
GAC Meeting with the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

Session 19

Session Objective

The GAC and the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) will meet to discuss policy matters of common interest.

At ICANN81, the joint session will focus on the following issues:

1. Policy /procedural gaps IANA policies pertaining to ccTLDs,
2. WSIS+20: securing (ICANN's) multi-stakeholder model, and
3. DASC Survey results

Background

The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) is a body within the ICANN structure created for and by ccTLD managers.

The ccNSO provides a platform to nurture consensus, technical cooperation and skill-building among ccTLDs and facilitates the development of voluntary best practices for ccTLD managers. The policy development process is managed by the [ccNSO Council](#), which consists of 18 Councilors (15 elected by ccNSO members, three appointed by the ICANN Nominating Committee).

The GAC and ccNSO have been meeting, when deemed necessary, at ICANN Meetings in order to coordinate and discuss public policy issues of common interest.

The ccNSO appointed a new Liaison to the GAC, Sean Copeland, and the GAC is currently proceeding with the upcoming transition for Point of Contacts (PoC) this year. Their role is to facilitate policy and other internal community discussions among their groups and leaderships, while also preparing meeting agendas for joint sessions at ICANN Meetings.

Recent Developments in ccNSO of possible mutual interest to GAC members and ccTLDs

Agenda Item 1 - Policy Gap Analysis

Since the ICANN79 Meeting (October 2023), the ccNSO has been working closely with the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA), to identify, and analyze potential gaps in the current set of policies pertaining to country code Top Level Domains (ccTLDs), and whether such a gap stems from a shortcoming in policy, interpretation of policy, guidance to IANA under specific circumstances, or a gap in the procedures.

Established in 2024, the [ccNSO Policy Gac Analysis Working Group \(PGA WG\)](#), is tasked with identifying and addressing those 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.

At ICANN81, the PGA WG will present its findings to date and engage the GAC in the process.

Agenda Item 2 - WSIS+20

The ccTLD community and the GAC have shown a strong interest in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)+20 process, and participate in the WSIS+20 community group and informal discussion group.

At ICANN81, the goal will be to look for commonalities in the approach to WSIS+20.

Agenda Item 3 - Second DASC Survey Results

The ccNSO Domain Name System (DNS) Abuse Committee ([DASC](#)) is intended to maintain a dedicated forum for ccTLD Managers to discuss the important topic of DNS Abuse and to share information, insights, and practices. It is primarily aimed at ccTLD Managers who participate within the ICANN community but is not limited to ccNSO members, participation is voluntary. The overarching purpose is to raise understanding and awareness of the issues pertaining to DNS Abuse, promote open and constructive dialogue, and ultimately to assist ccTLD Managers in their efforts to mitigate the impact of DNS Abuse.

The DASC launched its second survey in September 2024 following the initial survey shared in September 2022, to uncover trends and understand the level of DNS Abuse mitigation practices across country code Top-Level Domains (ccTLDs).

Respondents in the first edition of the survey included both bigger and smaller organisations, both in terms of domain names under management and staff. Most respondents reported less than 0.1% of their names under management being affected by DNS Abuse.

Finally, the survey results revealed that even ccTLDs with limited resources - including funding and staff – can effectively mitigate DNS abuse, with the help of DNS abuse policies and procedures and monitoring tools.

Overall, the first DASC survey provided valuable insights into the current state of DNS abuse mitigation among ccTLD registries, and identified several areas for improvement, including collaboration, effective use of DNS reporting tools, resource allocation, and education to effective DNS abuse mitigation. This also includes raising awareness among policymakers and the broader public. Read more here: <https://ccnso.icann.org/en/workinggroups/dasc.htm> (see 2022 survey).

In Istanbul, the results of the second survey will be presented at the joint session between ccNSO and GAC.

Key Reference Documents

- [DASC second survey launch announcement](#)
- [ccNSO Working Groups](#)

Document Administration

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