspace](#).

ccPDP4: (De)selection of IDN ccTLD Strings

The fourth ccNSO PDP (ccPDP4) will provide recommendations to the ICANN Board regarding the process to replace the Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLD Fast Track Process, which currently guides the selection process of IDN ccTLD strings.

The ccPDP4 Working Group on IDN ccTLD Strings began its review of the 2013 ccNSO policy proposals for IDN ccTLD string selection criteria, processes, and required documentation. The 2013 policy proposals did not include the topic of variant management.

The ccPDP4 variant management subgroup recently began working in parallel to the ccPDP4 Working Group, with the expectation that two additional subgroups will be formed: one to consider confusing similarities and the second to define the trigger for the deselection of IDN ccTLDs.

Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC)

For many years, ccTLD managers have contributed to the work of Internet governance-related matters. To bring this engagement to the next level, the ccNSO created the IGLC. The IGLC takes an active role in facilitating the input of ccTLD managers in Internet governance-related processes.

The IGLC focuses on eight topics relevant to ccTLDs. These topics are cybersecurity, capacity building and inclusion, digital divide, IDNs, local content, regulations, the role of the ccTLDs as promoters of Internet Governance Forum dialogues, and technical aspects of a ccTLD. During ICANN70, IGLC members and participants addressed the topic of digital sovereignty. Continue to check the [IGLC workspace](#) for updates on the activities of the IGLC.

Strategic and Operational Planning Committee (SOPC)

The purpose of the [SOPC](#) is to coordinate and organize participation of ccTLD managers in ICANN strategic and operational planning processes. In February 2021, the SOPC submitted its feedback on the ICANN Fiscal Years 2022-2026 Draft Operating and Financial Plan and Fiscal Year 2022 Draft Operating Plan and Budget. Read more [here](#).

Next Steps

ccNSO members convened on Tuesday, 23 March 2021, to further discuss the [governance structure of the ccNSO](#). Their discussions focused on ccNSO decision-making processes, roles, and interaction between the ccNSO Council and ccNSO members. The session was moderated by Chris Disspain. The outcome of the session will provide the basis for further work on these topics by the ccNSO Council and the ccNSO Guidelines Review Committee (GRC). On Thursday, 25 March 2021, the ccNSO Council launched a call for volunteers for a group that will work on revising the 2004 [Rules of the ccNSO](#), which no longer reflect the evolved roles and responsibilities of the ccNSO Council and ccNSO membership.

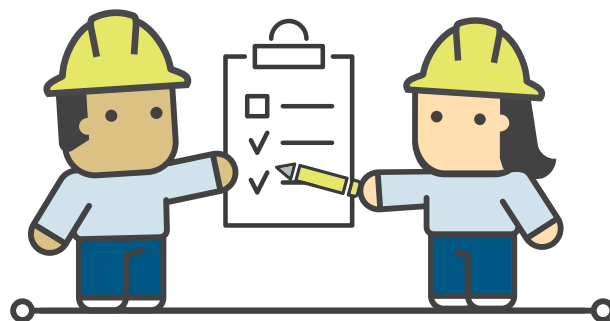
Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

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 global platform to discuss topics and issues of concern, build consensus and technical cooperation, and facilitate the development of voluntary best practices for ccTLD managers. Membership in the ccNSO is open to all ccTLD managers responsible for managing an ISO 3166-1 ccTLD.

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

- All ccNSO Council documents, minutes of meetings, resolutions, and discussions are published on the **ccNSO Council workspace**.
- Enroll in the “Introductory Course about the ccNSO.” Go to **ICANN Learn**, where you can read more about the ccNSO, practice what you have learned through quizzes, and find additional resources.
- 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**.



Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

Decisions and Outcomes

During ICANN70, the GNSO organized 20 sessions including GNSO policy development process (PDP) working group sessions, sessions devoted to stakeholder group and constituency work, GNSO Council meetings, and bilateral sessions with other ICANN community groups.

EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data

The Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Registration Data Phase 2A Team is responsible for reviewing two topics assigned by the GNSO Council: (1) The differentiation of legal vs. natural person registration data, and (2) the feasibility of unique contacts to have a uniform anonymized email address.

