
ICANN84 | AGM – ICANN84 GAC Communique Drafting (6 of 6)
Thursday, October 30, 2025 – 15:00 to 16:00 IST

GULTEN TEPE

Welcome to the final GAC communiqué drafting session here in Dublin on Thursday 30th of October at 1500 UTC. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior, ICANN Community Participant Code of Conduct and The ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy.

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NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you very much, Gulten. Welcome back, everyone. Good morning, good afternoon and good evening, as we normally say, because, everybody knows that there are people online. So that's the whole idea about the very special way of greeting in the ICANN environment.

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So, the agenda for today is just to have a quick review, I mean, it's not even a review, it's just, we're going to go over the different sections of the GAC communiqué and we're going to do it new GAC style. New GAC style standing for ITU style, which we used to use before, but now we're going to call it, I don't know, new GAC style or something. We need to come up with our own definition for the procedure, right? Even though we need to give the credit to the ITU crew, who in a very efficient way deals with these kinds of texts.

So, Nigel Hickson style, very good point, yeah, to honor our good friend, Nigel Hickson. Good point, good point, thank you for that, Egypt. So, without further ado, I'll give the floor to my distinguished colleague from the Netherlands. He is going to be the Nigel Hickson today, he's going to walk us through the different sections, and for the record, we're not reviewing anything substantive here.

We have already discussed everything, the idea is not to open the floor for any further discussions unless, and I kindly suggest caution, for the sake of time, in case you see anything that is really, really, anything really pressing for your capital, for your delegation, and as a matter of fact the time between yesterday's session and today's session was precisely to give you time to consult with your capitals. So, we basically assume that everything is okay with the text. If that is not the case, this is a good time to say so. So again, without further ado, let me hand the floor to the Netherlands. Over to you, Marco.

MARCO HOGEWONING

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some big shoes to fill all of a sudden, I guess it helps if you double as the ITU focal point. Colleagues, here we go, then I'll slowly move through the text as a second reading of all the text that was approved yesterday. We have the preamble, as you will see, we will enter the actual timeframe upon release of this communiqué for the 72-hour silence period.

So on the introduction, happily supported by the staff, we of course recognize when and where we met, highlight that we have now done the count, and there are 70 GAC members and eight observers who attended the meeting. Then we have our usual layout with section number two.

The inter-constituency activities and community engagement, where we've highlighted our meeting with the ICANN Board, its agenda. And further down, we had a meeting with the ALAC, where we list the agenda of the topics that we've met about, the security and stability advisory committee, and the meeting with the ASO. You see we've now also included the references and the footnotes that were necessary.

Meeting with the country code names supporting organization, we have listed our meeting with the non-commercial stakeholder group and with the generic names supporting organization as it is met here. We have a small sentence referencing the meeting of the

WSIS co-facilitators and the cross-community discussions that several GAC members participated in during the ICANN84 meeting.

I'll keep continuing until anybody tells me to stop. Section three covers the internal members, the internal matters, sorry. So we have the GAC membership, 184 GAC members, and with the digital corporation organization on board, now 41 observers. The GAC leadership elections are mentioned. Ian Sheldon, Zeina Bou Harb, Marco Hogewoning, Jorge Cancio, and Gloria Katuuku will be serving as GAC vice chairs following the March meeting in Mumbai.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

One thing we need to remember is that the new terms of the vice chairs is going to be for two years, just a heads up, just to remind you, and that's why it says October 27. As you may recall, we changed the operating principles, and that's a reflection of what we did, I think it was back in Prague. So, just a heads up. Thank you so much. Please go ahead, Marco.

MARCO HOGEWONING

And there is a footnote referencing the operating principles that Nico just mentioned. You will be with us for a few more meetings. The GAC Working Groups, then, there is a small piece of text with the GAC Public Safety Working Group, just to note that this morning some editorial reviews, so we've made sure that it says PSWG throughout the text in the same way. The GAC Operating Principles Evolution Working Group, or GOAP, WG, is mentioned and has

provided some text on what they've done and what they're going to do.

There is mention of the strategic planning, and affirming that this has now been endorsed for the 2025-2026 annual plan. Thank you all who contributed there. And then there is a section listing our Capacity Development, highlighting the preparations for the New gTLD program, and of course, the other capacity development that included artificial intelligence and the GNSO policy development process.

Issues of importance to the GAC, and again, thank you all who contributed and for the productive and constructive conversations yesterday. We have a section covering the Next Round of New gTLDs, with the preamble covering the approval of the AGB, thanking everybody who had contributed to that.

We have a section that references the Applicant Support Program, as we have discussed, and asking for several actions on ICANN's side, and especially a further dialogue. So, we're looking forward to that call.

The additional fee for evaluation of geographic names is mentioned here, as shown, and essentially a follow-up to earlier public comments made by the GAC. And there is a section on the Latin Script Diacritics, again, with reference to a PDP that's currently ongoing.

As a final section at this part for the next round of New gTLDs, there is a piece on the IGO protections, again, a discussion that is currently ongoing, stressing that the GAC will remain involved. A few footnotes, again, to point to the various PDPs and policy recommendations that are mentioned in this section.

