Pre-ICANN61 Policy Report

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Welcome to **ICANN61**

Welcome to San Juan! I am pleased to present the Pre-ICANN61 Policy Report written by the Policy Development Support department. This report provides a high-level overview of the planned work and activities of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees at ICANN61.

ICANN61 is a Community Forum: a gathering of the ICANN community, Board, and organization. This meeting will feature two Public Forum sessions and four cross-community sessions, as well as outreach and engagement activities.

Tuesday will be dedicated to meetings of the constituencies and stakeholder groups in addition to joint meetings between various community groups and the ICANN Board. Throughout the week, there will be update sessions about the FY19 operating plan and budget as well. Thursday will feature a question and answer session with the ICANN organization executive team.

A global community of stakeholders and participants from many backgrounds with various points of view help coordinate and support the unique identifiers of the Internet. The Internet functions for everybody because everybody is invited to help make it function. Consensus policies developed through the multistakeholder model result in high levels of effectiveness and in turn have 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 actively engage in this meeting.

Best regards,

David Olive
Senior Vice President,
Policy Development Support

Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

What to Expect

The global Internet number community continues its regional consultations on the recommendations in the final report of the ASO organizational review published in late July 2017. The Number Resource Organization Executive Council (NRO EC) and the ASO Address Council (ASO AC) published a **joint response** earlier this year.

As described in the call for proposals by the NRO, the **objective of the review** is to determine if the ASO has a continuing purpose in the ICANN structure, and if so, whether any change in structure or operations of the ASO is desirable to improve its effectiveness. Additionally, it will decide whether or not the ASO is accountable to the Internet number community when carrying out its responsibilities.

The scope of the review includes all functions that the ASO undertakes in support of ICANN, and in particular, the development of global number policy and the appointment of individuals to various ICANN bodies, including the ICANN Board.

Finally, the ASO AC began the selection process for ICANN Board Seat 9. There are three candidates for the role, and the comment phase closes on 18 March 2018.

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 AC at ICANN. The **ASO AC** coordinates the global policy development work of the Internet number community and appoints members to the ICANN Board, the Nominating Committee, and other ICANN groups.

The ASO AC consists of 15 members, three from each service region. For 2018, Aftab Siddiqui serves as chair, with Kevin Blumberg and Ricardo Patara serving as vice chairs; they represent the RIPE NCC, ARIN, and LACNIC service regions, respectively.

Hervé Clément from the RIPE NCC service region, Mukhangu Noah Maina from the AFRINIC service region, and Henri Kasyfi Soemartono from the APNIC service region recently began new terms of service as well.

Paul Wilson, Alan Barrett, and Axel Pawlik are serving as chair, vice chair/secretary, and treasurer of the Number Resource Organization (NRO) Executive Council for 2018, respectively.

Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

Session Details

Although the ASO primarily conducts policy development work at regional Internet registry meetings and through mailing lists, the ASO AC will have its annual meeting in San Juan.

ASO AC Annual Meeting
Tuesday, 13 March | 09:00-12:00 | 209-A

This is the annual meeting of the ASO AC. The purpose of the ASO AC is to manage the global Internet number resource policy development process. The ASO AC meets monthly via teleconference and in person annually at an ICANN public meeting.
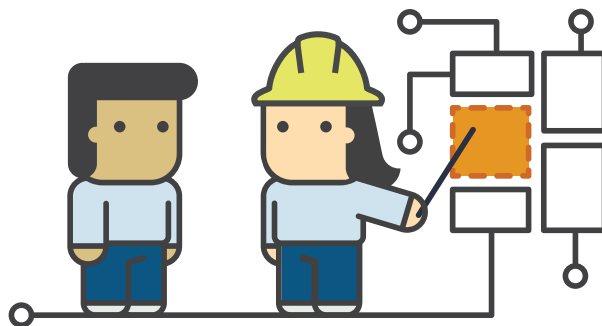
Joint Meeting: ASO/NRO and the ICANN Board
Wednesday, 14 March | 08:30-09:30 | Ballroom A

The ASO/NRO will have a joint meeting with the ICANN Board to discuss current work.

