

ICANN84 Policy Outlook Report



84

ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING

DUBLIN



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Welcome to Dublin!



The Policy Development Support team has prepared the ICANN84 Policy Outlook Report to support your preparation for the ICANN84 Annual General Meeting (AGM). This report provides a high-level overview of the planned work and activities of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees during ICANN84.

The AGM is a six-day meeting focused on the advancement of policy and advice by the ICANN community. There will be two sessions on ICANN reviews, and the two ambassadors appointed by the United Nations to co-facilitate the 20-year review of the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) outcomes will participate in the “Geopolitical Forum: WSIS+20 Focus” session. Additionally, the ICANN Board will hold joint sessions with ICANN community groups to discuss issues of mutual interest.

The AGM is also an opportunity to recognize the ICANN community. During the Welcome Ceremony, the ICANN Board will announce the recipient of the Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building. We will also honor community leaders finishing terms of service and welcome new community leaders.

ICANN believes that 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 yields 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 this meeting either in person or remotely. No matter if you are an ICANN regular, an occasional participant, or a newcomer, please actively engage in this Policy Forum, and say hello if you see me.

Russ Weinstein

*Senior Vice President,
Policy Development Support*

Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

What to Expect

During ICANN84, the ASO will meet with the ICANN Board, the Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency (ISPCP), and the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC). Members of the Internet numbers community will also offer a “How it Works” session about the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs). The ASO conducts policy development work during RIR meetings and through [mailing lists](#).

The ASO is in the process of updating Internet Coordination Policy 2 (ICP-2). The second draft of the RIR governance document, which, if approved, would supersede and replace ICP-2, is available for Public Comment until 7 November 2025. During ICANN84, the ASO will hold information sessions to discuss this latest draft and the ongoing work.

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](#).

Session Details

ICANN Prep Week

Wednesday, 15 October | 16:00–17:00

Joint Meeting: ASO and GAC

Sunday, 26 October | 16:30–17:00

Joint Meeting: ASO and ISPCP

Tuesday, 28 October | 10:30–11:45

How it Works: Regional Internet Registries

Tuesday, 28 October | 15:00–16:00

Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and ASO

Wednesday, 29 October | 15:00–16:00

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

What to Expect

During the ccNSO sessions, the country code top-level domain (ccTLD) community and others with an interest in ccTLD-related matters 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 advancing information-sharing.

Over the weekend, a series of ccNSO working sessions will take place, open to everyone interested in the topic.

On Saturday, 25 October, the day will begin with a Birds of a Feather discussion on IANA data accuracy, where participants will consider the scope of a study and next steps for future ccNSO work in this area. The ccNSO Domain Name Abuse Standing Committee (DASC) will then focus on reviewing priorities and defining objectives to guide its upcoming activities. The Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC) will hold a session to advance its work plan, including ongoing projects and future priorities for ccTLD engagement in Internet governance. The Study Group on Disaster Recovery will consider IANA's potential role in ccTLD disaster recovery. To close the day, the ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC) and the Governmental Advisory Committee-UA-Internationalized Domain Names Working Group will hold a joint session to explore opportunities for collaboration in strengthening UA readiness.

On Sunday, 26 October, the ccNSO Council will meet in preparation for its 222nd meeting. The TLD-OPS Standing Committee will first hold a closed session to review ongoing operational matters, followed by an open working session aimed at supporting ccTLD operators in strengthening their ability to detect and mitigate security incidents. The Strategic and Operational Planning Committee will meet with ICANN's Finance and Planning team to provide input into ICANN and PTI's strategic, operational, and budgetary processes from a ccTLD perspective. Finally, the Guidelines Review Committee will hold a two-part workshop on how the ccNSO should implement the Continuous Improvement Program recommended by the ATRT3 Review, focusing on expectations, approaches, and possible next steps for the community.

Tech Day, a workshop open to all ICANN community members with an interest in technical, operational, and security topics, will take place on Monday, 27 October.

The ccNSO schedule on Tuesday, 28 October, will start with a welcome session for ccTLDs and others with an interest in the topic. Next, during the ccTLD News Session, ccTLD managers from different regions will share the latest developments relevant to their respective ccTLDs. The ccNSO Internet Governance Liaison Committee session at ICANN84 will explore the specific ways in which ccTLDs will shape the future beyond WSIS+20. Next, the ccNSO appointees to the ICANN Review of Reviews Cross-Community Group will solicit the views and expectations of the ccTLDs on the topic. During the final session on Tuesday, the ccNSO and the ICANN Board will hold a joint session to discuss issues of common interest.

