

# ICANN87 Policy Outlook Report



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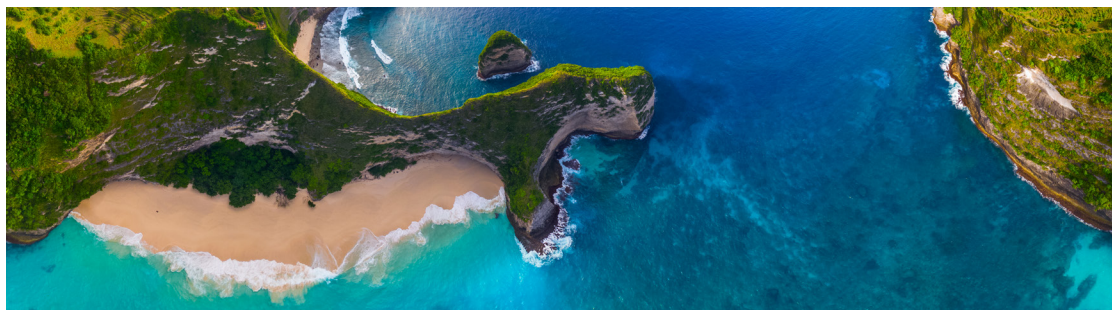
ANNUAL  
GENERAL  
MEETING

BALI



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# Welcome to Bali!



The Policy Development Support team has prepared this report as a tool to support your preparation for the ICANN87 Annual General Meeting (AGM). This report provides a high-level overview of the planned work of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. Some highlights of the AGM include:

- Significant work on policy development to enhance mitigation of Domain Name System (DNS) Abuse.
- The announcement of the 2026 recipient of the Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building.
- Plenary sessions led by the ICANN community on “Building a Secure, Inclusive, and Multilingual Internet for the Next Decade” and “The Gap in Registrant Recourse—Next Steps”.

The ICANN organization periodically publishes a consolidated scorecard to help all stakeholders track work. This resource brings together current status information about ICANN community policy work in development, pending consideration by the ICANN Board, and in implementation. The latest consolidated scorecard has been [included in this report](#). Materials such as presentations and recordings from [ICANN87 Prep Week](#) are available for your review. I also recommend you read the [briefing](#) from our colleagues in the Global Domains and Strategy function for the latest information about implementation of policy and reviews recommendations.

The strength and legitimacy of ICANN depends on the integrity of those who participate in its work. As you prepare for ICANN87, please review your statement of interest and ensure your disclosures abide by the [ICANN Community Participant Code of Conduct Concerning Statements of Interest](#). Every ICANN community member contributes to a culture of trust, transparency, and mutual respect.

A global community of stakeholders and participants with different backgrounds and points of view help coordinate and support the unique identifiers of the Internet. The Internet functions for everyone because everyone is invited to help make it work. The multistakeholder model creates policies based on consensus, which offers legitimacy and global solutions that enable our vision of “One World, One Internet.”

Thank you for making the considerable commitment of time and effort to attend ICANN87 either in person or remotely. Whether you are a longtime ICANN community member, an occasional contributor, or joining us for the first time, I encourage you to take an active role.

**Russ Weinstein**

*Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support*

# Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

## Regional Internet Registry Governance

### CURRENT STATUS

The Address Supporting Organization (ASO) continues its work to update Internet Coordination Policy 2 (ICP-2), aiming to finish in the coming months. If approved, the Regional Internet Registry (RIR) Governance Document would supersede and replace ICP-2. ASO Address Council members provided updates on its work during the recent Asia Pacific Network Information Centre 62 meeting in Mumbai, India.

### NEXT STEPS

ASO Address Council members will present the latest work on the RIR Governance Document during the American Registry for Internet Numbers 58 meeting in Miami, Florida; the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Address Registry 46 meeting in Mendoza, Argentina; the Réseaux IP Européens 93 meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria; and the African Network Information Centre 38 meeting in Cape Town, South Africa.

## Background

The ASO is defined in a [2019 Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\)](#), affirming ICANN's relationship with the numbers community. The purpose of the ASO is to advise the ICANN Board with respect to policy issues relating to the operation, assignment, and management of Internet addresses. Global policies are defined in the ASO MoU as "Internet number resource policies that have the agreement of all RIRs, according to their policy development processes, and ICANN, and require specific actions or outcomes on the part of the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) or any other external ICANN-related body in order to be implemented." The ASO ensures that the policy development process has been correctly followed in the communities of each RIR before passing the recommendations to ICANN.

The [ASO Address Council](#) coordinates the global policy development work of the Internet numbers community and appoints members to the ICANN Board, the ICANN Nominating Committee, and other ICANN groups. The ASO Address Council consists of 15 members, three from each RIR. ASO Address Council monthly teleconferences are open to observers. For more information, including the teleconference schedule, observer privileges, and remote participation details, visit the [ASO Address Council website](#).



# Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

## Policy Development

The ccNSO is the global forum within ICANN for country code top-level domain (ccTLD) managers to meet, collaborate, and share experiences on issues relevant to ccTLDs. While the ccNSO develops global policies related to ccTLDs, policy development represents only a part of its overall work. ccNSO policy development is targeted, infrequent, and narrowly scoped; it complements the broader work on technical and operational coordination, knowledge sharing, capacity-building among ccTLD managers, and engagement on broader topics such as Internet governance, security and stability, and emerging trends affecting ccTLDs.

Policies developed by the ccNSO include:

- **Policy for the Retirement of ccTLDs**

*Status: In force*

Provides a clear, predictable framework for the orderly retirement of a ccTLD, including principles for timing, stakeholder communication, and coordination with IANA. The ICANN Board approved the policy, which is now operational practice.

