

ATRT2 Recommendation 6 Implementation

GAC Operations and Interactions

30 June 2015

Implementation 6 Timeline



July 2016
Complete

Recommendation 6 Implementation Description

ATRT2 Recommendation 6 advises that the Board work jointly with the GAC to consider a number of actions to make GAC work methods, agenda, activities and deliberations more transparent and better understood to the ICANN community. This project is intended to map the progress in the implementation of ATRT2 Recommendation 6.

Some recommendations concern GAC internal matters and have been addressed by GAC working groups. The BGRI Working Group is addressing recommendations 6.4, 6.5 and 6.7. The Working Group on GAC Working Methods (WGWM) has addressed ATRT2 recommendations 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 and 6.6. The GAC Joint Working Group on Government Engagement (JWG/GE) has addressed ATRT2 recommendations 6.8 and 6.9.

Status of Deliverables

	Responsible	Due Date
6.1 Increased transparency of GAC-related activities	GAC	July 2016
6.2 Formally adopt open meetings policy	GAC	✓
6.3 Develop and publish rationales for GAC advice	GAC	June 2016
6.4 Develop and document formal process for GAC advice	BGRI	✓
6.5 Bylaw change, requiring a Board supermajority to reject GAC advice	BGRI	On hold
6.6 Implement initiatives to remove barriers for participation	GAC	June 2016
6.7 Regularize Senior Officials meetings	BGRI & GAC	✓
6.8 Develop government engagement guidelines	JWG/GE	✓
6.9 Develop goals for stakeholder engagement by GSE	JWG/GE	July 2016



Complete

Planned/In Process

Behind schedule, expected to recover within original plan

Behind schedule, original plan to be adjusted

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.1 Implementation

6.1 Increased transparency of GAC-related activities

30 June 2015

Implementation 6.1 Timeline



July 2016
Operationalized

6.1 Sub-project Description

Subproject 6.1. is focused on increasing the transparency of GAC-related activities and in so doing improving on community visibility into, and understanding of, GAC work methods and processes.

The Working Group on GAC Working Methods (WGWM) has been implementing this recommendation, which contains eight sub-recommendations that are at varied stages of implementation by the GAC (six of the eight have been implemented).

Status of Deliverables

	Responsible	Due Date
a Convening GAC 101 information sessions (Sweden lead)	GAC	✓
b Publishing agendas and minutes for GAC Meetings timely (WGWM lead)	GAC	✓
c Improving GAC website (existing website and new website in planning)	ICANN staff and ACIG	July 2016
d Considering whether and how to open GAC conference calls	GAC	✓
e Considering how to structure GAC meetings to better engage with community	GAC	✓
f Establishing agenda-setting calls for the next meeting	GAC	✓
g Providing clarity on GAC leadership roles	GAC	✓
h Defining process to give opportunity to present to the GAC prior to deliberations	GAC	July 2016



Complete

Planned/In Process

Behind schedule, expected to recover within original plan

Behind schedule, original plan to be adjusted

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.1 Implementation

6.1 Increased transparency of GAC-related activities

30 June 2015

Project Status

6.1a Convening GAC 101 or information sessions for the ICANN community: This recommendation has been implemented by the GAC through GAC Open Forum sessions at [ICANN 50](#), [IGF 2014](#) and [ICANN 51](#). The GAC has discussed the experiences to date and considered further refinements of the approach. The GAC has agreed on the need for at least one Open Forum per year and for arrangements to align with the new ICANN meeting structure from 2016.

6.1b Publishing agendas and minutes for GAC Meetings timely: Until 2015, GAC agendas with session topics were made available online on the ICANN meeting website about one month before each meeting. In January 2015, the GAC started to publish its agenda for [ICANN 52](#) on the GAC's public website, well in advance of the 7-day time period recommended by ATRT2. Agenda publishing within 7 days of the meeting is thus complete.

Regarding publishing meeting minutes within 7 days of its meetings, the GAC interprets this recommendation as aiming to clarify GAC advice as early as possible after it is issued. Official meeting minutes approved by the GAC are now published within about 3 weeks of the meeting. The GAC publishes a negotiated, official record of its meetings at their close, in the form of the GAC Communiqués and is working, on an ongoing basis, on improving the clarity of the Communiqués, for example through the inclusion of annexes where relevant. Furthermore, since recordings and full transcripts are made publicly available within 7 days for all sessions, this aspect of the recommendation is implemented in reality. Hence, 6.1b has been implemented by the GAC.

