
ICANN81 | Prep Week – Policy and Advice Update
Wednesday, October 30, 2024 – 6:00 to 7:00 PM TRT

ANDREA GLANDON:

Hello and welcome to the ICANN 81 Prep Week Policy and Advice Update Webinar. My name is Andrea Glandon and I am the Remote Participation Manager for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior and ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy. During this session, questions or comments should be submitted to the Q&A pod. I will read questions and comments aloud during the time set by the moderator of this session. Interpretation for this session will include Spanish, French, Arabic, Russian, Chinese, and Portuguese. Click on the interpretation icon in Zoom and select the language you will listen to during this session. If you wish to speak, please raise your hand in the Zoom room and once the session facilitator calls upon your name, kindly unmute your microphone and take the floor. Before speaking, ensure you have selected the language you will speak from the interpretation menu. Please state your name for the record and the language you will speak if speaking a language other than English. And please speak at a reasonable pace. I will now hand the floor over to Mary Wong. You may begin.

MARY WONG:

Thank you very much, Andrea, and welcome, everyone, to the ICANN 81 Prep Week and the Policy and Advice Update Webinar, which is brought to you by the Policy Development Support Function of the ICANN

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organization. We do this before every ICANN meeting, and although in a limited time, it is not possible to cover each and every aspect of all the multiple work streams that the community engages in, both at an ICANN meeting and intersessionally, weekly, monthly, and so forth. The idea for this webinar is to give you a sense of the milestones and the progress that each community group has made between ICANN 80 and going to ICANN 81, as well as some highlights of some discussions and sessions that will be taking place at the Annual General Meeting so that you can bookmark them from your calendar, you can follow along, you can participate, and just as importantly, you can also get the background and all the briefings that this team has also prepared for you in advance of this meeting, which I believe are linked to the resource document that my staff and team members will be posting in the chat throughout this webinar.

The Policy Development Support Function comprises over three dozen subject matter experts, operations experts, and many familiar faces to many of you, located in, I believe, nine countries across 10 time zones, supporting the work of our seven supporting organizations and advisory committees, all the different constituent structures within that umbrella, as well as the Customer Standing Committee, the Empowered Community, and the Root Zone Evolution Committee. So a very busy time for everyone, as is customary, but as I said, hopefully this webinar will give you a sense of where the community is now, a few months after ICANN 80, and preparing for the Annual General Meeting. And thank you, Terri, for also putting in the chat the different explanations and definitions of any acronyms that we might be using throughout this webinar, and as you might be seeing in some of the

policy recommendations and documents that are in the resource document. So on that note, I'd also like to welcome our Interim President and CEO, Sally Costerton, who is currently also the Supervising Executive for the Policy Development Support Function. Thank you to all the board members that have been joining us for this series of Prep Week webinars. Constantly, my fellow colleagues in ICANN, all of you, the community members, newcomers, veterans, leaders, and active participants. And I believe, I'm not going to be remiss by doing a very special shout out to a very special friend, Mr. David Olive. I believe you have joined us for today's webinar. Thank you so much. And we look forward to seeing you, hopefully, very, very soon as well. So on that note, I'm going to hand over to our moderator over in Washington, D.C., Dan Gluck. Dan, please take it away.

DAN GLUCK:

Thank you so much, Mary. Wonderful introduction. And that's right. I'm Dan from the ICANN Policy Development Support Team. Today, we're here to get you ready for the ICANN 81 Annual General Meeting in Istanbul, Turkey. And a lot has happened since ICANN 80 in Kigali, Rwanda. This Prep Week session will feature updates from all of the supporting organizations and advisory committees that participate in the multi-stakeholder model of policy development here at ICANN. This is a decentralized governance model that allows for community-based, consensus-driven policymaking and itself will be a hot topic of conversation at this meeting. Supporting these organizations and committees, the ICANN Policy Development Support Team will be there for 158 of the 212 sessions in Istanbul. We have a regular Zoom room for

this Prep Week presentation. If you have any questions, you should send them in the chat box in the format that Andrea has already posted in the chat. Or you can raise your hand, and we'll call on you if we have time. Otherwise, we'll follow up with your questions at the end of the webinar. As mentioned by Mary, now in the chat is the resource document. It's a wonderful cheat sheet. And we encourage you to follow along with some prepared materials for the webinar and the meeting in general. So let's get into it. Our first supporting organization we're going to hear from today is the Generic Name Supporting Organization. And making her Prep Week debut from the policy team supporting the GNSO is Saewon Lee. What is going on, Saewon? Saewon, it is great to see you on a Wednesday call instead of a Thursday like we're used to for the expedited policy development process on internationalized domain names.

SAEWON LEE: Hi, Dan, and yes, it is great seeing you a day earlier.

DAN GLUCK: You know, now that I've said that mouthful of a name, let's start there. I don't see any IDN sessions on the calendar for this meeting. Did something happen recently that would cause that to be the case?

SAEWON LEE: Well, I know you had your IDNs hat on for a while, so you're fully aware. But the expedited policy development process on internationalized domain names, also known as the EPDP IDNs team, it's now ended its

three and a half year journey. And so the team will not be holding any sessions during the upcoming ICANN 81. So you're spot on, Dan.

