

ccNSO Newsletter | June 2020

The June 2020 edition of the ccNSO Newsletter focuses entirely on updates regarding Working Groups and Committees, relevant to ccTLD Managers. Stay informed about their recent and upcoming activities, their contributions to the ICANN68 Virtual Policy Forum, and more.

Welcome to ICANN68!



ccNSO Council Chair Katrina Sasaki Looks Ahead to the ICANN68 ccNSO Sessions

Dear All,

The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) program begins on Monday, 22 June with [Tech Day](#), a workshop open to all community members with an interest in technical, operational, and security topics.

The [ccNSO Members Meeting](#) consists of three sessions and starts on Tuesday, 23 June with a session focusing on governance models of ccTLD managers. The program continues on Wednesday, 24 June with presentations and discussions about ccTLD experience with the COVID-19 pandemic. The final session of the ccNSO Members Meeting will be held on Thursday, 25 June when ccNSO members and the broader ccTLD community will be able to participate in a question and answer session with the ccNSO-appointed ICANN Board members.

The [ccNSO Council](#) will meet on Wednesday, 24 June 2020, followed by a meeting by the Internet Governance Liaison Committee ([IGLC](#)). The Strategic and Operational Planning Committee ([SOPC](#)) will meet on Thursday, 25 June.

The main strength of the ccNSO is its ability to listen to the community and its willingness to respond to the challenges and changes of the DNS environment. ICANN68 provides another opportunity for discussion and engagement.

Katrina Sasaki (.lv), ccNSO Chair

TLD-OPS

OVER 200 MEMBERS



TLD-OPS at ICANN68

On Wednesday, 24 June, the TLD-OPS standing committee leadership team will contribute to a session entitled “The DNS in times of COVID-19: the ccTLD experience”, held as part of the ICANN68 ccNSO Members Meeting. Join us [here](#).

Recent activities

The TLD-OPS Standing Committee continues to meet on a regular basis, and addresses work items ranging from process improvements to content development. At the end of June, the standing committee plans for a half day work session.

The group previously created a [Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Playbook](#), which serves as a basic business continuity strategy and implementation guide for small country code top-level domain (ccTLD) operators. The playbook was a success and its publication was timely. The recent developments provide an excellent opportunity to ccTLD managers to reflect on their recent DR/BCP plan activation and to compare it with the playbook, to see if the activation could have been handled differently. To that end, the TLD-OPS Standing Committee has recently distributed a survey among all subscribers of the TLD-OPS mailing list, with questions related to the playbook, and plans for an ICANN69 workshop in October 2020. From an operations point of view, the TLD-OPS Standing Committee has not seen any uptake in COVID-19 related security incidents on the TLD-OPS mailing list.

About TLD-OPS

[TLD-OPS](#) is the incident response community for and by ccTLDs and brings together folks who are responsible for the overall security and stability of their ccTLD. The goal of the TLD-OPS community is to enable ccTLD operators worldwide to collaboratively strengthen their incident response capabilities.

Strategic & Operational Planning Committee

The SOPC will meet as part of ICANN68, on Thursday, 25 June (08:30-09:30 UTC). Join us [here](#).



Recent activities

The SOPC submitted its [comments](#) on the ICANN FY21-25 Operating and Financial Plan, and recently on the draft PTI Strategic Plan for 2021-2024. At the end of March 2020, the SOPC held a conference call with ICANN Org Finance to discuss the SOPC comments and possible adjustments to the ICANN FY21-25 Operating and Financial Plan in light of the covid-19 pandemic. Under the guidance of Chair Giovanni Seppia (.eu), the SOPC is working to review their [Charter](#). The updated version of the Charter will be posted after adoption by the ccNSO Council.

About the SOPC

The purpose of the [SOPC](#) is to coordinate and organise participation of ccTLD managers in ICANN's Strategic and Operational planning processes.