- **ccNSO Review Mechanism Policy**

*Status: Implementation planning*

Establishes a mechanism for ccTLD managers to request a review of certain IANA decisions relating to ccTLD delegation, transfer, and retirement, strengthening transparency and accountability.

- **Selection of IDN ccTLD Strings**

*Status: ICANN Board consideration*

Consists of a comprehensive framework for the selection and management of Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLD strings and their variants. The policy covers the processes for selection, delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of IDN ccTLDs, and the use of review mechanisms for related decisions. The policy builds on existing ccTLD policies and does not alter the current frameworks for delegation, transfer, revocation, or retirement.

## Other Work

The ccNSO will host a comprehensive and diverse program during ICANN87, covering strategic, technical, industry, and community-focused topics relevant to ccTLD managers and the wider ICANN community. Overall, ICANN87 offers an opportunity to advance the governance work that supports the ccNSO and the wider ccTLD community. The program offers opportunities to engage, learn, and contribute, with full details available on the [ccNSO ICANN87 workspace](#).

## ccNSO GOVERNANCE AND COMMITTEE WORK

A series of work sessions on Saturday, Sunday, and Thursday will allow ccNSO working groups, committees, and study groups to progress ongoing activities, coordinate next steps, and prepare work that will subsequently inform the broader ccTLD community and the ccNSO Council.

The work sessions reflect the breadth of ccNSO activities. The DNS Abuse Standing Committee will discuss the results of the third edition of its survey for ccTLDs, while the TLD-OPS Standing Committee will continue its work to strengthen the ability of ccTLDs to detect and mitigate incidents affecting the security and stability of their services. The Universal Acceptance (UA) Committee will consider opportunities for coordination to enhance UA readiness and related efforts among ccTLDs.

Internet governance, strategic planning, and the broader operating environment for ccTLDs will also feature prominently. The Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC) will advance its work plan and priorities in support of ccNSO

# Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

engagement on Internet governance matters. The Strategic and Operational Planning Committee will meet with the ICANN Finance and Planning team as part of its work to provide a ccTLD and ccNSO perspective on ICANN and Public Technical Identifiers strategic, operational, and budgetary processes.

Two study groups will continue work on questions concerning IANA and ccTLDs. The Disaster Recovery Study Group will consider next steps regarding its draft final report on the possible role of IANA in relation to ccTLD disaster recovery. The Study Group on IANA Public Records will advance its examination of the purpose and accuracy of IANA public records and possible approaches to addressing inaccuracies or other identified issues. Both groups will also present their progress and findings to the wider ccTLD community and seek input on the future direction of their work.

Internal governance and continuous improvement will form another important strand of the ICANN87 work. The Guidelines Review Committee will continue reviewing the guidelines that underpin ccNSO internal governance, while the Meetings Program Committee will continue its work on the planning of ccNSO sessions. Together, these activities contribute to ensuring that ccNSO working methods, processes, and community activities remain effective and fit for purpose.

The ccNSO Council will provide the link between these different areas of work and overall ccNSO governance. The ccNSO Council will first meet in preparation for its 234th meeting and will conclude the ICANN87 program with the ccNSO Council meeting on Thursday, which is open to observers.

ICANN87 will also support participation in ccNSO governance more broadly. The newcomer session organized by the Onboarding and Mentoring Committee will help new participants understand how they can become involved in the ccNSO and its work.

## TECH DAY: SESSIONS OF TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL FOCUS

Monday, 19 October, is dedicated to [Tech Day](#), organized by the ccNSO Technical Working Group. Across four sessions open to the entire ICANN community, participants will explore technical, operational, and security topics relevant to ccTLD operations.

## ccNSO COMMUNITY MEETING

The ccNSO Community Meeting takes place on Tuesday, 20 October and Wednesday, 21 October, bringing together ccTLD managers and the wider ICANN community for two days of information sharing, community discussion, and engagement on issues relevant to ccTLDs.

Tuesday begins with the ccNSO welcome session, where the ccNSO Council and Meetings Program Committee Chairs will introduce the program, followed by an update from IANA. The remainder of the day combines community discussions with opportunities to engage with other parts of ICANN.

Two ccNSO study groups will update the community on their work concerning IANA Public Records and the possible role of IANA in ccTLD disaster recovery. Both groups will present their progress and findings and seek ccTLD community input on the future direction of their work. Another session will focus on the relationship between ccTLD managers and ICANN. Recognizing the mutual value exchange between ICANN and ccTLD managers, this session will explore how the engagement can be made more beneficial to both ICANN and ccTLDs.

Tuesday also features the first of two ccTLD news sessions, offering case studies and perspectives from around the world and highlighting innovation, accountability, and growth across the ccTLD community. The day concludes with a joint session between the ccNSO and the ICANN Board to discuss matters of common interest.

Wednesday continues the community program, starting with the second ccTLD news session. A joint ccNSO–Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) session will explore how legislative and regulatory environments interact with ccTLD business continuity and disaster recovery planning and practices. The discussion is intended to build a shared understanding of these interactions and identify insights that could strengthen ccTLD resilience and capacity.

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Later in the day, ccNSO members will have an opportunity to engage directly with the candidates for the ccNSO Council and ICANN Board Seat 12 during a dedicated question and answer session.

Internet governance also will be high on the agenda for Wednesday. A session organized by the IGLC will examine what the 2026 International Telecommunication Union Plenipotentiary Conference could mean for ccTLDs. The session will focus on three practical questions: Why should ccTLDs care? What could change? and What can ccTLDs realistically do? It will explore the value of early engagement, relationships with national stakeholders, and practical technical input in ensuring that ccTLD perspectives are heard before decisions are shaped.

The program also includes a joint session with the Registrar Stakeholder Group, providing an opportunity to exchange updates and perspectives on issues of mutual interest, including highlights from the recent ccTLD DNS Abuse survey.

