

GAC Opening Plenary Session

Session # 1 - Opening Plenary

Contents

Session Objective	p.1	Session Agenda	p.1	Recent Developments	p. 2	Key Reference Documents	p.3
-----------------------------------	-----	--------------------------------	-----	-------------------------------------	------	---	-----

Session Objective

The GAC Opening Plenary Session is the first opportunity for GAC participants to gather, introduce themselves and prepare for the ICANN Public Meeting week. During this session the GAC Chair typically (1) provides a “state of the committee” review, (2) summarizes the GAC meeting agenda for the week and (3) identifies topic highlights and priority matters that merit GAC Member focus and attention.

Session Agenda

During this ICANN74 opening session, the GAC Chair plans to report on the committee efforts made regarding action items and next steps identified during the ICANN73 Virtual Community Forum. The Chair will also highlight a number of substantive and operational matters that the committee is currently addressing and identify a number of work efforts that will attract committee attention in the coming months.

During the session, GAC working group leaders and policy topic leads may also offer updates on their work progress on various matters. GAC participants will be invited to share comments on their meeting goals and expectations.

In this hybrid meeting format the committee will also return to the traditional “tour de table” ceremony during which all GAC delegates will be invited to introduce themselves. First, in-person delegates will identify themselves, followed by remote participants who raise their hands to indicate their desire to speak.

Time permitting, GAC members will review the Communique drafting process for ICANN74. The process has slowly evolved in the past two years and attendees will be familiarized with how some of those recent innovations will be encompassed in the hybrid meeting format.

Recent Developments

GAC Chair Reporting

The GAC Chair will likely report on recent discussions among ICANN Community leaders from other ICANN Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees and recent discussions among the Board-GAC Interaction Group (BGIG).

Since ICANN73, the GAC has sent and received written correspondence regarding various matters of importance to GAC members including the GAC ICANN73 Communique (ICANN Board), ICANN Specific reviews (ICANN org), recommendations regarding Phase 2A of the GNSO Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data (Board), response to GNSO request for community input on DNS Abuse policy making (GNSO), a request for the release of the AU acronym from the ICANN IGO Reserved Names List (Board), and dialogue regarding a potential Board-facilitated process for GAC/GNSO discussions on the topic of closed generics (Board).

Incoming and outgoing correspondence documents related to those matters and others since ICANN73 are posted and tracked on a special web page of the GAC website which can be accessed here - <https://gac.icann.org/advice/correspondence/>.

During the ICANN73 Virtual Community Forum, the GAC Support Staff noted a number of follow-up matters and action items agreed to among GAC attendees. Those items are tracked via a google collaboration document that can be accessed here - <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1q2jyGHjk1MQHoUYj2k1hJPDAw5TAebMRWqG98Go6eEY/edit#gid=721141591>.

GAC Working Group and Topic Reporting

GOPE WG - Working group members will report on progress regarding the long term WG work plan - particularly the conclusion of work on working group guidelines that may be ripe for committee acceptance at ICANN74.

HRIL WG - Working group members will report on cross community information sharing regarding Work Stream 2 - Accountability recommendations collectively impacting various ICANN communities - including the GAC.

IGO Protections - Attendees will learn about recent developments regarding the Final Report of the GNSO EPDP on Specific Curative Rights Protections for IGOs, as appropriate, and development of proposed GAC mechanisms to update the GAC IGO list for protection in gTLDs.

GAC Operational Reporting

2022 GAC Leadership Elections - Time permitting, GAC Support staff may alert GAC Members about key dates and deadlines for the upcoming 2022 GAC Leadership election Nomination Period.

Key Reference Documents

- GAC ICANN73 Action Points (Google Doc) - <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1q2jygHjk1MQHoUYj2k1hjPDAw5TAebMRWqG98Go6eEY/edit#gid=1067667374>
- GAC Public Comment Opportunities Web Page - <https://gac.icann.org/activity/gac-public-comment-opportunities>
- GAC Correspondence Web Page - <https://gac.icann.org/advice/correspondence/>

Document Administration

Title	ICANN74 GAC Opening Plenary Session
Distribution	GAC Members and Public
Distribution Date	Version 1: 3 June 2022

GAC Discussion on Subsequent Rounds of New gTLDs

Session #2

Contents

Session Objective	p.1	Leadership Proposal for GAC Action	p.1	Current Status and Recent Developments	p.2	Key Reference Documents	p.3
-----------------------------------	-----	--	-----	--	-----	---	-----

Session Objectives

GAC Members to 1) Review background of new gTLDs, 2) Review recent developments on the Operational Design Phase, 3) Review GAC positions on key topics for potential GAC Advice to the ICANN Board relative to Subsequent Rounds of New gTLDs and 4) Discuss proposed Board-facilitated dialogue with the GNSO Council on Closed Generics.

Leadership Proposal for GAC Action

1. GAC to receive ICANN org updates on the background of new gTLDs and the ongoing Operational Design Phase (ODP) and consider contributing as warranted consistent with GAC positions on issues of importance to the GAC.
2. GAC Members to discuss priority topics pertaining to the SubPro PDP WG Final Report with the aim to prepare, if needed, potential GAC Consensus Advice and/or any other input for the ICANN Board.
3. GAC to receive an ICANN org review of the background of the 2017 GAC/GNSO dialogue on IGO and Red Cross Identifiers
4. GAC to discuss the proposed Board-facilitated GAC/GNSO Small Group on Closed Generics.

Current Status and Recent Developments

Operational Design Phase (ODP)

To help inform its discussion on whether the outputs of the [Subpro PDP WG Final Report](#) are in the best interest of the ICANN community or ICANN, in September 2021, the ICANN Board [approved](#) the initiation of an Operational Design Phase (ODP). The ODP is a process in which ICANN org develops and provides the ICANN Board with relevant information to facilitate the Board's determination of whether the Policy Development Process recommendations are in the best interest of the ICANN community or ICANN.

After a three-month ramp-up period, the ODP started on 3 January 2022. The ICANN Board has asked that ICANN org submit the Operational Design Assessment (ODA), the final output of the ODP 10 months after its start.

The ODA will provide the Board with an understanding of the operational impacts of accepting the recommendations, including potential obstacles, expected costs, and the timeline to implementation. More information on the ODP process can be found on the [ODP webpage](#).

Closed Generics

As part of the ODP work, several policy issues were identified for the ICANN Board to address, including closed generics, since the SubPro PDP WG did not reach consensus on policy recommendations on closed generics. [GAC advice from 2013](#) states that *“for strings representing generic terms, exclusive registry access should serve a public interest goal”*.

The ICANN Board discussed the possibility for a GAC/GNSO collaboration - with ICANN Board facilitation - in a small focused group with subject matter experts from both groups to attempt the development of a framework for closed generics. The focus for this small group would be to find a compromise solution on closed generics, taking into account the GNSO position of allowing closed generics, with the GAC position of serving a public interest goal.

In March 2022 the ICANN Board [reached](#) out to the GAC and GNSO Chairs to identify interest in this process, followed by a subsequent [letter](#) including a framing paper outlining roles and responsibilities, the process and expected timing. Both the GAC and GNSO have agreed in principle to this dialogue taking place, but the timing and process is yet to be determined.

Should the GAC and GNSO reach agreement on a framework, the broader community will be invited to provide feedback. Following community input, the proposed framework – if agreed upon – can be considered through the appropriate GNSO policy development process. If the dialogue does not result in a mutually agreed framework, the Board will need to consider appropriate next steps.

ICANN74 Focus and Next Steps

ICANN74 provides an opportunity for the GAC to review its materials and positions on subsequent rounds of new gTLDs in preparation for submission of potential GAC Advice to the ICANN Board regarding the next round of new gTLDs.

