

# ICANN | GNSO

Generic Names Supporting Organization

## Policy Briefing ICANN60 Edition

The GNSO Background Briefings are produced by ICANN's Policy staff supporting the GNSO. These are drafted specifically in preparation for ICANN meetings to provide the Community with concise background information on all relevant GNSO policy efforts.

For more information on the GNSO @ ICANN60:

 [gns0.ICANN.org/ICANNmeeting](https://gns0.ICANN.org/ICANNmeeting)  [@ICANN\\_GNSO](https://twitter.com/ICANN_GNSO)

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# Welcome to ICANN60 from the GNSO Chair

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Dear Colleagues:

Greetings from Abu Dhabi! The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council welcomes you to the United Arab Emirates for the ICANN60 Annual General Meeting (AGM), our third and final meeting of this year. The 2017 AGM is a full-week meeting which culminates in seating the newly appointed Council members, as well as electing a new GNSO Chair and Vice Chairs. In addition, the GNSO will use the AGM to advance policy development efforts, coordinate with the wider ICANN community, and participate in a number of cross-community discussions.

All community members are welcome to attend and participate in face-to-face sessions of the different GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Groups (WGs). The New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures PDP is wrapping up its review of community input received through public comment on more than 30 topics. After completing this analysis, the WG will focus on building consensus on recommendations to include in its draft Initial Report. The WG co-chairs are in the process of forming Work Track 5, which is devoted solely to the issue of geographic names at the top-level. Work Track 5 was recently launched, recognizing that this is an issue of interest throughout the ICANN community. This subgroup will have a shared leadership model among the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), and the GNSO.

The Next-Generation Registration Directory Service (RDS) PDP is currently working to reach consensus on key concepts outlined in the WG's charter questions concerning RDS users/purposes, data elements, privacy, and access. Upcoming deliberations will draw on expert legal analysis to provide insight on the implications of the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) on the RDS.

The Review of all Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in all gTLDs PDP WG will use its session to progress its Phase One work. The GNSO Council approved the WG's Data & Metrics for Policy Making (DMPM) request for resources to assist with an extensive data gathering effort in support of deliberations. The WG is now making efforts to define the scope of this data collection initiative.

The International Governmental Organization (IGO)-International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP WG is finalizing its recommendations. The WG will discuss these recommendations with the community at ICANN60. *continued next page*

On a related topic, the reconvened Protection of IGO and INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs PDP WG is reconsidering previously adopted policy recommendations related to Red Cross names. It will provide an update on its progress at ICANN60.

The AGM marks the end of a Council term. I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish during last year's term, as well as the two years that I have been the Chair and my four years on the GNSO Council. Important work remains ahead. I am confident that the new Councilors and their new leadership will meet these challenges head on. On Wednesday, 1 November 2017, in Abu Dhabi, please join me in welcoming our new colleagues to the GNSO Council.

**James Bladel**  
**GNSO Chair**

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# ICANN60 at a Glance

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ICANN60 is the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of 2017. The final meeting in the three-meeting annual cycle, the AGM features a full seven days of activity showcasing the ICANN community's work to a broader global audience. The AGM also includes days dedicated for Supporting Organization (SO) and Advisory Committee (AC) work.

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Policy Support Team has prepared this briefing document to help community members prepare for ICANN60. It provides an overview of the status of GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Groups (WGs). It also covers GNSO policy-related activities, including GNSO co-chartered Cross Community Working Groups and PDP Implementation Review Teams (IRTs). The document includes links for additional background reading that will help you prepare for sessions in Abu Dhabi and support active participation by all attendees.

For those who are new to the GNSO's policy development efforts or those who could use a refresher, we highly recommend you take the [Intro to the GNSO](#) course on ICANN Learn. The course will help you navigate through the structure and content of this Policy Briefing. All are encouraged to enroll.

Please note that any reference to meeting times in this document is provisional – please consult the [ICANN meeting schedule](#) for the latest information.

## ICANN60 MEETING INFO

- Meeting page: [meetings.icann.org/en/abudhabi60](https://meetings.icann.org/en/abudhabi60)
- Schedule: [schedule.icann.org](https://schedule.icann.org)
- Register for ICANN60: [registration.icann.org](https://registration.icann.org)
- Remote participation: [meetings.icann.org/en/remote-participation](https://meetings.icann.org/en/remote-participation)
- Expected standard of behavior: [goo.gl/SzN9ic](https://goo.gl/SzN9ic)

## GNSO RELATED INFORMATION

- GNSO 1-stop-shop for ICANN60: [gnso.icann.org/en/icannmeeting](https://gnso.icann.org/en/icannmeeting)
- Project List: [gnso.icann.org/en/council/project](https://gnso.icann.org/en/council/project)

If you have any questions about this Policy Briefing or GNSO policy activities, please contact us at [policy-staff@ICANN.org](mailto:policy-staff@ICANN.org). Safe travels to those traveling to Abu Dhabi and we look forward to a productive meeting.

## GNSO Policy Support Team

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# Policy Development Process: Next-Generation Registration Directory Service to Replace WHOIS

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## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN60 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG) has scheduled two separate face-to-face meetings, on Saturday, 28 October, from 8:30-12:00, and on Wednesday, 1 November, from 16:00-18:30. The WG expects to make progress on its [work plan](#).

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

In April 2015, the ICANN Board requested to initiate a GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP). The goal of the PDP is to “define the purpose of collecting, maintaining, and providing access to generic top-level domain (gTLD) registration data, and consider safeguards for protecting data”. The Board also asked the GNSO to “[use] the recommendations in the [Expert Working Group \(EWG\) Final Report](#) as an input to, and, if appropriate, as the foundation for a new gTLD policy.”

Following the publication of the PDP Final Issue Report, the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council adopted the charter for the PDP WG, which commenced its deliberations at the end of January 2016. During the Phase 1 work, the WG has been tasked with providing the GNSO Council with recommendations on the following two questions: (1) What are the fundamental requirements for gTLD registration data? (2) Are a new policy framework and next-generation (next-gen) registration directory services (RDS) needed to address these requirements?

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Comprehensive ‘WHOIS’ policy reform remains the source of long-running discussions within ICANN. Any discussion of the ‘WHOIS’ system for gTLD domain name registration data – hereafter called gTLD registration directory services (RDS) – involves various topics. These include purpose, accuracy, availability, privacy, data protection, cost, policing, intellectual property protection, security, and malicious use and abuse. ICANN’s requirements for gTLD domain name registration data collection, maintenance, and provision have undergone some important changes. Nevertheless, after almost 15 years of GNSO task forces, working groups, workshops, surveys, and studies, the policy is still in need of comprehensive reforms that address the significant number of contentious issues attached to it.

## **WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?**

The WG for gTLD registration directory services has been working on the fundamental requirements for gTLD registration data and directory services. It has also been working to understand whether a new policy framework and next-generation RDS are needed to address these requirements.

The WG is currently working to reach initial rough consensus agreement on key concepts related to the WG's charter questions concerning RDS users/purposes, data elements, privacy, and access.

Since ICANN59, the WG has expanded its deliberation to define requirements for registration data elements beyond the Minimum Public Data Set (MPDS) that must be supported by the RDS. It used the Expert Working Group on gTLD Directory Services (EWG) Final Report as a starting point of discussion. The WG is continuing to use weekly calls and polls to facilitate development of tentative rough consensus agreements on these key concepts.

Furthermore, considering the impact of data protection laws, such as the European Union (EU) General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the WG has taken two additional steps:

- (1) Solicited [\*\*input from country code top-level domain \(ccTLD\) registry operators on their approaches to GDPR compliance\*\*](#), and
- (2) Retained the services of independent legal counsel to [\*\*answer questions\*\*](#) about the impact of data protection laws on registration data and directory services; senior EU privacy experts [\*\*previously answered\*\*](#) questions in this regard.

The WG expects to use input received from all these sources in its deliberation on key concepts and possible requirements concerning RDS users/purposes, data elements, privacy, and access.

As of the end of September 2017, **44 initial points** of rough consensus had been reached during iterative and ongoing deliberation. The WG drafted an overall [\*\*statement of purpose\*\*](#) for registration data and directory services, which guided all initial agreements.

