

# New gTLDs Subsequent Rounds

10 March 2019

ICANN | GAC  
Governmental Advisory Committee



ICANN64 GAC Plenary Meeting - Agenda Item 6.1

- **New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures** - Agenda Item 8.2  
(this session)
- **Preparation for meeting with the ICANN Board** - Agenda Item 9.1  
(Monday 13:30-14:30)
- **New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures** - Agenda Item 11.1  
(Tuesday 10:30-11:30)
- **CCT Review** - Agenda Item 11.2  
(Tuesday 11:30-12:15)
- **GAC Meeting with the ICANN Board** - Agenda Item 13.1  
(Tuesday 15:15-16:45)

1. **Update on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP WG**  
(by Jeff Neuman, PDP WG Co-Chair)
2. **Timing and process for initiating a new round of New gTLD applications** (GAC Helsinki Communiqué Advice)
3. **Public policy concerns** identified previously by the GAC
4. **Discussion of GAC arrangement for intersessional work and possible further engagement** in PDP deliberations

### GAC Helsinki Communiqué Advice (30 June 2016)

#### 1. Future gTLDs Policies and Procedures

##### a. The GAC advises the ICANN Board that:

I. The starting point for development of policy on further releases of new gTLDs should first take into consideration the results of all relevant reviews of the new gTLD round and determine which aspects and elements need adjustment. In addition, the following should be addressed:

- a. Requirements with regard to interoperability, security, stability and resiliency should be met.
- b. An objective and independent analysis of costs and benefits should be conducted beforehand, drawing on experience with and outcomes from the recent round; and
- c. There should be an agreed policy and administrative framework that is supported by all stakeholders.

II. All measures available to the Board should be used to ensure that a comprehensive and measured approach to further releases of new gTLDs is taken in a logical, sequential and coordinated way rather than through parallel and overlapping efforts and/or timeframes that may not be agreed by all relevant interests

### Rationale

1. There is currently no public policy reason why further releases of new gTLDs should not proceed as a general principle. There are, however, valid public policy reasons for applying a range of requirements at the application and post-delegation stages. The GAC believes such requirements derive at least in part from ICANN's obligations with regard to the global public interest, as contained in existing and proposed Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.
2. Data is not currently available to allow a proper assessment, both quantitative and qualitative, of the round that is now concluding. Some important data, for example with regard to consumer safety and security, may not yet be being collected. To ensure a logical and efficient process, such data should be gathered before policy development processes move too far ahead.

**For ICANN64, GAC Leadership requested whether the ICANN Board could “share its current consideration or perspective on the extent to which the various criteria established in the Helsinki GAC Advice (accepted by the Board) will be addressed prior to initiation of any new rounds of applications?”.**

**Please refer to Annex of Briefing for Agenda Item 8.2**

available on the GAC Website at:

<https://gac.icann.org/sessions/icann64-block-8-session-8-2-new-gtld-subsequent-procedures-discussion> (login required)

- In Barcelona, the GAC agreed to consider establishing a Working Group to coordinate GAC engagement in the work of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP WG (see [Minutes](#) the GAC plenary session during the ICANN63 Meeting in Barcelona)
- Based on the experience of the GAC Small Group on GDPR and its engagement in the EPDP, the GAC Leadership and GAC Topic leads suggest the formation of an **informal focal group, based on an email list**
- If agreed by the GAC, the GAC Support Team will circulate a call for volunteers

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