
Agenda Item 28: Meeting with ICANN Board

Note: A preparatory session for this meeting has been included in the GAC schedule (Agenda Item 17)

Issues

1. Board response to GAC Abu Dhabi Communique
2. Issues sent to the Board by GAC in advance of this meeting
 - (a) Possible issues to raise at this meeting.
 - (b) Response to questions from the Board on GAC priorities.

GAC Action Required

To consider whether to confirm or amend the list of issues to be raised with the Board, and how best to manage the limited time of the session.

Current Position

GAC Abu Dhabi Communique

The Board's response to the GAC Abu Dhabi Communique is in two parts:

- A. Response to GAC consensus advice – [here](#).
- B. Response to follow-up on previous advice – [here](#).

Issues to raise at ICANN 61

Following consultation within the GAC, the following response to issues were flagged to the Board in advance of this meeting:

"Please note that this list should be regarded as provisional only, and subject to further revision by the GAC as more information on particular issues becomes available, as is usually the case in the weeks leading up to an ICANN meeting.

Overarching comment – It continues to be challenging that the Board's responses to the GAC Communique are provided a relatively short time before each ICANN meeting, giving a limited time for internal discussion and for preparing input to the Board such as this one. The GAC appreciates the Board's commitment to improve on this.

GDPR/WHOIS – This is obviously a priority for the GAC (and for the whole community). Given the speed of developments, the GAC can only flag it as an issue for discussion at this point, with specific concerns to be clarified closer to ICANN 61.

Amazon.com – The GAC will receive an update from relevant governments early in its face to face to meeting at ICANN 61. Depending on developments, the GAC may wish to raise some aspects of this matter with the Board.

Protection of IGO acronyms – In their letter of 22 December 2017 to Donuts Inc. concerning Euclid University, the Board Vice-Chair and the President of the Global Domains Division noted that: "The

protections for IGO acronyms remains a topic of discussion between the GNSO and the GAC and is being facilitated by former ICANN Board Member Bruce Tonkin." Can the Board confirm that the facilitated process in this regard has not progressed since ICANN 58, and indicate what are the next steps?

ICANN Draft FY 19 Budget – Clarification has been sought by GAC staff under internal procedures of certain aspects of the published draft Budget and Operating Plan for FY19, including the number of travel support slots for the GAC. Depending on the response to that clarification request, the GAC may wish to pursue the issue at its meeting with the Board.

2-character and country and territory codes at the second level – The GAC would appreciate a response from the Board to the following section of the GAC's Abu Dhabi Communiqué: *Several GAC members expressed their strong concern that the ICANN CEO's response to previous GAC statements on this issue have not addressed the specific matters raised in Section 5 of the Johannesburg Communiqué. This concern was discussed at the GAC's meeting with the ICANN Board in August 2017. The GAC expects further efforts by ICANN Org to address, by appropriate mechanisms and with priority, concerns relating to this issue, as well as initiatives to improve communications between GAC members and ICANN Org.*"

Note: The Board has now responded to this. See above.

Response to questions from the Board re priorities

A: What are your key goals in 2018?

With regard to substantive policy issues, the GAC is aiming to:

1. Ensure that all public policy considerations relevant to implementation of ICANN compliance with GDPR are properly taken into account, including access for ensuring public safety and general transparency.
2. Work with all stakeholders towards a satisfactory resolution of the ongoing dispute concerning the applications for dot.Amazon and related strings.
3. Work through the relevant CCWG process to ensure that relevant public policy considerations are reflected in the CCWG final recommendations, in particular with regard to the issues of jurisdiction, diversity and human rights.
4. Satisfactorily resolve all outstanding public policy concerns regarding protections for IGO and INGO identifiers.
5. Use the High Level Governmental Meeting to be held at ICANN 63 to progress relevant policy discussions and engage with the rest of the community on public policy aspects of ICANN's work.

With regard to operational issues, the GAC is aiming to:

1. Pursue implementation of its joint statement with ALAC on enabling inclusive, informed and meaningful participation in ICANN, including the use of well-established cross-community processes to facilitate engagement in post-IANA transition work such as the Empowered Community and establishing the new IRP arrangements.
2. Work with ICANN and the community in preparing and conducting the High Level Governmental meeting to be held at ICANN 63.

B: What are your most relevant longer-term goals?

With regard to longer-term substantive policy issues, the GAC will be working towards:

1. A sustainable approach to the use of geographic names at the top and other levels.

2. An agreed policy framework for future gTLD rounds, including relevant public policy dimensions, for example consumer safeguards, engagement with developing countries, community-based applications and an agreed role for GAC input.
3. A sustainable and workable framework for Registration Directory Services (WHOIS) that meets the needs of the full range of stakeholder.

With regard to longer-term operational issues, the GAC will be working towards:

1. Further enabling inclusive, informed and meaningful participation in ICANN, including more efficient and effective public comment processes and collective priority-setting among community members.
2. More efficient and effective use of the available time of GAC members, particularly inter-sessionally.

Further Information

[ICANN Board](#)

Document Administration

Title	Meeting with ICANN Board
GAC Brief No.	18-27
Distribution	GAC Members
Distribution Date	20 February 2018