



ICANN

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Why is this Relevant?

One World
One Internet
Everyone
Connected



Why is this relevant?

To reach another person on the Internet you have to type an address into your computer - a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other.

ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world. Without that coordination we wouldn't have one global Internet.

What is ICANN?

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What is ICANN?

- Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
- ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit partnership of people from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet's unique identifiers.

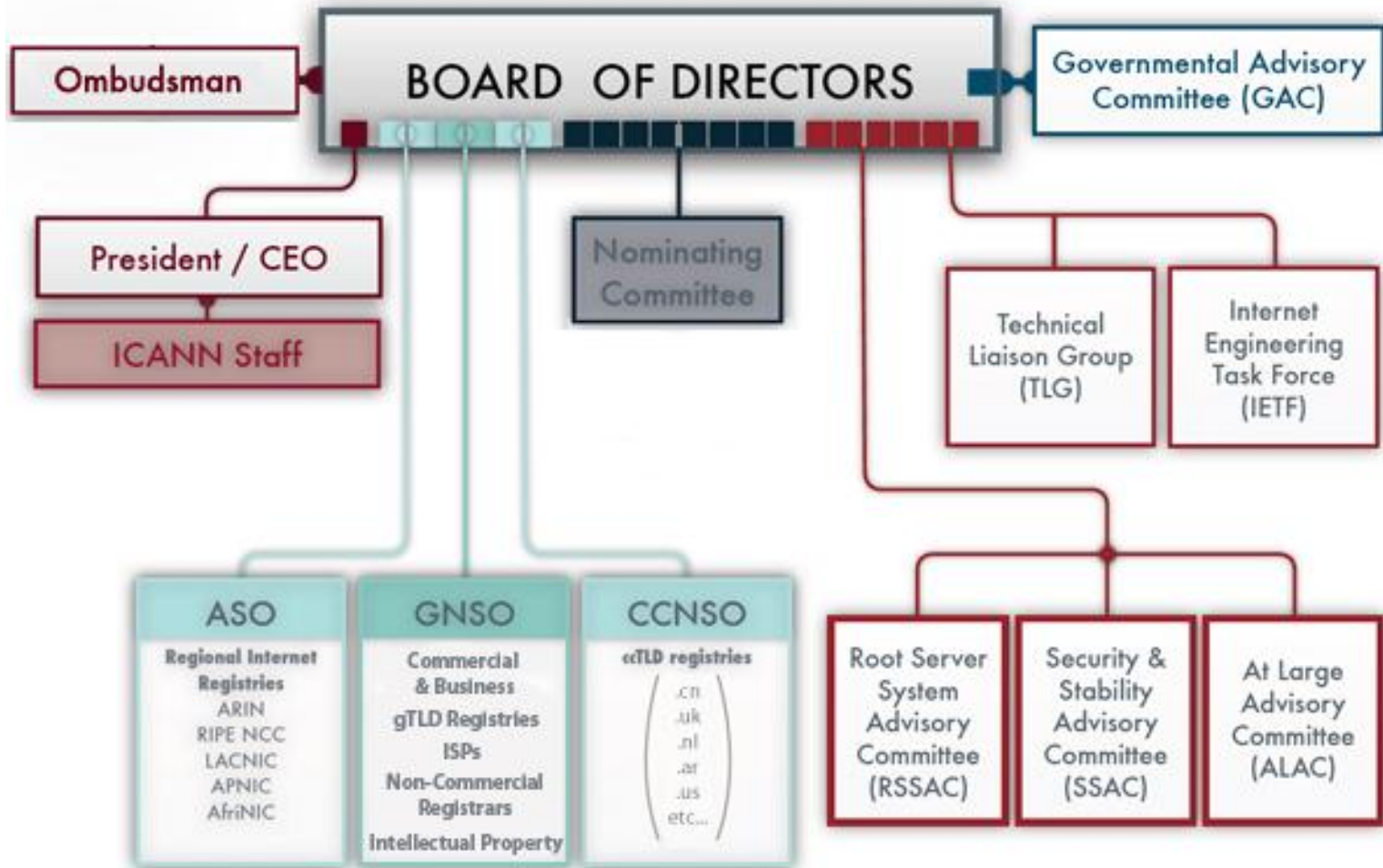
ICANN's Mission

- The mission of ICANN is to coordinate, at the overall level, the global Internet's systems of unique identifiers, and in particular to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems.
ICANN:
 1. Coordinates the allocation and assignment of unique identifiers for the Internet. (i.e. DNS and IP addresses)
 2. Coordinates the operation and evolution of the DNS root name server system.
 3. Coordinates policy development reasonably and appropriately related to these technical functions.

How does ICANN work?



ICANN Structure



Decision-Making @ ICANN

- Bottom-up approach
- Multistakeholder
- Consensus based
- Transparency and Accountability

The Process at a Glance

- Any issue of concern typically raised within one of the supporting organisations (often following a report by one of the advisory committees), is discussed and a report produced.
- Public review.
- Other Groups in ICANN make their views.
- Public review a second time.
- ICANN Board is provided with a report with a list of recommendations.
- The Board then discusses the matter.
- The process is then rerun until all the different parts of ICANN can agree a compromise or the Board of Directors make a decision on a report it is presented with.

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Governments @ ICANN: The GAC



Governments @ ICANN

- As embedded in its Core Values:

“While remaining rooted in the private sector, recognizing that governments and public authorities are responsible for public policy and duly taking into account governments' or public authorities' recommendations.”

The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

- ICANN receives input from governments through the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC).
- The GAC's key role is to provide advice to ICANN on issues of public policy, and especially where there may be an interaction between ICANN's activities or policies and national laws or international agreements.