Additionally, GAC membership may wish to monitor and consider contributing to studies and

deliberations of either (or both) Operational Design Phase and Implementation Review Team, consistent with GAC positions on issues of importance to the GAC.

Now that the ICANN org has begun the Operational Design Phase, next steps with varying timelines include:

- i. ICANN org to conduct ODP and deliver Operational Design Assessment (ODA) to the ICANN Board for consideration;
- ii. ICANN Board consideration of the PDP recommendations as adopted by GNSO Council - opportunity for GAC Consensus Advice to the ICANN Board;
- iii. ICANN Board vote;
- iv. ICANN org (as directed by the Board) to begin implementation of the policy recommendations (which will likely include a revised Applicant Guidebook).

Upon completion of these successive steps ICANN org would be expected to start a new round of applications for gTLDs, timing to be confirmed.

Key Reference Documents

- [Final Report on the new gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP WG](#)
- [GAC Consensus Collective Comment](#) (1 June 2021) on GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Final Outputs for ICANN Board Consideration.
- New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures ODP [Scoping Document](#).
- Board-Facilitated Process for a GAC-GNSO Council Dialogue on Closed Generics: a [Framing Paper](#)

Further Information

- GAC Policy Background Document on Subsequent Rounds of New gTLDs:
<https://gac.icann.org/briefing-materials/public/gac-policy-background-new-gtlds-subsequent-rounds.pdf>

Document Administration

Title	ICANN74 GAC Session Briefing - Subsequent Rounds of New gTLDs
Distribution	GAC Members and Public (before meeting)
Distribution Date	Version 1: 3 June 2022

GAC Meeting with the GNSO Council

Session #3

Contents

Session Objectives	p. 1	Key Reference Documents	p.2	Further Information	p.2	Background	p.2
------------------------------------	------	---	-----	-------------------------------------	-----	----------------------------	-----

Session Objectives

The GAC and Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) meet at ICANN Meetings to discuss policy matters of interest to both parties.

This session will focus on an exchange on the following topics:

1. Subsequent Procedures for New gTLDs
 - a. Closed Generics Board Facilitated Dialogue
 - b. GNSO Guidance Process
2. DNS Abuse;
3. Accuracy;
4. AOB
 - a. SSAD Light
 - b. ICANN priorities
 - c. Global Public Interest (GPI) follow-up
 - d. UDRP

The GAC and Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) meet at ICANN Meetings to discuss policy matters of interest to both parties. This session will focus on:

1. Subsequent Procedures for New gTLDs
 - a. Closed Generics Board Facilitated Dialogue
 - b. GNSO Guidance Process
2. DNS Abuse
3. Accuracy
4. AOB
 - a. SSAD Light
 - b. ICANN priorities
 - c. Global Public Interest (GPI) follow-up

Key Reference Documents

For additional insights on topics that may be discussed during this session, please review the pre-meeting GAC topic briefings on:

- DNS Abuse Mitigation;
- RDS/WHOIS and Data Protection Policy; and
- Subsequent Rounds of New gTLDs.

Further Information

Further information about the GNSO and its policy development process is available at <http://gnso.icann.org/en/about>. GNSO web site – <https://gnso.icann.org/en>

Background

With the pace of GAC participation in ICANN policy development activities changing in recent years, it has been observed that information sharing with various parts of the ICANN community is more valuable than ever to help GAC members understand the context of various DNS issues. At recent public meetings, the GAC has interacted with various community groups from the gTLD space including business, intellectual property and non-commercial interests. This meeting with the GNSO Council will continue that strategic communications approach.

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) is a body within the ICANN community responsible for developing and recommending to the ICANN Board substantive policies

relating to generic top-level domains. The GNSO is the largest Supporting Organization within the ICANN framework.

The GAC normally meets with the Chair and other members of the GNSO Council at each ICANN public meeting to discuss issues of common concern and identify methods for better cooperation. The current Chair of the GNSO Council is Philippe Fouquart. Vice Chairs are Pam Little and Tatiana Tropina. The GNSO Liaison to the GAC is Jeff Neuman. The GAC's point-of-contact to the GNSO is Jorge Cancio (Switzerland).

The GNSO is a "federation" of different stakeholder groups. It is made up of two "Houses" - one "house" for parties contracted to ICANN (Registries and Registrars) and a second "house" for other non-contracted parties – commercial and non-commercial interests.

The GNSO Council and the GNSO stakeholder groups have different roles within the GNSO. The Council undertakes the role of manager of the policy development process. The Council is populated by representative members of the various GNSO stakeholder groups and constituencies. Comparatively, the stakeholder groups themselves (including the Registry Stakeholder Group (RySG) and the Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG)) are focused on operational considerations, sharing information and helping their members understand the overall GNSO activities and responsibilities. Various stakeholder groups participate directly in policy development working groups.

Prior to ICANN Public Meetings, the leadership teams of both the GNSO Council and the GAC meet via teleconference to identify the most pressing issues that merit further face-to-face discussions at the upcoming meeting.

Document Administration

Title	ICANN74 GAC Session Briefing - GAC Meeting with GNSO Council
Distribution	GAC Members and Public (before meeting)
Distribution Date	Version 1: 3 June 2022

RDS/WHOIS and Data Protection Policy

Session 6

Contents

Session Objective	p.1	Leadership Proposal for GAC Action	p.2	Current Status and Recent Developments	p.3	Key Reference Documents	p.8
-------------------	-----	------------------------------------	-----	--	-----	-------------------------	-----

Session Objective

This session aims to discuss status and consider possible next steps for the GAC in relation to deliberations and implementation efforts aiming to establish a new WHOIS/Registration Data policy regime taking into account relevant Data Protection law. The GAC will be briefed on latest developments and related policy concerns, possibly in connection with EPDP Phase 1 Implementation, the System for Standardized Access and Disclosure (SSAD) proposed as part of EPDP Phase 2, EPDP Phase 2A Policy Recommendations regarding Legal vs. Natural Persons, and scoping of possible future policy work regarding accuracy of registration data.

Leadership Proposal for GAC Action

- 1. Consider providing further input to the ICANN Board** regarding the proposed Standardized System for Access/Disclosure of Registration Data (SSAD), given ICANN org’s analysis of costs, benefits and risks in the [SSAD Operational Design Assessment](#) (25 Jan. 2022) and the subsequent [request by the GNSO](#) (27 April 2022) for the ICANN Board to pause consideration of these recommendations to enable the development of a proof of concept or SSAD Light, which ICANN org now also refers to as a “WHOIS Disclosure System”¹.
- 2. Examine prospects of new policy development in relation to accuracy of registration data** in gTLDs given delays and dependencies in the current GNSO Registration Data Accuracy (RDA) scoping effort².
- 3. Assess the public interest impacts of the current interim policy regime** for gTLD registration data, in light of:

¹ See the [Pre-ICANN74 ICANN org’s briefing to the GAC](#) on 31 May 2022 (GAC website login required)

² See details on the delayed delivery of the first two assignments, the expected stepping down of the current Chair, and a dependency identified on ICANN’s expected outreach to the EDPB , in the RDA Scoping effort [project change request](#) sent to the GNSO Council on 9 May 2022.

- a. **Prospects of implementation of, and community concerns with policy recommendations** in Phase 1, Phase 2 and Phase 2A of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on gTLD Registration Data;
- b. **Current experience of parties seeking registration data** for a legitimate purpose which may not align with the GAC's Advice to *"ensure that the current system that requires 'reasonable access' to non-public domain name registration is operating effectively"*
- c. **The continued impact of delayed implementation of the privacy/proxy services accreditation policy recommendations.** Despite GAC Advice to resume implementation of the Privacy/Proxy Accreditation Policy, this is still suspended and continues to delay the delivery of an accreditation program including a law enforcement disclosure framework.

