# **GAC Strategic Planning** and Operational Matters

ICANN81 Plenary Session 9 November 2024





# **Agenda**

## 1. Operational Matters

- Update on ICANN's Continuous Improvement Program
- GOPE WG Update

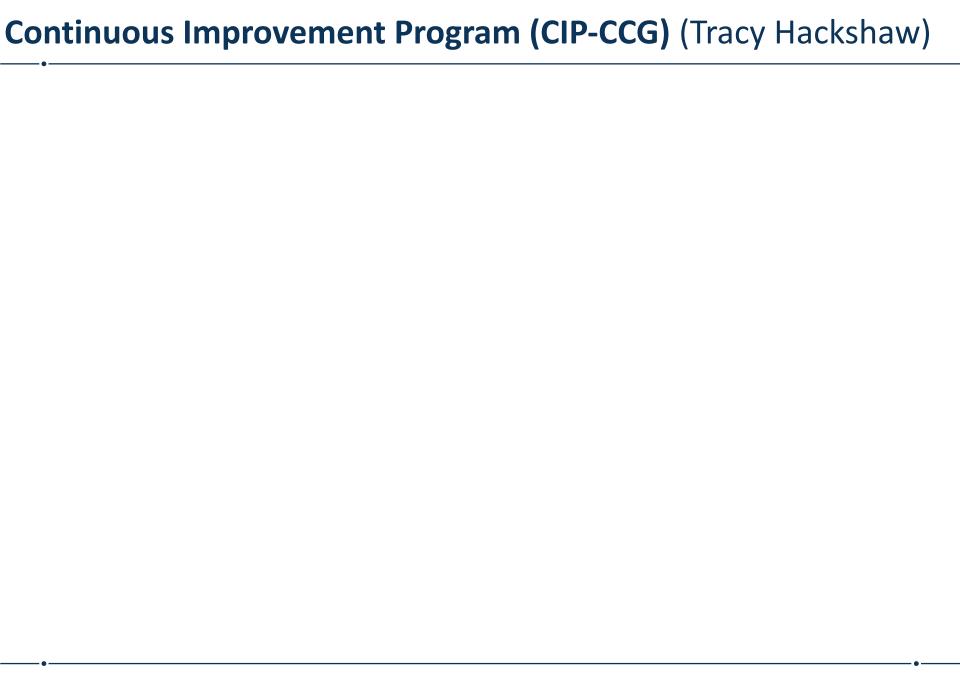
## 2. GAC Strategic Planning

- Background on the GAC's Strategic Planning Effort
- Update on Progress in Expected Outcomes per the GAC 2024/2025 Annual Plan

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# **Operational Matters**





- The GOPE WG resumed its activities post ICANN80
- A number of topics were discussed by the WG, including finalizing minor administrative changes to GAC Operating Principles
- Additionally, the GAC Chair presented a proposal to the GOPE WG on potential changes to leadership position tenures
  - GAC Chair and Vice-Chair positions
- The GAC Chair's proposal was compiled as a <u>brainstorming document</u> for GAC Membership review and input
- Shared with GAC members on 5 November 2024



## **Ideas for GAC Consideration and Discussion:**

- Should the Vice Chair term length be changed?
  - a. One idea could be to extend the Vice chair term from 1 year to 2 years, and retain the option for Vice Chairs to be re-elected once, for a total possible term of 4 years.

These changes, if GAC members were to accept them, could take effect from the 2025 Vice-chairs election.

## Rationale brought forward by GAC Chair:

- Extending the Vice Chair term would allow for increased continuity within the GAC leadership team.
- Vice chairs would have more time to build and apply their expertise while in the Vice Chair role.
- b. Other ideas?



## **Ideas for GAC Consideration and Discussion:**

- Should the Chair term length be changed?
  - a. One idea could be to allow the Chair to be re-elected twice, while retaining the current 2-year term length, for a total possible term of 6 years.
  - b. Another idea could be to extend the Chair term from 2 years to 3 years, and retain the option for the Chair to be re-elected once, for a total possible term of 6 years.

**Rationale brought forward by GAC Chair:** Extending the Chair term will allow for increased continuity within the GAC leadership team.

c. Other ideas?

81 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- Should there be any changes who could be nominated as Chair?
  - a. One idea could be to require that future Chairs are nominated and elected from among the incumbent Vice Chairs. No nominations will be permitted for other GAC members.
  - b. Other ideas?

