ICANN78 ccNSO post-meeting report

Decisions and Outcomes

During its 199th ccNSO Council session, Council approved the membership application by the Israel (xn--4dbrk0ce / לארשי) ccTLD manager to the ccNSO. The ccNSO now counts 177 members. The ccNSO Council also appointed the leadership team of the ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC) and appointed additional members to the DNS Abuse Standing Committee (DASC), the Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC), and the Strategic and Operational Planning Committee (SOPC). Councilors received updates from among others the introduction of a ccNSO Statement of Interest procedure, the ICANN Board Seat 12 nomination process, and the ccNSO Council election. Moreover, the ccNSO Council evaluated the input from the ICANN78 session on activities by the ICANN registrant capacity team and how they relate to ccTLDs, with the option to further explore mutually beneficial activities. Council also mandated a small team of Councilors and community members to prepare sessions during the ICANN79 Community Forum on the consolidation of policies, the identification of gaps in current policies and practices, and how to address future undefined issues in the ccTLD post-delegation process. Council furthermore reviewed the distribution of the ccNSO Council roles and responsibilities for the year ahead as part of its succession planning process.

Additional topics for discussion included input by the ccNSO on Work Stream 2 Accountability recommendation 2.3, the ICANN org proposed procedure to retire Board adopted recommendations from Reviews, the creation of a cross-community coordination group to develop a continuous improvement framework and ccNSO input regarding proposed Governance Principles for the Root Server System. Finally, the ccNSO Council agreed on next steps regarding the nomination of two candidates to the 2024 ICANN Leadership Program. To learn more, visit the ccNSO Council workspace.

Additional Activities

During ICANN78, the ccNSO held various sessions, which included working sessions by ccNSO working groups and committees, Tech Day, three days of ccNSO Members Meeting sessions, and the 199th ccNSO Council session. The various working groups and committees prepare regular updates throughout the year. The updates include information about the status, next steps, and background. Please refer to the ccNSO ICANN78 session highlights for a detailed agenda regarding the ccNSO Members Meeting sessions.

ccNSO Working Groups and Committees highlights:

- The ccNSO Guidelines Review Committee (GRC) tested a new meeting format to explore participants' perspectives and views on what continuous improvement means for the ccNSO. This was a closed workshop with in-person participation only. A virtual meeting will be scheduled as a follow up prior to ICANN79.
- The ccNSO Strategic and Operational Planning Committee (SOPC) invited the Council, ccNSO working group and committee chairs, and others to a joint meeting. SOPC sought their input and comments to ensure that SOPC can fulfill its mandate regarding ICANN initiatives and activities relevant from a ccNSO perspective. Furthermore, SOPC held a workshop to define SOPC's post-ICANN78 activities, taking into account the results of previous work.
- The ccNSO DASC is the centerpiece of the ccTLD community-driven DNS abuse process at the global level and under the ICANN umbrella. The DASC was created as a dedicated forum for ccTLD managers to discuss the important issue of DNS abuse and to share information, lessons

learned and practices. The DASC held an internal working session to discuss its work plan for the coming year, including a follow-up session during ICANN79 on tools and measurements.

- The ccNSO established the IGLC to coordinate, facilitate and increase the participation of ccTLD managers in Internet governance discussions and processes. The IGLC held a working session where ccTLD community members and ICANN's Government and Intergovernmental Organization Engagement (GE) team explored what the hot issues in Internet governance are on a regional basis.
- ccNSO Tech Working Group organizes Tech Day, a forum for both experienced participants and newcomers to meet, present, and discuss technical and operational registry topics, security, and other DNS-related work. The group held an internal working session.
- The Top-Level Domain Operations (TLD-OPS) Standing Committee is the oversight body of the [TLD-OPS mailing list](#). The purpose of the standing committee is to govern the daily operation of the TLD-OPS email list and, when necessary, to develop and implement progress plans for future improvements and developments of the TLD-OPS email list, including its ecosystem. TLD-OPS is the incident response community for and by ccTLDs and brings together those who are responsible for the overall security and stability of their ccTLD. The goal of the TLD-OPS community is to enable ccTLD operators worldwide to collaboratively strengthen their incident response capabilities. During ICANN78, the committee held a working session to explore future activities.

