

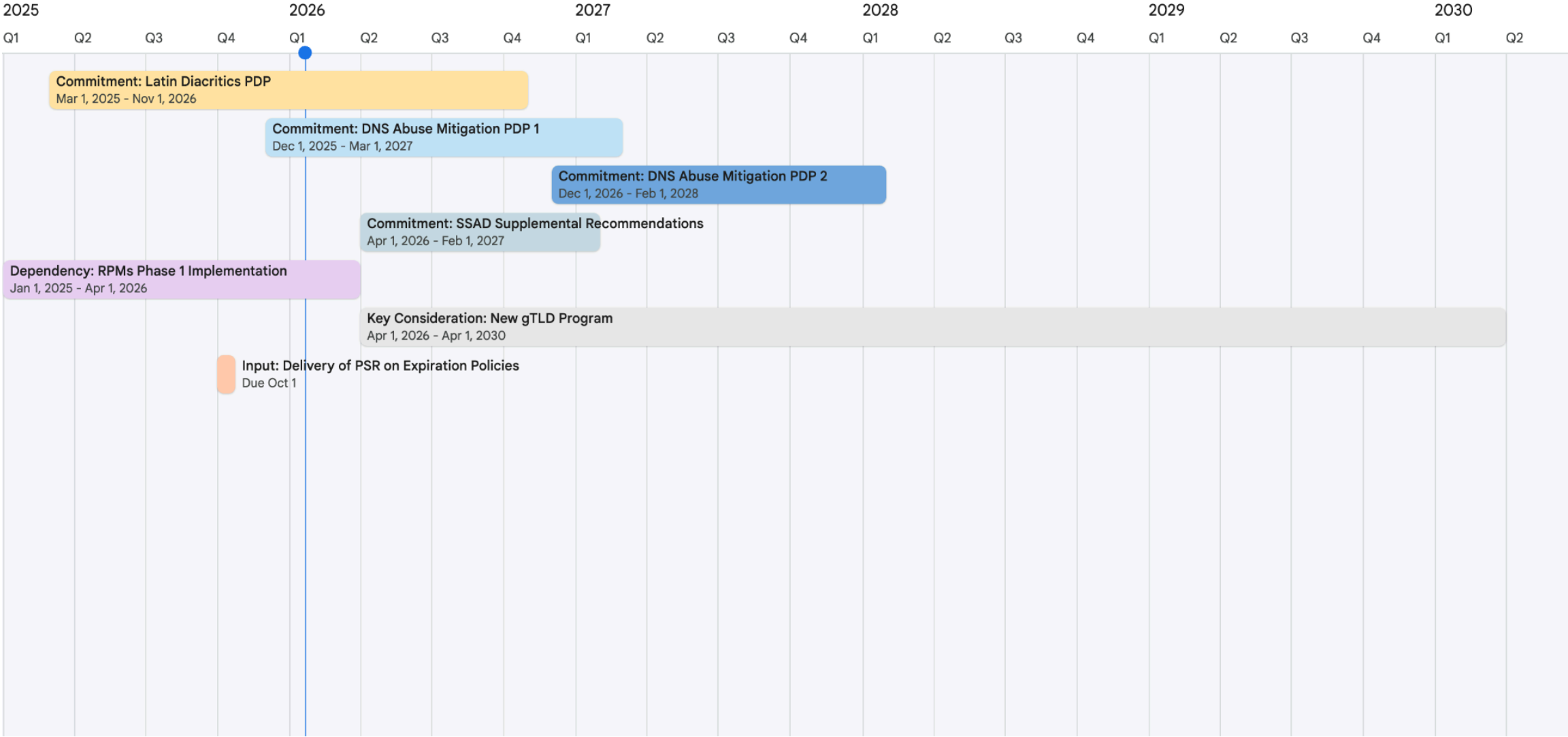
Council work currently underway or expected:

- Current:
  - Latin Diacritics (LD) PDP
  - DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP 1
  - DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP 2
- Suggested direction of RDRS Standing Committee: Supplemental Recommendations for SSAD
- These projects are in addition to other ongoing work or where the Council is not the primary owner of the work (e.g., SCCI, reviews related work, Implementation Review Teams, short-lived small teams, other ad hoc work that may arise, etc.)

#### Assumptions

- The Council, broader community, and its support staff will likely be overburdened if asked to manage more than three large scale, parallel efforts; considering the size and scope of the work for 2026, there may be capacity to initiate additional work (potentially contingent on the conclusion of the LD PDP).
- This prioritization exercise should primarily focus on calendar year 2026, in line with the current Council term. Being cognizant of the longer term outlook is of course important though and should not be ignored.