ASO Session
Wednesday, 14 March | 17:00-18:30 | 208-BC

The session will consist of regional policy development updates from the ASO AC and operational updates from the NRO.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

What to Expect

The ccNSO program for the country code top-level domain (ccTLD) community and other interested parties starts on Sunday, 11 March when ccNSO working groups and committees will meet. Monday, 12 March continues with **Tech Day**, a workshop open to all community members with an interest in technical or operational topics, including security. Tuesday, 13 March and Wednesday, 14 March are dedicated to the **ccNSO Members Meeting**, when the ccTLD community and other interested parties will discuss and receive updates on a number of topics relevant to ccTLD managers. The ccNSO Members Meeting is open to all with an interest in ccTLD-related topics. The detailed ccNSO schedule, including session summaries and remote participation details for ICANN61, is available on the **ccNSO workspace**.

Background

The ccNSO is a body within ICANN created for and by ccTLD managers. Since its creation in 2003, the ccNSO has evolved into a forum for ccTLD managers to meet and discuss topical issues of concern from a global perspective. The ccNSO provides a platform to nurture consensus, technical cooperation, and skill-building among ccTLDs, and facilitates the development of voluntary best practices for ccTLD managers. It is also responsible for developing and recommending global policies to the ICANN Board for a limited set of issues relating to ccTLDs, such as the retirement of ccTLDs. Membership in the ccNSO is open to all ccTLD managers responsible for managing an ISO 3166 country code top-level domain.

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 councilors are actively involved in determining the work and direction of the ccNSO. They 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 council documents, minutes of meetings, resolutions, and discussions are published on the **ccNSO Council workspace**.

Session Details

Tech Day
Monday, 12 March | 10:30-16:45 | 209-BC

Tech Day has been a part of ICANN Public Meetings for several years and provides a forum for both experienced and new people to meet and to present and discuss technical registry topics, security, and DNS-related work. One of the items on the agenda is the risk linked to the use of emoji in domain names. Members of the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) will brief the community on the risks (see **SAC 095**).

ccNSO Members Meeting | ccNSO as a Decisional Participant
Tuesday, 13 March | 10:30-11:00 | 209-BC

This session consists of three parts:

- **Empowered Community Administration (ECA) Update**
  The Empowered Community includes the ccNSO. Other Decisional Participants are the At-Large Advisory Committee, the Address Supporting Organization, the Governmental Advisory Committee, and Generic Names Supporting Organization. The ccTLD community present will be briefed on the latest in respect to the ECA.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

- **Approval Action and Rejection Action Procedure**
  According to the ICANN Bylaws, the Empowered Community needs to approve certain actions to become effective ("approval actions"). In addition, the Empowered Community may object to certain actions ("rejection actions"). The ccNSO as a Decisional Participant is developing internal **guidelines** to structure the approval action and rejection action processes. At this session, the guidelines will be explained and discussed to ensure ccTLDs are aware of their own roles and responsibilities, those of the ccNSO as a whole, and those of the ccNSO Council.

- **Independent Review Process (IRP) Implementation**
  The most likely interaction of the ccNSO with the IRP will come as a Decisional Participant in the Empowered Community as a "claimant." In addition, the ccNSO may have to play a role in setting up the panel itself. During this session, participants may expect an update on the current state of implementation and expected role of the ccNSO.

ccNSO Members Meeting | ccNSO Meeting Strategy Review
Tuesday, 13 March | 13:30-15:00 | 209-BC

The **ccNSO Meeting Strategy Review Working Group** is tasked to assess the duration and shape of the ccNSO Members Meetings. The review might lead to recommendations to change how ccNSO Members Meetings work. As part of this review process, input from the community has been collected via an online survey. Based on this input, ccNSO members will discuss and debate during an interactive workshop and develop an initial report with proposed recommendations. In preparation for this session, ccNSO members should consult the **background paper**, which covers information about the ccNSO Meeting Strategy Review, the ICANN meeting strategy, and the ccNSO meeting distribution at ICANN Public Meetings.

