

# ICANN82 Policy Outlook Report



82 | COMMUNITY  
FORUM

SEATTLE



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# Welcome to Seattle!



In preparation for the ICANN82 Community Forum, the Policy Development Support team has developed the ICANN82 Policy Outlook Report. This report provides a high-level overview of the planned work and activities of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees.

Throughout the week, the ICANN community will meet to advance policy and advice work in priority areas. The Welcome Ceremony will include the presentation of the ICANN Community Excellence Award. There will also be sessions to continue the discussion about “How We Meet” and the Community Participant Code of Conduct.

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, and so many in the ICANN community dedicate their time to these issues. Consensus policies developed through a multistakeholder approach are highly effective.

This is my first ICANN Public Meeting as Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support. I look forward to working with the ICANN community in this new role and learning about your priorities.

Thank 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, please actively engage in this Community Forum.

Russ Weinstein

*Senior Vice President,  
Policy Development Support*

# Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

## What to Expect

Although members of the Internet number community will participate in sessions, the ASO will not be convening. The ASO conducts policy development work during Regional Internet Registry (RIR) meetings and on [mailing lists](#).

## Background

The ASO is defined in a [2019 Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\)](#), affirming the relationship between the names and numbers communities. The purpose of the ASO is to review recommendations on global Internet Protocol address policy and to advise the ICANN Board. 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 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 each RIR community:

- African Network Information Centre
- Asia Pacific Network Information Centre
- American Registry for Internet Numbers
- Latin American and Caribbean Internet Addresses Registry
- Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre

The [ASO Address Council \(ASO AC\)](#) coordinates the global policy development work of the Internet number community and appoints members to the ICANN Board, the ICANN Nominating Committee, and other ICANN groups. The ASO AC consists of 15 members, three from each RIR.

ASO AC monthly teleconferences are open to observers. For more information, including the teleconference schedule, observer privileges, and remote participation details, visit the [ASO AC website](#).



# Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

## What to Expect

The country code top-level domain (ccTLD) community and others interested in ccTLD-related issues will discuss and receive updates on topics relevant to ccTLD managers. Simultaneous interpretation will be available for a select number of ccNSO sessions. The enhanced language support will benefit the ccTLD community by deepening operational exchanges and promoting information sharing.

The ccNSO program will begin on Saturday, 8 March. The Policy Gap Analysis (PGA) Working Group, the ccNSO Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC), the ccNSO DNS Abuse Standing Committee (DASC), the Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC), and the Guidelines Review Committee (GRC) will all hold working sessions. The ccNSO schedule continues on Sunday, 9 March, when the ccNSO Council will hold a workshop and a preparatory meeting. There will also be working sessions of the Second ccNSO Finance Working Group, the Strategic and Operational Planning Committee (SOPC), and the Top-Level Domain Operations (TLD-OPS) Standing Committee.

Tech Day will be held on Monday, 10 March. Tech Day is a workshop open to all members of the ICANN community with an interest in technical, operational, and security issues.

The ccNSO program on Tuesday, 11 March, will begin with a welcome session. Next, during the ccTLD News Session, ccTLD managers from different regions will share the latest developments relevant to their ccTLDs. The program continues with a session where various ccNSO working groups and committees will brief the ccTLDs present on their latest and upcoming activities. The Second ccNSO Finance Working Group will inform and consult the ccTLD community regarding its review of the ccTLD financial contribution models. The ccNSO Policy Gap Analysis Working Group will discuss with the ccTLDs the review of potential policy gaps in ccTLD post-delegation processes.

On Wednesday, 12 March, the ccNSO will discuss topics of common interest during a joint session with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC). The program for the ccNSO continues with a session by the ccNSO DASC which will explore the concept of data accuracy and validation, and how it impacts ccTLDs. Later that day, ccNSO members and others will have the opportunity to ask questions to the ccNSO-appointed ICANN Board members. Then, the UAC will explore drivers for Universal Acceptance Readiness, including testimonials by ccTLD managers.

Finally, the ccNSO Council will meet on Thursday, 13 March 2025. The detailed ccNSO schedule, including highlights of topics to be covered and details on remote participation for ICANN82, is available on the [ccNSO ICANN82 workspace](#).

