
Meeting with the ICANN Board - Preparation and Meeting

Blocks 9 and 13

Session 9.1 - Preparation for Meeting with the ICANN Board

Session 13.1 - Meeting with the ICANN Board

Purpose and Background

One of the key operational features of an ICANN Public Meeting is that it creates the opportunity for the GAC to meet and interact with other ICANN groups, organizations and structures - to coordinate and resolve specific policy work and operational matters and to build channels of communication to facilitate future exchanges.

Within the ICANN multistakeholder community, the GAC has a fundamental relationship with the ICANN Board of Directors that is detailed in the ICANN Bylaws (see ICANN Bylaws Section 12.2(a)) and the Board-GAC meeting is a regular feature of every ICANN Public Meeting.

In addition to its separate relationship with certain Board members through the Board-GAC interaction Group (see briefing document for ICANN64 Session 9.2), the GAC sets aside two plenary sessions at every ICANN meeting that are devoted to both preparing for and then conducting the meeting with the full ICANN Board.

Relevant Developments and Previous Meetings

Recent GAC-Board Meetings have covered a range of subjects and topics and mostly center on the meeting agendas generally center around formal questions the GAC submits to the Board about three weeks before the start of the ICANN Public Meeting.

At ICANN64, in addition to the GAC questions, the ICANN Board Chair has indicated his interest in having a discussion with the GAC about the strategic direction of the organization. In preparation for the meeting the Board Chair has asked the GAC to share suggestions regarding the following three initiatives:

- The draft Strategic Plan 2021-2025;
- The first consultation paper on a 2-Year budgeting process; and
- The draft FY21-25 Operating Plan & Financial Projections that are expected to be published later this year.

The Board is also beginning to examine the status of ICANN's governance model and envisions beginning a community consultation on that topic in Kobe. Board members will likely be looking for some input from GAC members on this matter as well.

Agenda

Session 9.1 - GAC Preparation for Meeting with the ICANN Board

During this session the GAC typically reviews the proposed questions that have previously been shared with the ICANN Board (usually about three weeks in advance of the ICANN Public Meeting) and identifies any new issues that may have risen shortly before or during the public meeting that merit identification to or discussion with the Board.

Session 13.1 - GAC Meeting with the ICANN Board

As noted above, this session agenda will likely center around two major subject areas:

- (1) GAC feedback and suggestions to the Board about the strategic direction of the ICANN organization, and
- (2) Specific questions that the GAC has identified for the Board (the GAC questions are expected to be formally shared with the Board on 18 February 2019).

- Opening Remarks
- Follow-up on GAC Advice from the Barcelona Communiqué
- GAC Feedback to Board on Strategic Matters
- Dialogue on GAC questions posed to Board (see “Further Information” below)
- AOB

Further Information

Article 12 of the ICANN Bylaws -

<https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/bylaws-en/#article12>

ICANN Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2025 -

<https://www.icann.org/public-comments/strategic-plan-2018-12-20-en;>

ICANN First Consultation on a 2-Year Planning Process -

<https://www.icann.org/public-comments/two-year-planning-2018-12-21-en>

Questions/Topics Presented to the Board:

Topic 1: Release of two letter- letter characters /label to be used at second level (including gTLDs and ccTLDs)

Discussion:

The GAC leadership acknowledges the Board's response to GAC advice in the recent [scorecard document](#) and GAC discussions of those matters will take place in Kobe. The GAC leadership appreciates development of the two-character tool and expects that GAC members will not only have an opportunity to see a demonstration of the tool but will have been able to begin using it prior to meeting with the Board at ICANN64. GAC members may share their experiences and further reactions at that time with the Board.

Topic 2: IGO Protections

Discussion:

The GAC leadership appreciates the Board's response to GAC advice in the recent [scorecard document](#) and has engaged with the GNSO Council leadership to understand the status of current GNSO policy development efforts. GAC members are interested in the Board's understanding of where this issue currently stands.

Topic 3: Data Protection Regulations – The GNSO EPDP and a Unified Access Model

Discussion:

GAC members are closely following the GNSO EPDP effort, the ICANN's Technical Study Group on Access to Non-Public Registration Data (TSG) and are interested in an update on efforts by ICANN org to engage with Data Protection Authorities.

In light of the Board's acknowledgement of the ICANN62 Panama GAC Advice ("to take all steps necessary to ensure the development and implementation of a unified access model that addresses accreditation, authentication, access and accountability, and applies to all contracted parties, as quickly as possible)" and the recognition of the European Data Protection Board that ICANN should "develop ... a WHOIS model that will enable uses by relevant stakeholders, such as law enforcement", could the ICANN Board share its overall assessment of outcomes to date in the EPDP, the TSG and engagement of ICANN org with Data Protection Authorities, and what plans it currently has to ensure these efforts meet the needs of the global public interest?

Topic 4: Potential Future New gTLD Rounds

Discussion:

In Barcelona, the Board indicated it was prepared to "react and respond very quickly" (<https://63.schedule.icann.org/meetings/901518>) when the GNSO completes its New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP. Could the ICANN Board share its current consideration or perspective on the extent to which the various criteria established in the [Helsinki GAC Advice \(accepted by the Board\)](#) will be addressed prior to initiation of any new rounds of applications?

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