

The logo for ICANN | GNSO, with 'ICANN' and 'GNSO' in a bold, white, sans-serif font, separated by a vertical bar. The background features a dark blue gradient with a network of glowing blue nodes and lines, and a cluster of translucent hexagons on the left side.

# ICANN | GNSO

Generic Names Supporting Organization

## Policy Briefing ICANN75 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 @ ICANN75:

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

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# Welcome to ICANN75 from the GNSO Chair



Dear Colleagues:

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council and the GNSO community welcome your participation in the ICANN75 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. In this hybrid meeting, the GNSO seeks to equally leverage contributions of in-person and remote participants to advance policy development efforts and the work of the GNSO Council. The meeting will also devote time to stakeholder group and constituency meetings. As ICANN75 approaches, I would like to highlight a few GNSO initiatives that will be on the agenda for the ICANN75 Annual General Meeting as well as ongoing work that may interest you. Additional information about GNSO projects can be found in the following sections of this briefing.

During ICANN75, sessions will be held for key policy development initiatives and other GNSO projects. The Transfer Policy Review Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group was initiated by the GNSO Council in March 2021 to determine if changes to the policy are needed to improve the ease, security, and efficacy of inter-registrar and inter-registrant transfers. The working group has held a public comment period on its Phase 1A Initial Report and is now working through substantive deliberations on Phase 1B, which focuses on policy requirements for inter-registrant transfers. During ICANN75, the working group will hold a session to discuss community input received through Public Comment on its Phase 1A Initial Report.

The GNSO Internationalized Domain Names (IDN) Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) is tasked with providing the GNSO Council with policy recommendations on 1) the definition of all top-level domains (TLDs) and the management of variant labels to facilitate the delegation of variant generic top-level domains (gTLDs) in the root zone, and 2) how the IDN Implementation Guidelines should be updated in the future. During ICANN75, the working group will hold two sessions to advance its deliberations.

The Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team is in the process of submitting its write-up for assignments #1 (Enforcement & Reporting) and #2 (Measurement of Accuracy) to the GNSO Council. The write-up is expected to include recommendations for a possible registrar survey and audit that could be undertaken to gather data to help inform the group's deliberations on assignment #3 (Effectiveness) and #4 (Impact and Improvements). The Scoping Team may discuss possible next steps in relation to the implementation of these two recommendations during its session at ICANN75, assuming Council support for the recommendations in the write-up.

The GNSO Council's small team on next steps regarding DNS abuse has been operating for several months. One of its principal activities was to seek input from the community to help identify any DNS abuse-related issues that are not adequately mitigated and would benefit specifically from policy development. The small team has completed

its analysis of input received and plans to deliver its report and recommendations for consideration by the GNSO Council. At ICANN75, the small team is planning a session to share and discuss its outputs that will be discussed by the Council.

In addition, work continues to support ICANN Board consideration of outputs from GNSO policy development efforts:

- The GNSO Council requested the ICANN Board to direct ICANN org to develop a “proof of concept” (now also known as the Whois Disclosure System) to help inform the consultation between the ICANN Board and the GNSO Council to assess the financial sustainability of the recommendations for a System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) to nonpublic registration data. During ICANN75, ICANN org is expected to present its Whois Disclosure System design to the EPDP Phase 2 small team that was formed by the GNSO Council to assist the Council in its consultation with the ICANN Board on this topic. Following the ICANN org presentation of the proposed design, the EPDP Phase 2 small team will review the design and provide its feedback on recommended next steps to the GNSO Council.
- ICANN org is conducting an Operational Design Phase (ODP) to deliver an Operational Design Assessment (ODA) on the affirmations, recommendations, and implementation guidance produced by the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) PDP. The ODP officially began in January 2022. Our liaison to the ODP is keeping the Council informed about its progress and working with Councilors to provide clarity to the ODP Team when requested.

During ICANN75, the GNSO Council will hold a two-part working session on Sunday, 18 September, its public meeting on Wednesday, 21 September, and a wrap-up session on Thursday, 22 September. Bilateral meetings of the GNSO will be held with the ICANN Board, Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), and At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC).

I also want to take this opportunity to highlight work that the Council is undertaking as part of its focus on continuous improvements of the GNSO’s Policy Development Process as well as related procedures and practices. A public comment period is expected to open prior to ICANN75 on the proposed changes to the Working Group Self-Assessment requirements as well as on the GNSO’s Statement of Interest (SOI) requirements. Furthermore, the Council has launched a PDP Improvements Tracker that is aimed at bringing together, in one place, improvements that have been suggested in the context of different conversations (among the ICANN Board, ICANN org, the ODPs, working group chairs, etc.). It provides a mechanism for the Council and the GNSO community to review proposed next steps and move forward with incremental improvements without losing sight of the overall picture to help ICANN as a whole deliver and deploy on the DNS the policies that have been developed through the GNSO’s PDP.



The implementation of PDP 3.0 continues to mature. This initiative is aimed at introducing incremental improvements to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the PDP working groups and to empower the GNSO Council to better serve in its role as the manager of policy development processes. Whenever the GNSO Council scopes and initiates new GNSO policy development efforts, it is actively applying PDP 3.0 improvements to the design of this work.

With the seating of the newly appointed Council members and the election of a new GNSO Chair, the AGM is a time of transition for the GNSO Council. This AGM marks the end of my service on the GNSO leadership team and the GNSO Council. It has been an honor and a pleasure to advance the GNSO's work with the 2021 GNSO Council Vice-Chairs Sebastien Ducos and Tomslin Samme-Nlar, and previously with the 2020 Vice-Chairs Pam Little and Tatiana Tropina on the leadership team, and over the years with all Council members and our outstanding support staff. Join us as we bring a productive year in the GNSO community and GNSO Council to a close and welcome the next GNSO Chair and GNSO Council members. ICANN75 will be a full meeting with ample opportunities to get involved. Whether you are attending in person in Kuala Lumpur or via Zoom, I look forward to seeing you soon. I wish you all a productive – and safe – meeting.