DAN GLUCK:

All right, so yeah, I mean, like we've got that through. We're going to have a council meeting at this one, right? That's where we're going to have some more information there. Any more information we need to know about IDNs before we move on to the next one?

SAEWON LEE:

Sure, I'll give a bit more update. So this group was in charge of policy that governs the internationalized domain names, both at its top and second level for the generic top level domains, gTLDs. And these are the rules that govern the use of domain names in local languages and scripts, such as Arabic, Chinese, and in my case, Korean. So phase two dealt with those issues pertaining to second level variant management. And the group produced 20 outputs in total, with 14 recommendations and six implementation guidance. As I just mentioned, the team has now submitted the phase two final report to the Generic Name Supporting Organization Council, so the GNSO Council. And we are very excited about this achievement. So for those of you who are interested in this topic, you're encouraged to join the GNSO public meeting on Wednesday, 13th of November, to see the GNSO Council take action on the final report.

DAN GLUCK: Well, thank you so much for sharing that, Saewon. And we talked about that first because I wanted to make sure you could brag a bit about your fantastic work that you did on that PDP. But now that we've gotten that out of the way, let's talk about our second PDP for the GNSO, and that's the Transfer Policy Review PDP. Can you tell me about that?

SAEWON LEE: Sure. So as you just mentioned, the other policy development process working group in progress for Generic Name Supporting Organization is the Transfer Policy Review Policy Development Process Working Group. That's a mouthful, but for short, it's TPR PDP Working Group for short. So this group deals with policy that governs inter-registrar transfers. And this refers to those rules that govern what happens when a registrant transfers its name from one ICANN-accredited registrar to another. So this group just completed its public comment proceeding for a so-called mega-initial report. It's a complete package of three phases. They will hold one session at ICANN A, continue reviewing the public comments received for their 47 recommendations. And this will be Saturday, 9th of November for those interested. And you can also follow the working group's progress by signing up as an observer.

DAN GLUCK: All right. So last but not least, in terms of the teams and work groups, something I'm seeing on a bunch of papers around me here is RDRS. What is that? What's going on with that in Istanbul?

SAEWON LEE: Thank you for raising that, Dan. Yes. So this policy topic is not technically a policy development process working group. It's rather a small team. And as Terri has also shared in the chat, the name in full is the Registration Directory Request System Standing Committee. And this is a committee of volunteers that's responsible for reviewing the RDRS metrics or sharing the trends it has observed since the introduction of RDRS and making these recommendations to the GNSO Council. And this committee will be holding one session on Wednesday, 13th of November during ICANN 81.

DAN GLUCK: So, you know, let's roll up some GNSO work into the big kebab, if I may, and that's the GNSO Council. We've heard on recent council meetings that things are progressing on the topic of Latin diacritics. But what does that mean for this meeting?

SAEWON LEE: It's actually great that you bring that up, Dan, as well. We are partying with the expedited policy development process on internationalized domain names. We are anticipating a new policy development process to begin on Latin diacritics. So exciting times for us. Just to elaborate more, the GNSO Council will be holding two public working sessions and one public meeting during 81. And during the public meeting is where the council will vote on the initiation of a new policy development process on Latin diacritics. Again, to elaborate further, during the two working sessions, the council will be holding a joint meeting with GDS, our global domains and strategy function at ICANN

to give progress on the implementation efforts, and another with SSAC, the Security and Stability Advisory Committee of ICANN to deal with a few security topics. And they'll actually also be a GNSO chair and vice chair election. So again, this will be during the public meeting, which is exciting for us. And we'll be welcoming some new councilors as well as saying goodbye to some others. And this is where we would like to give a huge shout out to those outgoing councilors for their service, their dedication and commitment. So thank you.

DAN GLUCK:

Cool. So, you know, great to hear about the elections, council activities, things like that. I understand there are some bilateral meetings, joint meetings for the GNSO scheduled for ICANN 81.

SAEWON LEE:

Precisely. So the council will also be holding two joint meetings, one with the Governmental Advisory Committee, GAC, as we call it, and the ICANN board. And during the meeting with GAC, they'll be welcoming a new GNSO liaison to the GAC and also the topics of interest, the mutual interest, this time involves data accuracy, the ICANN ethics policy and the new gTLD round policy. The topics with the ICANN board are still a work in progress, but all these joint sessions will also be public and we recommend the community members to join us and follow the progress. I think this pretty much covers all of GNSO's work during ICANN 81, Dan. And again, a huge shout out to the GNSO council and the support team for working hard this year and putting together what is going to be a great program during ICANN 81. Back over to you, Dan.

DAN GLUCK: Thank you so much, Saewon. Yeah, no, that was great. And yeah, I appreciate hearing all of that about the GNSO. Should be a really jam-packed meeting. And yeah, no, absolutely. You know, I got to mirror your comment there about the support team that you guys have. You guys are all fantastic, all superstars. So as we move on to our next supporting organization, we have Joke here from the Country Codename Supporting Organization. Joke, thanks for joining us.