ccNSO Members Meeting | Policy Session: ccNSO Participation in Work Track 5
Wednesday, 14 March | 10:30-11:30 | 209-BC

The ccNSO is participating in the newly created Work Track 5 of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process Working Group. Work Track 5 will focus on developing proposed recommendations regarding the treatment of geographic names at the top-level. The group reached agreement on its terms of reference and began substantive deliberations in 2018. This follows the adoption of the **recommendations** of the Cross-Community Working Group on the Use of Country and Territory Names as TLDs (**CCWG UCTN**) and the subsequent closure of this CCWG.

ccNSO Members Meeting | Policy Session: Policy Development Process on the Retirement of ccTLDs
Wednesday, 14 March | 10:30-11:30 | 209-BC

The ccNSO Council has initiated the third ccNSO Policy Development Process (PDP). The goal is to develop and recommend policies to the ICANN Board pertaining to:

- The retirement of country code top-level domains (ccTLDs)
- Review mechanisms for decisions relating to the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs

The ccNSO Retirement PDP Working Group, which will meet on Thursday, 15 March, will provide a short briefing to the ccTLD and broader communities.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

ccNSO Members Meeting | Policy session: The Use of Emoji in Domain Names
Wednesday, 14 March | 10:30-11:30 | 209-BC

The focus of this session will be on the business and policy-related aspects linked to the use of emoji in domain names.

**ccNSO Members Meeting | Legal Session: The Practical Implementation of GDPR**
Wednesday, 14 March | 15:30-16:45 | 209-BC

On 14 April 2016, the European Union (EU) adopted the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which takes effect on 25 May 2018. The GDPR applies to all companies, regardless of their location, processing and holding the personal data of citizens residing in the European Union. Therefore, both ccTLD managers located in the EU, and those located outside of the EU that allow registrations by European citizens, are to most likely be affected. The goal of this legal session is to inform and discuss how ccTLD managers in different regions will be affected and how they intend to deal with the new policy, particularly in terms of WHOIS-related issues. More information is available **here**.

ccNSO Council Meeting
Wednesday, 14 March | 17:00-8:30 | 209-BC

At the ICANN61 ccNSO Council meeting, the chair and vice chairs will be elected. Consult the agenda and relevant background material on the **ccNSO Council workspace**.

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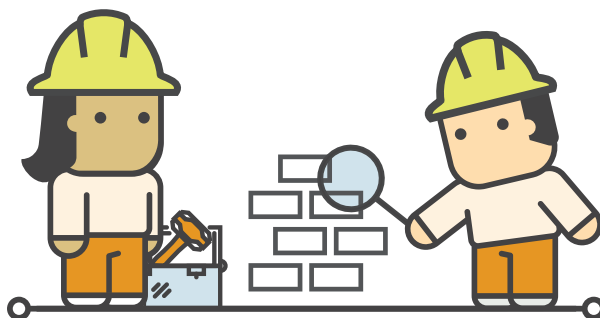
Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

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 to develop gTLD policy recommendations using a bottom-up process driven by working groups run by community volunteers.

The GNSO Council is expected to continue its strategic focus on policy development activities for 2018, which it began in its strategic planning session earlier this year. At ICANN61, the GNSO will advance policy development processes (PDPs), coordinate with the wider ICANN community, and engage in a number of cross-community discussions. All ICANN community members are welcome to attend and participate in the sessions of the different PDP working groups, as well as the GNSO Council and the GNSO community.

Background

At the end of January 2018, the GNSO Council held its first three-day strategic planning meeting. The principal aim was to think critically about "big picture" issues that are difficult to cover in the typical Council meeting. Through these discussions, the GNSO Council sought to better understand its role in the new ICANN Bylaws as a Decisional Participant in the Empowered Community. It also explored possible changes that could help the Council to fulfill its responsibilities more efficiently, effectively, and collaboratively.

