



PRSP Pre-ICANN85 Briefing

GDS - Policy Research and Stakeholder Programs

23 February 2026

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The PRSP Team and Our Work

Hello and welcome!

This briefing shares the latest news on work leading up to the ICANN85 Public Meeting.

ICANN's Policy Research and Stakeholder Programs (PRSP) team supports the combined work of ICANN's multistakeholder community, the Board of Directors, and multiple functions within the ICANN organization. This includes planning, reporting, and tracking of implementation milestones, as well as hands-on work with community groups to offer subject-matter research and analysis to inform strategic decision-making and implementation of policies, recommendations, and advice. The team's work upholds the core value of seeking and supporting informed participation in the multistakeholder model as reflected in the ICANN Bylaws.

Section 1 of this briefing describes active policy implementation projects, including the support of six active Implementation Review Teams (IRTs).

Section 2 covers a range of efforts supporting community work on ICANN Reviews and includes updates on the status of implementation work.

For a high-level overview of the planned work and activities of the Supporting Organizations (SOs) and Advisory Committees (ACs) and the policy-related work in progress at ICANN85, please consult the ICANN85 Policy Outlook Report [here](#).

The work of the PRSP team brings together the combined talents, skills, and perspectives of stakeholders from all parts of the world. Together we work through some challenging problems, and we are grateful for the careful thought and constructive inputs we regularly receive from the ICANN community.

We look forward to seeing you at ICANN85, whether you are on site or participating remotely.

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to prsp-contact@icann.org to request our support.

Karen Lentz, VP, Policy Research and Stakeholder Programs

On behalf of the PRSP Team

1. Overview of Policy Implementation Projects

1.1 Current Policy Implementation Projects

This section describes the projects where policy implementation work is currently active. Status information, which is updated quarterly, can also be found within the [Implementing Policy at ICANN page](#).

1.1.1 GNSO – Registration Data Policy (Expedited Policy Development Process [EPDP], Phase 1)

The [Registration Data Policy](#) is in effect as of 21 August 2025.

Implementation of the Registration Data Policy is now focused on one remaining issue: proposed language regarding an appropriate timeline to address Urgent Requests for lawful disclosure of nonpublic registration data. At the direction of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council, Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), and Board, the topic of urgent requests is being addressed in two parallel tracks:

1. Development of an authentication mechanism for law enforcement requests by members of the GAC Public Safety Working Group and
2. The development of proposed language for a response timeline for urgent requests by ICANN org and the Registration Data Policy IRT, assuming an authentication mechanism is in place.

In October through December 2025, ICANN org published for [Public Comment](#) proposed language for a response timeline for urgent requests for nonpublic registration data. The proposal made exceptions for extenuating circumstances. ICANN org is currently sharing an analysis of the input received via Public Comment with the GNSO Council, GAC, and Board to inform next steps.

Additional Resources and Information

- [EPDP Phase 1 Final Report](#)
- Board Resolutions:
 - EPDP Phase 1: [Board Resolution](#) in May 2019 (29 recommendations)
 - EPDP Phase 2: [Board Resolution](#) in June 2021 (four recommendations)
 - Supplemental Recommendation 12: [Board Resolution](#) in February 2022 (one recommendation)
- [Registration Data Policy IRT workspace](#)
- [Registration Data Policy publication announcement](#)
- [CEO blog post on Registration Data Policy](#)
- [Registration Data Policy - Implementation Resources](#)

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- [Announcement on Registration Data Policy becoming effective for Contracted Parties](#)
 - [Letter from GNSO to ICANN org on Urgent Requests work](#)
 - [Public Comment Proceeding: Timeline for Urgent Requests for Lawful Disclosure of Nonpublic Registration Data](#)

1.1.2 GNSO – Rights Protection Mechanisms, Phase 1

Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) are designed to help protect existing trademark rights in the Domain Name System (DNS). The ICANN community proposed and developed several new RPMs as part of the launch of the [New Generic Top-Level Domains \(gTLD\) Program](#) in 2012.

