Pre-ICANN57 Policy Report



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Welcome to ICANN57



Welcome to Hyderabad! I am pleased to present the Pre-ICANN57 Policy Report written by the Policy Development Support team. This report builds upon our well-received pilot effort from ICANN56, providing high-level updates from the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees.

ICANN57 is the Annual General Meeting for all of ICANN: the community, the organization, and the Board of Directors. Per the recommendations of the Meeting Strategy Working Group, this meeting showcases the work of ICANN. ICANN57 will feature two Public Forum sessions and eight community-driven high-interest topic sessions as well as outreach and engagement activities.

We will also recognize the contributions of our community through two recognition programs. The annual Leadership Award, selected by the ICANN executive team, will be presented during the Opening Ceremony on Saturday, 5 November. On Tuesday, 8 November, the annual Community Recognition Program will recognize leaders from across the Supporting Organizations, Advisory Committees, and the Nominating Committee. We hope you will join us for both of these special moments. A global community of stakeholders and participants from many backgrounds, with various points of view help coordinate and support the Internet's unique identifiers. The Internet functions for everybody because everybody is invited to help make it function. Consensus policies developed by the multistakeholder model give our results both effectiveness and the greatest legitimacy.

Thank you to our generous hosts and to 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 engage actively in this meeting.

Best regards,

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

Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

What to Expect at ICANN57

The ASO conducts regional policy development work at RIR meetings and on mailing lists, but the ASO will have a presence at ICANN57. The Internet number community will continue to strengthen its working relationship with ICANN.

The now expired IANA functions contract defined requirements for reporting and performance of the IANA numbering services. In absence of the IANA functions contract, the Internet number community proposed the creation of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) between ICANN and the five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) under which ICANN would continue performing the IANA numbering services. ICANN and the RIRs signed the SLA in June 2016, and the SLA came into effect on 1 October 2016.

Additionally, to provide oversight of the SLA, the Internet number community recommended the formation of the IANA Numbering Services Review Committee to advise the Number Resource Organization (NRO) Executive Committee in its periodic review of ICANN's performance against the SLA. Following the IANA stewardship transition, the IANA Numbering Services Review Committee has been established.

Background

The ASO was established in 2003 through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ICANN and the Number Resource Organization (NRO), representing the Internet number community and the five, autonomous RIRs: African Network Information Center (AFRINIC), Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC), American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN), Latin American and Caribbean Network Information Centre (LACNIC), and Réseaux IP Européen Network Coordination Centre (RIPE NCC).

Through the MoU, the NRO Number Council acts as the ASO Address Council at ICANN. The ASO Address Council coordinates the global policy development work of the Internet number community and also appoints members to the ICANN Board of Directors, the Nominating Committee and other ICANN groups.

The ASO Address Council consists of 15 members, three from each region. The ARIN Board of Trustees recently appointed Kevin Blumberg to fill a vacancy on the ASO Address Council, and the voting members at APNIC42 elected Brajesh Jain to serve on the ASO Address Council beginning 1 January 2017.

Session Details

The ASO/NRO Update session will take place 11:00-12:15 on Saturday, 5 November. This session will provide policy development and operational updates from the Internet number community including the ASO Address Council, the NRO, and the RIRs.

Upcoming RIR meetings include:

- AFRNIC 25 | Port Louis, Mauritius | 25-30 November 2016
- APNIC 44 Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam 20 February 2 March 2017
- ARIN 39 New Orleans, USA 2-5 April 2017
- RIPE 74 Budapest, Hungary 8-12 May 2017
- LACNIC 27 Location to be determined 22-26 May 2017

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

What to Expect at ICANN57

The ccNSO will have a number of working group meetings on Friday, 4 November. The <u>ccNSO program</u> starts on Saturday, 5 November with <u>Tech Day</u>, a workshop open for all community members with an interest in technical topics including registry work and security. Sunday, 6 November and Monday, 7 November are <u>ccNSO Member Days</u>, where the country code top-level domain (ccTLD) community will discuss a number of issues reflecting a cross-section of the world's country codes. A detailed ccNSO schedule for ICANN57 is available <u>here</u>.

