

How to become a GAC member

New GAC members are always most welcome.

ICANN relies on its Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) for guidance and advice to the ICANN Board on public policy aspects of ICANN's work, particularly with regard to the Internet's domain name system.

The GAC has 178 governments as Members and 36 Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) as Observers. Membership is open to all national governments and distinct economies. There are no membership fees or charges.

Eligibility

Members of the GAC must be national governments, multinational governmental organisations and treaty organisations, or public authorities.

Each may appoint one representative and one alternate representative to the GAC. The accredited representative of a Member may be accompanied by advisors.

The accredited representative, alternate and advisors must hold a formal official position with the Member's public administration. The term 'official' includes a holder of an elected governmental office or a person who is employed by such government, public authority or multinational governmental or treaty organisation, and whose primary function with such government, public authority or organisation is to develop or influence governmental or public policies.

For further details about the membership rules, please refer to the GAC Operating Principles: <https://gac.icann.org/operating-principles/operating-principles-june-2017>.

Exchange of Letters

In order to become a member of the GAC you must:

- Send a signed letter, on official letterhead, addressed to the GAC Chair. A sample letter is provided over the page.
- State the name and full contact details of the appointed GAC Representative. The letter may also inform GAC leadership of a designated alternate Representative and of any designated Advisors.
- Electronically scan the letter and attach it to an email. Send the email to gac-staff@icann.org.

The request will be reviewed by the GAC Chair and Vice Chairs.

Once the request has been approved, the person or persons designated as representatives will be added to the GAC e-mail list and be provided with access to the Members Only part of the GAC website.

Sample Letter

[Official Letterhead]

Ms. Manal Ismail
Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

Re: Membership request and nomination of GAC representative(s) on behalf of [national government]

Dear Ms. Ismail,

The [ministry, department or agency] is the national authority of [country or distinct economy with two-letter code xx] that looks after matters related to Internet governance, including those under the purview of ICANN. The [ministry, department or agency] formally requests membership to participate in ICANN's Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) and is pleased to appoint [GAC Representative name (s)] as the representative(s) on behalf of [national government].

Please find the relevant point(s) of contact information below:

Prefix or Title:

First name:

Last Name:

Job Title:

Employer:

Email:

Phone:

Phone 2:

Sincerely,

[Letter to be signed by relevant government minister or senior official with lead responsibility for ICANN/GAC issues as designated by the requesting national government]