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Welcome to Johannesburg! I am pleased to present the Pre-ICANN59 Policy Report written by the Policy Development Support team. This report provides high-level updates from the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees.

ICANN59 is our second Policy Forum. The Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees have taken the lead in organizing the program. Mornings are dedicated to outreach and advancing policy and advice development work. Afternoons will feature cross-community sessions exploring a variety of topics including ongoing policy development efforts.

We begin ICANN59 with the presentation of the Multistakeholder Ethos Award, concluding a community-driven selection process. There will be no opening ceremony, no public meeting of the ICANN Board, and no public forum sessions. Instead, we will see robust debate, discussion, disagreement, and compromise.

Networking receptions each night will allow participants to interact outside of work sessions.

A global community of stakeholders and participants from many backgrounds with various points of view help coordinate and support the unique identifiers of the Internet. The Internet functions for everybody because everybody is invited to help make it function. Consensus policies developed by the multistakeholder model give our results both effectiveness and the greatest legitimacy.

Thank you to our generous hosts and to you for making the considerable commitment of time and effort to attend this meeting. No matter if you are an ICANN regular, an occasional participant, or a newcomer, I encourage you to engage actively in this meeting.

Best regards,

David Olive
Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support
Managing Director, ICANN Regional Headquarters – Istanbul
Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

What to Expect at ICANN59?

Though several members of the Internet number community including ASO Address Council members will be present in Johannesburg, the ASO will not be convening at ICANN59. The ASO conducts policy development work at regional Internet registry meetings and on mailing lists, and the ASO Address Council had its annual meeting at ICANN58.

ITEMS International will present the draft report of the organizational review of the ASO at ICANN59. The Number Resource Organization Executive Council (NRO EC), in communication with the ICANN Board Organizational Effectiveness Committee, selected ITEMS International earlier this year to conduct the independent review of the ASO.

As described in the call for proposals by the NRO, the objective of the review is to determine whether the ASO has a continuing purpose in the ICANN structure, and if so, whether any change in structure or operations of the ASO is desirable to improve its effectiveness in the ICANN structure, and additionally whether the ASO is accountable to the Internet number community when carrying out its responsibilities.

The scope of the review includes all functions undertaken by the ASO in support of ICANN, and in particular, global number policy development and the appointment of individuals to various ICANN bodies, including the ICANN Board.

Background

The ASO was established in 2003 through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ICANN and the Number Resource Organization (NRO), representing the Internet number community and the five, autonomous RIRs: African Network Information Center (AFRINIC), Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC), American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN), Latin American and Caribbean Network Information Centre (LACNIC), and Réseaux IP Européen Network Coordination Centre (RIPE NCC).

Through the MoU, the NRO Number Council acts as the ASO Address Council at ICANN. The ASO Address Council coordinates the global policy development work of the Internet number community and appoints members to the ICANN Board of Directors, the Nominating Committee, and other ICANN groups.

The ASO Address Council consists of 15 members, three from each service region. Filiz Yilmaz serves as chair with Louie Lee and Ricardo Patara serving as vice chairs for 2017; they represent the RIPE NCC, ARIN and LACNIC service regions, respectively.

Session Details

ASO Review: Presentation of Draft Report
Wednesday, 28 June | 09:00-10:15 | Bill Gallagher Room

Upcoming regional Internet registry meetings:

- **APNIC 44** | 7-14 September 2017 | Taichung, Taiwan
- **LACNIC 28** | 18-22 September 2017 | Montevideo, Uruguay
- **ARIN 40** | 5-6 October 2017 | San Jose, USA
- **RIPE 75** | 22-26 October 2017 | Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- **AFRINIC 27** | November 2017 | TBA
Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

What to Expect at ICANN59?

Monday the ccTLD managers will start with Tech Day, a workshop open to all community members with an interest in technical and operational topics, including registry work and security. Tuesday and Wednesday the ccNSO Members Meeting takes place. At the meeting, the ccTLD community will discuss issues affecting the world’s ccTLD managers. The detailed ccNSO schedule for ICANN59 is available here.

Background

The ccNSO is a body within ICANN created for and by country code top-level domain managers. Since its creation in 2003, the ccNSO has evolved to a forum for ccTLD managers to meet and discuss topical issues of concern to ccTLDs from a global perspective. The ccNSO provides a platform to nurture consensus, technical cooperation and skill-building among ccTLDs and facilitates the development of voluntary best practices for ccTLD managers. It is also responsible for developing and recommending global policies to the ICANN Board for a limited set of issues relating to ccTLDs, such as the retirement of ccTLDs. Membership in the ccNSO is open to all ccTLD managers responsible for managing an ISO 3166 country code top-level domain.

