
ICANN83 | Prep Week – Policy & Advice Update Webinar
Tuesday, May 27, 2025 - 17:00 to 18:00 CEST

ANDREA GLANDON

Hello and welcome to the ICANN83 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 and French. 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 turn the floor over to Russ Weinstein. You may begin.

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RUSS WEINSTEIN

Thanks, Andrea. Hi, I'm Russ Weinstein, ICANN's Senior Vice President of Policy Development Support. I'm excited to welcome you to the Prep Week for the ICANN83 Policy Forum. It's happening from 9 to 12 June in the vibrant city of Prague. Whether you're new to ICANN or a long-time community member, there's a place for your voice at an ICANN meeting. And if you can't make it in person, our meetings are designed to enable virtual participation where you can not only observe but participate in real-time with colleagues in the room.

ICANN's Policy Forum is where ICANN's policy work comes to life. You'll find a broad range of stakeholders engaged in collaborative and robust discussions on a variety of internet governance topics. At ICANN, there are always a number of things being discussed across the community, but the Policy Forum is a time and space where we come together, can block out the noise, and focus each day on policymaking to make the internet a better place for end users of today and tomorrow.

Making consensus-based policy is hard work. It typically requires listening, empathy, finding common ground, and a willingness to compromise. I appreciate the hard work and effort the community's volunteers put into their work at ICANN. To help you prepare, the policy team has prepared this webinar and the Policy Outlook Report to give you a preview of all that is being discussed across the community. I encourage you to come to the Policy

Forum well-prepared and focused on driving to outcomes in your policy and advice work.

But when each day comes to an end, we'll put our laptops down and come together as a community for networking receptions that help build the bonds that keep our community together. On night two, we have two special reasons to come together. First, we'll thank the outstanding community members who stepped up to lead stakeholder organizations, advisory communities, and the working groups within them. And then second, we'll take time to honor our long-time friend and colleague, the late Nigel Hickson. Now I'll pass it over to Dan, who will guide you through the tour of the ICANN community with fellow members of the policy team at ICANN.

DANIEL GLUCK

Wow, thank you so much, Russ, for that wonderful introduction. I'm Dan from the ICANN Policy Development Support Team coming to you live from the great state of Maryland in the United States. And I'm here to welcome you to ICANN-vision. Yes, the first Prep Week policy update for a meeting located in a participant country in the Eurovision Song Contest since ICANN78 in Germany.

Now, I believe the European Broadcasting Union is an observer to the GAC, so this does fall within ICANN's remit. And as the name implies, all of the ICANN Policy Team staff members, they will be singing their updates today. And guess what? That includes Do-Re-Mi. One second. Okay, so I'm hearing from my producers right now

that this idea is being scrapped as no one wants to hear me sing. And you know, that's fair play. No, I got to figure out a backup. I have a whole script here for that, but I have to figure out a backup plan. My bad, everyone. Should have realized no one wants to hear that.

Okay, how about this? How about this? The year is 1618, approximately a half century after the Peace of Augsburg was signed in the Holy Roman Empire. The ruling Habsburgs have decided to renege on their accord in Bohemia, the modern-day Czech Republic. The Bohemians, well, they didn't like this. They began a revolt. Prague Castle, local Protestants threw two regents and a secretary out of a window in what is now known as a defenestration of Prague. That's right, a defenestration, not the defenestration, because there have been many. The city of a hundred spires and a handful of defenestrations.

Now, those men survived, but the reaction from the Habsburgs set the stage for what is now known as one of the most deadly wars in history, the Thirty Years' War. Now, what that means for right now, I am not sure, but I do believe that by watching this webinar, that will be your best defense from getting thrown out of any proverbial window at next month's ICAN meeting in Prague. Use this webinar and the cheat sheet provided, well, as cheat sheets for any of the topics of conversation that come up during sessions or, as Russ said, during the networking events.

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.

Supporting those organizations and committees, the ICANN policy development support team will be there for 89 of the 117 sessions in Prague. We have a regular Zoom room for this presentation, but if you have any questions, you could send them in the Q&A pod, or you can raise your hand using the reactions in the Zoom toolbar, and we'll call on you if we have time. Otherwise, we'll follow up with your questions at the end of the webinar.

Please note the resource document that has been dropped into chat that's been compiled for your perusal, so give that a read. And something our legion of devoted Prep Week Policy Update fans may note, there's a bit something different about the flow of this presentation, because we're going to start today with the technical community. And now, could this be because I have recently joined the technical SO/AC support? No, it's because of the feedback we get from the webinar watchers. This is meant to be a service for you. Get involved, ask some questions, or fill out the survey at the end of the presentation, and let us know how we can make this better next time.

So, let's get to it. Leading off, we have the address supporting organization. Andrew is here to tell us about some really

interesting stuff, including the tremendous effort behind a public comment that is closing today. Andrew, how's it going?

ANDREW MCCONACHIE

Hi, Dan. I don't know if I can top that intro. I would just like to note that I'm coming to you live from the Netherlands, where the Thirty Years' War is known as the Eighty Years' War, because the Dutch were already fighting the Habsburg Spanish for 50 years prior to the start of the Thirty Years' War.