## 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). The ccNSO councilors are actively involved in determining the work and direction of the ccNSO. Councilors manage the policy development process, 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 regularly during ICANN Public Meetings and at monthly teleconferences. All ccNSO Council documents, minutes of meetings, resolutions, and discussions are published on the [ccNSO website](#).

Participate in the ccNSO course on [ICANN Learn](#) to find out more about its work and how it is organized. [Subscribe](#) to the ccNSO monthly newsletter to stay informed.

# Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

## Session Details

Session times are in UTC-8. Please refer to the [ICANN82 schedule](#) for the most current information. Read more about the ccNSO on [this workspace](#).

### Working Group and Committee Sessions

#### **Policy Gap Analysis (PGA) Working Group**

Saturday, 8 March | 09:00–10:00

The ccNSO PGA Working Group will hold an internal work session. The objective of the PGA Working Group is to identify, analyze, and advise the ccNSO Council if and how to address gaps in existing ccNSO policies, guidance or practices pertaining to the delegation, transfer, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs, and other related Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Naming Functions for ccTLDs.

#### **Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC)**

Saturday, 8 March | 10:30–12:00

The ccNSO established the IGLC to coordinate, facilitate, and increase the participation of ccTLD managers in Internet governance discussions and processes. The IGLC will hold a working session. Topics for discussion include, among others, the United Nations (U.N.)-led review of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) being held in 2025 on the twentieth anniversary of the original WSIS, and the IGLC workplan.

#### **DNS Abuse Standing Committee (DASC)**

Saturday, 8 March | 13:15–14:30

The ccNSO DASC is the centerpiece of the ccTLD community-driven DNS Abuse process at the global level and in ICANN. The DASC was created as a dedicated forum for ccTLD managers to discuss the important issue of DNS Abuse and to share information, lessons learned, and practices. The DASC will hold an internal working session.

#### **Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC)**

Saturday, 8 March | 15:00–16:00

Universal Acceptance (UA) refers to the concept of treating all domain names equally and ensuring that they are recognized, accepted, and functional across all Internet applications, systems, and devices. The purpose of the ccNSO UAC is to provide a platform for the ccTLD community to interact and share information at a global level and with other ICANN community groups on topics related to UA and the acceptance of Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs). The UAC will hold an internal working session.

#### **Guidelines Review Committee (GRC) Workshop**

Saturday, 8 March | 16:30–17:30

The ccNSO GRC will hold an internal workshop. The purpose of the 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 ccNSO Council.

#### **ccNSO Council Prep**

Sunday, 9 March | 09:00–10:00

The ccNSO Council will prepare for its 215th meeting. Furthermore, to ensure the future resilience and continuity of its operations, the ccNSO Council conducts its annual review of the distribution of the relevant roles and responsibilities.

# Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

## ccNSO Council Workshop - Closed

Sunday, 9 March | 10:30–12:00

The ccNSO Council and leadership teams of ccNSO working groups and committees will hold a workshop on the topic of increasing ccNSO capacity and the related roadmap.

## Second Finance (FIN2) Working Group

Sunday, 9 March | 13:15–14:30

The FIN2 Working Group will hold an internal work session. The objective of the FIN2 Working Group is to review, explore, and propose financial contribution models that are fair and equitable and encourage ccTLDs to contribute at a level deemed reasonable, while preserving the principle of voluntary contributions.

## Strategic and Operational Planning Committee (SOPC) Workshop

Sunday, 9 March | 15:00–16:00

The purpose of the SOPC is to provide input into ICANN's and Public Technical Identifiers (PTI) strategic and operational planning and related budget processes that are relevant from a ccTLD or ccNSO perspective. It also coordinates, facilitates, and encourages the participation of ccTLD managers in these processes. In December 2023, ICANN published the [draft ICANN Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2025 Operating Plan and Budget](#), the [Draft PTI FY 2025 Operating Plan and Budget](#), and the [Draft Five-Year Plans](#) for Public Comment. During this workshop, SOPC meets with relevant ICANN staff to discuss the recent SOPC submission and submission process.