The timeline below has been developed to help with this prioritization exercise, to 1) better understand when there may be adequate capacity to introduce another project and 2) get a sense of when dependencies/related events are expected to occur. Please note that aside from the LD PDP timeline, which has an agreed upon work plan, everything else is subject to educated guessing and must NOT be taken as fact.



## Potential Next Projects

| Program | Project                               | Description: What  | Urgency: When  | Importance: Why   | What <u>Could</u> the Future Work Look Like?  | Level of Effort (based on column immediately to the left)   |
|---------|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| RPM     | Rights Protection Mechanisms Phase 2  | RPMs Phase 2 is work that the Council has previously committed to, which is intended to focus on the UDRP. In concluding RPMs Phase 1, the Council had postponed the start of Phase 2 until Phase 1 implementation completed. The Council also agreed to consider whether amendments may be needed to the Charter before starting the work. <b>At some point prior to reinitiating this work, a <u>Charter drafting team</u> will need to be convened.</b> However, that step does not preclude additional data gathering and analysis happening prior, if needed. | <b>PRIORITY? DEFER?</b><br><br>- The Council has deferred taking next steps (i.e., establish a charter drafting team) several times, starting in February 2023.  | - In considering the importance of this initiative, the Council may want to consider the passage of time since the original PDP was chartered.  | Intermediate Next Steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review <a href="#">WIPO-ICA UDRP Review</a></li> <li>Consider whether additional ICANN org or other analysis is needed</li> <li>Convene Charter drafting team</li> </ul> <p>Based on preceding steps above, launch a PDP on RPMs Phase 2 (UDRP) that is as narrowly focused as possible on addressing identified issues, not an unbounded review of the UDRP.</p> | <b>High</b> , especially because of preceding steps.  |
| gTLDs   | Moving from Rounds to an Open Process | From the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP, there is a recommendation that specifically calls for new gTLDs to be introduced via rounds. In doing so, challenges are introduced, such as the uncertainty from gaps between rounds, the need to resolve string contention, expensive startup and wind-down program costs from the round format (including ASP),  | <b>PRIORITY? DEFER?</b><br><br>- With the immediate Next Round expected to launch in April 2026, and the Board to consider the timing of the subsequent round once the list of applied-for strings for the 2026 round are confirmed, | - Switching to an open process would provide more certainty to potential applicants and more stability/cost-savings to ICANN org and therefore applicants (e.g., lower application fees based on the cost | Intermediate Next Steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ICANN org, in implementing the Next Round, has considered the challenges described in the Description column.</li> <li>Council could request a briefing from ICANN org to better understand the scope of potential change and if</li> </ul>   | <b>High</b><br><br>Can possibly be streamlined depending on the depth of preceding analysis completed by ICANN org, if requested. |

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|---------------------|---------------------|--|--|---|--|---|
|                     |                     | etc. <b>In order to move to an ongoing and open process, a new PDP would presumably be needed.</b>   | a PDP would need to conclude far enough in advance to avoid a further round or rounds.   | recovery nature of the program).  | available, potential solutions to address the change.<br><br>Based on the preceding steps, a PDP (or perhaps an EPDP) could be initiated, chartered as narrowly as possible.   |   |
| Expiration Policies | Expiration Policies | A Policy Status Report (PSR) was published for public comment, revised, then delivered to the Council. The Council received a presentation from ICANN org staff on the final PSR. <b>The Council agreed to include the topic in its prioritization exercise, though it may need to determine what next steps should be (e.g., concluding that the expiration policies are functioning as needed, that a PDP is needed, that incremental non-policy work can be pursued, or other).</b> | <b>PRIORITY? DEFER?</b><br><br>- TBD based on the Council's assessment of the PSR  | - TBD based on the Council's assessment of the PSR  | Intermediate Next Steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council will review the PSR and determine what actions are necessary (e.g., none, PDP, and/or incremental non-policy work).</li> </ul>   | - TBD based on Council's review of PSR and determination of next steps. |
| Transfers           | Dispute Mechanism   | The Transfer Policy Review PDP Final Report included this recommendation, which was adopted by the GNSO Council: <b>"The Working Group recommends the GNSO request an <u>Issues Report</u> or other suitable mechanism</b> to further research and explore the pros and cons of (i) expanding the TDRP to registrant filers  | <b>PRIORITY? DEFER?</b><br><br>- The Transfer Policy Review PDP recommendations remain under Board consideration, which is inclusive of the recommendation referenced in the | - Some groups within the GNSO have expressed that this is an important issue to registrants and further work is needed. | Intermediate Next Steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board consideration and potential adoption of the policy recommendations.</li> <li>• Request an Issue Report</li> </ul> Based on the preceding steps, a PDP could be initiated, chartered as narrowly as possible. | <b>High</b>   |