JOKE BRAEKEN: Welcome, Dan, thank you for having me here today.

DAN GLUCK: So let's get into ccNSO, some old, some new. Let's start with the old. TechDay is an 18-year-old veteran for the ccNSO. They've been going on for a long time at these meetings. What's going on TechDay-wise for the ccNSO in Istanbul?

JOKE BRAEKEN: Yeah, good question. So TechDay has indeed been in place since 2006. And it's really a meeting where everybody that has an interest in security and related topics is welcome to join. So DNSSEC, DNS abuse mitigation practices, all of that that is related to security and technical matters for ccTLD and gTLD operators are welcome to join.

DAN GLUCK: ccTLD news sessions are not quite as tenured, but they're still a veteran for the organization. I see you guys have some sessions on that.

JOKE BRAEKEN: Yeah, we have two sessions even, so each of them four presentations. This is really a session for and by ccTLDs. So you will hear the latest news from various ccTLD managers across the globe covering topics such as policy changes, engagement strategies, the use of artificial intelligence, promoting digitization. So all of that will be addressed during the ccTLD news sessions.

DAN GLUCK: And of course, the ccNSO has fantastic relationships with the other supporting organizations and advisory committees here. And there's going to be some bilaterals at this meeting.

JOKE BRAEKEN: Two bilaterals or at least two ones on the public schedule. There is one joint session with the ICANN board and the ccNSO. There's also a joint session with the GAC, the Governmental Advisory Committee. So with the ICANN board topics that the ccNSO and the board will discuss involve continuity, changes to a bylaw amendment process and the SOPC consultation. Maybe I should spell that out loud or spell it in full. So SOPC is the Strategic and Operational Planning Committee. And the board wishes to consult with the ccNSO SOPC on the current financial stress. Whereas topics for discussion with the GAC include latest developments regarding WSIS+20 and ccTLD involvement. Also the work by the Policy Gap Analysis Working Group. But maybe I can talk about that later. And the DNS Abuse Committee will also give an update on latest news from them.

DAN GLUCK: So you mentioned the Policy Gap Analysis Working Group. So we're moving from the old to the new. And new as in August is when this work group launched, correct?

JOKE BRAEKEN: Yeah, correct. Well, the work group officially launched in August, but there was some preliminary work that took place already for a longer time. So this group really explores potential gaps in the policies that govern ccTLD and how ccTLDs relate to the root zone. So these gaps in existing policies and guidances and practices that relate to delegation, transfer, revocation and the retirement of ccTLDs, the group explored these gaps and also started looking into potential methods to address these gaps. So that is what the group will talk about at ICANN 81. So you will be able to hear more about their initial findings.

DAN GLUCK: Speaking of initial findings and things that are new for this year, there was a new survey put out by the ccNSO DNS Abuse Standing Committee, and this is a follow up to a 2022 survey. What should we look to hear from the results on this one? Do we have any updates on the 2024 DASC survey?

JOKE BRAEKEN: Yeah, thanks for the question. So the DNS Abuse Standing Committee is really a committee that tries to put together useful resources for ccTLDs. They have a library with plenty of documents, reports, guidance that might be relevant for ccTLDs. It's absolutely voluntary to use it, but

it's also a two way mechanism. You can also even contribute to the library and suggest content to be included there. But apart from the library, the group wishes to understand the ccTLD landscape when it comes to DNS abuse, so that's why the survey is really a useful tool to explore items that the group could undertake to further help ccTLDs when it comes to mitigating DNS abuse. The first survey was conducted in 2022 and the second one in August-September 2024, so ICANN 81 is a good time to share the first set of results.

DAN GLUCK: So you mentioned that during the GAC bilateral the WSIS+20 review may be mentioned and that's something that generally falls under the responsibility of the Internet Governance Liaison Committee, is that correct?

JOKE BRAEKEN: Correct.

DAN GLUCK: And they'll be having some sessions at ICANN 81?

JOKE BRAEKEN: They will hold their regular working session over the weekends, similar to other working groups of the ccNSO, but they will also have a dedicated session during the ccNSO members meeting and that one is entitled the Engaging with the Global Digital Compact, Key Insights for ccTLDs in the WSIS+20 process. We're hoping of course for a good

participation from the ccTLD community, but not only. The session is open to all. It aims to be a very interactive session which reviews community engagement with the Global Digital Compact and identify takeaways and approaches for ccTLDs when it comes to the WSIS+20 process. It really aims to empower ccTLDs globally, whether they are big or small, and influence the global digital governance landscape effectively.

DAN GLUCK:

Now I realize that we might have left some people at home a little bit hanging with that acronym there. WSIS, the World Summit on the Information Society. It's their 20-year anniversary of the first review, so they're going to keep working on that there. Don't want to confuse anyone else with an additional acronym, and now we could talk about a topic for the ccNSO. That's another acronym, sorry, but it doesn't have any acronyms. We could talk about elections. So there should be some process to build up in the election. Do you have the vote in Istanbul? How's that going to work?