**GAC** Discussion on potential changes to leadership tenure



# **GAC Strategic Planning Background**



## **GAC Strategic Planning**

# ICANN | GAC

## **Governmental Advisory Committee**

Kigali, Rwanda, 17 June 2024

GAC Communiqué – Kigali, Rwanda<sup>1</sup>

## III. Internal Matters

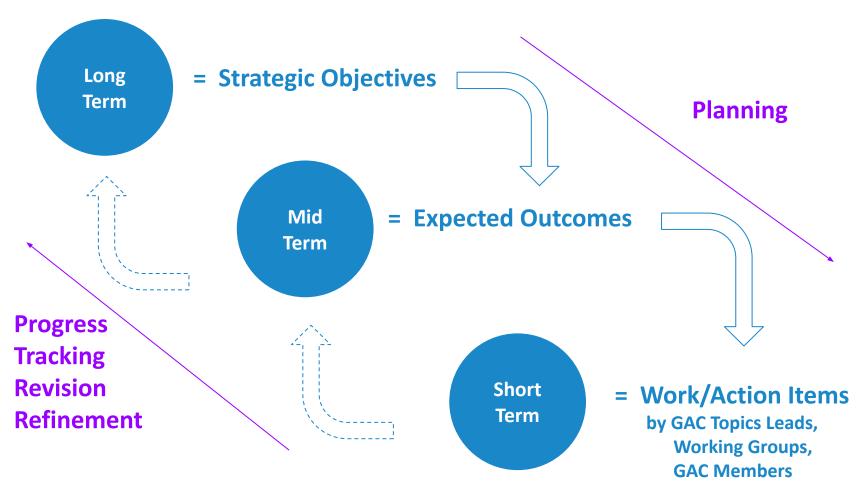
### 4. GAC Strategic Planning

Building on a process initiated in December 2023 by the GAC Chair and Vice-Chairs, considering the GAC plenary discussion during ICANN79 in San Juan, and several consultations of the GAC Membership intersessionally, the GAC finalized and endorsed the 4-year GAC Strategic Plan (2024-2028) and the corresponding 2024/2025 GAC Annual Plan<sup>2</sup>.

The GAC expects that these Strategic and Annual plans will serve to bolster the GAC's proactive stance in ICANN deliberations, increase the Committee's readiness to provide timely and effective advice and policy input, and to assist in communicating the GAC's priorities with higher levels of governments, new GAC Members, and ICANN stakeholders.

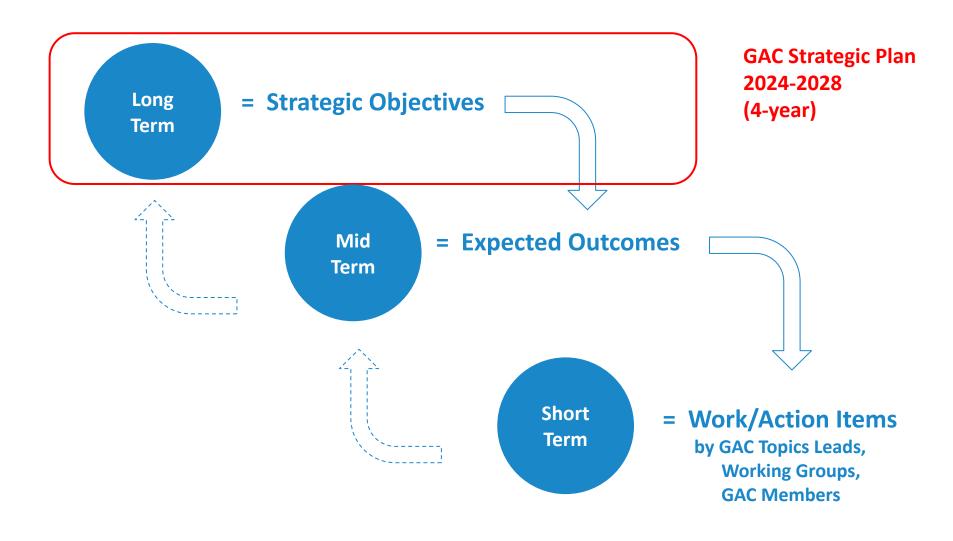
## Reminder: Approach to Developing the GAC Strategic Plan

Strategic Objectives determine Expected Outcomes, which determine Action Items



Completion of Action Items inform attainability of Expected Outcomes, which inform achievability of Strategic Objectives

## Reminder: Approach to Developing the GAC Strategic Plan



## **GAC Strategic Plan 2024-2028**



#### STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2028

Endorsed by the GAC on 17 June 2024

#### GAC Mission, Vision and Values Statement

Consistent with ICANN's Article of Incorporation and ICANN's Bylaws, including ICANN's Mission,
Commitments and Core Values, in the following statements, the GAC aims to propose specific statements for
the sole purpose of the Committee's Strategic Planning.

