

# ICANN72 Policy Outlook Report



**ICANN|72**  
**VIRTUAL ANNUAL GENERAL**

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# Welcome to ICANN72!



Welcome to ICANN72! I am pleased to present the ICANN72 Policy Outlook Report written by the Policy Development Support team. This report provides a high-level overview of the planned work and activities of the Supporting Organizations (SOs), Advisory Committees (ACs), and Empowered Community at ICANN72.

ICANN72 is the Annual General Meeting (AGM). This will be the second virtual AGM. ICANN72 will take place in the time zone of the original host city, Seattle, United States of America. ICANN72 will feature one plenary session, one Public Forum, and several work sessions.

We will also celebrate our community during ICANN72. We will recognize the contributions of leaders from across the SO/ACs and other ICANN community groups. We will also announce the recipient of this year's Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building. We hope you will follow along for these special moments.

A global community of stakeholders and participants with different backgrounds and points of view help coordinate and support the unique identifiers of the Internet. The Internet functions for everyone because everyone is invited to help make it work. Consensus policies developed through the multistakeholder model are highly effective and have the greatest legitimacy.

Thank you to all of you for making the considerable commitment of time and effort to attend this meeting. No matter if you are an ICANN regular, an occasional participant, or a newcomer, I encourage you to actively engage in this meeting.

Best regards,

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

**David Olive**  
Senior Vice President,  
Policy Development Support

# Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

## What to Expect

Although several members of the Internet number community will participate in sessions, the Address Supporting Organization (ASO) will not be convening during ICANN72. The ASO conducts policy development work through Regional Internet Registry (RIR) meetings and [mailing lists](#).

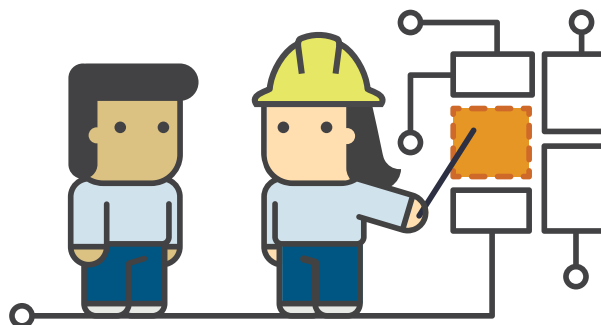
## Background

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

- African Network Information Centre (AFRINIC)
- Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC)
- American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN)
- Latin American and Caribbean Internet Addresses Registry (LACNIC)
- Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre (RIPE NCC)

The [ASO Address Council \(ASO AC\)](#) coordinates the global policy development work of the Internet number community and appoints members to the ICANN Board, the ICANN Nominating Committee, and other ICANN groups. The ASO AC consists of 15 members, three from each RIR. For 2021, Kevin Blumberg serves as chair; Hervé Clément and Mike Silber serve as vice chairs. They represent the ARIN, RIPE NCC, and AFRINIC regions, respectively.

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



# Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

## What to Expect

The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) program begins on Monday, 25 October with **Tech Day**, a workshop open to all community members with an interest in technical, operational, and security topics.

The **ccNSO Members Meeting** starts on Tuesday, 26 October, with an opportunity for members to participate in a question and answer session with candidates for the ccNSO Council, followed by a session with focus on ccNSO governance. ICANN72 marks the fourth ccNSO Governance Session, building on the previous discussions between the ccNSO Council and members to update **internal rules** of the ccNSO. On Tuesday, 26 October, there will be a meeting of the Strategic and Operational Planning Committee (**SOPC**) on the use of the ICANN Prioritization Framework. The program will continue Wednesday, 27 October, with a session considering local and regional country code top-level domain (ccTLD) efforts on DNS abuse. On Thursday, 28 October, there will be a **ccNSO Council** meeting, followed by a meeting of the Top-Level Domain Operations (TLD-OPS) Standing Committee.

The detailed ccNSO schedule, including a summary of the topics covered and remote participation details for ICANN72, is available on the **ccNSO ICANN72 workspace**.

## Background

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

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

## Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC-7. Please refer to the **ICANN72 schedule** for the most current information.*

### Tech Day

Monday, 25 October | 09:00-14:00

Since 2006, **Tech Day** has been part of ICANN Public Meetings. It provides a forum for both experienced participants and newcomers to meet and to present and discuss technical and operational registry topics, security, and other Domain Name System (DNS)-related work. During ICANN72, Tech Day will focus on DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC), DNS abuse prevention and mitigation, and other topics.

# Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

## ccNSO Members Meeting

Session times during the ccNSO Members meeting are subject to change. Please refer to the [ccNSO Members Meeting workspace](#) for the most current information, including detailed agendas, and a summary of the topics covered.

