

Minutes – First ICANN87 GAC Agenda-Setting Call

Date: Thursday, 30 July 2026; **Time:** 12:00 UTC; **Duration:** 60 minutes

Chair: Nico Caballero, GAC Chair; **Support:** GAC Support Team

1. Opening and Purpose of the Call

The GAC Chair welcomed participants and recalled that the purpose of the first ICANN87 Agenda-Setting Call was to review the overall GAC schedule, prioritize topics and consider the allocation of session time ahead of submission to the ICANN Meetings system.

The Chair noted that a second Agenda-Setting Call, expected in September, would focus on the substantive content of individual sessions, including objectives, agendas, speakers and expected outcomes. Flexibility would therefore be maintained to adjust the schedule as policy work and other developments progress.

2. ICANN87 Schedule and Planning Assumptions

The Chair provided an overview of the six-day ICANN87 meeting format and the proposed allocation of GAC sessions. GAC sessions are not currently planned in parallel with community-wide sessions, allowing GAC representatives to participate in the broader ICANN program.

The proposed GAC schedule includes dedicated time for:

- New gTLD Program capacity development and policy discussions;
- Registration data issues and DNS abuse;
- GAC operations;
- GAC working group activities;
- Meetings with other ICANN community groups and external organizations;
- GAC Communiqué drafting and review; and
- Other policy and emerging-issue discussions.

The Chair noted that the number of Communiqué drafting sessions could be adjusted if additional time is needed for substantive GAC work.

3. Joint Meeting Requests

The Chair reviewed the process for considering requests from other groups to meet with the GAC during ICANN87. Meeting request forms are being used to provide members with information on the purpose, objectives, expected outcomes, speakers, time requirements and any preparatory input requested from the GAC.

Requests had been received from several ICANN community groups and external organizations, including ALAC, the Commercial Stakeholder Group, the Contracted Parties House, SSAC, W3C and the ccNSO.

The meeting with the ccNSO was confirmed and is expected to use the World Café-style format previously used successfully between the GAC and ccNSO.

Members were encouraged to review the remaining joint meeting requests and provide feedback. The Chair indicated that it would be desirable to reach decisions during the first week of August, where possible, while allowing additional time where members need to consult domestically.

4. New gTLD Program

The proposed schedule gives significant attention to GAC readiness for, and discussion of, the next round of new gTLDs.

A member suggested retaining flexibility within the capacity-development sessions to allow for initial discussion of new gTLD applications should they be published before ICANN87. The suggestion was supported in principle.

GAC Support clarified that Reveal Day was currently projected for October and could therefore take place before ICANN87, but that the timing remained dependent on the number of applications. Further clarity was expected in September, with String Confirmation Day currently projected for November.

Members also suggested that, if applications are available by ICANN87, in-person meeting time could be used for working-level discussion or preliminary review of applications.

5. Registration Data and DNS Abuse

Members emphasized the importance of maintaining sufficient time and flexibility for work on registration data and DNS abuse, particularly given ongoing work expected to progress before ICANN87.

A member recalled recent discussions concerning possible re-engagement with the GNSO on the 15-day registration data verification timeline and suggested that the ICANN87 schedule remain flexible to accommodate any follow-up arising from that work.

A related suggestion was raised concerning domain hopping and privacy issues. Given the potential links with registration data accuracy and the 15-day verification discussion, members were invited to consider whether this topic should be addressed separately rather than incorporated into an already substantive DNS abuse session.

The Chair noted the suggestions and emphasized that detailed decisions on session content and allocation would be considered during the second Agenda-Setting Call.

Several members subsequently supported ensuring sufficient working time at ICANN87 for DNS abuse, registration data and related policy development work, including anticipated public comment activity and engagement with other parts of the ICANN community.

6. Proposed Agentic AI Session

The Chair presented a proposed 90-minute session on open-source Agentic AI in the DNS industry, building on discussions associated with UN Open Source Week 2026 and broader exchanges among SO/AC Chairs.

Members generally recognized the relevance of AI and Agentic AI to the DNS and to future GAC work. Questions were nevertheless raised regarding:

- whether the session should focus specifically on open-source Agentic AI or take a broader approach;
- whether the topic would be better addressed in a community-wide setting;
- the balance of time between this topic and more immediate GAC policy priorities, including DNS abuse and registration data; and

- the need for any session to be directly connected to GAC responsibilities and policy work rather than being primarily educational or technical.

The Chair explained the rationale for the open-source focus and its relevance to governments, while acknowledging the concerns raised.

No final decision was taken on the format, scope or duration of the proposed session. Options raised during the discussion included reducing or reframing the session, using a broader community format, providing preparatory information in advance, or reallocating some of the proposed time to other policy priorities. These matters will be revisited as the ICANN87 agenda is further developed.

7. Working-Level Policy Sessions

Several members supported creating additional space in the ICANN87 schedule for practical working sessions focused on issues requiring concrete GAC input or action.

Potential areas identified included:

- DNS abuse;
- registration data and related policy work;
- relevant policy development processes and public comments;
- engagement with other ICANN community groups; and
- new gTLD applications, should they be available by the meeting.

Members noted that this could involve using currently open agenda space or adjusting the duration or allocation of other proposed sessions.

The Chair confirmed that flexibility remained within the draft schedule and that additional working time could be accommodated as priorities become clearer.

8. Other Schedule Elements

The proposed schedule also includes:

- a GAC Operations session covering annual and strategic planning, internal procedures and the forthcoming GAC Vice-Chair election;
- several community-wide sessions on Monday;
- a GAC-ccNSO World Café-style meeting on Wednesday;
- GAC Communiqué drafting and review sessions;
- the ICANN Public Forum; and
- the Geopolitical Forum, covering relevant global Internet governance, regulatory and intergovernmental developments.

A possible Women in Tech session remains subject to receipt and review of a completed meeting request setting out its objectives, expected outcomes and proposed speakers.

9. Follow-Up and Next Steps

Actions / follow-up:

- **GAC members:** Review the outstanding joint meeting request forms and provide feedback, ideally during the first week of August where possible.
- **GAC Chair / GAC Support:** Continue developing the proposed ICANN87 schedule, taking account of the priorities and scheduling considerations raised during the call.
- **GAC Chair / GAC Support:** Convene the second Agenda-Setting Call in September to consider substantive session content and any necessary changes to session allocations.
- **GAC Support:** Organize the usual pre-meeting webinars in early October, including the welcome/first-timers webinar, followed by the final preparation call approximately 7–10 days before ICANN87.

Matters to be revisited during further agenda planning include:

- the allocation of sufficient working time for DNS abuse, registration data and related policy work;
- possible ICANN87 discussion of new gTLD applications, depending on the application publication timeline;
- the placement and treatment of the domain hopping/privacy topic;
- the scope, format and duration of the proposed Agentic AI session; and
- the use of available or adjustable session time for additional working-level discussions.

The Chair thanked participants and closed the call.