The ccNSO is administered by the ccNSO Council, which consists of 18 Councilors (15 elected by ccNSO members, three appointed by the ICANN Nominating Committee). The Councilors are actively involved in determining the work and direction of the ccNSO: they manage the policy development process, lead and participate in various ccNSO working groups, they engage with the community on topical issues, and they develop positions based on community feedback. The ccNSO Council meets regularly at ICANN meetings and on monthly teleconferences. All council documents, minutes of meetings, resolutions and discussions are published.

Session Details

Cross-Community Sessions Led/Co-Led by the ccNSO

General Data Protection Regulation
Tuesday, 27 June | 15:15 – 16:45 | Ballroom 1

The Global Data Protection Regulation (EU/2016/679) applies to any person or entity that processes the personal data of European Union residents. As a regulation, it harmonizes all data privacy laws across Europe to protect all EU citizens’ data privacy and to clarify and strengthen the way organizations across the EU approach data privacy.

The cross-community session intends to:

• Raise awareness of the GDPR and its potential impact on the DNS and its users
• Analyze how GDPR may affect services offered by registries & registrars, current uses of the DNS and WHOIS information, and looking for practical solutions.
• Assess impact of GDPR and identifying possible next steps on current and anticipated ICANN-related work

Operational Side of ICANN’s Operational Plan and Budget
Wednesday, 28 June | 15:15 – 16:45 | Bill Gallagher Room

This session takes the shape of a community dialogue with focus on ICANN operational goals and related metrics, as part of ICANN’s regular planning process. Topics under discussion will include:

• PTI budget and long-term planning
• ICANN international engagement, including regional office and hub strategy
• New gTLD program estimates
**Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)**

**Who Sets ICANN’s Priorities?**  
Wednesday, 28 June | 17:00 – 18:30 | Bill Gallagher Room

This session aims to develop a shared understanding of community perspectives about how priorities are made in the ICANN system, and who should make those priorities for the organization in future. *Cross-Community Sessions Led/Co-

**ccNSO Sessions**

**ccNSO Members Meeting: CWG-UCTN**  
Tuesday, 27 June | 09:20 – 10:05 | Ballroom 3

The Cross-Community Working Group on the Use of Country and Territory Names as Top-Level Domains (CWG-UCTN) sought public comments on its Interim Paper, specifically on its draft conclusions and recommendations. Based on the review of the comments received, there is support for the major recommendations of the CWG-UCTN. These include closing the working group and the need for a new effort with a broader mandate, embedded in a broader context. However, opinions on how the next effort should be organized vary widely. The goal is to present the CWG-UCTN Final Report at ICANN59 and have it adopted by the chartering organizations (ccNSO and GNSO).

**ccNSO Members Meeting: Consultation with the ccNSO Community on Approval Action and Applicability of ccNSO Rules**  
Tuesday, 27 June | 14:15 – 14:50 | Ballroom 3

The ICANN Board proposed changes to the Fundamental Bylaws, and questions regarding this proposal can be addressed during the Community Forum held on Tuesday. A 21-day period, during which the ccNSO Council should decide whether to support, object, or abstain from the Approval Action, will start once ICANN59 has concluded. Therefore, the ccNSO Council needs to have a guideline in place to be ready for decision-making.

The ccNSO Guidelines Review Committee (GRC) has developed a draft guideline. However, in developing it, the GRC has identified a major issue: The way the ccNSO has structured its decision-making process is incompatible with the timelines of the ICANN Bylaws Approval Action procedure. The GRC proposes two alternative solutions, and a community consultation is needed to provide guidance to the ccNSO Council.

**ccNSO Members Meeting: The ccNSO as a Decisional Participant in Rejection Action Petitions**  
Wednesday, 28 June | 10:30 – 11:40 | Ballroom 3

Decisional Participants such as the ccNSO play an important role in the Rejection Action procedure. This ccNSO session is intended to simulate and discuss this role of the ccNSO and other Decisional Participants with respect to a Rejection Action. Topics that will be addressed include: when and how to file a Rejection Petition, the timelines involved, the roles of the ccNSO Council and the Empowered Community Administration. Anyone interested to see how the ccNSO intends to deal with rejection action petitions and related issues is welcome to attend.