On Wednesday, 29 October, the ccNSO schedule will kick off with a casual meet-up for ccNSO newcomers. The ccNSO schedule will continue with a joint session by the ccNSO and the GAC. This joint session will explore approaches and challenges in addressing domain name-related abuse, recognizing the diverse methods employed across regions while emphasizing the shared goal of ccTLDs and governments to reduce abuse. Part of a series that began at ICANN83, the ICANN84 session aims to deepen the discussion and foster greater cooperation among ccTLD operators, law enforcement, industry experts, and other stakeholders to mitigate Domain Name System (DNS) Abuse. The role of IANA in ccTLD disaster recovery remains uncharted territory. During the next session, the ccTLD community will explore and discuss different perspectives on IANA's potential role. Outcomes from the discussion will inform the ongoing work of the ccNSO Study Group on this topic. During a Q&A session, the ccNSO membership will have an opportunity to engage with candidates for the upcoming ccNSO Council elections. Participants may ask questions to all council candidates, and the candidate for ICANN Board Seat 11. During the final session on Wednesday, the ccNSO and RSSAC will provide an opportunity for both

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

groups to exchange updates, share perspectives, and discuss topics of mutual interest related to the operation, stability, and security of the DNS root and ccTLDs. The session aims to strengthen collaboration and foster ongoing coordination between ccTLD operators and the root server community.

On Thursday, 30 October, the ccNSO Council will meet. The detailed ccNSO schedule, including highlights of the topics covered and remote participation details for ICANN84, is available on the [ccNSO ICANN84 workspace](#).

Background

The ccNSO is one of the three Supporting Organizations within ICANN. Created in 2003 by and for ccTLD managers, the ccNSO develops and recommends 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 at 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.

Session Details

Session times are in UTC+1 on Saturday, and on UTC+0 from Sunday, 26 October onwards. Please refer to the ICANN84 schedule for the most current information, and [the ccNSO session highlights](#) for details regarding the ccNSO Members Meeting agenda, including a list of speakers, topics, and background materials.

[ccNSO Working Sessions](#)

Birds of a Feather (BoF) on IANA Data Accuracy

Saturday, 25 October 2025 | 09:00-10:00

The ccNSO will hold a BoF discussion on IANA data accuracy, where participants will consider the scope of a study and possible next steps for future ccNSO work in this area. e broader ccTLD community about their activities regarding the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions.

ccNSO Domain Name Abuse Standing Committee (DASC) work session

Saturday, 25 October 2025 | 10:30-12:00

The DASC will focus on reviewing priorities and defining objectives to guide its upcoming activities.

Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC) work session

Saturday, 25 October 2025 | 13:15-14:300

The IGLC will hold a session to discuss the latest developments regarding the 20-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), and how to advance its work plan, including ongoing projects and future priorities for ccTLD engagement in Internet Governance.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

Study Group on Disaster Recovery work session

Saturday, 25 October 2025 | 15:00-16:00

This session will consider IANA's potential role in supporting ccTLD disaster recovery.

ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC) and GAC UA-IDN Working Group (Joint Session)

Saturday, 25 October 2025 | 16:30-17:30

The UAC and GAC UA-IDN Working Group will meet jointly to explore opportunities for collaboration in strengthening Universal Acceptance readiness.

ccNSO Council prep meeting

Sunday, 26 October 2025 | 09:00-10:00

The Council will meet in preparation for its 222nd meeting.

TLD-Operational Security Standing Committee

Sunday, 26 October 2025 | 09:00-10:00 and 10:30-12:00

The TLD-OPS Standing Committee will first hold a closed session to review ongoing operational matters, followed by an open working session to support ccTLD operators in strengthening their ability to detect and mitigate security incidents.

Strategic and Operational Planning Committee (SOPC) work session

Sunday, 26 October 2025 | 13:15-14:30

The SOPC will meet with ICANN's Finance and Planning team to provide input into ICANN and PTI's strategic, operational, and budgetary processes from a ccTLD perspective.

Guidelines Review Committee (GRC) World Café on Continuous Improvement

Sunday, 26 October 2025 | 15:00-16:00 and 16:30-17:30

The GRC will hold a two-part workshop on how the ccNSO should implement the Continuous Improvement Program (CIP) recommended by the ATRT3 Review, focusing on expectations, approaches, and possible next steps for the community.

Tech Day

Monday, 10 June | 10:45 - 17:30

Since 2006, Tech Day has been a regular feature of ICANN Public Meetings. It offers a forum where both newcomers and experienced participants can meet, share presentations, and discuss technical and operational registry issues, security matters, and other DNS-related work. Open to all ICANN community members, this year's Tech Day will include sessions on technical, operational, and security topics, featuring a one-hour slot (15:00-16:00) by the ccNSO DNS Abuse Standing Committee (DASC) on the use of Artificial Intelligence tools in addressing domain name abuse.

ccNSO Members Meeting - Day 1

Welcome session

Tuesday, 28 October 2025 | 09:00-10:00

The chairs of the ccNSO Council and ccNSO Meetings Programme Committee (MPC) will welcome participants to the ccNSO Members Meeting and introduce the upcoming ccNSO sessions. In addition, representatives of the World Intellectual Property Organization and others will speak about services for ccTLDs.