**Philippe Fouquart**  
**GNSO Chair**

# ICANN75 at a Glance

The GNSO Policy Support Team has developed this briefing document to help community members prepare for ICANN75. It provides an overview of the status of the GNSO PDP working groups and teams, as well as information about other GNSO policy-related activities, including PDP Implementation Review Teams (IRTs). The document includes links for additional background reading that will help you prepare for ICANN75 sessions. We hope it helps support active participation from all attendees.

Newcomers to ICANN and to the GNSO may be interested in online learning opportunities that will further help them make the most of the upcoming meeting. We highly recommend taking the “Get to Know the GNSO” course on [ICANN Learn](#). The course will make it easier to navigate through the structure and content of this Policy Briefing and provide you with a better understanding of PDPs. 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.

## ICANN75 Meeting Information

[Meeting Page, including registration and schedule](#)

[General Remote Participation Information](#)

[GNSO Session Remote Participation Details](#)

[Expected Standards of Behavior](#)

## GNSO-Related Information

[GNSO Council Policy Update Webinar](#)

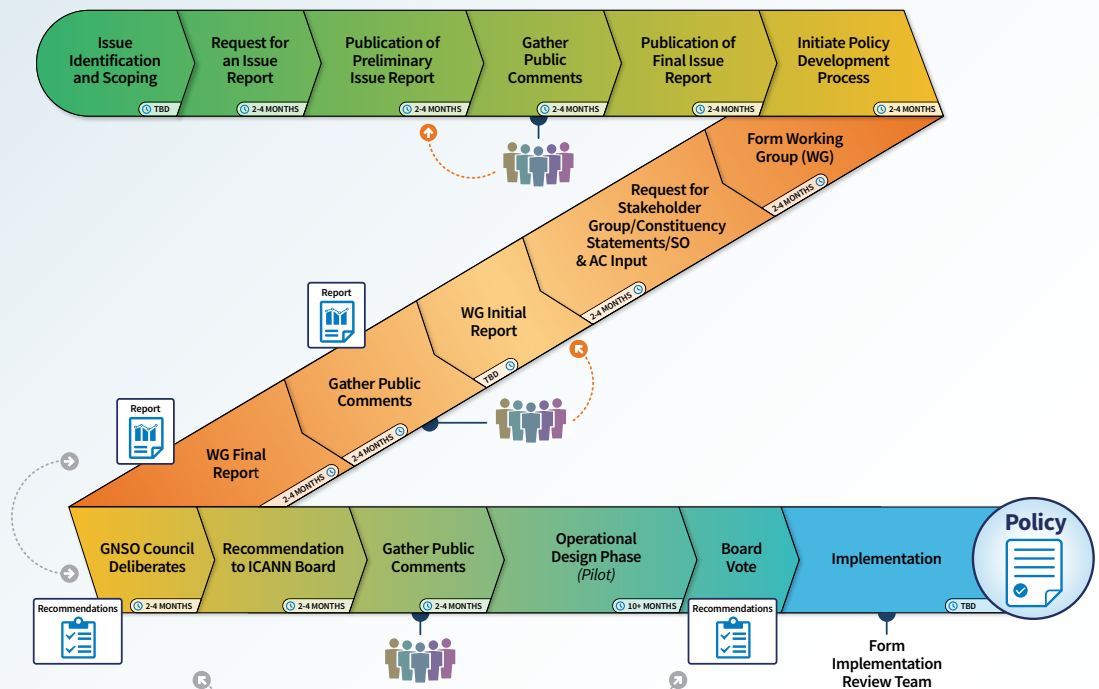
[GNSO One-Stop Shop for ICANN Meetings](#)

[Project List](#)

If you have any questions about, or suggestions for, this Policy Briefing or GNSO policy activities, please contact us at [policy-staff@icann.org](mailto:policy-staff@icann.org). We look forward to a productive meeting.

# GNSO Policy Development Process Infographic

The GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) governs the way in which the GNSO develops consensus policies related to generic top-level domains. As shown in the standard and summarized graph below, a GNSO PDP lifecycle consists of different steps, including: issue identification and scoping; PDP initiation; working group; GNSO Council deliberation; ICANN Board vote; and policy implementation. Note: The Operational Design Phase shown in the graphic does not apply to all PDPs.



The respective steps reached by the PDP working groups and Implementation Review Teams are detailed in the following sections of the GNSO Policy Briefing.

For more details about the steps in the PDPs, see the following materials:

- [ICANN Bylaws, Annex A](#)
- [Detailed Infographic of GNSO PDP](#)
- [PDP Manual](#)

# Policy Development Process: Transfer Policy Review

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN75 RELATED TO THIS TOPIC?

The working group will conduct one working session on Saturday, 17 September 2022 from 10:30–12:00 MYT. Please check the ICANN75 meeting schedule for the confirmed time. During the session, the working group will discuss public comments received on its Phase 1A Initial Report.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

On 18 February 2021, the GNSO Council [initiated](#) a two-phase policy development process (PDP) to review the Transfer Policy. This PDP is tasked to determine if changes to the policy are needed to improve the ease, security, and efficacy of inter-registrar and inter-registrant transfers. As recommended in the [Final Issue Report](#), this PDP addresses the following topics in sequence:

- Phase 1A: The Gaining and Losing Forms of Authorization (FOA), AuthInfo Codes, and NACKing transfers
- Phase 1B: The change of registrant
- Phase 2: The transfer emergency action contact and reversing inter-registrar transfers, Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy, and ICANN-approved transfers ([Learn More](#))

The working group held its first meeting on 14 May 2021.

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The working group published its Phase 1A Initial Report for Public Comment on 21 June 2022. During the public comment period, the working group made progress on deliberations on the Phase 1B charter questions. With closure of the public comment period on 16 August 2022, the working group is now reviewing the public comments received on Phase 1A preliminary recommendations.