## TLD-OPS

Sunday, 9 March | 15:00–16:00

The Top-Level Domain Operations (TLD-OPS) Standing Committee is the oversight body of the [TLD-OPS mailing list](#). Its purpose is to govern the daily operation of the TLD-OPS email list and, when necessary, to develop and implement progress plans for future improvements and developments of the TLD-OPS email list, including its community. TLD-OPS is the incident response community for and by ccTLDs and brings together those 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. The TLD-OPS Standing Committee will hold an internal working session.

## Tech Day

Since 2006, Tech Day has been part of ICANN Public Meetings. It provides a forum for both experienced participants and newcomers to meet, present, and discuss technical and operational registry topics, security, and other DNS-related work. Read more about Tech Day on this [webpage](#).

## ccNSO Members Meeting | Day 1

Over the next few days, the ccNSO Council and ccNSO members will discuss several issues affecting a cross-section of the world's country codes. The ccNSO Members Meeting sessions are open to all with an interest in ccTLD-related topics. Read more about the ccNSO on this [webpage](#).

## ccNSO Welcome Session

Tuesday, 11 March | 09:00–10:00

The ccNSO Council chair and Meetings Program Committee chair will welcome participants to the ccNSO Members Meeting. In addition, the ccTLD community will discuss the review of the ICANN meeting strategy developed in 2014: Is the strategy able to meet the evolving needs of the ICANN community while also being cost-effective?

# Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

## ccTLD News Session

Tuesday, 11 March | 10:30–12:00

ccTLD News Sessions include a collection of case studies, statistics, new developments, trends, and more. The ccTLD News Sessions have been part of the ccNSO Members Meetings for several years. They have provided a global platform for both experienced and new ccNSO Members to meet, share experiences, and discuss ccTLD-related aspects.

## ccNSO Working Group Updates and Community Insights

Tuesday, 11 March | 13:15–14:30

Several ccNSO working groups and committees will provide an update on their progress and seek input on their next steps.

## ccTLD Financial Contributions Session

Tuesday, 11 March | 15:00–16:00

The objective of the FIN2 Working Group is to review, explore, and propose financial contribution models that are fair and equitable, and encourage ccTLDs to contribute at a level deemed reasonable, while preserving the principle of voluntary contributions. This session will provide an opportunity to inform and consult the broader ccTLD community on the working group's progress and approach. Ultimately, the working group aims to deliver ccTLD community-endorsed recommendations to the ccNSO Council by June 2025. The FIN2 Working Group will also hold a working session on Saturday, 8 March.

## Policy Gap Session

Tuesday, 11 March | 16:30–17:30

The ccNSO Policy Gap Analysis (PGA) Working Group began its work in August 2024. Its objective is to identify, analyze, and advise the ccNSO Council on whether and how to address gaps in existing ccNSO policies, guidance, or practices pertaining to the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs, and other related IANA Naming Functions for ccTLDs. The PGA Working Group expects to present and discuss its initial findings during the ccNSO Members Meeting. The PGA Working Group will also hold a working session on Saturday, 8 March.

## ccNSO Members Meeting | Day 2

### Joint Session: ccNSO and GAC

Wednesday, 12 March | 10:30–12:00

The ccNSO and the GAC will hold a joint session to discuss work by the ccNSO Policy Gap Analysis Working Group. Furthermore, smaller groups of both ccNSO and GAC participants will explore the diversity of ccTLD governance models.

### DNS Abuse: Data Validation and Accuracy

Wednesday, 12 March | 13:15–14:30

The ccNSO DNS Abuse Standing Committee (DASC) is organizing a session that will delve into the topic of domain name registration data accuracy and its relevance to DNS Abuse. How important is it for ccTLD registries to maintain correct and accurate domain name registration data in combating abuse? What role does accurate data play? This session invites the ccTLD community and other stakeholders to share diverse perspectives, recognizing that while approaches vary globally, ccTLDs consistently demonstrate low levels of abuse. The DASC will hold a working session on Saturday, 8 March.

### Session with ccNSO-appointed ICANN Board Members

Wednesday, 12 March | 15:00–16:00

The ccNSO-appointed ICANN Board members have been invited to attend a question and answer session and to share their experiences as ICANN Board members.



# Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

## Exploring Blockers for UA Readiness

Wednesday, 12 March | 16:30-17:30

The ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC) has organized an interactive session to explore drivers for UA readiness for the global ccTLD community. Universal Acceptance refers to the concept of treating all domain names equally and ensuring that they are recognized, accepted, and functional across all Internet applications, systems, and devices. The purpose of the ccNSO UAC is to provide the ccTLD community a platform to interact and share information at a global level and with other groups under the ICANN umbrella on topics related to UA and acceptance of IDNs. The UAC will hold a working session on Saturday, 8 March.

## ccNSO Council Meeting

Thursday, 13 March | 13:15-14:30

Topics for discussion include outcomes from the ccNSO Council workshop on resourcing, policy gaps in the ccTLD post-delegation processes, and the roles and responsibilities of ccNSO Councilors. The ccNSO Council will also elect a leadership team consisting of one chair and two vice chairs. Additional topics for the ccNSO Council meeting will be made available on its [workspace](#).



# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

## What to Expect

The GNSO is the policy development body responsible for generic top-level domains (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.

The GNSO Council will make progress on the following policy development initiatives:

- The Transfer Policy Review Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group does not plan to hold a session because it already delivered its Final Report to the GNSO Council. The GNSO Council will consider and vote on the policy recommendations in the Final Report.
- The Latin Script Diacritics PDP Working Group plans to host its first working session and begin deliberations to develop preliminary recommendations for its Initial Report.

There are also recent developments regarding ICANN Board consideration of outputs from GNSO policy development efforts:

- On 13 November 2024, the GNSO Council [approved](#) all 20 outputs documented in the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on IDNs [Phase 2 Final Report](#), containing 14 recommendations and six implementation guidance. Following the GNSO Council's submission of the ICANN Bylaws-mandated [Recommendations Report to the ICANN Board](#), a Public Comment proceeding was conducted until 3 February 2025 to allow the ICANN Board to obtain ICANN community input before taking action on the final recommendations.

## Background

### Transfer Policy Review PDP

On 18 February 2021, the GNSO Council [initiated](#) the Transfer Policy Review PDP. On 24 March 2021, the GNSO Council [adopted](#) the PDP working group [charter](#), and the working group first met in May 2021. The charter initially anticipated that the PDP would be conducted in phases, but the approach has since been changed due to dependencies identified between charter topics. The work is now structured as a single phase. The Transfer Policy is the ICANN Consensus Policy that contains requirements related to transferring a domain name from one registrar to another.

On 21 June 2022, the working group published an [Initial Report](#) for Public Comment covering the Gaining and Losing Forms of Authorization (FOA), AuthInfo Codes, and NACKing transfers. It reviewed the Public Comment submissions and incorporated changes into the preliminary recommendations where appropriate. It has since conducted deliberations on its remaining charter topics, including those related to the Transfer Emergency Action Contact (TEAC), the Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy (TDRP), ICANN-approved bulk transfers, and the change of registrant requirements contained in the Transfer Policy.

On 1 August 2024, the working group published a second [Initial Report](#) covering all charter topics, including revisions to the recommendations contained in the first Initial Report. Following a comprehensive review of the Public Comment submissions, the working group delivered its Final Report, which includes 47 policy recommendations, to the GNSO Council in February 2025. The GNSO Council plans to vote on the Final Report.

# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

## Latin Script Diacritics PDP

The Latin Script Diacritics PDP will examine the circumstance where a base American Standard Code for Information Interchange gTLD and the Latin script diacritic version of the gTLD are not variants of each other. The PDP aims to develop an appropriate mechanism to allow a single registry operator to simultaneously operate both gTLDs. This issue has been recognized since the 2012 round of the New gTLD Program.

Accordingly, the GNSO Council received a detailed briefing during the [GNSO Council meeting on 25 October 2023](#). On 16 May 2024, the GNSO Council [requested](#) a [Preliminary Issue Report](#) on Latin Script Diacritics. The objective of the Preliminary Issue Report was for the ICANN organization to assess all relevant issues related to the GNSO Council request, and following input during Public Comment, to recommend a course of action to the GNSO Council. The Preliminary Issue Report opened for [Public Comment](#) on 18 July 2024 and closed with 41 submissions on 27 August 2024, all in favor of a PDP to commence.

