



Welcome to the GAC

Today's Goals

By the end of this webinar, you should have a clearer answer to five questions:

1. Where am in/is the GAC ICANN's Multistakeholder Model (MSM)?
2. Who is who in the GAC?
3. How does the GAC reach a position?
4. How do I participate?
5. What is public and what is internal?

Understanding ICANN and the GAC

Where the GAC fits and who you will encounter

ICANN's Multistakeholder Model

THE COMMUNITY

Stakeholder groups and individuals who participate in advancing ICANN's mission.

THE BOARD

The formal governance body of ICANN.

THE ORGANIZATION

Executes the strategy and plans adopted by the ICANN Board.

You are part of the ICANN Community through the GAC

Who is the GAC

185 Governments
Members

41 Intergovernmental
Organizations
Observers

Representative

**Alternate
Representative**

Advisors

A GAC Member/Observer may appoint one Representative and one Alternate Representative.

The accredited Representative may also be accompanied by Advisors.

GAC Operating Principles

<https://gac.icann.org/operating-principles/operating-principles-june-2025>

GAC Chair and Vice-Chairs

1 Chair + 5 Vice-Chairs

Operating Principles 21 -36

The Chair and Vice-Chairs are elected from among the GAC members.

The Chair usually presides over GAC plenary discussions, accords the right to speak, submits questions for decisions and announces decisions.

- At the conclusion of ICANN87, Ian Sheldon will begin his term as GAC Chair.
- Thiago Dal-Toe (Colombia) will serve as Vice-Chair for the remainder of Ian's current Vice-Chair term, starting at the end of ICANN88.

Current Officers



GAC CHAIR
Nicolas Caballero
(Paraguay)
[Read Biography](#)

Term
March 2023 – March 2025
March 2025 – October 2026



GAC Vice Chair
Ian Sheldon (Australia)
[Read Biography](#)

Term
March 2025 – March 2026
March 2026 – October 2027



GAC Vice Chair
Zeina Bouharb
(Lebanon)
[Read Biography](#)

Term
March 2026 – October 2027



GAC Vice Chair
Marco Hogewoning
(Netherlands)
[Read Biography](#)

Term
March 2025 – March 2026
March 2026 – October 2027



GAC Vice Chair
Jorge Cancio
(Switzerland)
[Read Biography](#)

Term
March 2025 – March 2026
March 2026 – October 2027



GAC Vice Chair
Gloria Atwine Katuuku
(Uganda)
[Read Biography](#)

Term
March 2026 – October 2027

How do I participate?

Preparing for the meeting, contributing in sessions and staying involved between meetings

Before Your First Meeting

- Prior to a meeting, GAC **session briefings** are circulated to the GAC
- The **agenda** for each GAC meeting is published on the GAC website in advance of the meeting.
- Drafts and the **final agenda** are also circulated via the GAC email list

ICANN87 - Schedule Preparation

- GAC Agenda Setting Calls (2)
 - Call 1: Review the block schedule and session allocation
 - Call 2: Review the session agendas (substance)
- GAC Final Prep Call
 - Updates on session agendas
 - ICANN Board and GAC meeting - Finalize the agenda
- GAC Chair and Vice-Chairs
- GAC Topic Leads

