

Report Vote new ccNSO Internal Rules

13 April 2022

1. Background

The ccNSO members voted in March-April 2022 on the adoption of the proposed new ccNSO internal rules. The timeline of the vote (see Annex A) was defined as per the 2004 Rules and adopted by the ccNSO Council. Joke Braeken was appointed Voting Process Manager.

Developments leading up to the vote

The ccNSO has organized various sessions over time to discuss the need and on the proposals to replace the 2004 ccNSO internal rules. Following the initial discussion a subgroup of the ccNSO Guideline Review Committee was tasked to develop an update of the 2004 Rules and consult the community regularly. The ccNSO Council adopted the proposed new Rules (in accordance with section 10.3(k) of the ICANN Bylaws) at its meeting on 24 February.

2. Promoting the vote

- The ccNSO members and council were informed prior to the start of the voting, about the upcoming procedure: Heads-ups regarding the vote alert were sent on [25 January](#) to the ccnso-members@icann.org and ccnsocouncil@icann.org mailing lists, and included in the 2022 editions of the monthly [ccNSO newsletter](#)
- The ccNSO members and other interested parties had an opportunity to learn more about the proposed new rules during an [ICANN73 ccNSO Governance Session](#).
- The ccNSO Secretariat and members of the GRC subteam that drafted the rules reached out to each of the Regional Organisations, inviting them to spread the word about the vote among their respective members. All Regional Organisations invited – either via email or via targeted webinars – their members to participate in the voting. The ccNSO secretariat prepared a slide deck for those webinars.
- While the vote was ongoing, several reminders to vote were sent to the ccnso-members@icann.org and ccnsocouncil@icann.org mailing lists - as well as via the voting tool - to the e-mail addresses of the primary contacts. The e-mail reminders included regular overviews on how many members already casted their votes. An [FAQ section](#) was made available to those interested.

3. Launch of the vote

In accordance with the approved timeline, the voting started on Wednesday, 23 March 2022 (00:01 UTC). A formal vote notice was published on the ccNSO website on 21 March 2022 and shared that same day with the ccnso-members@icann.org and ccnsocouncil@icann.org mailing lists. The [vote notice](#) contained, among others, the following information:

- Information on how the election would be conducted
- Election opening and closing dates
- Links with additional information regarding the proposed new rules.

The Voting Process Manager sent the ballots via the e-mail address tally@icann.org, to the e-mail address of the primary contacts of each ccNSO Member, as listed in the ccNSO Members database.

4. Closure of the vote and results

In accordance with the approved timeline, the vote closed on Wednesday, 6 April 2022 (23:59 UTC). Within 24 hours after closure of the vote, the ccNSO Secretariat sent an email to the ccnso-members@icann.org and ccnsocouncil@icann.org mailing lists with the results. An [announcement](#) was published also on the ccNSO website.

At the closure of the vote, 96 ccNSO members out of 172 (55 %) casted their votes:

Total Ballots Cast (including duplicates): 101

Ballots Counted (excluding duplicates): 96

Voters Who Haven't Voted: 76

91 voters supported the ccNSO Council's recommendation to adopt the proposed new rules, and 5 voters did not support the recommendation.

The vote passed: it met the requirements in section 5.3 and 8.3 of the [2004 Internal Rules](#) regarding the minimum number of ccNSO members that needed to lodge their vote, and the minimum number of votes in favour. Minimum 50% of the ccNSO members (86 members) needed to lodge their vote, and at least 66% of the members needed to vote in favour of the proposed new Internal Rules in order for the ccNSO members vote to pass.

5. Observations Voting process Manager

- **Observation 1**

At the time the ballots were distributed, the ccNSO counted 172 members. The number has not changed since. The ccNSO member list is published [here](#).

- **Observation 2**

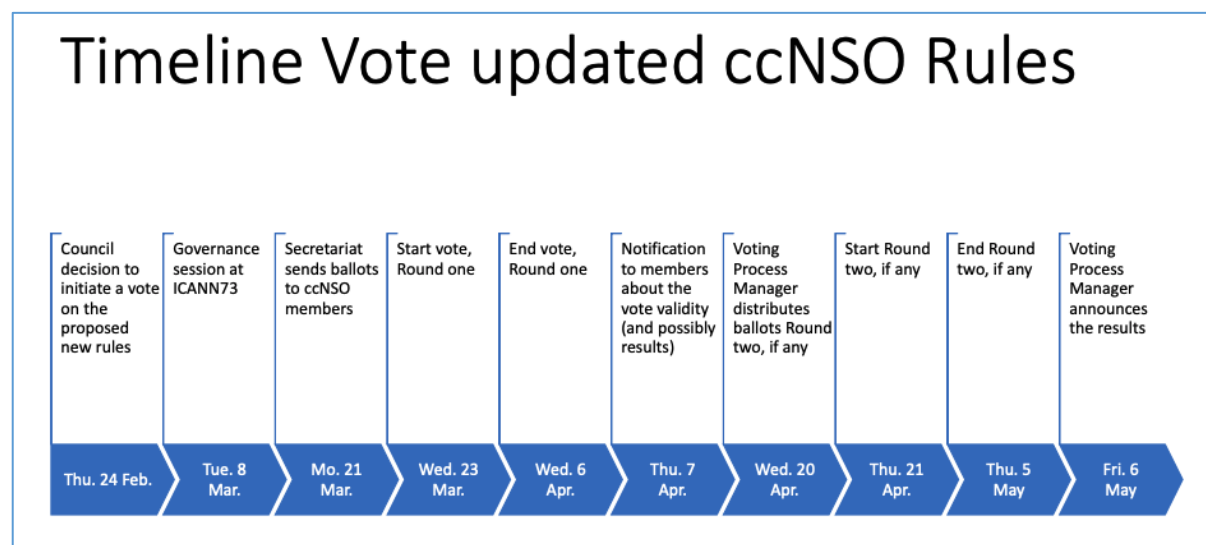
The Voting Process Manager sent the ballots through the e-mail address tally@icann.org to the e-mail address of the primary contact of each ccNSO Member, as listed in the ccNSO Members database.

At the request of a ccTLD managers the Voting Process Manager forwarded the ballot to an alternative email address.

Tally, the tool used to send the ballots, reported delivery errors for some email addresses. To resolve these delivery issues, the Voting Porcess Manager reached out to the administrative contact and the tech contact of the respective ccTLD managers as reccorded in the IANA rootzone database.

ANNEX A

Timeline vote new Internal Rules



ANNEX B

Vote new Internal Rules: FAQ

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](#).