**ccNSO Council Meeting**  
Thursday, 29 June | 09:00 – 10:15 | Committee 2

The ccNSO Council will meet at ICANN59. The agenda and relevant background material will be posted here and on the Council workspace.
The ccNSO Council has initiated the third ccNSO Policy Development Process (PDP). The goal is to develop and recommend policies to the ICANN Board of Directors pertaining to:

- The retirement of country code Top-Level Domains (ccTLDs)
- Review mechanisms for decisions relating to the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs

At its ICANN58 meeting, the ccNSO Council decided that the initial focus will be on developing a policy for the retirement of ccTLDs. As part of the launching process, feedback is sought on the Issues Report. The public comment period will close on 10 July 2017. The ccNSO PDP Retirement Working Group will meet for the first time at ICANN59. Consult the group’s charter and other relevant documents on its website and workspace.
What to Expect at ICANN59?

The GNSO is the policymaking body responsible for generic top-level domains (gTLDs). Its members include representatives from gTLD registries, ICANN-accredited registrars, intellectual property interests, Internet service providers, business, and non-commercial interests. The GNSO brings together these different stakeholders to develop gTLD policy recommendations using a bottom-up process, driven by working groups run by community volunteers.

The ICANN59 Policy Forum centers on policy development activities and promotes cross-community discussions of topics that affect the broader ICANN community. The GNSO community will use focused sessions to advance its work on several important ongoing Policy Development Processes (PDPs). To complement these efforts, several cross-community discussions will focus on topics that feed into the work taking place in the GNSO. Furthermore, the GNSO will discuss the first-ever use of its process for amending policy recommendations before the ICANN Board acts on these recommendations.

ICANN59 will see the first Community Forum to be convened under the revised ICANN Bylaws. As the GNSO is a Decisional Participant in ICANN’s Empowered Community, members of the GNSO are expected to actively participate in the Community Forum, providing input on a proposal to amend one of ICANN’s Fundamental Bylaws.

Background

At ICANN59, the Next Generation Registration Directory Service (RDS) PDP Working Group (WG) will continue deliberating on key concepts and possible requirements for charter questions about RDS users/purposes, data elements, and privacy for “thin data”. The New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures PDP WG is expected to make progress on new gTLD policy and program implementation issues currently under discussion within the WG’s four sub teams. The International Governmental Organization (IGO)-International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP WG will present its draft Final Recommendations for community input. Finally, the Review of Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs PDP WG will continue its Phase One work, reviewing the Trademark Clearinghouse (TMCH) and the various rights protection mechanisms offered through TMCH.

Cross-community discussion sessions bring together the entire community around areas of shared interest. The GNSO community will lead or co-lead some of these sessions at ICANN59. The cross-community discussion on the next-generation gTLD registration directory services policy requirements will support deliberations in the Next-Generation RDS PDP WG. Community feedback on key concepts related to the purposes of gTLD registration data and directory services, data elements required by those purposes, and related data protection and privacy requirement will assist the PDP WG to reach rough consensus agreements. The leadership in the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP WG has planned two sessions of cross-community discussion on geographic names at the top-level. While geographic names are one of the many topics within the PDP WG’s charter, it is an issue of wide community interest and divergent views, and subject to parallel community efforts that must be coordinated. The goal of these sessions is to help ICANN community discuss, understand, and collaborate on the development of a consensus-driven compromise solution. The cross-community discussion on the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDRP) will raise awareness of its impact on the Domain Name System (DNS) and its users, analyze how it may affect the services offered by registries and registrars, and identify potential next steps on current and future work in ICANN.

At ICANN59, the GNSO Council will discuss the progress of the policy amendment process on the protection of specific Red Cross and Red Crescent names at the top and second level in all gTLDs. This exceptional move resulted from discussions between the Board, Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), and GNSO at ICANN58, addressing the inconsistency between the GAC Advice and GNSO consensus recommendations on this topic. In response to Board request, the GNSO Council voted to reconvene the PDP WG which developed the original policy recommendations to consider whether two of the previous policy recommendations merit review or amendment.
The GNSO expects that by ICANN59 the revised GNSO Operating Procedures and ICANN Bylaws will be published for public comment. They will include new processes and procedures to help the GNSO take on its role as a Decisional Participant in the Empowered Community. Additionally, the GNSO Council expects to consider recommendations concerning the process and criteria for the permanent appointment of the GNSO Representative to the Empowered Community Administration.