But anyways, let's talk about the ASO, which is actually what I'm here to talk about. So, the ASO, also known as the Addressing Supporting Organization, the ASO is currently in the process of updating Internet Coordination Policy 2. And ICP-2 was originally published in 2001 and has not been updated since then. In late 2023, the ASO Addressing Council began working on updating ICP-2 and most recently published their draft document entitled Governance Document for the Recognition, Maintenance, and Derecognition of RIRs, which you've already mentioned.

This update sets forth the core principles that the ASO AC believes should be reflected in the next version of ICP-2. In addition to principles on governance, ecosystem, lifecycle, recognition, and the operation of RIRs, it also outlines principles for the potential derecognition of an RIR if it fails to adhere to the criteria established. The group has been busy giving webinars and informational presentations to different stakeholder groups, both

within the different Regional Internet Registries communities and the ICANN community.

The RIRs have been running public consultations within their own communities on this draft document in parallel with an ICANN public comment proceeding on it. This ICANN public comment proceeding opened on April 14th, and as you mentioned, it's closing today. There should be, and I see there is a link. Thank you, Andrea. There's a link in the chat to give feedback on this ICANN public comment proceeding, and I believe you only have about eight hours to give feedback on it before it closes.

After that, the ASO will take all the feedback received and begin working on updating their governance document again for the recognition, maintenance, and derecognition of RIRs. At ICANN83, the ASO will also be meeting with the At-Large Advisory Committee, the Government Advisory Committee, the Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers, also known as the ISPCP, and the Root Server System Advisory Committee. Thank you so much, Dan, and back to you.

DANIEL GLUCK

Well, thank you, and also congratulations to the ASO, and of course, the support staff behind that on these wonderful efforts. Anything else we should know for this meeting?

ANDREW MCCONACHIE

Nope, that's all for me.

DANIEL GLUCK

Perfect. All right. So, Andrew, we get to move from one group to another, but we'll actually talk to Ozan on the RSSAC up next. Ozan, you are the superlative journeyman for the Prep Week webinars, and we get to talk to you today about the Root Service System Advisory Committee. So, RSSAC has been busy, and I wonder how much everyone at home realizes that. Not one, but two publications since we last spoke here. Can you tell us a bit about those?

OZAN SAHIN

Indeed. Hello, Dan. Thank you, and greetings from Izmir, Turkey. And indeed, I'd like to talk about these two recent RSSAC advisories that have been published since ICANN82. So, the first advisory is called RSSAC061, Guidelines for Changing IP Addresses, which was published in March. RSSAC061 is an output of an RSSAC Caucus Work Party that started its work about a year ago. This document provides guidance to the root server operators for when they need to change the internet protocol address or IP address of their root servers. One principle concerning the document is that IP addresses which were previously used for root servers should never be used for anything else ever again for security purposes.

And the other RSSAC advisory was published only three weeks ago. It's called RSSAC062, Security Incident Reporting. This advisory is an outcome of an RSSAC Caucus Work Party that was initiated by RSSAC two years ago. This document has a recommendation to the

root server system governance structure to consider the content of this advisory as they define and implement their root server system security and reporting requirements. The document discusses answers to the questions like what is a reportable incident, who should be responsible for reporting incidents, or how would reporting incidents work.

So yes, RSSAC061, Guidelines for Changing IP Addresses and RSSAC062, Security Incident Reporting are the two recent RSSAC advisories that I want to talk.

DANIEL GLUCK

Thank you, Ozan. And I am noting right now that we do have a question in the Q&A pod in the last one, but I don't have access to all of those questions that were posted on the information. So, we'll get to those right after we finish on the RSSAC. But we do note that there are questions there and we will get to them. So, we have those two publications and there's a new work party that was recently set up too. Is that correct?

OZAN SAHIN

Yes. So now that the two work parties that kept RSSAC and RSSAC caucus busy over the past year or two have finished their work, RSSAC set up a new work party in April. And the new work party is tasked with creating a new version of RSSAC001, which describes service expectations of root server operators and requires or recommends that RSOs publish certain information.

RSSAC001 was published a while ago in 2015. And a second version of RSSAC001 was published two years ago in 2023. So, the work party will consider the new DNS technologies that could become expectations of the root server operators and potentially create a new version of RSSAC001. And the work party will have its fourth meeting at ICANN83.

DANIEL GLUCK

Sounds wonderful. So, we have that question that Andrew was so kind to answer in the chat. And I wanted to see if there were any other questions about what we've already covered so far on the policy issues before talking about anything else.

ANDREA GLANDON

Dan, the question from Anne was, could you please explain ICP-3 and its relation to the alternate root? You're going to do that one later.

DANIEL GLUCK

Yeah, we'll pop in here after this, maybe if he's okay to answer that one. But if there's anything else on the RSSAC before we see if there's anything else that Ozan would like to talk about for the RSSAC.

OZAN SAHIN

A few things about ICANN83 activities. As my colleague Andrew noted, one of the joint meetings, the Address Supporting

Organization Address Council will have at ICANN83 will be with RSSAC. These groups met at ICANN81 in Istanbul, and they will continue their dialogue on the Regional Interim Registry Governance document for which a public comment proceeding is closing later today. In addition, at ICANN83, RSSAC will co-host an open microphone session with RSSAC during which ICANN community members will have the opportunity to ask questions to the members of the two technical ICANN advisory committees.