## Question and Answer Session with ccNSO Council Candidates

Tuesday, 26 October | 09:00-10:00

The three-year term for five members of the ccNSO Council ends in March 2022. In September 2021, the ccNSO held a call for nominations to fill those seats. All candidates who accepted their nominations are invited to participate in the question-and-answer session, which will provide ccNSO members and broader ccTLD community an opportunity to interact with the ccNSO Council candidates. Read more [here](#).

## Governance of the ccNSO

Tuesday, 26 October | 10:30-12:00

ICANN72 marks the fourth ccNSO governance session, building on previous sessions during ICANN69, ICANN70, and ICANN71. The focus of the ICANN72 session will be on the proposed revised internal rules of the ccNSO. The new rules will have a direct impact on the governance structure of the ccNSO, including the ccNSO Council. Based on feedback from the session, the working group will finalize its draft for adoption by ccNSO membership.

## DNS Abuse Session

Thursday, 27 October | 14:30-17:30

The goal of the session is to understand what the ccNSO should do with respect to Domain Name System (DNS) abuse, in addition to what is already happening at the local and regional ccTLD level. Based on the guidance of the ccTLD community, the ccNSO Council will plan the ccNSO involvement in the discussions pertaining to DNS abuse and related activities that could assist ccTLDs. If a plan moves forward, it will be shared with the community during ICANN73 or an intersessional webinar.

## Strategic and Operational Planning Committee (SOPC)

Tuesday, 26 October | 12:30-14:00

The aim of the [SOPC](#) is to coordinate, facilitate, and increase the participation of ccTLD managers in ICANN and Public Technical Identifiers strategic, operational planning, and related budgetary processes. The SOPC meets regularly with representatives from ICANN org and other ICANN stakeholders. The goal of this ICANN72 session is to explore how the ICANN Prioritization Framework could work in practice from a community perspective. The session will prepare the SOPC and other stakeholders on prioritization, as part of the next operational and financial planning cycle.

# Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

## TLD-OPS Standing Committee

Thursday, 27 October | 19:30-21:00

**TLD-OPS** is the incident response community for and by ccTLDs that brings together people who are responsible for the operational security and stability of their ccTLD. The goal of the TLD-OPS community is to enable ccTLD operators worldwide to detect and mitigate incidents that may affect the security and stability of ccTLD services, such as distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks, malware infections, and phishing attacks. TLD-OPS further extends members' existing incident response structures, processes, and tools, rather than replace them. TLD-OPS is open to every ccTLD, regardless of ccNSO membership.

TLD-OPS is fully governed by the ccTLD community through the **TLD-OPS Standing Committee**, which consists of representatives of ccTLDs and liaisons from the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC), the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA), and the ICANN security team. The Standing Committee oversees the daily operation of its list and the further development of the TLD-OPS ecosystem. The TLD-OPS Standing Committee will meet during ICANN72 to reflect on its past activities and determine next steps.

## Joint Meeting: ccNSO and ICANN Board

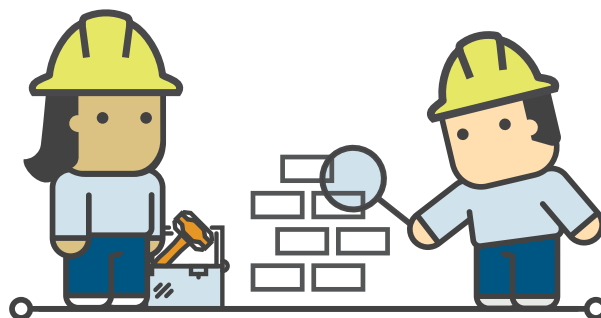
Thursday, 27 October | 09:00-10:00

The detailed ccNSO schedule, including a summary of the topics covered and remote participation details for ICANN72, is available on the [ccNSO ICANN72 workspace](#).

## ccNSO Council Meeting

Thursday, 27 October | 12:30-14:00

Topics for discussion will include next steps following the ICANN72 ccNSO Members Meeting, DNS abuse session, and the ccNSO request to change ICANN Bylaws to include Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLD managers in the ccNSO. Additional topics for the ccNSO Council meeting will be made available on the [ccNSO Council workspace](#).



# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

## What to Expect

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

The GNSO Council will make progress on several policy development initiatives during ICANN72:

- The GNSO Council will consider the Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification (EPDP-TempSpec) for gTLD Registration Data Phase 2A Final Report during its meeting on Wednesday, 27 October 2021. The Phase 2A **Final Report** was submitted to the GNSO Council on Friday, 3 September 2021.
- The Transfer Policy Review Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group will hold an ICANN72 session to gather community input on some of the topics within its charter.
- The Expedited Policy Development Process for Internationalized Domain Names (EPDP-IDNs) Working Group will meet during ICANN72.
- The Accuracy Scoping Team is expected to meet during ICANN72 to make progress on its GNSO Council assignments.