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

The working group will complete its review of the public comments received and consider whether any changes need to be made to its Phase 1A recommendations. The working group will then continue to make progress on Phase 1B topics.

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

Parties interested in the Transfer Policy Review PDP should coordinate with the members assigned by the respective Stakeholder Group, Constituency, Supporting Organization, or Advisory Committee and communicate any input they believe may be useful to the Transfer Policy Review PDP's deliberations. Interested parties can also follow the working group's progress by signing up as an observer. A public comment period will be held on the Phase 1B Initial Report. All will be welcome to contribute to Phase 1B preliminary recommendations, as was the case with the Phase 1A preliminary recommendations.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- [PDP webpage](#)
- [PDP workspace](#)

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:** Emily Barabas, Julie Hedlund, Caitlin Tubergen, Berry Cobb

# Expedited Policy Development Process: Internationalized Domain Names

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN75 RELATED TO THIS TOPIC?

The EPDP Team will conduct two back-to-back working sessions on Saturday, 17 September 2022: one from 9:00–10:00 MYT, and the other from 10:30–12:00 MYT. Please check the ICANN75 meeting schedule for the confirmed time. During the sessions, the working group will discuss topics within its charter and seek broader community input.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

On 20 May 2021, the GNSO Council approved the [initiation request](#) for the EPDP on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) and adopted its [charter](#). The EPDP is expected to provide the GNSO Council with policy recommendations on:

- The definition of all TLDs and the management of variant labels to facilitate the delegation of variant gTLDs in the root zone, while achieving the security and usability goal of variant labels in a stable manner.
- How the IDN Implementation Guidelines that contracted parties are required to comply with should be updated in the future.

The charter includes 48 questions under seven broader topics, ranging from the “same entity” requirement at the top and second levels, to adjustments to ICANN policies and procedures as they relate to IDNs. ([Learn More](#))

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The EPDP Team held its first meeting on 11 August 2021 and is in the early stages of its work.

The EPDP Team received [early written input](#) on topics in its charter from the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), GNSO’s Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG), and the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC). In January 2022, the EPDP Team conducted an engagement session with SSAC members to discuss their input and exchange views on specific charter questions. These inputs and views were published in [SAC120](#) in April 2022.



By the end of August 2022, the EPDP Team completed its first pass of substantive deliberations on more than half of its charter questions, specifically:

- Group 1 charter questions related to the definition of all gTLDs using the Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR);
- Group 2 charter questions related to the “same entity” principle at the top-level; and
- Group 3 charter questions related to variants’ impact on the New gTLD Program.

A small group within the EPDP Team was formed to discuss variants’ impact on the String Similarity Review and Objection Processes in the New gTLD Program. The small group completed its work assignment after 11 meetings and presented their recommendation for consideration by the EPDP Team.

The EPDP Team is also conducting outreach activities to seek critical external input to facilitate its deliberations. For example, it conducted a survey among Arabic and Chinese gTLD registry operators to assess their potential interest in activating variants of their gTLDs. The team received 23 responses. The EPDP Team is also consulting with Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Generation Panels regarding additional work on identifying Han characters that should not be allowed to become single-character TLDs.

To ensure a consistent solution for variant TLDs is being developed, the EPDP Team monitors the activities in the ccNSO’s ccPDP4 on the (de-)selection of IDN ccTLD Strings. In July 2022, the EPDP Team held a joint session with ccPDP4 to discuss their preliminary recommendations, compare similarities, and understand the differences.

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

The EPDP Team will continue its substantive deliberations, seeking to reach preliminary outcomes for each group of charter questions. The EPDP Team will work toward drafting responses to charter questions and recommendations that will be compiled into an Initial Report, which will be published for public comment.

The EPDP Team plans to submit a project change request to the GNSO Council and propose to first publish Part 1 of its Initial Report by focusing on the recommendations on variant management at the top-level. Due to additional data collection needs, the EPDP Team would like to defer substantive deliberation of the second-level related topics and address recommendations on those topics in Part 2 of its Initial Report. During ICANN75, the EPDP Team plans to discuss which remaining charter questions should be included in Part 1 of the Initial Report in preparation for the project change request.

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

Parties interested in the EPDP on IDNs should coordinate with the members assigned by the respective Stakeholder Group, Constituency, Supporting Organization, or Advisory Committee and communicate any input they believe may be useful to the EPDP's deliberations. The EPDP's "representative + open" membership model allows interested parties to join as a participant and take part in EPDP deliberations substantively, except when an official position is needed from the relevant organization or for a consensus call. Interested parties are also able to follow the working group's progress by signing up as observers.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- [EPDP webpage](#)
- [EPDP workspace](#)

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:** Ariel Liang, Steve Chan, Emily Barabas



# Expedited Policy Development Process: Specific Curative Rights Protections for IGOs

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN75 RELATED TO THIS TOPIC?

In April 2019, the GNSO Council voted to adopt Recommendations 1–4 of the **Final Report** of the International Governmental Organization and International Non-Governmental Organization (IGO-INGO) Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms Policy Development Process, but elected to refer Recommendation 5 to the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group. In January 2020, the GNSO Council adopted an Addendum to the RPMs charter to integrate consideration of Recommendation 5 and initiate a separate Intergovernmental Organizations (IGO) Work Track. In August 2021, the GNSO Council took the procedural step of initiating an EPDP to continue the work of the IGO Work Track. The EPDP Team delivered its Final Report to the Council on 4 April 2022 and the Council approved the five (5) consensus recommendations in June 2022. Therefore, the EPDP Team will not be meeting at ICANN75.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The GNSO Council tasked the IGO Work Track, now EPDP Team, to consider whether an appropriate policy solution can be developed that is generally consistent with Recommendations 1–4, allows for the possibility that an IGO may have jurisdictional immunity in some circumstances, and respects a registrant’s right to seek judicial review of an initial Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) or Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) decision. ([Learn More](#))

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

**IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP** (provided for context)

The original PDP working group submitted its Final Report to the GNSO Council on 9 July 2018. The GNSO Council resolved to accept the Final Report on 19 July 2018. However, the Council did not take final action on the report at that time, noting that it would seek to consider the topic of curative rights protections for IGOs in the broader context of the appropriate overall scope of protection for all IGO identifiers.



