ICANN73 Policy Outlook Report
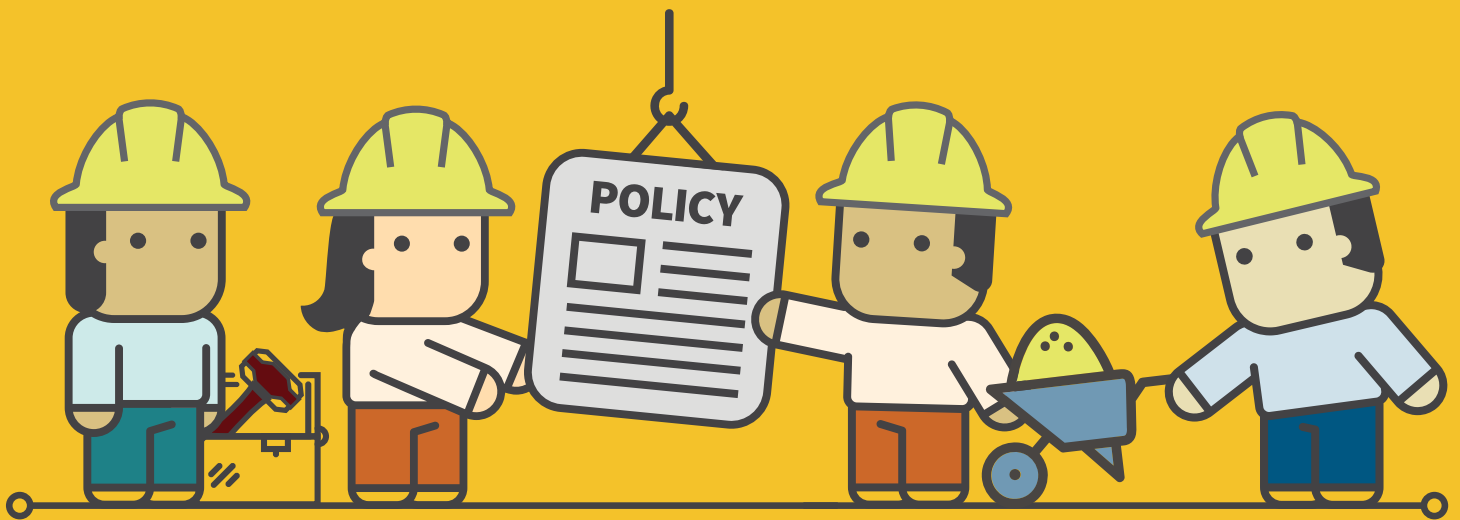
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Welcome to **ICANN73!**

I am pleased to present the ICANN73 Policy Outlook Report written by the Policy Development Support function. This report provides a high-level overview of the planned work and activities of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees during ICANN73.

ICANN73 will feature two plenary sessions selected by the ICANN community, a Public Forum, and a Public Meeting of the ICANN Board. Throughout the week, the ICANN community will meet to advance policy and advice work in priority areas. There will also be joint meetings between various ICANN community groups and the ICANN Board.

A global community of stakeholders 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 for making the considerable commitment of time and effort to engage in ICANN73. No matter if you are an ICANN Public Meeting regular, an occasional participant, or a newcomer, I encourage you to actively contribute to this virtual meeting.

Best regards,

David Olive
Senior Vice President,
Policy Development Support

Managing Director,
Washington, D.C. Office

Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

What to Expect

Although several members of the Internet number community will participate in sessions, the ASO will not be convening during ICANN73. 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 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
- Asia Pacific Network Information Centre
- American Registry for Internet Numbers
- Latin American and Caribbean Internet Addresses Registry
- Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre

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.

ASO AC monthly teleconferences are open to observers. For more information, including the teleconference schedule, observer privileges, and remote participation details, read **here**.
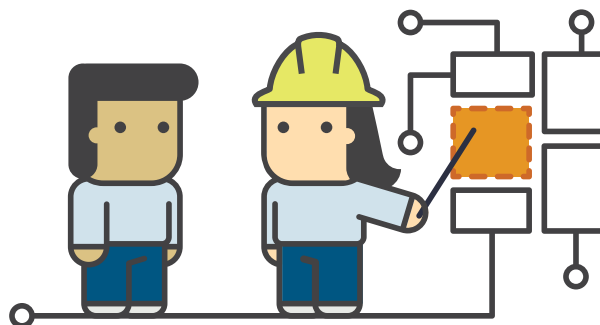
Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

What to Expect

The ccNSO program begins on Monday, 7 March with Tech Day, a workshop open to all community members with an interest in technical, operational, and security topics.