Other policy development efforts continue to make progress but will not have dedicated sessions during ICANN72. For example, work continues in the Expedited Policy Development Process on Specific Curative Rights Protections for International Governmental Organizations (EPDP-IGOs).

In addition, the ICANN Board is currently considering or preparing to consider outputs of several significant GNSO policy development efforts that recently concluded:

- Recommendations from Phase 2 of the EPDP-TempSpec.
- Recommendations from Phase 1 of the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs PDP.
- Affirmations, recommendations, and implementation guidance produced by the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) PDP.

Operational Design Assessments conducted during Operational Design Phases (ODPs) are expected to support the ICANN Board consideration of EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2 recommendations and Subsequent Procedures outputs. The System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) ODP began in April 2021 and the Subsequent Procedures ODP began in September 2021.

As part of its ongoing efforts to manage projects that the GNSO Council has in its **pipeline**, the GNSO Council launched a pilot project called the Framework for Continuous Improvement Oversight and Implementation. The objective of the pilot is to test a framework that would allow for the continuous scoping and execution of projects that are focused on GNSO structural, procedural, and process improvements, distinct from policy-related work.

Progress continues on PDP 3.0, an important GNSO Council initiative focusing on enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the GNSO PDPs. As the GNSO Council scopes and initiates new GNSO policy development efforts, it is actively applying PDP 3.0 improvements to the design of this work.



# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

During ICANN72, the GNSO Council will hold its public and administrative meetings on Wednesday, 27 October 2021. The GNSO Council will hold a preparation session on Monday, 25 October 2021, and a wrap up session on Thursday, 28 October 2021. A GNSO meeting will also take place with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), the ICANN Board, and the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO).

## Background

### EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data

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

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

- **Phase 1** aimed to decide whether the Temporary Specification should be confirmed by 25 May 2019. Phase 1 of the EPDP-TempSpec concluded in March 2019. An **Implementation Review Team** (IRT) is tasked with implementing the **ICANN Board approved** Phase 1 policy recommendations.
- **Phase 2** focused on the discussion of an SSAD to nonpublic gTLD registration data and additional topics held over from Phase 1. Phase 2 work concluded in September 2020, with GNSO Council **adoption** of its recommendations. The EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2 Final Report sets recommendations for the SSAD as well as for the "Priority 2" topics (e.g., data retention, city field redaction).

The GNSO Council consulted with the ICANN Board on the financial sustainability of the SSAD and the concerns expressed within minority statements, including whether a further cost/benefit analysis should be conducted before the ICANN Board considers all SSAD-related recommendations for adoption. During ICANN70, the ICANN Board directed ICANN org to initiate an **ODP for SSAD-related** recommendations. The ODP is ongoing. The ICANN Board **adopted** the four Priority 2 recommendations not related to the SSAD during its meeting on 21 June 2021.

The GNSO Council asked the EPDP-TempSpec Team to further consider two topics:

1. The differentiation of legal vs. natural persons' registration data.
2. The feasibility of unique contacts to have a uniform anonymized email address.

As a result, the EPDP-TempSpec Team reviewed these topics in **Phase 2A** of its work. The EPDP-TempSpec Team submitted its **Final Report** to the GNSO Council on 3 September 2021. The Final Report contains three recommendations related to the differentiation of legal vs. natural persons, including:

1. The mandatory creation of a new RDDS field(s) that allows, but does not require, registrars to designate between natural vs. legal persons and personal vs. non-personal data.
2. Optional guidance for registrars who choose to differentiate between legal and natural persons.
3. A recommendation that if ICANN org develops a General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Article 40 Code of Conduct, the above-referenced guidance would need to be considered in its development.

The Final Report also contains one recommendation related to the unique contacts topic, stating that registrars who choose to publish an intended to be pseudonymized contact consider following the appended guidance from Bird & Bird and relevant data protection authorities. The GNSO Council will consider the EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2A Final Report during its meeting on Wednesday, 27 October 2021.

# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

## Transfer Policy Review PDP

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

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

- Form of Authorization and AuthInfo Codes (Phase 1A)
- Change of registrant (Phase 1B)
- Transfer emergency action contact and reversing inter-registrar transfers
- Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy
- The denial of a request for transfer by the losing registrar (NACK)
- ICANN-approved transfers (Phase 2)

The GNSO Council [adopted](#) the PDP working group [charter](#) on 24 March 2021. According to PDP 3.0, the working group adopted a representative model with set criteria and expectations for their members and chairs. With the chair identified and the membership established, the working group met for the first time on 14 May 2021.