The GNSO Council's deliberations included consultation with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC). On 18 April 2019, the Council resolved to approve Recommendations 1–4 of the Final Report and refer Recommendation 5 to the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP Working Group as part of its Phase 2 work.

On 16 May 2019, the GNSO Council transmitted its Recommendations Report (relating to Recommendations 1–4) to the ICANN Board. ICANN org conducted a [Public Comment](#) consultation process for Recommendations 1–4 from 11 July to 20 August 2019. The GAC sent a [letter](#) to the GNSO Council, noting the Council's approval of Recommendations 1–4 and referring Recommendation 5 to the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP Working Group to ensure it is consistent with GAC advice.

#### **EPDP on Specific Curative Rights Protections for IGOS**

Following its referral of Recommendation 5 to the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP, the GNSO Council prepared a draft Addendum to the RPMs charter and consulted with the GAC and IGO representatives. Subsequently, the GNSO Council adopted the [Addendum](#) in January 2020 to initiate a separate IGO Work Track.

In September 2020, the GNSO Council conducted an Expression of Interest process for the IGO Work Track Chair and issued a call for volunteers to the various community groups to appoint members to the work track. Members of the work track met for the first time on 22 February 2021 and made significant progress on preliminary draft recommendations. Following the procedural step noted above to initiate an EPDP to complete the IGO Work Track's work, the EPDP Team published its [Initial Report for Public Comment](#) on 14 September 2021. The EPDP Team considered the comments received and made changes to its report as necessary. The Final Report and its five recommendations were delivered to the GNSO Council on 4 April 2022 and the five (5) consensus recommendations were approved by the GNSO Council in June 2022. The Council approved the Recommendations Report to the ICANN Board in July 2022.

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

The ICANN Board is now considering Recommendations 1–4, taking into account public comments received. Regarding Recommendation 5, the EPDP Team has delivered its Final Report and the GNSO Council has approved the five (5) consensus recommendations. As is required by the ICANN Bylaws, a public comment proceeding will be opened on the recommendations, the results of which will help inform the ICANN Board’s consideration of the recommendations.

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

With the EPDP Team having completed its work and the recommendations approved by the Council, a public comment period will be conducted to be taken into account by the ICANN Board in their consideration of the recommendations.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- [IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP webpage](#)
- [IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP workspace](#)
- [EPDP on Specific Curative Rights Protections for IGOs workspace](#)

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

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

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN75 RELATED TO THIS TOPIC?

The New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group will not be meeting at ICANN75 as it has completed its work. The GNSO Council adopted its **Final Report** in February 2021 and sent the PDP outputs and **Recommendations Report** to the ICANN Board for review.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This PDP working group sought to determine if any changes needed to be made to the existing policy recommendations from the 2007 [Final Report on the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains](#). ([Learn More](#))

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

Following the [Public Comment](#) proceeding on the Final Report to seek community input before the ICANN Board action on PDP's outputs, the Board directed ICANN org to initiate an [Operational Design Phase \(ODP\)](#) for the Final Report outputs. The ODP began on 3 January 2022. The Council stays informed through frequent updates via its liaison to the ODP Team.

As the ODP progresses, the GNSO Council is considering the initiation of a GNSO Guidance Process (GGP) to conduct supplemental work on a specific Subsequent Procedures topic, Applicant Support, while the ODP takes place. The GGP could potentially take on work in other Subsequent Procedures topics in the future.

In addition, on 6 March 2022, the ICANN Board sent a [letter](#) and [framing paper](#) to the GNSO Council proposing a Board-facilitated process for a GAC-GNSO Council dialogue on the topic of Closed Generics. Closed Generics was one of the topics within the Subsequent Procedures PDP WG's charter, but the working group was unable to come to an agreement on recommendations for this topic. The GNSO Council provided an initial [response](#) to the Board that it is willing to pursue next steps on a facilitated dialogue and is now working with the GAC and the Board on these next steps.





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

Following the ODP, the ICANN Board is expected to act on the approved policy recommendations in accordance with the Bylaws.

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

Please stay tuned for additional information about future opportunities to engage on this topic.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- [PDP webpage](#)
- [PDP workspace](#)
- [ODP webpage](#)

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

# Expedited Policy Development Process: Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data - Phase 2 (SSAD)

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN75 RELATED TO THIS TOPIC?

During ICANN75, ICANN org is expected to share the Whois Disclosure System Design with the GNSO Council and the EPDP Phase 2 Small Team during a dedicated session on Saturday, 17 September 2022 from 15:00–16:00 MYT. In a second session, from 16:30–17:30 MYT that same day, the small team will commence its review of the proposed design to be able to advise the GNSO Council on next steps.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

On 17 May 2018, the ICANN Board approved the Temporary Specification for generic top-level domain (gTLD) Registration Data to allow contracted parties to comply simultaneously with existing ICANN contractual requirements and the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This Board action triggered the GNSO Council's initiation of a PDP on 19 July 2018. The PDP was conducted in two phases: Phase 1 aimed to confirm, or not, the Temporary Specification by 25 May 2019; and Phase 2 discussed, among other elements, a standardized access model to nonpublic registration data. Phase 2A discussed the differentiation of legal and natural persons' registration data and the potential feasibility of unique contacts having a uniform anonymized email address. ([Learn More](#))

Following the delivery of the [Operational Design Assessment](#) (ODA) on the System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD), the GNSO Council formed a small team consisting of Council members as well as EPDP Team members to assist the Council with its review of the ODA and provide input on proposed next steps in the consultation process that the Board and the Council are engaged in.