Guidelines Review Committee

Recent and upcoming activities

The ccNSO Guidelines Review Committee is currently discussing the following topics:

- The need to change the Rules of the ccNSO, and how to consult and engage the ccTLD community with respect to changes of the internal 2004 Rules of the ccNSO.
- The need to simplify the many guidelines developed and adopted by the ccNSO, eg. by introducing generic procedures or wordings, available in a central location.

Moreover, the GRC is creating a new ccNSO guideline regarding the removal of Board members nominated by the ccNSO Council, and is reviewing and updating where needed existing ccNSO guidelines, such as the one regarding the appointment of ccNSO delegates to the Nominating Committee.

About the GRC

The purpose of the ccNSO Guidelines Review Committee ([GRC](#)) is to review the current guidelines and to ascertain whether they reflect current practices and working methods, identify potential gaps, and based on this analysis propose changes to the current guidelines to the Council.



Internet Governance Liaison Committee



Which ICANN68 sessions address Internet Governance topics?

Consult the IGLC ICANN68 repository [here](#).



About the IGLC

For many years, country code top-level domain managers have been engaged in conversations and contributing to the work on Internet Governance related matters.

To bring this engagement to a next level, the ccNSO created the Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC). As per its - recently updated - Terms of Reference, the Committee takes an active role in coordinating and facilitating the participation and input of ccTLD managers in IG-related discussions and processes. The focus lies on eight IG-related topics, selected by the IGLC as being relevant to ccTLDs, namely:

- Cybersecurity,
- Capacity building & inclusion,
- Digital divide,
- Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs),
- Local content,
- Regulations,
- Role of the ccTLDs as promoters of the IGF dialogues,
- Technical.

Continue to check the [IGLC workspace](#) for further information and updates on the activities of the ccNSO IGLC.

The IGLC at ICANN68

- On Wednesday, 24 June, IGLC Chair Pierre Bonis (.fr) will contribute to a session entitled “The DNS in times of COVID-19: the ccTLD experience”, held as part of the [ccNSO Members Meeting](#). He will focus on capacity building efforts by ccTLD managers. Join us [here](#).
- The IGLC will meet as part of ICANN68, on Wednesday, 24 June (08:30-09:30 UTC). Will the pandemic revive the concept of digital sovereignty? [Join the discussion](#), and consult the [agenda](#) here.

Meetings Programme Committee

Recent and upcoming activities

Following a call for volunteers in Q1 2020, the MPC welcomed several new members. The MPC membership kicked off the planning for a Virtual ICANN68 Policy Forum in March 2020. Preparations included:

- updating the [tips and tricks](#) for presenters and sessions chairs, by adjusting them to the virtual meeting format
- launching a [survey](#) and a brainstorming session on how to organize a successful virtual ccNSO Members meeting.

Following the input by the ccNSO Council and the broader ccTLD community, the MPC decided to hold [2 Virtual ccTLD News Sessions](#), prior to ICANN68, and to focus the ICANN68 [ccNSO Members Meeting](#) on 3 sessions, spread over 3 days. The MPC contributed to the session planning, together with those involved. The MPC will meet next on Friday, 26 June 2020. Topics on their agenda will include looking back at ICANN68, and lessons learned for ICANN69 in October 2020.



ccTLD News MPC Chair Barbara Povše (.si): *"I am pleased to confirm that the MPC organized 2 successful Virtual ccTLD News sessions, with eight interesting presentations and a lively debate."* Consult a copy of the presentation slides and a recording of the sessions [here](#).

About the MPC

The objective of the ccNSO Meetings Programme Committee ([MPC](#)) is to coordinate and manage the high-level schedule of the ccNSO-related sessions, including the ccNSO Members Meeting agenda at ICANN public meetings, and related matters. Membership of the Committee is open to all ccTLD managers, regardless of the fact whether they are a member of the ccNSO or not.

Consult here a [report](#) which aims to provide an overview of the satisfaction tracking via the online surveys over time, starting with ICANN58 in March 2017 and ending with ICANN66 in November 2019.