6.1c Improving GAC website: The existing GAC website at <https://gacweb.icann.org> is being revised to improve access to relevant information, including correspondence, to increase the amount of information available on the public website and to streamline the site's navigation. Audio recordings and transcripts of all GAC meetings (except for communiqué-drafting sessions) have been made available online since ICANN 47 in the six UN languages as well as Portuguese. In parallel, the project to revamp the website began in March 2015, conducted by ACIG and ICANN support staff and guided by Tracy Hackshaw, former GAC Vice-Chair, as nominated GAC lead.

6.1d Considering whether and how to open GAC conference calls: GAC conference calls have generally been concerned with agenda setting for physical meetings, rather than with decision-making on substance matters of GAC advice. The GAC determined at ICANN 52 that liaisons to GAC from other SO/ACs can be invited to observe and participate as appropriate and the appointed GNSO liaison to the GAC has participated on GAC calls since April 2015. The implementation of this recommendation is thus concluded.

6.1e Considering how to structure GAC meetings to better engage with community: This recommendation is implemented by the GAC through a significant increase in the GAC's inter-sessional work, participation of GAC members in both GAC WGs and cross-community WGs, initiatives such as the GAC Open Forum (6.1a) and, as of 2016, the new ICANN meetings strategy. All face-to-face meeting sessions are open, except for the communiqué drafting sessions.

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.1 Implementation

6.1 Increased transparency of GAC-related activities

30 June 2015

Project Status (Continued)

6.1f Establishing agenda-setting calls for the next meeting: This recommendation has been implemented by the GAC. The GAC has a session at the end of each ICANN meeting to prepare for the next meeting, and holds a conference call in the middle of the period between ICANN meetings to set priorities for the agenda. If need be, there may be a second agenda setting call closer to the next meeting to refine the schedule.

6.1g Providing clarity on GAC leadership roles: This recommendation has been implemented with the publishing of a fact sheet about the GAC's Chair and Vice Chairs, following the election of the new leadership team at ICANN 51. The enlargement of the GAC management team has been followed up by a revision of the GAC Operating Principles at ICANN 53, formally stating that the GAC can have up to five Vice Chairs.

6.1h Defining process to give opportunity to present to the GAC prior to deliberations: The GAC has started to consider this recommendation. The topics of Geographic Names, Human Rights, and International Law are examples of areas for which the GAC is actively reaching out to the rest of the community to gather information and input ahead of decision-making, which could possibly serve as case studies to help define a process for the GAC to give entities the opportunity to present.

Implementation Notes

None

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.2 Implementation

Formally adopt open GAC meetings policy

21 June 2015

Project Status

This recommendation is implemented by the GAC. All GAC meetings since [ICANN 47](#) in 2013 have been **open**, except for the Communiqué drafting sessions. At ICANN 46 in April 2013 and prior to that, most GAC sessions were partly open and partly closed.

The **exception** to open meetings remains the Communiqué drafting session that is only accessible to GAC members and their advisors, as well as to GAC support staff and Secretariat. The Communiqué drafting session takes place towards the end of each meeting, on the Wednesday afternoon: it is about a half day of inter-governmental discussions and negotiations on the 'GAC Communiqué'. The Communiqué represents the formal negotiated outcome of the meeting, including the GAC's advice to the ICANN Board and therefore the discussions are open to members only to facilitate frank exchanges. A second exception to open meetings is the GAC agenda-setting conference call that is for logistics and scheduling, not substantive decision-making. Finally, the GAC may in the future need to hold a private meeting if the topic of discussion is a sensitive and purely internal matter (although the need has not arisen since mid 2013).

In terms of formalization, the GAC practice of Open Meetings is explained on the GAC website on the [GAC Meetings page](#) and in Fact Sheets for new GAC members ("[Attending your first GAC meeting](#)").

It should be noted that Principle 50 of the [GAC Operating Principles](#) (last amended in October 2011) still states: "*The meetings of the GAC shall ordinarily be held in private. The Chair may decide that a particular meeting, or part of a particular meeting, should be held in public.*" A proposed amendment to the Operating Principles is part of the ongoing review of the operating principles and would reverse the text to specify that GAC meetings are ordinarily held in public, and that the Chair may decide that a particular meeting should be held in private. This text will be updated in due course, as an administrative formality, when the GAC revises the entire Operating Principles.