The small team submitted its preliminary report to the GNSO Council. It expressed its view that the ODA does not provide sufficient information to make a determination of the cost and benefit of the System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD). The small team also recommended the implementation of a proof-of-concept approach, which would allow for the gathering of further data to better inform a decision on how to proceed with the SSAD recommendations. Subsequently, the GNSO Council requested the ICANN Board to direct ICANN org to design such a proof of concept (now also known as the Whois Disclosure System). The ICANN Board sought GNSO



Council input on prioritization of these projects to be both transparent about resource demands and to align expectations. The GNSO Council indicated that it believes that both the Design Paper and one of the affected areas of work, the New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures Operational Design Phase, are priorities and that it is for ICANN org to best determine how to plan its work effectively and minimize negative impacts as much as possible. On 14 July 2022, the ICANN Board confirmed that it accepted the ICANN org approach of proceeding with both projects in parallel.

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

#### **Phase 2**

The GNSO Council approved the [Phase 2 Final Report](#) during its meeting on 24 September 2020 by supermajority vote. The Final Report details the EPDP Team's recommendations for a System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) to nonpublic gTLD registration data, as well as recommendations and conclusions for the so-called "Priority 2" topics, which include data retention, city field redaction, etc. With respect to the Priority 2 topics (recommendations not related to the SSAD), the Board [adopted](#) the four Priority 2 recommendations during its 21 June 2021 meeting.

As part of its approval of the SSAD recommendations, the GNSO Council agreed to request a consultation with the ICANN Board. The purpose of the consultation is to discuss the financial sustainability of the SSAD and some of the concerns expressed within the different minority statements. Those issues include whether a further cost-benefit analysis should be conducted before the ICANN Board considers all SSAD-related recommendations for adoption. During ICANN70, the Board directed the ICANN org to initiate an Operational Design Phase (ODP) for the SSAD-related recommendation.

ICANN org delivered the [Operational Design Assessment](#) (ODA) to the ICANN Board on 25 January 2022. The Council met with the ICANN Board on 27 January (see [recording](#)) as the next step in its consultation related to concerns around the financial sustainability of the SSAD. Before that meeting, the ICANN Board sent the GNSO Council a [letter](#) outlining some of its concerns and further questions for the Council.

The GNSO Council then formed the EPDP Phase 2 Small Team to consider the concerns outlined in the ICANN Board letter, and, with these concerns in mind, to analyze the SSAD Operational Design Assessment and provide the Council with feedback on:

- Whether the ODA has correctly interpreted the intent of the SSAD recommendations in the proposed implementation

- Whether the ODA has overlooked any key aspects of the SSAD recommendations that should be factored in by the ICANN Board when it considers the recommendations
- Its view on the concerns identified by the ICANN Board and potential options that could be considered, either in the form of changes to the proposed implementation or the policy recommendations themselves, to address these concerns (Note: These are expected to be high-level suggestions at this stage.)
- Any other aspects that help inform the Council's deliberations and consultation with the ICANN Board.

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

After the ICANN org shared the Whois Disclosure System Design, the GNSO Council and ICANN Board will need to consider how to proceed in its consultation related to concerns around the financial sustainability of the SSAD and whether to move ahead with the implementation of the Whois Disclosure System.

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

For more information on the SSAD ODP, please visit this [page](#). For more information about the EPDP Phase 2 small team, please see [here](#).

#### **MORE INFORMATION**

- [EPDP Phase 2 webpage](#)
- [EPDP workspace](#)
- [SSAD ODP webpage](#)

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:** Caitlin Tubergen, Marika Konings, Berry Cobb



# Policy Implementation Update

Implementation Review Teams (IRTs) are convened to assist ICANN org in developing the implementation details for the Board-approved policy developed in GNSO PDP working groups. This is to ensure that the implementation conforms to the intent of the policy recommendations, as per IRT Principles and Guidelines. ([Learn More](#))

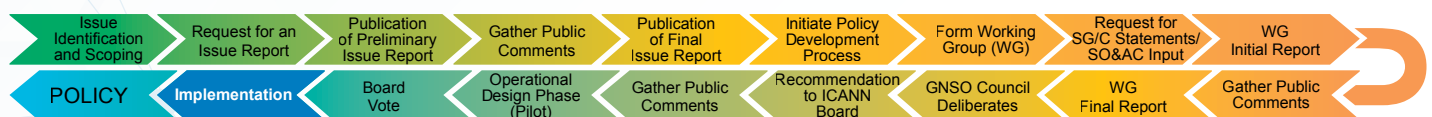
## Registration Data Policy for gTLDs (EPDP PHASE 1 IMPLEMENTATION)

The Implementation Review Team (IRT) will conduct one working session at ICANN75 on Wednesday, 21 September 2022 from 9:00–10:00 MYT. Please check the ICANN75 meeting schedule for the confirmed time.

Three stages of the policy implementation were designed in advance of the Board resolution:

- Stage 1: Effective 20 May 2019, contracted parties must continue to implement measures consistent with the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data, as adopted by the Board on 17 May 2018.
- Stage 2: This stage will begin after the ICANN org publishes a Registration Data Policy as a consensus policy and formally notifies the contracted parties. During this stage, contracted parties may implement the Interim Policy, the Registration Data Policy, or elements of both, as they prepare for the effective date of the Registration Data Policy. The timing of this milestone is to be determined.
- Stage 3: Contracted parties must comply with the Registration Data Policy as of its effective date, which the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Team on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data recommended to be 29 February 2020.

The Stage 1 interim Consensus Policy, [Interim Registration Data Policy for gTLDs](#), was published on 17 May 2019.