The GNSO Council [initiated](#) a Policy Development Process (PDP) in 2016 to review all existing RPMs in all gTLDs and determine if they fulfill the purposes for which they were created or whether modifications are needed. Phase 1 of the PDP looked at RPMs created for the New gTLD Program.

On 16 January 2022, the Board [adopted](#) the policy recommendations from the Phase 1 PDP and directed a tiered approach for the work based on timing, staffing, and the resources needed for implementation of the recommendations.

ICANN org is now working with the IRT to implement the Phase 1 policy recommendations, which are divided into five separate implementation [groups](#):

1. Recommendations to require updates to existing procedural documents concerning the RPMs – 15 total recommendations; implementation is in progress.
2. Recommendations to develop educational materials to assist users of the RPMs – four recommendations; implementation is complete.
3. Recommendation for stakeholders involved in the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) process to review and update contact data – one recommendation; implementation is complete.
4. Recommendation to collect data concerning the RPMs – one recommendation; implementation is in progress.
5. Recommendation to establish a new compliance mechanism for URS participants – one recommendation; implementation is in progress.

Since ICANN84 in October 2025, the Implementation Project Team has been working to publish the remaining RPM procedural documents in Group 1 and the recommendations in Groups 4 and 5. The current implementation plan targets completion of the Phase 1 recommendations for the end of Q2 2026.

Additional Resources and Information

- [RPM PDP Phase 1 Final Report](#)
- [Phase 1 Implementation Plan](#)
- [RPM IRT community workspace \(Wiki\)](#)
- [Uniform Rapid Suspension \(URS\) homepage](#), which includes the URS educational materials published under Group 2 recommendations.
- [Trademark Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedure \(PDDRP\)](#)
- [Trademark Clearinghouse](#)
- [Public Comment](#) proceeding on proposed implementation documents
- [Public Comment proceeding on proposed implementation documents \(TM-PDDRP, URS, TMCH Requirements\) \(2023\)](#)
- [Public Comment proceeding on proposed updates to the TMCH Requirements \(2025\)](#)

1.1.3 GNSO – Internationalized Domain Names EPDP Phase 1

Background

Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) are domain names formed using characters from many languages and scripts, such as Arabic, Chinese, Cyrillic, or Devanagari, enabling people around the world to use domain names in local languages and scripts. IDNs are encoded by the [Unicode standard](#) and used as allowed by [relevant IDN protocols](#).

The GNSO Council initiated the EPDP on IDNs (EPDP-IDNs) in May 2021 to determine the approach for a consistent definition of all gTLDs and develop policy recommendations, building on the existing New gTLD Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) PDP Working Group (SubPro PDP WG) recommendations, which will eventually allow for the introduction of variant gTLDs at the top-level of the root zone.

The EPDP team divided its work into two phases, with Phase 1 covering topics related to top-level gTLD definition and variant management, and Phase 2 covering topics related to second-level variant management issues.

The EPDP Team submitted its Phase 1 Final Report to the GNSO Council in November 2023, and the GNSO Council approved all 58 policy recommendations.

The Board [adopted](#) the [Phase 1 Scorecard](#) in June 2024 establishing an EPDP-IDNs IRT as a sub-track to the full SubPro IRT. An updated [Scorecard](#) was [adopted](#) in September 2024, incorporating four recommendations into ongoing implementation. In October 2025, the Board [adopted](#) a [Scorecard](#) addressing the two pending Recommendations 7.4 and 7.5 (related to variants and the fee structure). With this action, all Phase 1 recommendations have been adopted by the Board.

In August 2024, ICANN org initiated the IDN IRT as a sub-track to the full SubPro IRT to begin implementation on the EPDP Phase 1 policy recommendations.

Current Status and Next Steps

In collaboration with the EPDP-IDNs IRT sub-track, ICANN org successfully integrated all relevant recommendations into the appropriate sections of the [New gTLD Program: 2026 Round Applicant Guidebook \(AGB\)](#).