Together, the Tuesday and Wednesday sessions combine practical ccTLD experience with broader discussions on resilience, Internet governance, and engagement across the ICANN community, while providing numerous opportunities for ccTLD managers to contribute their own perspectives and experiences.

## 234TH ccNSO COUNCIL MEETING

The ccNSO program concludes on Thursday, 22 October, with the ccNSO Council meeting, which is open to observers. Agenda items include upcoming priorities and input from sessions held during the week.

## Background

The ccNSO is one of the three Supporting Organizations within ICANN. Created in 2003 for and by ccTLD managers, the ccNSO develops and recommends global policies, such as the retirement of ccTLDs, to the ICANN Board. The ccNSO provides a global platform to discuss topics and issues of concern, build consensus and technical cooperation, and facilitate the development of voluntary best practices for ccTLD managers. Membership in the ccNSO is open to all ccTLD managers.

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). ccNSO councilors are actively involved in determining the work and direction of the ccNSO and managing the policy development process; they also lead and participate in [various ccNSO working groups](#), engage with the ICANN community on topical issues, and develop positions based on ICANN community feedback. The ccNSO Council meets during ICANN Public Meetings and monthly teleconferences. All ccNSO Council documents, minutes of meetings, resolutions, and discussions are published on the [ccNSO website](#).



# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

## Policy Development

### DNS ABUSE MITIGATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS 1 WORKING GROUP

#### BACKGROUND

Mitigating DNS Abuse remains a priority issue within the ICANN community due to its ongoing impact on the security, stability, and resilience of the Internet's unique identifier systems. In recent years, the ICANN community has made measurable progress, including through global amendments to the Registrar Accreditation Agreement and Registry Agreement that strengthened baseline DNS Abuse mitigation obligations. Notwithstanding these developments, the GNSO Council determined that additional gaps warranted further examination in policy development processes (PDPs).

Based on [Public Comment](#) and the [Final Issue Report](#), the GNSO Council [voted](#) to initiate two PDPs on DNS Abuse Mitigation: PDP 1 on Associated Domain Checks, which convened its working group immediately, and PDP 2 on safeguards for unrestricted Application Programming Interface (API) access. PDP 2 will convene when the GNSO Council determines appropriate timing, taking into consideration the progress made and resources needed for DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP 1. On 15 January 2026, the GNSO Council [adopted](#) the DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP 1 [charter](#) and the working group commenced its work during ICANN84. The GNSO Council then [accepted](#) the [project plan](#) on 16 April 2026. Since then, the DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP 1 [Working Group](#) has held over 30 meetings to answer its charter questions and produce its [Initial Report](#).

#### LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Since ICANN86, the DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP 1 Working Group has worked toward finalizing its Initial Report for Public Comment. Additionally, the working group completed its comprehensive Impact Assessments that looked at human rights, the global public interest, data privacy considerations, and existing ICANN Consensus Policies. Working ahead of its project plan timeline, the PDP 1 Working Group has published its [Initial Report](#) based on extensive deliberations and consensus building. The [Public Comment](#) on the Initial Report, including the Impact Assessments, was open from 18 August through 27 September 2026.

#### WHAT TO EXPECT

During ICANN87, there will be four DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP 1 working sessions, where the working group will take into consideration [Public Comment](#) submissions on its Initial Report in order to work toward its Final Report for GNSO Council consideration.

### LATIN SCRIPT DIACRITICS PDP WORKING GROUP

#### BACKGROUND

The Latin Script Diacritics PDP set out to examine circumstances where a base American Standard Code for Information Interchange generic top-level domain (gTLD) and the Latin script diacritic versions of the gTLD are not variants of each other. The working group seeks an appropriate mechanism to be in place that will allow a single gTLD registry operator to simultaneously operate both gTLDs.

The GNSO Council [initiated](#) the Latin Script Diacritics PDP on 13 November 2024, [adopting](#) the working group [charter](#) on 19 December 2024. The Working Group [began](#) on 8 March 2025, and the GNSO Council approved its [project plan](#) on 10 April 2025.

#### LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Since ICANN86, the Latin Script Diacritics PDP Working Group has completed its review of [Public Comment](#) submissions on its [Initial Report](#) and delivered its [Final Report](#) to the GNSO Council on 31 August 2026.

# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

## *WHAT TO EXPECT*

During ICANN87, the PDP working group will not meet since it has submitted its [Final Report](#) to the GNSO Council for consideration.

## EXPEDITED PDP ON THE TEMPORARY SPECIFICATION FOR gTLD REGISTRATION DATA

### *BACKGROUND*

On [12 March 2026](#), the ICANN Board passed a resolution not adopting the 18 pending System for Standardized Access and Disclosure (SSAD) recommendations. In its resolution, the ICANN Board noted, after reviewing input from the ICANN community, engaging with the GNSO Council Registration Data Request System (RDRS) Standing Committee, and consulting the GNSO Council on the Standardized Access and Disclosure recommendations, that the SSAD recommendations in the Expedited PDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Phase 2 Final Report were not in the best interests of the ICANN community or ICANN. The ICANN Board's non-adoption of the pending SSAD recommendations trigger the Supplemental Recommendation process as outlined in Annex A, Section 9 of the ICANN Bylaws.

### *LATEST DEVELOPMENTS*

Since ICANN86, the SSAD Supplemental Recommendations Team has been meeting regularly to iteratively review the [original 18 SSAD recommendations](#) and modify the recommendations based on the [guidance](#) from the ICANN Board and the [RDRS Standing Committee](#). After initial discussions, the SSAD Supplemental Recommendations Team (SRT) has consolidated the original 18 SSAD recommendations into 12 draft Supplemental Recommendations. The SSAD SRT is currently working on refining the Supplemental Recommendations language in preparation for opening Public Comment shortly after ICANN87.