And lastly, the RSSAC understands that the Root Service System Governance Working Group or RSS GWG convened by the ICANN Board has made significant progress in addressing RSSAC advice from 2018. RSSAC will continue to track the Root Service System Governance Working Group sessions at ICANN83, and it encourages the ICANN community to review and provide feedback on the draft report when it's available for public comment in the coming months. Thank you.

DANIEL GLUCK

All right. So, why don't we, if Andrew, if you're available-- First, we'll see if there's any other questions here for Ozan. I'm not seeing any. So, we'll go to Andrew now. Andrew, can you build a bridge between what we were, if possible, talk about the last one, just go back to what we were talking about on the RSSAC. I'm a bit too excited. I'm talking a bit too fast. I'm jumbling all of the things here. I'll slow down and get everything straightened out. But

Andrew, can you answer Anne's questions that we have here in the Q&A pod?

ANDREW MCCONACHIE

Sure. So, I should probably provide some background first on the ICP series of documents. So, Internet Coordination Policy are an old document series at ICANN which ended in 2001, and there's three of them. And it was a document series that was created shortly after ICANN was founded. ICP1 is relevant for ccTLDs. ICP-2 was relevant for RIRs. And then ICP-3, the one referenced here, is relevant for alternate roots. So, I was talking about the updating of ICP-2 for RIRs.

ICP-3 is actually in a completely different subject, and it has to do with the unique root for the global DNS, if I understand correctly. So, the specific question of, could you please explain ICP-3 and its relation to alternate root proliferation? My understanding, and again, I haven't read ICP-3 in a long time, but my understanding is that ICP-3 lays out the importance of a single unified root for the global DNS for the Internet. That's my understanding of ICP-3. Hopefully that answered the question.

DANIEL GLUCK

Well, I hope so as well. Thank you so much, Andrew. And we get to stay now in the technical SO/AC support. And we get to go to Kathy. I believe, Kathy, we have some breaking news to the ICANN policy update. And with more information on the new SSAC publication,

we'll go live to our Security and Stability Advisory Committee correspondent, Kathy, for the latest. Kathy, how are you? And what can you tell us?

KATHY SCHNITT

Hi, Dan. I'm well. Thanks for asking. I'm actually live from sunny upstate New York. And the SSAC has just published its report, SAC127, entitled DNS Blocking Revisited. So, you may ask, what's DNS blocking? Well, it is a method for restricting access to information or services on the Internet by interfering with the normal process of responding to DNS queries about domain names or IP addresses.

So, this report focuses on the technical means by which DNS content blocking can be accomplished and the effects, both intended and unintended, of its use in different contexts. The aim of this report is to advise the Internet community, and especially policymakers and government officials, of the implications and consequences of using DNS blocking to control access to resources on the Internet.

So, the three recommendations that this document, SAC127, are addressing is to any organization involved in implementing or mandating DNS blocking and operators of recursive servers. The SSAC has advised that all such entities fully grasp the implications of DNS blocking, that those implementing it adhere to clear operational guidelines to minimize risks and collateral damage,

and that the server operators utilize DNS extended error codes for transparency.

This report updates previous SSAC publications that you might remember as SAC050 and SAC056, which were published in 2011 and 2012. Since then, relevant Internet technologies and practices have evolved, and more examples of DNS blocking have been implemented. And it would really be good, if you're interested in more, to join us Tuesday of the ICANN meeting because SSAC is going to present on this.

DANIEL GLUCK

Yeah, we'll have that opportunity to grasp the implementation and grasp it at that Tuesday session. It sounds great. And we're close to publication, I believe, on the free and Open-Source Software Work Party. Is that correct?

KATHY SCHNITT

That is correct. They are making steady progress on the current report and hoping to be presenting on a final draft during ICANN83. The global and distributed DNS infrastructure depends on free and open software maintained by nonprofit, volunteer, and commercial actors in a complex equilibrium. So, this report actually investigates and analyzes the data of how operators in the DNS utilize open software while addressing some common misconceptions about it.

SSAC seeks to inform policymaking efforts or regulatory interventions that seek to discuss, alter, or regulate the development or subsequent use and infrastructure of software without due consideration of the role of open-source software in the core of the Internet. This report also will present original data on the role of open-source software in the DNS and original survey data on the anticipated impacts of regulation on the open-source model. And if folks are interested, they have an open work party session on Monday at ICANN83.

DANIEL GLUCK

And how about the two new work parties that have been recently started up? I think RIDE and the other one, can you give me a little bit information about those two?

KATHY SCHNITT

Sure. So, we have the DNSSEC operational considerations work party that has formed as it's kind of in the process of finalizing the draft chowder. Their work plans on exploring known operational issues that have contributed to the low levels of DNSSEC deployment among second-level domains. The proposed outcome will be that the report that they come out with addresses complexities to the solutions for simpler, more accurate and more user-friendly implementation of DNSSEC. So, they're hoping to hopefully have this published by maybe March of 2026 at ICANN85.

And you're correct, the RIDE Work Party, mouthful, stands for Responsible Integrations into the DNSSEC DNS Ecosystem. And that work party wants to identify risks and challenges to the integration of DNS domain names with emerging technologies such as blockchain. And their intended outcome is clear and actionable recommendations for the ICANN Board and for ICANN accredited registers and registry operators to mitigate risks associated with the intermingling of the DNS with alternative naming systems. They've actually decided to suspend its activity and focus more on the concern of the risk of name collisions related to alternative naming systems. And that may arise as part of the New gTLD Program Next Round. And that's it for me, Dan.