The ccNSO schedule will continue on Tuesday, 8 March with a joint session of the ccNSO and the Governmental Advisory Committee. The **ccNSO Members Meeting** during ICANN73 starts with a session on the role of the ccNSO with regard to DNS abuse. This is followed by a governance session on the ccNSO conflict of interest proposals and information about the upcoming ccNSO members vote for the adoption of the new ccNSO rules. The ccNSO Members Meeting continues on Thursday, 10 March with an opportunity for ccNSO members to participate in a question and answer session with country code top-level domain (ccTLD) associated members of the ICANN Board. The ccNSO program will conclude with a **ccNSO Council meeting**.

The detailed ccNSO schedule, including a summary of the topics covered and remote participation details for ICANN73, is available on the **ccNSO ICANN73 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 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). The ccNSO 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 during 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-4. Please refer to the **ICANN73 schedule** *for the most current information.*

ccNSO Policy Development

The ccNSO policy development **working groups and other committees** continued their work according to their regular schedules, but will not meet as part of ICANN73.

The various working groups and committees prepare **updates** in preparation for each ccNSO Council meeting. The updates include information about the current status, next steps, and background.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

Tech Day
Monday, 7 March | 09:00-14:00

Since 2006, **Tech Day** has been a part of ICANN Public Meetings. It provides a forum for both experienced participants and newcomers to meet, present, and discuss technical and operational registry topics, security, and other Domain Name System (DNS) related work. During ICANN73, Tech Day will focus on DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC), DNS abuse prevention and mitigation, and other topics.

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, preparatory materials, and a summary of the topics covered.

DNS Abuse Session
Tuesday, 8 March | 10:30-12:00

This session builds on previous work during ICANN72 and on a ccNSO workshop held in November 2021 when ccTLD members and the broader community suggested areas in which the ccNSO should get involved in regarding DNS abuse. An ad hoc committee was then formed to work on a proposed roadmap, which includes sharing experiences and best practices aligned with the ccNSO role. During ICANN73, the committee will present the roadmap, consult with attending ccTLD members, and discuss next steps. Depending on the community feedback, the ccNSO Council is expected to adopt the roadmap during its meeting on Thursday, 10 March.

Governance of the ccNSO
Tuesday, 8 March | 12:30-14:00

The ccNSO Guideline Review Committee (GRC) will inform the ccNSO membership about the vote on the new ccNSO rules, which would replace the 2004 rules. Voting is expected to begin after ICANN73. The new rules will have a direct impact on the governance structure of the ccNSO, specifically on the respective roles and responsibilities of the ccNSO Council and ccNSO members.

In addition, the GRC will launch a discussion on the ccNSO Conflict of Interest (COI) rules. The aim of the consultation is to seek input from the ccNSO community and other stakeholders on the scope and relevance of the COI rules. Finally, GRC will expand on its changed mandate.

Question and Answer Session with ccTLD-related ICANN Board Members
Thursday, 10 March | 09:00-10:00

The ccNSO-appointed ICANN Board members have been invited to attend a question and answer session to share their experiences as ICANN Board members. Other ICANN Board members with an association to the ccTLD community have also been invited to attend.

ccNSO Council Meeting
Thursday, 10 March | 10:30-12:00

Topics for discussion will include outcomes from the ccNSO session on DNS abuse, the roles and responsibilities of the various members of the ccNSO Council as well as the election of the ccNSO leadership team consisting of one chair and two vice chairs. Additional topics for the ccNSO Council meeting will be made available on the Council **workspace**.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

What to Expect

The 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 ICANN73:

- The Transfer Policy Review Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group will hold a session to gather community input on some of the topics within its charter.

- The Expedited Policy Development Process on Internationalized Domain Names (EPDP-IDNs) Working Group will meet to make progress on its deliberations of charter questions.