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ccTLD News Session

Tuesday, 28 October 2025 | 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 people to meet, share experiences, and discuss ccTLD-related subjects.

IGLC: ccTLDs and IGFs: 20 Years of WSIS Implementation and the Road Ahead

Tuesday, 28 October 2025 | 13:15-14:30

At ICANN84, the ccNSO Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC) organizes a forward-looking dialogue on how ccTLDs can continue to build a robust, trusted, and inclusive digital future beyond WSIS+20. The IGLC has been established to coordinate, facilitate, and increase the participation of ccTLD managers in discussions and processes pertaining to Internet Governance.

ccTLD consultation on Review of Reviews

Tuesday, 28 October 2025 | 15:00-16:00

The ICANN Cross-Community Group on the Review of Reviews (CCG) is undertaking a fundamental evaluation of ICANN's review processes, as outlined in the Bylaws. This work considers reviews as a complete system, including their implementation, and aims to propose a refreshed review framework. During this ccNSO Members Meeting session, the perspectives and expectations of ccTLD managers regarding the review system will be solicited.

Joint session: ccNSO and ICANN Board

Tuesday, 28 October 2025 | 16:30-17:30

The ccNSO and the ICANN Board will hold a joint session to discuss issues of common interest.

ccNSO Members Meeting - Day 2

A Casual Meet-Up for ccNSO Newcomers

Wednesday, 28 October 2025 | 09:00-10:00

Join us for a relaxed meet-up where ccNSO newcomers and long-standing members connect, share experiences, and build community together.

Joint ccNSO-GAC Session on Domain Name Abuse

Wednesday, 29 October 2025 | 10:30-12:00

This joint session will explore approaches and challenges in addressing domain name-related abuse. While recognizing the diverse methods employed across regions, the discussion will emphasize the shared goal of ccTLDs and governments to reduce abuse. Part of a series that began at ICANN83, this ICANN84 session will deepen the discussion and foster greater cooperation among ccTLD operators, law enforcement, industry experts, and other stakeholders to mitigate DNS Abuse.

ccNSO Session on IANA's Potential Role in ccTLD Disaster Recovery

Wednesday, 29 October 2025 | 13:15-14:30

The role of IANA in ccTLD disaster recovery remains uncharted territory. In this session, the ccTLD community will explore and discuss different perspectives of IANA's potential role. The outcomes will inform the ongoing work of the ccNSO Study Group on this topic.

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

ccNSO Council Elections Q&A Session

Wednesday, 29 October 2025 | 15:00-16:00

During this question-and-answer session, the ccNSO Membership will have the opportunity to engage with candidates for the upcoming ccNSO Council elections. Participants may ask questions to all Council candidates, as well as the candidate for ICANN Board Seat 11.

Joint ccNSO–RSSAC Session

Wednesday, 29 October 2025 | 16:30-17:30

The ccNSO and the RSSAC will provide an opportunity for both communities to exchange updates, share perspectives, and discuss topics of mutual interest related to the operation, stability, and security of the DNS root and ccTLDs. The session aims to strengthen collaboration and foster ongoing coordination between ccTLD operators and the root server community.

ccNSO Council

Thursday, 13 June 2024 | 10:45-12:15

The ccNSO Council will have its 222th meeting at ICANN84. All Council meetings are open to observers. Topics for discussion 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 hold a public session on DNS Abuse to prepare for a probable policy development process (PDP) on DNS Abuse mitigation.

- The GNSO Council [requested](#) an Issue Report on DNS Abuse in August 2025 and in doing so, suggested three priority topics that should be included in the PDP on DNS Abuse mitigation that is expected to follow the completion of the Final Issue Report. The [Preliminary Issue Report](#) was published on 8 September 2025. ICANN.org is seeking [Public Comment](#) input on the Preliminary Issue Report on a PDP on DNS Abuse mitigation. In the Council's session at ICANN84, the goal is to begin preparations for the anticipated PDP by discussing two of the priority topics and for each, gaining an initial understanding of the various goals and interests across the community. This preparatory work is expected to provide the eventual PDP on DNS Abuse with a starting basis to conduct its deliberations. The session is scheduled to take place on Sunday, 26 October, from 10:30 to 12:00 Dublin local time, but please verify the [ICANN84 meeting schedule](#) for the confirmed time.