Customer Standing Committee

Recent and upcoming activities

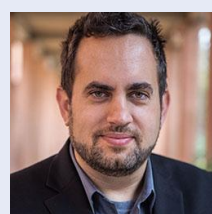
Recently – at the request of the Customer Standing Committee (CSC) - both the ccNSO and GNSO Councils adopted a change to the IANA Function SLA creation and transfer of ccTLDs. The CSC was informed that PTI will report against this updated SLA starting 1 July 2020. As a result of the update, only the time it takes PTI to execute on the process steps under their control are monitored and separated from the ccTLD process steps (for example providing relevant documentation). The CSC was informed the new metrics will be introduced and reported on in the [PTI performance Reports](#) as per 1 July 2020.

The ccNSO Council recently launched a call for volunteers to serve as member on the Customer Standing Committee, which closes on Friday, 19 June 2020. The newly appointed member will serve for a two-years term and take the seat on 1 October 2020. Read more [here](#).

About the CSC

The Customer Standing Committee provides operational oversight on the IANA naming function as performed by Public Technical Identifiers ([PTI](#)) since the transition of the IANA Stewardship. Background on the CSC, along with transcripts of its meetings and the monthly reports on the PTI performance can be found [here](#).

Public Technical Identifiers



Stay informed about the IANA services for ccTLD Managers

Consult the ICANN68 PTI update to the ccNSO [here](#).

Kim Davies (President of PTI, and Vice President of IANA Services for ICANN), on behalf of the IANA team: *"At ICANN meetings we typically engage with many customers on a one-on-one basis to discuss topics that are of interest to them. With ICANN68 being another virtual meeting, we regret that we cannot do that and would like to remind everyone that we are still available online, and we can host video or phone conferences to have a conversation. Please email us at root-mgmt@iana.org if you have questions or would like to set up a meeting."*

About PTI

Public Technical Identifiers ([PTI](#)) is responsible for the operational aspects of coordinating the Internet's unique identifiers and maintaining the trust of the community to provide these services in an unbiased, responsible and effective manner. Mainly, PTI is responsible for the operation of the IANA functions:

- [Domain Names](#)
- [Number Resources](#)
- [Protocol Parameter Assignments](#)

PTI was incorporated in August 2016 as an affiliate of ICANN, and, through contracts and subcontracts with ICANN, began performing the IANA functions on behalf of ICANN in October 2016. Learn more about the delivery of the IANA services at iana.org.

ccPDP3: Retirement of ccTLDs and Review Mechanisms

Phase 1 ccPDP3 Initial Proposals for Process to Retire ccTLDs



The third ccNSO Policy Development Process (ccPDP3-RET) Working Group, tasked with developing and proposing policy for the retirement of country code Top-Level Domains, is seeking input and feedback from the broader community on its proposed process to retire ccTLDs, when the country code is removed from the list of country codes in the ISO3166 standard. After closure of the public comment period, the working group will review the comments received and take into account while developing a final set of policy recommendations. Close date for public comments is 10 July 2020 (23:59 UTC). Read more [here](#).

Phase 2 ccPDP3 Review Mechanisms Working Group kicked off its work

The ccPDP3-RM Working Group focuses on the development of a review mechanisms pertaining to decisions regarding the delegation, transfer, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs. The group decided on a 3-step approach to identify decisions that should be subject to review:

- *Decision points*

As part of the development of the retirement process, the ccPDP3-RET WG compiled a list of 6 decisions taken by the IANA Function Operator (IFO) and the ICANN Board of Directors. PTI staff presented an overview of the [delegation and transfer process](#), to identify decision points.

- *Scope*

As a next step, the WG needs to determine whether the decisions are within scope of the policy on the proposed review mechanism.