Background

Final Report on the Proposed Guidelines for the Second String Similarity Review Process

In June 2015, the ICANN Board of Directors requested that the ccNSO—in consultation with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) and the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)—provide guidance on how to deal with a "split decision." In October 2015, the ccNSO established a working group with participants from the ccTLD community and the GAC. The Extended Process Similarity Review Panel (EPSRP) working group sought feedback, via a public comment proceeding, on its proposed guidelines for the methodology on the second string similarity review process, including the interpretation of a split recommendation. The EPSRP working group finalized its report and submitted it to the ccNSO Council for adoption at ICANN57. If adopted, the recommendations will be submitted to the ICANN Board of Directors.

Draft Interim Report by the Cross-Community Working Group on a Framework for Use of Country and Territory Names as TLDs (CWG-UCTN)

The CWG-UCTN has decided that 2-character codes (in ASCII) should remain reserved for ccTLDs (ISO Standard). After analysis of community feedback on 3-character codes, a proposal was discussed during and following ICANN55, and at a broad cross-community session held during ICANN56. The CWG-UCTN is developing its Interim Report for public comment, including the consensus views to date, the issues discussed, and the conviction by the group that a harmonized framework for the use of country, territory and other geographic names is not feasible.

Session Details

During <u>ccNSO Member Days</u>, the ccTLD community typically exchanges best practices in legal and marketing topics. Other important discussions include the policy development process regarding the retirement of ccTLDs and the development of a review mechanism for the decisions on delegation, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs. The fundamental nature of these processes for ccTLDs and the related issues will determine the intensiveness and duration of these processes. With the completed IANA Stewardship Transition, the ccTLD community believes relevant policies need to be in place.

The ccNSO will also focus on the implementation of the IANA Stewardship Transition and its effect on ccTLDs and implications for the future. The ccNSO will provide updates regarding ICANN accountability and further explore its own transparency.

The ccNSO is organizing two high-interest topic sessions:

- **Transparency on Legal Advice** A question and answer session with the ICANN General Counsel on the legal advice that ICANN receives and how that supports the ICANN mission. The expected outcome of this session is a step forward in transparency on legal advice, a better understanding of the operating practices within which the legal team works, and ideas on how to continue the process of increasing community scrutiny of legal advice received by ICANN.
- How to Do Outreach in Community Groups | What does outreach mean to each community group? The aim of this session is to work on a better interpretation of outreach, and to develop or refine a strategy on outreach to new and potential members as well as to engage new and existing members.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

What to Expect at ICANN57

The **GNSO** is the policymaking body responsible for generic top-level domains (gTLD), such as .com, .net and .org. Its members include representatives from gTLD registries, gTLD registrars, intellectual property interests, Internet service providers, businesses and non-commercial interests. The GNSO brings together these different interests to address gTLD policy issues using a bottom-up process, driven by working groups run by community volunteers.

ICANN Annual General Meetings bookend the GNSO yearly meeting schedule, providing an opportunity to both review the work of the previous year and begin the process of planning the next 12-month cycle of meetings. At this meeting, a portion of the GNSO Council will leave their seats with new GNSO Council members joining to represent their various communities, while at the same time the GNSO leadership team (chair and vice chairs) will be selected. Additionally, the GNSO will participate in several cross-community sessions as well as maintain a busy schedule of working group meetings and updates.

Background

At ICANN57, the GNSO will address a broad range of gTLD policy issues such as the new gTLD subsequent procedures; international governmental organization (IGO) and international non-governmental organization (INGO) access to curative rights protection mechanisms; the review of all rights protection mechanisms in all gTLDs; and a next generation registration directory service to replace WHOIS. In addition, the GNSO is also expected to discuss non-policy issues such as the GNSO role in the post-IANA stewardship transition environment as well as the implementation of the GNSO Review recommendations.

Additionally, the GNSO Council and community will meet with other key stakeholders including the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), the ICANN Board of Directors and ICANN Executive Team, including the President and CEO.