Implementation Notes

None

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.3 Implementation

Develop and publish rationales for GAC Advice

21 June 2015

6.3 Develop and publish rationales for GAC Advice



June 2016
Complete

Status of Deliverables

	Responsible	Due Date
Consider, decide on and implement successive steps to provide rationale for GAC Advice	GAC	June 2016
Improving the GAC register of advice	ICANN staff and ACIG	December 2015
Include in the advice register a record of how the ICANN Board responded to each item of advice	ICANN staff and ACIG	June 2016

6.3 Sub-Project Description

Subproject 6.3. is focused on the GAC developing and publishing rationales for GAC Advice at the time advice is provided; recording such rationales in the GAC register; and, including in the register a record of how the ICANN Board responded to each item of advice.

The Working Group on GAC Working Methods has addressed the implementation of this recommendation.



Complete

Planned/In Process

Behind schedule, expected to recover within original plan

Behind schedule, original plan to be adjusted

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.3 Implementation

Develop and publish rationales for GAC Advice

30 June 2015

Project Status

The implementation of recommendation 6.3 is a gradual development, discussed most recently by the GAC at ICANN 53 in Buenos Aires in June 2015.

Improving the GAC register of advice: Improving the GAC Register of Advice to make it more user-friendly and comprehensive of GAC input and Board feedback is part of the review of the existing GAC website that began in February 2015. It is also a major component of the new revamped GAC website project. It should be noted, as well, that the ICANN CTO and Board support department are developing a register of advice to the Board and that there are likely to be significant synergies possible.

Developing and publishing rationales for GAC Advice at the time advice is provided and recording rationales in the GAC register:

The GAC interprets this recommendation as aiming to clarify GAC advice. In practice, the rationale for GAC Advice is being made clearer through continuous efforts such as improving the wording of the Communiqué itself, including attachments where appropriate, holding open meetings as the default, and publishing transcripts and minutes. The GAC also notes that other initiatives, such as holding GAC Open Forum sessions and opening GAC sessions to non-members, helps to explain the aims and procedures of GAC advice. In fact, the GAC is considering holding open forums upon release of the Communiqué to explain the background to its advice to the wider ICANN community. The GAC is likely to consider further options to clarify the rationale for its advice.

Note: If the GAC decides to implement this recommendation as written, it will then consider what further steps the GAC will take to provide rationales for its advice.

Implementation Notes

The GAC has not yet decided whether, and to what extent, it will develop and publish rationales for GAC Advice at the time advice is provided, under separate headings, similar to the structure used for Board resolutions.

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.4 Implementation

Develop and document formal process for GAC Advice

30 June 2015

6.4 Develop and document formal process for GAC Advice



August 2015
Complete

6.4 Sub-Project Description

Subproject 6.4. is focused on the Board, working through the BGRI Working Group, developing and documenting a formal process for notifying and requesting GAC Advice.

The BGRI Working Group is in charge of implementing this recommendation.

The draft process is considered adopted from the GAC perspective.

Status of Deliverables

	Responsible	Due Date
Develop draft "Timeline for Board requesting GAC Advice."	BGRI	✓
Adopt or amend 'Draft Timeline for Board requesting GAC Advice' (evaluating current shortcomings / enhancing process).	BGRI	✓
If necessary, formal adoption of process by Board, posting online	BGRI	August 2015



Complete

Planned/In Process

Behind schedule, expected to recover within original plan

Behind schedule, original plan to be adjusted

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.4 Implementation

Develop and document formal process for GAC Advice

30 June 2015

Project Status

In its London Communiqué of June 2014, the GAC “agreed to implement this recommendation with the BGRI processing the recommendation by documenting the current process and seeking comment on options for improvements.”

It was noted that Board requests for GAC advice are very rare, with only one such request issued during the last five years.

At ICANN 50, 51 and 52, the BGRI discussed the draft of a formal process for notifying and requesting GAC advice. The draft process has been circulated twice to the GAC. No comments having been received, and the document is considered approved from a GAC perspective. The BGRI, meeting during ICANN 53, found it advisable to prepare for Board adoption of the process, now foreseen to be concluded by August 2015.

Implementation Notes

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.5 Implementation

Bylaws change, requiring a supermajority for the Board to reject GAC Advice

30 April 2015

6.5 Develop and document formal process for GAC Advice



On hold





6.5 Sub-Project Description

Subproject 6.5. recommends that the BGRI implement a Bylaws change, whereby the Board would need a supermajority vote to reject GAC advice.