Current Status and Recent Developments

Most Recent Development

- **Feasibility of a System for Standardized Access/Disclosure of Registration Data (SSAD)** continues to be discussed between the GNSO Council, the ICANN Board and ICANN org. A proposal for a Proof of Concept (or SSAD Light Design) is expected by ICANN75 at the earliest.
 - The GNSO [resolution](#) on the EPDP Phase 2 Final Report (24 September 2020) **adopted the 18 recommendations that seek to establish an SSAD, requesting a consultation with the ICANN Board** prior to its consideration of the policy recommendations **to discuss "questions surrounding the financial sustainability of SSAD and some of the concerns expressed within the different minority statements"**³.
 - Prior to considering the GNSO's SSAD Policy Recommendations, **the ICANN Board launched** (25 March 2021) a newly proposed **Operational Design Phase (ODP)**, for an initial duration of 6-months, **to perform an assessment** of possible implementation parameters. Several community surveys were launched to this effect, including to assess potential demand for an SSAD. **A specific ICANN org survey for GAC Members**, regarding the accreditation of governments entities and their legitimate users, as well as legal bases for various types of processing of registration data, was **circulated** to the GAC on 15 July 2021 and its results reported in a **webinar** on 18 November 2021.
 - After presenting design proposals and costs assessments in several **webinars** to the GNSO, GAC, and ICANN Community, the GAC **alerted the GNSO** (15 December 2021) that ICANN's proposed design of Governmental Accreditation Authorities goes beyond the scope envisioned in **GAC Principles on Accreditation** (21 Jan. 2020) which were incorporated in Recommendation 2 of the EPDP Phase 2 Final Report..

³ During a GAC/GNSO Leadership call (29 September 2020) and during the pre-ICANN69 [Joint GAC/GNSO Call](#) (1 October 2020), The GNSO leadership clarified that it intends to focus this consultation on the issue of financial sustainability and that it was not expected to change its policy recommendations to the ICANN Board.

- A GNSO Small Team has been reviewing ICANN org’s [Operational Design Assessment](#) (25 Jan. 2022) with a view to support GNSO Council consultation with the ICANN Board, including addressing questions and concerns expressed in an [ICANN Board letter](#) (24 Jan. 2022).
- In a [letter to the ICANN Board](#) (27 April 2022), the GNSO shared concerns with ICANN’s Operational Design Assessment and called for a pause of the Board’s consideration of the SSAD recommendations to allow for work to continue on a “proof of concept” in collaboration with ICANN org which suggested it could propose a simplified “SSAD Light Design” in a [Concept Paper](#) (6 April 2022)⁴. The ICANN Board asked the GNSO Council to assist in prioritizing this work over the ODP on Subsequent rounds of New gTLDs. GNSO Stakeholders do not yet agree on a prioritization recommendation.⁵
- **The GNSO Scoping Team on Accuracy of Registration Data** is expected to facilitate understanding of the issue of Accuracy of Registration Data and issues associated with the WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System, before potential further policy work is considered.
 - The GNSO Council adopted substantive and procedural [instructions](#) for the Scoping Team (22 July 2021). In the [ICANN72 GAC Communiqué](#) (1 November 2021) the GAC welcomed “the effective start of the accuracy scoping exercise launched by the GNSO” and expressed support for “*all four assignments, namely, i) enforcement and reporting, ii) measurement of accuracy, iii) effectiveness and iv) impact and improvements, for scoping the work on accuracy*” noting that “*assignments iii) and iv) are particularly important for the purpose of assessing possible improvements of accuracy of registration data*” and stressing “*the importance of delivering on all four tasks in a timely and effective manner.*”
 - The GAC has nominated two representatives (European Commission and United States) to participate in these [weekly deliberations](#) which started on 5 October 2021.
 - The work of the scoping team is also being informed by an [ICANN org briefing](#) (26 February 2021), an [ICANN org Memo on the WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System](#) (January 2022) and [ICANN org responses](#) to questions by the Scoping Team.
 - In the [ICANN72 GAC Communiqué](#) (1 November 2021) as part of *Issues of Importance* the GAC reiterated “*that maintaining accurate domain name registration data is an important element in the prevention and mitigation of DNS abuse*”. The GAC also noted that it is “*looking forward to exchanging with other constituencies not only on the definition and measurement of accuracy but also on solutions on how to enhance accuracy. The GAC gives particular importance to the verification, validation and correction of all registration data by registrars, and certain registries, in line with their contractual obligations, and supports rigorous monitoring and enforcement of such contractual obligations by ICANN.*”
 - In the [ICANN73 Communiqué](#) (14 March 2022), the GAC highlighted that as part of the work of the scoping team to date, it “*has emphasized the importance of holding*

⁴ The approach proposed by ICANN org in the SSAD Light Concept Paper was presented to the GAC during the [Pre-ICANN74 ICANN org’s briefing to the GAC](#) on 31 May 2022 (GAC website login required)

⁵ See [minutes](#) of the GNSO Council meeting on 19 May 2022.

contracted parties accountable for their compliance with the existing accuracy requirements, as well as the importance of increasing transparency about compliance, in order to inform an evidence-based analysis of these issues”

- Prior to ICANN74, the leadership of the Accuracy Scoping Team [reported](#) that an interim report⁶ (deliverables #1 and #2) should be delivered in June 2022, that its Chair would step down by then, and that further work of the scoping team (on assignment #3 and #4) cannot be planned until registration data is gathered and studied to evaluate accuracy.
- The ICANN org shared with the Scoping Team a [set of scenarios](#) for which it plans to consult the European Data Protection Board on whether or not ICANN org has a legitimate purpose that is proportionate (i.e. not outweighed by the privacy rights of the individual data subjects) to request that contracted parties provide access to registration data records.

Status of Policy Development

- **The current interim policy regime** applicable to gTLD Registration Data **is expected to remain in place for the foreseeable future, but may not guarantee access** to non-public data for public authorities and other legitimate third parties
 - Following GAC [input](#) to the ICANN Board regarding EPDP Phase 1 Policy Recommendations (24 April 2019) **the ICANN Board [took action](#)** (15 May 2019) and laid the foundation for the future policy regime regarding gTLD Registration Data. Subsequently, the [Temporary Specification on gTLD Registration Data](#) expired on 20 May 2019 and was replaced by the [Interim Registration Data Policy for gTLDs](#), which requires **Contracted Parties to continue to implement measures that are consistent with the Temporary Specification**, while [implementation](#) of EPDP Phase 1 policy is ongoing.
 - In the [Montréal Communiqué](#) (6 November 2019), the GAC [advised](#) the ICANN Board to *“ensure that the current system that requires ‘reasonable access’ to non-public domain name registration is operating effectively”*. The ICANN Board [accepted](#) this Advice (26 January 2020). The GAC requested an update on these efforts in Follow-up to Previous Advice in the [ICANN72 Communiqué](#) (1 Nov. 2021). In its [response](#) (16 Jan. 2022), the ICANN Board suggested that standardization and centralization of requests would be achieved by an SSAD. It noted however that *“data from both Contractual Compliance and Global Support do not indicate this lack of centralized intake system to be a significant issue for Internet users”*.
- **Implementation of the EPDP Phase 1 Policy Recommendations** ([adopted](#) by the ICANN Board on 15 May 2019) has revealed significant challenges, with possible public policy implications.
 - The GAC highlighted in the ICANN72 Communiqué (1 Nov. 2021) *“with continued concern that the **Phase 1 Implementation Review Team (IRT) lacks a current published implementation timeline**”* recall its previous Advice in the [Montréal Communiqué](#) (6 November 2019) and Follow-up since in the [ICANN70 Communiqué](#) (25 March 2021) and

