

**ICANN**  
**POLICY FORUM**

**77**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

12-15 June 2023

# New gTLD Program: Next Round Update

ICANN77 Prep Week Session (60 Min)

31 May 2023



- ◎ **Program Recap (Karen)**
- ◎ **Recap of ICANN76 Board Resolutions (Bob)**
- ◎ **Work Since ICANN76 (Bob, Lars, Chris)**
- ◎ **What to Expect at ICANN77 (Bob)**
- ◎ **Question and Answer (Bob)**

## Presenters

- **Karen Lentz**, VP, Policy Research and Stakeholder Programs
- **Bob Ochieng**, Sr. Director, New gTLD Subsequent Procedures
- **Lars Hoffmann**, Sr. Director, Policy Research and Stakeholder Programs
- **Chris Bare**, Director, New gTLD Program Development

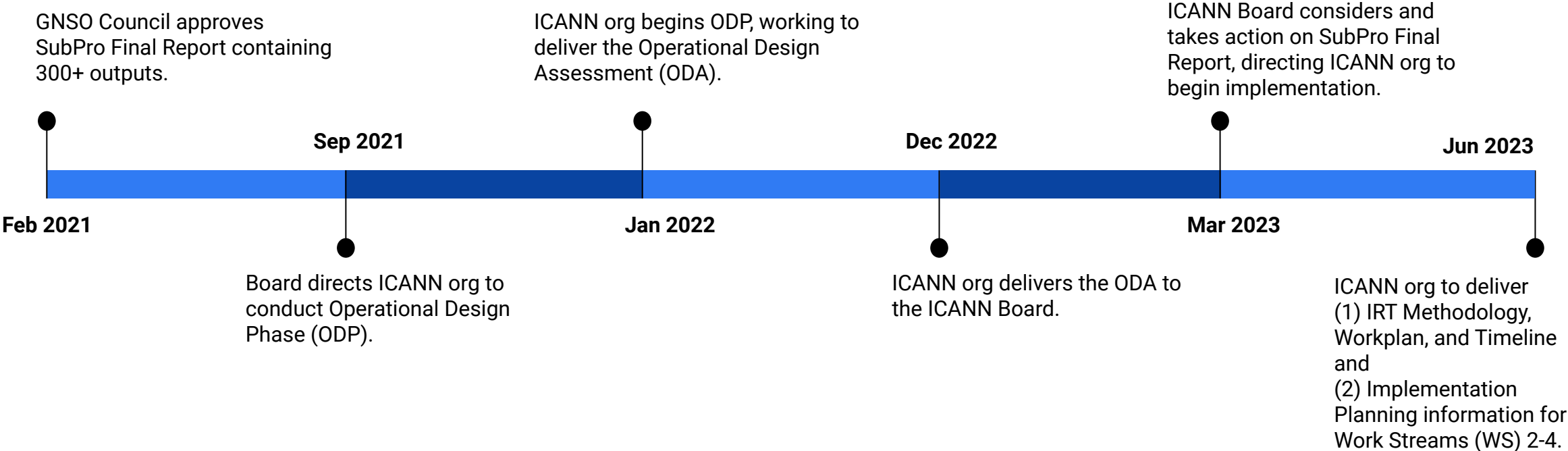
# Program Recap

# Background of the New gTLD Program

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- The New gTLD Program is enabling the largest expansion of the domain name system via the introduction of new top-level domains (TLDs) to foster diversity, encourage competition and enhance the utility of the DNS
- The New gTLD Program was first launched in 2012, resulting in over 1,000 new generic top-level domains (gTLDs) being added to the Domain Name System (DNS).
- On 17 December 2015, the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council initiated a Policy Development Process and chartered the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Working Group (SubPro PDP WG).
- The SubPro PDP WG was tasked with determining what changes should be made to the New gTLD Program.
- The SubPro Final Report outputs developed by the community through the bottom-up multistakeholder model provide the vision for the next round of the New gTLD Program.
- On 16 March 2023, the ICANN Board approved a set of resolutions authorizing the commencement of the implementation phase of the SubPro Final Report outputs by ICANN org.