During the **GNSO Council meeting** on Thursday, 24 March 2021, EPDP Phase 2A Chair Keith Drazek provided an update. Drazek noted that the team is awaiting feedback from international law firm Bird & Bird to inform its response to GNSO Council questions. Drazek explained the team will need additional time to review the legal guidance and determine any relevant updates to its work. Drazek further noted that it is unclear whether the team will reach consensus on guidance for registrars who wish to differentiate between legal and natural persons this issue or on the feasibility of unique contacts to have a uniform anonymized email address. Following the receipt and review of legal advice, the indication of eventual consensus will become clearer. Drazek concluded by committing to an update during the next GNSO Council meeting.

During its public meeting, the ICANN Board directed ICANN org to initiate an Operational Design Phase (ODP) for EPDP Phase 2 recommendations related to the System for Standardized Access/Disclosure to Nonpublic gTLD Registration Data (SSAD). The ICANN Board provided **information** regarding the SSAD ODP, including timing and scope.

PDP to Review the Transfer Policy

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

- Phase 1A - Form of Authorization and AuthInfo Codes
- Phase 1B - Change of Registrant
- Phase 2 - Transfer Emergency Action Contact (TEAC) and reversing inter-registrar transfers, Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy (TDRP), NACKing transfers, and ICANN-approved transfers

During ICANN70, the GNSO Council voted to approve the charter for this PDP. On Monday, 22 March 2021, ICANN org Policy Development Support team members provided **additional information** about the PDP, including an overview of the Transfer Policy and the issues that will be addressed by the PDP. The session also featured contributions from community members with different perspectives on why it is important for the broader ICANN community to be involved.

ICANN Supporting Organizations, Advisory Committees, and GNSO Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies will appoint a limited number of members and alternates to the working group. An Expression of Interest process has started to identify a chair for the working group.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

GNSO Council Meeting

The GNSO Council held a [meeting](#) on Thursday, 24 March 2021, to discuss the following topics:

- ICANN Nominating Committee outreach
- EPDP Phase 2A status update
- Debrief on the consultation with the ICANN Board on the financial sustainability of the SSAD

The GNSO Council also passed [resolutions](#) about the following topics:

- Approval of Recommendation 4 in the IANA Functions Review Final Report, which recommends an IANA Naming Functions Contract amendment
- Approval of the charter for the PDP to review the Transfer Policy
- Confirmation of the Recommendations Report to the ICANN Board regarding adoption of relevant outputs from the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP

Ongoing Work

While there were no dedicated sessions during ICANN70 for the following [GNSO projects](#), work continues on these initiatives:

New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP

The GNSO Council confirmed the Recommendations Report to the ICANN Board during the Wednesday, 24 March 2021, GNSO Council meeting. After, the GNSO Council delivered the Recommendations Report and Final Report of the PDP to the ICANN Board for its consideration. The ICANN Board plans a Public Comment proceeding to support its consideration of the recommendations.

Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs PDP

The GNSO Council Recommendations Report has been delivered to the ICANN Board. The ICANN Board plans a Public Comment proceeding to support its consideration of the recommendations.

IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms

The International Governmental Organization (IGO) Work Track began meeting in February 2021, and its preliminary discussions are critical in developing an appropriate work plan for GNSO Council consideration.

Operational Work Track to Address the Impacts from IDN Guidelines 4.0

A team from the Contracted Parties House is in the process of developing suggested revisions to the Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) guidelines and identifying elements that should be removed for resolution in policy development.

EPDP on IDNs

A drafting team is in the process of developing a draft charter and initiation request for an EPDP to address the impacts from the IDN variant TLD recommendations.

PDP 3.0

As the GNSO Council scopes and initiates new GNSO policy development efforts, it is actively applying PDP 3.0 improvements to enhance the effectiveness of GNSO projects.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

Additional Activities

The GNSO Council and the ICANN Board held a **joint session** on Thursday, 1 April 2021, focused on the:

- PDP Phase 2 Consultation on a SSAD and ODP.
- ODP for New gTLD Subsequent Procedures.

The GNSO Council **met** with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) on Wednesday, 24 March 2021, to discuss:

- EPDP Phases 2 and 2A and SSAD.
- DNS abuse.
- Accuracy Scoping Team.
- Next steps for collaborating on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures.