To continue the momentum from the January session at ICANN61, the GNSO Council will deliver on its responsibilities as the manager of GNSO PDPs and as a member of the Empowered Community. A number of sessions will be dedicated to GNSO working groups to advance work in specific areas of policy development.

The New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group is making progress toward its Initial Report. The working group focused on deliberations on a set of six overarching or foundational subjects and sought community input on those subjects. Five separate work tracks were established to address the remaining subjects identified in its charter. Work tracks 1-4 have nearly concluded preliminary deliberations and have considered input and feedback received through public consultations. Work Track 5, which is devoted solely to the issue of geographic names at the top-level, has completed its terms of reference and begun deliberations. At ICANN61, the working group will work to solidify the content for the Initial Report; Work Track 5 will share an update about its progress and gather community input on key issues.

The Next Generation Registration Directory Service (RDS) to Replace WHOIS PDP Working Group is working toward reaching rough consensus agreements on key concepts concerning purposes for processing registration data elements. The key concepts include the collection and access to data elements beyond a Minimum Public Data Set. Specifically, the working group aims to achieve rough consensus on key concepts for which purposes and data elements must be supported by the RDS. It also aims to determine whether it is mandatory or optional to collect all identified data elements. The working group will then try to answer other charter questions for that universe of data elements, including users/purposes, access, and privacy. The working group will apply **answers** provided by both independent legal counsel and senior European Union privacy experts concerning RDS compliance with data protection laws, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The working group will take into consideration efforts currently underway within the ICANN organization and the community to enable near-term WHOIS compliance with GDPR. As of the end of January 2018, **49 initial points** of rough consensus had been reached during iterative and ongoing deliberation. The working group drafted an overall **statement of purpose** for registration data and directory services, which guided all initial agreements. The working group will hold two open meetings at ICANN61.

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

The Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs PDP Working Group has begun work on reviewing the Uniform Rapid Suspension dispute resolution procedure (URS). It has reached preliminary agreement on a list of topics for evaluating the URS, derived from the original questions in the PDP charter and additional suggestions from the community. The working group is currently discussing whether and how to proceed with data extraction for evaluating URS cases. In the meantime, the working group is preparing to work with a professional survey designer to develop and conduct surveys seeking data and anecdotal input concerning the efficacy of the Sunrise and Trademark Claims services. In January 2018, ICANN launched a **Request for Proposal (RFP)** to seek one or more suppliers qualified to develop and conduct the required survey(s). Concurrently, a working group sub-team continues to finalize guidance that will be provided to responding vendors during the interaction phrase of the RFP process. This sub-team will also examine potential data needs in relation to preliminarily agreed questions for examining additional marketplace RPMs offered on a voluntary basis by some registry operators. The working group will hold four open meetings at ICANN61.

Meanwhile, the International Governmental Organization and International Non-Governmental Organization (IGO-INGO) Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP is entering the concluding phase of its work. The working group will meet at ICANN61 as it works toward the publication of its Final Report with community comment to follow.

Read the **GNSO Policy Briefing** for more information.

Session Details

Please see the **ICANN61 schedule** for details about sessions related to GNSO activities, including:

PDP Working Group Meetings
Next Generation RDS to Replace WHOIS
Saturday, 10 March | 08:30-12:00 | 104
Wednesday, 14 March | 15:15-18:30 | 103-B

New gTLD Subsequent Procedures
Saturday, 10 March | 12:15-15:00 | 104
Wednesday, 14 March | 08:30-10:15 | 104

Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs
Saturday, 10 March | 15:15-18:30 | 104
Sunday, 11 March | 17:00-18:30 | 208-BC
Thursday, 15 March | 08:30-10:15 | 103-A

IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms
Wednesday, 14 March | 17:00-18:30 | 103-A

