ICANN | GAC
Governmental Advisory Committee

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GAC Meeting with the ICANN Board - Preparation and Meeting

Session 11 - Preparation for GAC Meeting with the ICANN Board
Session 25 - GAC Meeting with the ICANN Board

Contents:

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 though 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. The GAC also hosts a meeting of the Board GAC Interaction Group (BGIG) which is covered by a separate briefing document.

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 ICANN66, 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.

Agenda

Session 11 - 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 25 - 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 before the meeting).

- Opening Remarks
- Follow-up on GAC Advice from the Marrakech Communiqué
- GAC Feedback to Board on Strategic Matters
- Dialogue on GAC topics/questions posed to Board
- AOB

The specific topics/questions the GAC has proposed to the Board are:

1. GDPR/WHOIS Matters -

Regarding this important community topic, GAC members will share with the Board:
· GAC expectations for concluding the EPDP Phase 2 effort in a timely manner;
· GAC support for ICANN seeking greater clarity and guidance from European Data Protection Authorities; and
· GAC support for ICANN to express the expectation that a process for developing and implementing an access/disclosure model be articulated and agreed including an anticipated deadline for completing.

2. DNS Abuse Mitigation -

As it sets out to implement new strategic objectives relating to DNS Abuse, can the Board elaborate on the operational steps it intends to take to:

1. promote "a coordinated approach to effectively identify and mitigate DNS security threats and combat DNS abuse"? and
2. maintain itself as a "source of unbiased, reliable, and factual information on DNS health? In particularly does ICANN intend to take steps to:

ICANN|GAC
Governmental Advisory Committee

ICANN
ANNUAL GENERAL
MONTRÉAL
2–7 November 2019

66

a. *increase transparency about actors responsible for systemic abuse (especially in connection with DAAR and ICANN Compliance complaints and dispositions)?; and*
b. *convene relevant stakeholders for discussions on new contractual provisions in ICANN's contracts, consistent with the relevant CCT Review Recommendations?*

3. Policy Implementation and Operational Readiness for a Subsequent Round of new gTLDs - GAC Views of ICANN org Current "Working Assumptions" –

Can the ICANN Board report on the Community's reception of ICANN org's assumption and how it intends to keep ICANN org's preparation work aligned with ongoing policy development and implementation of reviews recommendation, in light of applicable GAC Advice?

GAC members will have an opportunity to review and potentially fine-tune these questions during the Session 11 preparation time.

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

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