- The EPDP on Specific Curative Rights Protections for International Governmental Organizations (EPDP-IGOs) will continue working to finish its Final Report.

- The Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team is expected to meet to make progress on its GNSO Council assignments.

In addition, there are several recent developments regarding ICANN Board consideration of outputs from GNSO policy development efforts:

- The ICANN org is conducting an **Operational Design Phase (ODP)** to deliver an Operational Design Assessment (ODA) on the outputs produced by the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) PDP.

- The ICANN org recently delivered an **ODA** to support ICANN Board consideration of recommendations from Phase 2 of the EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data (EPDP-TempSpec).

- The ICANN Board is considering the Phase 2A recommendations of the EPDP-TempSpec.

- The ICANN Board adopted the recommendations from Phase 1 of the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs PDP.

As part of its ongoing efforts to manage projects in its **pipeline**, the GNSO Council launched a pilot project called the Framework for Continuous Improvement Oversight and Implementation. The objective of the pilot project 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 and distinct from policy work.

During ICANN73, the GNSO Council will hold its public meeting on Wednesday, 9 March and a wrap-up session on Thursday, 10 March. The GNSO will also meet with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), the ICANN Board, and the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC).

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

Background

Transfer Policy Review PDP

Following the receipt and review of the ICANN org Transfer Policy Status Report, the GNSO Council established a Transfer Policy Review Scoping Team that 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:

- The Gaining and Losing Forms of Authorization (FOA), AuthInfo Codes, negative-acknowledgement (NACKing) transfers (Phase 1A).

- The change of registrant (Phase 1B).

- The transfer emergency action contact and reversing inter-registrar transfers, Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy, and 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.

The working group has made substantial progress on deliberations related to the Gaining and Losing FOA and AuthInfo Codes, and is firming up recommendations for its Initial Report. The next area of focus is the process of reversing or denying transfers, also known as NACKing. The working group is taking into account relevant written input received from stakeholder groups on each topic.

The Transfer Policy Review PDP Working Group session is scheduled for Tuesday, 8 March. During the session, the working group will discuss topics within its charter and seek broader community input.

EPDP-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.

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.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

The EPDP-IDNs received early written input from several stakeholder groups on topics contained in its charter. In January 2022, the working group conducted an engagement session with Security and Stability Advisory Committee members to discuss their early input, as well as exchange views on specific charter questions.

The working group has largely completed its first pass of substantive deliberations on Topic A – the first of its seven main topics – which focuses on the consistent definition of gTLDs and variant gTLD labels using the RZ-LGR. The working group is now proceeding with its initial deliberations on charter questions regarding the "same entity" principle for variant gTLDs, as well as questions related to the legal and operational framework by which registry operators could apply for, or seek to activate allocatable variant gTLD labels.

The working group session will be held on Wednesday, 9 March. During the session, the working group will discuss topics within its charter and seek broader community input.

EPDP-IGOs
In April 2019, the GNSO Council voted to approve recommendations 1-4 in the Final Report of the IGO and International Non-Governmental Organization (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 discussions 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** published its Initial Report for Public Comment on 14 September 2021. It has considered the comments received and is making changes to its report as necessary.

EPDP-IGOs will meet on Tuesday, 8 March to complete its Final Report.

Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team
The GNSO Council adopted the formation and instructions of the **Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team** during its meeting on 22 July 2021. The scoping team was tasked to consider a number of 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 (i.e., 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 scoping team commenced its deliberations in October 2021. Following its review of the index of relevant resources, the scoping team has focused on the topics of enforcement and reporting as well as measurement of accuracy. It engaged with the ICANN org to better understand the interpretation and enforcement of existing requirements as well as reporting. The scoping team is also working through a gap analysis that is expected to help inform its deliberations and the development of recommendations to the GNSO Council.

