GNSO COUNCIL REVIEW OF ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE CONTAINED IN THE ICANN80 GAC COMMUNIQUE

Topic	Details	To which group(s) is the GAC text directed?	Does the issue of importance concern an issue that can be considered within the remit[1] of the GNSO (yes/no)	If yes, is it subject to existing policy recommendations, implementation action or ongoing GNSO policy development work? Please specify.	How has this issue been/is being/will be dealt with by the GNSO?	Does the GNSO want to provide additional feedback to the Board, the GAC, and/or another group? Please specify the response, target audience, and suggested method of communication or engagement (for example via this template, correspondence, and/or dialogue).
1. Transparency, GNSO Statements of Interest(SOIs) and Code of Ethics	The GAC welcomes the will expressed by the Board to develop a code of ethics to, inter alia, address transparency issues in SOIs. We look forward to community discussions ahead of ICANN81 based on a discussion draft presented by the Board.	Board	yes	SOI was dealt with by the CCOICI and its task force.	The CCOICI recommendation report containing relevant SOI recommendations was not adopted by the GNSO Council following a formal vote: https://gnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/policy/2023/minutes/minutes-gnso-council-part1-25oct23-en.pdf	With regard to a code of ethics, Council notes that although SOIs are a GNSO document and a requirement for participation in GNSO processes, this issue is of wider community interest and relevance because: ● Other groups, including in particular advisory committees such as the GAC, ALAC and

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[1] As per the ICANN Bylaws: 'There shall be a policy-development body known as the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), which shall be responsible for developing and recommending to the ICANN Board substantive policies relating to generic top-level domains.

						SSAC give advice to the Board on policy matters which are within the GNSO's remit, but are not subject to the GNSO's SOI requirements unless they specifically participate in the GNSO processes such as PDPs. These are often open to, and participated-in by, all. ● GNSO policy relates to gTLDs and thus has impact outside of the GNSO community. Consequently, the GNSO supports the idea of a code of ethics with wider application than just the GNSO. The GNSO requests that the

						Board keeps it informed and consulted.
2. Registry Voluntary Commitments (RVCs) / Public Interest Commitments (PICs) in New gTLDs	The GAC notes that the Board resolved on 8 June 2024 that, per the ICANN Bylaws, RVCs in New gTLD applications that "restrict content in new gTLDs" will neither be accepted nor enforced by ICANN as part of its contractual relationship with registries. In this regard, in order to maximize predictability for applicants, governments, and other participants in the community, the GAC requests that the Board, in consultation with the community, provide clear guidance well before the launch of the forthcoming application round	Board	yes	SubPro recommendation 9.1: "Mandatory Public Interest Commitments (PICs) currently captured in Specification 11 3(a)-(d) of the Registry Agreement must continue to be included in Registry Agreements for gTLDs in subsequent procedures. Noting that mandatory PICs were not included in the 2007 recommendations, this recommendation puts existing practice into policy. One adjustment to the 2012 implementation is included in the following recommendation	The Board adopted recommendation 9.1 with GNSO Council-approved clarifications, directing the ICANN Interim President and CEO, or her designee(s), to initiate and facilitate a Board-level community consultation before starting the implementation process. The Board resolved on 8 June 2024 to not accept or enforce new gTLD applications that restrict content.	

	regarding what the Board will consider as RVCs "restricting" content. Such guidance should include illustrative examples of RVCs which would, and would not, involve the restriction of content.			(Recommendation 9.2)."		
3. New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures Implementation Review Team (IRT)	During the bilateral session with the GNSO, the GAC posed a question about the high cost of the Registry Service Provider technical evaluation fee planned for the New gTLD process. The GAC expresses its concerns regarding financial barriers to entry for new applicants participating in the next round of gTLDs, specifically those from	unclear. ICANN Org?	no	The SubPro PDP developed policy on the next round, but this is implemented by ICANN Org, with input from the IRT, comprised of members of the community.	The level of fees is an implementation matter within ICANN Org's remit. The fee structure for the RSP program was presented to the IRT for the first time shortly before ICANN80. The GNSO Council's role in the IRT, via its Liaisons, is to ensure that implementation aligns with its policy recommendations. The matter of fees is outside of the GNSO Council's remit, unless those fees serve to contradict or	

	within the underserved regions.				undermine the GNSO's policy recommendations, albeit the GNSO may choose to provide input to ICANN Org, as may others in the community.	
4. Registration Data Request Service (RDRS)	The GAC reiterates the importance of the continued promotion of and education about RDRS to ensure the community, including both requestors and registrars, are aware of the uses and limits of this pilot program, as well as its intended purpose, to inform work toward an eventual Standardized System for Access and Disclosure (SSAD).	unclear	yes	RDRS standing committee	The RDRS Standing Committee has been working closely with ICANN Org to consider feedback and discuss improvements to the RDRS, which are reasonable to pursue during the pilot.	
5. Registration Data Accuracy	The GAC takes note of the GNSO's decision to pause the work of the Accuracy Scoping Team while the		yes	The work of the Accuracy Scoping Team is still on pause.	The negotiation of the DPSs is a matter between ICANN and the Registries and Registrars respectively,	Although the Council has referred to the outstanding DPS as a factor in its decision to pause the work of the Accuracy Scoping

	Contracted Parties and ICANN finalize their forthcoming Data Processing Specification (DPS) and appreciates the GNSO's update at ICANN80 on the status of these negotiations. The GAC stresses the importance of completing the DPS as soon as possible so the community can resume efforts towards scoping policy work on accuracy of domain name registration data.				although the GNSO Council has urged that these be resolved as quickly as possible. The GNSO Council discussed the issue of next steps on Accuracy briefly during its meeting at ICANN80 Kigali, and during its July meeting. The Council will reach out to its respective stakeholder groups and constituencies to propose further ideas on level-setting and how to progress on the issue of data accuracy.	Team, this is only one issue. In its briefing on 19 October 2023 ICANN Org identified a number of other challenges to pursuing work on accuracy. The GNSO Council is discussing next steps.
6. Support for the Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Implementation Review Team	The GAC appreciates ICANN Org's efforts to facilitate a process to explore options for the implementation of recommendations that are still relevant from the previous Policy Development	ICANN Org	yes	During its wrap-up session at ICANN79, the GNSO Council appointed two liaisons, Paul McGrady and Stephanie Perrin, to serve as GNSO Council liaisons to	The PPSAI IRT had a kick-off meeting on 13 June in Kigali.	Unlike a traditional IRT, the PPSAI IRT would start its work by answering 'Threshold Questions'. The Council will only decide on next steps (new policy work/ implementation/ half half) after the IRT communicates its answers

	Process on Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues (PPSAI). Doing so will ensure the community is able to produce evidence-based registration data policy, including on the use of Privacy and Proxy services.			the reconstituted PPSAI IRT.		to the threshold questions.