
Meeting of GAC Working Group to Examine the GAC's Participation in NomCom

Session 5 - Meeting of GAC NomCom Working Group

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Session Objective

During this session, members of the GAC Working Group to Examine the GAC's Participation in NomCom will review and finalize recommendations the working group has made to the GAC regarding the criteria the Nominating Committee should take into account when considering candidates for ICANN leadership positions. The working group will be looking for GAC endorsement of the recommendations for submitting to the 2020 Nominating Committee.

Purpose and Background

The Working Group on GAC Participation in NomCom (hereinafter “NomCom Working Group”) was created in 2014 and is chaired by Olga Cavalli (Argentina). The NomCom Working Group was originally created to assess and analyze options for GAC participation in the ICANN Nominating Committee (NomCom).

The ICANN Nominating Committee (NomCom) is an independent committee tasked with identifying and selecting individuals for ICANN leadership positions. Nomcom representatives are appointed by the different Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. The ICANN Bylaws call for the NomCom to make a specified number of appointments to the ICANN Board of Directors (Board), the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council, the Country-Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council, and the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC).

Section 8.2 (e) of the ICANN Bylaws provides the GAC with a non-voting liaison position on the NomCom and Section 12.2(a)(vi) of the ICANN bylaws states that the GAC “shall annually appoint one non-voting liaison” to the NomCom. The GAC position on the NomCom has been vacant for some years as there have been divergent views about appointing a GAC representative to this role.

As an alternative to appointing a NomCom member, the GAC agreed to submit to the Nomcom a group of recommendations that Nomcom members should have available when considering, evaluating and selecting candidates for ICANN leadership positions. The Nomcom has requested the GAC to send these recommendations every year.

During ICANN62 in Panama, the GAC discussed a number of proposals from the NoCom Working Group to be presented by the GAC to the NomCom for the NomCom to consider using in selecting members for the ICANN Board. Those recommendations included:

- The personal qualities and experience identified by the ICANN Board in its periodic advice to the NomCom
- Experience of working with or in the public sector, including national or local government, public authorities or inter-governmental bodies.
- An understanding and appreciation of advancing the public interest through building partnerships and consensus
- Experience in the multicultural setting and understanding of the value and importance of diversity for ICANN as a global coordinator of the Domain Name System

The GAC agreed to formally submit those recommendations and they were transmitted to the NomCom in August 2018 (see [GAC Chair Letter Regarding NomCom Criteria](https://gac.icann.org/contentMigrated/gac-chair-letter-regarding-the-nomcom-criteria) - [https://gac.icann.org/contentMigrated/gac-chair-letter-regarding-the-nomcom-criteria.](https://gac.icann.org/contentMigrated/gac-chair-letter-regarding-the-nomcom-criteria))

Recent Developments

Since the ICANN65 Marrakech meeting, members of the NomCom WG have reviewed the 2018 NomCom criteria as a baseline for recommendations for what criteria the GAC could share with the 2020 Nominating Committee.

The NomCom Working Group intends to share those recommendations with the GAC prior to the ICANN66 Montreal meeting and then discuss them with GAC members during the plenary session on 1 November.

Agenda

At ICANN66, the working group will consider the following preliminary plenary session agenda:

- Introductions
- Background of GAC Relationship with the Nominating Committee

- Discuss annual resubmission of GAC recommendations to the NomCom for Board selection criteria
- Discussion of potential future consideration of GAC resuming its place on the NomCom
- AOB

Further Information

- 2020 ICANN Nominating Committee Public Web Page - (not yet published)
- 2019 ICANN Nominating Committee Public Web Page - <https://www.icann.org/nomcom2019>
- ICANN Board 2018 recommendations to ICANN Nominating Committee (December 2018) - <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/chalaby-to-nomcom-21dec18-en.pdf>
- GAC 2018 Recommendations to 2019 ICANN Nominating Committee - <https://gac.icann.org/contentMigrated/gac-chair-letter-regarding-the-nomcom-criteria>

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