JOKE BRAEKEN:

So there are five seats on the ccNSO council that will become vacant at the end of ICANN 82. So that's the community forum in March. Leading up to that, there was a call for nominations for those five seats on the ccNSO council. That's one seat per region, and the call for nominations concluded. The list of candidates will be published shortly, before the end of the week actually, and there will be a question and answer session at ICANN 81 with the candidates. So in case there's only one

candidate, there will be no elections, but there are some regions where there are more than one candidate. So in that case, there will be elections after ICANN 81. S

DAN GLUCK:

o we've talked about the old, we've talked about the new, and here's one out of the blue. A lot of letters on this one, so back to the acronyms. The TLD Ops TTX, Tabletop Exercise. Quickly, can you let me know what that's about? It seems really exciting.

JOKE BRAEKEN:

It is. There was a similar exercise in ICANN 66, so quite a long time ago, and it was also a related event recently outside of the ICANN environment. But the goal of the TLD Ops Tabletop Exercise is really to develop capacity in ccTLDs effectively around ransomware. So the TLD Ops Standing Committee really brings together those that are responsible for security within the ccTLD community, and they will hold a session which is open to ccTLDs only. Nonetheless, very interesting. And for those that pre-registered, it promises to be a very rewarding and engaging exercise that helps them to develop their capacity effectively around ransomware.

DAN GLUCK:

All right. Well, do we have any questions? I don't see any in the chat. Any hands? I think we are good to go. Thank you so much, Joke.

JOKE BRAEKEN: Thank you.

DAN GLUCK: Now I get to take a little bit of a break myself, turn my camera off while we hear a brief message from our friends in community recognition at ICANN 81.

OZAN SAHIN: Thank you, Dan. And hello, everyone. Greetings from Turkey, where ICANN 81 will be held. I'm Ozan Sahin with some information about the community recognition activities at ICANN 81. The annual general meeting in Istanbul will feature two community recognition programs. The first one is the presentation of the 2024 Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building. This award, Dr. Tarek Kamel Award, recognizes members of ICANN community who have made significant contributions to national, regional, or global capacity development programs related to ICANN's mission. So the award recipient is selected by the ICANN Board of Directors, and the award is presented at ICANN annual general meetings. And the fifth Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building will be presented at ICANN 81, and the program will take place during the welcome ceremony on Monday.

The other community recognition event is the community leader recognition program that will be held during the 26th annual general meeting of ICANN on the final day of ICANN 81. And during this event, we will recognize 63 ICANN community leaders who have completed a term of service since ICANN 78 or will be completing a term of service at ICANN 81. At the end of the program, recognized community members

will receive their certificates. So please come join us on Thursday to celebrate the efforts and contributions of the ICANN community. Thank you and back to you.

DAN GLUCK:

Thank you so much, Ozan, and we'll be speaking to you in a few minutes. So don't run too far away. And before we start with our first advisory committee, someone should explain ransomware. It's just a cyber attack that's used to extort money. They're seen in, you know, many different ways. And, you know, unfortunately, they are prevalent. And there should be more information on the ICANN website that we could forward to you in a few minutes. But just a simple one, cyber attack or a virus that's used to extort money. All right, back to our regularly scheduled programming. My colleague Gisella joins me now to talk about the At-Large. How are you doing, Gisella?

GISELLA GRUBER:

Hello, Dan, and welcome to everyone on the call from, I'd like to say sunny, but autumnal day here in Bath, in the city, beautiful city of Bath in the United Kingdom.

DAN GLUCK:

I can see the trees are changing by me, but the temperature is not. But I understand, Gisella, that the At-Large is holding two At-Large plenary sessions during ICANN 81. In addition, they've also selected the topic or suggested the topic for the ICANN community plenary that we'll hear

about in a few minutes. Can you please tell me a little bit about these two sessions?

GISELLA GRUBER:

Well, that will be my pleasure. Thank you, Dan. So, these two sessions were selected out of a number of interesting topics submitted for consideration. The first plenary is the cross community collaboration to deliver the new gTLD program next round that we all want. The session objectives include opportunities to explore and develop concrete steps which At-Large may collaborate with other ICANN community groups and the org teams to support the outreach and engagement plans for the next round. And I'd say especially the applicant support program, the acronym is ASP. You will hear that a lot. There will be a status update on the regional activities related to the next round and the ASP as well. And we'll have participants from the SOs and ACs who are actively engaged in the ASP and the new gTLD programs. Everyone is invited to participate in this discussion and in several brainstorming subgroups which will be held during the session.

And then the second At-Large plenary is another key topic and it's entitled the At-Large community priorities for the fiscal year 2026 to 2030. So, again, the objective of this session is to identify what the At-Large community might consider to be its top priority areas with reference to the FY2630 ICANN strategic plan. And the session will focus on the strategic plan and operating plan. And in this, we plan to identify two strategic goals under each of the four strategic objectives in order to provide the incoming ALAC and RALO leadership with indicators to begin devising some overarching ways to support the delivery of this

ICANN strategic plan. So, another session that we are very much looking forward to. And at this session, we have the pleasure of welcoming Maarten Botterman and Chris Chapman, two board members who are in there and that will be in their role of co-chairs of the ICANN board strategic planning committee as well as many other ALAC members. So, please do join these sessions.