The GNSO Council will make progress on policy development initiatives during ICANN84:

- The Latin Script Diacritics (LD) PDP Working Group is working to finalize its recommendations for its Initial Report. The GNSO Council approved the project's plan on 10 April 2025 and the LD PDP Working Group has made substantial progress in a short period of time. The Working Group plans to host two work sessions during ICANN84 to finalize its preliminary recommendations as it prepares its Initial Report. Both LD PDP work sessions will take place on Saturday, 25 October in Dublin.

The Registration Data Request Service (RDRS) Standing Committee (SC), recently closed its Findings Report's [Public Comment](#).

- The RDRS SC is the committee of volunteers charged with reviewing RDRS metrics and making recommendations to the GNSO Council. The SC has completed its draft Findings Report to the Council, which recently closed its [Public Comment](#). The Findings Report provides [six recommendations](#) to the GNSO Council on how to potentially proceed with the RDRS and the EPDP Phase2/SSAD Recommendations based on almost two years of data review. The working sessions will focus on incorporating the Public Comments to the Findings Report and preparing the report for submission to the GNSO Council. The four working sessions are scheduled to take place on Saturday, 25 October, from 15:00 to 16:00 and 16:30 to 17:30; Sunday, 26 October, from 16:30 to 17:30; and Wednesday, 29 October, from 16:30 to 17:30 Dublin local time, but please verify the [ICANN84 meeting schedule](#) for the confirmed time.

Background

[Preliminary Issue Report DNS Abuse](#)

In early 2025, the GNSO Council reconvened its DNS Abuse Small Team with a revised assignment to re-examine DNS Abuse mitigation, considering new developments, research, and data. The previous Small Team (2021–2022) had identified obligation gaps and issued recommendations, some of which were addressed through contractual amendments to the Registry Agreement and Registrar Accreditation Agreement. Those amendments (effective since April 2024)

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

strengthened abuse mitigation obligations, and ICANN Contractual Compliance has since reported initial data on their impact. With these measures in place and new research available, the Small Team was tasked to consider new insights and discuss potential next steps on DNS Abuse. Drawing from community input, compliance data, and external studies, the team was tasked with identifying remaining gaps and assessing whether further policy development is warranted.

The DNS Abuse Small Team conducted a review of data and source documents noted in their assignment form, focusing on identifying potential gaps in DNS Abuse mitigation efforts across multiple phases of the DNS Abuse lifecycle (as proposed by the Small Team in 2022). The Small Team compiled a matrix of DNS Abuse “gaps,” noting areas where abuse prevention, reporting, response, or obligations could be strengthened after further investigating the identified gaps. Findings were categorized by thematic clusters to support potential prioritization and future policy scoping.

The GNSO Council [requested](#) an Issue Report on DNS Abuse in August 2025 and in doing so, suggested three priority topics that should be included in the s PDP on DNS Abuse that is expected to follow the completion of the Final Issue Report. The DNS Abuse Small Team, in alignment with community support, [recommended](#) a narrowly scoped PDP on three issues. While staff found all three issues to be within the remit of GNSO policy development, and two meriting prompt attention through initiating a PDP; one of the priority issues could be implemented outside the contractual requirements. Therefore, staff recommended initiating a PDP that is limited to focusing on only two issues: 1) Unrestricted Application Programming Interface access for high-volume registration and 2) Associated Domain Checks.

The DNS Abuse Small Team delivered its [report](#) to the Council in August 2025, who voted on it on 14 August. One of the recommendations was to initiate an Issue Report to further discuss the identified gaps and propose issues for a narrowly scoped PDP. The [Preliminary Issue Report](#) was published on 8 September 2025. [Public Comment](#) on the Preliminary Issue Report on a PDP on DNS Abuse mitigation recently closed. Feedback received will inform the Final Issue Report that the GNSO Council will consider in determining next steps, which could include the initiation of a PDP. In its session at ICANN84, the goal is to begin preparations for the anticipated PDP by discussing the two priority topics and gaining an initial understanding of the various goals and interests across the community for each. This preparatory work is expected to provide the eventual PDP on DNS Abuse with a starting basis to conduct its deliberations. The session is scheduled to take place on Sunday, 26 October, from 10:30 to 12:00 Dublin local time, but please verify the [ICANN84 meeting schedule](#) for the confirmed time.

[Transfer Policy Review PDP](#)

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

The working group delivered its [Final Report](#), which includes 47 policy recommendations, to the GNSO Council in February. On 12 March 2025, the GNSO Council voted to [approve](#) all forty-seven (47) policy recommendations from the Transfer Policy Review Working Group’s [Final Report](#). Subsequently, on 10 April 2025 the GNSO Council voted to [approve](#) the Recommendations Report to the ICANN Board regarding the Final Recommendations from the Transfer Policy Review Policy Development Process Working Group.