### *WHAT TO EXPECT*

The SSAD SRT will convene before ICANN87 and will have three additional meetings during ICANN87 to make progress on the Supplemental Recommendations in preparation for Public Comment, which is projected to open at the end of October 2026. Topics of discussion are still evolving, but may include policy requirements for (1) a framework for authentication providers, (2) contracted party review of requests, (3) required response time for requests, (4) accountability of SSAD requestors, (5) disclosure of nonpublic gTLD registration data for privacy/proxy names in response to an SSAD request, and (6) financial sustainability of the SSAD.

## Other Work

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT (SCCI)

#### *BACKGROUND*

The GNSO Council [convened](#) the SCCI as a permanent committee on 13 November 2024 to oversee the implementation of projects related to continuous improvement that are focused on structural, procedural, and process improvements to the GNSO PDP. This is the outcome of a pilot framework known as the GNSO [Council Committee for Overseeing and Implementing Continuous Improvement](#).

While the SCCI operates under the supervision of the GNSO Council, its scope is not limited to GNSO Council work and extends to the broader GNSO community. For clarity, the SCCI remit does not include projects or topics that come within the scope of policy development, which must be handled through the GNSO PDP. As necessary, the SCCI will carry out its work through dedicated task forces composed of GNSO councilors and representatives from each GNSO Stakeholder Group and Constituency.

# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

## *LATEST DEVELOPMENTS*

Since ICANN86, the SCCI has stabilized the assessment framework and the assessment plan, moving on to collecting data, as a step within Phase 1 (assessment and prioritization phase) for the GNSO Continuous Improvement Program.

## *WHAT TO EXPECT*

During ICANN87, the SCCI will not meet as it continues its work on collecting data according to the assessment plan. Following data collection, it will resume its regular meetings to identify priority areas and explore potential improvement activities.

## Background

The GNSO is the policy development body responsible for gTLDs. Its members include representatives from gTLD registries, ICANN-accredited registrars, intellectual property interests, Internet service and connectivity providers, business, and noncommercial interests. The GNSO brings these different stakeholders and other parts of the ICANN community together to develop gTLD policy recommendations through a multistakeholder process driven by working groups and teams.

## GNSO POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The GNSO PDP governs how the GNSO develops consensus policies related to gTLDs. A GNSO [PDP lifecycle](#) consists of different steps, including issue identification and scoping, PDP initiation, working group deliberation, GNSO Council deliberation, ICANN Board consideration, and implementation.

For more details about the steps in the PDPs, consult the information below:

- [ICANN Bylaws, Annex A](#)
- [Detailed infographic of the GNSO PDP](#)
- [GNSO PDP Manual](#)



# At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

## Advice

### POLICY

Since ICANN86, the ALAC submitted three policy advice statements in response to ICANN Public Comment proceedings.

- [ALAC Statement on Additional Reference Label Generation Rules and Related Updates](#)
  - The ALAC and the At-Large community noted their support for the development and finalization of the new and updated Reference Label Generation Rules (LGR).
  - The ALAC and At-Large call upon ICANN to treat proactive outreach, registry coordination, and long-term visibility of the LGR change-request process as integral components of the implementation phase.
- [Initial Report of the Technical Study Group on gTLD Integrations with Alternative Naming Systems](#)
  - The ALAC and At-Large community note that Alternative Naming Systems can cause confusion and erosion of end-user trust and that it is important to consider end-user protection in addition to issues related to technical feasibility.
- [DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP 1 Initial Report](#)
  - The ALAC and At-Large community note that end users are among the groups most affected by DNS Abuse, both directly as victims of cybercrime and indirectly when businesses and public services are disrupted.
  - The ALAC and the At-Large community underscored the importance of ensuring that Associated Domain Checks introduced to prevent malicious use of domain names are proportionate and minimize unnecessary or disproportionate impact and cause as little harm as possible to legitimate users.

During ICANN87, At-Large will hold several sessions discussing policy advice development to advance its current work. These sessions also will increase At-Large member knowledge and understanding of policy issues of interest to end users.

- The At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group session on Sunday, 18 October will include an overview of current policy advice development consisting of updates from ALAC representatives on the DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP1 and the SSAD Supplemental Recommendations Team.
- An Asian, Australasian, and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO)-hosted session entitled “DNS Abuse Mitigation–Charting Next Steps” is scheduled for Wednesday, 21 October. This session is the third event in a series of collaborative conversations within the At-Large community that explores DNS Abuse mitigation, fostering understanding of widespread abuse cases and identifying potential solutions. As DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP 1 concludes, the At-Large community has been actively discussing and examining gaps in DNS Abuse mitigation and identifying areas requiring attention. This session aims to inform the development of an At-Large DNS Abuse Strategy, engage with the GNSO Council, and drive continuing conversations to progress DNS Abuse mitigation within the ICANN remit.
- The joint session between the ALAC and the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) scheduled for Sunday, 18 October, will include a discussion of the Safer Cyber Campaign and an update on the most recent SSAC research.

# At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

## OPERATIONS

The At-Large community recently developed a statement about operations:

- [The ALAC Statement on Review of Reviews Draft Report](#)
  - The ALAC believes the Reviews of Reviews Draft Report represents a significant and welcome evolution of the ICANN accountability framework.
  - The ALAC supports the overall direction of the proposed reforms and believes they provide a stronger foundation for improving implementation, reducing unnecessary duplication, and making the ICANN review system more strategic and sustainable.
  - At the same time, the ALAC encourages continued attention to preserving accountability, limiting overreach by the ICANN Board and ICANN organization, supporting meaningful volunteer participation, and ensuring that the interests of end users remain central to the ICANN accountability framework.
  - Finally, the proposed framework must be thorough in its handling of implementation. Implementation has been the greatest challenge to accountability under the current system of reviews and deserves significant reform.

