ICANN | GAC
Governmental Advisory Committee

83 | POLICY FORUM

GAC Strategic Planning - GAC Operating Principles

Session 8

Contents

Session Objective

During this part of GAC Session #4, GAC Members will conduct discussion and the final "deciding vote" to determine whether to approve a proposal agreed to by GAC Members during ICANN82 to revise the GAC Operating Principles regarding the timing of annual committee leadership elections and the terms of the GAC Chair and the GAC Vice Chairs.

Leadership Proposal for GAC Action

1. **Committee final decision to proceed to** enable GAC leadership transitions to take place at the end of the ICANN Annual General Meeting when the ICANN Board and other ICANN communities also begin their leadership terms. It is expected that, like during ICANN82, the GAC Chair will seek an in-person show-of-hands vote by the GAC Members present on this matter pursuant to GAC Operating Principle #53.

2. **Committee final decision to proceed to** adjust the term of the GAC Chair to three consecutive terms of two years and the terms of the GAC Vice-Chairs to two consecutive terms of two years.It is expected that, like during ICANN82, the GAC Chair will seek an in-person show-of-hands vote by the GAC Members present on this matter pursuant to GAC Operating Principle #53.

Background

Pursuant to GAC Operating Principle 53, during ICANN82 GAC Members agreed on a proposal to proceed with a process to revise the GAC Operating Principles regarding the timing of annual committee leadership elections and the terms of the GAC Chair and the GAC Vice Chairs.

GAC members in attendance agreed to revise GAC Operating Principle 31 to adjust the committee's annual election cycle to conclude during the second meeting of the calendar year. This revision will enable leadership transitions to take place at the end of the ICANN Annual General Meeting when

the ICANN Board and other ICANN communities also begin their leadership terms. GAC Members in attendance also agreed to revise GAC Operating Principle 21 to adjust the term of the GAC Chair to three consecutive terms of two years and the terms of the GAC Vice-Chairs to two consecutive terms of two years.

Consistent with the GAC Operating Principles, the revision proposals were effectively subjected to a 60-day post-meeting consultation period and no comments or discussion took place on the GAC email list.

The GAC Support staff and Operating Principles Evolution Working Group will develop any needed transition procedures to effect the changes if they are ultimately approved.

References

- GAC Operating Principles - https://gac.icann.org/operating-principles/operating-principles-june-2017
- Relevant 8 March 2025 ICANN82 Session Link - https://icann82.sched.com/event/1vpVd/gac-operating-matters-discussion

Document Administration

Title	ICANN83 GAC Session Briefing - GAC Strategic Planning - GAC Operating Principles
Distribution	GAC Members (before meeting) and Public (after meeting)
Distribution Date	Version 1: 28 May 2025