

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

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN74 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

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 and/or GNSO Council may discuss this topic further during ICANN74. Time has been set aside on Monday, 13 June 2022 at 13:15-14:30 CEST to allow for further discussion to take place.

## 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; 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](#))

## 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 meeting on 21 June 2021.



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. In advance of 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 its 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.

The small team submitted its [preliminary report](#) to the GNSO Council on 4 April 2022. During its meeting on 14 April, the Council reviewed the preliminary report and the small team's recommendation to request that the ICANN Board instruct ICANN org to further develop the proposed design for SSAD Light. The small team recommended receiving further information on the SSAD Light because it is intended to provide further data that will help inform the questions regarding the cost/benefit of the SSAD. The Council sent [its response](#) to the ICANN Board on 27 April, requesting that the ICANN Board pause the consideration of the SSAD recommendations while further work is undertaken to explore SSAD Light.

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

The ICANN Board is expected to consider the SSAD-related recommendations following its review of the Operational Design Assessment (ODA). The ICANN org delivered the ODA to the Board on 25 January 2022. After their review of the ODA, the Board and GNSO Council are in the process of further considering next steps to help inform the consideration of the SSAD recommendations.

### **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 this [here](#).

### **MORE INFORMATION**

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

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