In January 2021, the GNSO Council passed a [motion](#) to provide guidance on the interpretation of EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 7. In October 2021, the ICANN Board directed the implementation of the policy per the guidance. In June 2021, the Board [adopted Recommendations 19–22](#) from the EPDP Phase 2 [Final Report](#). The implementation of these recommendations, referred to as Priority 2 items, were added to the implementation scope. On 24 February 2022, the Board [adopted](#) the GNSO Council’s Supplemental Recommendation for EPDP Recommendation 12, concerning the deletion of data in the organization field as it addresses the Board’s overarching concern of loss of essential data.

Thirty-four (34) recommendations were analyzed to determine the implementation tasks: from EPDP Phase 1 (29), EPDP Phase 2 (4), and a Supplemental Recommendation (1). The implementation plan includes drafting the Registration Data Policy language and reviewing all existing policies and procedures that relate to registration data for impact. The draft policy and all redlined impacted policies will be published for Public Comment.

This IRT is open to all. If you believe you have the requisite expertise, you may join as either a member (with full posting rights to the mailing list and the ability to participate in all meetings), or as an observer (with read-only status for the mailing list). If you are interested in joining, please follow the instructions in the “[Call for IRT](#)” announcement. The IRT meets every other week via teleconference and in person at ICANN Public Meetings.

#### **MORE INFORMATION**

- [EPDP Phase 1 background](#)
- [Policy Implementation Status webpage](#)
- [IRT workspace](#)

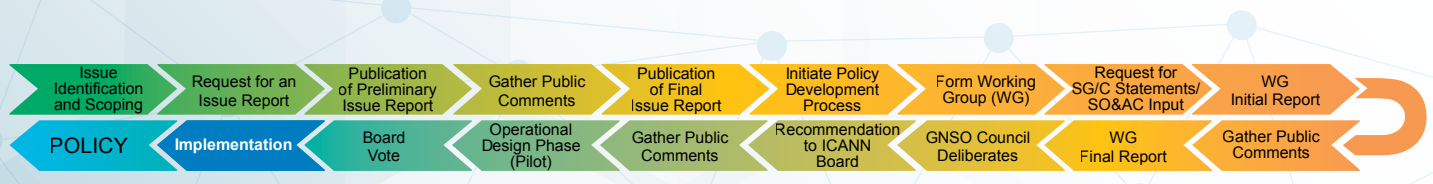
**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:** Dennis Chang

The following Implementation Review Teams (IRTs) do not plan to meet at ICANN75.

## Registration Data Policy for gTLDs (EPDP Phase 2A Implementation)

The ICANN Board **approved the EPDP Phase 2A policy recommendations on 10 March 2022**. As set forth in Section 3 of the **Final Report**, the recommendations include: 1) a recommendation that a field or fields **MUST** be created to facilitate differentiation between legal and natural person registration data and/or if that registration data contains personal or non-personal data. ICANN org is expected to coordinate the implementation of this recommendation with the technical community. Once created, this field(s) is optional for use by contracted parties that choose to differentiate. Contracted parties that choose to differentiate are not required to use the field(s); 2) a recommendation that includes guidance developed by the EPDP team to assist contracted parties that choose to differentiate; 3) a recommendation that, should any possible future work within ICANN be undertaken in relation to the development of a GDPR Code of Conduct, the guidance developed concerning legal vs. natural differentiation should be considered; and 4) a recommendation that includes guidance for those contracted parties that choose to publish a pseudonymized registrant-based or registration-based email address in the publicly accessible Registration Data Directory Services (RDDS).

The ICANN Board has directed ICANN org to develop and execute an implementation plan for the above adopted recommendations that is consistent with the guidance provided by the GNSO Council and to continue communication with the community on such work. Implementation planning is now underway.



## Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues

The IRT for the [policy recommendations](#) developed by the Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues (PPSAI) Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group began meeting in October 2016. It has reviewed the draft Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) and other associated program materials in preparation for the Public Comment phase.

On [4 March 2019](#), ICANN org wrote to the GNSO Council with the suggestion to wait before proceeding to Public Comment and implementation of the PPSAI recommendations until the completion of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data. The GNSO Council deferred the decision on this issue to ICANN org in a [message](#) on 30 April 2019. In its [response](#) on 5 September 2019, ICANN org confirmed that implementation work would remain paused pending the resolution of EPDP Phase 2.

With both phases of the EPDP complete, ICANN org provided its [draft review](#) of the impact of the EPDP recommendations on existing policies and procedures, including the PPSAI recommendations, per the EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 27. Following review by the EPDP Phase 1 IRT, the [report](#) was shared with the GNSO Council to help determine next steps. In its [7 July 2021 letter](#), the GNSO Council indicated an expectation that implementation would continue. ICANN org is now considering next steps for the PPSAI implementation within the org's planning activities, factoring in existing and upcoming activities, as well as direction from the Board.

### MORE INFORMATION

- [PDP background](#)
- [Policy Implementation Status webpage](#)
- [IRT workspace](#)

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:** Cyrus Jamnejad



## Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information

The ICANN Board [adopted](#) the recommendations of the PDP working group in September 2015. Since commencing implementation work in July 2016, the IRT and Global Domains and Strategy (GDS) have produced a [preliminary policy document](#). Due to complexities emerging from the IRT’s discussions and work in other areas related to Registration Data Directory Services (RDDS)—in particular the [Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Expedited Policy Development Process](#) (EPDP)—the implementation’s projected announcement and effective dates are to be determined.

Given the implementation’s relationship to the evolution of registration data policies and procedures, the PDP working group’s recommendations are being assessed per Recommendation 27 of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Phase 1 Team’s [Final Report](#). This is to ensure policy and implementation consistency across the many work streams in this area.

Both phases of the EPDP are now complete. The ICANN org has provided its draft review of the impact of the EPDP recommendations on existing policies and procedures, including the Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information recommendations, per the EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 27.