GNSO Meetings
GNSO Working Session
Sunday, 11 March | 09:00-15:00 | 104

GNSO Council Meeting
Wednesday, 14 March | 13:00-15:00 | 104

GNSO Council Wrap-Up Session
Thursday, 15 March | 10:30-12:00 | 104

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

Cross-Community Sessions Led/Co-Led by GNSO

A Walk in the Shoes of a New gTLD Registry Operator

Monday, 12 March | 13:30-15:00 | Ballroom A

Cross-Community Working Group on New gTLD Auction Proceeds

Sunday, 11 March | 17:00-18:30 | 104

Thursday, 15 March | 08:30-10:15 | 104

Joint Meetings

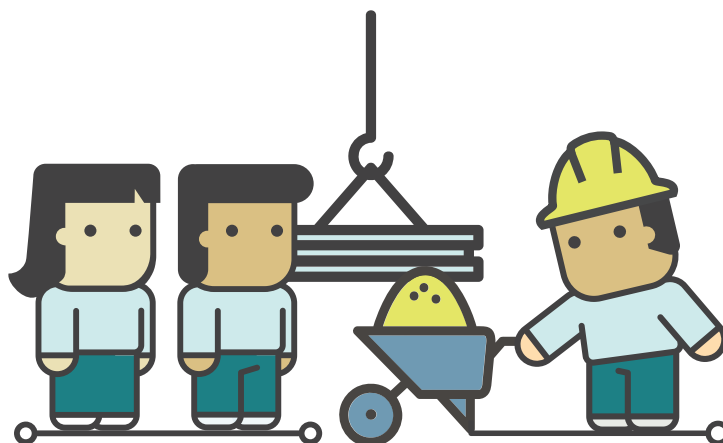**GNSO Council and ICANN Board**

Sunday, 11 March | 12:00-13:00 | 104

GNSO and Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

Sunday, 11 March | 15:15-16:45 | Ballroom B

GNSO and Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Councils

Monday, 12 March | 12:15-13:30 | 104

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

What to Expect

At ICANN61, the At-Large community will focus on three areas:

- Policy discussions on the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)/Registration Directory Services (RDS) and new generic top-level domains (new gTLDs).

- Moving forward with the At-Large review; At-Large members will discuss comments on a mapping exercise with members of the ICANN Board Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC).

- Issues related to the third At-Large Summit (ATLAS III), which is scheduled to take place during ICANN66, pending budget approval.

Members of At-Large will participate in 24 formal At-Large sessions as well as numerous informal sessions. These sessions include discussions with other stakeholders as well as the ICANN Board. At-Large will also engage in discussions on the ICANN FY19 draft budget. Several At-Large working groups will meet to move their work forward. At the regional level, the **North American School of Governance (NASIG)** will be held prior to the start of the meeting, while the **North American Regional At-Large Organization (NARALO)** will hold its 10-year anniversary event and its monthly meeting. Members of the African Regional At-Large Organization will hold their traditional AFRALO/AfrICANN meeting to discuss ICANN-related issues from the African perspective. Several members of Latin American and Caribbean Regional At-Large Organization (LACRALO) will participate for two days in the LACRALO Mediation Phase 2 that will discuss draft updated governance documents. The At-Large and European Regional At-Large Organization communities will also hold a joint outreach event with the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Noncommercial Users Constituency (NCUC).

Background

GDPR/RDS and New gTLDs

As the 25 May 2018 enforcement date for the GDPR approaches, the ICANN organization and community are working together to ensure compliance with this law while maintaining as much access to WHOIS as possible. At the end of 2018, the ICANN organization published **three proposed models** on collection of registration data and implementing registration directory services for community input. The community, including representatives of the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), provided feedback assessing the viability of each of the models in January 2018. Discussions on GDPR/RDS will continue to determine variations or modifications to one of these models, as well as the path forward.

During the first round of new gTLD applications, the ALAC provided a number of **policy advice statements** on the practical aspects of the implementation process. It helped create the Applicant Support Program (ASP) that provided cost reductions and technical and legal assistance to new gTLD applicants from underserved regions. The Applicant Guidebook assigned the ALAC a specific role to file objections against new gTLD applications that raise public interest concerns. The ALAC took on this role actively and engaged in the process. At-Large members involved in the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process Working Group reviewed the outcome of the first application round. During ICANN61, the ALAC is expected to announce the replacement of the co-leader of Work Track 5 of the GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group and engage in further discussions on the topic.