Session Details

Please see the ICANN57 schedule for details about sessions related to GNSO activities, including:

GNSO joint meetings with

- ccNSO
- GAC
- ICANN Board of Directors

Policy-related working group meetings

- New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process Working Group Meeting
- Next Generation Registration Directory Services to replace WHOIS Policy Development Process Working
 Group meeting
- Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs Working Group Meeting
- IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms Presentation of Initial Report
- Thick WHOIS Implementation Review Team
- IGO-INGO Implementation Review Team
- Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues Implementation Review Team
- Cross-Community Working Group on the Use of Country and Territory Names as TLDs

GNSO Council

- GNSO Council Open Meeting
- GNSO Council Administrative Meeting, including seating of new GNSO Council members and election
 of GNSO Chair

At-Large/At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

What to Expect at ICANN57

The ALAC and Regional At-Large Organization (RALO) leaders will address several policy issues important to end users. These include ongoing work in the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability Work Stream 2 and the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Policy Development Process Working Groups, as well as the development of the <u>At-Large Proposal on Creating a Consumer Agenda at ICANN</u>.

Another area of attention is matters important to organizational effectiveness. Specifically, ITEMS, the independent examiner conducting the At-Large Review, will <u>meet</u> with the At-Large Review Working Party to present their interim research findings and their plans for developing the Draft Report scheduled to be published in early December 2016. The <u>At-Large Board Member selection, criteria and expectations of At-Large Structures (ALSes)</u>, as well as the FY18 budget and special request process will also be discussed.

Background

During ICANN56, ICANN Board of Directors Chair Steve Crocker asked the ALAC to advise ICANN on strengthening its end-user focus. In response to this request, a draft **<u>At-Large Proposal on Creating a Consumer Agenda at ICANN</u>** has been developed. It points out areas for improvement and proposes recommendations for ICANN to enhance consumer protection and end user accountability within the DNS.

The **organizational review of the At-Large Community** started in May 2016. In addition to assessing the effectiveness of the improvements resulting from the previous review conducted in 2008, this review aims to (1) acknowledge areas that are working well, (2) identify areas that need improvement and propose needed changes, and (3) evaluate RALOs and ALSes. To develop a sufficient basis for formulating findings and recommendations, ITEMS has conducted more than 80 interviews and reviewed 180+ responses for its **global survey** so far.

Seat Number 15 of the ICANN Board of Directors is dedicated to a member selected by the At-Large community. Rinalia Abdul Rahim, whose 3-year term will be completed at the closing of ICANN60, currently occupies this seat. The **process for selecting the next director** began in September 2016. Currently the At-Large community is **seeking Expression of Interest (EoI)** for this position. The deadline for EoI submission is on Friday, 18 November.

Much of At-Large Community's work has been on engagement and outreach. Regarding engagement, At-Large leaders explain the work of ICANN and At-Large via many channels and encourage ALSes to contribute to ALAC policy activities. The establishment of a <u>dedicated taskforce</u> to evaluate ALSes' effectiveness is an important part of this, as are the <u>capacity building sessions and briefings</u> on subjects of current importance. Regarding outreach, At-Large continues to successfully recruit new members, with the number of accredited ALSes approaching 210.

Session Details

The RALOs will organize a series of themed meetings and events. The Asian, Australasian, and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organizations (APRALO) will hold four <u>capacity building sessions</u> for its ALS members 12:45-13:45 on 5-8 November. The <u>Joint APRALO Showcase and Civil Society Networking Event</u> is on Sunday, 6 November at 18:30, celebrating Diwali in India and diversity in the region. The <u>Joint African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO)</u>-<u>AfrICANN Meeting</u> will be held on Monday, 7 November at 13:45. Participants will discuss their Joint Statement on the "Impact of the IANA Stewardship Transition and ICANN Accountability on Africa." The North American Regional At-Large Organization (NARALO)'s <u>"A Year in Review"</u> meeting will take place on Sunday, 6 November at 11:00, with the attendance of the first two ICANN Tribal Ambassadors from the First Peoples communities. They are funded by ICANN via the NARALO-initiated Tribal Ambassadorship Pilot Project.

