Guide to

ICANN59

Johannesburg

ccNSO and GAC key issues

June 2017

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ccNSO pre-report

Link to CENTR report from ICANN58
Detailed ccNSO agenda and full session details

As ICANN59 is a Policy Forum meeting, plenty of interesting discussions are taking place in the cross-community sessions. The ccNSO is a strong contributor to these sessions and is leading on the GDPR session, the session on ICANN's Ops plan and budget and the session on ICANN's priorities. These sessions take place on Tuesday 27 June, Wednesday 28 June and Thursday 29 June in the afternoon.

On Tuesday and Wednesday morning, the regular ccNSO Members meeting is taking place in Ballroom 3. The following are the most important sessions from that ccNSO members meeting.

Use of country & territory names as TLDs

During the update by the **CWG on the use of country & territory names as TLDs (CWG-UCTN)** the Group will recommend that 2-character codes (in ASCII) should remain reserved for use as ccTLDs.

Furthermore, the WG has analysed the community feedback on 3-character codes. The CWG-UCTN subsequently developed its Interim Paper for public comment, which includes the findings, observations and views of the members, including the view of the group that for various reasons a harmonized framework for the use of country, territory and other geographic names is not feasible.

Leading up to ICANN59, the group worked towards a final report, which will be submitted to the ccNSO and GNSO Councils for discussion, adoption and next steps.

CENTR's comments can be found here.

ccPDP Working Group (WG) on retirement of ccTLDs

This WG will develop recommended policies regarding the retirement of ccTLDs. Following the completion of its work, a second PDP WG will look into the Appeals Mechanism on issues of delegation, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs. An Issue Report has been published for public comment until 17 July. To date, there is no relevant policy, and with the IANA transition completed, the ccTLD community believes the policies need to be in place.

The group will have an update session during the ccNSO Members meeting and a working session on Thursday. More details on the composition of the group, working documents and relevant reading materials can be found here. As underlined often before, this is crucial work for ccTLDs.

ICANN Accountability WS1 & WS2

This session will include a status update on the implementation of Work Stream 1 (WS1) recommendations and a discussion on the continued involvement of the ccNSO in the WS2 work. WS2 looks at the accountability issues that focus on addressing accountability topics for which the timeline for implementation extends well beyond the IANA stewardship transition.

These discussions have an indirect impact on the ccNSO: they trigger the review of the ccNSO's internal accountability mechanisms.

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ccTLD financial contributions

This session will be looking into the ccTLD invoicing process and take stock of the ccTLD contributions in the light of the voluntary contributions agreement.

GAC pre-report

Link to ICANN58 GAC Communiqué Copenhagen
All GAC meetings are public and take place in Ballroom 1

Country codes & country/geographic names

The GAC will spend considerable time on the issue(s), not least to prepare for the cross-community session. The GAC's "GeoNames WG" will discuss views and proposals expressed during the webinar in April and prepare its input to the cross-community session (see next section).

- GAC session on 2-character country codes as second level domains (Mon, 11.30-12.30)
- GAC WG on the Protection of Geographic Names in Future Rounds of New gTLDs (Tue, 14.15-15.00)
- GAC session on new gTLD policies (likely to cover country codes and 2-character country codes at the second level as well) (Wed, 8.30-09.00)

Public Safety Working Group

The Public Safety Working Group (PSWG) focuses mainly on: (1) Abuse mitigation: GAC advice effectiveness (scorecard); updates on progress with regards to abuse-related activities, e.g. security framework, CCT, abuse study (see ICANN58 report for further explanations); (2) RDS/WHOIS: briefing on current developments, including the RDS PDP, WHOIS conflict procedure, the impact of the GDPR and GAC input to the cross-community session (see next section).