The ICANN Board opened a [Public Comment](#) period on the Final Report, and the ICANN community was invited to provide feedback. A [Summary Report](#) of the comments received was published on 2 July 2025. The ICANN Board will consider the Working Group’s Final Report, including public comment received.

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Latin Script Diacritics PDP

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

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

The GNSO Council approved the project's plan on 10 April 2025 and the LD PDP WG has made substantial progress in a short period of time. The LD PDP Working Group (WG) is working to finalize its recommendations for its Initial Report. The WG plans to host two working sessions during ICANN84 as it prepares its Initial Report. Both will take place on Saturday 25 October in Dublin.

EPDP on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)

On 20 May 2021, the GNSO Council approved the [initiation request](#) for an Expedited PDP (EPDP) on IDNs and adopted its [charter](#). In November 2022, the GNSO Council approved the [project change request](#) from the EPDP-IDNs Working Group (“the EPDP-IDNs Team”) to divide its work into two phases, with 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 was intended to help prioritize the current implementation planning of the SubPro PDP outputs that are focused primarily on the top-level and avoid potential delays for the implementation of the next round of new gTLDs.

Consequently, the GNSO Council [approved](#) the EPDP-IDNs [Phase 1 Final Report](#) on 21 December 2023, including all 69 Outputs, followed by the ICANN Board [adopting fifty-six \(56\) of the fifty-eight \(58\) final recommendations](#) by 7 September 2024.

For Phase 2, the GNSO Council approved all 20 Outputs (14 recommendations, and six pieces of implementation guidance) pertaining to second-level variant management documented in the [Phase 2 Final Report](#) on 13 November 2024, delivering the [Recommendations Report to the ICANN Board](#) in December 2024. The ICANN Board has since reviewed the Public Comment submissions. The ICANN organization is conducting its feasibility/impact analysis on Phase 2 policy recommendations to help the ICANN Board with its forthcoming decision.

The ICANN Board opened a [Public Comment](#) period on the EPDP-IDNs Phase 2 Final Report in December 2024. A [Summary Report](#) of the comments received was published on 18 February 2025. In accordance with the ICANN Bylaws, the ICANN Board is expected to take action on the Phase 2 policy recommendations, taking into account the comments received. There will be no sessions on this topic at ICANN84, but those interested can follow subsequent IRT sessions and Public Comment opportunities.

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 GDPR. This led to the EPDP-TempSpec within a year. The two-phase EPDP-TempSpec was initiated in July 2018. Phase 1 concluded in March 2019, with [policy recommendations](#) to be implemented by the ICANN Implementation Review Team. Phase 2, ending in September 2020, addressed [the System for Standardized Access/Disclosure \(SSAD\) and other topics](#).

Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)

Furthermore, financial concerns and minority statements prompted an [Operational Design Assessment \(ODA\) for the 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 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 the System. In January 2024, ICANN released the [first RDRS metrics report](#).

