
GAC Meeting with the GNSO Council

Session 4

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Session Objectives

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

As of 1 September 2022, the agenda for the session is scheduled to focus on an exchange on the following topics:

1. SSAD light
2. Subsequent Rounds of New gTLDs
 - a. Closed Generics
 - b. GNSO Guidance Process
3. DNS Abuse
 - a. Small team progress report
 - b. State of play in general
4. Accuracy
 - a. State of play - GAC and GNSO Council to discuss any potential developments on accuracy matters, if applicable.
5. Any other business

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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://gns0.icann.org/en/about>. GNSO web site – <https://gns0.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.

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