Highlights from joint sessions:

- The Councils of the ccNSO and the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) held a joint meeting to discuss issues of common interest, including ICANN and the Global Digital Compact (GDC) and WSIS+20, the 20-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society. The review will be informed by other multilateral processes that will take place in the period leading up to 2025. These include multilateral negotiations on the GDC in 2023-2024. In addition, the Councils considered how to improve the process for amending the Bylaws.
- The ccNSO and the ICANN Board held a joint meeting to discuss issues of common interest, including how to improve the process for amending the Bylaws, as well as ICANN and the Global Digital Compact (GDC) and WSIS+20. Please refer to the [ccNSO ICANN78 session highlights](#) for detailed agendas and more information.

Tech Day:

- Since 2006, [Tech Day](#) has been part of ICANN Public Meetings. It provides a forum for both experienced participants and newcomers to meet, present, and discuss technical and operational registry topics, security, and other DNS-related work. During ICANN78, Tech Day focused on DNS Security Extensions, Artificial Intelligence, DNS abuse prevention and mitigation, and other topics.

Highlights from the ccNSO Members Meeting:

- During ICANN78, the ccNSO Meetings Program Committee (MPC) organized a session on ccTLD Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) approaches. CSR is a management approach that integrates social and environmental concerns into a company's operations and interactions with its stakeholders. ccTLDs from different regions explored highlights and approaches for their respective ccTLDs and reflected on what the future looks like in terms of CSR approaches.
- the ccNSO Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC) organized a session which explores the United Nations (UN) led review of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) being held in 2025 on the twentieth anniversary of the original WSIS, and explains why it matters to

- ccTLDs around the world. The .de and .jp ccTLD managers shared their respective approaches and perspectives.
- In 2023, the ccNSO celebrates its 20th anniversary. In previous sessions, representatives from the ccTLD community have reflected on the evolution and key milestones in the history of the ccNSO. At ICANN78, the ccNSO 20th Anniversary Committee organized a "world cafe" to explore with ccTLD representatives what makes the ccNSO relevant to the community for the next 5-10 years. This was a closed session with in-person participation only. A virtual meeting will be scheduled as a follow up prior to ICANN79.
- The ccTLD News Sessions have been part of the ccNSO Members Meetings for several years. Previous editions of the ccTLD News Sessions included a collection of case studies, statistics, new developments, trends, and more. They have provided a global platform for both experienced and new people to meet, share experiences, and discuss ccTLD-related aspects. During ICANN78, the ccTLD News Session featured contributions regarding ccTLD evolution in Africa, how the .au ccTLD manager helps shape Internet Governance and provides inspiration to others, the launch of the European Top-Level Domain Information Sharing and Analysis Center (ISAC), the resilience of the .au ccTLD manager, .ec loyalty strategies and the .dk name change.
- The ccNSO DASC is the centerpiece of the ccTLD community-driven DNS abuse process at the global level and under the ICANN umbrella. The DASC was created as a dedicated forum for ccTLD managers to discuss the important issue of DNS abuse and to share information, lessons learned and practices. The DASC organized a session at ICANN78 to inform interested community members about different perspectives on tools and measurements of DNS abuse, including DAAR and others. In a panel discussion with the RySG leadership team, DASC explored the similarities and differences between ccTLDs and gTLDs. In addition, DASC reminded the ccTLD community of its [repository](#) and invited ccTLDs worldwide to contribute. Finally, DASC announced the launch of a dedicated email list as an additional useful resource for ccTLDs.
- During a Registrant Capacity Building session, members of the ICANN Registrant Program team and ccTLDs in attendance explored if and how further collaboration can benefit both ccTLDs and the ICANN Registrant Program.
- To prepare the ccNSO Membership for the upcoming elections (for ICANN Board Seat 12 and the ccNSO Council), the ccNSO membership and others were able to ask questions to all candidates during a Q&A session.