Following the publication of the [Final Issue Report](#), which was presented to the GNSO Council on 17 October 2024, the GNSO Council [initiated](#) a PDP for Latin Script Diacritics on 13 November 2024. The Final Issue Report included a draft charter prepared by the ICANN organization, which was later updated and [adopted](#) on 19 December 2024.

The working group will hold its first working session to begin discussions as it develops its preliminary recommendations for the Initial Report.

## EPDP on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)

On 20 May 2021, the GNSO Council approved the [initiation request](#) for the EPDP-IDNs and adopted its [charter](#). In November 2022, the GNSO Council approved the [project change request](#) from the EPDP-IDNs Working Group to divide its work into two phases: Phase 1 focusing on topics related to top-level gTLD definition and variant management, and Phase 2 focusing on topics related to second-level variant management. The two-phased approach intended to help prioritize the current implementation planning of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP outputs that are focused primarily on the top-level and avoid potential delays for the implementation of the next round of the new gTLDs.

For Phase 1, the EPDP-IDNs Working Group finalized 69 outputs, which include 58 recommendations and 11 implementation guidance, pertaining to gTLD definition and variant management. The GNSO Council [approved](#) the EPDP-IDNs [Phase 1 Final Report](#) on 21 December 2023, and the ICANN Board [approved](#) 56 of the 58 final recommendations as of 7 September 2024.

The [Phase 2 Initial report](#) was published on 11 April 2024, shortening the Phase 2 timeline by 13 months. During the November 2024 GNSO Council meeting, the GNSO Council approved all 20 outputs, which include 14 recommendations and six implementation guidance, pertaining to second-level variant management documented in the [Phase 2 Final Report](#) and delivered the [Recommendations Report to the ICANN Board](#) in December 2024. Subsequently, the ICANN Board conducted a Public Comment proceeding on the Final Report until 3 February 2025, obtaining ICANN community input to help it reach a decision on the policy recommendations.

The ICANN Board is expected to take action on the Phase 2 recommendations, as required by the ICANN Bylaws.

# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

## [EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data](#)

In May 2018, the ICANN Board approved the Temporary Specification (TempSpec) for gTLD Registration Data to comply with both ICANN contractual requirements and the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation. This led to the EPDP-TempSpec within a year. The two-phase EPDP-TempSpec began in July 2018. Phase 1 concluded in March 2019, with [policy recommendations](#) to be implemented by the Implementation Review Team. Phase 2, ending in September 2020, addressed the [System for Standardized Access/Disclosure \(SSAD\) and other topics](#).

Furthermore, financial concerns and minority statements prompted an [Operational Design Assessment \(ODA\) for the System for Standardized Access and Disclosure \(SSAD\)](#). A small team, formed by the GNSO Council, found the ODA lacking and [recommended a “proof of concept” approach](#). Subsequently, the ICANN Board instructed the development of the [“Whois Disclosure System”](#) based on this recommendation.

The ICANN Board [directed](#) the ICANN organization in February 2023 to develop and launch the Whois Disclosure System, now called the Registration Data Request Service (RDRS), as requested by the GNSO Council. In November 2023, the RDRS launched, and the ICANN organization began collecting and publishing the metrics associated with its. In January 2024, ICANN released the [first RDRS metrics report](#).

One of the main purposes of the RDRS is to collect data about system usage, which will inform future discussions between the GNSO Council and the ICANN Board on the pending Recommendations 1–18 of the [Final Report](#) of the GNSO [EPDP-TempSpec Phase 2](#).

During ICANN81, the RDRS Standing Committee agreed to start drafting its final report that will be shared with the GNSO Council. The RDRS Standing Committee deemed that after one year the pilot had yielded enough data for it to start formulating recommendations to help inform policy discussions related to SSAD. The working session will take place on Wednesday, 12 March.

### **More Information**

Read the GNSO [Policy Briefing](#) to prepare for ICANN82.



# Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

## Session Details

Session times are in UTC-8. Please refer to the [ICANN82 schedule](#) for the most current information.

### Latin Script Diacritics PDP

Saturday, 8 March | 13:15–14:30

The Latin Script Diacritics PDP Working Group will hold its first meeting and is working toward developing its Initial Report.