⁶ See Accuracy Scoping Team working documents: [Write-up on Assignment 1 and 2](#), including separate [section C.2.2](#)

[ICANN71 Communiqué](#) (21 June 2021) In its response to the ICANN72 Communiqué (16 Jan. 2022), the ICANN Board listed and discussed several remaining milestones including negotiation of data protection agreement between ICANN org and Contracted Parties. It also urged *“the GAC, as a participant in the processes that yield community recommendations, to work with the respective community groups to achieve clarity and alignment across the community of what recommendations will institute regarding requirements or obligations”*

- In the [GAC ICANN73 Communiqué](#) (14 March 2022), the GAC welcomed *“the [detailed work plan](#) provided by ICANN org to the IRT prior to ICANN73 and notes that the expected Data Protection Agreements (DPAs) between ICANN org and Contracted Parties have been “undergoing time-consuming negotiations” and are part of discussions “which may lead to an impasse”. Since finalized DPAs seem to be on the critical path to completing the implementation of EPDP Phase 1 policy recommendations, the GAC asks the ICANN Board to support the Org in getting this item completed to enable the timely conclusion of the Phase 1 IRT.”*
- As a consequence of the adoption of the EPDP Phase 1 policy recommendations, **the implementation of several pre-existing efforts were suspended**, and in particular the Thick WHOIS Transition Policy⁷, Privacy/Proxy Accreditation Policy⁸ and the WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System (ARS).
- **Policy Development in Phase 2 of the EPDP concluded** with the publication of a [Final Report](#) (31 July 2020), which recommended a System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) to gTLD Registration Data with a significant level of divergence among stakeholders as documented in the Consensus Designations (Annex D) and Minority Statements (Annex E), including the [GAC Minority Statement](#) (24 August 2020).
 - **Consensus was achieved on** aspects of the SSAD relating to **accreditation of requestors and centralization of requests** (recommendations 1-4, 11, 13 and 15-17). Once implemented these recommendations should improve the current fragmented systems by providing a central entry point to request access to registration data, according to clearly defined standards, and providing guarantees of appropriate processing (including safeguards for data subjects and requestor).
 - **Stakeholders could not agree on** the policy recommendations necessary to provide for a **System for Standardized disclosure** that meets the needs of all stakeholders involved, including public authorities (recommendations 5-10 and 12). Neither could stakeholders agree on the possibility to evolve the SSAD towards more centralization and more automation of disclosure decisions in the future. (recommendation 18)
 - In the [ICANN70 GAC Communiqué](#) (25 March 2021), the GAC Advised the ICANN Board *“to consider the [GAC Minority Statement](#) and available options to address the public*

⁷ See <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/thick-whois-transition-policy-2017-02-01-en> and the related recent [decision](#) by the GNSO Council (29 January 2021)

⁸ See full analysis of the impact of EPDP Phase 1 on the Privacy/Proxy Services Accreditation policy implementation in a [detailed report](#) by ICANN org (12 January 2021)

policy concerns expressed therein, and take necessary action, as appropriate.” The Board [accepted](#) the advice (12 May 2021) noting that *“standing on its own, the GAC’s Minority Statement does not constitute consensus advice”*, and included a detailed discussion of issues raised in the GAC Minority Statement on EPDP Phase 2.

- The GAC issued a [response](#) (6 October 2021) to the Board’s [clarifying questions](#) on the ICANN70 advice that were re-iterated before and discussed during the [GAC/Board ICANN71 Communiqué clarification call](#) (29 July 2021)
- **Policy Development in Phase 2A of the EPDP** to address the issues of **legal vs. natural persons** and the **feasibility of unique contacts** to have a uniform anonymized email address, **concluded** with the publication of a [Final Report](#) (3 September 2021)
 - The EPDP Team Chair presented the report as *“a **compromise that is the maximum that could be achieved** by the group at this time under our currently allocated time and scope, and it **should not be read as delivering results that were fully satisfactory to everyone**”* and underscored *“the importance of the minority statements in understanding the full context of the Final Report recommendations”*
 - In its [Minority Statement](#) (10 September 2021), the GAC acknowledged *“the usefulness of many components of the Final Recommendations”* including:
 - *the creation of data fields to flag/identify legal registrants and personal data;*
 - *specific guidance on what safeguards should be applied to protect personal information when differentiating between the domain name registrations of legal and natural persons;*
 - *encouragement for the creation of a Code of Conduct that would include the treatment of domain name registration data from legal entities;*
 - *encouragement for the GNSO to follow legislative developments that may require revisions to the current policy recommendations, and*
 - *useful context and guidance for those who wish to publish pseudonymized emails.*
 - **The GAC** noted however that it *“remains concerned that almost none of the Final Recommendations create enforceable obligations”* which *“fall short of the GAC’s expectations for policies that would require the publication of domain name registration data that is not protected [...] and create an appropriate framework to encourage the publication of pseudonymized email contacts with appropriate safeguards.”*
 - After adoption of these policy recommendations by the GNSO Council, the ICANN Board provided the [bylaw-mandated notification to the GAC](#) (9 Dec. 2021), in [response](#) to which **the GAC requested that the ICANN Board** *“considers [...] the GAC Minority Statement in its entirety, as well as available options to address the outstanding public policy concerns expressed therein.”* (9 Feb. 2022).
 - On 10 March 2022, the ICANN Board [adopted](#) the Phase 2A policy recommendations and directed ICANN org to develop and execute an implementation plan for these resolutions.

Key Reference Documents

- Accuracy Scoping Team [Draft Report on Assignment 1 and 2](#), including separate [section C.2.2](#) including recommendations to the GNSO Council (as of 1 June 2022)
- [ICANN org Update to the Accuracy Scoping Team](#) on scenarios for EDPB engagement (9 May 2022)
- ICANN org SSAD [Operational Design Assessment](#) (25 January 2022)
- GAC Advice in the [GAC ICANN72 Communiqué](#) (1 Nov. 2022) and related ICANN Board [Scorecard](#) (16 January 2022)
- GAC Advice in the [GAC ICANN71 Communiqué](#) (21 June 2021) and related ICANN Board [Scorecard](#) (12 September 2021)
- GAC Advice in the [GAC ICANN70 Communiqué](#) (25 March 2021), related ICANN Board [Scorecard](#) (12 May 2021) and [GAC Response to ICANN Board Clarifying Questions](#) (16 Nov. 2021)
- [GAC Minority Statement](#) (24 August 2020) on EPDP Phase 2 [Final Report](#) (31 July 2020)
- [GAC Minority Statement](#) (10 September 2021) on EPDP Phase 2A [Final Report](#) (3 September 2021)
- [GAC Response](#) (6 October 2021) to [ICANN Board Clarifying Questions](#) (21 April 2021) on the ICANN70 GAC Advice regarding the GAC Minority Statement on EPDP Phase 2, as reiterated during the ICANN71 Communiqué clarification discussions.