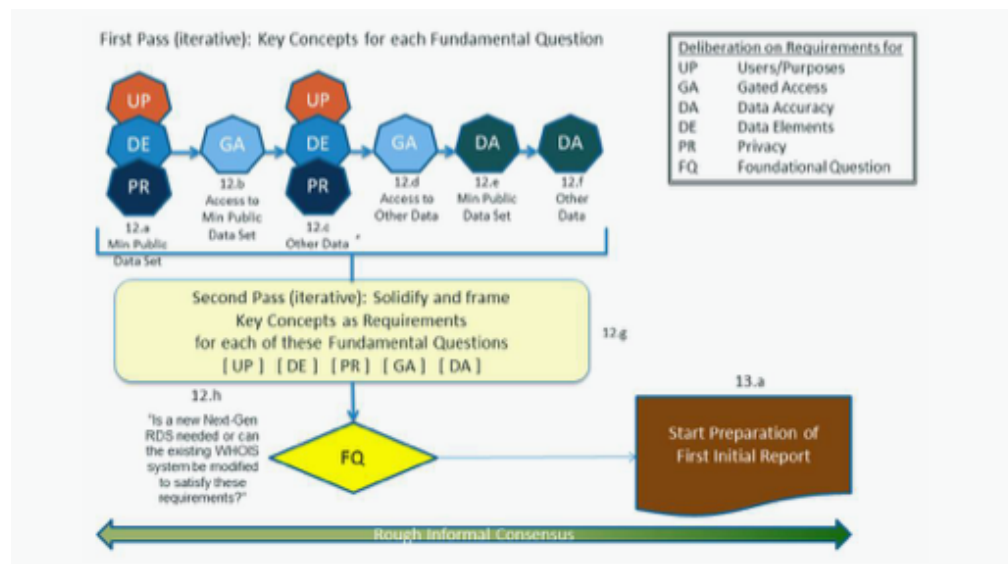
### WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The WG is continuing its current task to reach rough consensus agreements on key concepts concerning all registration data elements, including those beyond a Minimum Public Data Set. Specifically, the WG will continue to use weekly polls to reach rough consensus on key concepts for which data elements must be supported by the RDS, and whether it is mandatory or optional to collect all identified data elements. The WG will then try to answer other charter questions for that universe of data elements, including:

- Users/purposes (who needs each data element and why?),
- Access (should access to each data element be public or controlled in some way?), and
- Privacy (how do data protection and privacy laws apply to each data element?).

The WG will apply **answers** provided by both independent legal counsel and senior EU privacy experts concerning RDS compliance with data protection laws, including the GDPR. To set a baseline for deliberations, principles have been derived from this input and mapped against the WG’s charter questions.

As required in Phase 1 of the PDP charter, the WG is in process establishing a foundation for completing deliberations on possible requirements. They will use the key concepts agreed to by the WG, along with guidance on data protection laws provided by external experts, and feedback obtained from the community at ICANN59. The goal is to reach as strong a consensus as possible for each possible requirement. Due to interdependencies, WG deliberation will likely continue to be iterative, especially on fundamental questions pertaining to purpose, data, and privacy.



Note: The graphic above illustrates the iterative approach in the WG deliberation. The numbers (e.g., 12.a, 12.b...13.a) refer to the steps in the PDP WG [Phase 1 Work Plan](#).



Currently, the WG aims to begin drafting the first of two initial reports planned for Phase 1 in the first quarter of 2018. The first initial report will include responses to the first five of eleven questions in Phase 1. Further input opportunities will occur throughout the WG's Phase 1 deliberations, as well as during Phases 2-3, should the GNSO decide a next-generation directory service is needed to meet Phase 1 requirements.

#### **HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

Anyone interested can join this effort at any time. Complete the registration form at [goo.gl/forms/bb65ilznLv](https://goo.gl/forms/bb65ilznLv) or contact the GNSO Secretariat [gnso-secs@icann.org](mailto:gnso-secs@icann.org).

#### **MORE INFORMATION**

- PDP Webpage: [gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/rds](https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/rds)
- WG Workspace: [community.icann.org/x/rjJ-Ag](https://community.icann.org/x/rjJ-Ag)
- WG Work Plan: [community.icann.org/x/olxlAw](https://community.icann.org/x/olxlAw)
- WG Charter: [gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/whois-ng-gtld-rds-charter-07oct15](https://gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/whois-ng-gtld-rds-charter-07oct15)
- Final Issue Report: [goo.gl/0ZrpVK](https://goo.gl/0ZrpVK)
- Board-GNSO Process Framework for this PDP: [goo.gl/zq3edl](https://goo.gl/zq3edl)

#### **BACKGROUND**

Pursuant to its Resolution on 8 November 2012, the ICANN Board directed the ICANN CEO to launch a new effort to redefine the purpose of collecting, maintaining and providing access to gTLD registration data, and consider safeguards for protecting data. This effort would serve as a foundation for new gTLD policy and contractual negotiations. Moreover, the Board directed the preparation of an Issue Report on the purpose of collecting and maintaining gTLD registration data, and on solutions to improve accuracy and access to gTLD registration data, as part of a Board-initiated GNSO PDP. The Board then went on to pass a resolution that led to the creation of the **EWG**. The Board referred to this as a 'two-pronged approach' that is based on 'broad and responsive action' in relation to the reform of gTLD Registration Data.

The Board approved a Process Framework to enable effective consideration of the many significant and interdependent policy areas that the GNSO must address. GNSO Councilors and Board members collaboratively developed this Process Framework to structure this complex and challenging PDP for success. This phased process includes:

- Phase 1: Establishing requirements to determine if and why a next-generation RDS is needed to replace today's WHOIS system;
- Phase 2: If so, designing a new policy framework that details functions that must be provided by a next-generation RDS to support those requirements; and
- Phase 3: Providing guidance for how a next-generation RDS should implement those policies, coexisting with and eventually replacing the legacy WHOIS system.

Throughout this three-phase process, the many inter-related questions that must (at minimum) be addressed by the PDP include:

- Users/Purposes: Who should have access to gTLD registration data and why (i.e., for what purposes)?
- Gated Access: What steps should be taken to control data access for each user/purpose?
- Data Accuracy: What steps should be taken to improve data accuracy?
- Data Elements: What data should be collected, stored, and disclosed?
- Privacy: What steps are needed to protect data and privacy?
- Coexistence: What steps should be taken to enable next-generation RDS coexistence with and replacement of the legacy WHOIS system?
- Compliance: What steps are needed to enforce these policies?
- System Model: What system requirements must be satisfied by any next-generation RDS implementation?
- Cost: What costs will be incurred and how must they be covered?
- Benefits: What benefits will be achieved and how will they be measured?
- Risks: What risks do stakeholders face and how will they be reconciled?

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Marika Konings, Lisa Phifer (consultant)

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# Policy Development Process: New Generic Top-Level Domain Subsequent Procedures

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN60 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG) is set to meet on Saturday, 28 October, from 12:15-15:00 and Wednesday, 1 November, from 8:30-12:00 for face-to-face working sessions. It expects to make progress on a number of different topics currently under discussion within the WG's four subteams.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The PDP on New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures, initiated in December 2015 and chartered in January 2016, is intended to determine what, if any changes need to be made to the existing policy recommendations from the 2007 [Final Report on the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains](#), such as:

- Clarifying, amending, or overriding existing policy principles, recommendations, and implementation guidance;
- Developing new policy recommendations; and,
- Supplementing or developing new implementation guidance

It should be noted that the existing policy recommendations adopted by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council and ICANN Board have “been designed to produce a systemized and ongoing mechanisms for applicants to propose new top-level domains.” It means that these recommendations would remain in place unless the PDP WG determines that changes are needed.

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The New gTLD Program marked a seminal moment in ICANN's history. In spite of great interest and over 1,000 successful TLD delegations, changes to existing policies and implementation guidance might be needed for subsequent procedures of new gTLD launches. Note, the [Final Issue Report](#) and the PDP WG [charter](#) identified a number of subjects that may require analysis and policy development.

### **WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?**

The PDP WG started its work on 22 February 2016 and began deliberations on a set of six overarching or foundational subjects, and sought the community's input on those subjects. The PDP WG has recently focused its deliberations on refining proposals related to three of these overarching issues. The PDP WG has also established four separate work tracks that are addressing the remaining subjects identified in the WG's charter. After completing preliminary discussion on their respective topics, they are working to complete their review of input received through public comment on more than 30 subjects. Next, the subteams will work to develop consensus on their set of recommendations and outcomes.