ICANN87 Block Schedule

UTC+8	Sat, 17 Oct (Day 1)	Sun, 18 Oct (Day 2)	Mon, 19 Oct (Day 3)	Tue, 20 Oct (Day 4)	Wed, 21 Oct (Day 5)	Thu, 22 Oct (Day 6)	UTC+8
9:00	1. GAC Opening Plenary (60 mins)	6. GAC Discussion on New gTLDs Next Round (2/2) (60 mins)	Welcome Ceremony and Tarek Kamel Award (75 mins)	11. GAC Discussions on NxR [placeholder] (60 mins)	15. GAC Meeting with the CPH (60 mins)	13 (f). GAC Communique (60 mins)	9:00
9:15							9:15
9:30	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	9:30
9:45							9:45
10:00	2. GAC Capacity Development (1/2) GAC readiness for Next Round (90 mins)	7. GAC Discussion on WHOIS Registration Data Issues (90 mins)	Community Session (1/2) Building a Secure, Inclusive, and Multilingual Internet for the Next Decade (75 mins)	12. GAC Discussion on DNS Abuse Mitigation (90 mins) - incl. JPMAC / OCTO	16. GAC Meeting with the ccNSO (90 mins)	ICANN Public Forum (90 mins)	10:00
10:15							10:15
10:30	Lunch Break (75 mins)	Lunch Break (75 mins)	Lunch Break (75 mins)	Lunch Break (75 mins)	Lunch Break (75 mins)	Lunch Break (75 mins)	10:30
10:45							10:45
11:00	3. GAC Capacity Development (2/2) GAC readiness for Next Round (75 mins)	8. GAC Operations Session (75 mins)	Community Session (2/2) The Gap in Registrant Recourse - Next Steps (75 mins)	13 (a). GAC Communique (75 mins)	13 (c). GAC Communique (75 mins)	13 (g). GAC Communique (75 mins) or 17. Wrap-Up	11:00
11:15							11:15
11:30	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	11:30
11:45							11:45
12:00	4. GAC Discussion on New gTLDs Next Round (1/2) (60 mins)	9. GAC Meeting with the GNSO Council (60 mins)	Board and Community Discussion on CCG Review of Reviews (60 mins)	14. GAC Meeting with the ICANN Board (60 mins)	13 (d). GAC Communique (60 mins)	Geopolitical Forum (60 mins)	12:00
12:15							12:15
12:30	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	12:30
12:45							12:45
13:00	5. GAC UA-IDN WG (60 mins)	10. GAC Meeting with the CSG (60 mins)	Q&A with ICANN Org Executive Team (60 mins)	13 (b). GAC Communique (60 mins)	13 (e). GAC Communique (60 mins)	ICANN Board Meeting Closing Cocktail (60 mins)	13:00
13:15							13:15
13:30	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	13:30
13:45							13:45
14:00	1. GAC Opening Plenary (60 mins)	6. GAC Discussion on New gTLDs Next Round (2/2) (60 mins)	Welcome Ceremony and Tarek Kamel Award (75 mins)	11. GAC Discussions on NxR [placeholder] (60 mins)	15. GAC Meeting with the CPH (60 mins)	13 (f). GAC Communique (60 mins)	14:00
14:15							14:15
14:30	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	14:30
14:45							14:45
15:00	2. GAC Capacity Development (1/2) GAC readiness for Next Round (90 mins)	7. GAC Discussion on WHOIS Registration Data Issues (90 mins)	Community Session (1/2) Building a Secure, Inclusive, and Multilingual Internet for the Next Decade (75 mins)	12. GAC Discussion on DNS Abuse Mitigation (90 mins) - incl. JPMAC / OCTO	16. GAC Meeting with the ccNSO (90 mins)	ICANN Public Forum (90 mins)	15:00
15:15							15:15
15:30	Lunch Break (75 mins)	Lunch Break (75 mins)	Lunch Break (75 mins)	Lunch Break (75 mins)	Lunch Break (75 mins)	Lunch Break (75 mins)	15:30
15:45							15:45
16:00	3. GAC Capacity Development (2/2) GAC readiness for Next Round (75 mins)	8. GAC Operations Session (75 mins)	Community Session (2/2) The Gap in Registrant Recourse - Next Steps (75 mins)	13 (a). GAC Communique (75 mins)	13 (c). GAC Communique (75 mins)	13 (g). GAC Communique (75 mins) or 17. Wrap-Up	16:00
16:15							16:15
16:30	4. GAC Discussion on New gTLDs Next Round (1/2) (60 mins)	9. GAC Meeting with the GNSO Council (60 mins)	Board and Community Discussion on CCG Review of Reviews (60 mins)	14. GAC Meeting with the ICANN Board (60 mins)	13 (d). GAC Communique (60 mins)	Geopolitical Forum (60 mins)	16:30
16:45							16:45
17:00	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	Break (30 mins)	17:00
17:15							17:15
17:30	5. GAC UA-IDN WG (60 mins)	10. GAC Meeting with the CSG (60 mins)	Q&A with ICANN Org Executive Team (60 mins)	13 (b). GAC Communique (60 mins)	13 (e). GAC Communique (60 mins)	ICANN Board Meeting Closing Cocktail (60 mins)	17:30

During a GAC Session

All GAC representatives are encouraged to speak up and contribute to the GAC's discussion of issues.