The BGRI Working Group is in charge of this recommendation.

Status of Deliverables

	Responsible	Due Date
Public comment period	Staff	✓
Amend ICANN bylaws, to require a Board supermajority to reject GAC advice.	BGRI	On hold

	Complete
	Planned/In Process
	Behind schedule, expected to recover within original plan
	Behind schedule, original plan to be adjusted

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.5 Implementation

Bylaws change, requiring a supermajority for the Board to reject GAC Advice

30 June 2015

Project Status

ATRT1, ATRT2 and BGRI advice led to a proposal to set a bylaws threshold at 2/3 for the Board to reject GAC advice.

At their meeting together at ICANN 51 in October 2014, both the Board and the GAC noted that [public comments on the proposed bylaw change](#) had been almost unanimously negative, although many comments had seemed to be based on a misunderstanding of the purpose, status and timing of the proposal, conflated with accountability issues. According to a presentation during the BRGI session at ICANN 51, public comments were made around several themes: i) the poor timing of the proposed changes, which should have been considered after the IANA Stewardship Transition process, or as part of the enhancing ICANN accountability work; ii) concern that the threshold for rejecting GAC advice would be different than for other SOs/ACs; iii) Concern that changes could remove any incentive for GAC involvement in policy development; iv) Lack of transparency in the selection of GAC members; and, v) Changes would create even more problems should GAC advice move from consensus to voting.

In October 2014 the Board said that for these reasons the issue would be put **on hold, to be revisited in the future in the broader context of other changes across the ICANN community.**

Implementation Notes

The final implementation of this recommendation is on hold.

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.6 Implementation

Increase support and resource commitments of governments to the GAC

30 June 2015

6.6 Increase support and resource commitments of government to the GAC Status of Deliverables



June 2016
Complete

6.6 Sub-Project Description

Subproject 6.6. is focused on increasing support and resource commitments of governments to the GAC and, more specifically, to identify and address barriers for participation, to improve procedures and to develop best practices.

The Working Group on GAC Working Methods (WGWM) has contributed with implementation steps for this recommendation. Several of the points made in ATRT2 Rec 6.6 overlap with, and are addressed by, activities under other sub-projects, as noted in the table.

	Responsible	Due Date
Identify initiatives that can remove barriers for participation	GAC	✓
Implement initiatives that can remove barriers for participation	GAC	June 2016
Improve GAC procedures to ensure more efficient, transparent and inclusive decision-making	GAC	Addressed under 6.1 – 6.3
Develop GAC engagement best practices	GAC & BGRI	June 2016

Complete

Planned/In Process

Behind schedule, expected to recover within original plan

Behind schedule, original plan to be adjusted

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.6 Implementation

Increase support and resource commitments of governments to the GAC

30 June 2015

Project Status

Identify and address barriers to participation in the GAC: There has already been significant progress in overcoming language barriers to participate in the GAC, with the Communiqué, fact sheets, minutes and transcripts being made available in 7 languages and interpretation available for meetings and conference calls. A more extensive use of background briefing documents has also worked to reduce participation barriers, as has the increase of travel support slots for participants from developing economies. In a survey of the GAC following ICANN 52, the GAC rated initiatives to encourage participation in the GAC. Providing access to more relevant information was viewed as an effective way to encourage more active participation in the GAC. Providing more outreach was viewed as important, and providing better information on the ICANN model was viewed as being helpful. However, providing more translation and/or interpretation was not widely viewed as helpful. This aspect of 6.6 is linked to recommendation 6.9 and the implementation thereof by JWG/GE and GSE staff.

Improve GAC procedures to ensure more efficient, transparent and inclusive decision-making: This generally worded recommendation serves as a principle for continuous improvement efforts, as addressed in 6.1 – 6.3, where a number of proposals and initiatives have been launched to encourage inclusiveness and active participation by GAC members and observers in its discussions and to enhance efficiency, effectiveness and the timely provision of decisions and advice. The use of GAC Working Groups to address particular topics has increased, which also serves to fulfil this recommendation.

The BGRI working group should develop GAC engagement best practices for members: The GAC considers, with regard to GAC engagement best practices for members, that some issues, such as making “adequate resource commitments” for supporting ICANN-related work, are matters for the judgment of individual governments rather than for standardization. The suggestion for a Code of Conduct led to discussion during the GAC’s Buenos Aires meeting and was mentioned in the Buenos Aires Communiqué, which noted that each member already operates within his/her own government's code of conduct framework.