The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) and GNSO Councils have adopted the [Final Report](#) of the Cross-Community Working Group (CWG) on the Use of Country and Territory Names as TLDs. The PDP WG co-chairs have taken into account the CWG recommendations to consolidate policy efforts related to geographic names and facilitate all-inclusive dialogue. They also note that the topic of geographic names falls within the PDP charter. As a result, a fifth work track in the PDP has been formed, devoted solely to the issue of geographic names at the top-level. Work Track 5 will have a shared leadership model among the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), the ccNSO, the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), and the GNSO. The WG co-chairs have asked all these groups to each identify a co-leader for this effort and plan to begin work once the co-leaders have been put forward.

### **WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?**

The PDP WG will consider input and feedback received in ICANN60 and work toward developing a set of preliminary recommendations. The PDP WG will also take into account the work of other new gTLD-related efforts within the community (e.g., the Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review Team, CWG on the Use of Country and Territory Names) and integrate dependencies into its work plan where applicable. The WG is aiming to complete and publish its Initial Report for public comment in early 2018.

Regarding Work Track 5 on geographic names at the top-level, the call for membership will be opened once the co-leaders have been identified.

### **HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

This PDP WG is open to all participants. If you are interested in joining the WG effort, please email [gns0-secs@icann.org](mailto:gns0-secs@icann.org).

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- PDP Webpage: [gns0.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/new-gtld-subsequent-procedures](https://gns0.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/new-gtld-subsequent-procedures)
- WG Workspace: [community.icann.org/x/RgV1Aw](https://community.icann.org/x/RgV1Aw)
- WG Charter: [goo.gl/chgGsk](https://goo.gl/chgGsk)
- Final Issue Report: [goo.gl/yGRgAN](https://goo.gl/yGRgAN)

### **BACKGROUND**

While the application submission period for the initial new gTLD round closed in June 2012, the GNSO Council continues to play a role in evaluating the first round and proposing policy recommendations, if necessary, for changes to subsequent rounds. A **discussion group** was created to begin the evaluation process and possibly identify areas for future GNSO policy development. Upon considering the deliverables of the Discussion Group, the GNSO Council requested a Preliminary Issue Report to be delivered by ICANN staff. After incorporating Public Comment on its Preliminary Issue Report, staff prepared and delivered the Final Issue Report. Subsequently, the GNSO Council initiated the PDP and adopted the WG charter.

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Steve Chan, Julie Hedlund, Emily Barabas

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# Policy Development Process: Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All Generic Top-Level Domains

## **WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN60 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?**

The Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG) will be holding a total of six hours of open meetings on: Saturday, 28 October (two 90-minute sessions); Monday, 30 October (90 minutes); Thursday 2 November (90 minutes). Please check the ICANN60 meeting schedule for actual times and meeting locations. All community members are welcome to attend all the WG's open sessions. The WG will be continuing its review of the Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) covered by Phase One of this two-phased PDP.

## **WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?**

This PDP is being conducted in two phases. Phase One covers all the RPMs applicable to generic top-level domains (gTLDs) launched under the 2012 New gTLD Program. These RPMs are: the Trademark Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedure (TM-PDDRP), the Trademark Clearinghouse (TMCH), the Sunrise and Trademark Claims services that are offered through the TMCH, and the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) dispute resolution procedure. Phase Two will focus on reviewing the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP), which has been an ICANN Consensus Policy since 1999. The WG is currently in Phase One, and hopes to complete this stage of work by mid-2018.

## **WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?**

Community feedback on the RPMs developed for the 2012 New gTLD Program indicated a need to review their application and scope, especially if there is to be a further expansion of the gTLD space. The 2012 New gTLD Program RPMs are new mechanisms that have now been in use for three years. The UDRP is a long-standing Consensus Policy that has never undergone any substantial review. By the conclusion of both phases of this PDP, the WG is expected to have considered the overarching issue as to whether all the RPMs collectively fulfill the purposes for which they were created, or whether additional policy recommendations are needed. The outcomes of this PDP are also intended to create a coherent and uniform mechanism for future reviews of all RPMs.

## **WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?**

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council initiated the PDP on 18 February 2016 and chartered the WG in March 2016. The WG began its Phase One work with reviewing the TM-PDDRP, which was completed in late 2016.

The WG has largely completed an initial review of the structure and scope of the TMCH, and has begun its review of the Sunrise and Trademark Claims services that are offered through the TMCH. As of September 2017, the WG was preparing to initiate an extensive data collection effort to gather both quantitative as well as anecdotal and qualitative data on the usage and effectiveness of the Sunrise and Trademark Claims RPMs.

### **WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?**

The WG is aiming to complete Phase One of this PDP in mid-2018, at which point it will publish a Preliminary Report on its recommendations regarding these RPMs for public comment. In this regard, the WG will continue to coordinate its timelines and work with other related efforts, such as the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP, and the Competition, Consumer Choice, and Consumer Trust Review.

### **HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

The WG is open to all. You may join as either a Member (with full posting rights to the mailing list and the ability to participate in all WG meetings) or as an Observer (with read-only status for the mailing list). Please email the GNSO Secretariat at [gnso-secs@ICANN.org](mailto:gnso-secs@ICANN.org) if you wish to join the group.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- PDP Webpage: [gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/rpm](https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/rpm)
- WG Workspace: [community.icann.org/x/wCWAaw](https://community.icann.org/x/wCWAaw)
- WG Charter: [gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/rpm-charter-15mar16](https://gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/rpm-charter-15mar16)
- Final Issue Report: [goo.gl/DwQY9w](https://goo.gl/DwQY9w)

### **BACKGROUND**

In October 2011, prior to the launch of the 2012 New gTLD Program, ICANN organization published a Final Issue Report on the current state of the UDRP. The recommended course of action at the time was for the GNSO Council to hold off from initiating a PDP until after the new URS had been in operation for at least 18 months. The GNSO Council followed this recommended course of action and staff published a new Preliminary Issue Report in September 2015 that covered all existing RPMs. The Final Issue Report that led to this current PDP was published in January 2016, and outlined the two-phased approach that was eventually adopted by the GNSO Council.

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Mary Wong, Berry Cobb

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# Policy Development Process: International Governmental Organization-International Non-Governmental Organization Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms

## **WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN60 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?**

The Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG) will be holding an open meeting on Wednesday, 1 November, from 17:00-18:30. At this session, the WG plans to present its proposed final recommendations for this PDP for community feedback, prior to completing its Final Report for the GNSO Council. All community members are welcome to attend this session, especially those with expertise or interest in the topics of domain name dispute resolution and the use by international organizations of these processes.

## **WHAT IS THIS PDP ABOUT?**

This PDP was initiated in June 2014 by the GNSO Council to consider whether existing curative rights mechanisms should be modified to address the needs of International Governmental Organizations (IGOs) and International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs). Their needs are related to protection for their names and acronyms at the second-level of the domain name system, in both existing and new generic top-level domains (gTLDs). The existing mechanisms are, namely, the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) and Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) dispute resolution procedure.

## **WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?**

Protecting the names and acronyms of IGOs and INGOs at the top-level and second-levels has been a long-standing issue over the course of the New gTLD Program. The GNSO had previously recommended certain protective measures to the ICANN Board. However, those recommendations did not address the topic as to whether existing domain name dispute resolution procedures provided adequate protection for IGO and INGO names and acronyms. The GNSO Council subsequently tasked this WG to consider: (1) whether the UDRP and URS should be amended to resolve the problems faced by IGOs and/or INGOs and if so, in what way; or (2) if a separate, narrowly tailored dispute resolution procedure should be developed to apply only to IGOs and/or INGOs.



### **WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?**

The WG's preliminary recommendations, as published for public comment, essentially recommended that no changes be made to either the UDRP or URS and that no specific new process be developed for IGOs. The WG also developed some specific recommendations for IGOs, including the basis upon which an IGO may demonstrate standing to file a complaint under the UDRP and URS, as well as the issue of IGO jurisdictional immunity. Community feedback was received during the public comment period on all of the WG's preliminary recommendations. The WG has completed its review of all public comments received, including input from the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), a number of IGOs, and the broader ICANN community during the WG's open session at ICANN59. As a result, the WG intends to modify a few of its preliminary recommendations, and hopes that its proposed final recommendations will meet with acceptance from the community.

### **WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?**

The WG will complete its Final Report following the community discussions at ICANN60. It is aiming to submit the Final Report to the GNSO Council for the Council's review and action before the end of 2017.

