



83 | POLICY
FORUM

ICANN | GAC

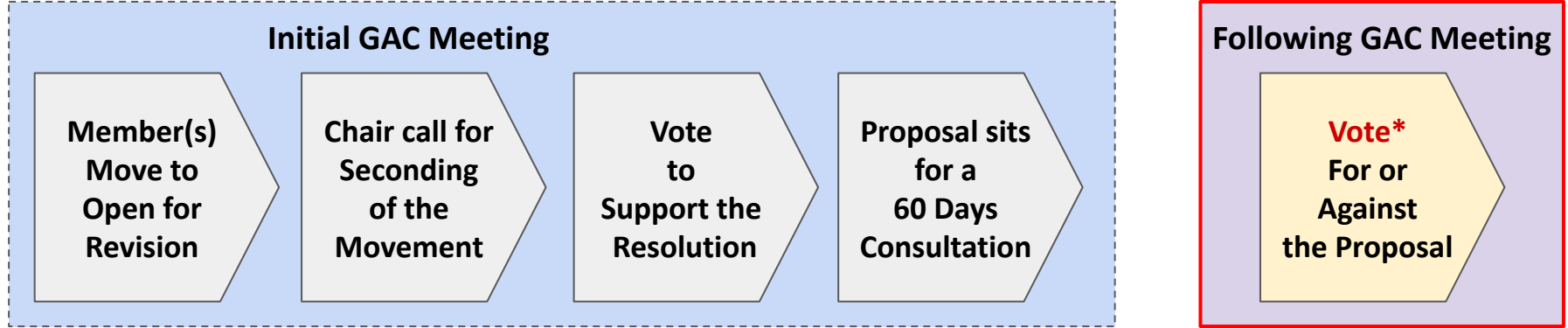
GAC Leadership Terms -

Proposals to Align Election Dates and Extend Terms of C-VC

Tuesday 10 June 2025 - 1330 UTC



GAC Operating Principle 53



*vote by ballot, by the raising o[f] hands, or by roll call - and shall be a simple majority of the Members present at the meeting

Principle 53

A Member or Members may move, at a meeting, for these Operating Principles to be open to revision. If so moved, the Chair shall call for the movement to be seconded. If so seconded, then the Chair shall call for a vote to support the resolution. The deciding vote may be by ballot, by the raising of hands, by roll call, or by using an online voting mechanism and shall constitute a simple majority of the Members who are present at the meeting at which it was moved for these Operating Principles to be revised. Physical presence at the meetings is required for eligibility to vote. If so resolved in favour of a revision of these Operating Principles, then the proposal shall sit for consultation for a period of sixty (60) days. At the next meeting following the sixty days, the Chair shall call for a vote for or against the proposal. The deciding vote may be taken by ballot, by the raising of ~~hands~~ hands, by roll call, or by using an online voting mechanism and shall be a simple majority of the Members who are present at the meeting at which the vote takes place. Physical presence at the meetings is required for eligibility to vote.

Election of GAC Officers -

Two Operating Principles Impacted by Proposals

WHEN GAC Leadership Elections Take Place

GAC Operating Principle 31

Elections for the GAC Chair shall take place during the final meeting of every second year unless the Chair can no longer perform the functions of the office before the end of a current two (2) year term of office. If the Chair can no longer perform the functions during the first year in office, an election shall be organized for the remaining term in office during the next GAC meeting. If the Chair can no longer perform the functions during the second year in office, the GAC shall decide which of the Vice Chairs should replace the Chair until the regularly scheduled elections are held.

Elections for the Vice Chairs shall take place during the final meeting of the year. If Vice Chair can no longer perform the functions before the end of the term, new elections should be organized, if necessary, for the remaining term in office during the next GAC meeting. The results of each election shall formally be announced at the end of any meeting in which an election has taken place, and shall take effect at the end of the next GAC meeting.