# High-Level Timeline: New gTLD Program, Next round



# Recap of ICANN76 Board Resolutions

# ICANN76 Board Resolution: Res 2023.03.16.04 – 2023.03.16.15

01	Proceed with implementation of adopted recommendations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Board adopted a <u>scorecard</u> with three parts:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Part A: Adopted Recommendations</li><li>○ Part B: Pending Recommendations</li><li>○ Part C: Dependencies</li></ul></li></ul>
02	Issue a call for volunteers for the Implementation Review Team (IRT).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● This is a key component of the Implementation Stream of work</li><li>● Call for Volunteers was published by ICANN org on 5 April 2023</li></ul>
03	Provide relevant information regarding all four implementation streams by end of ICANN77.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The four work streams are: Policy Implementation, Program Design, Infrastructure Development, and Operationalization</li></ul>
04	Deliver Implementation Plan by 1 August 2023. <i>(dependent upon four deliverables)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Plan and timeline for Part A of scorecard</li><li>● Working methodology, IRT work plan, and timeline</li><li>● GNSO Council plan for handling closed generics</li><li>● Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) charter questions affecting Applicant Guidebook</li></ul>



# ICANN76 Board Resolution cont'd

05	Authorize spending up to US\$9 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To fund implementation work through 31 October 2023</li><li>• Source of funds is remaining new gTLD funds from 2012 round</li></ul>
06	Prepare any additional funding requests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Requests for funding required beyond 31 October 2023 should be submitted to Board Finance Committee in a timely manner so decision can be made at ICANN78</li></ul>
07	Continue ICANN org's communications and outreach strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To promote the New gTLD Program to prospective applicants</li><li>• Focus on supporting digital inclusion with diverse stakeholders and regions</li></ul>
08	Publish status reports prior to every ICANN meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Until opening of the New gTLD Program: Next Round, ICANN org is to publish implementation status reports at least two weeks before every ICANN Public Meeting</li></ul>

# Summary of Recommendations & Implementation Guidance

## Recommendations: 136

- Adopted by the Board: 98
- Slated as pending: 38

## Implementation Guidance: 165

- Affirmations and Implementation Guidance that the Board will acknowledge

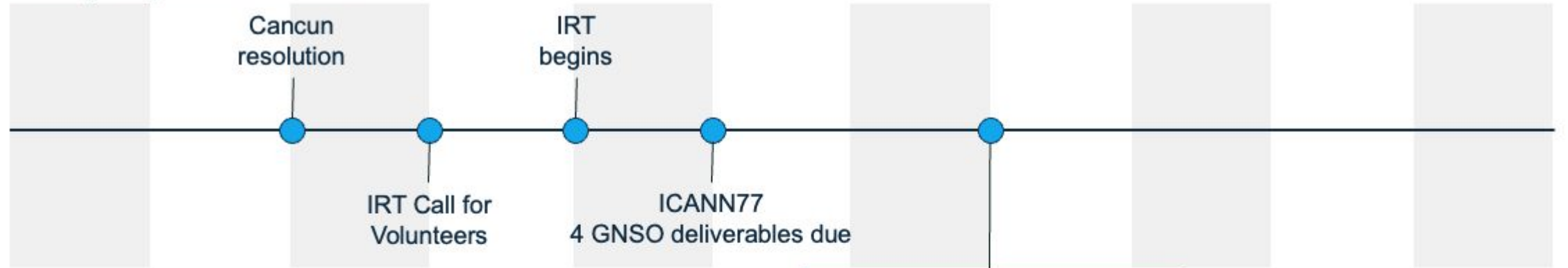
Note: Implementation Guidance is not subject to Board approval, though ICANN will continue to take these into consideration when drafting policy language.

# Work Since ICANN76

- Policy Implementation
- Program Development

# Parallel Approach to Overall Program Activities Leading to 1 August Deliverable

## Policy Implementation



## Program Development (Program Design, Infrastructure Development, Operationalization)



# Policy Implementation

# Policy Implementation Since ICANN76

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- IRT work methodology and composition agreed on with the GNSO Council.
- [IRT Statement of Participation](#) published.
- [IRT call for volunteers](#) announcement published 5 April 2023.
  - 80 Members as of 30 May 2023
  - [1st IRT meeting](#) 16 May 2023
  - [2nd IRT meeting](#) 23 May 2023
  - [3rd IRT meeting](#) 30 May 2023

