

ICANN Community Leadership Digest



The ICANN org Policy Development Support function publishes this twice-weekly digest to help ICANN community leaders track requests and follow updates.

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Information Sharing

NEW: ICANN org's Multifaceted Response to DNS Abuse

From: Göran Marby, President and CEO

While the March [report](#) from ICANN's [Domain Abuse Activity Reporting](#) system shows a general reduction in second-level gTLD domain names identified as being used in phishing, malware distribution, and botnet command and control, it has been widely reported that criminals are taking advantage of the global COVID-19 pandemic by launching malicious online campaigns. There have also been numerous reports of spikes in the use of COVID-19-related domain names for DNS Abuse.

ICANN's response to DNS Abuse is always multifaceted, reflecting the need to address abuse within the constraints of ICANN's Bylaws and policies as defined by the ICANN community, and by obeying local law and regulatory requirements. In general, ICANN Contractual Compliance (ICANN Compliance) enforces the contractual obligations set forth in ICANN's policies and agreements, including the Registry Agreement (RA) and the Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA), the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) provides subject-matter expertise, and the Global Domains Division (GDD) works with the contracted parties to help support the delivery of registry and registrar services in accordance with contractual and consensus policy obligations.

In the case of COVID-19-related abuse, the same actors within the ICANN organization have prioritized handling of COVID-19-related DNS Abuse, working with their respective communities to help mitigate the new threats. These threats include phishing, business email compromise, malware distribution, scams, and many other types of attacks. In some cases, the criminals are luring Internet users into giving away their access credentials and confidential information with the promise that they are buying supposed cures for the coronavirus and personal protective equipment. In other cases, the attackers are spreading disinformation or infecting unsuspecting users' devices with malware. Unfortunately, many of these malicious activities use or leverage domain names and some in the Internet community are reasonably asking what role ICANN has in attempting to stem these abuses.

[Read more](#)

NEW: Webinar to Discuss New Projections Based on Economic Impact of COVID-19
From: Susanna Bennett, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

ICANN org will hold two public webinars to discuss the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on its current and planned work. ICANN org has recently developed new projections in ICANN's Revised Draft FY21-25 Operating and Financial Plan and Revised Draft FY21 Operating Plan and Budget, which will be presented during the webinars for information and discussion and will be proposed for adoption by the ICANN Board in early May.

Please join one of the two scheduled informational webinars on 28 April 2020 to learn more about the impact of COVID-19 on ICANN's planned work as detailed in the Revised Draft FY21-25 Operating and Financial Plan and Revised Draft FY21 Operating Plan and Budget. ICANN welcomes the community's questions and comments.

Webinar #1

Tuesday, 28 April 2020, 15:00-16:30 UTC

[Remote Participation](#)

Webinar #2

Tuesday, 28 April 2020, 23:00-00:30 UTC

[Remote Participation](#)

NEW: Policy Development Fundamentals Course on ICANN Learn

From: David Olive, Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support

Policy Development Fundamentals is a new foundational course available on [ICANN Learn](#), ICANN's free and open online learning platform. The course takes learners through an overview of the different components of policy development at ICANN. Along with the DNS Fundamentals course, Policy Fundamentals will serve as a cornerstone for developing capacity in the ICANN ecosystem. Both courses will be translated into Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish.

NEW: Consensus Playbook Now Available

From: David Olive, Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support

The [Consensus Playbook](#) aims to provide community members with practical tools and best practices for building consensus, bridging differences, and breaking deadlocks within ICANN processes. The playbook stresses that consensus building should be considered as a journey and provides detailed guidance from the beginning to the end of the process, including 15 "plays" applicable to the various phases of community work.

The playbook does not seek to change the definition of consensus or the methods of decision-making of a community group; it does not seek to introduce any new requirements either. It is designed for the ICANN community and is only permitted to be used by the ICANN community in support of ICANN-related work. The playbook shall not be used for any non-ICANN related purposes.

Originating from the [GNSO Policy Development Process \(PDP\) 3.0 initiative](#) and a subsequent [Additional Budget Request](#), the Consensus Playbook has been created for the ICANN community to reference and use. The Consensus Building Institute (CBI), an external vendor contracted by ICANN org, developed the playbook with the requirement of broad applicability across the community, beyond GNSO policy development working groups. CBI interviewed 14 ICANN community leaders across the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees, who shared their extensive consensus-building experience in leading and participating in working groups and community groups.

All ICANN community members are strongly encouraged to review the playbook. We anticipate additional opportunities for the ICANN community to discuss its contents and practical utility.

REMINDER: Call for Expressions of Interest: Standing Panel for ICANN's Independent Review Process
Announcement

On 31 March 2020, ICANN opened a call for Expressions of Interest for panelists to serve on the omnibus Standing Panel for ICANN's Independent Review Process (IRP).

Candidates for the IRP omnibus Standing Panel should review the [Expressions of Interest document](#) before submission. The document includes the following information:

- Panel Position Description
- Required or Highly Preferred Skills
- Required or Highly Preferred Experience
- Time Commitment
- Compensation and Selection

Expressions of Interest should be submitted to irp-standingpanel-eoi2020@icann.org by **23:59 UTC** on

ICANN68 Planning

REMINDER: ICANN68 Publication Support

Executive: David Olive, Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support

Design and Translation Deadline

If you require design assistance for your publication, you need to provide all the text, images, layout, and publication type/size requirements (i.e. newsletter vs. 1-pager vs. trifold, etc.). You will receive a maximum of 2 iterations of the publication. **Please provide everything by Wednesday, 13 May 2020.** Please keep in mind that all materials, new or updated, need to be evergreen.

Translation-only Deadline

If your publication requires translation, **please provide the final material(s) by Monday, 25 May 2020.** This ensures that there is enough time to translate the publication by the below print deadline. If your materials require design assistance (outlined above), please note that the final materials will have to be complete, including the edit/approval process, by this deadline in order to be translated.

Please work directly with your support staff to submit these requests to chantelle.doerksen@icann.org and liana.teo@icann.org.

Public Comment

CLOSES TODAY: [Proposal for Bangla Script Root Zone Label Generation Rules](#)

Close Date: Thursday, 23 April 2020

EXTENDED: [Phase 1 Initial Report of the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs Policy Development Process](#)

Close Date: Monday, 4 May 2020

[Addendum to the Initial Report of the Expedited Policy Development Process \(EPDP\) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Team – Phase 2](#)

Close Date: Tuesday, 5 May 2020

[Guidelines for Developing Reference Label Generation Rules \(LGRs\) for the Second Level Version 2](#)

Close Date: Tuesday, 12 May 2020

[ICANN Africa Regional Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2025](#)

Close Date: Wednesday, 27 May 2020

NEW: [Draft PTI FY21-24 Strategic Plan](#)

Close Date: Monday, 1 June 2020