Further Information

GAC Policy Background Document on WHOIS and Data Protection

<https://gac.icann.org/briefing-materials/public/gac-policy-background-whois-data-protection.pdf>

Document Administration

Title	ICANN74 GAC Session Briefing - RDS/WHOIS and Data Protection Policy
Distribution	GAC Members and Public (before meeting)
Distribution Date	Version 1: 3 June 2022

DNS Abuse Mitigation

Session 7

Contents

Session Objective	p.1	Leadership Proposal for GAC Action	p.1	Current Status and Recent Developments	p.2	Key Reference Documents	p.7
-------------------	-----	------------------------------------	-----	--	-----	-------------------------	-----

Session Objectives

This session aims to continue GAC consideration of ICANN org and ICANN community initiatives to prevent and mitigate DNS Abuse. The GAC will be briefed on recent developments, including the new Abuse Reporting Tool (NetBeacon) developed in response to recommendation made by SSAC and possibly the outcome of a GNSO Small Team currently considering what policy efforts should be undertaken in this area. This session will also be an opportunity to continue discussing possible efforts by the GAC to engage with stakeholder groups to improve ICANN contract provisions and their enforcement as it relates to mitigating DNS Abuse.

Leadership Proposal for GAC Action

- 1. Review progress of ICANN org activities** in relation to DNS Abuse under its DNS Security Threat Mitigation and Contractual Compliance programs, as reported most recently in the Pre-ICANN74 ICANN org Briefing to the GAC.¹
- 2. Assess progress in ICANN community discussions and implementation efforts related to DNS Abuse** including deliberations of the GNSO Small Team on DNS Abuse², and NetBeacon (formerly Centralized Abuse Reporting Tool) by the DNS Abuse Institute³.

¹ See <https://gac.icann.org/sessions/icann-org-preicann74-oral-briefing-for-the-gac> (31 May 2022) [login required]

² *idem*

³ See https://dnsabuseinstitute.org/centralized_abuse_reporting_update/ (5 April 2022)

Current Status and Recent Developments

Community Discussions and Concrete Steps Taken to Date

- During recent ICANN meetings, **leaders of the GAC Public Safety Working Group have briefed the GAC** on the issue of DNS Abuse⁴ consistent with the [PSWG Work Plan 2020-2021](#) and its Strategic Goal #1 to Develop DNS Abuse and Cybercrime Mitigation Capabilities.
 - The GAC reviewed **measures available to registries and registrars to prevent DNS Abuse**, in particular the role of registration policies (including identity verification) and pricing strategies as key determinants of levels of abuse in any given TLD.
 - The GAC also examined **ongoing or possible initiatives to address DNS Abuse more effectively at the ICANN Board and ICANN org level**⁵, including: revisions of ICANN Contracts with registries and registrars, enforcement of existing requirements, implementation of relevant CCT and SSR2 Review recommendations, Privacy/Proxy Service Provider policy recommendations, improvement of accuracy of registration data, and publication of more detailed domain abuse activity data.
 - In the [ICANN72 Communiqué](#) (1 Nov. 2021), the GAC highlighted ***“the need for improved contract requirements to address the issue of DNS Abuse more effectively. In this regard, ICANN’s role under the Bylaws includes duly taking into account the public policy concerns of governments and public authorities and acting for the benefit of the public. The Bylaws also authorize ICANN to negotiate agreements, including Public Interest Commitments, in service of its Mission. Hence, ICANN is particularly well placed to negotiate improvements to existing contracts to more effectively curb DNS Abuse, as informed by the GAC and other stakeholders advocating in the public interest.”***
 - During ICANN73, the GAC considered a DNS Abuse Study published by the European Commission (see the [Report](#) and its [Technical Appendix](#), 31 January 2022) and noted in the [ICANN73 GAC Communiqué](#) that this study: *“provides many valuable case studies, clarifies the different actors in the Internet ecosystem, and provides recommendations on how the different actors (e.g., registries, registrars, resellers, hosting providers, registrants, etc.) can respond to DNS abuse that takes place within the different layers of the DNS system”*
- **The GNSO Council Small Team on DNS Abuse** is [expected](#) to report on its findings after ICANN74 regarding *“what policy efforts, if any, the GNSO Council should consider undertaking to support the efforts already underway in the different parts of the community to tackle DNS abuse”*
 - On 31 January 2022 the GNSO Council [announced](#) the formation of this **GNSO Small** which was expected to *“Reach out to others in the community that have been vocal on the topic (such as the Governmental Advisory Committee [...]) to better understand what*

⁴ See material of the related GAC plenary session during [ICANN66](#), [ICANN68](#), [ICANN69](#), [ICANN70](#), [ICANN71](#) and ICANN72

⁵ See [ICANN66 Minutes](#), [ICANN68 GAC Communiqué](#) and [Minutes](#), [ICANN69 Communiqué](#) and [Minutes](#), and [ICANN70 Communiqué](#) and [Minutes](#), [ICANN71 Communiqué](#) and [Minutes](#).

its expectations are of the GNSO and if/how it expects further policy work to contribute (or not) to the already ongoing initiatives.”

- In the [GAC response](#) (4 April 2022) to the GNSO’s request for community input on DNS Abuse policy making, the GAC Chair recalled the importance of this *“long-standing issue of interest to the GAC”* and the GAC interest *“in advancing community discussions, driving progress and convergence of views prior to the launch of future New gTLDs”*. In light of the fact that *“ongoing community efforts may produce beneficial initiatives and outcomes which may obviate the need for a PDP”*, the letter suggested that *“At this time [...] pursuing a PDP scoping exercise may be premature”*.
- Among other community responses, that of [PIR’s DNS Abuse Institute](#) (22 April) was made public and received a [response from the ICANN CEO](#) (9 May), who highlighted PIR’s *“innovative”* suggestion of *“tightly focused PDPs”* as well as ICANN’s [Brief Review of DNS Abuse Trends](#) (22 March)

- **Measures and initiatives to mitigate DNS Abuse by Registries and Registrars**

- On 27 March 2020, ICANN org [executed](#) the [proposed amendment of the .COM Registry Agreement](#) which **extends contractual provisions to facilitate the detection and reporting of DNS Abuse to two-third of the gTLD namespace**⁶. Additionally, a binding [Letter of Intent](#) between ICANN org and Verisign lays out a cooperation framework to develop best practices and potential new contractual obligations, as well as measures to help measure and mitigate DNS security threats.
- **In the context of the COVID-19 crisis Contracted Parties and Public Safety stakeholders** reported⁷ on their collaboration to facilitate reports, their review and their referral to relevant jurisdiction through the adoption of a standardized form and the establishment of single point of contacts for relevant authorities. These efforts built on working relations established between law enforcement and registrars as well as the publication by the **Registrar Stakeholder Group** of a [Guide to Registrar Abuse Reporting](#) during ICANN67. This guide was [updated](#) (Jan. 2022) and endorsed by the **Registry Stakeholder Group**.
- **Public Interest Registry (PIR)**, Registry Operator of .ORG and several New gTLDs [launched](#) (17 February 2021) the **DNS Abuse Institute**. This initiative was [presented to the GAC PSWG](#) (3 March 2021). In the [ICANN70 Communiqué](#), the GAC welcomed the launch of the DNS Abuse Institute and *“encouraged[d] community efforts to cooperatively tackle DNS Abuse in a holistic manner”*. The DNS Abuse Institute has since [released](#) a [Roadmap](#) (14 June 2021), published an [article](#) (24 August 2021) discussing mitigation of harm at various layers of the Internet infrastructure. More recently, it has reported developing a [Centralized Abuse Reporting Tool](#) or CART (18 Nov. 2021), issued a [Best Practice regarding the identification of malicious registrations](#) (2 Dec. 2021) and published an update on its CART initiative which it is renaming [NetBeacon](#) (4 April 2022).

⁶ Such provisions include [Specification 11.3b](#) which had only been applicable to New gTLDs so far.

⁷ See Contracted Parties presentations [prior](#) and [during the ICANN68 meeting](#) and [PSWG briefing to the GAC](#) during ICANN68.