DAN GLUCK:

You know, Maarten and Chris, sounds like I can't miss. And as we've heard in past policy webinars with Andrew Chen in the past in your seat, At-Large generally works within three different areas of workstreams consisting of, was it policy, operations and community engagement? Is that right? And if it is right, talk a little bit about what we expect to see in these workstreams at ICANN 81.

GISELLA GRUBER:

So thank you, Dan, again for pointing out these three workstreams. So under the policy workstream, the Consolidated Policy Working Group, CPWG, the session will provide an overview on the key policy activities. In addition, the ALAC is holding three bilateral meetings with the ICANN board, the GAC and the SSAC. And in these three bilateral meetings, a common topic that will be discussed is DNS abuse, including the recently published Infernal Study.

Under the operations workstream, the second workstream, the Operations Finance and Budget Working Group is holding a session to include an overview of the operations related topics that the group discusses on a weekly basis. And that includes the Continuous

Improvement Program Pilot Holistic Preview, and then general updates on the input of the ICANN budget, operational and strategic issues. So this working group will have discussions with the ICANN planning team on the draft strategic plan and operating plan framework, as well as the five-year and annual operating plan timeline.

And under our community engagement session, the At-Large is meeting with the NextGen and Fellows. This is always an important session as the At-Large has been focusing on engaging the Fellows and NextGen for quite some time into the At-Large community. And on the topic of that, we have three incoming ALAC members who were recent ICANN Fellows, and they will be at that session to share their experience and how their engagement with At-Large resulted in these leadership positions. So that's another exciting point at that session.

And last but not least, we've got the ALAC Community Engagement Subcommittee, referred to as ACES, another acronym, unfortunately. This will hold its inaugural meeting during ICANN 81. So ACES will focus on the development of At-Large mobilization campaigns that will involve the vast global networks of the At-Large community to spread the word of ICANN-related programs and activities. So please do join us.

DAN GLUCK:

So we get to move on now from our three work streams to our five regional At-Large organizations. These RALOs, as they're called, work directly with the At-Large and some unaffiliated individual members. What are the RALOs and what are they getting into at ICANN 81?

GISELLA GRUBER:

So thank you very much for that. The RALOs are really important. The RALOs are directly involved in engaging with now 262 At-Large structures and 212 unaffiliated members. So the sessions taking place under the RALOs will be initially a cross-RALO session that allows for the regional leaders of the five RALOs to discuss matters of common interest. And we will also enhance the collaboration between GSE and RALOs. We do that at every ICANN meeting and also intersessionally.

The Asia-Pacific Australasia Regional At-Large Organization, better known as APRALO and much easier to say, is holding an hybrid annual general meeting. And this will provide an opportunity for their members to reflect on achievements, as well as prepare for the year coming ahead, 2025. And the APRALO, as outlined above, is also co-hosting the two At-Large plenaries.

The European Regional At-Large Organization, known as EURALO, is holding a hybrid general assembly as well. And this is an annual event which we hold, and it includes a presentation of EURALO achievements in 2024, and again discussing strategic planning for 2025.

And last but not least, the African Regional At-Large Organization, known as AFRALO, is hosting their 36th AFRALO-AfrICANN meeting on the theme of artificial intelligence to enhancing multilingualism in the African internet space, an ICANN initiative. I would have loved to have learned that off by heart, but it is quite long. The session will provide an overview of the topic, discuss and approve the statement, and then make recommendations to the ICANN community, as well as ICANN.org. And that covers the RALOs.

DAN GLUCK: So as we've heard with the GNSO and the ccNSO, the annual general meeting can bring some transitions to leadership. Can you tell me if that's the case for the At-Large?

GISELLA GRUBER: Absolutely. Hence it being an extremely busy meeting. We will witness the transition of leaders by welcoming five new ALAC members and one regional At-Large organization leader, and unfortunately say goodbye to several valued leaders. But as we know, they never go very far and definitely stay within the community. And the ALAC will engage in a series of dynamic strategic planning sessions. These are designed to facilitate common understanding of its mission, to harness and align collective insights, and to develop a guiding roadmap of tangible objectives for 2025, as well as for onward continuous improvement. And that, Dan, covers the At-Large overview for ICANN 81. And I am very much looking forward to seeing everyone there in person or otherwise online. Thank you for this opportunity to present.

DAN GLUCK: Well, thank you so much for presenting. That was wonderful. And yeah, I appreciate it. Do we have any questions? I think we're good to go. All right. So let's move on to our second advisory committee of the day. And we have Julia here from the Government Advisory Committee. Thank you so much for joining me today.

JULIA CHARVOLEN: Thank you very much, Dan. And hello, everyone.

DAN GLUCK: At ICANN 80 in Kigali, the GAC held a high-level government meeting. What is the GAC doing to keep up the momentum at ICANN 81?

