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ANNUAL  
GENERAL  
MEETING



# ccNSO Working Session

## Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC)

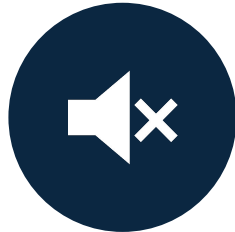
25 October 2025



**SPEAK SLOWLY AND  
CLEARLY.**



**RAISE YOUR HAND IN  
ZOOM TO JOIN THE  
QUEUE.**



**ON SITE? PLEASE  
MUTE YOUR ZOOM  
AUDIO.**



**REMOTE? PLEASE  
TURN ON YOUR  
CAMERA WHEN  
SPEAKING.**

# **Joint working session: ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC) and GAC Universal Acceptance & Internationalized Domain Names Working Group (UA-IDN WG)**

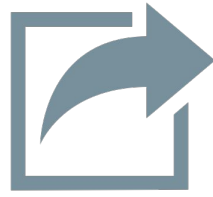
**Saturday, 25 October 2025 | 16:30-17:30 local (UTC +0)**

- 1) Welcome & session goal (5 min.) | Abdalmonem Galila, ccNSO UAC Chair
- 2) Introductions (10 min.)
  - a) ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC) | Regina Fuchsova, ccNSO UAC Vice Chair
  - b) GAC UA & IDN Working Group | Abdalmonem Galila, GAC UA-IDN WG Chair
  - c) ICANN Expert Group | Sami Mohamed Ali, ccNSO appointee
- 3) Recap previous UAC work (5 min.) | Regina Fuchsova
- 4) Exploring coordination opportunities in small groups (30 min.)
  - a) Instructions | Bart Boswinkel, ccNSO Secretariat
  - b) Discussion: 2 rounds
  - c) Reporting back (10 min.)
- 5) Wrap-up (2 min.) | Abdalmonem Galila

# Purpose ccNSO UA Committee (UAC)



Focus on topics related to UA and  
IDNs



Share information by and for  
ccTLDs



Liaise with other groups under the  
ICANN umbrella

# Introduction GAC UA-IDN WG

Established in November 2019 to enable the GAC to better monitor, engage with, and give perspective on issues related to Universal Acceptance (UA) and Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) in the internet ecosystem.

The UA-IDN WG supports the GAC by:

- 1) Providing governmental insight and feedback on UA and IDN matters when they arise in ICANN processes.
- 2) Liaising and coordinating with the other stakeholders in the technical community related to UA.
- 3) Developing a Terms of Reference (ToR) and annual work plans, which are reviewed and endorsed by GAC members
- 4) Participating in calls, meetings, and producing relevant documentation and reports to support decision-making within GAC and the broader Internet community.



# Introduction GAC UA-IDN WG



The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) of ICANN can play a critical role in promoting Universal Acceptance (UA) by influencing national policies, public sector practices, and global internet governance.

UA-IDN WG has 78 members:-

- Representing 52 Entities.
- 5 ICANN/Regions

Terms of Reference is published [here](#)

# Introduction GAC UA-IDN WG

The cooperation between the GAC (Governmental Advisory Committee) and ccTLD (country code Top-Level Domain) managers/registries can be a powerful force to promote:

- 1) Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)
- 2) Universal Acceptance (UA)

Such collaboration ensures both the policy framework (GAC/government side) and the technical infrastructure and operations (ccTLD side) align toward the shared goal of a multilingual, inclusive, and accessible internet.

# Progress by the UA Expert WG and its plan of work

**Sami Ali**

**UA Expert – ccNSO Representative**

**.BH – TRA Bahrain**

# Progress by the UA Expert WG

- Aligns with ICANN's [FY26-30 Strategic Plan](#), by developing guidelines on how to collaborate with external stakeholders to promote UA adoption.
- [Announced](#) in August 2025.
- Objective of the UA Expert WG: To develop guidelines for ICANN about how to encourage and collaborate with the stakeholders towards UA adoption.
- Eleven members, two co-chairs, and one ICANN Board liaison.
- Develop guidelines from August 2025–March 2026.
- More details are at the UA Expert WG [working space](#).

# Progress by the UA Expert WG

- As per the [charter](#), the UA EWG will develop strategies to encourage UA adoption for the following:
  - Big tech organizations
  - Open-source communities
  - Software development professionals and system administrators
  - DNS industry, including gTLD and ccTLD registries, registrars, hosting providers
  - Public sector and intergovernmental organizations
  - Academia
- Completed initial discussion on five of the ten topics. The guidelines are being discussed at <https://github.com/icann/ua-ewg/issues>.

# UAC sessions at ICANN82 and ICANN83

Report: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SIz2t8B5KDUNarOb9Uw3fgzU10-PIGEluCMtY3FJ3gk/edit?usp=sharing>

## ICANN82, Seattle: Drivers for UA Readiness

### Emergent drivers:

Incentives, alignment of stakeholder interests, regulatory pressure, ecosystem benefits

### Consultation on key drivers for UA readiness

Wednesday, 12 March 2025 | 16:30-17:30 local (UTC -7)

Session Chair: Abdalmonem Galila (مصر)

- Coalition for Digital Inclusion, Ram Mohan (CODI)
- Keynote presentation, Jaco Du Toit (UNESCO)
- What is the role of ccTLDs in supporting local language communities?
  - Andrew Lewela (.ke)
  - Maria Kolesnikova (.RU/.Pф)



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## ICANN83, Prague: Breaking Barriers

### Common barriers persisting:

Legacy systems, resourcing, cost, skills, etc.

### Breaking Barriers: how governments and ccTLDs advance UA

Tuesday, 10 June 2025 (13:45-15:00 local, UTC +2)

Session chair: Abdalmonem Galila | ccNSO UAC Chair, مصر.

- Looking back at ICANN82: drivers for UA Acceptance Regina Fuchsová, ccNSO UAC Vice Chair, .eu, .es and .lv
- Barriers to UA Readiness | Bart Boswinkel, ccNSO
- Breaking barriers
  - Sami Mohamed Ali (.bh)
  - Gudrun Poulsen (.fo)

We will use Mentimeter for live audience input during the session, so keep your phone or laptop handy to take part.



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# Time to network!

## AGENDA

Instructions (5 min.)



Round 1 (12 min.)



Round 2 (12 min.)



Reporting back (10 min.)

## STATION TOPICS

|                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Policy leverage</b>    | Regina<br>Joke     |
| <b>Technical Adoption</b> | Abdalmonem<br>Bart |
| <b>Capacity-Building</b>  | Sami<br>Nathalie   |

# Interested in UA and/or UAC?

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## **Become a UAC member**

Join the ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee and be an active part of this effort. The committee is open to *ccTLD* representatives globally.

[ccnsossecretariat@icann.org](mailto:ccnsossecretariat@icann.org)

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## **Use the UAC library**

Consult the library and/or suggest content to be included.

<https://community.icann.org/x/UoAvEQ>

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## **Stay informed**

Subscribe to the dedicated ccNSO UA email list.

<https://community.icann.org/x/qYFREw>

# Thank you!