Read the GNSO Policy Briefings for more information.

**Session Details**

Please see the ICANN59 schedule for details about sessions related to GNSO activities, including:

**PDP WG Meetings**

- **New gTLD Subsequent Procedures**  
  Tuesday, 27 June | 08:30-12:00 | Committee 4

- **IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms**  
  Tuesday, 27 June | 10:30-12:00 | Ballroom 2

- **Next Generation Registration Directory Service to Replace WHOIS**  
  Wednesday, 28 June | 08:30-12:00 | Ballroom 2

- **Review of Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs**  
  Thursday, 29 June | 09:00-12:00 | Ballroom 2

**Cross-Community Sessions Led/Co-Led by GNSO**

- **Next Generation Registration Directory Service Policy Requirements**  
  Monday, 26 June | 15:15-18:30 | Ballroom 1

- **Empowered Community’s Cross-Community Forum on Proposed Fundamental Bylaws Amendments**  
  Tuesday, 27 June | 08:00-09:00 | Ballroom 1

- **New gTLD Auction Proceeds Cross-Community Working Group Meeting**  
  Tuesday, 27 June | 13:30-15:00 | Ballroom 2

- **General Data Protection Regulation: The Most Important Change in Data Privacy Regulation in Over 20 Years**  
  Tuesday, 27 June | 15:15-16:45 | Ballroom 1

- **Geographic Names at the Top-Level Session I**  
  Tuesday, 27 June | 17:00-18:30 | Bill Gallagher Room

- **Geographic Names at the Top-Level Session II**  
  Thursday, 29 June | 15:15-18:30 | Ballroom 1

**GNSO Sessions**

- **GNSO Working Session**  
  Monday, 26 June | 09:00-15:00 | Committee 4

- **GNSO/Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Joint Councils Meeting**  
  Monday, 26 June | 18:30-19:30 | Ballroom 2
Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

**GNSO and GAC Joint Meeting**
Wednesday, 28 June | 11:30-12:30 | Ballroom 1

**GNSO Council Public Meeting**
Wednesday, 28 June | 13:00-15:00 | Ballroom 2

**GNSO Council Wrap-Up Session**
Thursday, 29 June | 13:30-15:00 | Ballroom 2

**GNSO Outreach Sessions**

**GNSO Outreach – Policy Briefings**
Monday-Thursday, 26-29 June | 08:00-08:30 | Committee 4

**Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group Outreach and Strategy Meetings**

Monday, 26 June | 08:00-08:30 | Ballroom 2
Tuesday, 27 June | 08:00-08:30 | Ballroom 3
Wednesday, 28 June | 08:00-08:30 | Ballroom 2
Thursday, 29 June | 08:00-09:00 | Ballroom 2
At-Large/At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

What to Expect at ICANN59?

At ICANN59, the At-Large Community will hold 25 sessions, including outreach activities and meetings with other stakeholders. The community will generally focus on three areas:

1) ICANN Policy Discussions – At-Large will discuss public interest issues pertinent to the end user community, including New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) consumer safeguards and Domain Name System (DNS) abuse. At-Large members are also encouraged to attend the cross-community discussions.

2) Organizational Matters – Entering the next phase of an organizational review, At-Large Community leaders will use the focused, working sessions to start developing the At-Large Review Recommendations Feasibility Assessment and Implementation Plan. Additionally, the initial discussions of the Third At-Large Summit (ATLAS III), which is expected to take place during ICANN64, will also get started in Johannesburg.

3) African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO) Activities – AFRALO will leverage ICANN59 to engage with its At-Large Structures (ALSes), as well as the local African end user community. A General Assembly (GA) plenary and a series of events – including capacity development sessions, local outreach event, and showcase – are organized with nearly 50 ALS representatives expected to participate.

Background

ICANN Policy Discussions

The At-Large Community has been a strong advocate for the public interest at ICANN. In addition to establishing a Public Interest Working Group, the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) submitted a number of policy advice statements to the ICANN Board on the topic of Public Interest Commitments for New gTLDs.

At-Large welcomes recent developments at ICANN, including the hiring of Bryan Schilling, ICANN’s first Consumer Safeguard Director, and the creation of the Domain Abuse Reporting Tool (DART).