DANIEL GLUCK

Great job, Kathy. Thank you so much. Now, RIDE Work Party, definitely want to keep an eye on, some fun discussions, have been a part on with that one. And of course, the DNS operational considerations have been great as well. Those have been interesting groups I like to be there for the beginnings of, and they've been great experiences. Now, I wanted to pass a quick reminder to ask your questions in the Q&A pod and not in the chat. Although, Alfredo, we do see your question here and we are quickly readying an answer and we'll see if someone is ready to take that one. Russ, are you able to take that?

RUSS WEINSTEIN

Sure, I'll give it a try. Thanks for the question. Alfredo asked, DNS blocking deals with an element that ICANN remit does not cover. Can you explain how content is an important issue that's included in the contract and parties' contracts? So, let's take this piece at a time.

First, the work that the SSAC has done on DNS blocking is aims to inform policymakers who may choose to use DNS blocking as a tool in their toolkit to regulate whatever they're attempting to accomplish. And so, the work the SSAC has done helps advise and provide content context for those policymakers so they understand the consequences of their decisions better and can choose whether that's the right approach to achieve the end they're trying to achieve and balances the consequences they're maybe not expecting.

So, it's an important issue and it's an important issue to ICANN because we try and create a single interoperable internet and the work we do here is really important to that. And so, that means people have relatively the same experience no matter where they are logging into and connecting resources on the internet.

Regarding content and the contracted parties' contracts. You're right, content is not something that we have controls over in the contracted parties' contracts. Many contracted parties choose to act on content for their own business purposes or their own compliance with local regulations, but the ICANN contracts do not regulate content or attempt to regulate content in any way as we're

not a regulator. So hopefully that answers your question and if you have more let us know. Thanks.

DANIEL GLUCK

Thank you, Russ. And now we get to take a quick moment and hear from one of our partners. I don't know if that's sounds like an advertisement. It's not an advertisement. It's Ozan.

OZAN SAHIN

Thank you, Dan. In the spotlight, I'd like to take a minute to focus on Tuesday's community networking event which Russ mentioned in his opening remarks and talk about a community recognition program that ICANN introduced a year ago at ICANN80 in Kigali. ICANN launched the Working Group Chairs Recognition to make sure the hard work of the working group leaders is acknowledged.

In this sense, the ICANN Board will host a reception at ICANN83 on Tuesday in order to recognize the chairs and vice chairs of the current ICANN working groups. We will recognize the contributions of 54 working group leaders in this event and all ICANN community members are invited to attend this reception on Tuesday. Thank you. Back to you, Dan.

DANIEL GLUCK

Oh, sorry. I didn't see you there. I was just having one of my favorite State of Washington apples that we talked about in our last webinar, the cosmic crisp. What a treat. And now we get to continue on with a treat theme and move on to the end users and

the At-Large Advisory Committee. For that, we have Gisella joining us today.

Gisella, I see we have, I don't know, one segment to talk about two plenaries, three work streams, and maybe like four topics at joint sessions, five regional At-Large organizations. Let's just take it from the top and we'll see if we have enough time to fit everything in there. Plenaries, the At-Large is really good at taking charge of those. What are we looking at for Prague? And of course, how are you today?

GISELLA GRUBER

Well, thank you, Dan. I'm Gisella and speaking to you live from the historical city of Bath in the United Kingdom. Thank you everyone for joining and also for allowing me to provide you all with this brief overview of the At-Large sessions at ICANN83. I hope that line, it's not my line causing any interference.

Starting with the two At-Large plenaries, we have the first plenary which is on the unravelling the Next Round of New gTLDs for community-based TLD applicants. This will be on Wednesday, the 11th of June at 10:45 Central European Time.

So, the New gTLD Program the Next Round Applicant Guidebook is expected to be opened for public comment later this week. And this session is very well-timed as it will enable participants to better understand how implementation of selected policies of priority to the At-Large community as outlined in the Applicant Guidebook

will impact potential applicants of new gTLD strings, particularly those that are applicant support qualified and those applying to operate their string as a community-based TLD.

So, that was the first plenary. The second one is on what is next on DNS Abuse, Progressing Mitigation Efforts within ICANN and this is going to be held on Thursday, the 12th of June at the same time of 10:45 Central European Time. So, in this session, At-Large intends to explore ways to more effectively mitigate harm caused by maliciously registered domain names before such harm can be inflicted on internet end users. So, the three main points here, this session aims to review recent initiatives targeted at mitigating DNS Abuse, identify and scope types of DNS Abuse and explore feasible mitigation solutions. So, those are the two plenaries, Dan.

DANIEL GLUCK

All right. Now from the two plenaries, can we move on to the three work streams, policy, operations, community engagement, you see them all there. But can you give us a little bit more of the color in between the black and white?

GISELLA GRUBER

Absolutely. And as we are heading into the policy forum, I'll start with the policy. The At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group, we often refer to them as the CPWG, will host a policy advice session on Monday, the 9th of June, providing an overview of At-Large policy advice initiatives and ongoing policy topics of

importance, again, to the end user. Topics will include the review of Implementation Review Team activities, the Applicant Guidebook, you'll hear a lot of that, as well as internationalized domain names and the goal of universal acceptance.

