
**ICANN Transcription
GNSO Extraordinary Council
Sunday, 07 June 2026 at 11:00 UTC**

Note: Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases it is incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages or transcription errors. It is posted as an aid to understanding the proceedings at the meeting, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.

The audio is also available at:

https://icann.zoom.us/rec/play/6bdt51-sOww2duLA6g350ZIZc_H88aU7FNmpP6fzIpu2TrgG2cRMKVrjD_KL2ohFj8Ntx0I3L0teNta.IAHALdpsVxAfuTG4

Zoom Recording:

https://icann.zoom.us/rec/share/OOGF29hL3zVNofs0j4xUvFxu0_kTLWKgRajlhcv1BTH6IOtypcGKdpPIh8GBD3PH.OPojcBbJYEcnS5qr?startTime=1780830404000

The recordings and transcriptions are posted on the GNSO Master Calendar
Page: <https://gns0.icann.org/en/group-activities/calendar>

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:

Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.

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)

TERRI AGNEW: The recording has started, and this is Terri Agnew. Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening, and welcome to the GNSO Extraordinary Council Meeting taking place on the 7th of June, 2026. Would you please acknowledge your name when I call it? Thank you. Nacho Amadoz, he is traveling to ICANN86, and the proxy goes to Samantha Demetriou. Jennifer Chung?

JENNIFER CHUNG: Try again. Present. Thank you, Terri.

TERRI AGNEW: Thank you. And it looks like there's a little bit of an echo. Hong-Fu Meng?

HONG-FU MENG: Present. Thank you, Terri.

TERRI AGNEW: You're welcome. Oh, Samantha Demetriou?

SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU: Present. Thanks, Terri.

TERRI AGNEW: You're welcome. Ashley Heineman?

ASHLEY HEINEMAN: Present.

TERRI AGNEW: Volker Greimann?

VOLKER GREIMANN: Yeah, I'm here.

TERRI AGNEW: Perfect. Gaurav Vedi?

GAURAV VEDI: Present.

TERRI AGNEW: Lawrence Olawale-Roberts?

LAWRENCE OLAWALE-ROBERTS: Present.

TERRI AGNEW: Vivek Goyal?

VIVEK GOYAL: Present.

TERRI AGNEW: Damon Ashcraft, he sends his apologies. Traveling to ICANN86, and the proxy will go to Susan Payne. Susan Payne?

SUSAN PAYNE: Present.

TERRI AGNEW: Osvaldo Novoa, he sends his apologies. Traveling to ICANN86, and the proxy will go to Susan Mohr. Susan Mohr?

SUSAN MOHR: Hey, Terri. I'm present.

TERRI AGNEW: Thank you. Julf Helsingius?

JULF HELSINGIUS: Here, Terri. Thanks.

TERRI AGNEW: You're welcome. In case of connectivity issues and needed, proxy will go to Tapani Tarvainen. Farzaneh Badii? I don't think your mic is activated, Farzi.

FARZANEH BADI: Hello. Yes, present.

TERRI AGNEW: Okay. Thank you. We do have remote Peter Akinremi. Peter, are you there? Oh, actually, I don't see where Peter has joined, but we do have a proxy for him. Goes to Farzaneh Badii. Tapani Tarvainen?

TAPANI TARVAINEN: Present. Thank you, Terri.

TERRI AGNEW: You're welcome. Benjamin Akinmoyeje?

BENJAMIN AKINMOYEJE: Present.

TERRI AGNEW: Bruna Martins dos Santos?

BRUNA SANTOS: Present, Terri.

TERRI AGNEW: Christian Dawson?

CHRISTIAN DAWSON: I'm here, Terri. Thank you.

TERRI AGNEW: You're welcome. Anne Aikman-Scalese?

ANNE AIKMAN-SCALESE: Present.

TERRI AGNEW: Sebastien Ducos?

SEBASTIEN DUCOS: Present, Terri.

TERRI AGNEW: Justine Chew?

JUSTINE CHEW: Present. Thank you, Terri.