At ICANN59, At-Large will host tutorials in collaboration with subject matter experts to educate its members on consumer safeguards and DNS abuse issues. These experts include senior staff from ICANN’s Contractual Compliance Department, ICANN’s Dave Piscitello, and iThreat Cyber Group’s Greg Aaron.

During the ICANN59 Policy Forum, At-Large members are expected to actively participate in the cross-community discussions, particularly the sessions on the next generation gTLD registration directory services (RDS) policy requirements and the geographic names at the top-level. These topics will also be discussed during the At-Large Leadership sessions. The intent is to ensure that At-Large members are all conversant on the hot policy issues within ICANN in order to contribute substantially to the discussions.

Organizational Matters

In February 2017, ITEMS International, the independent examiner, published its Draft Report on the Review of the At-Large Community. The ALAC and the At-Large Review Working Party (WP) submitted one comprehensive response as an ALAC Statement immediately after ICANN58. The ALAC fully supports eight of the sixteen recommendations proposed by ITEMS, partly supports five, and rejects three. The recommendations that the ALAC supports are generally about the ALAC’s roles in outreach, awareness raising, and participation in ICANN policy and processes. ALAC believes many of these recommendations are already in progress being implemented. A strong focus of ITEMS’ Recommendations and Implementation suggestions involve significant structural changes to the At-Large Community. The ALAC believes that these proposals do not recognize existing policies that allow and support individual members. Holding similar views as the ALAC and the WP, the five Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs) jointly submitted a separate statement focused on the issues and recommendations particularly relevant to the RALOs. Both statements incorporate extensive, bottom-up input from across the At-Large Community via teleconferences, meetings, and various collaboration and communications.
channels. Notably, 73 ALSes directly participated in online ratification votes on the RALO statement, which resulted in overwhelming amount of support.

In May 2017, ITEMS published its Final Report. This has moved the At-Large Community into the next phase of the review process, focusing on developing the Feasibility Assessment and Implementation Plan of each recommendation. This analysis will be submitted to the ICANN Board Organizational Effectiveness Committee before the ICANN Board acts on the ITEMS recommendations. During ICANN59, At-Large will have a dedicated working session to discuss the method to carry out this analysis. The ALAC and RALO Statements have laid much of the groundwork for this document.

AFRALO Activities
The AFRALO GA plenary will be held on Wednesday, 28 June, with the participation of representatives from nearly 50 ALSes across 30 African countries and territories. AFRALO will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with AFRNIC during the GA. ICANN Executives and a Board Director will speak at the event, and the ALSes will discuss several topics, including the AFRALO Operating Principles, FY18 Outreach Strategy, and ways to improve ALSes’ participation at ICANN. A cultural showcase and networking event will be held later in the day of the GA, featuring keynote address by Steve Croker and Göran Marby, a presentation of AFRALO ALSes, and a Gumboots dance performance.

Additionally, AFRALO ALSes will have the opportunity to participate in the full ICANN59 Meeting, benefiting from daily capacity development session focused on ICANN policy. Seasoned AFRALO members will serve as mentors, helping newcomers understand how to participate in GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) and draft ALAC advice statements, as well as learn about security trends impacting registrants, ICANN Empowered Community, and the Next Generation RDS. ICANN President and CEO Göran Marby will also engage in a discussion with AFRALO ALSes about connectivity challenges facing many rural areas in Africa.

Furthermore, 30 students from the University of Johannesburg, as well as young members from the university’s Innovation Hub Management Company will be joining AFRALO ALSes at the Meeting venue on Monday, 26 June. They will have a dialogue on information and communication technologies and Internet policy issues relevant to end users.

Session Details
Please see the ICANN59 Workspace for details about At-Large sessions.