- *Questions*

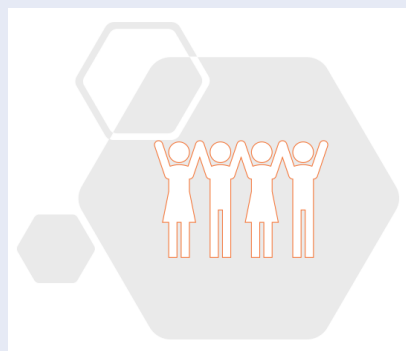
Lastly, the group is advised to discuss a set of questions, on who takes the identified decision, who and how is oversight provided and which decisions are to be made subject to a review mechanism.

For more information, go to the [ccPDP3-RM workspace](#).

ccPDP4: on the (de)selection of IDN ccTLD strings

This fourth-ever ccNSO Policy Development Process aims to develop policy recommendations for the ICANN Board. In time, the results of this ccPDP will replace the IDN ccTLD Fast Track Process, which currently guides the selection process of IDN ccTLD strings. During its meeting on 21 May, the ccNSO Council adopted the Issue Report on Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) country code top-level domain strings. With the adoption of this report, the fourth policy development process (ccPDP) for the ccNSO is initiated.

Join the ccPDP4 webinar, and subscribe to the Working Group



Mid-July 2020, the ccNSO Secretariat will send out a call for volunteers for members, participants and observers to serve on the Working Group. Prior to this call for volunteers, join the ccNSO Secretariat and participate in a webinar, where you will learn more about the topics to be addressed by and the working methods of the ccPDP4 Working Group.

Continue to check the [announcement section on the ccNSO Home Page](#) for further updates.

The CCWG new gTLD Auction Proceeds

The New gTLD Auction Proceeds Cross-Community Working Group (CCWG) submitted its [Final Report](#) to the Chartering Organizations - including the ccNSO - for their consideration. The Council will discuss the final report at its August 2020 ccNSO Council meeting, following a webinar by the CCWG AP leadership team.

The Final Report sets out the core issues that the CCWG addressed in carrying out its [charter](#) since its inception in January 2017. It includes responses to questions posed in the CCWG's charter, a series of recommendations, as well as guidance to be considered in the implementation phase. The final recommendations

- include proposals for consideration by the Chartering Organizations on the mechanism for allocating the new gTLD Auction Proceeds.
- address the entity that should be responsible for considering and selecting projects to receive funding, due diligence requirements that preserve ICANN's tax status, directly related matters such as handling potential or actual conflicts of interest, and other topics.

Out of scope for the CCWG: Any recommendations or determinations with regards to specific funding decisions, including specific organizations or projects to fund or not. Following approval by the Chartering Organizations, the recommendations will be submitted to the ICANN Board for approval.

Read more: Consult the New gTLD Auction Proceeds CCWG [Workspace](#), including its Charter, background documents, recent newsletters and additional information.

The virtual ICANN68 Policy Forum



Tech Day | Mo, 22 June
Consult the agenda [here](#).

ccNSO Members Meeting | [Agenda](#)
The ccNSO Members Meeting as part of the ICANN68 Virtual Policy Forum focuses on 3 sessions:

- **Governance models ccTLD managers** | Tuesday, 23 June. 07:00-09:30 UTC (incl. 15 min break)
- **DNS in times of COVID-19: The ccTLD experience** | Wednesday, 24 June. 00:30-03:00 UTC (incl. 15 min break)
- **Q&A ccNSO appointed ICANN Board members** | Thursday, 25 June. 08:30-09:30 UTC

Consult the ICANN68 ccNSO Members Meeting Session Brief [here](#).

The detailed ccNSO schedule, including a summary of the topics covered and remote participation details for ICANN68, is available on the [ccNSO ICANN68 workspace](#).

ICANN68: Links to bookmark now

- [ccNSO Members Meeting agenda](#)
- Consult the ICANN68 ccNSO Members Meeting Session Brief [here](#)
- [Tech Day agenda](#)
- [ccNSO Remote Participation Hub](#): overview of all relevant ccNSO sessions, and how to participate remotely.
- [ICANN68 meeting website](#): Please make sure to register for the meeting.
- [Comprehensive ICANN68 meeting schedule](#)