Term Limits for GAC Chair and Vice CHairs

GAC Operating Principle 21

If the GAC moves to require additional officers other than the Chair, then five (5) Vice-Chairs shall be elected from among the Members. To the extent possible, the Vice-Chairs should appropriately reflect the geographic and development diversity of the membership. The Chair shall hold office for a term of two (2) years, renewable once. The Vice-Chairs shall hold office for a term of one (1) year and may be re-elected; however, no person may serve as Vice-Chair for more than two consecutive terms

Proposal to Adjust/Align GAC Election Timing

GAC Operating Principle 31

Necessary elections for the GAC Chair shall take place during the ~~final~~ **second** meeting of every **election** year unless the Chair can no longer perform the functions of the office before the end of **the Chair's** ~~a current two (2)~~ **year** term of office. If the Chair can no longer perform the functions during the first **half of their term** ~~year~~ in office, an election shall be organized for the remaining term in office during the next GAC meeting. If the Chair can no longer perform the functions during the second **half of their term** ~~year~~ in office, the GAC shall decide which of the Vice Chairs should replace the Chair until the regularly scheduled elections are held.

Elections for the Vice Chairs shall take place during the ~~final~~ **second** meeting of **every election** ~~the~~ year. If **a** Vice Chair can no longer perform the functions before the end of the term, new elections should be organized, if necessary, for the remaining term in office during the next GAC meeting. The results of each election shall formally be announced **by** ~~at~~ the end of any meeting in which an election has taken place, and shall take effect at the end of the next GAC meeting.

Proposals to Extend GAC C-VC Term Extensions

Proposals agreed to at ICANN82 - Seattle

GAC Chair Tenure consecutive term-limit options:

More terms – 3 consecutive terms, 2 years each (total – 6 consecutive years)

Vice chair tenure consecutive term-limit options:

Longer terms – 2 terms, 2 years each (total – 4 consecutive years)

Proposal to Extend GAC C-VC Term Extensions

GAC Operating Principle 21

If the GAC moves to require additional officers other than the Chair, then five (5) Vice-Chairs shall be elected from among the Members. To the extent possible, the Vice-Chairs should appropriately reflect the geographic and development diversity of the membership. The Chair shall hold office for a term of two (2) years, renewable twice. The Vice-Chairs shall hold office for a term of two (2) years, renewable once and may be re-elected; however, no person may serve as Vice-Chair for more than two consecutive terms

Extending GAC C-VC Terms - Initial Impacts and Transition

Impact on Current GAC Chair Term

- Two-year term began at conclusion of ICANN82 (March 2025)
- Alignment with next AGM will require current term to end in October 2026 rather than March 2027
- 2026 Election Nominations begin at end of ICANN85 (March 2026) and election concludes at ICANN86 (June 2026)
- Current GAC Chair term ends at conclusion of ICANN87 (October 2026) - 4 months early

Impact on Next GAC Chair Term

- Regular/Full Two-year term begins at end of ICANN87 (October 2026)
- Nomination period begins at end of ICANN85 (March 2026) and election concludes at ICANN86 (June 2026)
- Begins two-year term at end of ICANN87 (October 2026 - in alignment with AGM) and serves until end of ICANN93 (October 2028)

Impact on Current GAC Vice Chair Terms

- One-year terms began at conclusion of ICANN82 (March 2025)
- No impact - terms still conclude at end of ICANN85 (March 2026)

Impact on Vice Chairs Elected at ICANN84

- 2025 Election Nominations begin at end of ICANN83 (June 2025) and election concludes at ICANN 84 (October 2025)
- Vice Chairs elected at ICANN84 will serve shorter terms to align with new AGM confluence
- Vice Chairs elected at ICANN84 (shortened two-year term) will begin term at end of ICANN85 (March 2026) and will serve shorter term until conclusion of ICANN90 (October 2027) - 4 months early

1. GAC 2024 Vice-Chairs Election (Overview)

- GAC leadership elections process begins here at end of ICANN83 and concludes at ICANN84 (25-30 October 2025)
- Five (5) GAC Vice Chairs to be elected
- Three current Vice Chairs are eligible for re-election
- Nomination period from end of ICANN83 until 23:59 UTC on 10 September 2024 (OP#33)
- More than five nominations for GAC Vice Chairs will activate a balloting period.

1. GAC 2024 Vice-Chairs Election (Nomination Process)

- Nominations should be made by email to gac-staff@icann.org with a copy to the GAC list
- Nominations (including self-nominations) are possible for all five positions
- Staff will send an email confirmation to the nominator that the nomination has been recorded
- If third-party nomination, staff will also verify that the nominee is willing to stand for election
- GAC website election page will track all nominations - <https://gac.icann.org/activity/2024-chair-and-vicechairs-election>

AOB - Any Other Operating Matters to Raise *(time permitting)*

- Reminder about Attendance Pilot effort here at ICANN83 - please respond to E-Ballot emails

Thank you!