During ICANN87, At-Large will hold several sessions related to operations. The At-Large Operations, Finance, and Budget Working Group will hold two sessions on Sunday, 18 October. The sessions will include a presentation by the ICANN Finance and Planning team on the ICANN Fiscal Year 2028 Budget and a presentation by the ASO on the Draft RIR Governance Document. In addition, participants will receive updates on the ALAC Continuous Improvement Program, the status of the ALAC Fiscal Year 2027 Strategic Priorities and Core Activities, and the Review of Reviews.

An At-Large plenary session, “The ALAC Continuous Improvement Program—Learning, Adapting, and Delivering,” will be held on 20 October. The objective of this plenary session is to create At-Large community ownership and clarify next steps. This plenary session will discuss the ongoing work of the ALAC Continuous Improvement Program and share its progress and future direction. The session will encourage At-Large community participation, offering both an institutional and a grassroots perspective on CIP progress and the collaborative model driving it.

## Other Work

### RALOs

The ongoing work of the five Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs) focuses on outreach and engagement. Current At-Large policy and operational statements are also discussed to ensure that the regional perspective is included in ALAC policy and operations statements.

The RALO leaders will host an At-Large Regional Leadership Meeting on Tuesday, 20 October to discuss issues that require joint RALO strategies and actions including:

- Fiscal Year 2027 Strategic Plan alignment among the RALOs.
- Development of RALO leadership and membership onboarding activities.
- Updates from the ICANN organization Global Stakeholder Engagement function.

APRALO, as the host RALO, will hold several sessions on Tuesday, 20 October:

- The APRALO General Assembly, bringing together APRALO members to review achievements and discuss strategic priorities for Fiscal Year 2027.

# At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

- An APRALO Meets NextGen@ICANN87 Program Participants, Asia Pacific ICANN87 Fellows, and Local Youth session to provide a deeper understanding of APRALO activities and opportunities for engagement.
- An APRALO Networking Event.

The African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO) will hold its meeting on Wednesday, 21 October. The theme of the meeting is “Accelerating UA and IDN Adoption in Africa: From Strategy to Sustainable Implementation for Linguistic and Digital Inclusion”. This session will serve as an opportunity to conduct a structured analysis of past AFRALO statements on such topics. The aim is to develop a consolidated AFRALO perspective on next steps for increasing awareness of UA and IDNs in Africa and translate the resulting analysis into a new AFRALO statement.

## Background

The At-Large community consists of ALAC, five RALOs, At-Large Structures (currently 279), and individual members (currently 274). ALAC has 15 members who consider and provide advice on the work of ICANN as it relates to the interests of individual Internet users and serves as the primary organizational home within ICANN for individual Internet users.

The work of the At-Large community takes place primarily in working groups along three tracks: policy advice development, operations, and community engagement. At-Large conducts its work through regular teleconferences, participation in PDPs and other policy development work, and active engagement during ICANN Public Meetings.

Learn more about the At-Large community and how to participate on the [At-Large website](#) and [At-Large workspace](#). [Two ICANN Learn courses](#) provide additional information on how to start and sustain involvement in the At-Large community.



# Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

## Advice

Consistent with the GAC Strategic Plan and latest Annual Plan, GAC members remain actively involved in several priority areas, with particular focus on preparations for the New gTLD Program: 2026 Round, DNS Abuse mitigation, and gTLD registration data policy.

### NEW gTLD PROGRAM: 2026 ROUND

- Following the close of the application submission period for the 2026 Round, the GAC is advancing its operational readiness to review applications. This includes preparations for the potential issuance of GAC Early Warnings and Application Comments.
- During ICANN87, the GAC will dedicate substantial time to the 2026 Round, including capacity development sessions aimed at ensuring GAC members are prepared for the next stages of the evaluation process.

### DNS ABUSE MITIGATION

- Mitigating DNS Abuse remains a priority for the GAC. GAC members and observers have participated in the GNSO DNS Abuse Mitigation PDP 1 on Associated Domain Checks, supported by a newly formed GAC DNS Abuse Small Group.
- Following publication of the Initial Report and the conclusion of its Public Comment proceeding, the GAC will continue to consider the policy recommendations and broader DNS Abuse mitigation issues, including the expected start of PDP 2 deliberations on safeguards for access to domain name registrations at scale for new customers (also known as API access or bulk registration).

### gTLD REGISTRATION DATA

- Access to gTLD registration data remains a priority for the GAC. GAC members and observers are participating in the GNSO Council Supplemental Recommendations Team, which is reviewing and modifying the original SSAD recommendations, following the ICANN Board decision not to adopt the pending recommendations.
- GAC members will continue their discussions on gTLD registration data matters of public policy interest. These include ongoing work on facilitating timely handling of urgent law enforcement requests for disclosure of non-public gTLD registration data, including the development of a proof of concept for authentication of law enforcement requestors; discussions concerning registration data accuracy, including the existing 15-day timeline for registrars to validate and verify registrant information; and ongoing implementation work relating to privacy and proxy services.

## Other Work

The GAC will engage with other parts of the ICANN community during ICANN87 through joint sessions. This includes the regular meeting with the ICANN Board and discussions with other Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees on issues of mutual interest. Additionally, the GAC is meeting with the ALAC before ICANN87.

The GAC will also hold its regular Communiqué drafting sessions during ICANN87. All GAC sessions are open to the ICANN community and will feature simultaneous interpretation in the six United Nations languages and Portuguese. Details regarding specific GAC sessions can be found on the [GAC ICANN87 agenda webpage](#), where session briefings, descriptions, materials, and presentations will be published.

# Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

## Background

GAC membership consists of national governments and distinct economies that are recognized in international forums. Multinational governmental and treaty organizations as well as public authorities participate in the GAC in an observer capacity. There are currently 185 GAC members and 41 GAC observer organizations.

GAC provides advice on public policy aspects of ICANN's activities regarding the DNS. GAC consensus advice has a particular status under the ICANN Bylaws: viz., such advice must be duly considered by the ICANN Board, and if the ICANN Board proposes actions that are inconsistent with GAC consensus advice, it must provide reasons for doing so and attempt to reach a mutually acceptable solution with GAC. The ICANN Board and GAC engage regularly, including at joint sessions during ICANN Public Meetings, to ensure that GAC advice is clear and carefully considered, and that issues of importance to governments are identified and explored well before the potential for advice materializes.

Further information about GAC and its various work efforts, processes, and operating principles can be found on the [GAC website](#).



# Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

## Advice

The RSSAC recently completed two publications, “[RSSAC001v3](#)” and “[RSSAC000v10](#).” RSSAC001v3 is an update to the Service Expectations of Root Server Operators and RSSAC000v10 is an update to the RSSAC Operational Procedures. Currently, there is one [active work party](#) in the RSSAC on implementing its Continuous Improvement Program. This work party will meet on Saturday, 17 October.

## ROOT SERVER SYSTEM GOVERNANCE

In June 2018, RSSAC published a proposed governance model for the RSS and Root Server Operators (RSOs) in “RSSAC037: A Proposed Governance Model for the DNS Root Server System” (RSSAC037). RSSAC037 outlined 11 guiding principles for the RSS and proposed five functions to provide governance, accountability, and transparency for the RSS.

RSSAC concurrently published “[RSSAC038](#): RSSAC Advisory on a Proposed Governance Model for the DNS Root Server System” (RSSAC038). In RSSAC038, the RSSAC made three recommendations for next steps to the ICANN Board.

Throughout 2019, the ICANN Board—through the Board Technical Committee (BTC)—oversaw the development of a “[Concept Paper](#) on a Community-Driven Process to Develop a Final Model Based on RSSAC037” (Concept Paper) as part of ICANN Board consideration of RSSAC037. The Concept Paper outlined an ICANN community-driven process to develop a final governance model for the RSS. The Concept Paper was in response to recommendation one from RSSAC038, which called on the ICANN Board to “initiate a process to produce a final version of the Model for implementation based on RSSAC037.” That process was the focus of the RSS Governance Working Group (GWG).

The BTC also directed the ICANN organization to develop a draft charter, operating procedures, and work plan for the GWG. After [Public Comment](#), the ICANN Board [convened the GWG](#) in November 2019. By convening the GWG, the ICANN Board completed its consideration of recommendation one from RSSAC038.

In February 2026, the GWG approved and published its [functional model](#) and [governance principles](#) for the RSS. The GWG proposes a governance structure in the form of the RSS Council to perform five functions, supported by a secretariat. The GWG report also outlines a three-phase implementation plan.

### NEXT STEPS

In support of ongoing ICANN Board consideration, the ICANN organization is analyzing the GWG outputs by assessing the feasibility of convening the RSS Council. The feasibility assessment will set out the implementation choices, dependencies, risks, and mitigations that the ICANN Board should consider in determining how the future work of the RSS Council should proceed.

## Other Work

During ICANN87, the RSSAC will offer a joint open-mic session with the SSAC and conduct its monthly meeting. The RSSAC Caucus meeting will feature lightning talks and a discussion of the results of the RSSAC Caucus Annual Membership Survey. These results may inform future RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus work priorities.

## Background

The [RSSAC](#) advises the ICANN community and the ICANN Board on matters relating to the operation, administration, security, and integrity of the RSS. The RSSAC consists of representatives from the root server operator organizations and liaisons from the partner organizations involved in the technical and operational management of the root zone.

The [RSSAC Caucus](#) is composed of DNS experts who have an interest in the RSS, broadening the base of diverse technical expertise available for RSSAC work. The primary role of the RSSAC Caucus is to conduct research and produce publications on topics relevant to the mission of RSSAC. The RSSAC Caucus Membership Committee appoints members of the RSSAC Caucus. In addition, all RSSAC members are members of the RSSAC Caucus.

# Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

## Advice

The SSAC currently has four active work parties.

The **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Impacts on DNS Security, Stability, and Resilience and Abuse Work Party** (formerly known as the DNS Abuse and AI Work Party) is deliberating on the distinctive impact of AI on the security, stability, and resilience of the DNS. The aim of this working group is to highlight how AI is playing a dual role in DNS Abuse: AI as an enabler for attackers and AI as a defensive tool.

The **DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) Operational Considerations Work Party** is developing a report on DNSSEC implementation, functionality, and maintenance. The report will address security, operational, and infrastructure considerations for deploying DNSSEC, and examine factors promoting or detracting from adoption.

The **DNS Transparency Work Party** is examining enhanced data-sharing mechanisms for registries and registrars that support security researchers in studying and combating security and stability threats to the DNS.

The **Responsible Integration into the DNS Ecosystem Work Party** is examining integrations of third-party naming systems (such as blockchain) into the DNS. Its report will discuss challenges related to the domain name lifecycle, potential DNS integrity conflicts (such as name collision), security and stability risks, and policy and governance issues.

## Other Work

The SSAC will hold two Lightning Talk sessions. Lightning Talks present concise, technical perspectives on current security, stability, and resiliency issues independent of ongoing SSAC studies, and include a brief question-and-answer period.