#### Mission

To provide public policy advice to ICANN on issues that affect the stability, security, and global interconnectedness of the Internet's unique identifier systems and to exercise its powers and rights to ensure accountability of the ICANN Board and organization, as a Decisional Participant in ICANN's Empowered Community.

#### Vision

The GAC envisions a future where the Internet's unique identifier systems remain a trusted and reliable foundation for the global digital ecosystem, reflecting the needs of all users and stakeholders across the globe.

#### Values

- Transparency and Accountability: The GAC strives for open and inclusive policy development
  processes that ensure all voices are heard.
- Multistakeholder Governance: We recognize the importance of a collaborative approach where governments, the private sector, civil society, and the technical community work together for the benefit of the internet.
- Global Policy Consideration: We advocate for policies that are developed with a global perspective, taking into account the needs of diverse communities and cultures.
- Stability and Security: We prioritize the stability and security of the Internet's unique identifier systems to ensure their continued smooth operation.
- Human Rights and International Law: the GAC's values center on harnessing the use of digital
  technology, and specifically the Internet's unique identifier systems, for the benefit of humanity,
  upholding human rights and international law in the context of the digital age.

**GAC Strategic Objectives 2024-2028** 

#### 1) Role for Governments in ICANN

In support of reaffirming the critical role of governments within the ICANN multistakeholder model, the GAC will seek to ensure that governments can effectively pursue their public policy interests, through both existing and future ICANN processes and procedures. In particular, the GAC will work to assess whether current ICANN structures provide sufficient and meaningful opportunity for the GAC, to develop, influence, and modify policy outcomes.

#### 2) Effectiveness of the Governmental Advisory Committee

The GAC will seek to increase active and meaningful participation of GAC Members in its deliberations and operations. The GAC will also work to enhance its effectiveness as a participant in the multistakeholder processes of ICANN, including by ensuring that the voice of GAC members is expressed and appropriately represented, and by leveraging collaboration and alignment with other ICANN constituencies.

#### 3) Future Rounds of New gTLDs

Leveraging the experience and lessons learned from previous rounds of New gTLDs, including on their costs, benefits and accessibility, the GAC will seek to ensure that any future rounds of New gTLDs:

- · Promote competition, consumer trust and consumer choice;
- Contribute to reducing the digital divide, in particular through the support of applicants from underserved and underrepresented regions and the promotion of Internationalized Domain Names
- · Incorporate appropriate security, stability and resiliency safeguards
- Include appropriate procedures and capabilities for the GAC to address unexpected issues arising
  from specific or categories of applications, in particular issues affecting the global public interest such
  as Geographical Names.

#### 4) DNS Abuse

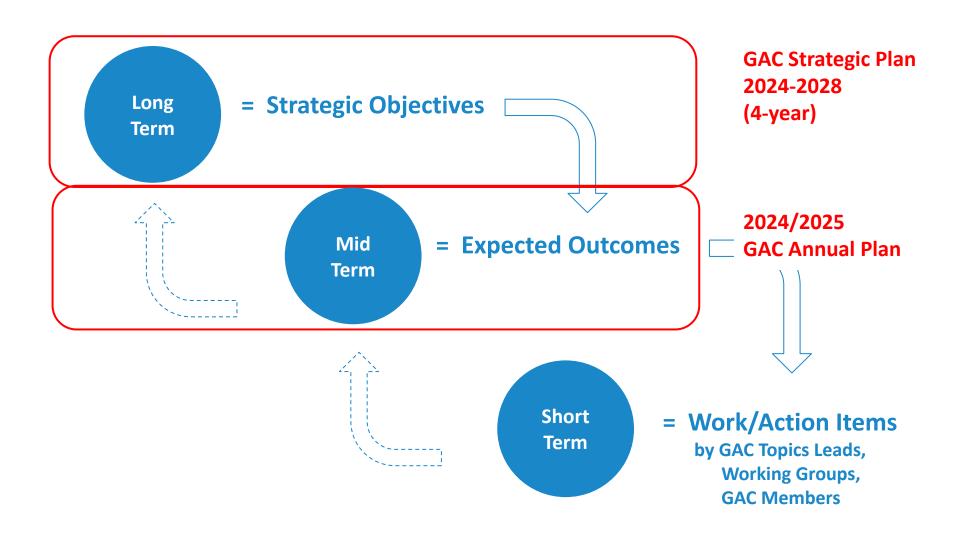
The GAC will engage proactively in the work of the ICANN community and will provide advice on the activities of ICANN as they relate to governments' concerns regarding DNS Abuse<sup>1</sup>, in order to:

- · Promote the security, stability, and resiliency of the DNS
- · Reduce the incidence and harm of DNS Abuse in existing gTLDs and New gTLDs
- Support the continuous improvement of DNS Abuse mitigation and prevention standards and their effective enforcement by ICANN
- Review and identify Best Practices in preventing and mitigating DNS Abuse for wider adoption
- Review, assess and encourage implementation of concrete measures to combat Phishing, Pharming, Botnets, Malware and Spam, in partnership with relevant institutions that deal with the issue.
- Provide GAC members capacity building workshops, sessions and potentially whole programs, either
  on a permanent basis or on an ad-hoc approach, in order to enhance understanding of these issues.