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

At-Large Mapping Exercise
In late August 2017, the At-Large community completed the **Feasibility Assessment and Implementation Plan** in response to the **At-Large Review recommendations** proposed by ITEMS International, the independent examiner. The document was developed with significant input from across the community, including the At-Large Review Working Party, the ALAC, Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs), and At-Large Structures (ALSes). The ALAC ratified the document during its monthly call on 22 August 2017. Following ratification, the ALAC submitted this document to the ICANN Board OEC for consultation. On 21 September 2017, ALAC Chair Alan Greenberg and At-Large Review Work Party Co-Chairs Holly Raiche and Cheryl Langon-Orr presented the document to the OEC. ITEMS International also explained its findings and analysis.

The At-Large Review Working Party leadership continues to prepare the response to the OEC mapping exercise of the At-Large Review. Members of the OEC will meet with the ALAC during ICANN61 to discuss the mapping exercise and the way forward on the At-Large Review.

The Third At-Large Summit (ATLAS III)
ATLAS is an opportunity for ALSes and At-Large individual members around the world to gather, discuss, and strategize on ICANN issues concerning end users. The first ATLAS was held during ICANN34 in 2009 with approximately 90 attendees. The second Summit was held during ICANN50 in 2014 with 150 attendees. Both summits were of significant importance in the development of At-Large. They also produced declarations containing recommendations to enhance end user engagement at ICANN. The **Third At-Large Summit (ATLAS III)** is expected to take place during the ICANN66 Annual General Meeting in November 2019, pending budget. Initial discussions about program planning and logistics began at ICANN60 and will continue during ICANN61.

Session Details

Please see the **ICANN61 workspace** for details about At-Large sessions, especially the sessions related to policy discussions and the At-Large Mapping Exercise. Highlights are listed below:

Featured Events
First NASIG hosted by .pr
Friday, 9 March | 19:00-21:00

Joint Outreach Session: At-Large and GNSO NCUC
Saturday, 10 March | 15:15-18:45

NARALO 10th Anniversary Event
Wednesday, 14 March | 12:00-13:30

Joint Meetings
Joint Meeting: At-Large and ICANN Board
Tuesday, 13 March | 09:45-10:45

Joint Meeting: ALAC and the Governmental Advisory Committee
Tuesday, 13 March | 13:30-14:30

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

ALAC and Regional Leaders Meetings

Work Session, Parts 1-5
Saturday, 10 March

Work Session, Parts 6-9
Sunday, 11 March

Work Session, Parts 10-11
Tuesday, 13 March

Wrap Up, Part 1
Wednesday, 14 March | 17:00-18:30

Wrap Up, Part 2
Thursday, 15 March | 10:30-12:00

Working Groups

ALAC Subcommittee on Outreach and Engagement
Tuesday, 13 March | 08:30-09:30

At-Large Capacity-Building Working Group
Wednesday, 14 March | 09:00-10:00

At-Large Capacity-Building Working Group
Thursday, 15 March | 08:30-09:30

RALO Meetings

At-Large Regional Leadership Meeting
Monday, 12 March | 12:00-13:30

Joint AFRALO-AfrICANN Meeting
Wednesday, 14 March | 13:30-15:00

NARALO Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, 14 March | 15:15-16:15

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

What to Expect

ICANN61 will be the first meeting for the new GAC leadership team. GAC Chair Manal Ismail took over the leadership of the committee at the end of ICANN60, and the new class of vice chairs will formally commence their terms of service at the end of the San Juan meeting.

The committee has scheduled more than 35 plenary sessions over six days at ICANN61. As part of those sessions, the GAC will hold joint meetings with the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), and the ICANN Board. The GAC will also meet with the GNSO Noncommercial Stakeholders Group (NCSG).