The GAC is, however, implementing and investigating ways in which members can be supported to engage most effectively, complementing measures to remove barriers to participation. This includes elements mentioned by ATRT2 such as local stakeholder consultation and coordination on multi-dimensional issues such as Internet governance. For example, the GAC Open Forum session always features presentations of how individual governments prepare for GAC meetings at the national level, including consultations with local stakeholders. These presentations serve as useful models for other GAC members, in addition to informing the wider community.

Implementation Notes

The Working Group on GAC Working Methods (WGWM) has contributed with implementation steps for this recommendation, noting that the second section of the recommendation, “Consider how the GAC can improve its procedures to ensure more efficient, transparent and inclusive decision-making,” is already covered by previous recommendations (Recommendations 6.1 – 6.3). Implementation of the recommendation is of an ongoing nature and it is a judgment call to assess when the implementation work has reached a level justifying closure.

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.7 Implementation

Regularize Senior Officials meetings

30 June 2015

6.7 Regularize Senior Officials meetings



March 2015
Complete

6.7 Sub-Project Description

Subproject 6.7 is focused on regularizing senior officials' meetings by: asking the GAC to convene a High Level meeting on a regular basis, preferably at least once every two years; inviting countries and territories that do not currently have GAC representatives to these meetings; and taking stock after each High Level meeting.

The GAC has implemented this recommendation.

Status of Deliverables

	Responsible	Due Date
GAC agreement to convene regular, High Level meetings	GAC	✓
Establishing practice with High Level meetings in Toronto 2012, London 2014 and (in planning) Morocco 2016	GAC	✓
Approving and publishing guidelines for GAC High Level Governmental Meetings	GAC	✓



Complete

Planned/In Process

Behind schedule, expected to recover within original plan

Behind schedule, original plan to be adjusted

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.7 Implementation

Regularize Senior Officials meetings

30 June 2015

Project Status

GAC agreement to convene regular, High Level meeting: In its London ICANN 50 Communiqué, the GAC agreed that “regular high-level meetings are beneficial, and (that it) will examine ways to maximize their benefits and continually improve the way they are arranged and scheduled.”

Establishing practice of HLMGs: The GAC established the practice of holding High Level meetings by doing so in Toronto in 2012, in London in 2014, and is now planning another for Morocco in 2016.

Approving and publishing guidelines for GAC High Level Governmental Meetings:

At ICANN 52 in Singapore, the GAC approved a set of guidelines for GAC High Level Governmental Meetings. The guidelines specify that, ideally, a host GAC member would self-nominate and inform the GAC one year in advance. They articulated expectations on host members before each High Level meeting, during the meeting, and after the meeting. The guidelines are published in the 7 UN languages on the GAC website at <https://gacweb.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=38502480>. The GAC agreed to consider it as a living document to be updated as needed and reviewed regularly as part of a stocktaking process after each HLMG.

Implementation Notes

None

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.8 Implementation

Develop government engagement guidelines

30 June 2015

6.8 Develop government engagement guidelines



April 2015
Complete

Status of Deliverables

	Responsible	Due Date
Enhance monthly GAC/ICANN leadership conference call format	ICANN Staff	✓
Enhance monthly GSE/GE related activities report	ICANN Staff	✓
Develop and publish government engagement guidelines	ICANN Staff	✓

6.8 Sub-Project Description

Subproject 6.8. is focused on developing guidelines for engaging governments, both current and non-GAC members, to ensure coordination and synergy of efforts between the GAC and the ICANN GSE team.



Complete

Planned/In Process

Behind schedule, expected to recover within original plan

Behind schedule, original plan to be adjusted

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.8 Implementation

Develop government engagement guidelines

30 June 2015

Project Status

The GAC Joint Working Group on Government Engagement (JWG/GE) was formed at ICANN 50. ICANN Staff and JWG/WG members engaged in discussions and proposed several initiatives at ICANN 51 in Los Angeles in October 2014. Actions that were agreed on and have now been implemented are:

- An enhanced format for the GAC/ICANN leadership conference call: these monthly calls now involve more relevant GAC members (notably the GAC Vice Chairs and GAC support staff including the ACIG Secretariat).
- An enhanced monthly GSE/GE related activities report – the new format has been implemented and is distributed to the full membership each month. Monthly reports are published on the GAC website at <https://gacweb.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=38502831#r>.
- Finally, the GAC and GSE/GE team have now finalized approved Guidelines for coordination between the GAC and ICANN's Global Stakeholder Engagement/Government Engagement Teams at <https://gacweb.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=38502831> and in so doing completed the implementation of recommendation 6.8.