In the early stages of its work, the working group developed a work plan, conducted an initial review of the topics within its charter, and obtained early written input from the stakeholder groups on these topics. The working group is now focused on developing its Initial Report. The members deliberated charter questions related to AuthInfo Codes and are now focused on the Gaining and Losing Forms of Authorization (FOA). It will return to the topic of AuthInfo Codes after answering questions related to FOA that inform AuthInfo Code deliberations.

The Transfer Policy Review PDP Working Group will hold one session during ICANN72 on Tuesday, 26 October 2021. During the session, the working group will discuss topics within its charter and seek broader community input.

## EPDP on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)

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

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

- The definition of all gTLDs and the management of variant labels.
- How the IDN Implementation Guidelines should be updated.

# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

On 20 May 2021, the GNSO Council approved the initiation request for the EPDP-IDNs and adopted its charter. The EPDP-IDNs working group held its first meeting on 11 August 2021 and has developed a work plan, conducted an initial review of the topics within its charter, and sent a request for early written input from the stakeholders on the topics contained in the EPDP-IDNs charter. The EPDP-IDNs is deliberating on the first of its seven main topics, each of which has several specific questions for the group to consider. This first main topic, Topic A, focuses on the consistent definition of TLDs and variant TLDs using the Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR).

The working group will conduct one working session during ICANN72 on Tuesday, 26 October 2021. During the session, the working group will discuss topics within its charter and seek broader community input.

## EPDP on Specific Curative Rights Protections for IGOs

In April 2019, the GNSO Council **voted** to approve Recommendations 1-4 in the **Final Report** of the International Governmental Organization and International Non-Governmental Organization (IGO-INGO) Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP Working Group. The GNSO Council also resolved to not approve Recommendation 5 and directed the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP to consider whether an appropriate policy solution can be developed that is generally consistent with Recommendations 1-4.

After engaging in dialogue with the GAC and INGOS, the GNSO Council adopted an **addendum** to the charter of the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP to initiate a separate **work track** focusing solely on the deliberation of IGO issues. The IGO Work Track held its first meeting in February 2021 and has been meeting weekly, making substantial progress. In August 2021, the GNSO Council took the procedural step of initiating an EPDP to continue the work of the IGO Work Track. The EPDP-IGOs Team published its **Initial Report for Public Comment** on 14 September 2021. It will not be holding a session during ICANN72.

## New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP

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

On 18 February 2021, the GNSO Council unanimously **approved** the outputs achieving consensus or full consensus contained in the PDP Final Report. On 24 March 2021, the GNSO-adopted outputs and the **Recommendations Report** were sent to the ICANN Board for its review. The GNSO Council requested that the ICANN Board initiate an ODP on the PDP Final Report and ICANN org convene an implementation review team (IRT) to implement PDP outputs. On 22 April 2021, a **Public Comment** proceeding on the Final Report sought community input prior to ICANN Board action on PDP outputs. On 29 April 2021, as required by the ICANN Bylaws, the ICANN Board **notified** the GAC of GNSO Council approval of the PDP outputs that were determined to have received either full consensus or consensus designations by the working group. On 12 September 2021, the Board directed ICANN org to initiate an **Operational Design Phase (ODP)** for the Final Report outputs.

# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

## Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP

The GNSO Council initiated the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP on 18 February 2016 and chartered the working group in March 2016. This PDP has two phases: Phase 1 reviewed all the RPMs applicable to gTLDs launched under the 2012 New gTLD Program. Phase 2 will focus on reviewing the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP), which has been an ICANN consensus policy since 1999.

The working group published its Phase 1 Initial Report on 18 March 2020 for **Public Comment**. From late May to September 2020, it reviewed Public Comment submissions from 55 contributors to finalize its Phase 1 recommendations. The working group developed its final recommendations by taking into account the outcome of other community work, such as the Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review and the Wave 1 Report of the EPDP-TempSpec for gTLD Registration Data Phase 1, Recommendation 27.

On 24 November 2020, the working group submitted its **Phase 1 Final Report** containing 35 final recommendations to the GNSO Council for its consideration. The working group classified its recommendations into three categories:

1. Recommendations for new policies and procedures.
2. Recommendations to modify existing operational practice.
3. Recommendations to maintain the status quo.

The working group also put forward an overarching data collection final recommendation, aimed at addressing data-related gaps. The working group gave 34 recommendations full consensus support, and one recommendation received consensus support.

