

Minutes of the Extraordinary GNSO Council Meeting 7 June 2026

GNSO Extraordinary Council meeting on Sunday, 07 June 2026 at 11:00 UTC (13:00 local time):
<https://tinyurl.com/kynah28h> 04:00 Los Angeles; 07:00 Washington DC; 12:00 London; 13:00 Paris;
14:00 Moscow; 21:00 Melbourne

List of attendees:

Nominating Committee Appointee (NCA): – Non-Voting – Anne Aikman Scalese

Contracted Parties House

Registrar Stakeholder Group: Hong-Fu Meng, Ashley Heineman, Volker Greimann

gTLD Registries Stakeholder Group: Nacho Amadoz (apology, proxy to Samantha Demetriou), Samantha Demetriou, Jennifer Chung

Nominating Committee Appointee (NCA): Gaurav Vedi

Non-Contracted Parties House

Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG): Lawrence Olawale-Roberts, Vivek Goyal , Osvaldo Novoa (apology, proxy to Susan Mohr) , Damon Ashcraft (apologies, proxy to Susan Payne), Susan Payne, Susan Mohr

Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG): Farzaneh Badii, Bruna Martins dos Santos, Julf Helsingius (in case of connectivity issue, proxy to Tapani Tarvainen) , Peter Akinremi (in case of connectivity issue, proxy to, Farzaneh Badii), Benjamin Akinmoyeje

Nominating Committee Appointee (NCA): Christian Dawson

GNSO Council Liaisons/Observers:

Justine Chew: ALAC Liaison

Sebastien Ducos: GNSO liaison to the GAC

Antonia Chu: ccNSO observer (absent)

Guests: none

ICANN Staff:

Steve Chan – Vice President, Policy Development Support & GNSO Relations

Julie Hedlund - Policy Development Support Director (GNSO) (apology)

Caitlin Tubergen - Director, Policy Development Support (GNSO)

Saewon Lee - Policy Development Support Manager (GNSO) (apology)

Feodora Hamza - Policy Development Support Manager (GNSO)

John Emery - Policy Development Support Senior Specialist (GNSO)

Andrew Chen - Policy Development Support Senior Specialist (GNSO)

Terri Agnew - Policy Operations Senior Specialist (GNSO)

Julie Bisland - Policy Operations Analyst (GNSO) (apology)

Devan Reed - Policy Operations Coordinator (GNSO/Programs and Operations) (apology)

Zoom Recording

Transcript

Item 1: Administrative Matters

1.1 - Roll Call

1.2 - Updates to Statements of Interest

1.3 - Review / Amend Agenda

Item 2: COUNCIL VOTE: Empowered Community Rejection Action Petition Notice

On 29 May 2026, the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) delivered a [Rejection Action Petition Notice](#) related to the Standard Bylaws Amendment re: Transition Article on Specific Reviews to the Empowered Community Administration. The processes set forth in Article 2 of Annex D of the ICANN Bylaws govern the escalation procedures for the Empowered Community's exercise of its right to reject, et al, a Standard Bylaws Amendment, as contemplated by Section 25.1(e) of the [ICANN Bylaws](#).

Under the GNSO's [Annex D, Article 2 Procedure for Exercise of EC's Rights to Reject Specified Actions](#), the GNSO Council shall make a decision on whether to accept a Rejection Action Petition. Specifically, Section 4.3.4 provides, "The GNSO Council shall convene either in person or via tele-conference no later than the twenty seventh (27th) day at 23.59 UTC from the date of the Rejection Action Board Notification Date to decide whether to support the Petition from another Decisional Participant." The Annex goes on to note:

"In making its decision, the GNSO Council shall consider:

- The rationale for the Petition as noted in the Petition Notice; and
- The feedback, views and input received from the GNSO Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies regarding the Petition; and
- The importance of the matter for the GNSO Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies; and
- Other factors deemed relevant by the GNSO Council."

Here, the Council will vote to either support or reject the Petition.

2.1 - Presentation of Motion (Susan Payne, Chair, GNSO Council)

2.2 - Council Discussion and Vote (voting threshold: simple majority of each house)

2.3 - Next Steps

Susan Payne, GNSO Chair, introduced the topic and summarized that the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) delivered a [Rejection Action Petition Notice](#) through the Empowered Community Administration on 1 June 2026. It is related to the Standard Bylaws Amendment re: Transition Article on Specific Reviews to the Empowered Community Administration. She summarized the ALAC petition. She outlined the requirement for GNSO Council under the GNSO's [Annex D, Article 2 Procedure for Exercise of EC's Rights to Reject Specified Actions](#): that the GNSO Council shall make a decision on whether to accept a Rejection Action Petition.

Susan Payne, GNSO Chair, outlined the decision for Councilors as to whether the GNSO wishes to become a supporting petitioner alongside ALAC in their petition to reject the bylaws amendment. In doing so, Councilors considered the rationale of the petition. She further outlined that, although a short timeframe, input was sought from SG/C's.

Susan Payne, GNSO Chair, highlighted the IPC input from the Council mailing list. IPC did not support joining the ALAC petition, although it did agree with some of the underlying principles of the petition. She clarified that IPC would not be supporting the petition. She opened the floor for others to share their positions on the matter.

Susan Mohr, CSG ISP, read a full statement from the ISPCP. Emphasized ISPCP's plan to vote against the petition. She shared some rationale on how the ISPCP shared concerns in the past regarding deferral of ATRT4, but that the review of reviews team is halfway through its work and could lead to questioning the legitimacy of its work. She added that generally recommendations, developed bylaws, mandated reviews, should all be implemented in a timely manner. .

Sam Demetriou, RySG, noted the registry position that they submitted a comment on the Standard Bylaws amendment when it was first proposed, and were generally in support of it. She reiterated a number of points that this should be focused, time-bound, and recognize the work of the review of reviews team. RySG will not be supporting the ALAC petition.

Volker Greimann, RrSG, noted that due to the short timeline, there is not an official registrar position, but that he would not be supporting the ALAC petition.

Bruna Martins dos Santos, NCSG, reiterated the time factor. She highlighted NCSG Public Comment on the matter that they support some of the points, but not this petition.

Susan Payne, GNSO Chair, emphasized that the Empowered Community processes have set timelines. Based on when ALAC submitted it, it only gave Council 7 days in which it is mandated to respond. She added that it may be helpful later on during ICANN86 to perhaps discuss the timeline issue.

Susan Payne, GNSO Chair, read the [resolved clauses](#) and moved to a vote.

[Vote Results](#)

Susan Payne, GNSO Chair, reiterated that the motion was not supported and did not pass. Consequently the GNSO Council is not joining as a supporting decisional participant to the ALAC petition.

Meeting adjourned at 13:26 UTC