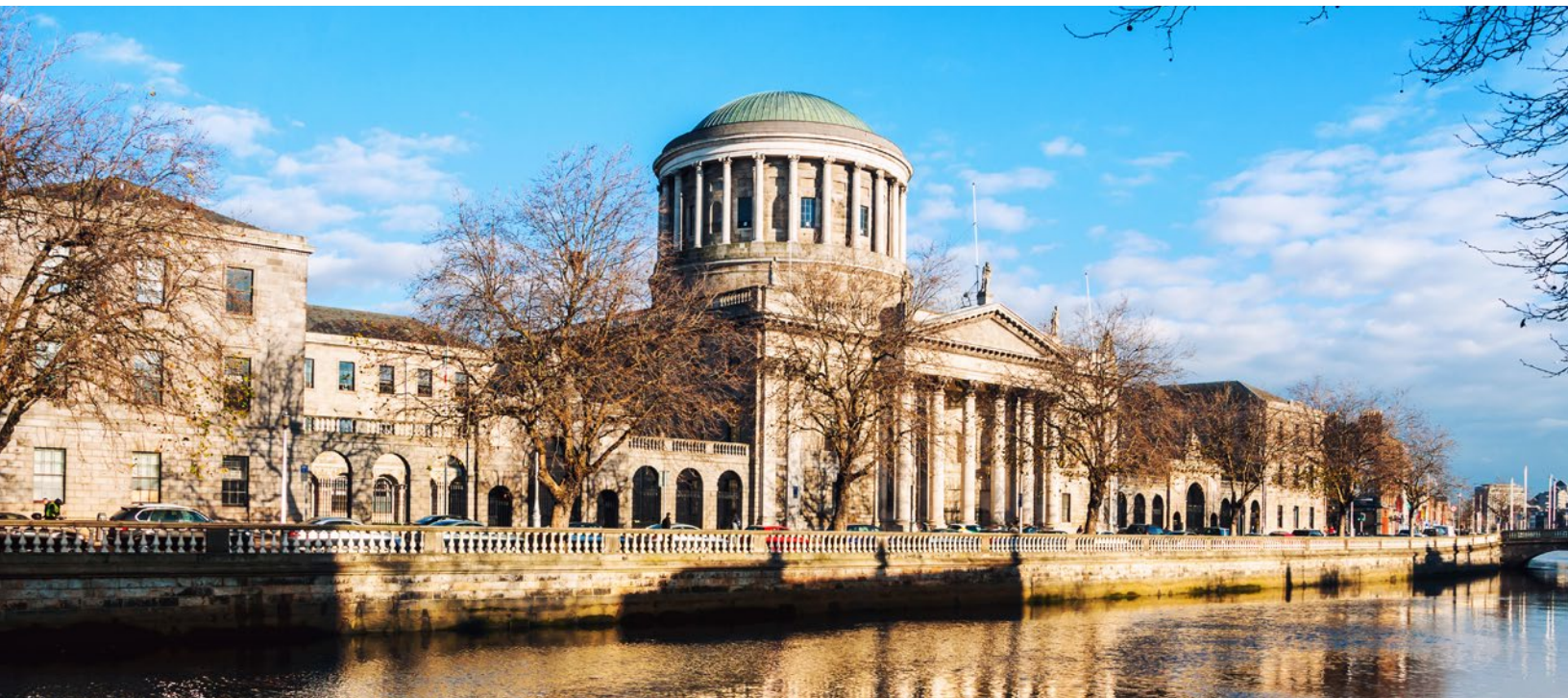
One of the main purposes of the RDRS is to collect data about system usage, which will inform future discussions between the GNSO Council and the ICANN Board on the pending Recommendations 1–18 of the [Final Report](#) of the GNSO [Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data 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 discussion related to an SSAD.

The RDRS Standing Committee will hold four working sessions during ICANN84. The Standing Committee has completed its draft Findings Report to the Council, which recently closed its [Public Comment](#). The Findings Report provides [six recommendations](#) to the GNSO Council on how to potentially proceed with the RDRS and the EPDP Phase2/SSAD Recommendations based on almost two years of data review. The working sessions will focus on incorporating the public comments to the Findings Report and preparing the report for submission to the GNSO Council.

More Information

Read the GNSO [Policy Briefing](#) to prepare for ICANN84.



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 18 sessions during ICANN84 in Dublin, Ireland. The sessions will include two At-Large plenary sessions, policy and operations sessions, four joint sessions, four RALO sessions, several leadership development sessions, which will include capacity building and team building activities, a welcome session, and a wrap-up session.

Background

At-Large is the community of individual Internet users who participate in the development of policy at ICANN. Currently, 266 At-Large Structures and 247 individuals are organized into five RALOs.

The ALAC – whose role is to consider and provide advice on the activities of ICANN as they relate to the interests of individual Internet users – consists of 15 members 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 divided into three tracks: policy advice, 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 ICANN community.

At-Large Plenary 1: RIRs at a Crossroads: Governance Gaps, Regional Challenges, and ICANN's Role

The African Network Information Centre crisis has exposed structural weaknesses in the accountability and trust frameworks of the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs). Governance failures in this system have not only disrupted access and undermined confidence for end users in affected regions but also opened the door for heightened geopolitical scrutiny. States, already skeptical of nongovernmental stewardship of critical Internet resources, have seized on these failures to question the legitimacy of the current model. This session will unpack these dynamics through the lens of both principle and power.

Plenary 2: Increasing Capacity in Underserved Regions: Registries and Registrars

This plenary will survey the existing requirements to becoming a registry operator and a registrar, the potential hurdles these present to those in underserved regions, and potential solutions to increase participation in these regions.

Policy Advice Session

The At-Large Consolidated Working Group will host a policy advice session highlighting policy topics that are of interest to the At-Large community. This session will include an overview of At-Large policy advice initiatives and ongoing policy topics of importance to end users. This session will provide interested participants with an opportunity to learn more about the policy interests of the At-Large community. Topics likely to be discussed include the New gTLD Program: Next Round Applicant Guidebook, and Internationalized Domain Names and Universal Acceptance.

At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Operational Advice Session

The At-Large Operations, Finance, and Budget Working Group session will include discussions on the implementation of [ALAC's FY26 Strategic Priorities and Core Activities](#), the ALAC's Continuous Improvements activities, and a presentation from the ICANN Planning team on the upcoming FY27–31 Operating and Financial Plan, ICANN/IANA FY27 Operating Plans and Budgets as well as the PTI FY27 Operating Plan and Budget.