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

What to Expect at ICANN57

The GAC will have joint meetings with the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), Country Code Names Supporting Organization, At-Large Advisory Committee, and ICANN Board of Directors. The GAC will also address current GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Groups, including Next Generation Registration Directory Services to replace WHOIS and New Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures. The GAC plans to discuss remaining issues from the latest new gTLD round, including safeguards, country codes and country names as Second Level Domains and protection of international governmental organization acronyms and Red Cross/Red Crescent identifiers.

The GAC will hold leadership elections and develop its processes in view of the new ICANN Bylaws following the IANA Stewardship Transition, as well as reviewing its Operating Principles. Further internal topics will include work plans and outcomes of GAC Working Groups addressing **Public Safety**, **Human Rights and International Law**, **Geographic Names**, **Underserved Regions** and **Nominating Committee Relations**. Other sessions include an update on the future GAC website.

Background

The GAC provides advice on public policy aspects of ICANN's responsibilities with regard to the DNS. The GAC is not a decision-making body but 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 of Directors, and if the ICANN Board of Directors proposes actions that would be inconsistent with GAC consensus advice, it must give reasons for doing so and attempt to reach a mutually acceptable solution.

As a chartering organization in cross-community working groups preparing for the IANA Stewardship Transition, the GAC remains active in the ensuing efforts, both for the adaptation of processes to the new bylaws and for the continuing activities in Work Stream 2 of the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability.

The membership of GAC consists of national governments and distinct economies recognized in international forums. Multinational governmental and treaty organizations and public authorities (including UN agencies with a direct interest in global Internet governance such as the ITU, UNESCO and WIPO) participate in the GAC in an observer capacity.

Session Details

Five GAC Working Groups will have working sessions on Thursday, 3 November reporting on their outcomes to the GAC later during ICANN57.

The GAC plenary sessions will start on Friday, 4 November with a full agenda every day and concluding prior to the start of the high-interest topic sessions each day. All GAC sessions will be open and take place in Hall 4, featuring simultaneous interpretation in the 6 UN languages plus Portuguese.

The GAC <u>Geographic Names Working Group</u> will develop suggestions for best practices for future rounds of new gTLDs and discuss the concept of public interest from the perspective of geographic names. The <u>Public Safety Working Group</u> of the GAC will engage the community in various settings regarding abuse mitigation, WHOIS-related issues and child protection.

A capacity building session for the Asia Pacific region, organized by the GAC <u>Under-Served Regions Working Group</u> in cooperation with the ICANN Global Stakeholder Engagement and Government Engagement teams, will take place on Sunday, 6 November from 18:30 to 20:00. This working group will also lead a high-interest topic session on "Underserved Regions in ICANN" on Monday, 7 November from 17:00 to 18:30.

More details regarding GAC sessions can be found on the ICANN57 schedule, where all presentations will be posted, and further information about the GAC is available on the **GAC Website**.

Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

What to Expect at ICANN57

The RSSAC will continue to raise awareness about two recent statements. In **RSSAC020**, "Client Side Reliability of Root DNS Data," the RSSAC confirms that the operators of the root servers are committed to serving the IANA global root DNS namespace. In addition, the RSSAC believes that modifying or tampering with root server responses undermines the predictability of the Internet as a dependable means of communication. The RSSAC reiterates its support for integrity protecting protocols such as DNSSEC.

In **RSSAC021**, "Impact of the Unavailability of a Single Root Server, the RSSAC answers whether or not the loss of any single root server will impact the resiliency, stability or reliability of the root server system. The RSSAC reviewed information on current architectures, root server availability, and short-term (hours or days) outages caused by administrative errors or attacks. The RSSAC concluded, based on information available today, that the loss of a single root server would not cause immediate stability issues for the root server system.

Background

The **RSSAC** is responsible for advising the ICANN Community and Board on matters relating to the operation, administration, security, and integrity of the authoritative root server system. The RSSAC consists of representatives from the organizations responsible for operating the world's 13 root name servers and liaisons from the partner organizations involved in the stable, technical, and operational management of the root zone.