JULIA CHARVOLEN: Thanks, Dan, for the question. Yeah, indeed, the GAC continues actually to increase its engagement with the community and in the work of the community in the context of the longer-term evolution of the GAC's operation in the multi-stakeholder model. And while for ICANN 81, the GAC will focus on operational and strategic conversations, and it will also continue focusing on policy topic discussions. And also notable for ICANN 81, while the GAC for the first time will be meeting with every other ICANN SO&AC during a public meeting. And that's part of the committee's continued evolution to engage and collaborate with all community groups. So looking forward to that.

DAN GLUCK: So the next round of new gTLDs seems to be a common theme for this meeting, as you know, it's been in the past as well. The GAC has been very busy with this topic since ICANN 80, correct? Between meetings too, right? This is something that is a big topic for them.

JULIA CHARVOLEN: Absolutely. It's definitely a priority for governments and observers in the GAC for the last several years. And since ICANN 80, the GAC has been actively engaged with the board on several topics pertaining to new gTLDs, and specifically on auctions, mechanisms of last results, resorts, sorry, in the new gTLDs and the, as you've heard, the Applicant Support

Program, the ASP. And there have been two board GAC bylaws mandated consultations that took place since ICANN 80. And those consultations are intended to satisfy the requirement in the process for consultations for both parties in the event that the board determines through a preliminary or interim decision to take an action that is not consistent with GAC advice. The aim being that, you know, the consultations is the attempt, is to attempt to find a mutually acceptable solution. And at the core of the consultative process, while the requirement that the board notifies the GAC when it intends to take on inconsistent action and explain why it is doing so. But if in the end, the board and the GAC cannot find a solution, the board is required to explain in its final decision why it is not following the GAC's advice. And recently, two letters were released from the ICANN board chair summarizing the discussions. And the GAC is in the process of replying to the board prior to ICANN 81. And you've shared the link to the correspondence page of the GAC, appreciate that. And just to add, the GAC continues to follow the implementation review team. And GAC members are following this effort closely. They continue to provide input to the IRT in preparation for the development of the next applicant guidebook.

DAN GLUCK:

Awesome. And yeah, thanks, Rob, for, I didn't see that you were gonna put it in there. So thank you so much, Rob, for dropping that in the chat as well. Thank you, Julia, for mentioning it. The GAC has a plenary on DNS abuse at this meeting. And it seems like it's going to be a topic that

people are pretty interested in, and maybe a session that people that aren't in the GAC should look to attend. When is that going to happen?

JULIA CHARVOLEN:

So that's happening on Tuesday morning, and in preparation for the meeting, the GAC has been tracking the progress made on SSAC's recommendation, SAC 115, as it relates to what can be done in the remit of ICANN. The GAC will definitely continue to closely track the outcomes of the DNS abuse amendments, the gTLD agreements, and the registrar accreditation agreements, which entered into force in April 2024. And as you mentioned, there will be a panel discussion being organized on this matter during the GAC plenary session on DNS abuse on Tuesday morning. The GAC is also considering what is being done and what needs to be done outside of ICANN to mitigate DNS abuse effectively, and this will definitely be a focus for future discussions.

DAN GLUCK:

We've heard from Benedetta before ICANN 80 and Fabian before ICANN 79 on the GAC's strategic objectives. We know these are important to the GAC, but what are they and how do they affect this meeting?

JULIA CHARVOLEN:

So after adopting a four-year strategic plan and the first associated annual plan in Kigali, the GAC is now tracking its progress in the implementation of these plans. The GAC is actually expected at ICANN 81 to discuss the progress and the challenges in relevant areas. And as you have on the slide, as a reminder, the GAC has agreed on nine

strategic objectives. I'm not going to list them for the sake of time. But ultimately, the objective of this new strategic planning effort in the GAC is to develop a more proactive position of the committee to increase its readiness to provide timely and effective advice to the ICANN board, and also to enable communication of the committee's objectives with higher-level governments and also with ICANN stakeholders.

DAN GLUCK: Anything else you would recommend members of the community check out with the GAC this meeting?

JULIA CHARVOLEN: Potentially, if anyone is interested, you also have capacity development sessions that will be of high interest to the governments and that could interest the community as well. And that is happening on Saturday afternoon. So something to look forward to as well.

DAN GLUCK: All right. Thank you so much, Julia. I don't know if there's any comments, questions or hands up, but I'll just say quickly, it's been great to work with the GAC support team. It's a fantastic team. And I see a comment in the chat. Yeah, we'll link to that as very shortly. And thank you so much, Julia.