- Update to plenary to follow up on work since ICANN58 (Mon, 13.30-14.00)
- PSWG Meeting (Tue, 17.00-18.30)
- Update to plenary to summarise WG meeting (Wed, 08.00-08.30)

GAC WG on Human Rights & International Law

The GAC WG on Human Rights & International Law (HRIL) will discuss the draft framework of interpretation, which was open to public consultation until 16 June 2017. It helps interpret ICANN's commitment to human rights and necessary changes to the bylaws, e.g. "respecting human rights" should not mean the ICANN "mission creeps" into thinking this would give it a role in enforcing such rights. (Tue, 11.15-11.30)

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GAC WG on Under-served Regions

The GAC WG on Under-served Regions will continue working on an FAQ document on the delegation and re-delegation of ccTLDs. Capacity development workshops are also on the agenda, as well as the CCT review, new gTLD Subsequent Procedures, CCWG Accountability WS2 (diversity sub-group) and other PDPs – all from the point of view of under-served regions. (Tue, 09:00-09:45)

GAC and IANA transition-related sessions

The GAC will discuss CCWG Accountability WS2 progress. This work stream covers issues such as jurisdiction, human rights (see GAC HRIL WG), transparency, diversity (see GAC Under-served Regions WG), etc. (see WS2 dashboard, Mar-Apr 2017) (Wed, 10.30-11.30). The GAC will also talk about the implementation of bylaws (Thu, 9.15-09.45).

CCT Review Team update to the GAC

This is the only "official meeting" of the Competition, Consumer Trust & Consumer Choice Review Team (CCT-RT). The RT holds its own two-day meeting before ICANN. They are likely to report on comments received on their Draft Report before a second round of comments is opened shortly (Mon, 14.00-14.30).

GAC meetings of general interest

- **GAC-CNSO meeting** (see ccNSO section) (Tue, 13.30-14.15)
- **GAC-ICANN Board meeting** (Wed, 09.30-10.00)
- **GAC-GNSO meeting (**Wed, 11.30-12.00)

Cross-community issues

Discussion on Next Generation gTLD RDS Policy Requirements

WHOIS policy reform has been discussed for 15 years and continues to fill ICANN agendas. Now called "gTLD registration data and directory services" (RDS), discussions include issues (referred to as "fundamental requirements") such as purpose, accuracy, availability, anonymity, cost, policing, intellectual property protection, security and malicious use and abuse (see GNSO summary). The ICANN Board launched a PDP on access and safeguards and now a PDP WG is tasked with (1) identifying these fundamental requirements for gTLD RDS and (2) determining if and why next generation RDS is needed to address the identified requirements. The session aims to collect feedback on the PDP WG's draft agreements, in particular those concerning the "minimum public data set" (formerly called "thin data"), which would still be required, for example in terms of data protection, access and privacy requirements (see WG meeting pages). Once the "minimum public data set" (thin data) has been discussed, the WG will turn to "thick data" (which includes registrant data). The Initial Report will be subject to public consultation. (Mon, 15.15-18.30, Ballroom 1)

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Geographic names at the top level

There are two objectives to this session: (1) the "ambitious" one is to reach a consensus-based solution to handle geographic names at the top level; (2) the back-up plan is to reach agreement on a way forward to develop such as solution. Currently, there are highly different views and various parallel efforts within the ICANN community (New gTLD Subsequent Procedures WG, CCWG-UCTN, GAC Geonames WG). To date, country and territory names have been excluded from delegation (at the top-level) while other geographic names require support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities (as a result of a Board decision rather than GNSO PDP). The session will discuss the Subsequent Procedures PDP WG's compromise proposal in session 1. Refinements will be included in time for session 2 with the aim to reach a consensus solution.

Further references: Webinar 24 April 2017, background paper, CENTR comment

- Session 1: Tue, 17.00-18.30, Bill Gallagher Room
- Session 2: Thu, 15.15-18.30, Ballroom 1

GDPR session

This session aims at exploring the impact of the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), possibly leading into ICANN undertaking a legal review of the impact of the GDPR on the domain name industry (on WHOIS, escrow services, etc.). This session also aims at taking a global look at the impact of the GDPR as it also affects registrars and registries that are located outside of Europe, but handle personal data of European customers.

Relevant to this discussion is the review process to gather community input on the effectiveness of the revised WHOIS Procedure.

For a quick recap of GDPR principles: CENTR presentation *(CENTR Members access only)*

- Session: Tue, 15.15-16.45, Ballroom 1

Who sets ICANN's priorities?

A bit baffling really, but it turns out there is no common understanding on who sets ICANN's priorities. This cross-community session is addressing some fundamental questions with the aim of clarifying the process and setting clear priorities. The current lack of understanding creates too high a pressure on ICANN Staff, the ICANN community and – in particular – the volunteers.

- Session: Wed, 17.00-18.30, Ballroom 1

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