### **HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

The open community session at ICANN60 is an excellent opportunity to comment on the WG's proposed final recommendations. While it is in a late stage in its work, the WG continues to be open to anyone. Please contact the GNSO Secretariat at [gnso-secs@ICANN.org](mailto:gnso-secs@ICANN.org) to be added to the mailing list.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- WG Initial Report containing preliminary recommendations: [goo.gl/mg60wl](http://goo.gl/mg60wl)
- Public Comment of the WG Initial Report: [goo.gl/g5Hc0x](http://goo.gl/g5Hc0x)
- PDP Webpage: [gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/igo-ingo-crp-access](http://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/igo-ingo-crp-access)
- WG Workspace: [community.icann.org/x/37rhAg](http://community.icann.org/x/37rhAg)
- WG Charter: [gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/igo-ingo-crp-access-charter-24jun14](http://gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/igo-ingo-crp-access-charter-24jun14)

## **BACKGROUND**

IGOs and INGOs face certain challenges in fully using the UDRP and URS for a number of reasons. IGOs see the Mutual Jurisdiction requirement for both processes as jeopardizing their jurisdictional immunity status. For both IGOs and INGOs, the fact that the UDRP and URS were designed as protective mechanisms for trademark owners means that they cannot use these procedures unless they also own trademarks in their names and/or acronyms. Both types of organizations are also concerned about the cost involved in using these procedures, which means diverting resources and funds from their primary missions. The GAC has issued advice on the topic which the WG continues to take into account in its deliberations.

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Mary Wong, Steve Chan

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# Policy Amendment Process: Protections for Certain Red Cross Names in All Generic Top-Level Domains

## **WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN60 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?**

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council voted in May 2017 to initiate the GNSO's documented process to consider amendments to previously completed policy development process (PDP) recommendations, prior to their adoption by the ICANN Board. These recommendations pertain to certain names of the National Societies of the Red Cross and the International Red Cross Movement. The original PDP Working Group (WG), which completed its work in November 2013, has been reconvened for this purpose. While the PDP WG will not be meeting at ICANN60, the GNSO Council is expected to receive a status update from the WG's chair during the GNSO Council's open working sessions on Sunday, 29 October.

## **WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?**

This section of the Policy Briefing should be read together with the following section entitled "Implementation Status: Protection of International Governmental Organization (IGO)-International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) Identifiers in All Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) Policy Recommendations."

The Protection of IGO-INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs PDP was completed in November 2013. Although the GNSO Council accepted all the PDP WG recommendations, the ICANN Board to date has approved only those recommendations that are consistent with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) advice received on the subject. The remaining recommendations are still under Board consideration. These were the subject of a facilitated dialogue between the GAC and the GNSO at ICANN58 as part of an ongoing process to attempt to reconcile the GAC advice and the GNSO PDP recommendations.

Following that facilitated discussion, the ICANN Board requested that the GNSO Council consider initiating the GNSO policy amendment process in accordance with the GNSO's procedures. This policy amendment process pertains to the names of 190 Red Cross National Societies and two names identifying the International Red Cross Movement, as well as a limited, defined set of variants for these names. In May 2017, the GNSO Council voted to launch the policy amendment process. The process, as outlined in the GNSO's PDP Manual, involves reconvening the original PDP WG to consult with the GNSO Council on the scope of the proposed amendment.

### **WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?**

The ICANN Bylaws contain specific provisions that outline specific steps to be taken by the Board in cases where it disagrees with either GAC advice or GNSO PDP recommendations. In this case, the Board elected not to trigger either of these processes when it adopted only those GNSO PDP recommendations that were consistent with GAC advice in April 2014. It requested additional time to consider the remaining, inconsistent recommendations.

The GNSO Council launched the PDP on the Protection of IGO-INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs in November 2012. The PDP considered what the appropriate form and scope of protections would be, at both the top-level and second-level of the Domain Name System (DNS), for the Red Cross, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and other IGOs and INGOS. All these organizations perform important public interest or humanitarian work. Cybersquatting and related abuse of domain names identical or confusingly similar to their names and acronyms could significantly impact their missions and resources. The GNSO Council approved and the Board adopted part of the PDP outcomes, which included consensus recommendations that a limited list of Red Cross, IOC, IGO, and INGO identifiers be reserved. For the Red Cross, these are “Red Cross,” “Red Crescent,” “Red Crystal,” and “Red Lion and Sun” at the top-level and second-level. For IGOs, only their full organizational names will be reserved at the second-level. The appropriate DNS protections for many of the other identifiers associated with the Red Cross and IGOs – i.e., Red Cross National Society names, the names and acronyms of the International Red Cross Movement, and IGO acronyms – have yet to be finalized. The facilitated dialogue that took place between representatives of the GAC and the GNSO at ICANN58 was an attempt to reconcile the remaining inconsistencies between GAC advice and the GNSO PDP recommendations.

The GNSO Council’s vote in May 2017 initiated the policy amendment process only for the specific names associated with the Red Cross (i.e., Red Cross National Society and International Red Cross Movement names). Discussion over IGO acronyms is ongoing.

### **WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?**

The reconvened PDP WG has [met](#) several times to discuss the proposed amendment to its previous PDP recommendations on Red Cross names. It has reached preliminary agreement to recommend that a specific, finite set of names be withheld from registration at the second-level of the DNS. The PDP WG is currently discussing what specific, limited variants of those names should also be included.

## WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

It is important to note that the GNSO's policy amendment process must take place before the Board acts on the PDP recommendations. The GNSO Council's policy amendment process mandates that the proposed amendment be posted for public comment. Consequently, the GNSO Council will consider whether to approve the amendment. The amendment will be considered approved only if a supermajority of the GNSO Council votes to approve. The Board will then be expected to act in accordance with the ICANN Bylaws on the final results of this reconciliation process.

## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

You may follow the progress of the discussions by reviewing the background information on this project, observing the discussions, and looking out for any public comment forums to be launched as part of the final reconciliation process.

## MORE INFORMATION

- Protection of IGO-INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs PDP Webpage: [gns0.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/igo-ingo](https://gns0.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/igo-ingo)
- Protection of IGO-INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs PDP WG Workspace: [community.icann.org/x/2YJEAg](https://community.icann.org/x/2YJEAg)
- ICANN Board resolution of April 2014 adopting the PDP recommendations consistent with GAC advice and requesting more time for the remaining recommendations: [icann.org/en/groups/board/resolutions-30apr14](https://icann.org/en/groups/board/resolutions-30apr14)
- GAC webpage listing GAC Communiqué advice relating to IGO protections: [gacweb.icann.org/display/GACADV/IGO](https://gacweb.icann.org/display/GACADV/IGO)
- Documents, meetings, and mailing list for GAC-GNSO facilitated dialogue: [community.icann.org/x/eoPRAw](https://community.icann.org/x/eoPRAw)
- ICANN Board resolution at ICANN58 requesting that the GNSO Council consider amending the adopted PDP recommendations pertaining to Red Cross names: [www.icann.org/resources/board/resolutions-2017-03-16](https://www.icann.org/resources/board/resolutions-2017-03-16)
- GNSO PDP Manual: [gns0.icann.org/en/council/manual-01sep16](https://gns0.icann.org/en/council/manual-01sep16)
- GNSO Council resolution initiating the policy amendment process: [gns0.icann.org/en/council/resolutions-20170503-071](https://gns0.icann.org/en/council/resolutions-20170503-071)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Mary Wong, Berry Cobb

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# Implementation Status: Protection of International Governmental Organization-International Non-Governmental Organization Identifiers in All Generic Top-Level Domains Policy Recommendations

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN60 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Implementation Review Team (IRT) is working to publish the final Implementation Plan with an announcement. It does not plan to meet at ICANN60.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This section of the Policy Briefing should be read together with the previous section entitled “Policy Amendment Process: Protections for Certain Red Cross Names in All Generic Top-Level Domains”.

The Policy Development Process (PDP) on the Protection of International Governmental Organization (IGO)-International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) Identifiers in All Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) was initiated to develop policy recommendations for the provision of protection for identifiers (e.g. names or acronyms) of certain IGOs and INGOs, including the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement (RCRC) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The PDP Working Group (WG) completed its work in November 2013 and all of its consensus recommendations were **approved** by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council. In April 2014, the ICANN Board **adopted** those of the PDP recommendations that were consistent with GAC advice received on the topic, and requested more time to consider the remaining, inconsistent recommendations. The adopted recommendations relate to protection at the top and second level for specific RCRC, IOC and IGO full names (with an Exception Procedure to be designed for the affected organizations), and a 90-days Claims Notification process at the second level for certain INGO acronyms.