**1. Raise your hand
in Zoom**

**2. The Chair adds
you to the speaking
list**

**3. When called,
make your
intervention**

You may speak in English, or in one of the languages for which live interpretation is available (6 UN + PT).

ICANN87 - Your Practical Resources

- ICANN87 Meeting Public Website <https://icann87.sched.com/>
- GAC ICANN87 meeting web page
<https://gac.icann.org/agendas/icann87-bali-agenda>
- GAC written briefings and preparation documents
(will be available on each session page)
- ICANN87 Prep Week (5-8 October)
<https://icann87.sched.com/>
- Calendar invitations for GAC sessions from GAC Support
(Gülten Tepe Öksüzoğlu)

How does the GAC reach a position?

From discussion to consensus and GAC outputs

How the GAC Works

- The GAC operates as a forum for the discussion of government and other public policy interests and concerns
- The GAC is not a decision making body
- The GAC may conduct its general business face-to-face or online

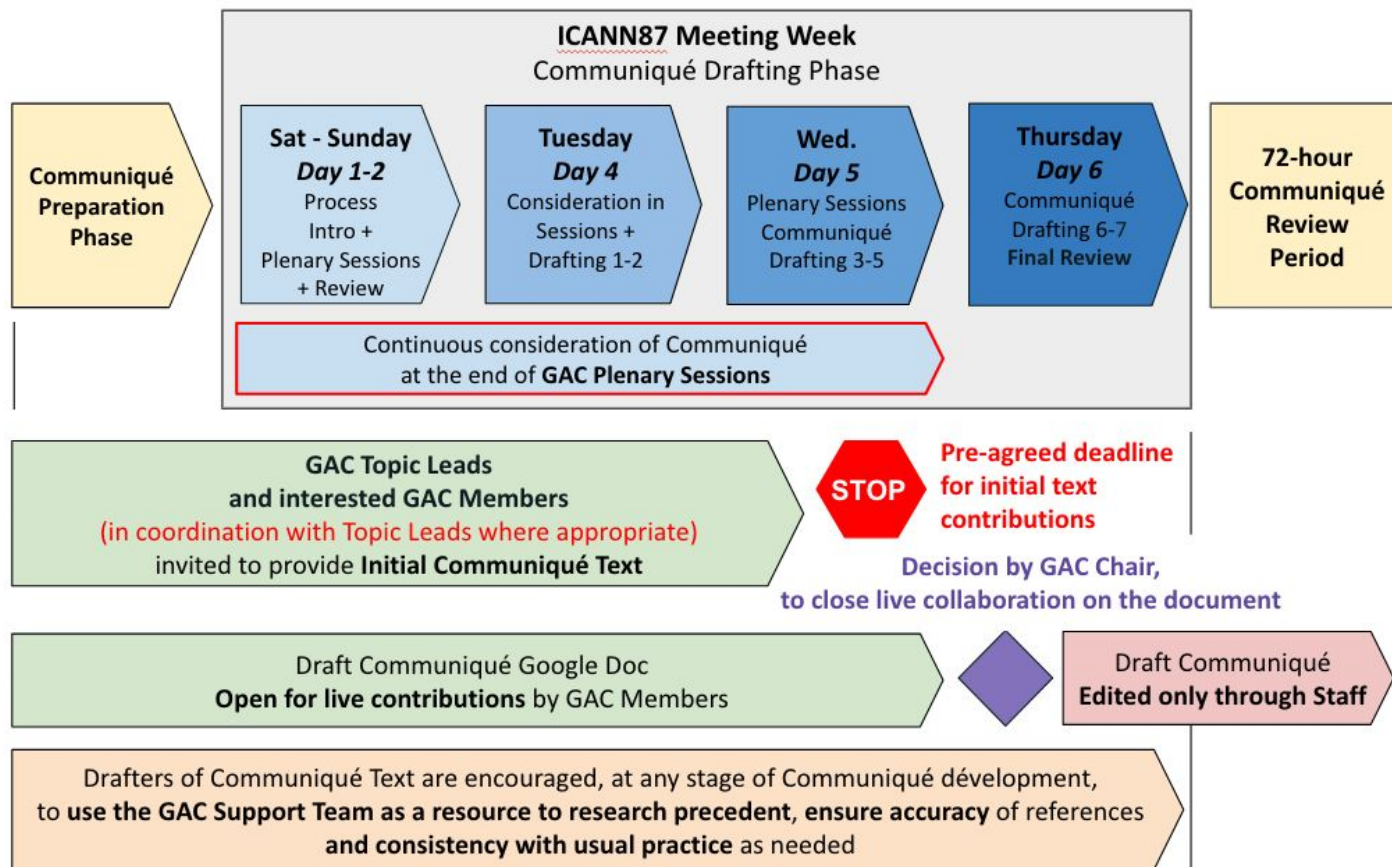
GAC Work Products

- The GAC provides advice and information to the ICANN Board and community through:
 - Communiqués to the ICANN Board
 - Public Comments in response to Requests for Comment
 - Correspondence with the Board and other ICANN communities
 - Policy Development Process (PDP) documents and support, including GNSO and ccNSO processes

The GAC Communiqué

- At the end of every ICANN meeting a formal communiqué is issued by the GAC, commenting on the issues that have been discussed
- The [GAC Communiqué](#) represents the formal negotiated outcome of the meeting, including the GAC's advice to the ICANN Board

Communiqué Development During the Meeting



GAC Advice and the ICANN Board

1 GAC → BOARD

1. GAC → BOARD - Advice is communicated to the ICANN Board through the GAC Chair.

2 BOARD CONSIDERATION

2. BOARD CONSIDERATION - GAC advice must be duly taken into account by the ICANN Board.

3 IF THE BOARD DISAGREES

3. IF THE BOARD DISAGREES - The Board must give reasons and attempt to reach a mutually acceptable solution.

<https://www.icann.org/en/governance/bylaws#article12> (.2.(a)(x))

The GAC works on the basis of seeking consensus among its membership.

**GENERAL AGREEMENT
in the absence of any formal objection**

Where consensus is not possible, the Chair shall convey the full range of views expressed by Members to the ICANN Board.

Intersessional Work

From ICANN Meetings to Implementation

Working Between Meetings

- **GAC work does not stop between ICANN meetings**
- The GAC also works inter-sessionally on priority issues, usually via teleconferencing