The Accuracy Scoping Team will hold a session on Monday, 7 March to work on the assignments provided by the GNSO Council in its instructions.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

New gTLD SubPro PDP

The **New gTLD SubPro PDP Working Group** began its work on 22 February 2016. Over the course of several years, it convened various subgroups and undertook extensive deliberations on the list of topics in its charter. This work provided 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 on 18 January 2021. It features more than 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 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 to implement PDP outputs. On 22 April 2021, a Public Comment proceeding on the Final Report sought community input prior to the ICANN Board action regarding PDP outputs. On 29 April 2021, and as required by the ICANN Bylaws, the ICANN Board notified the GAC of the GNSO Council approval of the PDP outputs that were determined to have received either consensus or full consensus designations by the working group.

On 12 September 2021, the ICANN Board directed ICANN org to initiate an **Operational Design Phase (ODP)** for the Final Report outputs.The ODP began on 3 January 2022.

There is no working group session scheduled during ICANN73.

EPDP-TempSpec

On 17 May 2018, the ICANN Board approved the TempSpec 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. It concluded in March 2019. An **implementation review team** is tasked with implementing the ICANN Board-approved Phase 1 policy recommendations.

- **Phase 2** focused on the discussion of a System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (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). Furthermore, the ICANN Board adopted the four Priority 2 recommendations (not related to the SSAD) during its meeting on 21 June 2021.

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. On 25 January 2022, ICANN org delivered the **Operational Design Assessment** (ODA) to the ICANN Board.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

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 Registration Data Directory Services 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 the ICANN org develops a 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. It states that registrars who choose to publish a contact intended to be pseudonymized should consider following the appended guidance from Bird & Bird and relevant data protection authorities. The GNSO Council approved the policy recommendations in the EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2A Final Report on 27 October 2021. Subsequently, the ICANN org opened a Public Comment proceeding on the Phase 2A Final Report in advance of the ICANN Board consideration, and the proceeding closed on 13 January 2022. Next, the ICANN Board will consider the Phase 2A policy recommendations.

There is no working group session scheduled during ICANN73.

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, which has been an ICANN consensus policy since 1999.

On 24 November 2020, the PDP working group submitted its Phase 1 Final Report to the GNSO Council. 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 a final recommendation on overarching data collection aimed at addressing data-related gaps. The working group gave 34 recommendations full consensus support, while one recommendation received consensus support.

On 21 January 2021, the GNSO Council unanimously approved the Phase 1 Final Report and sent the Recommendations Report to the ICANN Board on 19 March 2021. A Public Comment proceeding on the Phase 1 Final Report was conducted from 7 April to 21 May 2021.

On 16 January 2022, the ICANN Board voted to adopt all 35 final Phase 1 PDP recommendations. Following the ICANN Board vote, the ICANN org Global Domains and Strategy function will proceed with planning for implementation.

There is no working group session scheduled during ICANN73.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

More Information

Please read the **GNSO Policy Briefing** to help you prepare for ICANN73. Those interested in GNSO policy activities are welcome to attend the GNSO Policy Update webinar during ICANN73 Prep Week on Tuesday, 22 February.

Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC-4. Please refer to the **ICANN73 schedule** for the most current information.*

PDP Working Group and Scoping Team Meetings

Accuracy Scoping Team
Monday, 7 March | 12:30-14:00

Transfer Policy Review PDP Working Session
Tuesday, 8 March | 10:30-12:00

EPDP-IGOs Working Session
Tuesday, 8 March | 16:30-17:30

EPDP-IDNs Working Session
Wednesday, 9 March | 14:30-16:00

GNSO Council Meetings

GNSO Council Meeting
Wednesday, 9 March | 12:30-14:30

GNSO Council Wrap Up
Thursday, 10 March | 10:30-12:00

Joint Meetings

GNSO and GAC
Monday, 7 March | 16:30-17:30

GNSO and ICANN Board
Tuesday, 8 March | 09:00-10:00

GNSO and ALAC
Wednesday, 9 March | 16:30-17:30

At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

What to Expect

During ICANN73, the At-Large community, including At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) members and Regional At-Large Organization (RALO) leaders and liaisons, will hold ten sessions. The sessions are organized into three tracks: At-Large policy, outreach and engagement, and operations. The focus of the sessions include:

- **Policy Advice and Priority Sessions**. At-Large will hold three priority topic meetings during ICANN73. These sessions center on the protection of end user rights for a secure and stable Domain Name System (DNS), the next steps regarding the Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice (CCT) Review, and the end user perspective in recommendations and the ICANN Prioritization Framework.

