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## GAC Meeting with ICANN Board

### Session 17

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#### 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 government interest and facilitate future informational exchanges.

The GAC Meeting with the ICANN Board of Directors is one of those traditional opportunities that takes place at every GAC Public Meeting. The Tuesday, 11 March GAC meeting with the ICANN Board at ICANN82 will enable the GAC to share views and ask timely questions of Board Members on topics of importance to governments in ICANN.

#### Recent Developments

Recent GAC-Board Meetings have covered a range of subjects and topics that 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. The Board has not proposed any specific questions for the GAC during ICANN82, but GAC members have developed a number of topics and questions for the Board.

With respect to the topics and questions from the GAC to the ICANN Board, during the ICANN82 Agenda Setting Calls on 9 January and 6 February, GAC members were reminded to share potential topics and questions for compilation by GAC Support staff and subsequent curation from the GAC Chair and Vice Chair (C-VC) team.

As of 25 February 2025, the identified topics areas and questions include:

## 1. Priorities and Plans for the New ICANN CEO

Welcome to Kurtis Lindqvist! Given the new CEO has now been with ICANN for nearly three months and in light of the Board's question to the GAC/Community at ICANN81 in Istanbul, can you please -

- (1) share what overall impressions you have gleaned about the ICANN community, especially the GAC?;
- (2) inform GAC Members what are the initial CEO priorities you and the Board have agreed on; and
- (3) reveal what you think ICANN (the organization) should be focussing on - particularly with respect to the areas of:
  - a.) ICANN org transparency and accountability;
  - b.) ICANN org's efficient and effective delivery of its mission; and
  - c.) ICANN's engagement within the wider Internet Governance ecosystem, considering the present context of WSIS+20

This is a discussion opportunity to glean where CEO and [GAC strategic planning](#) may align.

## 2. Internet Coordination Policy - 2

The GAC has noted and welcomes the recent adoption of the [Implementation and Assessment Procedures for ICP-2 Compliance](#). Can the Board or ICANN leadership provide an update on the next steps with regard to this document and the timelines envisioned for ICANN org to implement the procedures laid out in the implementation document?

## 3. Next Round of new gTLDs - Applicant Support Program

The GAC welcomes the updates from ICANN Org this meeting week on applications under the Applicant Support Program (ASP). GAC Members are concerned that while it appears there are almost 25 support applications in some form of preparation or submission, less than half come collectively from the Asia/Pacific, African and Latin America regions of the world. GAC Members intend to work further with ICANN org to enhance outreach and promotion of next round application opportunities to developing regions and countries. In the meantime can the Board confirm expectations that application fees will be lowered to reflect an 85% fee reduction from the current 75% target?

## 4. Registration Data

- a. *Urgent Requests for Disclosure*

Following the recent second trilateral call between the GAC, the ICANN Board and the GNSO on this matter (12 February 2025), the GAC understands that there is agreement to proceed with resuming EPDP Phase 1 IRT discussions to define an appropriate timeline for response to Urgent Requests for disclosure of Registration Data in circumstances that pose an imminent threat to life, serious bodily harm, critical infrastructure, or child exploitation. In light of the ICANN79 San Juan Communiqué GAC Advice for the ICANN Board to “To act expeditiously to establish a clear process and a timeline for the delivery of a policy” on this matter, the GAC would appreciate confirmation of when the Board expects ICANN org will reconvene this Implementation Review Team.

*b. Accuracy of Registration Data*

Since the suspension of the work of the GNSO Accuracy Scoping Team in November 2022, the GAC has regularly stressed the importance of resuming work on accuracy as soon as possible. Recently, the GAC submitted its input to the GNSO Council’s questions aimed at “providing a foundation for deciding on the next steps” which the GAC expects will soon follow towards resuming the scoping of policy work on accuracy of domain name registration data. The GAC is interested in hearing the ICANN Board’s current thinking on this matter.

This initial list of topics and questions for ICANN82 were shared with the Board on 21 February and GAC Members will review and confirm them on a special committee pre-meeting preparatory call scheduled for 26 February. Subsequently, the finalized questions will be shared with the Board in preparation for the meeting.

## Session Agenda

### Session #17 - Tuesday, 11 March (2300 UTC) - GAC Meeting with ICANN Board

A preliminary meeting agenda for the joint meeting (as of 25 February) is:

- A. Introductions
- B. Review of GAC Topics/Questions to the Board (shared in advance of meeting)
- C. AOB
- D. Closing

## Further Information

### *Other Board-GAC Interactions -*

- 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>

- From time-to-time, the GAC also hosts a meeting of the Board-GAC Interaction Group (BGIG). For this meeting cycle, that meeting took place on 10 February 2025, during which Board members shared their reactions to the GAC Issues of Importance identified in the ICANN81 Communiqué. Information materials about that interaction can be found here - <https://gac.icann.org/sessions/preicann82-board-gac-interaction-group-call-10-february-2025> (GAC ICANN Account log-in required).

#### *Topical Reference Documents -*

- The [Board Scorecard on ICANN81 GAC Issues of Importance](#) (29 January 2025)

### **Document Administration**

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