Now I get to have the screen by myself for a quick second while I fill you in on the community plenary session. So that's Wednesday, 1030 local time, the second session of that day. I'd like to tell you a little bit right now about the community plenary session. It's entitled Shifting

Paradigms, Multistakeholderism, Geopolitics and Emerging Internet Infrastructures. Now this was mentioned pretty briefly during the ALAC portion with Gisella because they helped pitch the topic, but it's a community led session that aims to have some interesting discussions on the future of internet governance. And that includes the opportunities of emerging technologies and their implications on the multistakeholder model. There should be some interesting speakers from throughout the community, both in Istanbul and through virtual attendance, which of course is available for those attending this meeting from home as well. This meeting idea originally pitched by the ALAC and the GAC, but representatives from many of the SOs and ACs have been participating in the planning of this session. And I think it's going to be great. Again, that is the community plenary session, Wednesday, the 13th, 10:30 local time, 7:30 UTC. We get to move on now to the technical communities. And the first one we're going to hear from today is the address supporting organization. And I see Andrew might be popping up on the screen. There he is. And he's going to fill us in on what's going on with the numbers community right now from my role on the public comments team. I think I might have a sense of what you might bring up, but yeah, I'll let you describe what's going on with the ASL right now, Andrew.

ANDREW MCCONNACHIE: Yeah, sure. Thanks, Dan. So my name is Andrew McConnachie. And among other things, I support the addressing supporting organization, also known as the ASO. And as Dan alluded to, the ASO recently launched a new public comment proceeding on their draft ICP2 version

two principles document. And this document represents really the first major step in the ASO ACs work of revising ICP2. And it sets forth the core principles that the ASO AC believes should be captured in the next version of ICP2. This public comment will remain open until November 25th. As part of this effort, the ASO will be meeting with the GAC and the RSSAC at ICANN 81 to talk about this public comment proceeding and their continuing work on ICP2 version two. They'll also be holding seven work sessions, which are open to the community, open to observers at ICANN 81 to continue their work on this document. And then finally, on Sunday, there will be a how it works session entitled all about numbers. If you're curious and you would like to learn more about the RIR system and IP addresses. So that's it for me, Dan, back over to you.

DAN GLUCK:

That was great. Thank you so much, Andrew. Any comments or questions? All right, doesn't seem like it, which means we get to head back to Ozan for a second time today. Welcome back. And you know, something that I've been reading about the root server system advisory committee is that there are two active work parties, one that is relatively new, one that's winding down. Can you tell me a bit about those two?

OZAN SAHIN:

Hello again, Dan. Hello, everyone. As you said, there are currently two ongoing work parties in the RSSAC. And the first work party is called Security Incident Reporting Work Party. This work party is developing recommendations to the root server system governance working group

on how the future governance structure should handle the reporting of security incidents. And the work party is focusing on questions like what consists of a reportable incident? Why should the root server system provide incident reporting or who should be responsible for reporting incidents?

And the other one that was set up just before ICANN 80, it's called the Guidelines for Changing Root Server Addresses Work Party. And the objective of this work party is to come up with recommendations for when root server operators need to change the IP address of their root server instances. And the recommendations that may come out of this work party could include advice about the IP address allocation of the regional registries. And it may trigger an address supporting organization global policy development process. That's why the work party leadership invited the numbers committee members to their work session at ICANN 81. And RSSAC and ASO members have a dialogue during the session.

DAN GLUCK:

What else do we know about the general RSSAC activities at this meeting?

OZAN SAHIN:

So the RSSAC will be hosting multiple open sessions at ICANN 81, including an RSSAC caucus meeting. This is the second meeting of the RSSAC caucus in 2024. And a how it works session on the root server operations. RSSAC will also have two joint meetings, one with the address supporting organization, during which the ASO will discuss its

Internet Coordination Policy 2 or ICP2 review work, and the open public comment proceeding that my colleague Andrew has just mentioned. The other joint meeting will be with the Governmental Advisory Committee or GAC. And RSSAC has been preparing for this session for a long time. And the RSSAC leadership will present the operation of the root server system during this session, and give time to take questions from the GAC members.

DAN GLUCK: And I also understand that the RSSAC chair election process is underway.

OZAN SAHIN: It is. The nomination period is on at the moment. And this is because the two year term of the current chair, RSSAC chair Jeff Osborn is coming to an end by the end of the year. So an election process is underway and an election will be held for the RSSAC chair position shortly after ICANN 81.

DAN GLUCK: Thank you so much, Ozan. It's been great to talk about some fun elections with people on this call here. And learning about all the bilaterals. Seems like there's gonna be a lot of collaboration and wonderful presentations throughout this meeting. If we have any hands up or comments, which I don't see, which means that we can move on to last, but certainly not least the Security and Stability Advisory Committee. And Kathy, it's a pleasure to talk with you again, making

your second straight appearance on the Prep Week webinar. And you know, a couple months ago, if you can believe it, I think, if the SSAC was in the DC office where I'm based for a few days of meetings and workshops, it was great to hear about the SSAC's work and meet a lot of its members. So can you tell me a little bit and share with the people watching at home a little bit about the brand new SAC-126?