This project covers only the implementation status of the recommendations that were adopted by the ICANN Board in April 2014. It is not concerned with the ongoing resolution process for the remaining, inconsistent recommendations (including on IGO acronyms and remaining names of the RCRC) or the deliberations of the ongoing PDP Working Group (WG) on IGO-INGO Curative Rights Protections.

### **WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?**

Throughout the development of the 2012 New gTLD program, issues related to whether certain international organizations (e.g., IGOs, the RCRC, and the IOC) should receive special protection for their names at the top and second level in the Domain Name System have been raised. In the PDP launched by the GNSO Council, the scope of organizations was expanded to also consider INGOs (other than the RCRC and IOC). All these organizations perform important public interest or humanitarian work. They have reported that cyber-squatting and related abuse of domain names identical or confusingly similar to their names and acronyms could significantly impact their missions and resources.

### **WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?**

Following the Board's adoption of the GNSO policy recommendations that were consistent with GAC advice, ICANN organization under the leadership of the Global Domains Division (GDD) began developing an Implementation Plan. An IRT comprising community members and led by GDD was formed. It is meeting regularly to discuss and agree on timelines and steps for implementation. Most recently, a **public comment proceeding** was completed and the Summary and Analysis Report has been published. The IRT is in process of finalizing the Implementation Plan based on the input received.

### **WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?**

Taking into account the public comments received, the GDD will finalize the consensus policy Implementation Plan, in coordination with the IRT. Once finalized, the consensus policy Implementation Plan will be published with the policy effective date.

### **HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

If you wish to join the IRT, contact the GNSO Secretariat at [gnso-secs@icann.org](mailto:gnso-secs@icann.org).

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- Public comment proceeding on the Proposed Implementation of GNSO Consensus Policy Recommendations for the Protection of IGO&INGO Identifier in All gTLDs: [icann.org/public-comments/igo-ingo-protection-2017-05-17](https://icann.org/public-comments/igo-ingo-protection-2017-05-17)
- PDP Webpage: [gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities](https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities)
- IRT Workspace: [community.icann.org/x/RJFCaw](https://community.icann.org/x/RJFCaw)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Dennis Chang (GDD)

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# Implementation Status: Thick WHOIS Policy Recommendations

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN60 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

Registries and registrars will discuss progress on thin to thick data transition for .JOBS, as well as the operational test and evaluation for .COM and .NET. Also, there will be discussion of the potential impact to the Implementation Plan due to the recent request from Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG) for extension of the policy effective dates. The Thick WHOIS Implementation Review Team (IRT) meeting is scheduled at 12:15-13:15 on Sunday, 30 October 2017.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

ICANN specifies WHOIS service requirements through Registry Agreements (RAs) and the Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) for the gTLD registries. Registries have historically satisfied their WHOIS obligations under two different models. The two models are often characterized as “thin” and “thick” WHOIS registries. This distinction is based on how two distinct sets of data are maintained.

In a thin registration model the Registry only collects the information associated with the domain name from the Registrar. The Registry in turn publishes that information along with maintaining certain status information at the Registry level. Registrars maintain data associated with the registrant of the domain and provide it via their own WHOIS services, as required by Section 3.3 of the RAA for those domains they sponsor. In a thick registration model the Registry collects both sets of data (domain name and registrant) from the Registrar and in turn publishes that data via WHOIS.

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council initiated a Policy Development Process (PDP) to consider a possible requirement of “thick” WHOIS for all gTLDs. The PDP WG finalized its report and submitted it to the GNSO Council on 21 October 2013. The GNSO PDP WG concluded that requiring all gTLD registries to provide thick WHOIS services with a consistent labeling and display would improve stability of and access to WHOIS data as well as potentially reduce acquisition and processing cost for consumers of WHOIS data. The GNSO Council unanimously adopted the recommendation to require Thick WHOIS for all gTLD registries at its meeting on 31 October 2013. Following the Public Comment forum and the notification of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), the ICANN Board considered the recommendations and [adopted](#) these at its meeting on 7 February 2014.



## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The transition from thin to thick for .JOBS remains on schedule. On 1 August 2017, .JOBS began accepting thick data from registrars for existing registrations. All indications at this time are that the registry and their registrars will meet the policy effective deadlines of accepting new registrations as thick data by 1 May 2018, and complete the transition of any existing registration data from thin to thick by 1 February 2019.

Verisign, the registry operator for .COM and .NET, has proposed changes to its Registry-Registrar Agreement (RRA) to accept thick WHOIS data. However, Verisign and RrSG hit an impasse when they could not agree on RRA proposed by Verisign. As a result, on 20 June 2017, ICANN received a request from Verisign to defer the start date of 1 August 2017 for accepting thick WHOIS data from its registrars. On 29 June 2017, the ICANN organization granted Verisign's request to defer starting the data migration with a new deadline for the start date of 29 November 2017. The ICANN organization granted the request on the basis that this would not impact the policy effective dates of 1 May 2018 and 1 February 2019 for .COM and .NET respectively.

On 17 August 2017, the ICANN organization received a request from the RrSG requesting a 120-day extension to the .COM and .NET data migration dates of 1 May 2018 and 1 February 2019 respectively. ICANN is currently considering this request.

### MORE INFORMATION

- PDP Webpage: [gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/thick-whois](https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/thick-whois)
- IRT Workspace: [community.icann.org/x/t77hAg](https://community.icann.org/x/t77hAg)
- Public Comment period on CL&D Policy Proposal: [icann.org/public-comments/rdds-output-2015-12-03](https://icann.org/public-comments/rdds-output-2015-12-03)
- Public Comment period on Transition from thin to thick for .COM, .NET and .JOBS: [icann.org/public-comments/proposed-implementation-gnso-thick-rdds-whois-transition-2016-10-26](https://icann.org/public-comments/proposed-implementation-gnso-thick-rdds-whois-transition-2016-10-26)
- Thick WHOIS Transition Policy for .COM, .NET and .JOBS: [icann.org/resources/pages/thick-whois-transition-policy-2017-02-01](https://icann.org/resources/pages/thick-whois-transition-policy-2017-02-01)
- Registry Registration Data Directory Services Cl& D Policy: [icann.org/resources/pages/rdds-labeling-policy-2017-02-01](https://icann.org/resources/pages/rdds-labeling-policy-2017-02-01)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Dennis Chang (GDD)

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# Implementation Status: Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues Policy Recommendations

## **WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN60 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?**

The Implementation Review Team (IRT) will not have a formal working meeting at ICANN60. There will be a general session about this project to update the community on the progress of the IRT's work and the overall project timeline. See the [schedule](#) for further details.

## **WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?**

A privacy service allows domain name registration in the registrant's name, but all other contact details displayed in the publicly-accessible WHOIS system are those given by the privacy service provider, not by the registrant. A proxy service allows the registered name holder to license the use of the domain to a customer who actually uses the domain; the contact information displayed in the WHOIS system is that of the proxy service provider.

The ICANN organization is implementing a new Privacy and Proxy Service Provider Accreditation Program, pursuant to policy recommendations that were developed by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG), adopted by the GNSO Council in January 2016, and adopted by the ICANN Board in August 2016.

## **WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?**

The 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) contains a temporary specification that governs registrars' obligations in respect of privacy and proxy services. This specification will expire on 1 January 2018 or when ICANN implements a privacy and proxy accreditation program, whichever first occurs.

## **WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?**

An IRT of more than 40 community members has been formed under the direction of ICANN's Global Domains Division (GDD). The IRT commenced its meetings in October 2016. As of September 2017, the IRT is currently reviewing the draft accreditation agreement and other program materials in preparation for proceeding to the [public comment](#) phase.

### **WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?**

The IRT meets weekly. The IRT is currently discussing issues surrounding the draft Accreditation Agreement, as well as the accreditation and de-accreditation processes.

Based on the IRT's current pace, it is expected that the public comment period will be launched before the end of this calendar year. However, unexpected developments could impact the timeline. The project timeline will be revisited and updated quarterly on the ICANN.org [implementation status webpage](#).

