

Frequently Asked Questions

New internal ccNSO Rules

24 February 2022

FAQ#1

What is this vote about?

To determine whether the ccNSO members support the adoption of the proposed new ccNSO internal rules. The 2004 rules clearly specify that for the new rules to be adopted, a vote by at least 86 ccNSO members is required, of which at least 66% needs to be in favour.

FAQ#2

Who can vote?

On 21 March 2022, the primary contacts of each ccNSO Member will receive a ballot. Questions? Contact joke.braeken@icann.org

FAQ#3

When will the vote be held?

Voting starts Wednesday, 23 March 2022 (00:01 UTC) and ends Wednesday, 6 April 2022 (23:59 UTC). If needed, a second round will be held 21 April - 5 May.

FAQ#4

Why do the 2004 rules need to be replaced?

The 2004 rules are no longer fit for purpose: they were adopted in 2004, and since then the ccNSO has evolved. The ccNSO went from 40+ to 172 members and evolved from an organisation with limited scope and mandate to being one of the five Decisional Participants. Also, the ccNSO developed in the meanwhile several Operational Procedures (Guidelines), in addition to the Rules.

FAQ #5

What is included in the new rules?

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. The new rules will contain the following sections:

- (Section 0) Introduction to the Rules
- (Section 1) ccNSO Decision making
- (Section 2) Voting by ccNSO Membership
- (Section 3) Review of the Rules
- (Section 4) Change mechanisms Rules and Operational Procedures (Guidelines)
- Glossary

FAQ#6

What are the major changes between the 2004 rules and the new rules?

- An introductory section clarifies the relation with Article 10 of the ICANN Bylaws and refers to the general principles, which constitute the foundation of the ccNSO. This introduction is not an integral part of the rules.
- The decision-making processes of the ccNSO were clarified: Which decisions are explicitly reserved to be taken by the ccNSO membership and which by the ccNSO Council? Which Council decisions are subject to the members veto mechanism? What is the effective date of Council decisions? What is the decision-making process by the members? What is the quorum rule? Note that the quorum has changed from 50% of the members to 33% of the members that need to cast a vote. Please also note that the proposal includes that in case the quorum is not met during the initial members voting round, a second final vote will have to be conducted with the same quorum (33% of the members need to cast their vote). The quorum rule, however, will not apply to a decision being made on elections to the ICANN Board.
- A basic review mechanism and frequency of the new Rules were specified
- The mechanism to change the new ccNSO Rules and ccNSO Operating Procedures or Guidelines.
- A glossary was added, with definitions of some of the terms used in the Rules.

FAQ#7

Where can I read more about the vote?

For the latest updates, go to the [announcements page on the ccNSO website](#).