The team is currently developing an approach for addressing the remaining Phase 1 recommendations that are not related to the 2026 Round and therefore not intended for inclusion in the AGB.

Additional Resources and Information

- IDN-related outputs under Topic 25 in the [SubPro PDP Final Report](#)
- [Phase 1 Final Report](#) on the Internationalized Domain Names Expedited Policy Development Process
- [IDN IRT Sub-Track Community Workspace \(Wiki\)](#)
- [Root Zone Label Generation Rules](#)
- [New gTLD Program: Next Round Policy Implementation Plan](#)

1.1.4 New gTLD Program: 2026 Round Status Update for ICANN85

Workstream 1's main task was drafting the Applicant Guidebook for the New gTLD Program: 2026 Round. This work was conducted in coordination with the [Implementation Review Team](#) (IRT), which assisted the Policy Implementation team in the drafting process by helping to ensure the Guidebook language represented the intent of the [Final Report on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process](#). The timely publication of the guidebook was a key dependency for ICANN to open the application window in April 2026. Following the [publication](#) of the guidebook, the work of the IRT will continue, though at a much slower pace, to address the implementation of the remaining policy items.

This work is the subject of the [New gTLD Program: 2026 Round Status Update for ICANN85](#), which also includes updates on the Applicant Support Program (ASP) and the Registry Service Provider (RSP) Evaluation Program. All New gTLD Program: 2026 Round Status Updates can be found [here](#).

1.1.5 GNSO – Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues

The [Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues \(PPSAI\) Implementation Review Team](#) was reconvened in June 2024 to support the continued implementation of the Board-approved PPSAI recommendations. The IRT was first tasked with responding to a set

of threshold questions. This was to inform its implementation work in light of notable changes to law, policy, and industry practice since the PPSAI recommendations were first developed by the [PDP WG](#) (2013-15) and since the work of the former IRT (2016-19).

The PPSAI IRT submitted its [package of threshold question responses](#) to the GNSO Council on 4 August 2025, along with further questions for the GNSO Council's consideration.

The GNSO Council responded with guidance on 13 November 2025. The IRT resumed its work on 8 January 2026, and aligned on an Implementation Plan on 22 January 2026, consistent with GNSO Council guidance. The IRT is currently discussing a proposal for how requirements will flow to the various parties when it comes to privacy/proxy service accreditation under the future Consensus Policy. Following alignment on this flow of requirements, ICANN org will draft a Consensus Policy for IRT review and discussion.

At ICANN85

The PPSAI IRT will hold a regular session on Tuesday, 10 March. Interested parties are encouraged to follow this session to get an understanding of the IRT's current work. The session is expected to include finalization of a visual that shows how requirements will flow.

Note: Please see [Section 1.2](#) for the full list and details of relevant policy implementation sessions at ICANN85.

Additional Resources and Information

- Historical Reference Documents
 - [Final Report on the Privacy & Proxy Services Accreditation Issues Policy Development Process \(PDP Final Report\)](#)
 - [Previous IRT Workspace](#)
 - [Wave 1.5 Report](#)
 - [ICANN.org Implementation Analysis of PDP Recommendations](#)
- Current IRT Documents
 - [Call for Volunteers for the new IRT](#), announced on [20 May 2024](#)
 - [PPSAI IRT Workspace \(Community Wiki\)](#)
 - [IRT Threshold Questions Responses for the GNSO Council](#)
 - [Definitions Comparison Paper \(FR vs PPAA\)](#)
 - [Disclosure Frameworks Assessment Paper](#)
 - [Alignment Paper](#)
 - [Accreditation Models Paper](#)
 - [IRT Threshold Questions Responses for the GNSO Council](#)
 - [PPSAI Implementation Plan](#)

1.1.6 GNSO – International Governmental Organization (IGO) and International Non-Governmental Organization Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms and Specific Curative Rights Protections for IGOs

On 30 April 2023, the ICANN Board adopted four recommendations that the GNSO Council approved from the [IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP](#), and five recommendations that the GNSO Council approved from the [EPDP on Specific Curative Rights Protections for IGOs](#). ICANN org initiated the implementation project for these recommendations in Q3 of 2024.