### GNSO Council Working Sessions

Sunday, 9 March | 09:00–10:00, 10:30–12:00, 13:15–14:30

During its three working sessions, the GNSO Council will engage in dialogue on a number of important topics.

Agendas: [Session 1](#) | [Session 2](#) | [Session 3](#)

### Joint Session: GNSO Council and ICANN Board

Monday, 10 March | 15:00–16:00

### GNSO Council Meeting

Wednesday, 12 March | 13:15–15:15

The GNSO Council, the body responsible for managing the PDP for gTLDs meets on a monthly basis to discuss and address issues that affect the GNSO community.

[Agenda](#) | [Motions](#) | [Documents](#)



# At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

## What to Expect

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), Regional At-Large Organizations (RALO) leaders, At-Large liaisons, and other At-Large community members will hold 20 sessions. The sessions will include two At-Large plenary sessions, policy and operations sessions, four joint sessions, two sessions focused on community engagement, five RALO sessions, a welcome session, and a wrap-up session.

## Background

At-Large is the community of individual Internet users who participate in the policy development of ICANN. Currently, 266 At-Large Structures (ALSes) and 212 individuals are organized into five RALOs that represent the views of individual Internet users within ICANN.

The ALAC consists of 15 members and serves as the primary organizational home within ICANN for individual Internet users. The role of the ALAC is to consider and provide advice on the activities of ICANN as they relate to the interests of individual Internet users.

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

Learn more about the At-Large community, its activities, and how to join on the [At-Large website](#) and [At-Large workspace](#). Also, [two ICANN Learn courses](#) provide additional information on how to start and sustain involvement in the activities of the At-Large community.

## Session Details

### At-Large Plenary Sessions

The At-Large community will host two plenary sessions open to all members of the community.

- **Core Internet Values: Evolution and Challenges for ICANN**

While the concept of core Internet values has been a cornerstone of Internet architecture, seismic shifts in technology, governance models, and geopolitical dynamics necessitate adjustments to remain relevant in a rapidly evolving environment. This At-Large plenary session will examine how such adjustments could affect ICANN's remit and mission. The session will explore the balance between preserving foundational principles and adapting to emerging realities, leveraging insights from technological, governance, and geopolitical trends, alongside ICANN's operational experience. The discussion will also identify necessary changes, their implications for ICANN, and strategies to address these challenges while upholding its core purpose.

- **The Promise of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process and the New gTLD Round**

This session aims to explore whether the implementation of the New gTLD Program: Next Round is fulfilling its intended purpose according to stakeholder expectations, particularly in terms of its social impact and alignment with the Global Public Interest. This discussion is particularly timely as the next Applicant Guidebook (AGB) continues to be finalized. Based on ICANN community understanding of the successes and failures of the ongoing 2012 round and the status of the current implementation of the New gTLD Program: Next Round, this session seeks to identify gaps that should be dealt with before completion of the AGB.

# At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

## Policy Session

At-Large will host a session highlighting policy topics that are of interest to the At-Large community. This session will include an overview of At-Large policy initiatives and ongoing policy topics of importance to end users. The session will also feature an in-depth look at a singular policy issue. This session will provide interested community members with an opportunity to learn more about the policy interests of the At-Large community. Topics currently discussed within the At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group include the next round of new gTLDs, gTLD registration data, and DNS Abuse.

## Operational Advice Session

At-Large will host a session highlighting policy topics that are of interest to the At-Large community. This session will At-Large will host an At-Large Operations, Finance, and Budget Working Group session which will include discussions on the Continuous Improvement Program, the Pilot Holistic Review, and the draft operating standards for Specific Reviews. There will also be an update on global Internet governance activities.

## Joint Sessions

The ALAC will meet with the ICANN Board to discuss issues of mutual interest. The ALAC will host a joint session with the GAC, which will include discussions about the Inferential Analysis of Maliciously Registered Domains Report, DNS Abuse, and the joint priorities of the GAC and ALAC related to the WSIS+20 review. The ALAC will host a joint session with the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC), which is expected to include discussions on the Safer Cyber Campaign, a briefing about the ongoing topics of importance to the SSAC, and an exchange about general security and stability concerns that may impact end users. Finally, the ALAC will host a joint session with the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group, which will include discussions about DNS Abuse, the New gTLD Program: Next Round and its Applicant Support Program, and the Continuous Improvement Program.