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|-----------|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|---|
|           |                                   | <p>and (ii) creating a new standalone dispute resolution mechanism for registrants who wish to challenge improper transfers, including compromised and stolen domain names. There remains a need for an intermediary mechanism to remedy unauthorized transfers between ToS claw backs and litigation as well as other issues as may be identified by the GNSO. The Working Group recommends that any such additional dispute mechanism that empowers registrants should be in addition to and not prohibit any informal resolution that Registrars successfully employ in the overwhelming number of instances.”</p> <p>The underlying need for this specific recommendation was highlighted during the Human Rights Impact Assessment (HRIA) that was conducted after the Council adopted the Final Report.</p> | Description column.  |  |  |   |
| DNS Abuse | DNS Abuse Mitigation Issue Report | Council received the Final Issue Report. While the Council prioritized two issues for PDPs, there are additional issues for the Council's consideration.  | <p><b>PRIORITY? DEFER?</b></p> <p>- The Council has emphasized the need to charter efforts narrowly and make rapid and effective</p> | The small team, the Council, and the broader community have generally agreed on the importance of further mitigating DNS | TBD  | TBD   |

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|---------|---------|-------------------|--|--|--|---|
|         |         |                   | <p>progress where possible. The Council will need to take into consideration the impact of starting any new work on this topic while ongoing work is continuing.</p> | <p>Abuse, as evidenced by the initiation of two PDPs and all of the preceding steps that made those initiations possible. However, this line item is about additional work beyond what has already been prioritized.</p> |  |   |

**Already Prioritized**

| Program   | Project                          | Description: What   | Urgency: When   | Importance: Why | What <u>Could</u> the Future Work Look Like?  | Level of Effort (based on column immediately to the left)   |
|-----------|----------------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|---|---|
| DNS Abuse | DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP 1       | Council voted to initiate a PDP and adopted the charter in January 2026.  | <b>PRIORITY</b> |                 | N/A - Already prioritized   | N/A - Already prioritized   |
| DNS Abuse | DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP 2       | Council voted to initiate a PDP and will review the charter when it has determined that adequate progress has been made for PDP 1, as well as there being adequate resources to begin work on PDP 2.  | <b>PRIORITY</b> |                 | N/A - Already prioritized   | N/A - Already prioritized   |
| RDDS      | Registration Data Request System | <p>A Standing Committee was established to analyze data from the RDRS and provide recommendations to the Council to help inform subsequent decisions on how to proceed with the SSAD recommendations.</p> <p>The Standing Committee reached consensus on six recommendations and delivered its Findings Report. One of the recommendations suggests all SSAD recommendations be non-adopted in order for all SSAD/EPDP Phase 2 Recommendations to be considered</p> | <b>PRIORITY</b> |                 | <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dialogue with the Board.</li> <li>● Non-adoption by the Board.</li> <li>● Potentially a consultation with the Board.</li> <li>● Preparation of a small team assignment form.</li> </ul> | <b>Medium-High:</b> The RDRS SC has provided six recommendations on next steps regarding RDRS and SSAD/EPDP Phase 2, including considerations on which SSAD recs need extensive or minor modifications. |

| Program | Project  | Description: What   | Urgency: When   | Importance: Why | What <u>Could</u> the Future Work Look Like?   | Level of Effort (based on column immediately to the left) |
|---------|----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|---|
|         |          | as a cohesive package, with the subsequent delivery of Supplemental Recommendations.  |                 |                 |  |   |
| RDDS    | Accuracy | <p>A small team was convened to review written input received to the Council's threshold questions and to provide the Council <b>with a summary of input received. The small team was also asked to provide <u>recommendation(s) on how to best progress the registration data accuracy topic.</u></b></p> <p>Note: There is an inability to access registration data for the purposes of determining whether there are linkages between inaccurate data and DNS abuse. However, data has shown that some validation steps have a meaningful impact in reducing DNS abuse. <i>This topic was included in the DNS Abuse Final Issue Report</i></p> | <b>PRIORITY</b> |                 | <p><b>N/A - Already prioritized</b></p> <p>Small Team report has been delivered to the Council, which was adopted in Aug 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One recommendation has been integrated into the DNS Abuse Issue Report.</li> <li>• The Council has committed to developing educational materials.</li> </ul> | <b>N/A - Already prioritized</b>                          |