Policy Discussions
ALAC and Regional Leaders Working Session Part 2
Monday, 26 June  | 10:30-12:00  | Ballroom 4

ALAC and Regional Leaders Working Session Part 3
Monday, 26 June  | 13:30-15:00  | Ballroom 4

ALAC and Regional Leaders Working Session Part 5
Wednesday, 28 June  | 13:30-15:00  | Ballroom 4

Organizational Matters
ALAC and Regional Leaders Working Session Part 2
Tuesday, 27 June  | 09:15-10:15  | Ballroom 4

ALAC and Regional Leaders Wrap-Up Session Part 2
Thursday, 29 June  | 13:30-15:00  | Ballroom 4
At-Large/At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

AFRALO Activities

AFRALO Local Community Engagement
Monday, 26 June | 09:30-12:00 | Bill Gallagher Room

AFRALO Capacity Building Session 1
Monday, 26 June | 12:15-13:15 | Ballroom 4

AFRALO Capacity Building Session 2
Tuesday, 27 June | 08:00-09:00 | Ballroom 4

AFRALO Capacity Building Session 3
Wednesday, 28 June | 08:00-09:00 | Ballroom 4

AFRALO GA Part 1
Wednesday, 28 June | 09:15-10:15 | Ballroom 4

AFRALO GA Part 2
Wednesday, 28 June | 10:30-12:00 | Ballroom 4

AFRALO Showcase and Community Cocktail
Wednesday, 28 June | 18:30-20:00 | Ballroom 4 & Level 4 Foyer

AFRALO Capacity Building Session 4
Thursday, 29 June | 08:00-09:00 | Ballroom

AFRALO ICANN59 Activities Wrap Up Session
Thursday, 29 June | 12:15-13:15 | Ballroom 4

Meetings with Other Stakeholders

ALAC and Governmental Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, 27 June | 10:30-11:15 | Ballroom 1

ALAC and Regional Leaders Wrap Up Part 1 (Discussion with the Security and Stability Advisory Committee)
Thursday, 29 June | 10:30-12:00 | Ballroom 4

Working Group Meetings

ALAC Subcommittee on Outreach and Engagement
Tuesday, 27 June | 11:30-12:30 | Ballroom 4

At-Large Technology Taskforce
Wednesday, 28 June | 09:15-10:15 | Committee

At-Large Public Interest Working Group
Wednesday, 28 June | 17:00-18:00 | Ballroom 4

At-Large Capacity Building Working Group
Thursday, 29 June | 09:15-10:15 | Ballroom 4
What to Expect at ICANN59?

As part of its plenary sessions at ICANN59, the GAC will have joint meetings with the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), and the ICANN Board of Directors. Furthermore, the GAC will meet with the Brand Registry Group, receive a briefing from the Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review Team and receive an update on the upcoming KSK Rollover. On the agenda are also topics related to GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Groups, including New Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures. The GAC will follow-up on ICANN Board reactions to recent GAC advice, discuss 2-character codes as second level domains, and hold a plenary session with the ICANN Board GAC Recommendation Implementation Working Group (BGRI-WG). Development of the GAC’s processes in view of the new ICANN Bylaws following the IANA Stewardship Transition will be covered, as well as a review of the GAC Operating Principles. Further topics include outcomes from GAC Working Groups.

Background

The GAC provides advice on public policy aspects of ICANN’s responsibilities with regard to the DNS. The GAC is not a decision-making body but advises ICANN on issues that are within its scope. GAC consensus advice has a particular status under the ICANN Bylaws. Such advice must be duly taken into account by the ICANN Board of Directors, and if the ICANN Board of Directors proposes actions that would be inconsistent with GAC consensus advice, it must give reasons for doing so and attempt to reach a mutually acceptable solution.

The membership of the GAC consists of national governments and distinct economies recognized in international fora. Multinational governmental and treaty organizations and public authorities (including UN agencies with a direct interest in global Internet governance such as the ITU, UNESCO and WIPO) participate in the GAC in an observer capacity. Currently, there are 172 GAC members and 36 GAC observers.

As a chartering organization to the ICANN cross-community working groups that prepared for the IANA stewardship transition, the GAC remains active in the ensuing efforts, both for the adaptation of processes to the new ICANN Bylaws and for the continuing activities in Work Stream 2 of the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability.

Session Details

GAC plenary sessions will start on Monday, 26 June and conclude on Thursday, 29 June. All GAC sessions will be open and feature remote participation and simultaneous interpretation in the six United Nations languages plus Portuguese. This openness continues during the GAC Communiqué drafting session on Wednesday, 28 June in the afternoon.

The GAC Working Groups (Public Safety, Human Rights and International Law, Geographic Names, Underserved Regions, and Nominating Committee Relations) will have working sessions, most of which will take place with the whole GAC in plenary settings.

The GAC will take active part in the cross-community sessions scheduled during the week as well as in the Community Forum on Tuesday morning. The session “Who Sets ICANN’s Priorities?” on Wednesday will have the GAC Chair as one of the moderators. More details regarding GAC and other sessions can be found on the ICANN59 schedule, where all presentations will be posted, and further information about the GAC is available on the GAC website.
What to Expect at ICANN59?