## Community Engagement Sessions

At-Large will meet with ICANN82 Fellows and NextGen@ICANN participants. As part of a continuing focus on developing ways to better engage with ICANN Fellows and NextGen@ICANN participants, this session will provide information on the ALAC, At-Large, and the North American Regional At-Large Organization (NARALO). This session will include an opportunity for ICANN82 Fellows and NextGen@ICANN participants to learn about how to engage in At-Large.

The ALAC Community Engagement Subcommittee will meet to discuss the process to implement At-Large mobilization activities using the At-Large Campaign Playbook as a reference. At-Large mobilization campaigns focusing on the New gTLD Program: Next Round and its Applicant Support Program, DNS Abuse, and Universal Acceptance will be discussed.

## RALO Sessions

The five RALOs have several priority activities for ICANN82. The RALO leaders will host a **RALO Coordination Meeting**. Topics include issues which require joint RALO strategies and actions, including:

- A discussion with the ICANN organization Global Stakeholder Engagement team on the New gTLD Program: Next Round and the role of the RALOs.
- An opportunity to review the implementation of Fiscal Year 2025 strategic plans and engage in an initial discussion of Fiscal Year 2026 areas of focus.

The **African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO)** will hold its meeting on the theme of “**Advancing African Digital Identity in the Next Round of New gTLDs: Overcoming Barriers and Leveraging Support Opportunities**”. This will be the 37th meeting since 2010. The traditional AFRALO meeting will present an overview of the topic, discuss and approve a statement, and make recommendations to the ICANN community and the ICANN organization.

# At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

The NARALO will hold a series of sessions:

- The NARALO Roundtable on “**DNS Abuse and Artificial Intelligence (AI): Leveraging AI to Combat DNS Abuse**” aims to better understand the emerging capabilities of AI in pattern analysis and machine learning to either prevent or promote DNS Abuse. Insights from cybersecurity contexts for how AI technologies can identify, analyze, and potentially mitigate patterns of abuse will be discussed. There will be a focus on learning about approaches to detecting anomalies, leveraging machine learning for system protection, and addressing broader abuse issues that can inform DNS-specific challenges. The roundtable will address the potential impact on individual end users as it relates to user privacy and overall functioning of the DNS.
- The **NARALO Town Hall** will bring together NARALO, At-Large members, and others from the ICANN community to discuss outreach and engagement issues relevant to the NARALO region.

## Session Details

*At-Large session details are available on the [At-Large ICANN82 workspace](#).*





# Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

## What to Expect

The GAC is planning 28 hours of programming featuring a combination of substantive policy discussions, meetings with other ICANN community groups, capacity development opportunities, and preparation of the GAC Communiqué.

The GAC will continue its work on several key topics that have attracted attention from governments:

- New gTLD Program: Next Round and the Applicant Support Program
- Registration Data Services (RDS)/WHOIS and data protection policies
- DNS Abuse mitigation measures

In addition, GAC members will discuss various operational issues, including strategic planning, progress on its annual plan, and proposals to extend the term limits for future GAC chairs and vice chairs.

### Agenda

GAC sessions begin on Saturday, 8 March, with an overview of ICANN82 and introductions by all participating GAC representatives. The GAC chair will also review recent work, including:

- Correspondence
- Discussions with the ICANN Board stemming from GAC “Issues of Importance” set forth in the GAC ICANN81 Communiqué
- Plans for the joint session with the ICANN Board.

### Capacity Development

Over the last several ICANN Public Meetings, briefings for the onboarding of new GAC members have been migrating to webinars. New GAC delegates can learn about the basics of GAC operations and information needed before they attend their first GAC meeting. Several onboarding and introductory webinars are also available to GAC members between ICANN Public Meetings.

GAC capacity development emphasizes structural or policy development matters that expand the knowledge of all GAC participants. These sessions are evolving to include more regionally-relevant topics based on the location of each ICANN Public Meeting. In 2025, the GAC is focusing on helping its members to prepare for the next round of new gTLDs, including sessions about the Applicant Support Program and information exchange with ccTLD managers. The aim is for GAC members to understand how government representatives can exercise their rights and responsibilities. This programming approach ensures that advice from the GAC on public policy matters (and input on other operational matters) is informed and based on commonly understood factual foundations.