- **ICANN Org’s Multifaceted Response⁸ (now part of the DNS Security Threat Mitigation Program) and Contractual Enforcement**
 - ICANN org [presented](#) (22 July 2021) its [DNS Security Threat Mitigation Program](#) which aims to provide visibility and clarity over various DNS security threats related initiatives and projects, and allows for the formation and execution of a centralized strategy.
 - **ICANN’s Office of the CTO (OCTO) and its Security Stability and Resiliency Team (SSR)** conduct research and maintain ICANN’s expertise in DNS security for the benefit of the Community. It is engaged in cyber threats intelligence and incident response fora, and develops systems and tools to assist in identification, analysis and reporting DNS Abuse⁹.
 - In response to the COVID-19 crisis, OCTO developed the **Domain Name Security Threat Information Collection and Reporting (DNSTICR)** tool to help identify domain names used for COVID-19-related abuse and share data with appropriate parties. The GAC was initially [briefed](#) on this matter prior to ICANN68 (12 June 2020) and GAC Members have been invited to contribute to the linguistic diversity of the tool.
 - Through its **Domain Abuse Activity Reporting (DAAR) platform**, ICANN has [reported monthly](#) since January 2018 on domain name registration and security threats behavior observed in the DNS¹⁰. In October 2021, ICANN org and the Registry Stakeholder Group reported on their agreement in principle¹¹ to leverage Registry-held registration data to provide registrar-level information in DAAR as [recognized by the GAC](#) in a recent letter to ICANN (21 February 2022).
 - OCTO supported the **DNS Security Facilitation Initiative Technical Study Group**, [launched](#) in May 2020 as part of the implementation of the [FY21-25 Strategic Plan](#), to “explore ideas around what ICANN can and should be doing to increase the level of collaboration and engagement with DNS ecosystem stakeholders to improve the security profile for the DNS”. Its [Final report](#) (15 October 2021) was [released](#) after 18 months of deliberations. ICANN org [indicated to the GAC](#) (16 Feb. 2022) being currently developing an action plan accordingly. The [implementation process](#) and a [wiki page](#) to track progress was introduced to the community on 20 April 2022.
 - **Regarding Contractual Compliance enforcement** in its [blog](#) (20 April 2020), the ICANN CEO recalled: “*ICANN Compliance enforces the contractual obligations set forth in ICANN’s policies and agreements, including the Registry Agreement (RA) and the Registrar*

⁸ The ICANN CEO published a blog on 20 April 2020 detailing ICANN Org’s [Multifaceted Response to DNS Abuse](#)

⁹ During a [GAC call on DNS Abuse Matters](#) (24 February 2021), ICANN org provided updates on OCTO’s DNS Abuse-related Activities, which included a discussion the definition of DNS Security Threats and DNS Abuse, Contracted Parties obligations, Domain Abuse Activity Reporting (DAAR), Domain Name Security Threat Information, Collection, & Reporting (DNSTICR), the status of the Domain Security Facilitation Initiative (DSFI), the new Knowledge-sharing and Instantiating Norms for Domain Name Security (KINDNS) initiative, and a review of OCTO’s efforts in the area of training and capacity building throughout the world

¹⁰ Several stakeholders and ICANN initiatives have commented on the limitations of DAAR, in particular a [letter](#) from the M3AAGW to ICANN org (5 April 2019) and the [Draft Report](#) of the SSR2 Review Team (24 January 2020). The Registry Stakeholder Group who had also expressed concerns made recommendations in a [correspondence](#) to ICANN’s CTO (9 September 2020).

¹¹ See RySG letter to ICANN (22 October 2021) and ICANN Blog (28 October 2021)

Accreditation Agreement (RAA). ICANN Compliance also works closely with OCTO to identify DNS security threats [...] and associate those threats with the sponsoring contracted parties. ICANN Compliance uses data collected in audits [...] to assess whether registries and registrars are adhering to their DNS security threat obligations. Outside of audits, ICANN Compliance will leverage data collected by OCTO and others to proactively engage with registries and registrars responsible for a disproportionate amount of DNS security threats. Where constructive engagement fails, ICANN Compliance will not hesitate to take enforcement action against those who refuse to comply with DNS security threat-related obligations.”.

- Following a prior **Contractual Compliance audit** of Registry Operator focused on DNS Infrastructure abuse which concluded in June 2019¹², ICANN [reported](#) (24 August 2021) on the results of the audit on **Registrars’ Compliance with DNS Abuse Obligations**:
 - 126 registrars audited (managing over 90% of all registered domains in gTLDs)
 - 111 registrars not fully compliant with requirements related to the receiving and handling of DNS abuse reports (RAA Sections 3.18.1 – 3.18.3)
 - 92 registrars took actions to become fully compliant, 19 are implementing changes
- **A new round of audit for selected registries** was [announced](#) on 13 April 2022. It will concern 28 gTLD Registry Operators running gTLDs that have not previously been audited in a standard full-scope audit, and which were found to have the highest abuse score as reported by publicly available Reputation Blocklists (excluding Spam). This audit is expected to be completed before Q3 2022
- During the [Pre-ICANN73 ICANN CEO Briefing to the GAC](#) (16 February 2022), ICANN Contractual Compliance reviewed the DNS Abuse obligations in ICANN Agreements and presented the outcome of a sample of 3378 complaints regarding the handling of abuse reports by registrars, leading to 456 compliance inquiries, and 1 breach notice.
- On 9 March 2022, ICANN [announced](#) its rolling out of new reporting enhancing the visibility of complaint volumes and trends.
- **Regarding trends in DNS Abuse**, ICANN org conducted a retrospective study of DNS Abuse Trends: [The Last Four years in Retrospect: A Brief Review of DNS Abuse](#) (22 March 2022) which was referenced during the GAC introductory Webinar on [ICANN’s Role in Making and Enforcing Policies That Apply Globally to the DNS](#) (16 May 2022).

¹² See ICANN blog [Contractual Compliance: Addressing Domain Name System \(DNS\) Infrastructure Abuse](#) (8 November 2018) and [Contractual Compliance Report on Registry Operator Audit for Addressing DNS Security Threats](#) (17 September 2019)

Community Recommendations for Future Work

● SSR2 Review Recommendations

- The SSR2 Review Team delivered a [Draft Report](#) (24 January 2020) with a significant focus on measures to prevent and mitigate DNS Abuse. The [GAC Comment](#) (3 April 2020) endorsed many of the recommendations, including for improving Domain Abuse Activity Reporting (DAAR) and strengthening compliance mechanisms.
- The [Final Report](#) (25 January 2021) was considered by the GAC during ICANN70 in preparation for the eventual submission of [GAC Comments](#) (8 April 2021) as part of the [Public Comments proceeding](#).
- The ICANN Board [took action](#) (22 July 2021) on the Review Team's 63 Final Recommendations (25 Jan. 2021). An ICANN org [blog](#) summarized actions taken:
 - 13 recommendations were approved (pending planning of their implementation),
 - 16 recommendations were rejected (incl. 6 that could not be approved in full),
 - 34 recommendations are pending further information and analysis.
- In the [ICANN72 Communiqué](#) (1 Nov. 2021), the GAC advised the ICANN Board to:
 - *Undertake as a matter of priority the follow-up actions needed to support the swift implementation of the Board's scorecard [...] and*
 - *Provide further information on the diverging interpretation by the Board and SSR2 Review Team of the level of implementation of certain recommendations.*
- The ICANN Board provided additional information in its [response](#) to the ICANN72 Communiqué (16 Jan. 2022). This was a topic of further discussion between the GAC and the ICANN Board during ICANN73¹³, and subject to subsequent communications by ICANN org to the GAC in a [letter](#) (18 March 2022) and a [follow-up email](#) (12 April 2022).