### **HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

If you are a community member with experience and interest in this topic, and wish to join the IRT, send an email indicating your interest to the GNSO Secretariat at [gnso-secs@ICANN.org](mailto:gnso-secs@ICANN.org). Broad community input is encouraged during the public comment phase.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- PDP Final Report: [gnso.icann.org/en/issues/raa/ppsai-final-07dec15](https://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/raa/ppsai-final-07dec15)
- PDP Webpage: [gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/ppsa](https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/ppsa)
- IRT Workspace: [community.icann.org/x/VA2sAw](https://community.icann.org/x/VA2sAw)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Amy Bivins (GDD), Caitlin Tubergen (GDD)

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# Implementation Status: Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information Recommendations

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN60 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Implementation Review Team (IRT) will not meet during ICANN60. However, it will continue holding its teleconferences via Adobe Connect.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The continued internationalization of the domain name system (DNS) means registrations from registrants unfamiliar with Latin script are increasing. In October 2012 the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council requested an Issue Report to address whether it is desirable to translate or transliterate<sup>1</sup> contact information<sup>2</sup> into one common language or script. In December 2013, the GNSO Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information (T/T) Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG) was formed to provide an answer to this question. The WG was also tasked to determine who would carry the burden if mandatory translation or transliteration of contact information were recommended.

In its Final Report, the PDP WG does not recommend to mandate the translation or transliteration of contact information data. Instead, the WG recommends that registrants are able to submit contact data in any language and script supported by their registrar, ideally the registrant's native one. The WG expressed in its Final Report that data submitted in a script and language native to the registrant is most likely to be accurate and that the costs of translating and/or transliterating all contact information data would be disproportionate to any potential benefits.

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT AND EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The ICANN Board [adopted](#) the recommendations of the PDP Working Group in September 2015. In late September 2017, the ICANN organization prepared a [draft policy document](#) for the IRT's review. This document is based on the entirety of the IRT's input received during the course of the implementation. The IRT is currently reviewing the document and will discuss it during their next teleconferences.

The implementation's projected effective date is to be determined. There are a number of technical, logistical, and coordination issues that need to be considered before deciding on a policy effective date. Issues include the roll-out of the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) and work within the Next-Generation Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Registration Directory Services (RDS) to replace WHOIS PDP.

### **HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

The IRT is composed of members of the PDP Working Group. Newcomers and interested parties are welcome to join as observers. Send an email indicating your interest to the GNSO Secretariat at [gnso-secs@ICANN.org](mailto:gnso-secs@ICANN.org).

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- PDP WG Final Report: [goo.gl/MgZ42S](https://goo.gl/MgZ42S)
- ICANN Board adopting the recommendations contained in the PDP WG Final Report: [icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2015-09-28](https://icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2015-09-28)
- IRT Workspace: [community.icann.org/x/0SeOAw](https://community.icann.org/x/0SeOAw)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Brian Aitchison (GDD)

<sup>1</sup> ‘Translation’ is defined as the translation of a text into another language whereas ‘transliteration’ is the writing of a word using the closest corresponding letters of a different alphabet.

<sup>2</sup> ‘Contact information’ is a subset of Domain Name Registration Data and thus the information that enables someone using a Domain Name Registration Data Directory Service (such as WHOIS) to contact the domain name registration holder.

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# Implementation Status: Generic Names Supporting Organization Review Working Group

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN60 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Working Group (WG) is set to update the GNSO Council at its meeting on Wednesday, 1 November, concerning its progress on the Implementation Plan.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council adopted the [charter](#) of the GNSO Review Working Group during its meeting on 21 July 2016. This WG developed an Implementation Plan for the [GNSO Review recommendations](#). On 15 December 2016, the GNSO Council [approved](#) the plan and on 03 February 2017, the ICANN Board [adopted](#) it.

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The independent examiner of the GNSO Review assessed the extent to which the improvements resulting from the 2008 Review have been implemented and whether they successfully addressed the concerns that led to the Review. The independent examiner also evaluated whether the GNSO, as it is currently constituted, can respond to its changing environment.

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The GNSO Review WG developed an Implementation Plan. It contains a projected timeline for the implementation, definition of desired outcomes, and a way to measure progress toward the desired outcome for the 34 recommendations in the [GNSO Review Final Report](#). This Implementation Plan was approved by the GNSO Council and subsequently by the ICANN Board. Following the approval, the WG is now executing and overseeing the implementation of the GNSO Review recommendations.

## WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The WG has completed implementation of the [Phase 1 recommendations](#), which consist of items identified as already underway. The WG is in the process of completing the Phase 2 recommendations. It will provide a report on the implementation progress to the Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC) of the ICANN Board of Directors, and to the GNSO Council at ICANN60. For the current status see the [wiki workspace](#).

### **HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

This WG is open to all participants. If you are interested in joining this effort, please contact the GNSO Secretariat at [gnso-secs@ICANN.org](mailto:gnso-secs@ICANN.org).

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- GNSO Review Implementation Plan: [goo.gl/HYs47B](http://goo.gl/HYs47B)
- GNSO Review Final Report: [goo.gl/5nu9Wd](http://goo.gl/5nu9Wd)
- WG Webpage: [gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/other/review/2014](http://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/other/review/2014)
- WG Workspace: [community.icann.org/x/ZhmsAw](https://community.icann.org/x/ZhmsAw)
- WG Charter: [community.icann.org/x/pRmsAw](https://community.icann.org/x/pRmsAw)

### **BACKGROUND**

On 14 April 2016 the GNSO Council approved a [motion](#) to adopt the [GNSO Review Recommendations Feasibility and Prioritization Analysis](#). Based on the review of the GNSO Analysis, the ICANN Board of Directors [adopted](#) the [GNSO Review recommendations](#) on 25 June 2016. In its resolution the ICANN Board requested that the GNSO Council convene a group to oversee the implementation of the recommendations. The Board further requested that an Implementation Plan be submitted to the Board no later than six months after the adoption of the Board's resolution. The GNSO Review WG was formed to develop the Implementation Plan. The GNSO Council approved it in December 2016 and the ICANN Board adopted it in February 2017. In particular, the Board supports the 3-phased prioritization approach laid out in the Implementation Plan and indicated it would welcome more implementation details for Phase 2 and 3 regarding the high, medium, and low priority recommendations. The Board directs the GNSO Review WG to provide updates to its Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC) every six months, detailing progress and measurability. The Board will also consider any budgetary implementations of the GNSO review implementation as part of the then-applicable annual budgeting process.

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Julie Hedlund, Marika Konings

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# Cross-Community Working Group: New Generic Top-Level Domains Auction Proceeds

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN60 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Cross Community Working Group (CCWG) has scheduled face-to-face meeting time on Thursday, 2 November. The CCWG is expected to continue its deliberations per its [work plan](#).

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Program established auctions as a last resort to resolve the competition sets between identical or similar terms (strings) for new gTLDs – an issue known as string contention. Ninety percent of contention sets scheduled for auction have been resolved through other means before reaching an auction conducted by Power Auctions LLC, ICANN’s authorized auction service provider. However, it was recognized from the outset that significant funds could accrue as a result of several successful auctions. The proceeds derived from such auctions have been reserved and earmarked within ICANN until such time as the ICANN Board authorizes a plan for the appropriate use of the funds. These proceeds are to be considered as an exceptional, one-time source of revenue.

All ICANN Supporting Organizations (SOs) and Advisory Committees (ACs) have chartered a CCWG to propose the mechanism to allocate the new gTLD Auction Proceeds. Following approval by the Chartering Organizations, the CCWG will submit its proposal(s) to the ICANN Board for consideration.

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The new gTLD Auction Proceeds, derived from these last resort auctions, are distinct and ring-fenced funds. The Auction Proceeds are a single revenue source derived from all new gTLD Auction Proceeds round 1. The proceeds, net of direct auction costs, are fully segregated in separate bank and investment accounts. The proceeds are invested conservatively with any interest accruing to the proceeds. Since June 2014, 17 contention sets have been resolved via ICANN auctions. The total net proceeds to date are \$233.5 million USD. Details of the proceeds can be found [here](#). As of 11 February 2017, 16 contention sets remain to be resolved. It is important to keep in mind that approximately 90 percent of contention sets scheduled for auction are resolved prior to the auction. The total amount of funding resulting from auctions will not be known until all relevant applications have resolved contention.



## **WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT AND EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?**

The CCWG commenced its deliberations at the end of January 2017. It has 26 members appointed by the different Chartering Organizations, 49 participants, and 28 observers. The CCWG is tasked with developing a proposal(s) on the mechanism that should be developed to allocate the new gTLD Auction Proceeds. As part of this proposal, the CCWG is also expected to consider the scope of fund allocation and due diligence requirements that preserve ICANN's tax status, as well as related matters such as potential or actual conflicts of interest. The CCWG will NOT make any recommendations or determinations with regard to specific funding decisions (i.e., which specific organizations or projects are to be funded or not).