- **RALO Activities**. There will be several activities for the RALOs, including the traditional Joint African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO)-AfrICANN meeting. Also, the North American Regional At-Large Organization (NARALO) will hold a monthly meeting and host a networking event open to At-Large members and the ICANN community.

- **Joint Meetings**. The ALAC will hold joint meetings with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council, and the ICANN Board.

Background

At-Large Policy Advice Activities and Priority Sessions

Prior to ICANN73, the ALAC submitted seven policy advice statements including ALAC responses to the ICANN Board, clarifying questions regarding **ALAC Advice on EPDP Phase 2 (SSAD)** and **ALAC Advice on Subsequent Procedures**. The ALAC will discuss their responses with the ICANN Board during their joint meeting.

In addition, At-Large will hold three priority sessions during ICANN73 related to the protection of end user rights for a secure and stable DNS, next steps regarding the CCT Review, the progress of At-Large recommendations prioritization, and the end user perspective in the ICANN Prioritization Framework.

CCT Review Revisited

The ICANN Bylaws-mandated review of the impact of the 2012 new gTLD round on CCT produced the first set of recommendations for the post-IANA transition ICANN. Ten years later, CCT Review Team discussions are ongoing, with several recommendations pending implementation. This At-Large session will explore the CCT recommendations and their value and urgency in the current environment as ICANN moves toward a new round of applications for new gTLDs.

End User Perspective in Recommendations and the ICANN Prioritization Framework

This session will be held in a roundtable format to update the ALAC, At-Large leadership, and wider community on the current state and planning for the ICANN Prioritization Framework. It will also provide a review of the progress of the ALAC Operations, Finance, and Budget Working Group Small Team on overall priorities for ALAC and At-Large. The session will include a discussion of community activities on all recommendations from Specific Reviews and cross-community working groups, such as Work Stream 2.

Protecting the Rights of End Users for a Secure and Stable DNS

This session aims to highlight the rights of end users and registrants and their importance in maintaining a stable and secure DNS. There will be three roundtable discussions on the rights of end users as incorporated in the ICANN Bylaws and community practices, the rights of registrants, and current policies under development.

At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

At-Large Outreach and Engagement Activities

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the At-Large community has continued to prioritize its **annual activities**.

Regional At-Large Organization (RALO) Activities

The At-Large community consists of over 250 At-Large Structures (ALSes), 155 individuals, and 22 observers in the five RALOs. During ICANN73, RALO leaders will participate in regional leadership activities to focus on policy topics as well as outreach and engagement activities.

NARALO will hold a virtual session on blockchain and non-fungible tokens on Tuesday, 8 March and a networking event on Wednesday, 9 March. The African community will hold their Joint AFRALO-AfrICANN session on Wednesday, 9 March to discuss regional issues. This will be the 28th Joint AFRALO-AfrICANN session held since 2010.

The At-Large Social Media Working Group (SMWG) will organize its ICANN Public Meeting activities to promote At-Large policy sessions and engage with end users. The At-Large SMWG, ICANN Fellows, and NextGen@ICANN program participants will collaborate on regional and virtual activities with the goal of promoting At-Large outreach and engagement in regional languages, including Spanish.

Joint Meetings

At-Large leaders will meet to discuss policy issues with other stakeholders, including the GAC and the GNSO Council. The ALAC will meet with the ICANN Board to discuss a series of questions related to At-Large policy priorities, including recent ALAC responses to clarifying questions from the ICANN Board regarding ALAC Advice.

Operations

At-Large Leadership will hold a welcome and introductory session on Monday, 7 March. The agenda includes a discussion on At-Large activities for 2022, operational and project updates, and an overview of ICANN73 sessions.