On 21 January 2021, the GNSO Council unanimously **approved** the Phase 1 Final Report. On 19 March 2021, the GNSO Council sent the **Recommendations Report** to the ICANN Board to adopt all the Phase 1 final recommendations. On 7 April 2021, the ICANN Board **notified** the GAC of GNSO Council approval of the Phase 1 Final Report, as required by the ICANN Bylaws. A **Public Comment** proceeding on the Phase 1 Final Report opened on 7 April 2021, and closed on 21 May 2021. The **summary report** was published on 4 June 2021. On 7 April 2021, the ICANN Board **notified** the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) of the GNSO Council approval of the Phase 1 Final Report, as required by the ICANN Bylaws. The ICANN Board will consider the approved policy recommendations in accordance with the ICANN Bylaws.

## Accuracy Scoping Team

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

Community stakeholders were invited to appoint **representatives** to this effort. The GNSO Council confirmed a scoping team chair during the GNSO Council meeting on 24 September 2021. The scoping team is expected to commence its deliberations shortly thereafter.

The Accuracy Scoping Team will hold one session on Tuesday, 26 October 2021, during ICANN72 to make progress on the assignments that the GNSO Council provided in its **instructions**.

# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

## PDP 3.0

The GNSO Council started the PDP 3.0 initiative in 2018 with the aim to introduce incremental improvements to enhance the effectiveness of PDP working groups and empower the GNSO Council to better serve in its role as the manager of PDPs. On 20 February 2020, the GNSO Council adopted the PDP 3.0 **Final Report**, which included all work products associated with the 14 improvements concerning consensus building, project management, and expectations for working group leaders and members. The Final Report also included additional proposals such as a revised PDP working group charter template.

PDP 3.0 is an integral component of enhancing the effectiveness of the ICANN multistakeholder model. On 15 September 2020, the GNSO Council held a **webinar** to highlight practical examples of the PDP 3.0 improvements that have been applied in ongoing GNSO working groups and begin the preliminary assessment of PDP 3.0 impact. The webinar also included an introduction to the **Consensus Playbook**, which provides the community with practical tools and best practices for building consensus, bridging differences, and breaking deadlocks within ICANN processes.

The GNSO is applying PDP 3.0 improvements to the design of PDPs. For example, the EPDP-IGOs and Transfer Policy Review PDP have adopted representative working group models, as well as specified expectations and required skills for their members and chairs. The EPDP-IDNs has a “representative+open” model, enabling the working group to conduct its work in an efficient manner while creating additional opportunities for broader community participation. In addition, the toolkit for project and program management of PDPs has continued to evolve with a new tool to track **action items**.

## More Information

Read the **GNSO Policy Briefing** to help you prepare for ICANN72. Those interested in GNSO policy activities are welcome to attend the GNSO Policy Update webinar during ICANN72 Prep Week on Tuesday, 12 October 2021.

## Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC-7. Please refer to the [ICANN72 schedule](#) for the most current information.*

### PDP Working Group and Scoping Team Meetings

#### *EPDP-IDNs Working Session*

Tuesday, 26 October 2021 | 16:30-17:30

#### *Transfer Policy Review PDP Working Session*

Tuesday, 26 October 2021 | 10:30-12:00

#### *Accuracy Scoping Team*

Tuesday, 26 October 2021 | 12:30-14:00

# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

## **GNSO Council Meeting**

*GNSO Council Priorities and Prep Session*

Monday, 25 October 2021 | 12:30-14:00

*GNSO Council Meeting*

Wednesday, 27 October 2021 | 12:30-14:00 and 15:00-16:00

*GNSO Council Wrap Up*

Thursday, 28 October 2021 | 12:30-14:00

## **Joint Meetings**

*GNSO and ccNSO*

Wednesday, 20 October 2021 | 12:00-13:00

*GNSO and GAC*

Monday, 25 October 2021 | 16:30-17:30

*GNSO and ICANN Board*

Tuesday, 26 October 2021 | 09:00-10:00



# At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

## What to Expect

During ICANN72, the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) members and Regional At-Large Organization (RALO) leaders will hold nine sessions organized under three tracks: At-Large policy, outreach and engagement, and operations. In addition, three At-Large policy sessions will be held in advance of ICANN72 during an “At-Large Week” and focus on:

1. Unfinished Business: Closed Generics
2. Tackling DNS Abuse
3. ICANN Accountability and Transparency and ICANN Reviews

The At-Large community will also welcome current, ongoing, and incoming leaders during the ICANN72 Annual General Meeting (AGM).

## Background

In advance of ICANN72, At-Large will not hold any sessions during Prep Week 12-14 October. Instead, the community will organize their policy sessions during an “At-Large Week” from 18-20 October 2021, just before the ICANN72 AGM. During the AGM, the ALAC will hold several sessions with various stakeholders, including the ICANN Board, the GAC, and the Stability, Security, and Advisory Committee (SSAC). The At-Large will also hold regional outreach and engagement and operational sessions during the AGM, and will participate in the ICANN72 plenary session and other sessions of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees.