The GAC agenda features a number of substantive topics including sessions on WHOIS compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), two-character codes as second level domains, international governmental organization and Red Cross/Red Crescent protections, .amazon, the New Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process (including Work Track 5), the Cross-Community Working Group on New gTLD Auction Proceeds, and community-based applications. Committee members have also scheduled an update dialogue with representatives of the Universal Acceptance initiative and will participate in an exercise to help contribute to long-term strategic planning at ICANN.

Several sessions in San Juan will focus on operational matters including GAC contributions to policy development processes and working groups, re-examination of the GAC operating principles, support for the independent GAC secretariat function, and planning for the next High-Level Governmental Meeting scheduled for ICANN63. Further topics will include efforts and outcomes from various GAC working groups.

On Saturday, 10 March, the GAC Underserved Regions Working Group—in cooperation with the ICANN Government Engagement team—will be holding a GAC Capacity Development workshop for GAC member representatives from the region and new GAC participants. The agenda of the meeting can be found on the **GAC website**. The workshop will cover a range of topics such as an Introduction to ICANN and its role and work in the region and in the global Internet governance ecosystem.

Background

The GAC provides advice on public policy aspects of ICANN responsibilities with regard to the Domain Name System. 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, and if the ICANN Board 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.

The membership of the GAC consists of national governments and distinct economies recognized in international forums. Multinational governmental and treaty organizations and public authorities – including United Nations (UN) agencies with a direct interest in global Internet governance, such as the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) – participate in the GAC in an observer capacity. With the recent additions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Myanmar, and Bangladesh since ICANN60, there are now 176 GAC members and 36 GAC observers.

As a chartering organization to the ICANN cross-community working groups that prepared for the transition of stewardship of the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA), the GAC remains active in the ensuing efforts, both for the adaptation of processes to the new ICANN Bylaws and for the continuing activities in Work Stream 2 of the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability.

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

Session Details

GAC plenary sessions will start on Saturday, 10 March and conclude on Thursday, 15 March. All GAC sessions will be open to the entire community and feature remote participation and simultaneous interpretation in the six UN languages plus Portuguese. This openness continues during the GAC Communiqué drafting session in the afternoon of Wednesday, 14 March. GAC working groups (Public Safety, Human Rights and International Law, Geographic Names, Underserved Regions, and Nominating Committee) are also scheduled to conduct working sessions, most of which will take place with the whole GAC in plenary settings. The GAC will take an active part in the cross-community sessions scheduled during the week and expects to integrate its agenda with them, including specific committee discussions related to GDPR.

More details on particular GAC plenary sessions can be found on the **ICANN61 schedule**, which is where all presentations will be posted.
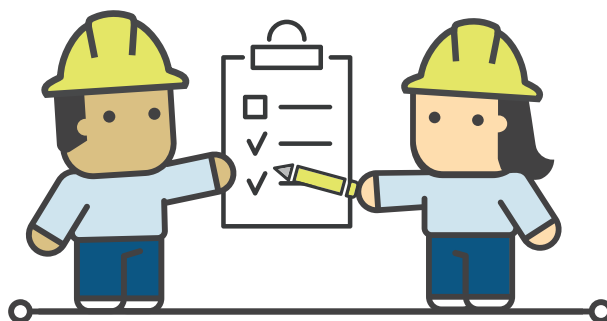
Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

What to Expect

The RSSAC will have work sessions throughout the week to advance its work on the evolution of global root service and to discuss various internal matters. The RSSAC will continue to raise awareness about its recent publications.

- RSSAC029: Report from the October 2018 Workshop
- RSSAC030: Statement on Entries in DNS Root Sources
- RSSAC031: Response to Generic Names Supporting Organization New Generic Top-Level Domains Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process Working Group

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

In 2014, the RSSAC launched the **RSSAC Caucus** of Domain Name System (DNS) and root server system experts to carry out its essential work. There are 87 RSSAC Caucus members (49% of whom do not work in root server operations), broadening the base of technical expertise contributing to RSSAC work. There are currently three active work parties in the RSSAC Caucus:

- Distribution of Anycast Instances Work Party led by Kaveh Ranjbar
- Harmonization of Anonymization Procedures for Data Collecting led by Paul Hoffman
- Packet Sizes Work Party led by George Michaelson

Session Details

How It Works Tutorial: Root Server Operations
Saturday, 10 March | 17:00-18:30 | 209-BC
Monday, 12 March | 10:30-12:00 | Ballroom B

This tutorial will start with a brief overview of the DNS, its history, and what the root server operators do. A few technical topics will be covered, including a general explanation of the DNS and anycast routing. The session is applicable to all audiences and no prerequisite technical expertise is necessary.

