



**BRUSSELS**

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No.38 | 20-25 June 2010

# INTRODUCTION TO ICANN

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22 June 2010



# ICANN's Vision

- ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with participants from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable.
- ICANN's vision is of a single, global, safe, stable and secure Internet connecting: all the people of the world, all Internet enabled devices and all industry and businesses, institutions, governments as well as public and private entities – an internet where all participants respect and protect personal data, the right to privacy, freedom of speech, access to information and the rule of the law.



# ICANN Mission

- ICANN is responsible for the global coordination of the Internet's system of unique identifiers. These include domain names (like .org, .museum and country codes like .UK), as well as the addresses used in a variety of Internet protocols. Computers use these identifiers to reach each other over the Internet.
- It is ICANN staff's responsibility to implement those bottom up policies, while maintaining the security and stability of the internet and promoting competition.
- ICANN doesn't control content on the Internet. It cannot stop spam and it doesn't deal with access to the Internet. But through its coordination role of the Internet's naming system, it does have an important impact on the expansion and evolution of the Internet.



# What is ICANN

**ICANN =**

Internationalisation

of Policy & Management Functions for DNS and IP  
Addressing systems

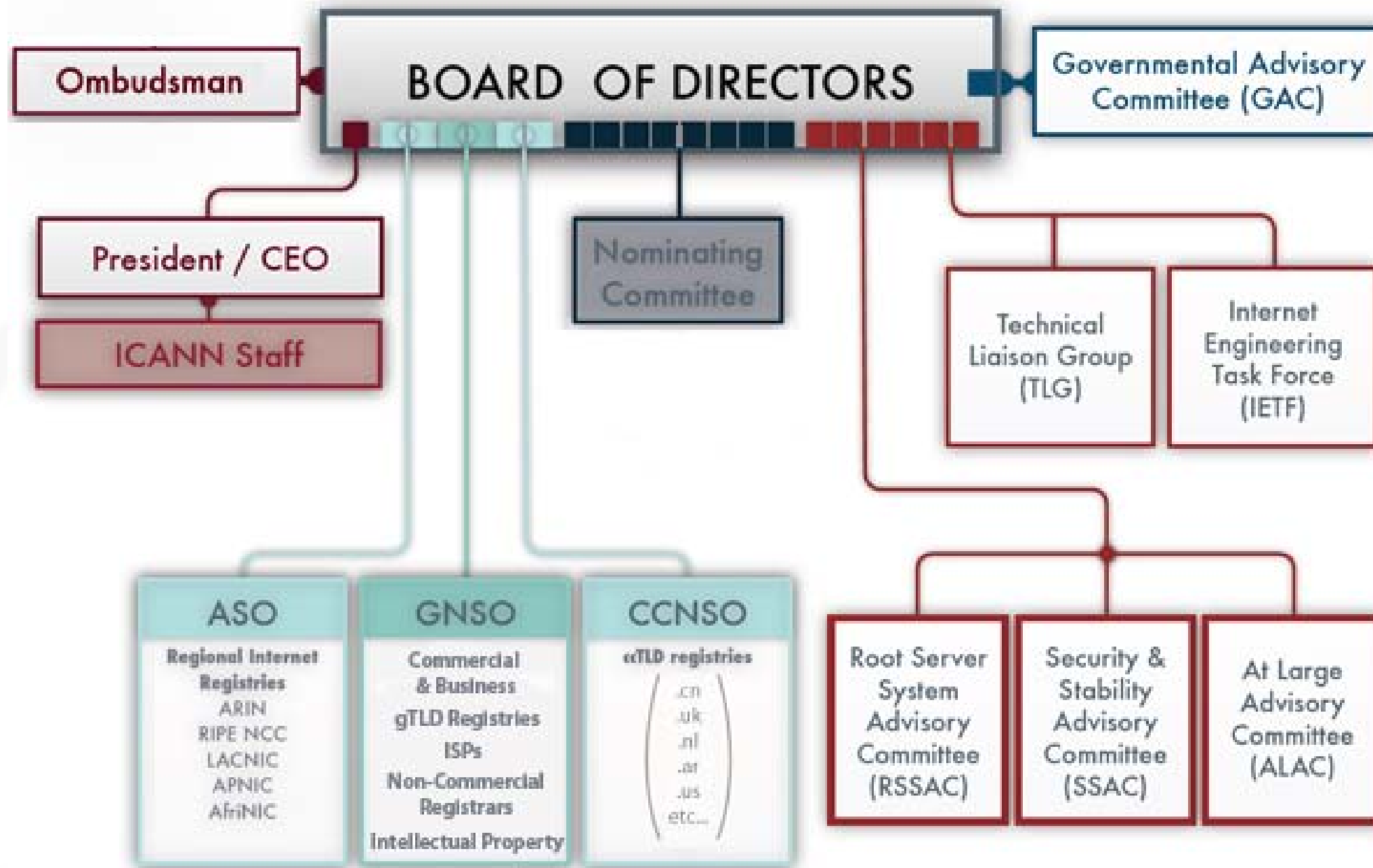
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Multistakeholder Partnership

