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## GAC ICANN70 Wrap-Up Session

### Session # 18 - GAC Wrap-Up Session

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#### Session Objectives

Based on the GAC's productive experiences during virtual meetings in 2020, a final GAC "wrap-up" session has been scheduled at ICANN70 to enable the GAC to conduct follow-up discussions regarding any timely topics or issues that arise during the ICANN70 meeting week. This additional flexible time can be used by GAC Members to discuss specific follow-up or next-step activities that may be triggered during the meeting week.

#### Evaluation of Communique Drafting Effort

During this session, GAC Members will have the opportunity to share their views about the ICANN70 Communique drafting process. Recent developments regarding several GAC priority matters may prompt drafting discussions at ICANN70 and an assessment of that work will inform improvements to the Communique development process for future meetings.

#### GAC Operational Matters

The GAC was informed in early February 2021 that two internal committee working groups were being considered for retirement: 1) the *GAC Working Group to Examine the Protection of Geographic Names in Any Future Expansion of gTLDs* and 2) the *GAC Working Group to Examine the GAC's Participation in NomCom*. It was noted at the time that the focus of these two working groups seem to have been subsumed by other GAC initiatives (i.e., the Geo Names WG) or currently do not

require ongoing active work that could not otherwise be handled from time to time by the GAC as an entire committee (e.g., the NomCom WG). While these are primarily administrative considerations, they do impact overhead and operational attention that could be devoted to other priority areas.

Feedback provided to the GAC staff in February 2021, evinced support for the proposed retirement of the two identified working groups, but it was agreed that no decision would be made until at least the ICANN70 public meeting.

## **Review of New GAC Information Tools**

### GAC Action/Decision Radar Review

As part of its efforts to better inform GAC Members and Observers about existing and upcoming priorities and work efforts, the GAC Leadership has approved GAC Support staff efforts to create an Action/Decision “radar” document that is intended to track existing and anticipated actions requiring GAC decisions on policy and operational matters. A draft action/decision radar document has recently been reviewed and beta tested by the GAC Leadership and a few GAC members. The draft tool will be shared with the full GAC for feedback and comments.

### GAC Web Site Plans

GAC Support staff has recently been working with ICANN org support staff to ensure that the GAC web site continues to offer committee participants a productive user experience. In reaction to participant feedback about user experiences on the current site, work is under way to modernize the look of the site consistent with developments on the ICANN.org website. Although fundamental changes cannot be made to the site’s technical infrastructure, it is hoped that upcoming changes will improve navigation of the site and allow participants to more effectively use this resource. In the meantime, the GAC Support staff is developing content that will be used to familiarize new committee participants with the capabilities of the web site.

## **Transition to New (2021-22) GAC Leadership Team**

The new GAC Leadership begins its term at the conclusion of the ICANN70 Meeting. The new team for the 2021-22 term will be:

- Manal Ismail (Egypt) - GAC Chair
- Jorge Cancio (Switzerland) - Vice Chair
- Guiguemde Ragnimpinda Jacques Rodrigue (Burkina Faso) - Vice Chair
- Pua Hunter (Cook Islands) - Vice Chair
- Pär Brumark (Niue) - Vice Chair

## **Further Information**

Active GAC working groups continue to make progress between ICANN public meetings in their various areas of focus and expertise. As developments warrant, these working groups update their individual working group web pages. GAC Members and Observers are invited to review those pages for additional progress updates.

## GAC Working Group Web Page links:

- GAC Working Group on Human Rights and International Law - <https://gac.icann.org/working-group/gac-working-groups-on-human-rights-and-international-law-hril-wg>
- GAC Focal Group on Subsequent Rounds of New gTLDs - <https://gac.icann.org/working-group/gac-focal-group-on-subsequent-rounds-of-new-gtlds>
- GAC Operating Principles Evolution Working Group - <https://gac.icann.org/working-group/gac-operating-principles-evolution-working-group-gope-wg>
- GAC Working Group on Under-Served Regions - <https://gac.icann.org/working-group/gac-working-groups-on-under-served-regions-usr-wg>
- GAC Public Safety Working Group - <https://gac.icann.org/working-group/gac-public-safety-working-group-pswg>
- GAC Universal Acceptance and Internationalized Domain Names Working Group - <https://gac.icann.org/working-group/gac-universal-acceptance-and-internationalized-domain-names-working-group-ua-idn-wg>

## Document Administration

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