TERRI AGNEW: You're welcome. Antonia Chu? I don't see where Antonia is on. We have no guests today. You have the policy team supporting the GNSO in the room. May I please remind everyone here to state your name before speaking, as this call is being recorded. A reminder, we're in a Zoom webinar room. Councilors are panelists and can activate their microphones and participate in the chat. Once you've set your chat to everyone, change it now, please, everyone in your Zoom chat, for all to be able to read the exchanges. A warm welcome to attendees who are silent observers only, meaning you do not have access to the microphone nor the chat. A reminder, those who take part in the ICANN Multistakeholder process are to comply with the Expected Standards of Behavior, the ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy, and the Community Participant Code of Conduct concerning Statements of Interest. With this, I'll turn it back over to our GNSO chair. Susan Payne, please begin.

SUSAN PAYNE: All right. Thanks, Terri. I think someone's got their mic open. If they can try and shut it, that would be good. Otherwise, we'll just have to manage with the slightly weird audio. Thanks, everyone. And basically, thank you again, everyone, for taking the time out to do this. It isn't ideal, but let's just sort of get through this as quickly as we can. So basically, the At-Large delivered a Rejection Action Petition Notice to the Empowered Community Administration on the 1st of June, 2026.

And within the Petition Notice, the ALAC formally rejects the Standard Bylaws Amendment contained in the Board Notice of the 11th of May, 2026, and that proposes to insert Article 27.6, which they call the transitional article on specific reviews, into the ICANN Bylaws. That was approved by the ICANN Board on the 3rd of May, 2026, having gone through a public comment process.

So based on our Article 2, Annex D processes, GNSO Council has to make a decision on whether to accept that Rejection Action Petition and basically join forces on it or not. There are particular timing considerations. In particular, no later than the 27th day after the decision, at 23:59 UTC, we have to decide whether to support that petition or not. And so that is today, and that is why we're having this meeting now. And indeed, if we do agree to support the petition, we have to give notice of that by tomorrow. And that is the Empowered Community process. It's extraordinarily difficult to actually comply with, as it turns out, but we are where we are.

And so our decision to make is whether we wish to become a supporting petitioner alongside the ALAC on their petition to reject this Bylaw amendment. And in doing so, we're told we should consider the rationale for the petition, as noted in the Petition Notice, feedback, views, and inputs from the different GNSO Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies, the importance of the matter for the SGs and Cs, and other factors that Council considers to be appropriate and relevant. And so again, based on our procedures, we solicited feedback from the GNSO SGs and Cs. We did have input from the IPC, and that was shared on the mailing list a couple of days ago and expressed, I won't go into the full detail of it, but expressed support for some of the underlying

principles and concerns that the ALAC expressed, but did not support joining on as a supporting decisional participant. I haven't heard views from other groups. And so this is the opportunity now for anyone who wants to, to share the views of their group before we go on to hold a vote. And to be clear, our vote will be whether we agree to support the petition or not, or rather, whether we agree to support the petition. If we vote that motion down, then we will not be supporting. And that's the decision point that we have to make. So I'm going to just open the floor now to hear views from fellow councilors, if any others want to share their perspectives on this. Sorry, I can't manage. Susan Mohr. Thank you.

TERRI AGNEW: Susan, we're not able to hear you remotely.

SUSAN MOHR: Because I need to unmute myself. Can you hear me now? Thanks. I do have rationale from the ISPCP that I'm happy to read now, and I can share with the list later. So for their vote on the GNSO Council in July 2025, we plan to vote against this request, and the rationale is the following.

For the vote on the GNSO Council in July 2025 regarding the Rejection Action Petition of the Board's postponement of the ATRT4, the ISPCP noted that the constituency would support a time-limited Bylaws amendment to initiate a review of reviews to address the issues that were identified in the Board's resolution, dated May 19th, 2025, and in particular, those stemming from the pilot holistic review's findings and

the need for changes to ICANN's structure. The Board's resolution, resolved on May 3rd, 2026, subject to ALAC's Rejection Action Petition Notice, is only consistent with the approach that ISPCP argued for in July 2025. As noted at that time, and our concerns regarding the deferral of ATRT4, the time-limited change to the Bylaws approved by the Board this May is necessary to avoid Bylaws provisions being inconsistent with reviews that have been since then initiated and undertaken under the umbrella term review of reviews.