Joint Sessions

The ALAC will hold four joint sessions to discuss issues of mutual interest. The ALAC will meet with the Board during ICANN84. They will discuss what the ALAC would like the Board's and ICANN's priorities to be in 2026 taking into consideration the new Five-Year Strategic Plan, the WSIS+20 review, and the recently launched Cross Community Group on the Review of Reviews. The ALAC will conduct a joint session with the GAC that will include discussions about DNS Abuse enforcement trends and transparency, a review of the Applicant Support Program mid-point assessment, and other shared priorities. The ALAC will hold a joint session with the SSAC that will include discussions on the Safer Cyber Campaign, an update from the SSAC on their recent activities, and other topics of mutual interest. The ALAC will also organize a joint session with the GNSO Noncommercial Stakeholder Group that will likely include discussions on the Review of Reviews Cross Community Group, the Human Rights Impact Assessment, and other topics of interest.

RALO Sessions

The five RALOs have several activities planned during ICANN84. The RALO leaders will host a RALO Coordination Meeting. Topics include issues that require joint RALO strategies and actions, including a discussion with the ICANN organization Global Stakeholder Engagement function.

The customary AFRALO-AFRICANN session will discuss the topic “Bridging the Digital Divide & Internet Fragmentation Risks”. The meeting will address Africa's challenges of unequal access, affordability, and emerging risks of Internet fragmentation. This will be the 39th meeting held since 2010.

The Asian, Australasian, and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO) will host a session with the ICANN84 NextGen participants. This informal session will provide an opportunity for the APRALO Leadership Team to meet with ICANN84 NextGens to introduce APRALO and explore engagement opportunities.

The European Regional At-Large Organization (EURALO) will hold two events. The first is a EURALO Round Table on Rethinking ICANN's Legitimacy: Internal Politics, External Pressures. The desired outcome of this session is a “WSIS+20 Legitimacy Signals” document, endorsed by community discussion, with practical steps and narrative points that ICANN leaders and community representatives can use in external dialogues. The second event is a EURALO Networking opportunity for EURALO members, fellows from Europe, as well as any potential new members.

More Information

Further information about the ALAC and the At-Large community and its various work efforts, processes, and operating principles can be found on the [At-Large website](#). For more information on At-Large activities during ICANN84, please visit the At-Large at [ICANN84 Wiki Workspace](#).

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

What to Expect

The GAC is planning over 27 hours of committee programming at ICANN84, featuring a combination of substantive policy discussions, bilateral meetings with other community groups, capacity development opportunities, and preparation of the traditional GAC Communiqué.

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

- The New gTLD Program: Next Round, including information from ICANN org about the Applicant Support Program and the Applicant Guidebook.
- Registration Data Services (RDS/WHOIS) and data protection policies
- DNS Abuse mitigation measures including an expected GNSO PDP

In addition, GAC Members will discuss various operational issues, including a focus on strategic planning matters during which the committee will agree on its annual plan for 2025–2026.

Onboarding and Capacity Development

Over the last several 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 the key points of information needed before they attend their first GAC meeting.

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. The committee's priority for 2025 continues to help GAC members prepare for the next round of new gTLD applications, expanding the understanding of the GAC's role in the processing of applications and how governments can exercise their rights and responsibilities within the ICANN system. The aim is for GAC members to understand how government representatives can exercise their rights and responsibilities and ensure that GAC advice on public policy matters (and input on other operational matters) is well-informed.

Maintaining and Strengthening Channels of Communication

The GAC traditionally convenes at every public meeting with members of the ICANN Board, the ALAC, and the GNSO. The GAC's ICANN84 meeting agenda will also accommodate bilateral sessions with the Address Supporting Organization (ASO), the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) and the GNSO's Non Commercial Stakeholders Group. These interactions help maintain, reinforce, and expand channels of communication, share information, and identify areas of common ground to help facilitate future collaboration.

GAC Core Meeting Week Agenda

The GAC Chair will formally open the GAC meeting at ICANN84 on Saturday, 25 October, with an overview of the meeting week and the traditional committee tour de table with introductions by all attending GAC representatives (both in person and online). Time permitting, the Chair will also review recent work progress and committee accomplishments since ICANN83, including GAC public correspondence, discussions with the ICANN Board stemming from GAC Advice and GAC Issues of Importance set forth in the ICANN83 GAC Communiqué.