We mentioned the three work streams, the second one being the Operations Work Stream and the Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group session, which is also on Monday, will include discussions on the ALAC Continuous Improvement Program, the CIP activities, a presentation from the ICANN planning team, and that is for the purposes of ALAC and At-Large prioritization, and an update on At-Large activities planned for the 2025 Internet Governance Forum, the IGF. And last but not least, an update from the Address Supporting Organization, the ASO, on the Governance Document for the Recognition, Maintenance, and Derecognition of RIRs.

And then coming to our third work stream, it is on the community engagement. The main session there will be the European At-Large Organization, also known as EURALO, who are inviting NextGen and European Fellows to an interactive team building session on Tuesday, 10 June at 15:30 Central European Time. And this will be an informal way for these newcomers to learn all about At-Large and in particular, the European region. That, again, covers the three work streams, Dan.

DANIEL GLUCK

Thank you so much. Now we won't have time to get into all of them, but can we get into a little bit of the topics that might get discussed at these joint sessions here? I mean, we already know that you mentioned that community-based TLD applications, things like that are going to be discussed at one of the planners. I'm sure the SSAC is going to love to hear about that. But what else are we going to hear with the GAC, SSAC, NCSG in Prague?

GISSELLA GRUBER

So just in the interest of time here, Dan, and as we have three quite extensive agendas for our three joint sessions at ICANN83, we're going to be meeting with the Governmental Advisory Committee, the GAC, the Security and Stability Advisory Committee, SSAC, and the GNSO Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group, NCSG. So, these sessions will discuss topics of mutual importance to the groups, and I'd like to invite you to see the detailed agenda on our daily wiki agendas, and I will post the link shortly in the Zoom room if it has not already been done. And that will be far easier for everyone to be able to see exactly what we're going to be addressing at those three joint sessions.

DANIEL GLUCK

Sounds great. And finally, I guess we can talk about the RALOs. We'll be seeing some blue in attendance, as EURALO is the home side for this meeting. So yeah, can you let us know what's going on for the RALOs in Prague?

GISELLA GRUBER

So just while we're at it, I'd just like to point out that I'm actually wearing the RALO shirt, which is this kind of blue. Not that people need to come in this kind of blue. And yes, you're correct. So, the blue that Dan mentioned, I'll let you into the secret. We have five regional At-Large organizations, and many years ago, they selected colors representing them. EURALO, the European At-Large organization, was assigned blue. So many of us will be wearing blue that day. And as I mentioned, I've already started today, just so that you can see what it will be like.

Within EURALO, we'll host two sessions. First of all, their yearly General Assembly, fully hybrid for ICANN83. And we are hoping that most of our 31 At-Large structured will be represented at the session, again, either in person or remotely. And the agenda will include a review of achievements over the past years and a discussion of strategic priorities for FY26.

The second session is one that I already touched on above with the engagement, the team building with NextGen and European Fellows. So please do join us for that. So, in addition to these European sessions, we have the traditional AFRALO-AfrICANN meeting, which is the African Regional At-Large Organization meeting. It will be on the theme of Africa's DNS Abuse mitigation initiative, empowering stakeholders across the ecosystem. That will be on Wednesday afternoon.

And the last of the regional sessions is a very important session where the RALO leaders meet during the RALO coordination meeting. And the main discussions are around issues which require joint RALO strategies and actions. So, that will include strategic plan alignment among the RALOs, a final review of the RALO outreach and engagement plans for this fiscal year FY26, updates from the ICANN organization Global Stakeholder Engagement function, that is the GSE, and discussions on the Continuous Improvement Program and the work of the RALOs. And that brings us to the end of the At-Large overview.

DANIEL GLUCK

Thank you so much, Gisella. Do we have any questions? I saw we had a question from Anne that I was able to answer on the SSAC, but do we have any At-Large questions, RALO questions, questions about primary colors, anything? Yeah, anything here? Ooh, we have a great question here, Gisella. Can you see the Q&A pod?

GISELLA GRUBER

Just bear with me while I switch over to the Q&A pod, which I don't have. There we go. How can we join, subscribe to these groups? We have on the main ALAC wiki portal, we have a list of mailing lists that you can join. And otherwise, I will be happy to put the staff email address in the Zoom chat. And we look forward to hearing from you and assisting you to join whichever group you wish to join. Thank you.

DANIEL GLUCK Thanks again. Any other last questions? Yes, Riyadh, we will get that to you. And all right, I think we get to move on. Thank you so much, Gisella.

GISELLA GRUBER Thank you.

DANIEL GLUCK So, I guess Saewon is here from the Generic Name Supporting Organization. Saewon, it's crazy seeing you here so late in the presentation. But how do you think everything's going so far?

SAEWON LEE Hi, Dan. Yes, it is. I'm kind of suffering from a bit of a cold, so I hope I won't be coughing in the middle, but I'm doing very well. Thank you.

DANIEL GLUCK And going well. And that's just what I've heard about the Latin Diacritics PDP, which you're a part of the support staff on for the GNSO. Everything's going well with there?