- Working Groups are used to focus on particular areas
<https://gac.icann.org/working-group/>
- Electronic resources include the GAC website and a committee mailing list

Working Groups and Topic Leads

- The Chair may call for the creation of Committees and Working Groups to address matters that relate to concerns of governments and fall within ICANN's remit.
- GAC delegates with particular expertise, interest and time on specific topics or subjects volunteer to serve as “Topic Leads” or in other leadership position on various matters of interest identified in the GAC and documented in its [Strategic Objectives](#).

GAC Working Groups

- The purpose of the GAC Working Groups is to enable interested **GAC members to work interessionally on specific topic areas**, helping to develop GAC positions and input that can feed into plenary discussions, GAC advice, and the Communiqué.

Overview of active working groups:

- **GAC HRILWG:** To support the GAC's consideration of human rights and international law in ICANN's work, contribute to relevant ICANN processes, and foster cross-community cooperation on these issues.
- **GAC CDWG:** To coordinate and guide GAC capacity development activities, ensuring they respond to members' needs and align with GAC and ICANN priorities.
- **GAC UA-IDN WG:** To support GAC understanding and engagement on Universal Acceptance and IDNs, including developments across ICANN and the Universal Acceptance Steering Group that are relevant to governments.

GAC Working Groups

- **GAC USRWG:** Focuses on **regions under-served by the DNS industry**, particularly **least developed economies and small island developing states**, with specific attention to **Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) regions**.
- **GOPE WG:** To **review and recommend updates to the GAC Operating Principles**, improving the **organization, clarity and effectiveness of GAC processes and procedures** and supporting the GAC's role in the **ICANN Empowered Community**.
- **GAC PSWG:** To advance GAC work on **DNS abuse, unlawful activity and registration data**, while strengthening cooperation with relevant ICANN stakeholders on **public safety issues**.
- **BGIG:** To provide a regular forum for **Board–GAC dialogue and cooperation**, including improving the **receipt, consideration, implementation and tracking of GAC advice** and addressing broader **operational and strategic aspects of the Board–GAC relationship**.
- GAC Working Groups: <https://gac.icann.org/working-group/>

What is public and what is internal?