The GNSO Council **met** with the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council on Wednesday, 17 March 2021, to discuss:

- The fourth ccNSO PDP on the (de)selection of IDN ccTLD strings.
- IDN ccTLD membership.
- GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures.
- GNSO Standing Committee on Budget and Operations and ccNSO Strategic and Operational Planning Committee work on ICANN budgets.
- The European Union Revised Directive on Security of Network and Information Systems (NIS2) and Digital Services Act (DSA).
- Public Technical Identifiers (PTI) and the Empowered Community.
- The next cycle of Organizational and Specific Reviews.

A number of GNSO Stakeholder Group and Constituency sessions were held during ICANN70. Some groups held outreach sessions for the broader community. The Contracted Parties House (CPH) DNS Abuse Working Group held a community **outreach session** on Monday, 22 March 2021, to provide an update on its work and requested input from the community on issues related to DNS abuse. In addition, the Brand Registry Group of the Registries Stakeholder Group provided an **update** on Monday, 22 March 2021, highlighting opportunities in the dotBrand space.

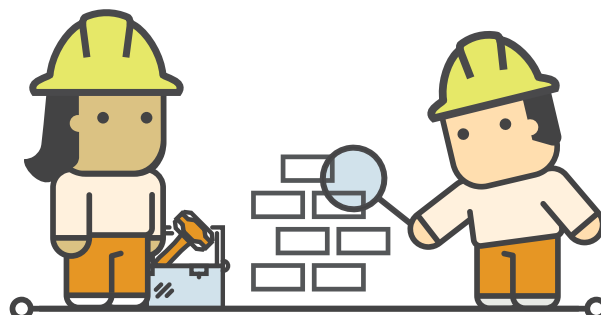
Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

Next Steps

The GNSO Council and GNSO working groups will return to their regular work schedules. GNSO community leaders are working to prepare for ICANN71.

Resources

- [GNSO Website](#)
- [GNSO Workspace](#)
- [GNSO News](#)
- [GNSO Calendar](#)
- [GNSO on Twitter](#)
- Newcomers to the GNSO are encouraged to enroll in the [ICANN Learn](#) course, “Get to Know the GNSO”.



At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Decisions and Outcomes

During the ICANN70 Virtual Community Forum, At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) members and Regional At-Large Organization (RALO) leaders held nine sessions organized under three tracks: At-Large policy, outreach and engagement, and operations. The highlights include:

Track One: At-Large Policy

During ICANN70, At-Large held three policy sessions on the topics of 1) the future of the ICANN mandate and the development of the DNS; 2) new legislation and regulation, challenges and opportunities for the ICANN multistakeholder model, and 3) applicant support.

The Future of the DNS

This At-Large policy session on “The Future of the ICANN Mandate and the Development of the DNS: Voices of the Next Generation” explored the future of the Internet from an ICANN policy and technical perspective. ALAC member from the European At-Large Regional Organization (EURALO) Matthias Hudobnik moderated the session. The panel comprised former NextGen@ICANN participants, ICANN Fellows, and third At-Large Summit (ATLAS III) participants who are currently engaged with ICANN community groups. During the session, the panelists discussed the following questions:

- Should the ICANN mandate be adapted in terms of future developments in cyberspace?
- How might the Domain Name System (DNS) change to tackle future cybersecurity concerns?
- How can all interested stakeholders participate in ICANN policy development processes (PDPs), and how can transparency be ensured?

Following ICANN70, the At-Large community will continue its discussion on the future of ICANN mandate and the development of the DNS.

Reimagining the Role of ICANN and Responding to National Pressures

At-Large hosted a cross-community policy roundtable on the topic of the “Reimagining the Role of ICANN and Responding to National Pressures”, led by ALAC delegate from the African region to the ICANN Nominating Committee, Hadia Elminiawi. The session explored how new national legislation and regulation can affect the ICANN multistakeholder model. The session introduced the challenges and opportunities and discussed how the ICANN multistakeholder model can be agile in the face of changes. This session featured members from different ICANN communities and ICANN Board members sharing different stakeholder perspectives. As an outcome, the session determined that collaboration and communication are necessary, especially in terms of education. The At-Large community, specifically the RALOs and At-Large Structures, is a useful conduit to that end.