KATHY SCHNITT:

Absolutely, Dan, and welcome from sunny and beautiful upstate New York. And yeah, SAC-126 was actually published on the 16th of August of this year. And it's the DNSSEC Delegation Signer, or the DS Record Automation. And a little context regarding this is to properly enable DNSSEC, signing a delegated domains DNS zone with DNSSEC signatures is not enough. It's also necessary to configure and later maintain appropriate delegation signer records, which connect a child zone's DNSSEC public key and signatures to the chain of trust provided by its parent zone. The current practices involve actions by multiple parties, such as the registrant, the DNS operator, the registrar, the registry, and this is often coordinated by the actual registrant, requiring a level of engagement and time investment, awareness, and also understanding that often do not match with what the registrant knows or expects. The complexity of the process further introduces opportunity for error. So the SSAC believes that automated DS maintenance should be a goal for the domain name industry. To make this a reality, the SAC makes the following recommendations with the goal to spur industry players and ICANN towards an industry best practice for DNSSEC DS automation.

And with that said, Dan, we're actually moving on to our open work sessions at ICANN 81. If anyone's interested to learn more about the SAC-126, the SSAC's actually going to provide a brief summary to the community on its insights for that, as well as SAC-125, which is the report on register name management. Another key open session I think folks would be interested to join is the SSAC's going to do a panel on NCAP and new gTLDs. I know, believe it or not, we're still talking about NCAP, but the SSAC has invited ICANN Org to present to the SSAC the implementation plans for name collision analysis and engage a community discussion on that. So it'd be nice to know where we're at with that.

And then, of course, we've got lightning talks. These are my most favorite parts of our SSAC meetings. This is where SSAC members and sometimes uninvited guests come and join us for anywhere between 15 and 30 minutes for presentations on security, stability, and any type of resiliency topics that they have of interest. A few that I'd like to highlight, we're going to do one on DNS queries and what it takes to send an email message, and another one on dark DNS, revisiting the value of RapidZone. And then there's a handful of others.

And then, of course, we're going to continue with our open mic for the community. So this is an informal drop-in style session where folks can just come on in, directly engage with SSAC members and discuss any type of topics. We will also give insights to the committee's current projects and initiatives. And this really is just so folks can come in, introduce themselves, get to know one another, chat, very relaxed

setting. So I really suggest that folks come on in and join that session.
Dan, back over to you.

DAN GLUCK: A quick question. Do we know when the dark DNS session is? It just sounds so exciting, and we would love to attend.

KATHY SCHNITT: No, the dark DNS session, I wasn't expecting that, is going to be one of the lightning talks on Tuesday afternoon in the block 16:30 to 17:30.

DAN GLUCK: All right, so we've heard about the open sessions. Is the SSAC opening up anything else? Is everything available? Tell me a bit about the openness with the SSAC at this meeting.

KATHY SCHNITT: Thanks, Dan. I'm glad you asked that, actually, because, as you mentioned, the workshop, when we first started for the first time ever this year, we actually opened some sessions to observers to come in and listen to some technical presentations, not only from SSAC members, but again, from outside guests. And we're going to look forward to continuing that openness with the community. So I do hope to see everyone at ICANN 81. And then as we continue to open sessions in the future, we'll make sure we get that word out there. So I do hope to see everyone at ICANN 81. And then as we continue to open sessions in the future, we'll make sure we get that word out there.

DAN GLUCK:

Well, thank you so much, Kathy. It was great to wrap up with a little bit of dark DNS and turn, you know, for the spooky season Halloween tomorrow. Unfortunately, based on the weather outside, I think the spooky season might just be a climate thing. But do we have any other questions about the SSAC, anything else that's happened today? We're at the end of our regularly scheduled presentations. Love to see a hand, we can open your mic, anything like that. But if we're not there yet, I guess it's time for me to start saying goodbye and to implore you at home to take a look at our survey that we put in the chat. Let us know how we're doing. Of course, we'd love to make this better for you in front of ICANN 82. So thank you so much, Andrea, for posting in there. Thank you, everyone, for joining me today. It's been, you know, it's always great to hear from my all-star teammates. And now I get to pass it off to our captain, Mary, to send us home.

MARY WONG:

Thank you so much. Thank you so much, Dan. And thank you to everyone on the policy development team who presented today, all who worked behind the scenes. I am glad to see everyone on this webinar. We're looking forward to welcoming you all to ICANN 81 in person or remotely. And I'm very glad that this webinar allowed the team not just to highlight for you the various important milestones each group has reached in the last few months, the very, very interesting sessions, as always, you know, action-packed ICANN meeting, but also that you can meet some of the staff who you may not see ordinarily because you may be in a completely different session for them. It remains for me also to mention that what we did not cover, but that is

a regular feature of every ICANN meeting is the bilateral meetings between the board and most of the community groups. And I think it's going to serve as a gentle encouragement for those community members who are involved in the planning of this, who have not yet sent your topics to the board to do so, if I may. But this also highlights, as you've heard from some of my colleagues, that the ICANN meeting is not just an opportunity for everyone to get together virtually or in person to advance the work, but also to engage in very important cross-community discussions, exchanges of information, and including with the ICANN board. So again, looking forward to ICANN 81, looking forward to welcoming everyone there. A huge thanks to all the community leaders, working groups, and the staff supporting them. And on that note, I think we are just at the top of the hour, barely. Thank you, Andrea, for keeping us on track. And thanks again, everyone, for joining us today.

ANDREA GLANDON: Thank you. This concludes today's webinar. Have a wonderful rest of your day.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]