Implementation Notes

The guidelines have been completed, accepted and are now being implemented through staff work nationally, regionally and with IGO activities. The guidelines are a working document that can be amended as communities request additional communication or methods of working together.

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.9 Implementation

Develop goals for stakeholder engagement

30 June 2015

6.9 Develop goals for stakeholder engagement



July 2016
Complete

Status of Deliverables

	Responsible	Due Date
a. Develop goals for engagement with GAC and non-GAC member countries including database of relevant Ministers	Staff	Ongoing
b. Utilize tools to better track ICANN response to GAC advice	Staff	Ongoing
c. Make ICANN's work relevant for stakeholders in parts of the world with limited participation	Staff	Ongoing
d. Develop and execute for each world region a plan to allow local enterprises and entrepreneurs to fully and on equal terms use of ICANN's services including new gTLDs (all regional plans by July 2016 but implementation work on going)	Staff	Ongoing

6.9 Sub-Project Description

Subproject 6.9. is focused on developing, with community input, a baseline and set of measurable goals for stakeholder engagement. Once the baseline is established and these goals are set implementation will be ongoing

Other work under 6.9 fits into the overall Rec 6 ongoing system enhancements and improvements



Complete

Planned/In Process

Behind schedule, expected to recover within original plan

Behind schedule, original plan to be adjusted

ATRT2 Recommendation 6.9 Implementation

Develop baseline and set of measurable goals for stakeholder engagement

30 June 2015

Project Status

Per Recommendation 6.9, the Board should instruct the GSE group to develop, with community input, a baseline and set of measurable goals for stakeholder engagement that addresses the following:

a. Relationships with GAC and non-GAC member countries, including the development of a database of contact information

for relevant government Ministers: The relationships with GAC and non-GAC member countries have been strengthened through staff interactions in regions. The engagement work occurs within regions in capitals, with regional intergovernmental groups and in Geneva and New York through engagement with the relevant IGOs and IOs. GAC discussions in ICANN 53 have clarified that the objective with having a database of contact information for relevant government ministers has been achieved through other means and should not be pursued.

b. Tools to summarize and communicate in a more structured manner government involvement in ICANN, via the GAC, as a way to increase the transparency on how ICANN reacts to GAC Advice (e.g. by using information in the GAC Advice Register): in development : currently regular webinars and briefings are held; as well as distribution of educational materials; hosting of DNS regional forums, one to one meetings, regional commissions and ministerial meetings, etc. This is also closely related to ongoing implementation activities for other recommendations regarding website improvements.

c. Making ICANN's work relevant for stakeholders in those parts of the world with limited participation: This is ongoing development work. In practice, GSE/GE implementation in the regions is according to community priorities as expressed in the community driven regional engagement planning and prioritization (regional strategies) and at GE team in Geneva in accordance with stakeholders preferences and global work.

d. Develop and execute for each region of the world a plan to ensure that local enterprises and entrepreneurs fully and on equal terms can make use of ICANN's services including new gTLDs: ongoing –four regions have strategies that have been developed by the multistakeholder regional communities, including participation from Governments in those regions, whether ICANN GAC members or not. One DNS entrepreneurship center has been started and is working in Egypt, serving the Middle East and Africa region. Other regions are looking at it and the prospects of replication look good in developing regions.

Implementation Notes

This work is ongoing and expressed in the regional engagement strategies and the work of the regional communities. Regional DNS forums have been launched; all regions have regular webinars that include government participation or are specific to Governments; in Geneva and NY regular briefings and technical presentations educate the diplomatic staff from the missions about the relevance of the DNS to their country's economy and to gain a better understanding of how the Internet works and therefore why what ICANN does is relevant and worth their participation. Communication has been followed up with a push strategy to get additional materials to those entities that request briefings. The GAC Communique and information on membership (including how to contact the GACSEC) are distributed and GAC membership and participation in ICANN are encouraged.

Here are the regional engagement plans <https://community.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=35521555>.

GSE and GE has planned the FY16 work to identify and prioritize those activities for the coming year. Part of that planning process is the further development of the community wiki space to encompass the metrics, forums and the regional projects.