Applicant Support

ALAC Vice Chair for Policy Jonathan Zuck and Hadia Elminiawi moderated the third At-Large policy session. The session featured panelists from the ALAC, the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), and the ICANN Board in an effort to identify goals for the New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Applicant Support Program. This session focused on developing a set of metrics that defined what a successful program could look like. The panelists offered varying viewpoints and discussed factors such as the number of applicants for support, number of approved applications and delegated strings, and geographic distribution of applicants as indicators of success. The At-Large community will continue to discuss community objectives for applicant support, including possible goals and measures of success.

At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Track Two: At-Large Outreach and Engagement

RALO Activities

The At-Large community consists of over 250 At-Large Structures (ALSes), 145 individuals, and 20 observers in the five RALOs. During ICANN70, RALO leaders participated in regional leadership activities to focus on policy topics and outreach and engagement activities.

LACRALO held a virtual General Assembly consisting of four sessions. On Monday, 15 March 2021, LACRALO members and leadership met to discuss institutional issues as well as the implementation of the LACRALO Rules of Procedure. The virtual General Assembly featured speeches by ICANN org executives and ICANN Board members from the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region. On Wednesday, 17 March 2021, there was a capacity-building session for LACRALO members to strengthen skills needed to participate in At-Large policy activities. The policy area of focus during this training session was Universal Acceptance. The capacity building session was moderated by LACRALO member Jose Arce and a professional facilitator. On Monday, 22 March 2021, there was a LACRALO Roundtable open to the ICANN community, which discussed the challenges and opportunities in the region and what the LACRALO regional strategy might focus on over the next five years. Finally, the LACRALO Social Event on Wednesday, 24 March 2021, highlighted the cultures of LACRALO. The social event featured a virtual Mexican ballet performance by dance group Folklorico Nuevo Sol, a focus on the cultures of the LAC region, and a quiz.

The African community held the Joint African RALO-AfrICANN meeting on Wednesday, 24 March 2021, to discuss regional issues and finalize their joint statement, “[ICANN Multistakeholder Model and the Increase in National Legislation and Regulation](#)”. The session was the 25th Joint AFRALO-AfrICANN meeting since 2010.

At-Large Activities

The At-Large Leadership Wrap-Up Session featured a preview of two new At-Large ICANN Learn Courses. “ICANN At-Large: Welcome to Our World” and “At-Large Policy Development at ICANN: A Guide to Participants” were developed in advance of ICANN70 and will be launched soon.

The At-Large Social Media Working Group (SMWG), ICANN Fellows, and NextGen@ICANN program participants collaborated on ICANN70 regional and virtual activities, with the goal of promoting engagement with At-Large policy sessions and encouraging new membership. ICANN Fellows and NextGen@ICANN program participants in the LAC region promoted At-Large sessions in regional languages, including Spanish. In addition, Lilian Ivette de Luque Bruges, LAC region chair of the SMWG, organized a series of promotional videos in regional languages with LAC and At-Large leaders. See the videos [here](#).

The At-Large SMWG held its regular ICANN Public Meeting [Twitter competition](#) and [Facebook competition](#). At-Large community members, ICANN Fellows, and NextGen@ICANN program participants posted photos during ICANN70 sessions from their location and shared them using #ALAC70. The top three winners of the competitions had the most engaging social media content and received the most retweets, reposts, or likes.

Track Three: Operations

At-Large leadership held an ICANN70 welcome and introductory session on Monday, 22 March 2021. The agenda included a discussion on At-Large Priority Activities for 2021, including operational and project updates, an overview of sessions during ICANN70, and At-Large talking points. The At-Large leadership held a wrap-up session on the final day of ICANN70.

At-Large Review Implementation

During ICANN70, the Unaffiliated Individuals Mobilization Working Party presented an update to the ALAC on its work in support of unaffiliated individuals’ participation in At-Large, including ALAC ratification of the [Unaffiliated Individuals Mobilization Working Party Report](#).

At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Next Steps

At-Large Policy

The ALAC will meet with the ICANN Board in mid-April. The topics that the ALAC will raise with the ICANN Board are located on the [At-Large questions for ICANN70 workspace](#).

The ALAC will finalize [ALAC Advice to the ICANN Board on Subsequent Procedures](#). The GAC and ALAC will continue their discussions on EPDP and the implementation of subsequent procedures for new gTLDs over the upcoming months.