RSSAC Work Items
Tuesday, 13 March | 10:30-12:00 | 101-A

The RSSAC will meet with the leadership of the Nominating Committee and discuss its ongoing and future work items. This session is open to observers.

RSSAC Session
Tuesday, 13 March | 15:15-16:45 | 101-A

The RSSAC will provide updates on its recent publications and current work, and answer questions related to upcoming priorities.

Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

RSSAC Organizational Review Session
Wednesday, 14 March | 13:30-15:00 | 101-A

Since September 2017, Interisle Consulting Group, LLC, has been conducting the second organizational review of the RSSAC. During this session, the independent examiner will provide an update on its work and outline next steps and opportunities for public engagement.

Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and RSSAC
Thursday, 15 March | 10:30–11:30 | Ballroom A

The RSSAC will have a joint meeting with the ICANN Board to discuss current work.

Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

What to Expect

The SSAC will host a cross-community session on name collisions at ICANN61. Name collision refers to the situation where a name that is defined and used in one namespace may also appear in another. The circumstances that lead to a name collision could be accidental or malicious.

The SSAC will hold a workshop on Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) during ICANN61. DNSSEC continues to be deployed around the world at an 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 Internet service providers (ISPs) are building their deployment plans, and interesting opportunities are opening up for all as the rollout continues.

Background

What is the SSAC? The SSAC advises the ICANN community and Board on matters relating to the security and integrity of the naming and address allocation systems of the Internet. 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).

How does the SSAC Operate? The SSAC produces reports, advisories, and comments on a range of topics. Reports are longer, substantive documents, which usually take 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 (e.g., ICANN organization, Supporting Organizations, other Advisory Committees, or 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 **SSAC website**.

How do I participate in the SSAC? For information on how to participate in the SSAC, see the **SSAC Operational Procedures** [PDF, 421 KB] and the **SSAC Introduction** [PDF, 237 KB].

Session Details

Cross-Community Session: Name Collisions
Monday, 12 March | 15:15 -16:45 | Ballroom A

The goal of the session is to raise community awareness and open consultation with the community on name collision issues in accordance with the directive of the ICANN Board. The SSAC will explain name collisions, introduce the proposed project plan for the Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP), share proposed methods for community involvement in the project, and provide opportunities for input on these and other related topics the community has.

The session includes presentations and panel discussions on the following topics:

- Explanation of name collisions
- Introduction to NCAP
- Cross-community discussion on name collision issues from TLD operators, Regional Internet Registries, technical community members, businesses, and end users

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DNSSEC Workshop

Wednesday, 14 March | 09:00-15:00 | 208-BC

 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 employees with technical, operational, and strategic planning roles may want to attend. The DNSSEC Workshop has been a part of ICANN meetings for several years and has provided a forum for both experienced people and newcomers to meet, present, and discuss current and future DNSSEC deployments.

 The workshop includes presentations and panel discussions on the following topics:

- DNSSEC Workshop Introduction, Program, Deployment Around the World—Counts, Counts, Counts
- Current State of Root KSK Rollover and What's Next?}
- Experience with DNSSEC validation in Customer Premises Equipment (CPE)
- DNSSEC with a Hardware Security Module (HSM), signer and KSK Rollover
- Negative Trust Anchors
- A Sentinel for Detecting Trust Keys in DNSSEC
- DNS-based Authentication of Named Entities (DANE) Measurements from the Field
- DNSSEC: How Can I Help?