Following review by the EPDP Phase 1 IRT, ICANN org provided the [report](#) to the GNSO Council. ICANN org is considering next steps regarding the GNSO Council’s consideration of the EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 27, Wave 1.5 Report, per its [letter](#) dated 7 July 2021. This includes incorporating next steps on the Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information recommendations into ICANN org’s planning activities, and factoring in timing and prioritization of work with other existing activities, including applicable dependencies.

### MORE INFORMATION

- [PDP background](#)
- [Policy Implementation Status webpage](#)
- [IRT workspace](#)

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:** Isabelle Colas



## Protection of IGO and INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs

On 16 January 2018, the [implementation](#) of the Consensus Policy for the Protection of Certain Specific International Governmental Organization (IGO) and International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) Identifiers for All gTLDs was published. As of 1 August 2018, implementation has been completed for the portion of the policy that provides protection by reserving full names for certain specific names of IGOs, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (RCRC). For INGOs, the implementation period will be 12 months from the release of the INGO Claims Systems Specification, which is currently being developed by the ICANN org.

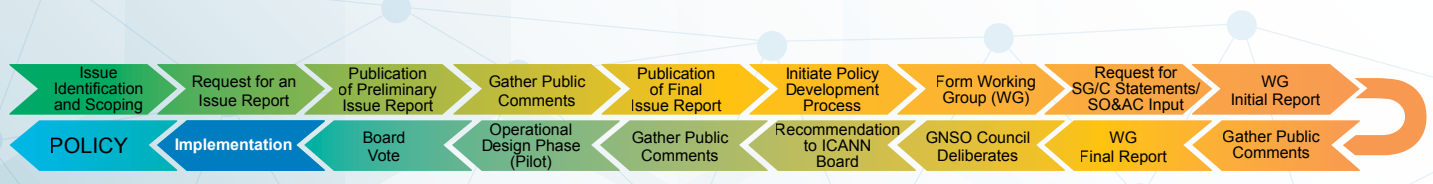
In January 2019, the ICANN Board [adopted](#) the policy recommendation proposed by the Reconvened PDP Working Group on the Protections of the Specific Red Cross Red Crescent Names in All gTLDs. After the [Public Comment](#), the [consensus policy language](#) was revised and published in February 2020. The implementation was completed by 1 August 2020, which resulted in increasing the [number of reserved Domain Name System \(DNS\) Labels](#) from 700 to over 7,000.

The INGO Claims System implementation is currently on hold due to potential additional requirements that could be combined to create this new system. ICANN org is consulting with the Implementation Review Team (IRT) on the timing of the restart.

### MORE INFORMATION

- [PDP background](#)
- [Policy Implementation Status webpage](#)
- [IRT workspace](#)

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:** Dennis Chang



## Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs Phase 1

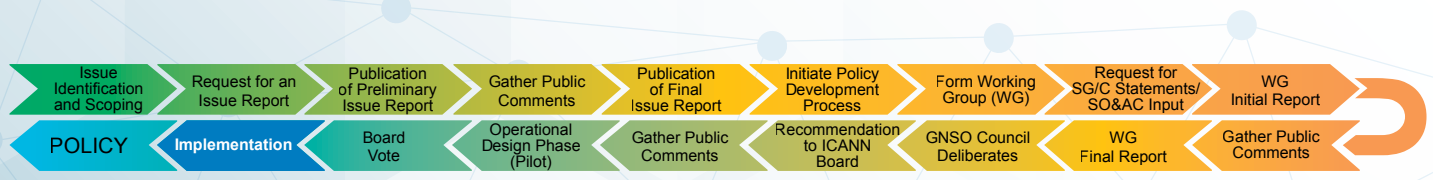
On 24 November 2020, the PDP working group submitted its [Phase 1 Final Report](#). It contains 35 recommendations. On 21 January 2021, the GNSO Council unanimously [approved](#) the Phase 1 Final Report and sent the [Recommendations Report](#) to the ICANN Board of Directors on 19 March 2021. A [Public Comment](#) proceeding on the Phase 1 Final Report was conducted from 7 April to 21 May 2021. The [staff report](#) was published on 4 June 2021.

On 16 January 2022, the ICANN Board voted to [adopt](#) all 35 final Phase 1 PDP recommendations. The resolution includes the following Board directives to the ICANN org:

- For the 16 recommendations that call for updates to existing operational practices—proceed with implementation as soon as feasible and develop an implementation plan.
- For the nine recommendations affirming the status quo—include them for future expansions of the new gTLDs and inform the community about the plans to implement them.
- For the six recommendations that require substantial resourcing and multiple stakeholders’ involvement—develop an implementation plan that includes estimated timing, staffing, and other resources required, as well as how their implementation fits into operational planning and prioritization of the anticipated implementation efforts that will require the ICANN org’s resourcing and support.
- For the four recommendations that call for specific changes to the Applicant Guidebook and/or the Base Registry Agreement and coordination with the expected Subsequent Procedures IRT—incorporate the implementation of these recommendations into the work on updates to the Applicant Guidebook for subsequent new gTLD rounds.

Following the Board’s vote, ICANN’s GDS function began planning for implementation of the Phase 1 recommendations.

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:** Antonietta Mangiacotti



# Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN75 RELATED TO THIS TOPIC?

The scoping team is expected to conduct a working session on Saturday, 17 September 2022 from 9:00–10:00 MYT. During this session, the scoping team may discuss further steps in relation to a possible registrar survey that is intended to help gather data to inform its assessment of the current state of accuracy.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The GNSO Council formally adopted the [formation of and instructions](#) to the Accuracy Scoping Team during its meeting on 22 July 2021. The scoping team has been tasked to consider several accuracy-related aspects such as current enforcement and reporting, measurement of accuracy, and effectiveness. These considerations are expected to help inform its deliberations and the development of recommendations to the GNSO Council on whether any changes are recommended to improve accuracy levels, and if so, how and by whom these changes would need to be developed (for example, if changes to existing contractual requirements are recommended, a PDP or contractual negotiations may be necessary to effect a change). Each Stakeholder Group, Constituency, Supporting Organization, and Advisory Committee has been invited to appoint [representatives](#).