RALO Activities

The [joint AFRALO-AfrICANN statement](#) on “ICANN Multistakeholder Model and the Increase in National Legislation and Regulation” will be submitted to the ICANN Board. LACRALO will continue discussing its LACRALO regional strategy for the next five years, taking into account feedback from community members, ICANN Board members, and ICANN org executives.

Resources

At-Large website

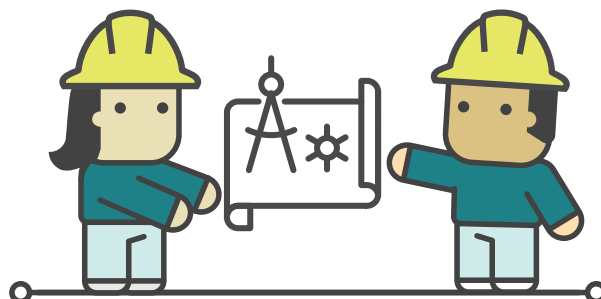
[Membership](#) | [Policy Summary](#) | [At-Large ICANN Learn Courses](#) | [DNS abuse](#)

At-Large workspace

[At-Large and ICANN70](#) | [ALAC Policy Advice Development Workspace](#) | [At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group](#) | [At-Large and ICANN Public Meetings](#) | [At-Large Governance](#)

At-Large Social Media

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



Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

Decisions and Outcomes

The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) leveraged ICANN70 to conduct over twenty hours of open discussions, including 14 hours of discussions on substantive and operational topics and another seven hours devoted to GAC Communiqué drafting. That work culminated in the publishing of the [GAC ICANN70 Communiqué](#) dated Thursday, 25 March 2021.

For the first time in the past year, the GAC developed Consensus Advice for the ICANN Board. GAC Consensus Advice and its accompanying “rationale” regarding Phase 2 of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Registration Data were included in GAC ICANN70 Communiqué. The GAC also reflected on matters related to previous Consensus Advice provided to the ICANN Board including, the Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice (CCT) Review, New gTLD Subsequent Procedures, and International Governmental Organization (IGO) identifiers. The GAC also provided information on a number of “issues of importance” such as DNS abuse, Public Interest Commitments, rights protection mechanisms, and New gTLD Subsequent Procedures and domain name registration data, including the GNSO EPDP Phase 2, data accuracy, and policy implementation.

Additional Activities

The GAC conducted bilateral meetings with the ICANN Board, the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), and members of the GNSO, including the GNSO Council leadership.

With ICANN Board members, the GAC discussed:

- New gTLD Subsequent Procedures
- DNS abuse mitigation, including related recommendations from the Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency Review (SSR2)
- Registration Data/WHOIS

ICANN Board responses to specific GAC questions and reactions to particular GAC statements were made available in the complete transcript of the ICANN Board and GAC joint meeting appended to the GAC ICANN70 Communiqué.

With the ALAC, the GAC explored topics of mutual interest:

- EPDP on gTLD Registration Data
- New gTLD Subsequent Procedures
- Third Accountability and Transparency Review Team recommendations

With members of the GNSO, GAC members explored the status and next steps regarding:

- EPDP Phase 2A
- DNS abuse mitigation, including related SSR2 recommendations
- GNSO work stream related to accuracy of Registration Data
- Approval of the System for Standardized Access/Disclosure recommendations that lack consensus

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

The GAC tailored its ICANN70 agenda to high priority topics while maintaining flexibility for GAC members to participate in other activities and to devote appropriate time for GAC Communiqué development.

Each day during ICANN70, the GAC chair and vice chair team provided an informal update for GAC members who found it difficult to participate due to time zone issues. Those updates provided information to GAC members about sessions held the previous day and offered a preview of sessions and topics expected for the day ahead. The GAC also held an informal social session available only to GAC participants during which representatives introduced themselves.

With the closing of ICANN70, the terms of the new GAC chair and vice chair team began. GAC Chair Manal Ismail (Egypt) will serve a two-year term until the end of the ICANN76 in March 2023. Four GAC vice chairs will serve their next term of one year until the end of ICANN73 in March 2022:

- Rodrigue Guiguemde (Burkina Faso)
- Pua Hunter (Cook Islands)
- Pär Brumark (Niue)
- Jorge Cancio (Switzerland)

The GAC thanked outgoing Vice Chair Luisa Paez (Canada) for valuable support and contributions to the GAC during two one-year terms.