### Joint Sessions

The GAC typically meets with the ICANN Board, ALAC, and GNSO Council during ICANN Public Meetings. The GAC will also meet with the ccNSO and SSAC. These meetings will help maintain, reinforce, and expand channels of communication, share information and identify areas of common ground to help facilitate future collaboration.

# Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

## Background

GAC membership consists of national governments and distinct economies recognized in international forums. Multinational governmental and treaty organizations as well as public authorities also participate in the GAC in an observer capacity. There are currently 184 GAC Members and 39 GAC Observer organizations.

The GAC provides advice on the public policy aspects of ICANN responsibilities with regard to the Domain Name System. GAC consensus advice has a particular status under the ICANN Bylaws. Such advice must be duly taken into account by the ICANN Board, and if the ICANN Board proposes actions that would be inconsistent with GAC consensus advice, it must provide reasons for doing so and attempt to reach a mutually acceptable solution with the committee.

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

## Session Details

All GAC sessions will be open to the ICANN community and will feature simultaneous interpretation in the six UN languages and Portuguese. Details regarding specific GAC sessions can be found on the [GAC ICANN82 agenda webpage](#) where all session briefings, descriptions, materials, and presentations will be published.



# Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

## What to Expect

The RSSAC will conduct two RSSAC work sessions to advance its work and discuss various internal matters, including the implementation of [RSSAC047](#). The RSSAC will hold a joint session with the ICANN Board and continue to engage with the ICANN community by offering a tutorial on the Root Server System. Finally, The RSSAC will conduct its monthly meeting and will continue to raise awareness about its recent [publications](#).

## 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 Domain Name System 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 perform research and produce publications on topics relevant to the mission of the RSSAC.

The RSSAC Caucus Membership Committee appoints members of the RSSAC Caucus. In addition, all RSSAC members are members of the RSSAC Caucus. Currently, there are two active [work parties](#) in the RSSAC Caucus to study:

- Root server system security incident reporting, and
- Guidelines for changing root server addresses

The first RSSAC Caucus meeting in 2025 will be held during IETF 122 in Bangkok, Thailand.

## Session Details

*Session times are in UTC-8. Please refer to the [ICANN82 schedule](#) for the most current information.*

### How it Works: Root Server Operations

Sunday, 9 March | 10:30–12:00

### RSSAC Work Sessions

Sunday, 9 March | 13:15–14:30 and 15:00–16:00

### RSSAC Meeting

Wednesday, 12 March | 10:30–12:00

### Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and RSSAC

Wednesday, 12 March | 13:30–14:30



# Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

## What to Expect

The SSAC will host a workshop on Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and Security. DNSSEC continues to be deployed around the world at an accelerating pace. Now that DNSSEC has become an operational norm for many registries, registrars, and Internet service providers, this workshop will provide the opportunity to hear about what the SSAC is learning as it deploys and manages DNSSEC.

Additionally, the SSAC will conduct several work sessions including work party meetings, joint sessions with other ICANN community groups, and examining topics for future study. These sessions are open to the ICANN community to observe.

## 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.

### How Do I Participate in the SSAC?

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

## Session Details

*Session times are in UTC-8. Please refer to the [ICANN82 schedule](#) for the most current information.*

### SSAC Work Sessions

Saturday, 8 March | 13:15–14:30, 15:00–16:00, 16:30–17:30

Sunday, 9 March | 15:00–16:00

### SSAC Lightning Talks

Sunday, 9 March | 10:30–12:00

Tuesday, 11 March | 10:30–12:00

### SSAC Informational Session

Tuesday, 11 March | 09:00–10:00

### Joint Meeting: SSAC and ICANN Board

Wednesday, 12 March | 09:00–10:00

### SSAC Open Mic

Wednesday, 12 March | 10:30–12:00

### Joint Meeting: SSAC and ALAC

Sunday, 9 March | 13:15–14:30

### Joint Meeting: SSAC and GAC

Sunday, 9 March | 16:30–17:30

### DNSSEC and Security Workshop

Wednesday, 12 March | 13:15–14:30, 15:00–16:00,  
16:30–17:30