● The Working Party on DNS Abuse of the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) released its Report published as [SAC115](#) (19 March 2021) which proposes an Interoperable Approach to Addressing Abuse Handling in the DNS.

- The **SSAC proposes a general framework of best practices and processes** to streamline reporting of DNS abuse and abuse on the Internet in general, discussing: Primary Point of Responsibility for Abuse Resolution, Evidentiary Standards, Escalation Paths, Reasonable Timeframes for Action and Availability and Quality of Contact Information.
- **The key proposal**, which the SSAC recommends should be examined and further refined by the ICANN Community in collaboration with the extended DNS infrastructure community, **is the creation of a "Common Abuse Response Facilitator"** as a wholly independent non-governmental, not-for-profit organization that would act as a facilitator for the entire DNS ecosystem, including ICANN contracted parties, hosting providers, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), and Content Delivery Networks (CDNs) to streamline abuse reporting and minimize abuse victimization.
- The DNS Abuse Institute has reported developing a [Centralized Abuse Reporting Tool](#) (18 Nov. 2021) on which the GAC is expected to be briefed during ICANN74.

¹³see [ICANN73 GAC Minutes](#) p.13

Key Reference Documents

- [GAC Response to GNSO Request for Community Input](#) on DNS Abuse Policy Making (4 April 2022)
- [The Last Four years in Retrospect: A Brief Review of DNS Abuse](#) (22 March 2022)
- European Commission [Study on DNS Abuse](#) and its [Technical Appendix](#) (31 January 2022)
- SSR2 Review [Final Report](#) (25 January 2021) and [Scorecard of Board Action](#) (22 July 2021)
- ICANN [announcement](#) and [report](#) (24 August 2021) of the Audit on Registrars' Compliance with DNS Abuse obligations.
- SSAC [SAC115 Report](#) (19 March 2021), a proposal for an Interoperable Approach to Addressing Abuse Handling in the DNS

Further Information

GAC Policy Background Document on DNS Abuse Mitigation

<https://gac.icann.org/briefing-materials/public/gac-policy-background-dns-abuse-mitigation.pdf>

Document Administration

Title	ICANN74 GAC Session Briefing - DNS Abuse Mitigation
Distribution	GAC Members and Public (before meeting)
Distribution Date	Version 1: 3 June 2022

GAC Meeting with the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Session 9

Contents

Session Objective	p.1	Background	p.1	Agenda	p.1	Key Reference Documents	p.2
-------------------	-----	------------	-----	--------	-----	-------------------------	-----

Session Objectives

The GAC and the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) regularly meet during ICANN Public Meetings to discuss public policy matters of both interest to government stakeholders and Internet end-users.

At ICANN74, the session will focus on topics which are on both committees' agendas for the meeting: Universal Acceptance and IDNs, ALAC and GAC Cooperation at the National Level, and Geopolitical Issues and advancing the Multi-Stakeholder Model.

Background

The At Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) is the primary ICANN-designated organizational home for the voice and concerns of individual Internet end users. Representing the At-Large Community, the 15-member ALAC consists of two members selected by each of the five Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs) and five members appointed by ICANN's Nominating Committee. Advocating for the interests of end-users, the ALAC advises on the activities of ICANN, including Internet policies developed by ICANN's Supporting Organizations.

The GAC and ALAC have been meeting at ICANN Public Meetings in order to coordinate and discuss ICANN policy issues of common interest. In the past they have worked to develop joint statements on certain policy and operational topics.

Agenda

As of 31 May, the ALAC and GAC are expected to discuss a number of issues of current common interest including:

1. Universal Acceptance and IDNs,
2. GAC-ALAC/At-Large Cooperation at National Level : further good practices from each committees to discuss,
3. Geopolitical Issues and advancing the MS model: role of governments and civil society volunteers.

Key Reference Documents

- [ICANN73 GAC Communique](#)
- [GAC and ALAC activity page](#)

Document Administration

Title	ICANN74 GAC Session Briefing - GAC Meeting with the ALAC
Distribution	GAC Members and Public (before meeting)
Distribution Date	Version 1: 3 June 2022

GAC Wrap Up Session

Session #12 - GAC Meeting Wrap-Up

Contents

Session Objectives	1
2022 GAC Leadership Election - Nomination Period	1
Review of GAC Information Tools	2
Possible Topic Follow-Up Time	2
Meeting Feedback Time	3
Further Information	3

Session Objectives

Based on the GAC’s productive experiences during the last two years of virtual meetings, a final GAC “wrap-up” session has been scheduled at ICANN74 to enable the GAC to conduct follow-up discussions regarding any timely topics or issues that arise during the meeting week. This additional flexible time can be used by GAC Members to discuss specific follow-up or next-step activities that require committee action.

2022 GAC Leadership Election - Nomination Period

In 2022, committee leadership elections for the GAC Chair (who serves a two-year term) and GAC Vice chairs (who serve one-year terms) will be conducted.¹ During this session, the GAC Support staff will provide an overview of this year’s nomination and election process to the GAC Membership.

Nominations for committee leadership candidates start at the end of the GAC meeting which precedes the meeting in which the confirmation is due to take place (see GAC Operating Principle 33). Thus, candidate nominations for the roles of GAC Chair and GAC Vice Chairs will begin shortly after the ICANN74 (The Hague) meeting and will conclude on 3 August 2022 - 45 days before the start of the ICANN75 (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) meeting during which the confirmation of any necessary balloting is due to take place. If more than one candidate for GAC Chair and/or five

¹ The terms of the current GAC Chair and vice chairs extend to the end of the ICANN76 meeting (March 2023).

candidates for the positions of Vice-Chairs are identified during the nomination period, then a balloting process will be held.

The results of each election, shall formally be announced during the ICANN75 GAC public meeting, and shall take effect at the end of the next GAC Meeting (ICANN76) (see GAC Operating Principle 31).

Review of GAC Information Tools

GAC Action/Decision Radar Update

As part of its efforts to better inform GAC Members and Observers about existing and upcoming priorities and work efforts, the GAC Leadership and GAC Support staff worked together to create an Action/Decision “radar” document that is intended to track existing and anticipated actions requiring GAC decisions on policy and operational matters.

For the past year, the GAC Action/Decision Radar tool has been available to all GAC participants in both “raw” and “snapshot” (see <https://gac.icann.org/activity/gac-action-decision-radar>) formats.

During this session, GAC participants will have the opportunity to share their feedback on the radar and to suggest further improvements to the document.

GAC Web Update

As of the beginning of June 2022, access to private GAC content on the GAC web site has been limited to participants who hold formal ICANN Account credentials. Prior to that time, GAC members had individual credentials to access private content on the GAC web site. ICANN participants with ICANN Accounts now have a special “tile” in their ICANN Accounts labeled “GAC-Confidential” that enables them to access materials that are only available to officially identified government representatives to the GAC.

This transition to ICANN Account was in development as far back as early February 2022 and many GAC participants successfully established their formal ICANN Account credentials. If you have still not updated your GAC web site credentials to ICANN Account, please contact GAC Support staff at gac-staff@icann.org for guidance and assistance.

Possible Topic Follow-Up Time

Based on the GAC’s experience during the previous virtual Public Meetings, time during this session has also been set-aside to enable GAC follow-up discussions regarding any timely topics or issues that may arise during the meeting week. This additional flexible time can also be used by GAC members to discuss specific follow-up activities that may be triggered during the meeting week

Meeting Feedback Time

Implementation of the “hybrid” meeting format for ICANN74 - including a proactive health and safety regimen will be a unique experience for both in-person and virtual attendees. Time permitting, meeting participants will have the opportunity to express their thoughts and feedback about the meeting experience and share ideas about lessons-learned and improvements for meeting planning and implementation at ICANN75.