SAEWON LEE That's right. I'll also try to update everyone quite slowly, as we've been reminded to talk at a slow pace for the interpreters. But the Latin Script Diacritics Policy Development Process Working Group,

and for your information, as well as everyone else on this webinar, the working group has decided on LD PDP as its acronym. And that's what I'll be using today.

So, this working group set off to examine those cases where an ASCII gTLD and the Latin Script Diacritic version of the gTLD, which are not variants of each other, but determined to be confusingly similar, could be simultaneously delegated. And here ASCII stands for American Standard Code for Information Interchange, which is limited to English alphabet and numbers, and basically what we use on our computers as we see on the internet. And diacritics are basically accents or accent marks that are commonly associated with the Latin alphabet.

gTLD, I think Terri and Andrea have been sharing continuously and numerously on the chat, so I won't be repeating that here. But basically, Latin Diacritics PDP or LD PDP deals with cases like .cafe and .café with an accent. And this working group has actually been making great progress since kicking off in Seattle during ICANN82. And it has actually been determining its work scope very tightly and reviewing all the early input comments from the community. And so, during ICANN83, this working group will be holding two working sessions on Wednesday 11th of June. And during the working sessions, this working group will continue to tackle the charter questions as it works towards formulating its preliminary recommendations.

DANIEL GLUCK

Well, I guess I will just have to curb my enthusiasm over the LD PDP until we get to those work sessions. Another hot topic for the GNSO coming up for this meeting is going to be DNS Abuse. So, what's going on regarding that and accuracy at ICANN83?

SAEWON LEE

That's correct, Dan. Both the topics sure seem to draw a lot of attention. And so, I'm sure the community is highly interested in knowing more about Generic Name-Supporting Organizations' progress on them. The great news is there's been two new small teams on these topics that have recently kicked off. And I believe two weeks ago, I think they kicked off.

And though there will not be any working sessions during ICANN83 on these topics, both teams have been and are working aggressively to provide the GNSO Council on its progress during the GNSO Council's public meeting on Wednesday 11th of June. So, those that are interested, please join the GNSO Council meeting on 11th of June for more specifics. But to briefly update those of you here, the small team on registration data accuracy is currently reviewing the input from stakeholder groups and constituencies that the Council has received.

And they're also reviewing additional sources like INFERMAL Study, which is short for Inferential Analysis of Maliciously Registered Domains. And this is a research project funded by ICANN. And the NIS2 Corporation Group Recommendations, which is short for the Network and Information Security Directive, which in fact is a

European directive for cybersecurity. And this team is obviously aware of the importance of this topic and great interest to many groups, that it plans to propose a path forward with all the necessary inputs on how to make progress on accuracy.

And then now moving on to the small team on DNS Abuse. Similarly, highly aware of the attention, this team is also expected to provide guidance to the Council on what gaps remain in DNS Abuse mitigation efforts, and whether or not policy development is a proper avenue to address those gaps. And they were originally tasked to review past recommendations on this topic, examine contract changes, analyze data like the INFERMAL Study I just mentioned before, as this offers insight into attacker behavior in domain name abuse. I'm kind of wanting some water now because I'm kind of feeling a cough coming, but if you don't mind me going on.

DANIEL GLUCK

I'll take this real quickly. Get that cough out on you. And I'll just say that we have some updates on the RDRS and the Registration Data Request Service Standing Committee. We also have updates on the Standing Committee on Continuous Improvement, but I'm actually more interested right now in hearing about what's going on with the GNSO Council, seeing as we have some important folks in the chat right now. What's going on with the Council at ICANN83? And then we'll let you cough a little bit more after that.

SAEWON LEE

Okay. So, you want to hear more about the GNSO Council first?

DANIEL GLUCK

Let's go to the Council.

SAEWON LEE

Okay, I did get my cough. Thank you so much. So, the Council will be holding one public meeting on Wednesday, 11th of June, as I just mentioned before. And on top of receiving the progress updates from the Accuracy and DNS Abuse Small Teams that I also just mentioned, the GNSO Council expects to receive updates from the Board Readiness Small Team, as well as continuing to prioritize upcoming work.

And if I can go on to the bilateral meeting that GNSO Council will be holding, they will be holding one bilateral meeting with the Governmental Advisory Committee, GAC, on Tuesday, 10th of June. And the Council will start off by introducing GNSO's work and how it is done on a high level. And this is especially geared towards those new GAC members that may not be familiar with GNSO's work or the process. And then they would move on to discussing the topics of mutual interest, which obviously are accuracy and DNS Abuse, and urgent requests to law enforcement authentication.

DANIEL GLUCK

All right. Thank you so much, Saewon. We'll see if you have any questions. But I just want to say for updates on the RDRS and the SCCI, check out those links that Andrea posted in chat to the ICANN Policy Outlook Report, the GNSO Policy Briefing, and a little bit further up in the chat, the resource document that was compiled for this presentation. Thank you, Christina. And we will move on now, because I don't see any questions, to Joke. Thank you so much for joining us today. Let's get into the Country Code Name Supporting Organization.

Now, I just want to point out, if you take a look at our backgrounds, my finger's sort of disappointed me, but if you take a look at our backgrounds right now, that's the Charles Bridge. Prague's a city that's famous for this bridge, other bridges, but notably, not known as the city of bridges like Hamburg or Pittsburgh. Shout out to Steve Chang, if he's watching, which I hope not. But I think the ccNSO is going to bridge a lot of topics and community groups together. So, let's get this started. Joke, we heard Saewon just mentioned DNS Abuse. I know the ccNSO has a standing committee on the matter. Can you give us an update on that?