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

Throughout the rest of the week, the GAC public meeting agenda will feature GAC strategic planning efforts for the next year and discussions on government priority matters such as, recent developments and expectations regarding preparations for the next round of new gTLDs (GAC Readiness), DNS Abuse mitigation matters, progress on RDS/WHOIS and data protection matters, and drafting of the GAC ICANN84 Communiqué.

GAC Meeting Logistics

The GAC has worked to integrate its agenda with other ICANN84 public and community plenary sessions as much as possible for the convenience of both in-person and virtual/remote attendees. The formal GAC Opening Plenary Session will commence at 0900 local Dublin time (0800 UTC) on Saturday 25 October. Subsequent daily gatherings will commence at 0900 local time (0800 UTC) throughout the meeting week.

All in-person and virtual attendees will leverage the Zoom meeting room format throughout the meeting week, and the Zoom room interface will be prominently displayed in the physical meeting room. As with all other ICANN public meetings, early registration by GAC member delegates (for in-person as well as virtual attendance) is highly encouraged to make sure that scheduling updates and other information can be shared with attendees in the days prior to the meeting.

Details regarding specific GAC plenary sessions can be found on the [GAC ICANN84 Hybrid Meeting Agenda](#) web page where all session briefings, descriptions, materials, and presentations will be published.

All GAC plenary sessions will be open to the entire ICANN community. Each GAC session will feature simultaneous remote interpretation in the six UN languages plus Portuguese.

The GAC principles of openness and transparency will be particularly evident during the GAC Communiqué drafting sessions scheduled for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the meeting week. The GAC continues to build on its Communiqué drafting process improvements from prior virtual and hybrid meeting formats. Based on those successful experiences, the GAC is, once again, providing opportunities for pre-meeting contributions from GAC Members and has scheduled nearly seven hours of document discussion and drafting time during ICANN84 – with additional preparation time that can be made available, if needed.

Background

GAC membership consists of national governments and distinct economies 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 184 GAC members and 41 GAC observer organizations.

The GAC provides advice on the public policy aspects of ICANN responsibilities regarding the DNS. GAC consensus advice has a particular status under the ICANN Bylaws. Such advice must be duly considered 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](#).

Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

What to Expect

The RSSAC will conduct a work session to advance its work on creating RSSAC001v3: Service Expectations of Root Server Operators. The RSSAC will hold two joint sessions: one with the ICANN Board and one with the ccNSO. The RSSAC will continue to engage with the ICANN community by conducting a “How it Works” session on the Root Server System and partnering with the SSAC to offer an open mic session. In addition, the RSSAC Caucus will hold its second meeting in 2025.

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 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 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 is one active [work party](#) in the RSSAC Caucus to update RSSAC001v2: Service Expectations of Root Server Operators.

Session Details

[RSSAC Work Sessions](#)

Sunday, 26 October | 15:00–16:00 and 16:30–17:30

[RSSAC Meeting](#)

Tuesday, 28 October | 13:15–14:30

[Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and RSSAC](#)

Tuesday, 28 October | 15:00–16:00

[How it Works: Root Server Operations](#)

Tuesday, 28 October | 16:30–17:30

[RSSAC/SSAC Open Mic](#)

Wednesday, 29 October | 09:00–10:00

[RSSAC Caucus Meeting](#)

Wednesday, 29 October | 10:30–12:00

[Joint Meeting: ccNSO and RSSAC](#)

Wednesday, 29 October | 16:30–17:30



Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

What to Expect

At ICANN84, the SSAC will conduct several work sessions including meetings for the DNSSEC Operational Considerations (DOC) and Responsible Integration into the DNS Ecosystem (RIDE) work parties on Sunday, 25 October. These sessions are open to the ICANN community to observe. For more interactive sessions, the SSAC is co-hosting an open mic session with the RSSAC and holding Lightning Talk sessions throughout the week. This is in addition to joint sessions with the At-Large Advisory Committee, the Governmental Advisory Committee, Contracted Parties House, and the ICANN Board.

The SSAC will host a workshop on Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and security during ICANN84. 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.

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

[SSAC Work Session: RIDE Work Party](#)

Saturday, 25 October | 13:15-14:30

[SSAC Work Session: DOC Work Party](#)

Saturday, 25 October | 15:00-16:00

[SSAC Lightning Talks](#)

Sunday, 26 October and Tuesday, 28 October | 16:30-17:30

[SSAC Joint Session with the ALAC](#)

Sunday, 26 October | 13:15-14:30

[SSAC Joint Session with the CPH](#)

Sunday, 26 October | 15:00-16:00

[SSAC Joint Session with the ICANN Board](#)

Tuesday, 28 October | 09:00-10:00

[SSAC Joint Session with the GAC](#)

Tuesday, 28 October | 15:00-16:00

[DNSSEC & Security Workshop](#)

Wednesday, 29 October | 13:15 - 17:30