In its work, keeping in mind the ever-evolving nature of DNS abuse, the GAC will seek to survey GAC Members and Observers to better understand how to address concerns and meet expectations of governments.

<sup>1</sup> See <u>GAC Statement on DNS Abuse</u> (18 September 2019)

# Reminder: Approach to Developing the GAC Strategic Plan



## GAC Annual Plan 2024/2025

## I C A N N | G A C

#### **ANNUAL PLAN 2024/2025**

Endorsed by the GAC on 17 June 2024

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GAC 2024-2025 Annual Plan 1

#### GAC Strategic Objective 1 - Role for Governments in ICANN

#### 4-year GAC Strategic Objective (2024-2028)

In support of reaffirming the critical role of governments within the ICANN multistakeholder model, the GAC will seek to ensure that governments can effectively pursue their public policy interests, through both existing and future ICANN processes and procedures. In particular, the GAC will work to assess whether current ICANN structures provide sufficient and meaningful opportunity for the GAC, to develop, influence, and modify policy outcomes.

#### **Expected Outcomes in 2024/2025**

- 1.1. Stakeholder's Understanding of the Role of Governments: Enable all stakeholders to gain a clearer understanding of the role of governments in ICANN processes, including the GAC, leveraging the attendance and participation of senior levels of governments during the High Level Government Meeting (HLGM), and particularly its discussion of ICANN, the Multistakeholder Model and their role in the wider Internet Governance ecosystem.
- 1.2. Discussion of Current Issues at Senior Levels: Discuss current public policy issues and challenges such as those relating to Digital Inclusion, and those referred to in the GAC Strategic Plan, at the most senior levels of government as practicable. These discussions may occur among governments bilaterally or multilaterally, as well as between governments and the ICANN leadership, before, during and after the ICANN80 HLGM
- 1.3. Non-Represented Governments: To promote broader participation in the GAC, seek to establish contacts with governments who are not yet, or not currently, represented on the GAC with the collaboration of ICANN's Stakeholder and Government Engagement teams
- 1.4. Transparency of ICANN processes: Encourage ICANN to make all its processes accessible to governments and citizens of the world through transparent processes, including Statements of Interest (SOI) where appropriate, and accessible tools.
- 1.5. Governmental Advisory Committee Influence on Policy Outcomes: Consider case studies and initial assessment of specific ICANN policy areas or processes where there are concerns with sufficient and meaningful opportunities for the Governmental Advisory Committee to develop, influence, and modify policy outcomes.

#### Resources

- ICANN80 High Level Government Meeting (HLGM) in Kigali, Rwanda: the agenda of the discussion to be held
  among senior representatives of governments, the related opportunities to attend and speak during the event
  and the Chair's report of the meeting are expected to contribute to meeting several of the expected outcomes
  for the coming year in this strategic area of interest to the GAC
- ICANN Government Engagement function: this dedicated team of ICANN org, along with their colleagues in the
  wider Stakeholder Engagement function will be a resource to GAC Members to engage bilaterally with ICANN
  leadership as needed, as well as to conduct outreach to governments not yet represented in ICANN.
- Advisory Committees of ICANN other than the GAC, that is the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) and the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC), and their leaders in particular, will be important resources for the GAC as it conducts its own assessment of its ability to influence ICANN policy outcomes.

GAC 2024-2025 Annual Plan 2

## GAC Annual Plan 2024/2025 Progress Tracker

## ICANN | GAC

Governmental Advisory Committee

## ANNUAL PLAN 2024/2025 PROGRESS TRACKER

#### **Progress Status Summary**

Role of Gov. in ICANN	Effectiveness of the GAC		Future Rounds of New gTLDs	DNS Abuse	Domain Registr. Data	Universal Accept.	New Technology	Internet Gov.	Number Resources
1	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.1	2.1	2.5.1	3.1	4.1	5.1.1	6.1	7.1	8.1.1	9.1
1.2	2.2	2.5.2	3.2	4.2	5.1.2	6.2	7.2	8.1.2	9.2
1.3	2.2.1	2.5.3	3.3	4.3	<u>5.1</u> .3	6.3	7.3	<u>8.1</u> .3	9.3
1.4	2.3.1	2.5.4	3.4	4.4	5.2	6.4	7.4	8.2.1	
1.5	2.3.2	2.6.1	3.5	4.5	5.3	6.5	7.5	8.2.2	
	2.4.1	2.6.2		4.6	5.4	<u>6.6</u> .1		8.2.3	
	2.4.2	2.6.3				6.6.2		8.2.4	
						6.6.3			