The CCWG initially focused on assessing the [expertise](#) available within the CCWG and identifying potential external experts that could assist the CCWG in its deliberations. To help inform the CCWG's deliberations, the group has also identified a series of possible questions for [external experts](#).

Furthermore, the CCWG deliberated on its approach for dealing with the charter questions and the proposed timeline. It agreed to the following phases:

1. Initial run-through of all charter questions to assess initial responses, identify possible gating questions, and determine the potential order in which questions need to be dealt with;
2. Address any charter questions that have been identified as requiring a further detailed response before commencing the next phase;
3. Compile a list of possible mechanisms that could be considered by the CCWG;
4. Determine which mechanism(s) demonstrates most potential to meet CCWG expectations and conforms with legal and fiduciary constraints;
5. Answer charter questions, as organized per Phase 1, for mechanism(s) that demonstrate the most potential;
6. Publish Initial Report for public comment following consensus on mechanism and responses to charter questions that meet legal, fiduciary, and audit constraints.

To facilitate deliberation on key concepts, the WG has been using [surveys](#) to collect input for the initial run-through of charter questions, which seems quite successful so far. Since ICANN59, the CCWG discussions have focused on those questions requiring a preliminary response prior to moving into the next phase of work. Those questions include the objectives/priorities for fund allocation, the timeframe for fund allocation, and whether the ICANN organization should be allowed to benefit from auction proceeds. Preliminary agreements reached to date can be found [here](#).

The CCWG expects to complete its Phase 2 work shortly so it will be able to commence its work on Phase 3, which will focus on compiling a list of possible mechanisms for fund allocation.

### HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Anyone interested can join this effort as a participant or observer. Please complete the [registration form](#) or email the GNSO Secretariat at [gnso-secs@ICANN.org](mailto:gnso-secs@ICANN.org).

### MORE INFORMATION

- New gTLD Auction Proceeds CCWG Workspace, including Charter, background documents and information: [community.icann.org/x/yJXDAw](http://community.icann.org/x/yJXDAw)
- CCWG Charter Question templates: [community.icann.org/Charter](http://community.icann.org/Charter)
- CCWG Work Plan: [community.icann.org/Work+Plan](http://community.icann.org/Work+Plan)

### BACKGROUND

Following a number of sessions on this topic during the ICANN53 in Buenos Aires (see [buenosaires53.icann.org/en/schedule/mon-soac-high-interest](http://buenosaires53.icann.org/en/schedule/mon-soac-high-interest) and [buenosaires53.icann.org/en/schedule/wed-cwg-new-gtld-auction](http://buenosaires53.icann.org/en/schedule/wed-cwg-new-gtld-auction)), a discussion paper was published in September 2015 to solicit further community input on this topic as well as the proposal to proceed with a CCWG on this topic. The feedback received confirmed the support for moving forward with a CCWG. James Bladel, GNSO Chair, reached out to all the ICANN SOs and ACs to ask for volunteers to participate in a Drafting Team (DT) to develop a charter for a CCWG on this topic. All ICANN SOs and ACs, apart from the ccNSO, responded to this request and have put forward volunteers to participate in the DT. The DT commenced its deliberations on Tuesday, 23 February 2016. A draft charter for community discussion was published in advance of ICANN56 and discussed during [cross-community session](#) held at ICANN56. Following ICANN56, the DT [reviewed all the input](#) received and updated the proposed charter accordingly. On 13 September 2016, [this proposed charter](#) was shared with all ICANN SOs and ACs with the request to review it and identify pertinent issues that would prevent adoption of the charter, if any. Subsequently, a webinar was held on 13 October 2016 to allow for additional time and information to undertake this review. The final proposed charter was submitted to all ICANN SOs and ACs on 17 October 2016, and subsequently each ICANN SO and AC confirmed the adoption of the charter. Subsequently, a [call for volunteers](#) was launched and the CCWG was chartered by all ICANN SOs and ACs to propose the mechanism to allocate the new gTLD Auction Proceeds. The Chartering Organizations are, namely, the Address Supporting Organization (ASO), the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC), and the Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC). Following approval by the Chartering Organizations, the CCWG will submit its proposal(s) to the ICANN Board for consideration.

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Marika Konings, Joke Braeken (ccNSO)

# GNSO Schedule for ICANN60 Abu Dhabi

# 28 Oct

Please confirm against the [final schedule](#), as changes may occur. For remote participation details, please check this [wiki page](#) created by the GNSO Support Team. Live audio streaming, recording, and transcripts will become available after meetings. Unless specified with the symbol [c], sessions published in this table are open to all.

DAY 1: SATURDAY		
TIME	MEETING	ROOM
8:30-10:15	Next-Generation Registration Directory Service (RDS) to Replace WHOIS PDP WG	Hall B Section B/C
8:30-10:15	Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG) ICANN Board Members Closed Meeting (08:30-09:30) [c]	Capital Suite 1
9:00-10:15	Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns (NPOC) Outreach Event	Capital Suite 7
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	RDS PDP WG	Hall B Section B/C
10:30-12:00	NPOC Outreach Event	Capital Suite 7
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
12:00-13:30	Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC) RPM Discussion Group Close Meeting [c] (12:15-13:15)	Capital Suite 1
12:00-15:00	New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) PDP WG	Hall B Section B/C
13:30-15:00	Non-Commercial Users Constituency (NCUC) ExCom Closed Meeting [c]	Capital Suite 1
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-16:45	Review of all Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs PDP WG	Hall B Section B/C
15:15-16:45	NPOC Charter Review Closed Meeting [c]	Capital Suite 1
15:15-16:45	NCUC Outreach Meeting	Capital Suite 7
16:45-17:00	Transfer Break	
17:00-18:30	RPMs PDP WG	Hall B Section B/C
17:00-18:30	Contracted Party House (CPH) ExComs Closed Meeting [c]	Capital Suite 1
17:00-18:30	NCUC Outreach Meeting	Capital Suite 7

# GNSO Schedule for ICANN60 Abu Dhabi

# 29 Oct

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DAY 2: SUNDAY		
TIME	MEETING	ROOM
8:30-10:15	GNSO Working Session	Hall B Section B/C
9:00-10:15	Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG) ExCom Closed Meeting [c]	Capital Suite 1
9:00-10:15	Brand Registry Group Closed Meeting [c]	Hall A Section A
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	GNSO Working Session	Hall B Section B/C
10:30-12:00	Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG) ExCom Closed Meeting [c]	Capital Suite 1
10:30-12:00	Brand Registry Group Closed Meeting [c]	Hall A Section A
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
13:30-15:00	GNSO Working Session	Hall B Section B/C
13:30-15:00	Registry Stakeholder Group (RySG) Registry Service Evaluation Policy Discussion Group Closed Meeting with ICANN Staff [c]	Capital Suite 1
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-16:15	GNSO Open Meeting with Governmental Advisory Committee	Hall 3
15:15-16:45	ICANN Human Rights Open Meeting	Hall B Section B/C
15:15-16:45	Domain Name Association (DNA) Board Closed Meeting [c]	Majilis
16:45-17:00	Transfer Break	
17:00-18:30	NCSG Policy Committee Open Meeting	Hall B Section B/C
17:00-18:30	Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG) Closed Meeting [c]	Capital Suite 1
17:00-18:30	CPH ExCom Closed Meeting with ICANN Senior Staff [c]	Capital Suite 7

# GNSO Schedule for ICANN60 Abu Dhabi

# 30 Oct

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DAY 3: MONDAY		
TIME	MEETING	ROOM
9:00-10:00	Opening Ceremony	Hall 4
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	Community Input and Feedback on Progress and Approach for Conducting the Work of the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability Work Stream 2	Hall 4
10:30-12:00	Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG) Charter Review Open Session	Hall A Section A
10:30-12:00	Registry Service Provider Discussion Group Open Meeting	Capital Suite 14
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
12:00-15:00	Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency (ISPCP) Outreach Event with Global Stakeholder Engagement Middle East and North Africa Region Teams	Capital Suite 6
12:15-13:15	RySG Excom Closed Lunch [c]	Hall B Section B/C
12:15-13:15	GNSO / Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Joint Council Open Meeting	Capital Suite 1
13:30-15:00	Reporting of Domain Name System Abuse for Fact-Based Policy Making & Effective Mitigation	Hall 4
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-16:45	Operating Standards for Specific Reviews	Hall 4
15:15-16:45	RrSG/RySG Tech Ops Open Meeting	Hall B Section B/C
15:15-16:45	RPMs PDP WG	Hall A Section B/C
16:45-17:00	Transfer Break	
17:00-18:30	Public Forum 1	Hall 4
19:00-21:30	Gala Night	Offsite