JOKE BRAEKEN

Yeah. Hi, Dan, and pleased to be with you today, and greetings from Germany. So, in Prague, we will spotlight the bridge, really, between online scams and financial crime versus domain name related abuse. So, that is what the DNS Abuse Standing Committee

has prepared for you. And you will learn more about how ccTLDs address these issues of online scams, financial crime.

But this is really just the beginning of the conversation because at ICANN84, the group will explore further among ccTLDs, law enforcement, industry experts and other stakeholders, how this topic is being addressed by the various stakeholders and how there is potential cooperation possible. So, even though DASC is not about policy development, since 2022, DASC has helped ccTLDs to share insights and strategies to mitigate abuse.

And through initiatives such as the one by DASC, but also Tech Day or TLD Ops, which is the incident response community for ccTLDs, the ccNSO really fosters operational excellence and security and community learning across the regions. So, these initiatives, they bring real world impact to DNS operations and they contribute to ICANN's global mission, a single global internet for all. Russ already mentioned it before. And this goes well beyond policy texts. So, I think the theme of the bridges is clear here.

Speaking about these bridges, what ccTLDs do at ICANN often overlaps with the interests of the gTLD community at ICANN. And that is why we have a joint session in Prague between the ccNSO and the Registry Stakeholder Group, where we will discuss some thematic topics of joint interest, such as, for instance, abuse that Saewon and I just spoke about, but there are also other thematic topics of interest, such as ICANN strategic planning, budget processes, internet governance.

So, there are many overlaps within ccTLDs and gTLDs within the ICANN community, but also outside of the ICANN community. So, let's think about, for instance, how to deal with the impact of regulations, discussions and fora outside of ICANN. And this joint session between the ccNSO and the Registry Stakeholder Group is a first one, and it really aims to explore where and how ccTLDs and gTLDs should collaborate more closely and how that should look like.

DANIEL GLUCK

So, that's an issue where the ccNSO not only bridges together with the registries, but also the Government Advisory Committee and others interested in internet governance.

JOKE BRAEKEN

Yeah, indeed, internet governance is a topic of interest. ccTLDs are very active there. And yeah, you know for sure that there is the WSIS+20 outreach network at ICANN, where you can learn more about WSIS and topics related to that. But I'm here today to spotlight really the ccNSO at ICANN83. So, we'd like to highlight another session by the ccNSO, which is entitled ccTLDs and 20 Years of WSIS Implementation: The Road Ahead. So, you might be aware that ccTLDs are implementing the WSIS action lines for a long time. And there will be some testimonials featured during this session that will explain how they have been implementing those action lines over the past 20 years.

Some ccTLDs are implementing them without necessarily even realizing them. The action lines refer to concepts such as cultural diversity, capacity building, local content, ethical dimensions, international and regional corporations through, for instance, internet governance fora. And yeah, so not only in the ccNSO environment, there will be discussions around internet governance, but there's also a plenary session on Monday on the schedule. And I believe, Dan, that you will speak about that later.

DANIEL GLUCK

I think right after we wrap up here, I'll talk about that. But let's create one last bridge, a bridge that really hasn't connected anywhere, but it's going to connect through the rest of the ICANN community quickly on Universal Acceptance. We haven't talked about that yet, but I know the ccNSO is focused on it.

JOKE BRAEKEN

Yeah, not just the ccNSO. So, there will be a session at ICANN83, and it has, again, another fancy title, Breaking Barriers: How Governments and ccTLDs Advance Universal Acceptance. So here we have the bridge with the GAC. So, together, ccTLDs and authorities in general, they can help overcome universal acceptance barriers and they can jointly drive broader digital inclusion. So, this will be the main theme for the session that we have in Prague.

And yeah, you might know that, again, policy development is out of scope for this committee, but the work of the ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee is really more about code or compliance. It's about connection. And it's really about ensuring that every domain name and every script and every language is treated equally and functions reliably. And I think the real strength of ICANN lies in the interplay of all its supporting organizations and advisory committees.

DANIEL GLUCK

All right. Thank you so much, Joke. And I do want to touch on something that you mentioned quickly before we move on to our next panel. But keep an eye out for a plenary on the WSIS+20 review. It's Monday afternoon Prague time in the GAC room. The SO/AC WSIS+20 discussing group will facilitate a plenary session exploring messaging approaches and opportunities for engagement for the ICANN community. Again, Monday, last block of the day. Link will be in chat shortly, but another one to quickly plug before we move on to the GAC is the How We Meet session that will be discussed the last session of the week on Thursday. Totally last session, How We Meet, North Hall room, where feedback from the recent public comment proceedings will be presented.

All right. Now we get to move on to our last SO/AC today, and Fabien is here to close us out on behalf of the government and Governmental Advisory Committee support staff. Fabien, as some know, I used to temporarily be on the GAC team before moving over

to the technical SO/AC support, but just as I move away, I see myself getting pulled in a bit back for this meeting. Can you refresh my memory and maybe the memory of the folks at home as well, what is the GAC and what do they do?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX

Hi, Dan. I was going to say you never leave the GAC support team. So, the GAC, the Governmental Advisory Committee of ICANN is composed of 184 members. As a reminder, member governments, it also has observers, like indeed the European Broadcasting Union you referred to among the 39 IGO observers. Its role is to advise on the activities of ICANN as they relate to concerns of governments and particularly where ICANN policies may affect public policy issues.

