The ccNSO PDP4 working group - which develops policy recommendations for the (de-)selection of Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLD strings - has started its review of the 2013 ccNSO policy proposals for IDN ccTLD string selection criteria, processes and required documentation. The 2013 policy proposals (ccPDP2) did not include the topic of variant management, however a new ccPDP4 subgroup will start its work on variant management in February.

The ICANN Board requested to address variant management in coordination with GNSO efforts. The full ccPDP4 Working Group and the subgroup will work in parallel: each group will meet on alternate Tuesdays. In future, two additional subgroups are foreseen:
- on confusing similarity
- on the deselection of IDN ccTLDs

The results of ccPDP4 will replace the 2009 IDN ccTLD Fast Track Process. To stay informed about the work of this group, consult its workspace.

Join the pre-ICANN70 ccNSO webinars

Read more here.
• Join us for 2 editions of the ccTLD community webinar, targeted at newcomers and those that would like to learn more about the work of the ccNSO. When? Wednesday, 17 March (19 UTC) and Thursday, 18 March (11 UTC)
• Participate in 2 editions of the popular ccTLD News Session. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, 9 March 2021 (19 UTC) and Thursday, 11 March 2021 (11 UTC).

Apply now for a speaking slot

We seek presenters!

ccTLD News Session
Do you have a best practice, project solution or case study you want to share with your colleagues from across the world? You are kindly invited to submit your presentation proposal for the Virtual ccTLD News Sessions, covering for instance recent developments, ccTLD activities and ccTLD management related topics, both from an operational, marketing or legal point of view.

The deadline to apply is 10 February 2021. Read more here.

Tech Day
Tech Day will be held as a virtual technical workshop at ICANN70 on Monday, 22 March 2021. The Tech Working Group seeks presenters.

Proposals should preferably focus on one of the following topics:

1. DNSSEC, in particular within the LACNIC Region and with regards to SHA-1 Transition
2. RDAP implementations
3. Best security management practices, lines of defense, to protect the registry from bad actors, attacks or malware

Tech WG welcomes suggestions for additional topics. Those interested in presenting should contact ccNSO-techday@icann.org

ICANN70 ccNSO Members Meeting
Curious about the upcoming ccNSO Members Meeting? Sneak a peek!

The ICANN70 ccNSO Members Meeting will focus on 3 sessions. Updates will be posted on the ccNSO workspace, as soon as they become available.

ccNSO Governance Session
Since the adoption of its internal Rules in 2004, the ccNSO has evolved: the ccNSO membership grew and while the ccNSO started as a Supporting Organization with a limited scope and mandate, it is now one of the five Decisional Participants. The goal of this session is to consult the ccNSO membership regarding some topics that have a direct impact on the governance structure of the ccNSO, specifically on the roles and responsibilities of Council and ccNSO membership, and their expected interaction. The focus of the discussions will be on the decision-making processes and the expected
The results of the session will provide the basis for further work on the aforementioned topics by the ccNSO Council and the ccNSO Guidelines Review Committee (GRC).

**ccTLDs and the future**

ccTLD stakeholders expect their ccTLDs to be resilient and future-proof.

- **part 1 |** During this session, ccTLDs from various regions look into the future: What do they see as major developments and how do they address them?
- **part 2 |** Join us for this interactive panel discussion, where the audience and panellist are invited to share their experiences about making their ccTLDs future-proof.

**Question and Answer session with ccTLD-related 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 Board members. Also invited are ICANN Board members with a long standing association with the ccTLD community.

---

**Links to bookmark now**

**ccNSO Schedule & Remote Participation Hub**
The one-stop page for all your remote participation queries: [https://community.icann.org/x/fwlACQ](https://community.icann.org/x/fwlACQ)

**Agenda ICANN70 ccNSO Members Meeting**
[https://community.icann.org/x/2AlACQ](https://community.icann.org/x/2AlACQ)

**Pre-ICANN70 sessions**
[https://community.icann.org/x/uQpACQ](https://community.icann.org/x/uQpACQ)

- The [ICANN70](https://community.icann.org/x/2AlACQ) Virtual Community Forum will be held 22-25 March 2021.
- The [schedule](https://community.icann.org/x/uQpACQ) will become available 1 March.
- Sessions will be held during general working hours in Cancún (Quintana Roo), Mexico (EST/UTC-5)

---

**ccNSO Council highlights**

The ccNSO Council had its 169th meeting on 21 January 2021 | 12 UTC.

Highlights:

- Council appointed David McAuley (.cc) as member for the Community Representatives Group, which will select the Independent Review Process (IRP) Standing Panel
- Council reviewed the updated dashboard used to track implementation of recommendations from the organisational review and WS2.
- Update and discussion on the (pre-)ICANN70 ccNSO sessions, including the pre-ICANN70 ccTLD News Session, a webinar for newcomers, a Council workshop and 3 sessions as part of the ccNSO Members Meeting
- Council is currently reviewing the following drafts. Deadline for comments is Friday, 29 January (23:59 UTC)
  - Draft ccNSO response to the Board Operational Effectiveness Committee, regarding the latest organisational review
  - A new guideline, which consolidates selection and appointment of various liaisons and members to groups
  - A consolidated procedure for the nomination of WG/Committee (Vice-)Chair(s).
- Review and preparing for adoption of the draft Terms of Reference of a new
ccNSO Outreach and Involvement Standing Committee (OISC)

Council meetings are open to observers. Contact the Secretariat for participation details. The next ccNSO Council meeting is scheduled for 18 February 2021 (21 UTC).