Legend	On Track	Complete
1330,033	Not Started	Challenged

#### Reference

GAC Strategic Plan 2024-2028: <a href="https://gac.icann.org/work-plans/gac-strategic-plan-2024-2028.pdf">https://gac.icann.org/work-plans/gac-strategic-plan-2024-2028.pdf</a> GAC Annual Plan 2024/2025: <a href="https://gac.icann.org/work-plans/gac-annual-plan-2024-2025.pdf">https://gac.icann.org/work-plans/gac-annual-plan-2024-2025.pdf</a>

GAC Strategic Planning Resource Page: https://gac.icann.org/activity/gac-strategic-planning

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## **GAC Strategic Objectives "Caretakers"**

- Role for Governments in ICANN
- 2. Effectiveness of the GAC
- 3. Future Round of New gTLDs
- 4. DNS Abuse
- 5. Domain Registration Data
- 6. Universal Acceptance
- 7. New Technology
- 8. Internet Governance
- 9. Internet Number Resources

**Zeina Bouharb** (GAC Vice Chair, Lebanon)

**Zeina Bouharb** (GAC Vice Chair, Lebanon)

**Nigel Hickson** (GAC Vice Chair, UK)

**Thiago Dal Toe** (GAC Vice Chair, Colombia)

**Nico Caballero** (GAC Chair)

Wang Lang (GAC Vice Chair, China)

Nico Caballero (GAC Chair)

**Christine Arida** (GAC Vice Chair, Egypt)

**Christine Arida** (GAC Vice Chair, Egypt)

# **GAC Annual Plan Progress Update**



# **GAC Annual Plan Progress Status Summary**

Role of Gov. in ICANN		veness e GAC	Future Rounds of New gTLDs	DNS Abuse	Domain Registr. Data	Universal Accept.	New Technology	Internet Gov.	Number Resources
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.1	<u>2.1</u>	<u>2.5</u> .1	3.1	4.1	<u>5.1</u> .1	6.1	7.1	<u>8.1</u> .1	9.1
1.2	2.2	2.5.2	3.2	4.2	<u>5.1</u> .2	6.2	<u>7.2</u>	<u>8.1</u> .2	9.2
1.3	2.2.1	<u>2.5</u> .3	3.3	4.3	<u>5.1</u> .3	6.3	7.3	<u>8.1</u> .3	9.3
<u>1.4</u>	2.3.1	<u>2.5</u> .4	3.4	4.4	<u>5.2</u>	<u>6.4</u>	<u>7.4</u>	<u>8.2</u> .1	
1.5	2.3.2	<u>2.6</u> .1	3.5	4.5	5.3	6.5	7.5	<u>8.2</u> .2	
	<u>2.4</u> .1	2.6.2		4.6	<u>5.4</u>	<u>6.6</u> .1		<u>8.2</u> .3	
	2.4.2	2.6.3				<u>6.6</u> .2		<u>8.2</u> .4	
,						<u>6.6</u> .3	· '		

Legend	On Track	Complete
	Not Started	Challenged

| 19

# Role for Governments in ICANN (Strategic Objective #1)

GAC Leadership Caretaker: Zeina Bouharb (Lebanon)

- On Track Expected Outcomes 1.1 to 1.4, pending GE/GSE/ccNSO discussions for further progress
  - 1.1. Stakeholder's Understanding of the Role of Governments
  - 1.2. Discussion of Current Issues at Senior Levels
  - 1.3. Non Represented Governments
  - 1.4. Transparency of ICANN processes
- On Track 1.5. Governmental Advisory Committee Influence on Policy Outcomes

GAC Leadership to initiate outreach to Topic Leads and representatives of the GAC involved in various past and present ICANN processes (reviews, PDPs, Implementation) to seek their assessments and contributions to potential cases studies

# Effectiveness of the GAC (Strategic Objective #2) 1/2

GAC Leadership Caretaker: Zeina Bouharb (Lebanon)

