Updated criteria for 2020

ICANN Generic Names Supporting Organization Council

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) is a policy-development body responsible for developing and recommending to the ICANN Board substantive policies relating to generic top-level domains. The GNSO Council is responsible for managing the policy development process in the GNSO. For more information on the work of the GNSO Council, see https://gnso.icann.org/en/.

To fill a vacancy on the GNSO Council, the NomCom is seeking accomplished persons of integrity, objectivity and intelligence who have:

- a good understanding of the GNSO Policy Development Process, GNSO structure as much as possible, existing ICANN consensus policies and contracts between ICANN and registries and registrars
- a commitment to ICANN's mission and an understanding of the potential impact of ICANN decisions on the global Internet community
- an understanding of the Domain Name System (DNS) and the industry structure of the domain name market
- demonstrated capacity for thoughtful group decision-making and sound judgment
- expertise in the possible impacts (including costs and benefits) of new policies relating to gTLDs on stakeholders, including commercial and non-commercial users, Internet infrastructure providers, and ICANN contracted parties.
- a willingness, ability and commitment to travel to and actively participate in ICANN's three Public Meetings per year, attend all monthly Council meetings and serve as a volunteer on the Council throughout the term, without compensation other than the standard ICANN reimbursement of certain expenses, and
- an ability to work and communicate in written and spoken English (although there is no requirement that English be the candidate's first language)

Meeting the criteria above is of more importance than where the candidate hails from (e.g., within versus outside the ICANN community, from a particular Supporting Organization or Advisory Committee, etc.). However, in filling this position, the NomCom will be seeking to select a Council member who reflects the diversity of the global Internet community and the wide range of policy, technical, commercial and non-commercial activities that are impacted by the DNS.

Time Commitment and Working Practice

The successful candidate will be appointed to the GNSO Council following the 2020 ICANN Annual General Meeting (AGM), which is currently scheduled for 17-22 October 2020, through the end of the 2022 ICANN Annual Meeting.

The basic responsibilities of a GNSO Council member involve an estimate of 20 hours per month on Council-related activities, with those chairing or participating in Working Groups spending up to 60 hours a month or more. Depending on workload, this may escalate; for example, during the weeks before ICANN's three face-to-face Public Meetings per year, this can sometimes be as much as 20 hours per week or more. The commitment during ICANN's three Public Meetings generally runs to three full days, although Council members sometimes have extensive responsibilities on most days. For those involved in Working Groups, there may occasionally be additional face-to-face interim meetings, and likely telephonic meetings throughout the year. In addition, in recent years, the GNSO Council has conducted a three day face-to-face Strategic Planning Session (SPS) during the January following the AGM; all Councilors are expected to participate in person, as the SPS is critical to aiding the Council in understanding its core responsibilities as well as planning strategically for the coming year.

In addition, a NomCom appointee is intended to be independent and free to participate in Council activities according to their own conscience and views. Voting appointees are encouraged to engage with the Council representatives of their appointed House in order to understand their concerns and views, so that the NomCom appointee may be an informed and effective Councilor.