# GNSO Schedule for ICANN60 Abu Dhabi

# 31 Oct

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DAY 4: TUESDAY		
TIME	MEETING	ROOM
8:30-15:00	RySG Open Meeting	Hall A Section B/C
9:00-15:00	RrSG Open Meeting	Hall B Section B/C
9:00-10:15	Commercial and Business Users Constituency (BC) Closed Meeting [c]	Capital Suite 14
9:00-10:15	IPC Closed Meeting [c]	Capital Suite 1
9:00-10:15	NCUC Open Meeting	Capital Suite 7
9:00-10:15	ISPCP Closed Meeting [c]	Capital Suite 3
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	CSG Open Meeting	Hall B Section b/c
10:30-12:00	NCUC Open Meeting	Capital Suite 1
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
12:00-13:30	CSG-GAC Closed Lunch [c]	Majilis
13:30-15:00	NPOC Open Meeting	Capital Suite 7
13:30-15:00	CSG Open Meeting with ICANN Board	Hall 4
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-18:30	CPH Membership Open Meeting with ICANN Board	Hall B Section B/C
15:15-18:30	BC Open Meeting	Hall A Section B/C
15:15-18:30	IPC Open Meeting	Capital Suite 1
15:15-18:30	NCSG Open Meeting	Capital Suite 7
15:15-18:30	ISPCP Open Meeting	Capital Suite 6
17:30-18:30	GNSO Council Informal Session	Capital Suite 3
18:30-20:00	Steve Crocker Farewell & Toast	Hall 4

# GNSO Schedule for ICANN60 Abu Dhabi

# 1 Nov

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DAY 5: WEDNESDAY		
TIME	MEETING	ROOM
8:30-10:15	GeoTLD Group Sharing Session	Hall B Section B/C
8:30-13:30	SubPro PDP WG	Capital Suite 14
9:45-10:45	NCSG Open Meeting with ICANN Board	Hall 4
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	CPH / CSG Open Meeting	Hall B Section B/C
11:00 -12:00	NCSG Excom, NCSG Policy Committee, and Assigned Board Members Closed Meeting [c]	Hall 4
12:00-13:30	CPH ExComs Wrap Up Closed Meeting [c]	Capital Suite 6
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
13:00-15:00	GNSO Council Open Meeting Part I	Hall B Section B/C
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-16:45	GNSO Council Open Meeting Part II	Hall B Section B/C
15:15-16:45	Non-Contracted Party House (NCPH) Informal Closed Meeting [c]	Media Centre
16:00-16:45	RDS PDP WG	Capital Suite 1
16:45-17:00	Transfer Break	
17:00-18:30	RrSG / NCSG Open Meeting	Hall B Section B/C
17:00-18:30	RDS PDP WG	Capital Suite 1
17:00-18:30	Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP WG	Capital Suite 3
17:00-18:30	DNA Healthy Domains Initiative (HDI) Open Meeting	Capital Suite 5
19:00-23:00	GNSO Council Closed Development Session [c]	Hall B Section B/C

# GNSO Schedule for ICANN60 Abu Dhabi

## 2 Nov

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DAY 6: THURSDAY		
TIME	MEETING	ROOM
8:00-9:00	ICANN61 Kick Off Closed Meeting [c]	Capital Suite 14
8:30-10:15	DNA Closed Breakfast [c]	Hall B Section B/C
8:30-10:15	CCWG-Auction Proceeds	Hall A Section B/C
9:00-10:15	Open Q&A with ICANN Executive Team	Capital Suite 14
10:15 -10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Implications for ICANN	Hall 4
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
12:00-13:30	GNSO Council Wrap Up Session	Hall B Section B/C
13:30-15:00	Talking about Jurisdiction: Challenges Associated with ICANN's Activities Being Subject to the Laws & Tribunals of the Country of Incorporation	Hall 4
13:30-15:00	CCWG-Auction Proceeds	Hall B Section B/C
13:30-15:00	RPMs PDP WG	Capital Suite 14
13:30-15:00	Brand Registry Group Update on .brand Trends & Use Cases	Capital Suite 14
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-15:45	Community Recognition Program	Hall 4
15:15-16:45	RySG / NCSG Open Meeting	Hall B Section B/C
15:45-16:45	Public Forum 2	Hall 4
16:45-17:00	Transfer Break	
17:00-18:30	Public Forum 2	Hall 4
18:30-20:00	ICANN Public Board Meeting	Hall 4
20:00-22:00	ICANN60 Wrap Up Cocktail	Hall 3



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# Acronym Helper

<b>AC</b> .....	Advisory Committee
<b>AGB</b> .....	Applicant Guide Book
<b>ALAC</b> .....	At-Large Advisory Committee
<b>ASO</b> .....	Address Supporting Organization
<b>BC</b> .....	Business Constituency
<b>BRG</b> .....	Brand Registry Group
<b>C</b> .....	Constituency
<b>CC2</b> .....	Community Comment 2
<b>ccNSO</b> .....	country code Names Supporting Organization
<b>CCWG</b> .....	Cross-Community Working Group
<b>CL&amp;D Policy</b> .....	Consistent Labeling & Display Policy of WHOIS output for all gTLDs
<b>CPH</b> .....	Contracted Party House
<b>CSG</b> .....	Commercial Stakeholder Group
<b>CWG</b> .....	Cross-Community Working Group
<b>DNA</b> .....	Domain Name Association
<b>DNS</b> .....	Domain Name System
<b>DT</b> .....	Drafting Team
<b>EU</b> .....	European Union
<b>EWG</b> .....	Expert Working Group
<b>ExCom</b>	Executive Committee
<b>GAC</b> .....	Governmental Advisory Committee
<b>GDD</b> .....	Global Domains Division
<b>GDPR</b> .....	General Data Protection Regulation
<b>GNSO</b> .....	Generic Names Supporting Organization
<b>gTLD</b> .....	generic Top-Level Domain
<b>HDI</b> .....	Healthy Domains Initiative
<b>IANA</b> .....	Internet Assigned Numbers Authority
<b>IDN</b> .....	Internationalized Domain Name
<b>IGO</b> .....	International Governmental Organizations
<b>INGO</b> .....	International Non-Governmental Organizations
<b>IOC</b> .....	International Olympic Committee
<b>IPC</b> .....	Intellectual Property Constituency
<b>IRT</b> .....	Implementation Review Team
<b>ISPCP</b> .....	Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency
<b>NCPH</b> .....	Non-Contracted Party House
<b>NCSG</b> .....	Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group
<b>NCUC</b> .....	Non-Commercial Users Constituency
<b>Next-Gen</b> .....	Next-Generation
<b>NGPC</b> .....	New gTLD Program Committee
<b>NPOC</b> .....	Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency
<b>OEC</b> .....	Organizational Effectiveness Committee
<b>PDP</b> .....	Policy Development Process
<b>PSWG</b> .....	Public Safety Working Group

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# Acronym Helper

<b>RA</b> .....	Registry Agreement
<b>RAA</b> .....	Registrar Accreditation Agreement
<b>RCRC</b> .....	Red Crescent Movement
<b>RDS</b> .....	Registration Directory Services
<b>RPM</b> .....	Rights Protection Mechanism
<b>RRA</b> .....	Registry-Registrar Agreement
<b>RrSG</b> .....	Registrar Stakeholder Group
<b>RSP</b> .....	Registry Service Provider
<b>RSSAC</b> .....	Root Server System Advisory Committee
<b>RySG</b> .....	Registry Stakeholder Group
<b>SG</b> .....	Stakeholder Group
<b>SO</b> .....	Supporting Organization
<b>SSAC</b> .....	Security and Stability Advisory Committee
<b>T/T</b> .....	Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information
<b>TM-PDDRP</b> .....	Trademark Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedures
<b>TMCH</b> .....	Trademark Clearinghouse
<b>UCTN</b> .....	Use of Country and Territory Names as TLDs
<b>UDRP</b> .....	Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy
<b>URS</b> .....	Uniform Rapid Suspension
<b>WG</b> .....	Working Group

# ICANN | GNSO

Generic Names Supporting Organization