- On Track 2.1. Survey GAC Members and Observers (annual or 6-monthly basis)
   In Development. Open question: large survey on all dimensions of effectiveness or phased and targeted multiples surveys. Target timeframe: launch after ICANN81 and data analysis before ICANN82
- On Track 2.2. Review/Update of the GAC Operating Principles
   As discussed by the WG co-chairs
- On Track 2.3. Improvement and Development of GAC Advice-related Processes
   GAC Assessment of ICANN Board Advice Scorecard and Comments on Issues of Importance: potential need to survey GAC Members' needs/preferences before developing process options
   GAC Communiqué Drafting: GAC Members review of and input on the Art of the GAC Communiqué towards future discussion of potential process evolutions or enhancements if needed

# Effectiveness of the GAC (Strategic Objective #2) 2/2

GAC Leadership Caretaker: Zeina Bouharb (Lebanon)

 On Track 2.4. GAC Implementation of Transparency and Accountability Recommendations (WS2 and ATRT3)

Per current work led by relevant Topic Leads/WG

 On Track 2.5. Increasing the level of engagement and participation in the GAC (Regional GAC Coordination, volunteer roles and responsibilities, relevance of GAC Agenda, barriers to participation)

Need to encourage regional collaboration/coordination on topics of interest with GE/GSE. Share GAC Leadership analysis of barriers to participation and possible ways to address them, and survey/discuss membership needs/priorities/preferences.

• On Track **2.6. GAC Onboarding and Capacity Development** (incl. Mentorship Program for new GAC Representatives)

Onboarding ongoing per usual GAC Support activities. Capacity Development activities led by USRWG and in coordination with GAC members from the ICANN meetings region.

GAC Leadership and GAC Support working on developing a Mentorship Program including a call for experienced GAC volunteers to serve as mentors in 2025

# Future Rounds of New gTLDs (Strategic Objective #3) 1/2

GAC Leadership Caretaker: Nigel Hickson (UK)

- On Track 3.1. Role of GAC Consensus Advice and GAC Early Warnings in the processing of future New gTLD applications
  - Necessary instruments for governments to identify and screen applications that raise public policy concerns.
  - Not yet in focus of the implementation process
- On Track 3.2. Public Interest and Voluntary Commitments by New gTLD Registry Operators
  - The GAC expects that PICs and RVCs will continue to serve as tools for addressing GAC concerns pertaining to new gTLD applications during the next round.
  - GAC and Board agree on fundamental need for these to be enforceable
  - In light of its bylaws, ICANN is not in a position to enforce content restrictions
  - Fundamental Bylaws Amendments to explicitly enable the enforcement of content-related restrictions were considered carefully by Board and Community. They were not judged to be justified at this stage
  - Rules to apply for PICs and RVCs are being discussed in the New gTLD Program Next Round Implementation Review Team (IRT) and expected to be published in the forthcoming applicant guidebook.

# Future Rounds of New gTLDs (Strategic Objective #3) 2/2

GAC Leadership Caretaker: Nigel Hickson (UK)

- On Track 3.3. Closed Generic gTLDs
  - The GAC Advised the ICANN Board to ensure that the forthcoming Applicant Guidebook clearly states that Closed Generic gTLD applications will not be considered (GAC Hamburg Communiqué, 30 October 2023)
  - Following a facilitated dialogue which did not reach a mutually agreed upon framework, the ICANN Board determined that closed generic gTLD applications will not be permitted in this Round and not until such time as there is an approved methodology and criteria to evaluate whether or not a proposed closed domain is in the public interest
- On Track 3.4. Support of New gTLDs Applications from Underserved Regions
  - To be discussed in detail during ICANN81 GAC Plenary Sessions 7 and 8 (Sunday)
- 3.5. Documentation to enable GAC and governments' engagement with future rounds of New gTLDs (Key Messages, GAC Advice implementation tracking, GAC Guidance document)
  - Still too early in the implementation process
  - Deliverables to be expected in 2025
  - For further discussion

## **DNS Abuse** (Strategic Objective #4)

## GAC Leadership Caretaker: Thiago Dal Toe (Colombia)

- On Track Work is progressing and will be discussed in GAC plenary on Tuesday 12 Nov.
  - GAC Topic Leads are considering current developments and reports (4.3) including:
    - ICANN Compliance 6-months Enforcement Report
    - ICANN OCTO Domain Metrica roll out (DNS Abuse Updates session)
    - ICANN OCTO INFERMAL Final Report (DNS Abuse Updates session)
    - DASC ccNSO Survey Results (ICANN81 GAC/ccNSO Bilateral) (4.6)
  - This will inform possible GAC recommendations and advice (4.2) and engagement with the ICANN Board and GNSO regarding the need for policy development (4.4)
- Not started 4.1. Survey GAC members and observers on DNS Abuse matters
  - GAC Topic Leads may want to consider initiating such a survey between ICANN81 and ICANN82, and possibly leverage lessons learn from the ccNSO DASC Survey
  - May inform additional future outcomes (4.5)