Technical community, business, academia, users, and  
governments



# Our Structure



# The ICANN Board of Directors

## ➤ 21 Board Members and Liaisons

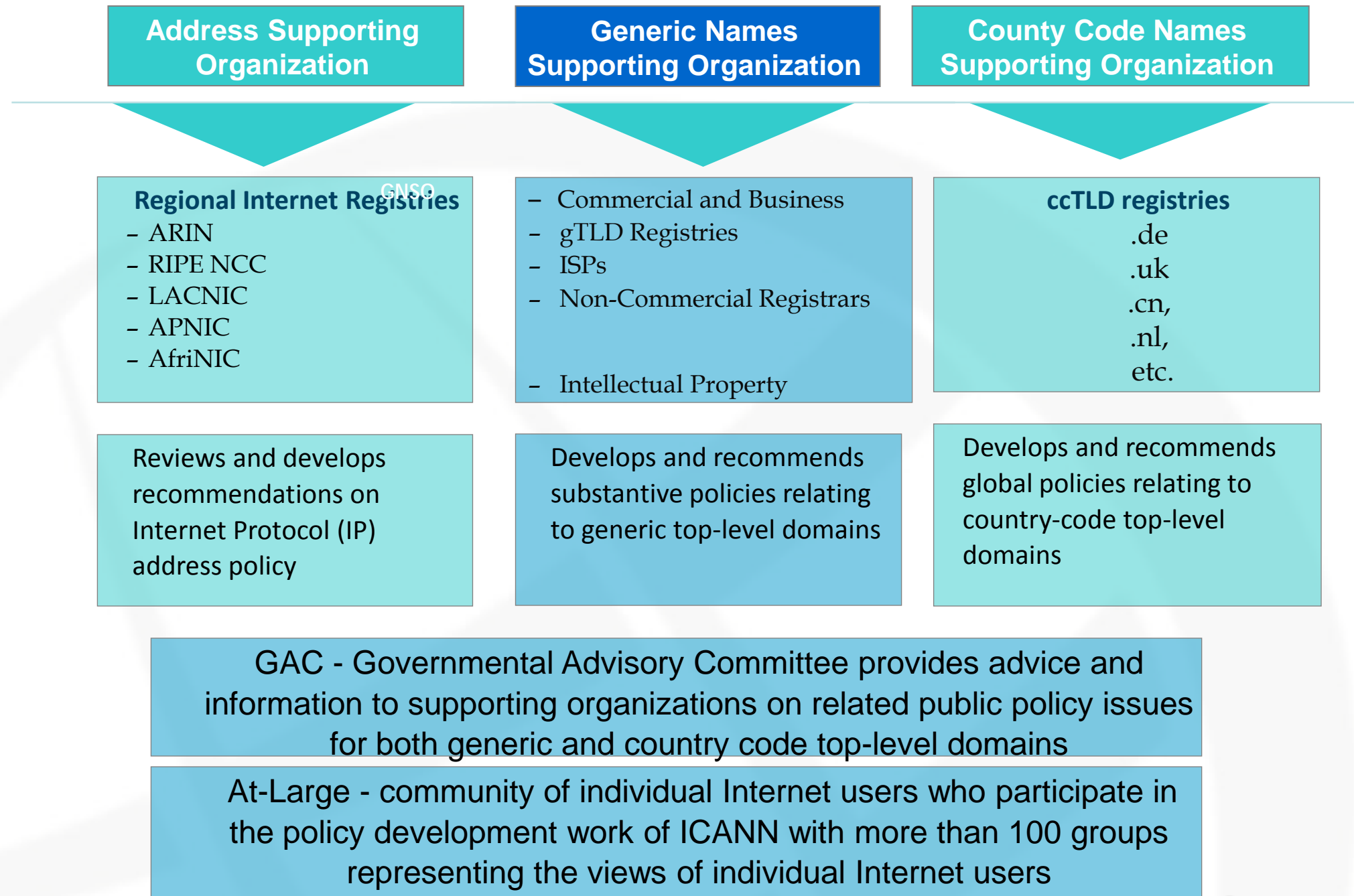
- 15 voting members
  - CEO
  - 6 chosen by Supporting Organizations
  - 8 chosen by Nominating Committee
- 6 non-voting members
  - 4 chosen by Advisory Committees
  - 2 chosen by Technical Liaison Group