The SSAC will hold a joint open-mic session with the RSSAC. This interactive session invites community members to ask SSAC and RSSAC members directly about current work, past reports and recommendations, security, stability, and resiliency issues related to the Internet's naming and address allocation systems, the Root Server System, or any other topics relevant to the SSAC or the RSSAC. The SSAC will also meet with the ALAC and the Contracted Parties House of the GNSO Council for discussions on topics of mutual interest.

The SSAC will host the DNSSEC and Security Workshop during ICANN87. The workshop is an informational forum where DNSSEC and security experts share what they are learning as they deploy and manage DNSSEC. The workshop will feature short presentations on current issues.

## Background

The SSAC advises the ICANN community and the ICANN Board on matters relating to the security and integrity of the naming and address allocation systems of the Internet. This includes operational matters such as those pertaining to the correct and reliable operation of the root name system, administrative matters such as those pertaining to address allocation and Internet number assignment, and registration matters such as those pertaining to registry and registrar services like WHOIS.

For information on how to participate in the SSAC, see the [SSAC Operational Procedures](#) and the [SSAC Introduction](#).

# Consolidated Scorecard

The ICANN community produces outputs in a variety of forms, such as policies, advice, and other recommendations. The outputs come from different ICANN community groups, such as GNSO PDP working groups or a Specific Review team. The outputs are typically directed to the ICANN Board to consider, and, if adopted, implemented by the ICANN organization.

To help the ICANN community more easily track this work, the ICANN organization has prepared this consolidated scorecard. This resource brings together information about ICANN community-developed policy and other outputs in one place.

## CONTENTS

- 1. Policy Development Processes and Other Major Community Projects Intended for Board Action**
- 2. Policy Recommendations Pending Board Action**
- 3. Board-Adopted Policy Recommendations in Implementation**

## SECTION 1

### Policy Development Processes and Other Major Community Projects Intended for Board Action

#### OVERVIEW

Under ICANN's Bylaws, the Address Supporting Organization (ASO), Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), and Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) are responsible for consensus-based, bottom-up policy development work within their respective remits, and the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), Root Server Advisory Committee (RSSAC), and Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) are responsible for advising the ICANN Board and community on policy matters as defined by their respective roles. The Bylaws also document the role and responsibilities of ICANN's Board of Directors in respect of community-developed policy and advice received from these seven community structures.

This table shows the major policy-related work that is currently underway in ICANN's community structures, including Policy Development Processes (PDPs) initiated by one of the Supporting Organizations. It will be updated periodically, at minimum in advance of each of the three ICANN Public Meetings in a calendar year.



# Consolidated Scorecard

| TITLE & SUBJECT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | GROUP | DATE INITIATED/<br>CHARTERED | EXPECTED<br>DATE OF BOARD<br>DELIVERY | STATUS                   | MILESTONES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">ICP-2 Revision:</a><br>Updating fundamental principles required for recognizing and evaluating new Regional Internet Registries (RIRs)                                                                                                                    | ASO   | Oct 2023                     | Jan 2027                              | <b>TIMELINE ADJUSTED</b> | <b>Last Milestone:</b><br>The ASO Address Council delivered its recommended draft of the RIR Governance Document to the NRO Executive Council on 28 July.<br><br><b>Next Milestone:</b><br>ICANN and the RIRs are expected to begin their respective approval processes in Q1 2027. |
| <a href="#">Latin Script Diacritics PDP:</a><br>Explore when an ASCII gTLD and the Latin diacritic version of the gTLD are not variants of each other, and what mechanism is needed in order to allow a single registry operator to simultaneously operate both gTLDs | GNSO  | Dec 2024                     | Dec 2026                              | <b>ON TRACK</b>          | <b>Last Milestone:</b><br>The Working Group delivered its Final Report to the GNSO Council ahead of schedule, in August 2026.<br><br><b>Next Milestone:</b><br>The GNSO Council will begin its review of the recommendations at its September 2026 meeting.                         |
| <a href="#">DNS Abuse PDP #1:</a><br>Associated Domain Checks: Establish a framework for registrars to investigate domains that may be linked to a confirmed case                                                                                                     | GNSO  | Dec 2025                     | Jul 2027                              | <b>ON TRACK</b>          | <b>Last Milestone:</b><br>The Working Group published its Initial Report for Public Comments in August 2026.<br><br><b>Next Milestone:</b><br>The Working Group will review all submissions received following the close of the Public Comment period in late September.            |

# Consolidated Scorecard

| TITLE & SUBJECT                                                                                                                                      | GROUP | DATE INITIATED/ CHARTERED                   | EXPECTED DATE OF BOARD DELIVERY | STATUS   | MILESTONES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DNS Abuse PDP #2:<br>Access Safeguards:<br>Checks to establish trust for new registrants prior to providing access to high-volume registration tools | GNSO  | Dec 2025<br>(initiation; not yet chartered) | TBD                             | ON TRACK | <p><b>Last Milestone:</b><br/>The GNSO Council issued a Call for Volunteers to form a charter-drafting team.</p> <p><b>Next Milestone:</b><br/>The GNSO Council will finalize the charter and when appropriate, launch the PDP.</p>                                                  |
| <a href="#">SSAD Supplemental Recommendations:</a><br>(Follow up on EPDP Phase 2: Standardized System for Access & Disclosure)                       | GNSO  | April 2026                                  | March 2027                      | ON TRACK | <p><b>Last Milestone:</b><br/>The SSAD Supplemental Recommendations Team began meeting in May 2026 and has completed initial reads of its draft recommendations.</p> <p><b>Next Milestone:</b><br/>The team plans to issue its recommendations for Public Comment after ICANN87.</p> |

**Note:**

Different SO/AC groups have different processes for starting and managing new policy projects. As a result, the above table refers to both project “initiation” and “chartering” as a possible start date (depending on the community group in question).