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The scoping team commenced its deliberations in October 2021. Following its review of proposals that may assist in the measurement of accuracy, the team is in the process of finalizing the write-up for assignments #1 (Enforcement & Reporting) and #2 (Measurement of Accuracy). The focus for now has been on proposals that do not require access to registration data such as a registrar survey or a registrar audit.

As the ICANN Board has directed ICANN org to develop scenarios for how ICANN org could obtain legitimate access to gTLD registration data to confirm accuracy that could be tested with the European Data Protection Board (EDPB), the team recently engaged with ICANN org on possible scenarios. Once a response has been received from the EDPB, this is expected to help inform further consideration of proposals that involve access to registration data. Additional data gathered is expected to help inform the consideration of assignment #3 (Effectiveness) and assignment #4 (Impact & Improvements).

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

Following the delivery of the write-up for assignments #1 and #2, the Council will consider the scoping team's proposals for data gathering and confirm next steps.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- [Scoping Team instructions](#)
- [Scoping Team workspace](#)

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:** Marika Konings, Caitlin Tubergen, Berry Cobb



# Council Small Team: Considering Next Steps Regarding DNS Abuse

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN75 RELATED TO THIS TOPIC?

The small team is expected to conduct a working session on Saturday, 17 September 2022 from 13:15–14:30 MYT. During this session, the small team plans to work toward finalizing its report to the GNSO Council. The report is slated to include recommendations for further steps the GNSO Council should consider to address DNS abuse.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The GNSO Council agreed during ICANN72 that it wished to initiate a small team on DNS abuse to help recommend potential next steps for the Council. The small team received an [assignment form](#), which recognized the numerous community efforts regarding DNS abuse, but sought to focus the team’s attention on the narrow question of whether there are DNS abuse issues that are inadequately mitigated and best addressed specifically via policy development.

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The small team began meeting in February 2022. As its first step, it engaged in outreach to community groups, asking them to articulate what DNS abuse problems exist that, to be properly addressed, specifically require policy development. The small team received inputs from the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC), the DNS Abuse Institute, and from several of the GNSO’s stakeholder groups and constituencies. The small team also received input from ICANN Compliance on several questions, which helped provide a better understanding of contractual enforcement of DNS abuse-related provisions. Following its consideration of the input received from the various community groups and taking into account the responses from ICANN Compliance, the small team is now working on finalizing its report and recommendations which are to be submitted to the GNSO Council for its consideration.

## WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

Following delivery of the small team’s report, the GNSO Council will consider the report and confirm next steps.

## MORE INFORMATION

— [Small Team Assignment Form](#)

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:** Steve Chan, Marika Konings

# GNSO Schedule for ICANN75

Please confirm against the [final schedule](#) as changes may occur. For remote participation details, please consult this [wiki page](#), created by the GNSO Support Team. Live audio streaming, recording, and transcripts will become available after the meetings. Unless specified with the symbol [C], sessions published in this table are open to all. At the time of publishing, virtual meeting rooms have not yet been finalized. Please see the final schedule for further information.

DATE	MEETING
Saturday, 17 September 2022	Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team
	Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) Working Session (1 of 2)
	EPDP on IDNs Working Session (2 of 2)
	Transfer Policy Review (TPR) Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group
	Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council Domain Name System (DNS) Abuse Small Team Meeting
	Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC) Membership [C]
	Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Phase 2 System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) - Presentation of Whois Disclosure System Design Paper
	EPDP Phase 2 (SSAD) - Review of Whois Disclosure System Design Paper
Sunday, 18 September 2022	GNSO Council Working Session (1 of 2)
	GNSO Council Working Session (2 of 2)
	Contracted Party House (CPH) DNS Abuse Outreach
	Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers (ISPCP) Membership Meeting [C]
	Business Constituency (BC) Membership Meeting
	Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns (NPOC) Membership Meeting
	Non-Commercial Users Constituency (NCUC) Membership Meeting
	Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) Brand Registry Group (BRG) .Brand Community Outreach Session

DATE	MEETING
<b>Monday, 19 September 2022</b>	GNSO Informal Council Session [C]
	Joint Session: ICANN Board and Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG)
	CPH Membership Meeting
	IPC Membership Meeting
	IPC DNS Abuse Working Session [C]
	CPH CSAM Meeting [C]
	Joint Meeting: Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) and GNSO Council
<b>Tuesday, 20 September 2022</b>	Joint Session: ICANN Board and GNSO Council
	Joint Session: ICANN Board and CPH
	NCSG Membership Meeting
	Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG) Membership Meeting
	Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG) Membership Meeting (1 of 2)
	Joint Session: ICANN Board and CSG
	RySG Membership Meeting (1 of 2)
	RySG Membership Meeting (2 of 2)
	RrSG Membership Meeting (2 of 2)
	CPH RA/RAA Amendment Outreach to the Registries/Registrars
	NCSG Policy Committee

DATE	MEETING
<b>Wednesday, 21 September 2022</b>	Registration Data Policy Implementation Review Team (IRT)
	RySG GeoTLD Group - DNS Abuse: Responsible Management by GeoTLDs
	GNSO Council Public Meeting
	Joint Session: At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) and GNSO Council
<b>Thursday, 22 September 2022</b>	Joint Session: ICANN Board and GNSO Council
	Joint Session: ICANN Board and CPH
	NCSG Membership Meeting
	Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG) Membership Meeting
	Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG) Membership Meeting (1 of 2)
	GNSO Policy Discussion
	RySG Membership Wrap-Up Session
	GNSO Council Wrap-Up
	Joint Session: CPH and CSG Membership Meeting
	Cross Community Working Party (CCWP) on Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and Human Rights Session

# ICANN | GNSO

Generic Names Supporting Organization