To learn more about the At-Large community, please take two ICANN Learn courses about the At-Large community. [ICANN At-Large: Welcome to Our World](#) provides an introduction to the At-Large community and the ALAC, how they function within the ICANN ecosystem, and how beginners can continue their involvement in the At-Large community. [ICANN Policy Development: A Guide for At-Large Participants](#) delivers a working knowledge of the ALAC policy advice development process and the various policy development opportunities for the At-Large community to join at ICANN.

### Policy Track

Prior to ICANN72, the ALAC [submitted five policy statements](#), including ALAC Advice to the ICANN Board on the Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification (EPDP-TempSpec) for gTLD Registration Data Team - Phase 2A. The ALAC and At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) reviewed, approved, and submitted the advice to the ICANN Board in August 2021 for its consideration of the recommendations. In its advice, the ALAC recommends that the ICANN Board reject the System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) recommendations or send them back to the GNSO, as the ALAC believes the proposed SSAD will not sufficiently safeguard the interests of end users. The ALAC also submitted an ALAC minority statement to the EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2A on the completion of its Final Report in September 2021. In its Minority Statement, the ALAC noted that EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2 did not achieve its goal of resolving the Legal vs Natural issue, nor consensus over critical Registration Data Directory Services (RDDS) elements.

For more information regarding ALAC/At-Large Policy Comment submissions and Advice, please visit the [At-Large Website Policy Summary](#) and [ALAC Executive Summaries](#).

# At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

## **Unfinished Business: Closed Generics**

During At-Large Week, there will be an At-Large policy session on “Unfinished Business: Closed Generics,” Monday, 18 October 2021. The session will examine next steps with Closed Generics in subsequent rounds and whether a focused policy development process (PDP), the Operational Design Phase (ODP), or the ICANN Board will find a middle ground.

## **Tackling DNS Abuse**

The At-Large community will hold an At-Large policy session on tackling DNS abuse with the aim of bridging the gap between policy development and relevant legal and policy measures. The session will take place Tuesday, 19 October 2021, with the aim to break down existing silos and engage in a dialogue to better understand end user needs and expectations. This session will support the development of relevant and measured policy tools to address current challenges and threats, ranging from online fraud and privacy concerns, to hate speech and freedom of speech.

## **ICANN Accountability, Transparency, and ICANN Reviews (Parts 1 and 2)**

An At-Large policy session on ICANN accountability, transparency, and ICANN reviews will be held in two successive parts. The first part on Wednesday, 20 October 2021 will introduce the Third Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT3) co-chairs and ICANN Board members, and a flash pitch tour of constituency points of view. The second part will include a discussion with the participants. This At-Large session aims to explore the ATRT3 recommendations regarding reviews, including changes to Specific and Organizational Reviews and the creation of a new holistic review of ICANN. The session will also discuss next steps regarding the implementation of the ATRT3 recommendations.

Additional information on At-Large policy sessions during At-Large Week before ICANN72 is available on the [At-Large ICANN72 workspace](#).

## **Outreach and Engagement Track**

The At-Large community consists of over 250 At-Large Structures (ALSes), 153 individuals, and 20 observers in the five RALOs. During ICANN72, RALO leaders will participate in regional

leadership activities to focus on policy topics, outreach, and engagement activities. Since ICANN72 is based virtually in the North American region, specifically Seattle, the North American Regional At-Large Organization (NARALO) will host a trivia night and a local beer appreciation event with a local expert.

The At-Large Social Media Working Group (SMWG), ICANN Fellows, and NextGen@ICANN program participants will collaborate on ICANN72 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 North American region will promote At-Large sessions in regional languages.

In addition, the African community will hold a Joint African RALO-AfriCANN meeting during ICANN72, to discuss regional issues and develop their joint statement on data security.

## **Operations Track**

At-Large leadership will hold an ICANN72 welcome and introductory session during At-Large Week on Monday, 18 October 2021. The agenda will include an overview of key activities in the three tracks of policy, outreach and engagement, and operations as well as highlight key sessions of interest to At-Large during ICANN72. At-Large leadership will also hold a wrap-up session on Thursday, 28 October 2021 during the AGM which will include a conversation with ICANN Board leaders. The session will also include the traditional AGM activity of thanking departing members and welcoming incoming members.

Please refer to the results of the [2021 ALAC and RALO Elections, Selections, and Appointments](#).



# At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

## Session Details

Session times provided in this report are in UTC-7. Please refer to the [ICANN72 schedule](#) for the most current information.