- The GAC usually meets three times a year in conjunction with ICANN meetings, where it discusses issues with the ICANN Board and other ICANN Supporting Organisations, Advisory Committees and other groups.
- The GAC may also discuss issues between times with the Board either through face-to-face meetings or by teleconference.

The GAC Operational Principles (being reviewed)

Principle 14

- Members of the GAC shall be national governments, multinational governmental organisations and treaty organisations, and public authorities, each of which may appoint one representative and one alternate representative to the GAC.

Principle 15

- Membership is open to all national governments. Membership is also open to distinct economies as recognised in international fora. Multinational governmental organisations and treaty organisations, may also participate as observers, on the invitation of the GAC through the Chair.

The GAC Operational Principles

Principle 16

- Accredited representatives of governments and other public authorities, Members of GAC, have voting rights. Accredited representatives of International Organisations and entities other than public authorities participate fully in the GAC and its Committees and Working Groups, as Observers, but do not have voting rights.

The GAC Operational Principles

Principle 47

- The GAC shall work to achieve consensus; however, where consensus is not possible, the Chair shall convey the full range of view expressed by Members to the ICANN Board.

Principle 48

- The GAC may deliver advice on any other matter within the functions and responsibilities of ICANN, at the request of the ICANN Board or on its own initiative. The ICANN Board shall consider any advice from the GAC prior to taking action.

The GAC Outcomes

- The Communiqués
- The Dakar Communiqué
 - New gTLDs (JAS)
 - Law Enforcement
 - Operational Principles
 - Accountability
 - Meetings with other stakeholder groups

Meetings 2012

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Up-Coming ICANN Meetings 2012

- [ICANN 43 | San José, Costa Rica 11-16 March 2012 – Latin America and the Caribbean](#)
- **ICANN 44 | Prague, Czech Republic 24-29 June 2012 - Europe**
- **ICANN 45 | Toronto, Canada 14-19 October 2012 – North America**

(2013: Asia Pacific - Africa- Latin America and the Caribbean)

How can I participate?

- Identify your stakeholder group and get involved
- Attend meetings and follow online discussions
- Fellowship Program
- GAC members support
- Remote Participation

Everybody is Welcome to Participate



Thank You!

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