Next Steps

ccPDP3 Retirement (ccPDP3-RET)

In September 2022, the ICANN Board [adopted](#) the Policy for the retirement of the delegated Top Level Domains associated with the country codes assigned to countries and territories listed in the ISO 3166-1. This is the first part of the third Country Code Policy Development Process (ccPDP3). The policy is currently under implementation.

ccPDP3 Review Mechanism (ccPDP3-RM)

The proposed Policy for a Review Mechanism pertaining to decisions on the delegation, transfer, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs is the second part of the third Country Code Policy Development Process (ccPDP3). If adopted by the ICANN Board, it awaits implementation by ICANN organization and IANA services.

ccPDP4 IDN ccTLD (de)selection (ccPDP4-IDN)

The fourth ccPDP defines the criteria, process, and procedures for (de)selecting Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLDs associated with the country codes assigned to countries, territories, or other areas of geopolitical interest listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard. This ccPDP also addresses the request from the ICANN Board to deal with issues pertaining to variants of IDN ccTLD strings in coordination with the GNSO and the ICANN Board question whether IDN tables should be reviewed when submitted. Once adopted by the ICANN Board and implemented by the ICANN organization, the proposed policy for selection of IDN ccTLD strings will eventually replace the IDN ccTLD Fast Track process.

ccNSO and Universal Acceptance

Since September 2022, the ccNSO has explored its potential role in Universal Acceptance by adding value to the ccTLD and broader community and avoiding overlap with already existing work by the Internet community. During ICANN76, the ccNSO Council sought feedback from the ccTLD managers on the proposed roadmap for the ccNSO and Universal Acceptance. The roadmap is aligned with ccNSO core responsibilities and resulted in the creation of a dedicated ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC). The UAC is finalizing its work plan for the year ahead.

ccNSO and DNS Abuse

In 2022, the ccNSO DNS Abuse Standing Committee (DASC) launched a survey to understand the ccTLD landscape with respect to handling the various aspects of DNS abuse. After analysis of the results, the DASC shared the survey findings with the ccTLD community and expects to launch the second edition of the survey in the final quarter of 2024.

The DASC also continues work on its repository and email list. The repository aims to be an online information source about DNS abuse for the benefit of ccTLDs. Read more here.

In terms of new work items, DASC will focus on the following four questions:
1. Do data validation and registration policies for ccTLDs relate to DNS abuse, if so how?
2. How can ccTLDs effectively work with registrars to mitigate DNS abuse?
3. What are the tools and measurements ccTLDs can use to mitigate DNS abuse?
4. Do ccTLD governance models and regulatory frameworks impact DNS abuse?

The DASC is the core of the ccTLD community-driven process around DNS abuse. The DASC is a dedicated forum for ccTLD managers to discuss the important topic of DNS abuse and share information, insights, and practices. In keeping with the nature of the ccNSO, the purpose of the DASC is not to formulate any policy or standards. Instead, its overarching goal is to increase understanding and awareness of the issues pertaining to DNS abuse, promote open and constructive dialogue, and ultimately assist ccTLD managers in their efforts to mitigate the impact of DNS abuse.

ccNSO and Internet Governance

The ccNSO established the IGLC to coordinate, facilitate and increase the participation of ccTLD managers in Internet governance discussions and processes. During ICANN78, the IGLC held a working session where ccTLD community members and ICANN's Government and Intergovernmental Organization Engagement (GE) team explored what the hot issues in Internet governance are on a regional basis. The IGLC will now process the outcomes of this session and will monitor the progress over time compared to previous editions of the same exercise. IGLC will explore future activities and potential sessions regarding among others cyber security, capacity building on Internet governance-related matters and Internet fragmentation.

Please refer to the ICANN78 schedule webpage for all open session materials.