ccNSO News   February 2024 | Issue 53

A continuous improvement program for the ccNSO: GRC seeks your help

Please join the Guidelines Review Committee on 14 February at 14:00 UTC for a virtual Open Space Session. The GRC has embarked on an important effort to construct a Continuous Improvement program (CIP) for the ccNSO and needs your help.

Read more

Keep informed about the work of the ccNSO

In preparation of each ccNSO Council meeting, a written update regarding the work by the various working groups and committees is drafted. It includes information about the current status, next steps and what the activities are about.

Read more

Virtual Open Space Session

Join us to discuss the ccNSO Continuous Improvement Program

Wednesday, 14 February 2024. Starts at 14:00 UTC

Be sure to pre-register now!

Register now

2023 ccNSO Achievements Report

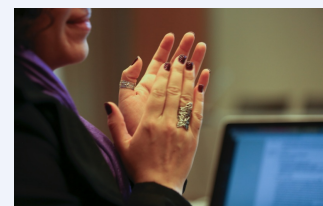## A note from Alejandra Reynoso

Dear Colleagues,

I wish that you all have had a wonderful start of 2024 and may this year bring positive things to everyone!

As is customary by now, I want to share with you the achievements of the ccNSO over 2023 and look at what this new year has in store for us.

I am very proud of the hard work you all put into the ccNSO, either through the working groups and committees or by participating [in-person or remotely] at the sessions we organize. It's an honor to work with all of you.

Warm regards,

I C A N N | c c N S O
Country Code Names Supporting Organization

Read the report

Alejandra Reynoso
ccNSO Council Chair

ccNSO at ICANN79

The **ICANN79** Community Forum in San Juan, Puerto Rico is a six-day meeting hosted by nic.pr. ICANN79 will be held **2-7 March 2024** at the Puerto Rico Convention Center).

ICANN79 links to bookmark now

- ccNSO Schedule
  https://community.icann.org/x/MIEJEQ

- ccNSO Session Highlights
  https://community.icann.org/x/jIEvEQ

- Tech Day
  https://community.icann.org/x/T4EJEQ

ccNSO at ICANN79
* ccNSO sessions with interpretation (AR, EN, ES, FR)

Sat, 2 March	Sun, 3 March	Mo, 4 March		Tue, 5 March	Wed, 6 March	Thu, 7 March
GRC workshop (1 of 2) 09:00-10:00	ccNSO Council working session: gap analysis [C] 09:00-10:00	ICANN79 Opening Ceremony & Community Excellence Award 09:00-10:00		* ccNSO Members Meeting Welcome Session 09:00-10:00		
GRC workshop (2 of 2) 10:30-12:00	ccNSO Council workshop: Roles & Responsibilities, succession planning [C] 10:30-12:00	* Tech Day 10:30-12:00	Next Round new gTLDs 10:30-12:00	* Internet Fragmentation 10:30-12:00	* ccTLD News Session 10:30-12:00	ICANN Public Forum 10:30-12:00
12:00-13:15	12:00-13:15	12:00-13:15		12:00-13:15	12:00-13:15	12:00-13:15
UAC working session 13:15-14:30	IGLC working session 13:15-14:30 / Tech WG working session 13:15-14:30	* Tech Day 13:15-14:30	Q&A ICANN Exec. 13:15-14:30	* Policy Gap Session (1/2) 13:15-14:30	* ccNSO Working Group and Committee updates 13:15-14:30	Geopolitical Forum 13:15-14:30
DASC working session 15:00-16:00	SOPC 15:00-16:00 / TLD-OPS (1/2) 15:00-16:00	* Tech Day 15:00-16:00		* Policy Gap Session (2/2) 15:00-16:00	* Meeting with ccNSO-appointed ICANN Board members 15:00-16:00	* ccNSO Council meeting 15:00-16:00
Registrant Capacity building working session 16:30-17:30	CSC 16:30-17:30 / TLD-OPS (2/2) 16:30-17:30	* Tech Day 16:15-17:30		* ccPDP4 IDN ccTLD selection Update 16:30-17:30	* IANA/CSC 16:15-17:30	ICANN Board Meeting 16:15-17:30
			ccNSO Cocktail 19:00-22:00			

ccNSO working groups and committees

Guidelines Review Committee (GRC)
The ccNSO GRC is organizing two workshops to explore participants' perspectives on the following two topics: firstly, the ccNSO internal procedures with good faith requirements

Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC)
On Sunday, 3 March, the IGLC will hold a working session at ICANN79. Topics for discussion include among others the United

associated with exercising removal of individual Directors of the ICANN Board and after the break, a continuous improvement framework for the ccNSO.

Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC)
DNS Abuse Standing Committee (DASC)
On Saturday, 2 March, the ccNSO UAC and DASC will hold internal working sessions to discuss their respective work plans for the coming year.

Registrant Capacity Building
The ICANN Registrant Program team has developed a number of informational series that aim to help educate registrants about their rights and responsibilities, the domain name ecosystem, how to navigate it, and the ICANN policies that may impact them. Members of the ICANN Registrant Program team and ccTLDs in attendance continue to explore how further collaboration can benefit both ccTLDs and the Registrant Program.

Strategic & Operational Planning Committee (SOPC)
In December 2023, ICANN published the draft ICANN FY25 Operating Plan and Budget and the draft PTI FY25 Operating Plan and Budget and the draft 5-Year Plans for Public Comments. During this workshop, SOPC meets with relevant ICANN staff to discuss the recent SOPC submission, as well as the submission process.

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 why it matters to ccTLDs around the world.

On Tuesday, 5 March, the ccNSO Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC) organises a session which explores Internet Fragmentation, and how it impacts ccTLDs around the world.

Technical Working Group
Since 2006, the Technical Working Group has organized Tech Day, a workshop open to all ICANN community members with an interest in technical, operational, and security topics. The working group will hold a working session at ICANN79. The next edition of Tech Day will be held on Monday, 4 March.

TLD-OPS Standing Committee
At ICANN66 (Montreal, November 2019), the ccNSO Top-Level Domain Operations (TLD-OPS) Standing Committee held a workshop to test its draft Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Playbook, which serves as a basic business continuity implementation guide for small ccTLD operators. Planning for the next edition kicks off at ICANN79.

ccNSO Members Meeting - day 1

Welcome Session
The ccNSO Council Chair and MPC Chair will welcome participants to the ccNSO Members Meeting. In addition, various ccNSO working groups and committees will brief the ccTLDs present on their latest and upcoming activities, and will seek guidance regarding the direction of travel.

Internet Fragmentation session
Internet fragmentation is defined in many different ways. The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Policy Network on Internet Fragmentation (PNIF) identified three key dimensions of Internet fragmentation:
- Fragmentation of the Internet user experience,
- Fragmentation of the Internet's technical layer, and
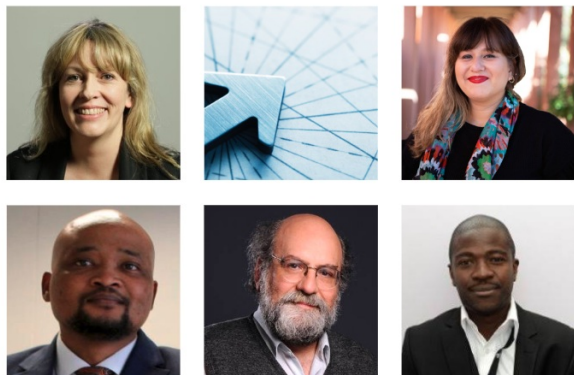- Fragmentation of Internet governance and coordination.

Policy Gap session
A subgroup of the ccNSO Council reviewed potential policy gaps in the ccTLD post-delegation processes pertaining to the delegation, transfer, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs. At ICANN79, the ccTLDs present will explore and discuss the tools to address these gaps.

ccPDP4 IDN ccTLDs
The ccPDP4 Working Group defines the criteria, process and procedures for the (de)selection of IDN ccTLDs associated with the country codes assigned to countries,

Whatever the definition, fragmentation has potentially significant implications for country code top-level domains (ccTLDs). At ICANN79, the ccNSO Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC) is organizing a session to explore how fragmentation affects ccTLDs from different regions. What should ccTLDs be aware of, what are the regulatory realities and what are the approaches being taken by ccTLDs?

territories or other areas of geopolitical interest listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard. The results of this ccPDP4 will eventually replace the IDN ccTLD Fast Track Process.

The Working Group expects to have completed its final report by ICANN79, taking into account the assessment made following its recent request for comments. This will include the general policy proposals for the IDN ccTLD string selection process. It will also include proposals for variant management, confusing similarity, de-selection and review mechanisms. The final report will be presented to the ccNSO Council. Once adopted by the Council, it will be subject to a vote by the ccNSO membership. At the conclusion of the membership vote, and assuming adoption, the recommended policy is expected to be submitted by ICANN80 to the ICANN Board.

ccNSO Members Meeting - day 2

ccTLD News Session

Session Chair: Jenifer Lopez (.pa)
- Defending the Multistakeholder Model: Tactics for ccTLD engagement | Byron Holland (.ca)
- Building a Model ccTLD in Africa: Kenya Case Study | Andrew Lewela (.ke)
- Update by .pg (2021-2024) | Russell Deka Takehiko Harada (.pg)
- Globalization strategy for the ccTLD .cv | Suzete Centeio Pereira (.cv)
- APTLD's recent activities - 'Internet for All' Members' statement | Boyoung Kim (.kr)

ccNSO Working Group updates
Several ccNSO working groups and committees will provide an update on their progress and/or seek input on the next steps.