And as far as what the GAC does, it's a good place to start to know what the GAC is working on at any time is its new strategic plan that was adopted during ICANN80. The goal of which, one of the goals of which was exactly that, to communicate to stakeholders on what are those priorities. In addition to reinforcing a shift that we've seen in the GAC's stance from a reactive stance to a more proactive stance to provide timely advice and policy input on those issues.

The strategic plan is obviously public, and its nine strategic objectives are actually translated into almost 60 expected outcomes in an annual plan. I've put the link here and so you can go check that out. And the GAC is currently revising its annual plan for the next yearly period. And so, you have the link and so it's an

interesting place to look at. And so, on that, Dan, if you allow me, I'll jump the gun a little bit here as we're a press for time. I'll highlight a few of those that are particularly relevant for ICANN83.

One is the Future Found of New gTLD Strategic Objective 3. The objective of the GAC here, the strategic objective of the GAC in this area, is to ensure that the next round meets a number of global public interest objectives, including the traditional core objectives of gTLD programs, that is competition, consumer trust, consumer choice, and the security, stability, and resiliency of the DNS.

An additional objective that the GAC cares a lot about is reducing the digital divide, hence the GAC's interest for IDN gTLDs and for application from underserved regions through the Applicant Support Program. And the governments have an interest in the success of that program, how many applications are submitted, and in particular from the LAC and Africa regions. And so, governments are interested also to help in this area with raising awareness for the program and lower any kind of barriers there are to participating in the program and leveraging it to apply for new gTLDs.

And finally, a third area of key global public interest objective is to ensure that the program provides capabilities to address emerging concerns or issues with certain applications or categories of applications. And that's why there's a lot of interest in the GAC for those tools that are the GAC early warnings and the GAC advice as part of the application process. And specifically, for ICANN3, as we

expect the imminent publication of the complete draft Applicant Guidebook, the GAC will be certainly looking into that document for other features of the program, such as the contention resolution mechanisms and the public interest commitments and registry volunteer commitments and the rules that surround those in the application process. So, that's for new gTLDs.

I'll move on now to domain registration data, which is another key priority area for the GAC, Strategic Objective 5 in its plan. And the GAC's objective here is to identify and recommend steps to promote, and I'm reading from sort of paraphrasing the objective here, to identify and recommend steps, to promote and support the continued accessibility and improved accuracy of domain registration information consistent with applicable privacy law.

And so as far as accessibility, there are two particular areas of focus at the moment. Urgent requests for disclosure of registration data. So, those are the requests in very specific circumstances that pose an imminent threat to life, serious bodily injury, critical infrastructure, and child endangerment.

The GAC in this area has proposed two tracks of work to the Board for solving a pending implementation issue since 2019. And we'll certainly be looking for progress of those two tracks in determining an appropriate timeframe for response to those requests, as well as providing a mechanism to authenticate law enforcement requesters in those situations. And each have their own specific

venues that have been reconvened and working, and so the GAC will certainly take stock of progress there.

The other area of interest in accessibility of registration data is the future of the RDRS, which we've talked about already in this webinar. And the GAC is certainly interested and has welcomed the Board's support for maintaining and enhancing the RDRS beyond the two years of its pilot program. And the GAC is certainly tracking the deliberations in the GNSO on the future of the RDRS. Now I'll let you speak, Dan, I see your hand.

DANIEL GLUCK

Yeah, thanks. No, I really do appreciate this, and I appreciate the policy forum after all. A lot of good stuff here. It's all published, you can take a look. But we care about our people more so than we do about our policies. Can you tell us quickly about what's going to happen on Tuesday for our dear friend, Nigel Hickson?

FABIEN BETREMIEUX

Right. It's been quite a difficult time for the GAC, for the ICANN community, and even for the internal governance community with the passing of Nigel, an esteemed GAC representative of the UK, GAC vice chair, and a champion of multi-stakeholder governance. And so, the GAC will indeed honor his memory, and that's going to be on Tuesday evening. And everybody in the community is certainly welcome to join the GAC in this moment.

DANIEL GLUCK

Thank you so much, Fabien. And I'm sorry that we have to cut a bit short on time, but I want to be mindful of the time that we have here, and also the time that our wonderful interpretation team puts behind this, and their fantastic efforts. So, thank you so much, Fabien. And I just want to close us out here, because I'm not seeing any other questions in the Q&A pod. I'm not seeing anything in the chat box. I'm not seeing any hands raised. So, thank you, everyone, so much for joining us. Please fill out that survey Andrea has posted in there. And if, Russ, if you want to close us out at the top of the hour, that'd be wonderful.

RUSS WEINSTEIN

Sure. Thanks, Dan. And thank you to everyone on the policy team who helped put on this webinar, and beyond the policy team. I appreciate it. And thank you to all who listened and asked us questions. That always makes it engaging for us when we have the feedback. So, looking forward to seeing everyone for a productive policy forum in Prague or online. Thank you all. Take care.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]