Although the petition notes that no guarantee that the community will reach consensus on such recommendations, that the Board will adopt them, or that they will be implemented within a timeframe that adequately preserves ICANN's accountability mechanisms, the ISPCP considers that the review of reviews being only halfway through its work, the following should be considered. First, as with every policy effort at ICANN, the review of reviews is undertaken in the spirit that all SO/ACs will endorse, they succeed in being ultimately implemented. Conversely, there have been approved Bylaws-mandated review recommendations that have not been implemented, and as the petition notes, this is unfortunate. Second, this issue regarding the review of reviews is speculative and may be addressed in due time by an additional Bylaws amendment. And finally, not having the Bylaws change at this point would put these Bylaws more at odds with the current situation, would question the legitimacy of the review of reviews, including the resources that have already been put into the community.

Notwithstanding the above, the ISPCP supports several statements made in the petition, notably that when the pilot holistic review, the

only comprehensive review of ICANN in over two decades, was initiated in May of 2024 and halted in May of 2025. As a result, ICANN currently lacks a functioning mechanism for conducting the type of comprehensive holistic review envisioned by ATRT3. The ISPCP hopes that the structural review as envisioned by the review of reviews will provide such a mechanism and deliver its recommendations with a reasonable timeframe. More generally, recommendations developed by the Bylaws-mandated reviews should be implemented in a timely manner. And that's our full statement. Thank you.

SUSAN PAYNE:

I shouldn't be speaking. Maybe Sam should speak. Thank you for that, Susan. Up to you. I can hand it to you, Jen. I think Jen's better because I'm... Yeah. Okay. We'll go to Sam then, for the registries. Thanks.

SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU:

Thanks, folks. I'm sure I won't do as eloquent a job as Jen, but for the sake of the technical management of sound, I will take this one. And I'll keep it brief as well. The registries also submitted a comment on the amendment when it was first proposed. We were, generally speaking, in support of the amendment, recognizing a lot of the points that others have raised about keeping this focused, keeping it time-bound, and recognizing the work of the review of reviews. As such, we do not support joining the ALAC petition.

SUSAN PAYNE:

Lovely. Thanks very much, Sam. Okay, Volker.

VOLKER GREIMANN: Yeah. From a registrar perspective, we didn't have much time to analyze this proposal. Obviously, as no one had, and we didn't have any time to organize a Registrar Stakeholder Group meeting on this or even an ExComm meeting on this. Therefore, we have to look at this from a per-councilor perspective. This being so short notice didn't give us enough time to analyze the exact implications of everything that is being proposed here. And from that perspective, not having formed a Stakeholder Group consensus on this, at least from my perspective, I cannot support this at this time simply because of the fact that I don't understand everything that this would imply. And, therefore, I cannot support a proposal that I don't fully understand.

SUSAN PAYNE: Thanks very much, Volker. Okay. I don't see any more hands. There is some comment in the chat from the NCSG, indicating that they aren't supporting... Oh, I do have a hand now from Bruna. Thanks, Bruna.

BRUNA SANTOS: Hi, Susan. Just putting it on the record that it's also the same question. We didn't have enough time, and although you can see on our public comment on this issue that we also agree with some of the points, we don't support this petition. And we kindly ask that next time, ALAC sends the petition in a more timely manner and not like the previous day of the meeting. So thanks a lot.

SUSAN PAYNE: Yeah. Thanks, Bruna. So just to be really clear, whilst it would have been super helpful to have notice in advance if we could have had it, the fact is that unfortunately, these Empowered Community processes have set timelines. And so for example, when a Board makes the decision and it gets published, there's 21 days to put in one of these rejection petitions. And so for whatever reason, they were up against the wire, and so then they submitted it in time on the 21st day.

BRUNA SANTOS: Yeah.