# **Domain Registration Data** (Strategic Objective #5)

GAC Leadership Caretaker: Nico Caballero (GAC Chair)

On Track (in terms of following-up, tracking, and urging)

- Registration Data Policy (incl. Urgent Requests) [Expected Outcomes 5.1.1, 5.1.2]
- Registration Data Access [Expected Outcome 5.2]
- Privacy/Proxy Services Accreditation Policy

## (Potentially) Challenged:

- Collection and publication of registration information related to legal entities (Registration Data Policy) [Expected Outcome 5.1.3]
  - No enforceable obligations from EPDP Phase 2A (<u>GAC Minority Statement</u>, 10 Sep. 2021)
  - No current venue for discussion of this issue
- Accuracy of Registration Data [Expected Outcome 5.4]
  - Work of GNSO Accuracy Scoping Team suspended for 2 years
  - GAC Small Group and PSWG closely following and seeking to finding opportunities for progress. ICANN Board reported being one-step closer with publication of draft Data Processing Specification

Next Steps: These topics are expected to be discussed in GAC Session 11 on Wednesday

# Universal Acceptance (Strategic Objective #6) 1/2

## GAC Leadership Caretaker: Wang Lang (China)

- On Track 6.1. Information of GAC Members
  - Several events were targeted at the GAC and UA-interested audiences including the
     <u>ICANN79 Briefing of the GAC UA Strategies</u> and the <u>Pre-ICANN81 UA Community Update</u>.
     Ongoing <u>UA Statements of Work</u> and <u>Training material</u> available
- On Track 6.2. Government Support of Relevant Efforts
   (opportunities to support and promote UA locally, regionally and globally)
  - Governments and telecom regulators reported to have participated in UA Day 2024 events (<u>UA Day 2024 Report</u>, 20 June 2024)

TABLE 1: UA DAY 2024 PROPOSALS RECEIVED, SHORTLISTED AND ORGANIZED BY REGION									
REGION	PROPOSALS	SHORTLISTED	ORGANIZED						
AF	43	19	17						
APAC	33	16	15						
EUR	10	5	5						
LAC	42	14	13						
NA	5	2	2						

TABLE 2: UA DAY 2024 EVENTS BY TYPES AND REGION								
EVENT TYPE AF APAC EUR LAC NA								
UA Regional Strategy	1	1	1	0	0	3		
UA Academic Curricula	1	1	0	2	0	3		
UA Adoption	3	3	0	4	0	12		
UA Awareness	4	4	4	5	1	22		
UA Technical Training	8	8	0	2	1	12		

Of these events, 21 events were organized by At-Large Structures (11 AF, 3 APAC, 6 LAC, 1 NA) and 11 were organized with .... collaboration of country code top-level domains (ccTLDs) managers.

# **Universal Acceptance** (Strategic Objective #6) 2/2

GAC Leadership Caretaker: Wang Lang (China)

- On Track **6.3. Engagement of the UASG** (dialogue and information exchange)
  - ICANN79 Joint meeting between GAC and UASG (and Briefing of the GAC on UA Strategies)
- On Track 6.4. Policy Development for Future New gTLDs
  - The ICANN Board <u>approved</u> most of the GNSO's IDN EPDP Phase 1 recommendations (on topics related to top-level gTLD definition and variant management)
  - The Phase 2 <u>Initial report</u> (topics related to second-level variant management) was
    published on 11 April 2024 and review of <u>public comment received</u> is complete. <u>A Final Report</u> was submitted to the GNSO Council for approval on 7 October 2024 and eventual consideration by the ICANN Board
- On Track 6.5. Cross-Community Collaboration
  - ICANN and UNESCO <u>announced</u> (1 Oct. 2024) joining forces to champion UA Day 2025 (March-May 2025). The ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC) continues to hold regular <u>meetings</u> in furtherance of its <u>work plan</u>
- Not started 6.6. Registrar Readiness: Not started. Potential Work Item for GAC IDN-UA WG.