# SubPro IRT Overview

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- Per [CPIF](#) and [IRT Principles & Guidelines](#), IRT will:
  - “Serve as a resource to ICANN org on policy and technical questions that arise with regard to the Board-approved recommendations of the Final Report.”
  - “Serve as a resource to ICANN org on the background and rationale of the policy recommendations in the Final Report and seek additional guidance from the GNSO Council, as required.”
  - “Assist ICANN org in developing the policy implementation details to ensure that the implementation conforms to the intent of the policy recommendations as detailed in the Final Report.”
- Members must have agreed to [Statement of Participation](#)
- **‘Open + Representative Model’** based on [GNSO’s PDP 3.0 model](#) which provides a structure that allows for efficient issue resolution.
- Representatives are expected to:
  - Engage actively and consistently with their community groups
  - Speak on their community group’s behalf

# Efficiency-Oriented Implementation Process





# Policy Implementation Work Plan

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## What Needs Implementing

- The Policy Implementation stream is currently tasked with implementing 98 Board-approved outputs from the SubPro Final Report.
- All applicable implementation guidance - which is not approved by the Board - will be taken into consideration when implementing the recommendations.

## What's To Come

- Board will resolve on 38 pending outputs in the coming months; discussions with the GNSO Council on a path forward are underway.
- Once resolved, all Board-adopted outputs will be integrated into an updated Work Plan.

## Timeline

- ICANN org is committed to completing the drafting of the AGB within 15-24 months; however, given the complexity of the subject matter, it may be necessary to make adjustments to the methodology and timeline.
  - Estimation based on other policy implementation work and the fact that a significant number of topics have not yet been approved by Board - see dependencies next slide.

# Policy Implementation Dependencies

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1. Board Resolution on all **pending recommendations**.
  - a. Timeline as of yet unknown (ICANN77 deliverable for GNSO Council and Board)
2. Completion of GNSO Guidance Process (**GGP**) for **Applicant Support**.
  - a. Current GGP timeline estimates approval of guidance by Council by December 2023.
3. Completion of ongoing community discussion relating to Topic 23: **Closed Generics**.
  - a. Timeline as of yet unknown (ICANN77 deliverable for the GNSO Council)
4. Completion of Internationalized Domain Names (**IDNs**) **EPDP**.
  - a. Current timeline: Completion of Final Report by October 2025, or, if accelerated, October 2024.
  - b. Timeline does not include GNSO Council consideration, Public Comment, or Board consideration.
5. Completion of the Name Collision Analysis Project Study 2 Report (**NCAP2**)
  - a. Current timeline: Publication by ICANN78
6. Implementation of review recommendations, advice, and **Work Stream 2** items that pertain to the New gTLD Program: Next Round.

# SubPro IRT Methodology

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- **First Reading:**
  - ICANN provides clarifications and rationale, if needed.
  - IRT offers comments on the text.
  - Additional comments can be provided by the IRT on a cloud-based document after the call.
- **Continuation of First Reading:**
  - Multiple meetings may be required to ensure alignment among the IRT members regarding their feedback.
- **Second Reading (After the IRT completes its review):**
  - ICANN org updates and shares the document for review.
  - A meeting will be conducted to review the updates if deemed necessary by ICANN org or the IRT.
- **Subgroup Formation:**
  - In situations where the Second Reading of a topic is unfinished or when a new topic emerges, a subgroup should be formed to continue discussing the unfinished topics.
  - Simultaneously, the main IRT group can begin reviewing topics.
  - The total number of supported subgroups must be aligned between the IRT and org
  - New subgroups formed only after the completion of active ones.

# Program Development

## Work Streams (2-4)

- Program Design
- Infrastructure Development
- Operationalization

# Program Development Since ICANN76

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## Program Design

- Developed work stream procedures.
- Created inventory and initial assessment of program processes.
- Completed mapping of Final Report topics, program processes, and systems.
- Identified resource needs for Business Process Development.
  - Working to fill Business Process staff positions
  - Working with vendors to provide augmented staff
- Held proof-of-concept workshops with potential vendors

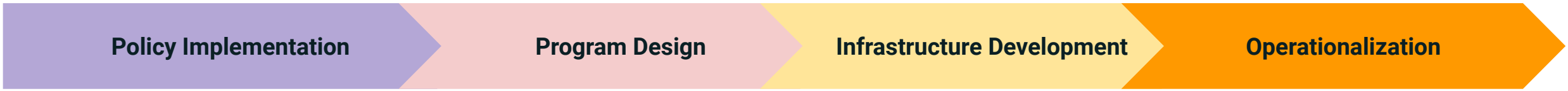
## Infrastructure Development

- Developed work stream procedures.
- Created a mapping document between processes and systems to serve as a baseline for planning.
- In process of evaluating platform technologies and possible professional service vendors for future engagements.