The RSSAC will have work sessions throughout the week to advance its work on the evolution of the root server system and to discuss various internal matters. The RSSAC will continue to raise awareness about two recent publications.

- In RSSAC026: RSSAC Lexicon, the RSSAC aims to increase the understanding of technical terms used commonly when discussing the root server system.
- In RSSAC027: May 2017 Workshop Report, the RSSAC provides an overview of its fourth workshop held in Reston, Virginia.

Background

The RSSAC is responsible for advising the ICANN community and Board on matters relating to the operation, administration, security, and integrity of the authoritative root server system. The RSSAC consists of representatives from the root server operator organizations and liaisons from the partner organizations involved in the stable, technical, and operational management of the root zone.

In 2014, the RSSAC launched the Caucus of DNS and root server system experts to carry out its essential work. There are 86 Caucus members (49% of whom do not work in root server operations), broadening the base of technical expertise contributing to RSSAC work. There are currently three active work parties in the Caucus:

- Root Server Naming Scheme Work Party led by John Bond, which has finalized its document for RSSAC review
- Distribution of Anycast Instances Work Party led by Kaveh Ranjbar, which continues to meet regularly
- Harmonization of Anonymization Procedures for Data Collecting, which is in the formation stage

The next Caucus meeting will be held during ICANN60.

Session Details

Joint Meeting: RSSAC and OCTO
Thursday, 29 June | 09:00-10:15 | Committee 5

The RSSAC will have a joint meeting with the Office of the CTO discussing areas of potential collaboration.

The root server operations presentation as part of the “How It Works” tutorial series will return at ICANN60.
What to Expect at ICANN59?
The SSAC will hold a workshop on DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) during ICANN59. DNSSEC continues to be deployed around the world at an ever-accelerating pace. From the Root, to both Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) and Country Code Top Level Domains (ccTLDs), the push is on to deploy DNSSEC to every corner of the internet. Businesses and ISPs are building their deployment plans too and interesting opportunities are opening up for all as the rollout continues.

Background
What is the SSAC? The SSAC advises the ICANN community and Board on matters relating to the security and integrity of the Internet's naming and address allocation systems. This includes operational matters (e.g., matters pertaining to the correct and reliable operation of the root name system), administrative matters (e.g., matters pertaining to address allocation and Internet number assignment), and registration matters (e.g., matters pertaining to registry and registrar services such as WHOIS).

How does the SSAC Operate? The SSAC produces reports, advisories, and comments on a range of topics. Reports are longer, substantive documents, which usually take a few or several months to develop. Advisories are shorter documents produced more quickly to provide timely advice to the community. Comments are responses to reports or other documents prepared by others, i.e. ICANN staff, Supporting Organizations, other Advisory Committees, or, perhaps, by other groups outside of ICANN. The SSAC considers matters pertaining to the correct and reliable operation of the root name system, to address allocation and Internet number assignment, and to registry and registrar services such as WHOIS. The SSAC also tracks and assesses threats and risks to the Internet naming and address allocation services. For more information visit the SSAC website.

How do I participate in the SSAC? For information on how to participate in the SSAC, see the SSAC Operational Procedures [PDF, 421 KB] and the SSAC Introduction [PDF, 237 KB].

Session Details
DNSSEC Workshop
Monday, 26 June 2017 | 09:00-12:00 | Ballroom C

This session is a public presentation and discussion with those actively engaged in the deployment of DNSSEC. Registries, registrars, ISPs and others who plan to deploy DNSSEC services will benefit from the presentation and discussion of the deployment experience. Anyone with an interest in the deployment of DNSSEC, particularly registry, registrar and ISP employees with technical, operational, and strategic planning roles may want to attend. The DNSSEC Workshop has been a part of ICANN meetings for several years and has provided a forum for both experienced and new people to meet, present and discuss current and future DNSSEC deployments.

The workshop includes presentations and panel discussions on the following topics:
- DNSSEC Deployment status and challenges;
- Middlebox DNS-based Authentication of Named Entities (DANE) for Hyper Text Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS);
- Root Key Signing Key Rollover Test Bed;
- CDS and CNS Implementation – What is the Policy Impact? and
- DNSSEC: How Can I Help?