In 2014, the RSSAC launched the Caucus of Domain Name System and Root Server System experts to carry out its essential work. There are 77 Caucus members (45% of whom do not work for root server operators), broadening the base of technical expertise contributing to RSSAC work.

Session Details

The RSSAC will have eleven working sessions throughout the meeting to advance its work on the evolution of the root server system and to discuss various internal matters. RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus members will actively participate in the high-interest topic sessions throughout the week as well.

The RSSAC will continue to participate in the "How It Works" tutorial series organized by the ICANN Office of the Chief Technology Officer. These sessions will be held 15:15-16:45 on 3 and 4 November. The tutorials start with a brief overview of the DNS, its history and what the root zone operators do. A few technical topics will be covered including a general explanation of anycast routing. These sessions are applicable to all audiences and no prerequisite technical expertise is necessary.

The RSSAC Public Session is 13:45-15:00 on Sunday, 6 November. During this session, RSSAC members will provide an update on its activities including current work and recent publications.

Notably, the RSSAC Caucus will have its first convening at an ICANN public meeting 15:15-16:45 on Sunday, 6 November. The RSSAC Caucus will discuss its ongoing work parties and explore potential topics for future work.

Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

What to Expect at ICANN57

The SSAC will hold two sessions on DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) during ICANN57. DNSSEC continues to be deployed around the world at an ever accelerating pace. From the root, to both generic top-level domains (gTLDs) and country code top-level domains (ccTLDs), the push is on to deploy DNSSEC to every corner of the internet. Businesses and ISPs are building their deployment plans too and interesting opportunities are opening up for all as the rollout continues. In addition, the SSAC will hold a public meeting during which the committee will provide an overview of its recent and current activities, and invite input from the community.

Background

The SSAC advises the ICANN community and Board of Directors on matters relating to the security and integrity of the Internet's naming and address allocation systems. This includes operational matters (e.g., matters pertaining to the correct and reliable operation of the root name system), administrative matters (e.g., matters pertaining to address allocation and Internet number assignment), and registration matters (e.g., matters pertaining to registry and registrar services such as WHOIS).

The SSAC produces reports, advisories, and comments on a range of topics. Reports are longer, substantive documents, which usually take a few or several months to develop. Advisories are shorter documents produced more quickly to provide timely advice to the community. Comments are responses to reports or other documents prepared by others, i.e. ICANN staff, supporting organizations, other advisory committees, or perhaps other groups outside of ICANN. The SSAC considers matters pertaining to the correct and reliable operation of the root name system, to address allocation and Internet number assignment, and to registry and registrar services such as WHOIS. The SSAC also tracks and assesses threats and risks to the Internet naming and address allocation services. For more information visit the <u>SSAC website</u>.

For information on how to participate in the SSAC, see the **SSAC Operational Procedures** and the **SSAC Introduction**.

Session Details

The first DNSSEC session, DNSSEC for Everybody: A Beginner's Guide, will be held on Friday, 4 November. In this session, the SSAC hopes to demystify DNSSEC and show how you can easily and quickly deploy DNSSEC into your business. Come and find out how it all works, what tools you can use to help and meet the community that can help you plan and implement DNSSEC. The session is aimed at everyone, so no technical knowledge is required.

The second session is the DNSSEC Workshop, to be held on Monday, 7 November. This session is a public presentation and discussion with those actively engaged in the deployment of DNSSEC. Registries, registrars, ISPs and others who plan to deploy DNSSEC services will benefit from the presentation and discussion of the deployment experience. Anyone with an interest in the deployment of DNSSEC, particularly registry, registrar and ISP representatives with technical, operational, and strategic planning roles. The DNSSEC Workshop has been a part of ICANN meetings for several years and has provided a forum for both experienced and new people to meet, present and discuss current and future DNSSEC deployments.

During the SSAC public meeting the committee will describe its role and how it conducts its work, provide an overview of recently published reports and advisories, describe current activities and goals, and engage in a dialog with the community.