Understanding the public meeting environment and GAC records

Where to Find Information

- [GAC website](#): meeting agendas and session materials, activities, Public Comment opportunities, Working Groups, Communiqués, meeting minutes and correspondence
- ICANN Learn - Onboarding: Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)
<https://learn.icann.org> (log in your ICANN Account)
- ICANN org Glossary and Acronyms and Terms pages
<https://www.icann.org/en/icann-acronyms-and-terms>
- Previous GAC onboarding and introductory webinars
<https://gac.icann.org/activity/gac-introductory-webinar-series>
- GAC Support/ Government Engagement/ Global Stakeholder Engagement Teams

Where to Find Information

ICANN | GAC

[SEARCH](#) 🔍

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[ABOUT THE GAC](#)

[GAC ADVICE](#)

[MEETINGS & RECORDS](#)

[WORK EFFORTS](#)

ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

The GAC serves as the voice of Governments and International Governmental Organizations in ICANN's multistakeholder representative structure.

ABOUT THE GAC

- Role of the GAC
- Operating Principles
- Leadership
- GAC Members

GAC ADVICE

- Communiqués
- Correspondence
- Public Comments
- Itemized Advice
- Principles & Guidelines

MEETINGS & RECORDS

- Calendar
- ICANN Meeting Agendas
- ICANN Meeting Minutes

S & RECORDS

- Topics
- Activities
- GAC Working Groups

WORK EFFORTS

GAC Support

- GAC Leadership, Members and Observers receive support from the ICANN GAC Support team, which provides administrative and substantive support to the Committee.
- Support includes:
 - Organizing meetings and providing substantive issue briefings
 - Managing the GAC website and email administration
 - Liaising with ICANN org and other ICANN structures
 - Membership management and Working Group facilitation support
 - Coordination of community travel support

gac-staff@icann.org

Government Engagement (GE)

- The GE Team's primary mission is to **build and sustain** governments' support for ICANN's mission and multistakeholder model of governance.
- **Why GE is important to ICANN's mission**
The GE team supports ICANN's mission by working with governments and international organizations to **strengthen understanding of ICANN's technical role, build informed participation in its processes, ensure that public policy discussions are rooted in a clear understanding of how the Internet's unique identifier systems operate, and sustain and enhance ICANN's legitimacy around the globe.**

Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE)

ICANN org's stakeholder engagement team (GSE) leads engagement and outreach around the world about ICANN and its Mission.

Through local coverage in ICANN's regions, the **team is a globally networked point of contact for ICANN org and the ICANN community, including the GAC.**

The purpose of the Stakeholder Engagement function is:

- **Raising awareness and understanding** of ICANN's role and DNS to diverse stakeholders.
- **Encouraging participation** in ICANN policy development and collaboration in ICANN technical activities.
- **Enhancing ICANN org's operating model** across all regional offices and ensuring alignment of regional engagement efforts with ICANN org strategic and operational priorities.
- **Building relationships**, developing understanding among stakeholders, and where possible developing trust.
- Facilitating best-in-class events, travel support and meeting delivery for ICANN org and community
- **Delivering engagement programs** that encourage diverse participation in ICANN and support the global public interest.
- **Providing research expertise** in the areas of human rights, diversity and anti-harassment within ICANN's mission.

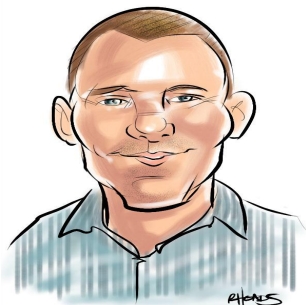
To learn more about your GSE team near you: <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/gse-2012-02-25-en>

Thank You

Questions?

- GAC Support: gac-staff@icann.org
- Informal meeting for GAC newcomers in Bali with GAC Chair and Vice-Chairs
Tuesday, 20 October at 12:00 local time
- *Getting to meet you*

GAC Support Staff



**Fabien
Betremieux**



**Lars
Hoffmann**



**Benedetta
Rossi**



**Julia
Charvolen**



**Gülten
Tepe Öksüzoğlu**