## Impact of New Technology on Unique Identifiers (S. Obj. #7)

## GAC Leadership Caretaker: Nico Caballero (GAC Chair)

- On Track 7.1. Information Gathering and Issue Monitoring
  - GAC Support staff in contact with ICANN's Office of the CTO for monitoring of relevant developments. GAC Members flagging of issues and developments welcome.
- On Track 7.2. Artificial intelligence (AI)
  - GAC and SSAC expected to discuss DNS Abuse and AI (GAC Plenary Session 10 on Sunday)
- On Track 7.3. Internet of things (IoT)
  - No relevant development identified as it relates to IoT interplay with unique identifiers. GAC
     Members flagging of issues and relevant developments welcome.
- On Track 7.4. Blockchains
  - ICANN OCTO released 2 publications (17 October 2024) on blockchains and their relationship to alternative naming systems. These were presented in an webinar during ICANN81 Prep Week (28 October 2024).
  - GAC and SSAC expected to discuss Blockchain and the DNS (GAC Plenary Session 10 on Sunday)
- On Track 7.5. Cryptography and security
  - DNSSEC discussed with the ICANN Board on BGIG call (21 October 2024) in response to Issues
    of Importance in the <u>GAC Kigali Communiqué</u> (17 June 2024). GAC to consider key rollover
    developments including ICANN's <u>Root Zone DNSSEC Algorithm Rollover Study</u> (23 May 2024)

# **Internet Governance** (Strategic Objective #8) 1/2

## GAC Leadership Caretaker: Christine Arida (Egypt)

- On Track 8.1. Monitoring and Information Sharing (WSIS+20, GDC and other relevant processes, ICANN Communication and Engagement Strategy, and GAC Webinars)
  - Global Digital Compact (GDC) adopted as part of a Pact of the Future by world leaders at the UN Summit of the Future (22 September 2024). GDC contains a section on IG.
  - O ICANN launched the <u>WSIS+20 Oureach Network</u> which held several webinars and communicates via a <u>mailing list</u>. The ccNSO expressed <u>concerns</u> (15 July 2024) with the lack of "a central, coordinated voice and point of contact delivering clear messages on behalf of the community as a whole". In <u>response</u> (25 July 2024), the ICANN CEO proposed improved coordination and the supply of analysis and messaging.
  - Several recent ICANN webinars discussed <u>Internet Governance</u>, and the <u>WSIS+20 Review and</u> the future of the IGF (September-October 2024).
  - ICANN <u>launched</u> (4 Nov. 2024) an IG Advocacy Project, a social media campaign that aims to raise awareness and drive meaningful discussions about the future of the Internet
  - During ICANN81, relevant discussion to be held in various settings:
    - Geopolitical, Legislative, and Regulatory Developments Update (Monday 10:45)
    - Shifting Paradigms: Multistakeholderism, Geopolitics, International Law, and New Internet Infrastructures (Wednesday 10:30)
    - GAC bilateral meetings with ICANN Board (Tue. 13:15) and ccNSO (Wed. 09:00)

# **Internet Governance** (Strategic Objective #8) 2/2

## GAC Leadership Caretaker: Christine Arida (Egypt)

- 8.2. Committee Consultation and Organization
  - Not Started Consideration of a New GAC Small Group (8.2.1)
    - Need to gauge interest / defer discussion to after ICANN81 in light of heavy
       ICANN81 agenda on Internet Governance
  - Not Started Survey GAC Membership (8.2.2)
    - GAC to consider conducting a similar exercise to what the <u>ccNSO IG Liasion</u> <u>Committee (IGLC)</u> does regionally
  - On Track ICANN org suggestion of potential topics based on ICANN activities (8.2.3)
    - ICANN SO-AC Leadership forming an informal WSIS+20 discussion group.
       This initial work may inform ideas for 8.2.1 above
  - Complete ICANN80 HLGM (8.2.4)
    - Kigali HLGM discussions served to develop and share GAC views regarding WSIS+20 review and/or other matters of GAC interest in Internet Governance

# **Internet Number Resources** (Strategic Objective #9)

## GAC Leadership Caretaker: Christine Arida (Egypt)

- On Track **9.1. Information of GAC Members** (on RIRs management of Internet unique identifiers, and allocation and registration policies and governance)
  - GAC Mailing list exchange on ICANN ASO AC's 2024/2025 process of revising the <u>Internet Coordination Policy 2 (ICP-2)</u> and relevant regional activities
  - Public Comment Proceeding open on <u>Proposed ICP-2 (v2) Principles</u>
  - Both topics to be discussed by the GAC during ICANN81 (Capacity Building Workshop and GAC/ASO Bilateral meeting)
- On Track **9.2. Government Support of Relevant Efforts** (identify opportunities and build capacity for governments, promote policies and best practices locally, regionally and globally)
  - ICANN81 GAC Capacity Building Workshop
  - GAC members to consider submitting input (individually/collectively) to open Public Comment Proceeding on <u>Proposed ICP-2 (v2) Principles</u>
- On Track **9.3. Cross-Community Collaboration** (maintain ongoing dialogue and information exchange and engage with RIRs/ASO)
  - ICANN81 GAC/ASO Bilateral meeting