



GAC Meeting with the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

Session 20

Session Objective

The GAC and the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) will meet to discuss matters of common interest.

At ICANN82, the joint session will focus on the following issues:

- 1. gaps in existing ccNSO policies, guidance, or practices pertaining to the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs, and other related IANA Naming Functions for ccTLDs,
- 2. ccTLD Governance Models (engagement session)

Background

The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) is a body within the ICANN structure created for and by ccTLD managers.

The ccNSO provides a platform to nurture consensus, technical cooperation and skill-building among ccTLDs and facilitates the development of voluntary best practices for ccTLD managers. The policy development process is managed by the ccNSO Council, which consists of 18 Councilors (15 elected by ccNSO members, three appointed by the ICANN Nominating Committee).

The GAC and ccNSO have been meeting, when deemed necessary, at ICANN Meetings in order to coordinate and discuss public policy issues of common interest.

The ccNSO appointed a new Liaison to the GAC, Sean Copeland, and the GAC is currently proceeding with the upcoming transition for Point of Contacts (PoC) this year. Their role is to facilitate policy and other internal community discussions among their groups and leaderships, while also preparing meeting agendas for joint sessions at ICANN Meetings.

Session Agenda

Agenda Item 1 - Policy Gap Analysis (PGA)

The ccNSO has been working closely with the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA), to identify, and analyze potential gaps in the current set of policies pertaining to country code Top Level Domains (ccTLDs), and whether such a gap stems from a shortcoming in policy, interpretation of policy, guidance to IANA under specific circumstances, or a gap in the procedures. Established in 2024, the ccNSO Policy Gac Analysis Working Group (PGA WG), is tasked with identifying and addressing those gaps in existing ccNSO policies, guidance or practices pertaining to the delegation, transfer, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs, and other related IANA Naming Functions for ccTLDs. At ICANN82, the PGA WG will update the GAC on its findings to date, since the Istanbul meeting in November 2024.

By ICANN82, the ccNSO PGA WG will have concluded its work of:

- Categorizing issues identified by IANA. Options include a categorisation as a gap in current policies, interpretation of policy, need for guidance to IANA, and finally no issue from a ccNSO perspective.
- Identifying the method to address issues. Options include a ccPDP, a (cross-community) working group, a Study Group
- Prioritising the issues

Agenda Item 2 - ccTLD Models (engagement session)

In Seattle, the GAC will learn about different ccTLD models and engage in smaller settings with ccNSO members, to encourage networking and foster the relationship between ccTLD operators and committee members.

The agenda for the session will be:

- 1. Welcome
- 2. PGA Update & Q&A (20 mins)
- 3. Engagement session on ccTLD governance models (55 mins)
 - a. Introduction
 - b. Discussion in smaller groups: Round 1, Round 2
- 4. Wrap-up

Key Reference Documents

- ccNSO Web Page
- ccNSO Working Groups
- ICANN82 ccNSO Members Meeting Sessions

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