### Policy

*Unfinished Business: Closed Generics*

Monday, 18 October 2021 | 10:00

*Tackling DNS Abuse*

Tuesday, 19 October 2021 | 10:00

*ICANN Accountability and Transparency and the ICANN Reviews (Parts 1 and 2)*

Wednesday, 20 October 2021 | 10:00 and 11:30

### Outreach and Engagement

*ALAC and SSAC*

Tuesday 19 October 2021 | 12:00

*NARALO Games Evening*

Thursday, 21 October 2021 | 13:00

*Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and ALAC*

Monday, 25 October 2021 | 12:30

*ALAC and GAC Meeting (TBC)*

Tuesday 26 October 2021 | 9:00

*Joint AFRALO-AfrICANN Meeting*

Tuesday, 26 October 2021 | 10:30

*NARALO Seattle Beer Tour*

Wednesday, 27 October 2021 | 18:00

### Operations

*At-Large Leadership Session: Welcome to ICANN72*

Monday, 18 October 2021 | 10:00

*At-Large Leadership Wrap-Up*

Thursday, 28 October 2021 | 12:00

# Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

## What to Expect

The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) will leverage ICANN72 to conduct almost 20 hours of discussions on important topics relevant to government participants, including:

- The New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process
- Registration data services (WHOIS) and data protection policy, including follow-up on Phase 2 of the Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification (EPDP-TempSpec) for gTLD Registration Data and the ICANN Operational Design Phase (ODP) for the System for Standardized Access/Disclosure to Nonpublic Registration Data (SSAD).
- Domain Name System (DNS) abuse mitigation.
- Rights protection mechanisms (RPMs) for intergovernmental organizations (IGOs).

The GAC will expand its activities beyond ICANN72 to conduct work sessions and bilateral meetings with other ICANN community groups. Feedback from GAC participants has confirmed the value of this scheduling approach because it provides GAC-focused time followed by ICANN community discussions, which leads to substantive follow-up during internal GAC planning.

### The GAC Agenda

The GAC chair will open the GAC meeting during ICANN72 with a report on progress and accomplishments since ICANN71, including GAC correspondence and Public Comment, the ICANN Board scorecard response to the ICANN71 Communiqué, and plans for the joint meeting of the ICANN Board and GAC during ICANN72. In addition to the substantial focus on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures and ODP, the GAC agenda for ICANN72 features planning for the implementation of accountability recommendations from Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability Work Stream 2 (WS2), updates and strategic planning on DNS abuse mitigation, follow-up on recent developments regarding WHOIS and data protection, drafting of the ICANN72 Communiqué, and interactions with the ICANN Board, ALAC, and GNSO.

To enhance the effectiveness of GAC sessions, the GAC leadership has identified specific objectives for each public session to focus community discussions. The preparation process itself is also evolving. Written pre-session briefings for GAC members are more concise, supplemented by oral webinar briefings and background information.

During ICANN72, GAC leadership will hold regular update calls with GAC members who find it difficult to participate remotely due to time zone issues. GAC members highly value these updates. These update calls for GAC members are scheduled to provide basic information about sessions held during ICANN72 and to offer a preview of upcoming sessions and topics.

## Background

The GAC serves as the voice of governments and international governmental organizations in ICANN. Its role is to provide advice to ICANN on issues of public policy. The GAC is not strictly a decision-making body and advises ICANN on issues that are within its scope. GAC consensus advice has a particular status under the ICANN Bylaws. Such advice must be duly taken into account by the ICANN Board, and if the ICANN Board proposes actions that would be inconsistent with GAC consensus advice, it must provide reasons for doing so and attempt to reach a mutually acceptable solution.

# Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

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

Further information about the GAC and its various work efforts can be found on the [GAC website](#).

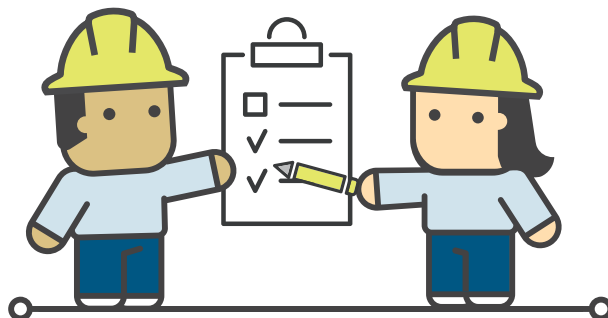
## Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC-7. Please refer to the [ICANN72 schedule](#) for the most current information.*

GAC plenary sessions are scheduled from Monday, 25 October 2021 to Thursday, 28 October 2021. The GAC has worked to integrate its agenda with the plenary session as much as possible. All GAC plenary sessions will be open to the entire ICANN community. Each GAC session will feature simultaneous remote interpretation in the six UN languages.