**Operationalization** consists of the creation of process procedures; hiring resources to operate the program, train staff and vendors, and perform an operational program test. Work stream procedures have been developed but the bulk of this work will occur after processes and systems are built.

# Service Development Life Cycle

Every process must be developed from Final Report recommendations and incorporated into the operational service. The following represents the method by which such services are developed.



## Service Development Life Cycle Steps

1. Document process requirements from Final Report outputs.	3. Identify business requirements.	5. Draft technical specifications for development.	7. Create process procedures.
2. Clarify any ambiguity or confusion on requirements.	4. Develop and document processes.	6. Develop and test systems and tools.	8. Organize and establish business services.
			9. Integrate services into the overall process flow and test.
			10. Hire and train staff.

## Deliverables

- Preliminary Process Assessment	- Business service architecture	- Technical specifications for development	- Procedures documents and training materials
- High-level draft process (for Applicant Guidebook)	- Detailed process blueprint	- Roll out of system functionality	- Program Operations governance documents
			- Program testing and sign off
			- Assigned Operations staff

# What to Expect at ICANN77

- **New gTLD Program: Next Round Sessions**
- **New gTLD Program: Next Round Program Resources**

# Suggested ICANN77 New gTLD Program: Next Round Sessions

- [GNSO Council SubPro Day Zero Session](#)
  - Sunday, 11 June 2023 (09:00-12:15 EDT; 13:00-16:15 UTC and 13:45-17:00 EDT;17:45-21:00 UTC)
- [Joint Session: ALAC, GAC, and GNSO Facilitated Dialogue on Closed Generics \(1 of 2\)](#)
  - Monday, 12 June 2023 (09:00-10:15 EDT; 13:00-14:15 UTC)
- [New gTLD Program: Next Round Implementation Status Recap and Q&A](#)
  - Monday, 12 June 2023 (15:30-17:00 EDT; 19:30-21:00 UTC)
- [At-large Policy Session 1: A User Perspective: The Next gTLD Application Window](#)
  - Monday, 12 June 2023 (13:45-15:00 EDT; 17:45-19:00 UTC)
- [GNSO: IDN EPDP Working Session \(1 of 4\)\\*](#)
  - Monday, 12 June 2023 (17:45-19:00 UTC)
- [Joint Session: ALAC, GAC, and GNSO Facilitated Dialogue on Closed Generics \(2 of 2\)\\*](#)
  - Tuesday, 13 June 2023 (14:45-16:15 UTC)
- [GNSO Guidance Process for Applicant Support Working Group](#)
  - Tuesday, 13 June 2023 (15:30-17:00 EDT; 19:30-21:00 UTC)



# New gTLD Program, Next Round Sessions: Cont...

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- [GNSO Guidance Process for Applicant Support Working Group\\*](#)
  - Tuesday, 13 June 2023 (19:30-21:00 UTC)
- [GNSO: IDN EPDP Working Session \(2 of 4\)\\*](#)
  - Tuesday, 13 June 2023 (17:30-21:00 UTC)
- [GNSO: IDN EPDP Working Session \(3 of 4\)\\*](#)
  - Wednesday, 14 June 2023 (10:45-12:15 EDT; 14:45-16:15 UTC)
- [GDS: Subsequent Procedures IRT](#)
  - Wednesday, 14 June 2023 (13:00-14:15 UTC)
- [GNSO Council Meeting](#)
  - Wednesday, 14 June (13:45-15:45 EDT; 17:45-19:45 UTC)
- [At-Large Policy Session 3: Unfinished Business - The Challenges of Auctions](#)
  - Wednesday, 14 June 2023 (15:30-17:00 EDT; 19:30-21:00 UTC)

# Thank you



## Thank You and Questions

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# Question and Answer (Q&A)