SUSAN PAYNE: And then that triggers us. We only get seven days. If they'd put it in earlier, maybe we get more time. I'm not quite clear on that, but it's just unfortunate, I think, state that because of the timing processes, we just get seven days to think about this, and it's not enough, frankly. But that is what it is. Okay. I'm not being... Yeah. I appreciate that, Bruna. I do. And indeed, I think maybe when we're having our informal meeting later in the week, I'd actually like to kind of float with, when we have the chairs with us, whether there's anything we can do about having, as a community, to actually look at some of these timings, because they're nuts. That's the technical term.

Okay. I don't want to drag this on. I think let's get to a vote then, because I think that's what we need to do, and we can then go and have lunch. All right. And so I need to read all the resolve clauses, I think. Yes. Okay. Resolved, the GNSO Council determines to become a Rejection Action Supporting Decisional Participant for the Rejection Action

Petition initiated by ALAC. Now item two, the GNSO Council requests that ICANN hold a Rejection Action Community Forum during ICANN87 to discuss the supported Rejection Action Petition, and B, a publicly available conference call prior to the Rejection Action Community Forum. And then three, the GNSO Council requests the GNSO representative on the EC Administration to provide a written notice within 24 hours to the EC Administration, the other decisional participants, and the ICANN Corporate Secretary of providing support to the Rejection Action Petition. The written notice shall provide all the requested information per Annex D, Section 2.2(d)(i), and then sub-brackets A to D of the ICANN Bylaws. So that is our motion, and then we will now hold a vote on it.

TERRI AGNEW: Thank you. Here we go for a vote. Would anyone like to abstain from this motion, please say aye. Hearing no one, would anyone like to vote against this motion, please say aye.

SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU: Aye.

SUSAN MOHR: Aye.

CHRISTIAN DAWSON: Aye.

BRUNA SANTOS: Aye.

TERRI AGNEW: Aye. Would councilors... Oh, go ahead. Oh, maybe that was just a late aye. Okay. Hearing none, would all those in favor of the motion, please say aye. Would councilors holding proxies please say aye?

SUSAN MOHR: Aye.

VOLKER GREIMANN: Aye. Aye.

TERRI AGNEW: Oh, go ahead. Oh, go ahead.

VOLKER GREIMANN: Do we have to do those one by one?

TERRI AGNEW: Oh, I can't... One by one. Hold on one moment.

BRUNA SANTOS: Can I make a statement on behalf of Peter? One second.

TERRI AGNEW: Okay, I just have to take it back. I made a little error. So we're going back to, would anyone hearing... Oh, sorry. Would anyone like to vote against this motion, which was the no? So now from there, I need to say, would any councilors holding proxies against the motion please vote now by saying aye?

SAMANTHA DEMETRIOU: Aye.

SUSAN MOHR: Aye.

BRUNA SANTOS: Aye.

TAPANI TARVAINEN: Aye.

TERRI AGNEW: Thank you. And would all those in favor of the motion please say aye?
All right. And I do believe I heard a request to share a reason.

SUSAN PAYNE: Yeah.

TERRI AGNEW: I thought... No? Okay. I thought I heard Farzi say that. Sorry, Farzi. Okay.

VOLKER GREIMANN: She votes.

SUSAN PAYNE: No, I'm so sorry. It was language. We gave the reason.

TERRI AGNEW: Okay. Okay. Sorry, I heard... Okay. So, sorry. No abstention, all objections. The motion is, it does not pass? Okay. There you go. Back to you.

SUSAN PAYNE: I have to do number three, whatever it is, right? No, I don't have to. I mean, okay. Thank you very much, everyone. So just to be clear, the motion was not supported and does not pass, and consequently, the GNSO Council is not supporting joining as a supporting decisional participant. That's where we've reached. Okay. That is all we need to do in this extraordinary meeting, so I will thank you all again for your patience and for taking the time out of your lunch break and for having to run around this week and try to get your instructions on this. We can close the meeting. Thank you.

TERRI AGNEW: Thank you, everyone, for joining. The meeting has been adjourned. I'll stop recordings and disconnect all remaining lines. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]