## ➤ Past & Present Members from:

Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, Ghana, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Mexico, the Netherlands, Portugal, Senegal, Spain, UK, USAI,



# Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees





# Advisory Committees

## GAC – Governmental Advisory Committee

- considers and provides advice on the activities of ICANN as they relate to concerns of governments and where they may affect public policy issues. To learn more go to <http://gac.icann.org/web/index.shtml>

## ALAC – At-Large Advisory Committee

- "At-Large" is the name for the community of individual Internet users who participate in the policy development work of ICANN with more than 100 groups representing the views of individual Internet users. To find out more go to <http://www.atlarge.icann.org/>



# Advisory Committees

## SSAC – [Security and Stability Advisory Committee](#)

- advises the ICANN community and Board on matters relating to the security and integrity of the Internet's naming and address allocation systems including operational administrative and registration matters

## RSSAC – [Root-Server System Advisory Committee](#)

- considers and provides advice on the operational requirements of root name servers and should examine and advise on the security aspects of the root name server system. and reliability.



# Supporting Organizations

## ASO – Address Supporting Organisation

- The purpose of the ASO is to review and develop recommendations on Internet Protocol (IP) address policy and to advise the ICANN Board.

## GNSO – Generic Names Supporting Organisation

- This organisation is the successor to the responsibilities of the Domain Name Supporting Organization that relate to the generic top-level domains. ICANN's by-laws outline three supporting organizations, of which the GNSO belongs. The SOs help to promote the development of Internet policy and encourage diverse and international participation in the technical management of the Internet. Each SO names three Directors to the ICANN Board.



# Supporting Organizations

RALO – Regional At-Large Organisations provide a way for the worldwide individual Internet user community to engage in all the issues that are a part of ICANN's work

[Africa](#), [Asia/Australia/Pacific](#), [Europe](#), [Latin America / Caribbean Islands](#), [North America](#)

[ccNSO – Country Code Names Supporting Organisation](#)

- This is the policy development body for a narrow range of global ccTLD issues within the ICANN structure responsible for developing and recommending to the Board global policies relating to country-code top-level domains, nurturing consensus across the ccNSO's community, including the name-related activities of ccTLDs, and coordinating with other ICANN Supporting Organisations, committees, and constituencies under ICANN.



# Basics of ICANN meetings

- ✓ Held 3 times a year in different regions; runs approximately 5 days
- ✓ No registration fees
- ✓ Average # of attendees: **1200**
- ✓ Estimated countries represented: **135**
- ✓ Attendees are diverse global Internet leaders from public and private sectors
- ✓ 38 Meetings since ICANN's foundation in 1998
- ✓ Key benefits of attending:
  - Understand how Internet policies are created
  - Gain knowledge about the main issues facing the Internet today and in the future



# To Participate

- Go to: <http://www.icann.org/en/participate/>
- Engage in [Public Comment](#), either in person at an ICANN meeting or through [Remote Participation](#)
- Blog at <http://blog.icann.org/>
- Join a constituency group and have your voice heard



**Thank You**  
**Questions?**