GAC members confirmed previous correspondence to retire the GAC Working Group to Examine the Protection of Geographic Names in Any Future Expansion of gTLDs and the GAC Working Group to Examine the GAC Participation in ICANN Nominating Committee.

GAC members were also advised of the development of a new action/decision radar tool to enable GAC leaders and membership to track ongoing and upcoming matters requiring attention and action.

Building on the previous virtual ICANN Public Meeting experiences over the past year, the GAC utilized ICANN org ability to provide real-time interpretation services during all GAC plenary sessions in all six United Nations languages and Portuguese. Interpretation was integrated into Zoom for all GAC sessions.

Resources

During ICANN70, the GAC welcomed a new government member: St. Vincent and the Grenadines. There are now 179 member countries and territories and 38 observer organizations in the GAC. Of those, representatives from 72 members and five observer organizations participated during ICANN70.

More information about the GAC sessions during ICANN70, including briefings, presentations, and session transcripts and recordings, can be found [here](#).

Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

Activities

The Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC) held three work sessions to advance work items, including an RSSAC statement on “Principles Guiding the Operation of the Public Root Server System”.

Next Steps

The **RSSAC Caucus** is comprised of Domain Name System (DNS) experts who have an interest in the Root Server System (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. In addition, all RSSAC members are members of the RSSAC Caucus. There are over 100 members of the RSSAC Caucus from more than 20 countries.

Currently, there are two active **work parties** in the RSSAC Caucus studying:

- A tool to gather a local perspective of the Root Server System
- Effects and mitigations of a rogue Root Server Operator

The next RSSAC Caucus meeting will be conducted during ICANN72 in October 2021.

Resources

All RSSAC work sessions were open to observers:

- RSSAC work sessions: [1](#), [2](#), and [3](#)

For more information, including a publications library, please visit the [RSSAC webpages](#).



Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

Activities

The SSAC held its regular Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and Security Workshop during ICANN70. This workshop included 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 services benefited from the presentation and discussion of the deployment experience. Anyone with an interest in the deployment of DNSSEC – particularly registry, registrar, and Internet service provider (ISP) employees with technical, operational, and strategic planning roles – may want to review the resources.

The DNSSEC and Security Workshop has been a part of ICANN Public Meetings for several years and has provided a forum for both experienced and new people to meet and discuss DNSSEC deployments. The workshop addresses a broad range of topics including DNS over TLS/DNS over HTTPS (DoT/DoH) impacts and potential abuses, impacts of Resource Public Key Infrastructure (RPKI) deployments, Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) hijacking, and other Internet-related routing issues.

The workshop program featured:

- Community presentations on retrofitting post-quantum cryptography in Internet protocols, balanced DNS information strategy, NSEC3 iterations, and algorithm rolls.
- A panel discussion on DNSSEC provisioning automation.
- Presentations from ICANN org on measuring route origin authorization deployment in the DNS core and on visualizations of DNSSEC deployment in the DNS core.

The SSAC also held a session to present the following recently published documents:

- SAC114: SSAC Comments on the GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Draft Final Report
- SAC115: SSAC Report on an Interoperable Approach to Addressing Abuse Handling in the DNS
- SAC116: SSAC Comments on the Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency (SSR2) Review Team Final Report

The SSAC also provided updates on topics currently under examination by the SSAC, including routing security, the possibility of a root service early warning systems, and feedback on Phase 2A work of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Registration Data. This also included updates on ongoing work on SSAC projects including the Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP) and the Scan of Threats to Internet Naming and Addressing.

Next Steps

The DNSSEC and Security Workshop Program Committee will plan the ICANN71 DNSSEC and Security Workshop. The SSAC will also continue to develop reports, advisories, and comments on a range of topics in preparation for ICANN71.

Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

Resources

- DNSSEC and Security Workshop: [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), [Part 3](#)
- [SSAC Session](#)

Information about the SSAC and how to participate:

- [SSAC Website](#)
- [SSAC Introduction](#)
- [SSAC Operational Procedures](#)
- [SSAC Publications](#)