Section 2 of our Issues of Importance are the Community Statement of Interest, a very short piece, as this is now approved, the ICANN Review of Reviews that has gotten underway, and then there is a DNS Abuse section. And if Fabien can slowly scroll through, you can see that it basically is an extensive report of what happened since ICANN83 and all the conversations that have taken place during this meeting about DNS Abuse, both in terms of PDP and various efforts to build more capacity and get a better understanding of this topic.

We, of course, also reference the presentations by the country, ccTLD here from those countries, .ie, TWNIC and .Asia, on what they are doing, and that also then mentions the dedicated session we have together with the ccNSO. Section 5, Domain Name Registration Data, Urgent Requests for Disclosure of Registration Data, is the first section.

Again, a good overview of what has been done since San Jose and Kigali, and especially all the discussions we had during this meeting on the topic. And again, also a lot of reference to the PSWG's work, who is leading these efforts.

The Registration Data Request Service, or RDRS, as it's commonly known, has its own little section where the GAC expresses its desire to keep it going and further develop the RDRS, including, as you see here, to explore efforts to voluntary participation of the ccTLDs. And I think then, as the last bit, is actually the accuracy of data registration, where, again, there is a long overview, especially around reporting and further work to strengthen the 2024 amendments of the RAA.

Going down, there is a brief piece of text regarding the governance of regional internet registries, referencing our meeting with the ASO and our views regarding the development of a new governance document for the recognition, operation and derecognition of regional internet registries.

There is, this meeting, no need to issue conferences advice, apparently, so we have removed that, and that leaves us with the final section of the communiqué, section 5, that references the next meeting, and the GAC is scheduled to meet again during ICANN85 community forum, which will be held 7 to 12 March, as it currently stands, will be meeting in Mumbai, India. Fabian, you want to explore the next steps, or do I hand it back to Nico?

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much, Netherlands. Two things. Number one, let's give a big round of applause to our colleague from the Netherlands for fantastically walking us through Nigel Style. We need to coin that name, Nigel Style, reading of the GAC communiqué, to honor

our good friend, Nigel Hickson, instead of calling it ITU, right, ITU Style, I prefer Nigel Style. That's on the one hand, on the other hand, we, well, as we agreed yesterday, we're not referencing precisely the name of the city, because, hopefully not, but anything can happen between now and ICANN85, and that's why we refer to it as ICANN85, instead of saying ICANN85 Mumbai.

I'm crossing my fingers, we're all crossing our fingers that that will be the case, and nothing will happen, and everything will go well, and we'll get together, and, the beautiful city of Mumbai, but again, out of precaution, we're doing this. So, again, thank you so much, Marco. That was fantastic. I have a hand up from the U.K.

ESTHER JAROMITSKI

Thank you so much, Nico, U.K, for the record. I just wanted to say that it was in the spirit of Nigel Hickson's birthday yesterday that we got so efficiently through the communiqué. So, I think it's a sign, and he's watching us. Thank you.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so much. For the newer GAC representatives, Nigel Hickson was, apart from being a very good friend, he was like a father figure for many of us, as a matter of fact. So, thank you for that, U.K. So at this point, let me give the floor to Fabien in order to see if there's anything actually missing.

FABIEN BETREMIEUX

Thank you, Nico. So, from the communiqué perspective, we're entering the 72-hour review period. So, actually, we will send an email that will officially start, formally start the 72-hour review period. We expect to potentially be doing that later today in the evening.

So that should give you until Saturday, late in the day, UTC, for expressing any potential objection, and after which we'll proceed to publication, which likely be on Monday. And that's why we currently have in the communiqué text the date of 3 November, 2025, as the date of the Dublin communiqué. So, Nico, from the communiqué's perspective, I think this is all we have.

NICOLAS CABALLERO

Thank you so very much. One final thing is that, and this is to all the distinguished GAC representatives, rest assured that not a single word was changed, right? The whole text has been reviewed by the five vice chairs, by the GAC support staff, and just in case, we'll read it once again before circulating it. So if there's any kind of glitch, any kind of extra comma, period, or parentheses, we'll take care of that.

Let me open the floor for any final AOB comments or questions you might have at this point, very especially in case you got in touch with your capitals and there's anything, that you might want to mention at this point.

All right. That not being the case, all we need to do at this point is to give a big round of applause to our, hero interpreters. Thank you very much. I hope we didn't give you a hard time, during these sessions, that we all really hope that.

Thank you so much to our fantastic GAC staff, the fabulous five, Fabien, Julia, Gulten, Rob, and I don't know if Barry is around. Rob, is Barry in the room? And Benedetta, of course. Benedetta Rossi to my left, of course. I mean, and the technical team as well. I'm not so happy with them, I'll tell you the truth, because of the brightness of the lights, you know. For next sessions, I'll be bringing my sunglasses and I will encourage everyone to bring sunglasses because, but I understand it's a technical thing, so I'm just joking.

So, thank you so much. A big round of applause for them as well. Oh yeah, this is way better. Oh man, this is way better. And finally, we were planning to take, a group picture, but half the people who voted for this session are actually not in the room, so we're not taking a picture of the full group.

We might be able to do that in Mumbai, hopefully. So, thank you very much. Safe travels, everyone, and stay safe. Thank you so much. The session is adjourned.

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