# Consolidated Scorecard

## SECTION 2

### Policy Recommendations Pending Board Action

**OVERVIEW**

ICANN’s Bylaws document policy development steps used in the GNSO (Annex A) and ccNSO (Annex B), from initiation of the PDP to approval of recommendations by the respective Supporting Organization and submission to and consideration by the Board.

Under the Bylaws, the Board has the responsibility to review and take action on policy recommendations delivered from the GNSO and ccNSO policy development processes.

Where the Board adopts recommendations, it typically directs the ICANN President and CEO or designees to implement the new policy. If any recommendations are not adopted, the Bylaws include a process for consultation between the Board and the respective Supporting Organization.

The table below shows the policy recommendations currently pending Board action.

**BOARD DECISIONAL ACTIONS SINCE THE LAST UPDATE**

In June 2026, the Board resolved to adopt all the recommendations from Phase 2 of the GNSO’s Expedited Policy Development Process on Internationalized Domain Names, and from the GNSO’s Policy Development Process on the Transfer Policy.

| TITLE                                                                 | GROUP | DATE DELIVERED | STATUS                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">ccPDP4</a> (IDN)                                          | ccNSO | June 2024      | The Board continued its review of the recommendations at its September 2026 workshop, informed by the work of the ccPDP4 Board Caucus. Board consideration of the recommendations is expected at the upcoming ICANN87 meeting. |
| <a href="#">Root Server System Governance Working Group</a> (RSS GWG) | RSSAC | March 2026     | The Board continued its review of the recommendations at its September 2026 workshop.                                                                                                                                          |



# Consolidated Scorecard

## SECTION 3

### Board-Adopted Policy Recommendations in Implementation

#### OVERVIEW

Typically, when the ICANN Board approves recommendations developed through the Policy Development Processes of the GNSO (Annex A) and ccNSO (Annex B), it directs the ICANN President and CEO or designees to implement the recommendations. Based on this direction, the ICANN organization leads implementation work with support and input from the community.

ICANN consults with the wider community during each implementation project, often by assembling a team of volunteer experts in the relevant subject matter to provide advice and support, and publishing proposed implementation plans for Public Comment.

The [Consensus Policy Implementation Framework](#) (CPIF) describes the stages and progression of policy implementation work involved in policy recommendations through the GNSO. The CPIF was developed collaboratively with a GNSO working group in 2015. The status and materials for these projects are available on a [CPIF webpage](#).

The table below shows the policy recommendations that have been adopted by the Board, where implementation is underway or in queue. Quarters refer to calendar quarters.

| TITLE                                                      | GROUP | BOARD APPROVED                                            | IMPLEMENTATION START | PROJECTED COMPLETION | STATUS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPM) Phase 1</a> | GNSO  | January 2022                                              | December 2022        | Q4 2026              | Implementation work is ongoing (3/5 recommendation groups complete).<br><b>Last Milestone:</b><br>Publication of Revised Trademark Clearinghouse Requirements<br><b>Next Milestone:</b><br>Development of Draft Trademark Claims Reporting proposal |
| <a href="#">IDN EPDP Phase 1</a>                           | GNSO  | June 2024 - Oct 2025<br>(Recs approved in three tranches) | August 2024          | Q4 2026              | Implementation work is ongoing (53/58 recs complete)<br><b>Last Milestone:</b><br>Board resolution on remaining pending recommendations<br><b>Next Milestone:</b><br>Complete draft documentation for remaining recommendations                     |

# Consolidated Scorecard

| TITLE                                                                     | GROUP | BOARD APPROVED | IMPLEMENTATION START                                                        | PROJECTED COMPLETION | STATUS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Privacy &amp; Proxy Services Accreditation Issues (PPSAI)</a> | GNSO  | August 2016    | October 2016<br>(subsequently paused for GDPR)<br>June 2024<br>(relaunched) | Q3 2027              | Implementation work is ongoing.<br><b>Last Milestone:</b><br>Draft policy language circulated to the Implementation Review Team (IRT) in August 2026<br><b>Next Milestone:</b><br>IRT expected to discuss review outcomes in September-October 2026 |
| <a href="#">IGO &amp; INGO Curative Rights</a>                            | GNSO  | April 2023     | August 2025                                                                 | Q3 2026              | Implementation work is ongoing.<br><b>Last Milestone:</b><br>Public Comments closed on draft policy documents on 1 September 2026<br><b>Next Milestone:</b><br>IRT review of comment submissions in October                                         |
| IN QUEUE FOR IMPLEMENTATION (SUBJECT TO PRIORITIZATION)                   |       |                |                                                                             |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| EPDP Phase 2A                                                             | GNSO  | March 2022     | TBC                                                                         |                      | Recommendations are voluntary for contracted parties. The GAC has included implementation as an Issue of Importance relating to registration data.                                                                                                  |
| Translation & Transliteration of Contact Information                      | GNSO  | September 2015 | July 2016                                                                   |                      | Recommendations are voluntary for contracted parties. Implementation is on hold, pending consideration of prioritization and potential retirement, due to the number of competing items and subsequent developments.                                |

# Consolidated Scorecard

| TITLE           | GROUP | BOARD APPROVED | IMPLEMENTATION START | PROJECTED COMPLETION | STATUS                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------|-------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ccPDP3          | ccNSO | June 2025      | FY2027               |                      | Work on detailed requirements for the review mechanism is complete. Expected start date for implementation work remains FY27. |
| Transfer Policy | GNSO  | June 2026      | TBC                  |                      | Currently in the planning/ resourcing process.                                                                                |
| IDNs Phase 2    | GNSO  | June 2026      | TBC                  |                      | Currently in the planning/ resourcing process, including possibility of consolidating work with related IDN projects.         |