At-Large leadership will hold a session on Thursday, 10 March that includes discussions with the ICANN President and CEO as well as the ICANN Board chair and vice chair.
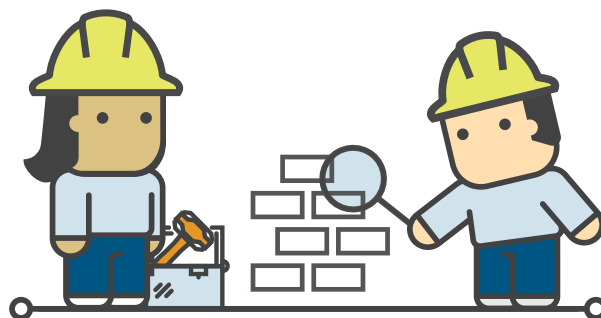
At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC-4. Please refer to the **ICANN73 schedule** for the most current information.*

At-Large Policy Sessions

CCT Review Revisited
Monday, 7 March | 12:30-14:00

End User Perspective in Recommendations and the ICANN Prioritization Framework
Tuesday, 8 March | 10:30-12:00

EPDP-IGOs Working Session
Tuesday, 8 March | 14:30-16:00

Protecting the Rights of End Users for a Secure and Stable DNS
Wednesday, 9 March | 12:30-14:00

Regional and Outreach Sessions

NARALO Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, 8 March | 12:30-14:00

Joint AFRALO-AfrICANN Meeting
Wednesday, 9 March | 14:30-16:00

NARALO Networking Event
Wednesday, 9 March | 18:00-19:00

Joint Meetings

ALAC and ICANN Board
Tuesday, 8 March | 10:30-12:00

ALAC and GNSO
Wednesday, 9 March | 16:30-17:30

ALAC and GAC
Thursday, 10 March | 09:00-10:00

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

What to Expect

The GAC plans to conduct 16 hours of substantive discussions on topics and issues of priority interest to government participants. As with previous virtual ICANN Public Meetings, the GAC has expanded its planned activities to conduct briefing webinars, work sessions, and bilateral meetings with other community groups.

The GAC is continuing work on a number of topics that have attracted attention from governments. These topics include:

- New generic top-level domain (gTLD) subsequent procedures, including the ICANN org Operational Design Phase.

- Registration data services and data protection policies, including follow-up on Phases 2 and 2A of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data and the ICANN org Operational Design Assessment for the System for Standardized Access/Disclosure to Nonpublic Registration Data.

- Domain Name System (DNS) abuse mitigation measures.

- Rights protection mechanisms for intergovernmental organizations.

The GAC schedule will enable participants to devote time to both GAC sessions and plenary sessions on topics of community interest. This scheduling approach provides GAC-focused time followed by community discussions that can lead to substantive follow-up during internal GAC conversations and planning efforts.

Agenda Overview

The GAC chair will open the GAC meeting with a report to the GAC on recent work progress and accomplishments since ICANN72. The update will include various GAC correspondence and Public Comment submissions, the ICANN Board scorecard response to the ICANN72 Communiqué, and plans for the joint meeting with the ICANN Board.

In addition to the continued focus on new gTLD subsequent procedures, the GAC agenda will feature:

- Further assessment and implementation efforts by GAC working groups regarding Work Stream 2 accountability recommendations.

- Strategic planning on DNS abuse mitigation matters.

- Discussion of recent developments regarding Registration Directory Services/WHOIS and data protection.

- Discussions about GAC implementation of the Global Public Interest Framework pilot project.

- Drafting of the GAC ICANN73 Communiqué.

- Interactions with the ICANN Board, At Large Advisory Committee, Country Code Supporting Organization, and the GNSO.

To enhance the effectiveness of GAC sessions, GAC members have identified specific objectives to help focus discussions. The GAC preparation process continues to evolve. Written briefings for GAC members will be supplemented with webinar briefings from the ICANN org and GAC topic leads.

The GAC chair and vice chairs will hold update calls with GAC members during ICANN73. GAC members from different time zones who find it difficult to participate effectively in all scheduled sessions have valued these updates during previous virtual ICANN Public Meetings. The update calls for GAC members will provide basic information about sessions held during the previous day and offer GAC members a preview of sessions and topics scheduled that day.

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

Background

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

The GAC provides advice on the public policy aspects of ICANN's responsibilities with regard to the DNS. 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.

Further information about the GAC and its various work efforts, processes, and operating principles can be found on the **GAC website**.

Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC-4. Please refer to the **ICANN73 schedule** for the most current information.*

The GAC has integrated its agenda with ICANN73 sessions as much as possible. GAC members have been active participants in planning discussions for a number of sessions including both plenary sessions. More details regarding specific GAC plenary sessions can be found on the GAC ICANN73 **agenda webpage** where all session descriptions, materials, and presentations will be published. GAC plenary sessions will begin daily at 09:00. All GAC plenary sessions will be open. Each GAC session will feature simultaneous remote interpretation in the six United Nations languages.

The GAC principle of openness will be evident during communiqué drafting sessions scheduled for Wednesday, 8 March and Thursday, 9 March. The GAC continues to build on communiqué drafting process improvements by increasing opportunities for early contributions. The GAC has scheduled nearly six hours of discussion and drafting time.
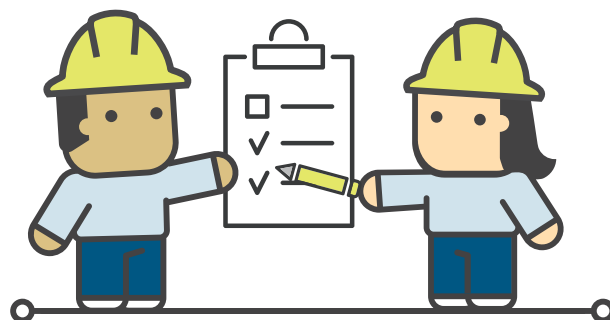
Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

What to Expect

The RSSAC will conduct its monthly meeting and a public session to raise awareness about its recent **publications**, namely "RSSAC047v2: RSSAC Advisory on Metrics for the DNS Root Servers and the Root Server System," "RSSAC058: Success Criteria for the RSS Governance Structure," and "RSSAC059: RSSAC Advisory on Success Criteria for the Root Server System Governance Structure." The RSSAC will also have a joint meeting with the ICANN Board to discuss priority issues.

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. The RSSAC consists of representatives from the root server operator organizations and liaisons from the partner organizations involved in the technical and operational management of the root zone.

The **RSSAC Caucus** is composed 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 no active work party in the RSSAC Caucus. Please view information about previous RSSAC Caucus work parties **here**.

Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC-4. Please refer to the **ICANN73 schedule** for the most current information.*
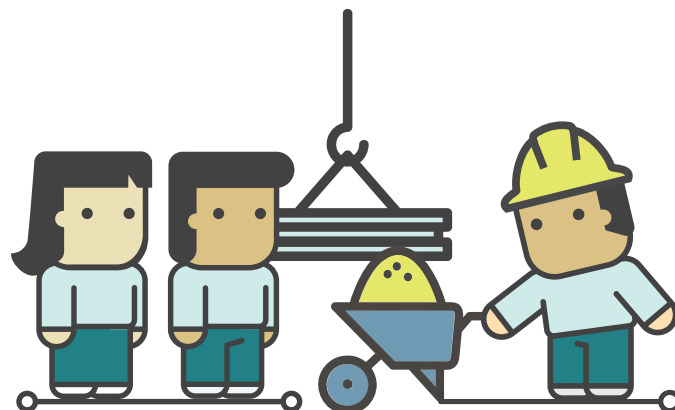
Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and RSSAC
Monday, 7 March | 16:30-17:30

RSSAC Meeting
Tuesday, 8 March | 10:30-12:00

RSSAC Public Session
Thursday, 10 March | 10:30-12:00

Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

What to Expect

The SSAC will hold a workshop on Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and security during ICANN73. 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, this workshop will provide the opportunity to hear about what the SSAC is learning as it deploys and manages DNSSEC.

The SSAC will also provide updates on topics currently under examination by the SSAC during its public session, including routing security, the changing nature of DNS resolution, Delegation Signer record management automation, and the Name Collision Analysis Project.

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**.

Session Details

*Session times provided in this report are in UTC-4. Please refer to the **ICANN73 schedule** for the most current information.*

SSAC Public Meeting

Tuesday, 8 March | 14:30-16:00

The SSAC will review its recent publications and ongoing work 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.

DNSSEC and Security Workshop

Wednesday, 9 March | 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 impacts and potential abuses, impacts of Resource Public Key Infrastructure deployments, Border Gateway Protocol hijacking, and other Internet-related routing issues.

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