Q&A with ccNSO-appointed ICANN Board members
The ccNSO appointed ICANN Board members have been invited to attend a question and answer session and to share their experiences as ICANN Board members.

IANA and CSC session Public Technical Identifiers (PTI) and the Customer Standing Committee (CSC) will inform the broader community, including ccTLDs, about their activities regarding the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions.

ccNSO Council at ICANN79

The ccNSO Council will hold two closed workshops on sunday during ICANN79:
- To ensure the future resilience and continuity of Council's operations, the ccNSO Council annually reviews the distribution of the relevant roles and responsibilities.
- To review potential policy gaps in the ccTLD post-delegation processes pertaining to the delegation, transfer, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs.

The ccNSO Council will hold a public meeting during the final day of ICANN79, on Thursday, 6 March. Topics for discussion include outcomes from the ccNSO session on the policy gaps in the ccTLD post-delegation processes, the roles and responsibilities of the various members of the ccNSO Council, and the election of the ccNSO leadership team consisting of one chair and two vice chairs. Additional topics for the ccNSO Council meeting will be made available on its **workspace**.
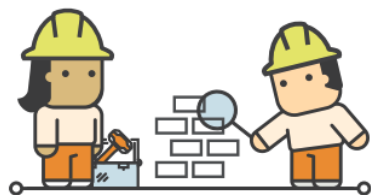
Meet the ccNSO members!

Interview with Rosalía Morales

Rosalía is the Executive Director at NIC Costa Rica, the .cr ccTLD Manager. The ccNSO Secretariat met with Rosalía, and learned more about the team's passion for what they do and how .cr - despite being a small ccTLD - has an important impact on the local ecosystem, thanks to its efforts in terms of cybersecurity and capacity building. Also, she reflects on the value the ccNSO for .cr and ccTLDs in general, and shares some useful advice for ccTLDs globally.

Rosalia: *"The most important projects at .cr have been developed hand in hand with other ccTLDs. Our relationship has flourished, thanks to the ccNSO!"*

Watch the video recording, or **read the interview**.

ccNSO Council Highlights

The ccNSO Council will meet on Thursday, 15 February 2024 at 18:00 UTC for its 202nd meeting. For recordings and background materials, consult the **Council workspace**.

Topics for discussion include, among others:

- Summary inter-meeting Council decisions, including the appointment of additional members to the ccNSO Meetings Programme Committee (MPC) and the ccNSO Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC).
- ccNSO relevant sessions for ICANN79
- ccNSO membership update following a recent transfer process
- Update regarding the ongoing 360 degree review of selected ccNSO Councillors
- update regarding the January SO/AC Roundtable and the joint GAC and ccNSO leadership meeting held prior to ICANN79
- Progress and expected timeline ccNSO Decision making ccPDP4: The ccPDP4 WG expects to complete its work by 20 February 2024, and the Issue manager will submit the report prior

to ICANN79 for consideration and decision making by the Council. The Final report does include both policy recommendations as well as advice to ccTLDs. The advice is on topics that were considered out of scope of the PDP by the WG, and the decision making process is not defined through Annex B of the Bylaws, but through the Internal Rules of the ccNSO.

- Discussion and views regarding ccNSO participation in developing IDN Guidelines: The IDN ccPDP4 WG was requested to provide feedback on a draft recommendation by the Phase 2 GNSO IDN EPDP Working Group, on a proposal to create a formal process for convening a group that would propose amendments to IDN Guidelines. These Guidelines may affect (IDN & ASCII) ccTLDs with IDN second level domains under management and were developed by a group of experts, including members of the ccTLD community. According to the proposal the ccNSO and GNSO Councils will have a role in developing the charter etc. for the community group that will develop future versions of the IDN Implementation Guidelines.
- Update from the ccNSO Triage committee on ccNSO quarterly activities, as well as an introduction to the ccNSO Council discussion on ccNSO priorities, capacity and organisation of activities.

country code Names Supporting Organisation https://ccnso.icann.org | ccnsosecretariat@icann.org