The GAC principle of openness will be particularly evident during the ICANN72 Communiqué drafting sessions scheduled for Wednesday, 27 October 2021, and Thursday, 28 October 2021. The GAC devoted considerable time to communiqué drafting improvements during previous virtual ICANN Public Meetings, including the development of GAC Consensus Advice during ICANN70 and ICANN71. Based on those successful experiences, the GAC has scheduled nearly six hours of communiqué preparation and drafting during ICANN72.

Additional information on particular GAC sessions during ICANN72 can be found on the [GAC ICANN72 agenda page](#).



# Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

## What to Expect

The Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC) will conduct one work session during ICANN72 to advance the RSSAC Caucus work party updating “RSSAC047: RSSAC Advisory on Metrics for the DNS Root Servers and the Root Server System.” The RSSAC will have a joint meeting with the ICANN Board, and the RSSAC Caucus will conduct its second meeting of the year. The RSSAC will also conduct its monthly meeting and will continue to raise awareness about its recent **publications**, namely “RSSAC055: Principles Guiding the Operation of the Public Root Server System,” “RSSAC056: RSSAC Advisory on Rogue DNS Root Server Operators,” and “RSSAC057: Requirements for Measurements of the Local Perspective on the Root Server System.”

## Background

The **RSSAC** advises the ICANN community and ICANN Board on matters relating to the operation, administration, security, and integrity of the Root Server System (RSS). The RSSAC consists of representatives from the Root Server Operator (RSO) organizations and liaisons from the partner organizations involved in the technical and operational management of the Root Zone.

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

The RSSAC Caucus Membership Committee appoints members of the RSSAC Caucus. In addition, all RSSAC members are members of the RSSAC Caucus. Currently, there is one active work party in the RSSAC Caucus. This **work party** is trying to correct technical errors in definitions of metrics identified by the initial implementation of RSSAC047 and deliver an updated version of the RSSAC047.

The RSSAC Membership Committee recently conducted an annual membership survey for the RSSAC Caucus members. Findings from this survey will be shared during the RSSAC Caucus meeting on Tuesday, 26 October 2021.

## Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC-7. Please refer to the **ICANN72 schedule** for the most current information.*

### **RSSAC Meeting**

Monday, 25 October 2021 | 14:30-16:00

### **Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and RSSAC**

Monday, 25 October 2021 | 16:30-17:30

### **RSSAC Caucus Meeting**

Tuesday, 26 October 2021 | 10:30-12:00

### **RSSAC Work Session**

Thursday, 28 October 2021 | 09:00-10:00

# Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

## What to Expect

The Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) will hold a workshop on Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and security during ICANN72. DNSSEC continues to be deployed around the world at an accelerating pace. Now that DNSSEC has become an operational norm for many registries, registrars, and Internet service providers, come and hear about what they are learning as they deploy and manage DNSSEC.

The SSAC will also present on its recent publications, “SAC117: Report on Root Service Early Warning Systems,” “SAC118: SSAC Comments on Initial Report of the Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification (EPDP-TempSpec) for gTLD Registration Data Team–Phase 2A,” and “SAC119: Feedback to the GNSO Transfer Policy Review Policy Development Process Working Group.” In SAC117, the SSAC reviewed relevant publications on the topic of a root zone early warning system and concluded that such a system is currently infeasible, as was also concluded by OCTO-15. In SAC118, the SSAC presented comments on the EPDP-TempSpec and on individual recommendations in the EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2A Initial Report. In SAC119, the SSAC highlights two security topics related to the GNSO Transfer Policy Review PDP Working Group: the importance of continuity in DNS resolution and DNSSEC validation and security best practices related to the management of the AuthInfo Codes.

The SSAC will also provide updates on topics currently under examination by the SSAC during its public session, including routing security and the Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP).

## Background

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

### How do I participate in the SSAC?

For information on how to participate in the SSAC, see the SSAC [Operational Procedures](#) and the [SSAC Introduction](#).

# Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

## Session Details

Session times provided in this report are in UTC-7. Please refer to the [ICANN72 schedule](#) for the most current information.

### DNSSEC and Security Workshop

Wednesday, 27 October 2021 | 12:30-14:00, 14:30-16:00, and 16:30-17:30

This session is a public presentation and discussion with those actively engaged in the deployment of DNSSEC. The DNSSEC and Security Workshop also focuses on various emerging security-related issues such as DNS over TLS/DNS over HTTPS (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.

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

### SSAC Public Meeting

Tuesday, 26 October 2021 | 12:30-14:00

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