Further Information

GAC Operating Principles -

<https://gac.icann.org/operating-principles/operating-principles-june-2017>

GAC Working Groups -

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 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

Title	ICANN74 GAC Session #12 Briefing - GAC Wrap-Up Session
Distribution	GAC Members and Public
Distribution Date	Version #1: 3 June 2022

GAC Meeting with ICANN Board (and Prep Session)

Session # 5 - GAC Preparation For Meeting with the Board

Session # 10 - GAC Meeting with ICANN Board

Contents

Session Objectives	p.1	Recent Developments	p.1	Session Agendas	p.2	Further Information	p.2
------------------------------------	-----	-------------------------------------	-----	---------------------------------	-----	-------------------------------------	-----

Session Objectives

An ICANN Public Meeting creates the opportunity for the GAC to meet and interact with other ICANN groups, organizations and structures - enabling the committee to coordinate and resolve specific policy work and operational matters and to build channels of communication with other groups to address current issues of interest and facilitate future informational exchanges. The GAC Meeting with the ICANN Board of Directors is one of those important opportunities.

Recent Developments

Recent GAC-Board Meetings have covered a range of subjects and topics and have mostly centered around formal questions the GAC submits to the Board about two to three weeks before the start of the ICANN Public Meeting. For some meetings, the Board presents a number of standard questions or session topics to community groups for them to respond to the Board.

For ICANN74, the ICANN Board Chair has not presented any questions for the committee.

GAC Members were asked during the GAC ICANN74 Agenda Setting Call on 21 April and via email on 3 May to recommend any potential topics or questions to present to the Board at ICANN74. GAC Support staff collected suggestions and submissions shared on the GAC mailing list and submitted to a committee Google collaboration document.

Ultimately, the GAC Leadership determined on 2 June to focus on three primary topic areas to explore with the Board during the planned joint session on 15 June 2022, including:

- GPI and Inclusiveness;
- WHOIs and Data Registration Matters (including System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) “Light”, Privacy and Proxy Accreditation Issues (PPSAI), and Data Accuracy); and
- Informing the GAC About the Next Round of New gTLDs

Session Agendas

Session #5 - Tuesday, 14 June - Preparation for Meeting with ICANN Board

This recently expanded public session on Tuesday, 14 June will enable GAC Members to review, discuss and confirm the proposed topics and any questions that the GAC plans to explore with Board members during ICANN74.

Session # 10 - Wednesday, 15 June - GAC Meeting with ICANN Board

A preliminary meeting agenda for the meeting (as of 2 June) is:

- A. Introductions
- B. Discussion of GAC Topic/Questions (shared in advance of meeting)
- C. AOB
- D. Closing

Further Information

- From time-to-time, the GAC also hosts a meeting of the Board-GAC Interaction Group (BGIG) which is covered by a separate briefing document. For this meeting cycle, that meeting took place on 24 May. The GAC Chair will likely report to the GAC during ICANN74 on what was discussed during that recent meeting. Materials from that meeting can be found here - <https://gac.icann.org/sessions/board-gac-interaction-group-bgig-call-8-february-2022> (GAC Member log-in required)
- 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 - <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/bylaws-en/#article12>

Document Administration

Title	ICANN74 GAC Session Briefing - GAC Meeting with ICANN Board (and Prep)
Distribution	GAC Members and Public
Distribution Date	Version #1: 3 June 2022

ICANN74 GAC Schedule (Draft, as of June 3, 2022)

UTC+9	UTC-4	UTC	UTC+2	Monday 13 June (Day 1)	Tuesday 14 June (Day 2)	Wednesday 15 June (Day 3)	Thursday 16 June (Day 4)	UTC+2				
16:00	3:00	7:00	9:00	SubPro: Working Together on Progress (60 mins)		5. Preparation for Meeting with the ICANN Board (60 mins)		9. GAC Meeting with ALAC (60 mins)		11.d. GAC Communique [if needed] (60 mins)		9:00
16:15	3:15	7:15	9:15	Break		Break		Break		Break		9:15
16:30	3:30	7:30	9:30	1. GAC Opening Plenary (incl. WG Updates) (90 mins)	GNSO EPDP on IDNs#1 (60 mins)	Plenary Session: Five Year Follow Up to Who Sets ICANN's Priorities? (90 mins)		10. GAC Meeting with the ICANN Board (90 mins)	GNSO EPDP on IDNs#2 (90 mins)	11.e. GAC Communique [if needed] (90 mins)		9:30
16:45	3:45	7:45	9:45									10:00
17:00	4:00	8:00	10:00	Break		Break		Break		Break		10:00
17:15	4:15	8:15	10:15	Break		Break		Break		Break		10:15
17:30	4:30	8:30	10:30	Break		Break		Break		Break		10:30
17:45	4:45	8:45	10:45	Break		Break		Break		Break		10:45
18:00	5:00	9:00	11:00	Break		Break		Break		Break		11:00
18:15	5:15	9:15	11:15	Break		Break		Break		Break		11:15
18:30	5:30	9:30	11:30	Break		Break		Break		Break		11:30
18:45	5:45	9:45	11:45	Break		Break		Break		Break		11:45
19:00	6:00	10:00	12:00	Break		Break		Break		Break		12:00
19:15	6:15	10:15	12:15	Break		Break		Break		Break		12:15
19:30	6:30	10:30	12:30	Break		Break		Break		Break		12:30
19:45	6:45	10:45	12:45	Break		Break		Break		Break		12:45
20:00	7:00	11:00	13:00	Break		Break		Break		Break		13:00
20:15	7:15	11:15	13:15	Break		Break		Break		Break		13:15
20:30	7:30	11:30	13:30	Break		Break		Break		Break		13:30
20:45	7:45	11:45	13:45	Break		Break		Break		Break		13:45
21:00	8:00	12:00	14:00	Break		Break		Break		Break		14:00
21:15	8:15	12:15	14:15	Break		Break		Break		Break		14:15
21:30	8:30	12:30	14:30	Break		Break		Break		Break		14:30
21:45	8:45	12:45	14:45	Break		Break		Break		Break		14:45
22:00	9:00	13:00	15:00	Break		Break		Break		Break		15:00
22:15	9:15	13:15	15:15	Break		Break		Break		Break		15:15
22:30	9:30	13:30	15:30	Break		Break		Break		Break		15:30
22:45	9:45	13:45	15:45	Break		Break		Break		Break		15:45
23:00	10:00	14:00	16:00	Break		Break		Break		Break		16:00
23:15	10:15	14:15	16:15	Break		Break		Break		Break		16:15
23:30	10:30	14:30	16:30	Break		Break		Break		Break		16:30
23:45	10:45	14:45	16:45	Break		Break		Break		Break		16:45
0:00	11:00	15:00	17:00	Break		Break		Break		Break		17:00
0:15	11:15	15:15	17:15	Break		Break		Break		Break		17:15
0:30	11:30	15:30	17:30	Break		Break		Break		Break		17:30
0:45	11:45	15:45	17:45	Break		Break		Break		Break		17:45
1:00	12:00	16:00	18:00	Break		Break		Break		Break		18:00
1:15	12:15	16:15	18:15	Break		Break		Break		Break		18:15
1:30	12:30	16:30	18:30	Break		Break		Break		Break		18:30
1:45	12:45	16:45	18:45	Break		Break		Break		Break		18:45
2:00	13:00	17:00	19:00	Break		Break		Break		Break		19:00

GAC Plenary Sessions
 GAC Joint Sessions
 Community Sessions
 GAC Communique

Official times for ICANN74
 09:00-17:30 (CET, UTC+2)