Given the specialized context of the approved policy recommendations, ICANN org approached community members who possess the necessary expertise in the rules governing arbitration proceedings in the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP), Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) and online arbitration processes to form an IRT to support the implementation process. The IRT has met regularly since March 2025 and is currently finalizing updates to the URS and UDRP rules and policies, which ICANN intends to publish for Public Comment in Q1 2026.

At ICANN85

These sessions may be of interest for those following IGO-INGO curative rights:

- GDS: IGO-INGO Curative Rights IRT Working Session;

The IGO-INGO IRT session at ICANN85 will be an open working session to discuss the proposed updates to the URS and UDRP rules and policies and subsequent Public Comment proceedings.

Note: Please see [Section 1.2](#) for the full list and details of relevant policy implementation sessions at ICANN85.

Additional Resources and Information

- [Final Report on the IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms Policy Development Process](#) (July 2018)
- [Final Report of the Expedited Policy Development Process on Specific Curative Rights Protections for International Governmental Organizations \(IGOs\)](#) (April 2022)
- [IGO-INGO Curative Rights Implementation Wiki Space](#)



1.2 Relevant Sessions at ICANN85

Prep Week Session:

Review of Reviews Update

Monday, 23 February

20:00 - 21:30 IST (14:30 - 16:00 UTC)

<https://icann85.sched.com/event/2FSjb/review-of-reviews-update>

ICANN Meeting Sessions:

GDS: IGO-INGO Curative Rights IRT Working Session

Saturday, 7 March 2026

09:00 - 10:00 IST (05:30 - 06:30 UTC)

<https://icann85.sched.com/event/2GwY7/gds-igo-ingo-curative-rights-irt-work-session>

GDS: PPSAI IRT Working Session:

Tuesday, 10 March 2026

9:00 - 10:00 IST (03:30 - 04:30 UTC)

<https://icann85.sched.com/event/2Gwnn/gds-ppsai-irt-working-session>

Review of Reviews

09:00 - 10:00 IST (03:30 - 04:30 UTC)

Thursday, 12 March 2026

<https://icann85.sched.com/event/2Gwkj/review-of-reviews>

1.3 Planned Policy Implementation Projects

A number of policy recommendations pending implementation are described in this section. The PRSP team is currently working on integrating these activities into chartered projects, taking into account the sequencing and allocation of available staff resources, and any necessary dependencies. This section is divided into projects with recommendations that have already been adopted by the Board ([Section 1.3.1](#)), and projects with recommendations still pending Board adoption ([Section 1.3.2](#)).

1.3.1 Projects with Recommendations Adopted by the Board

1.3.1.1 GNSO – EPDP Phase 2A on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data

The EPDP team on the Temporary Specification divided its work into two phases; Phase 1 and Phase 2, where the [EPDP Phase 2 Final Report](#) was published on 24 September 2020.

On 21 October 2020, the GNSO Council adopted [instructions](#) for the EPDP Phase 2A to address the following issues:

1. Differentiation between legal and natural person registration data, and
2. Feasibility of unique contacts to have a uniform, anonymized email address.

On [17 December 2020](#), the EPDP Phase 2A Team published its [Final Report](#) in September 2021. On [27 October 2021](#) the GNSO Council approved all the recommendations by a supermajority vote.

The ICANN Board [adopted](#) the [EPDP Phase 2A recommendations](#) on 10 March 2022. ICANN staff will conduct the implementation of the EPDP Phase 2A recommendations in consultation with an IRT.

Additional Resources and Information

- [Final Report of the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Expedited Policy Development Process](#)
- [ICANN org Policy Implementation Page](#) (EPDP Phase 1 IRT)
- Please continue to consult the [Policy Implementation Status Page](#) for updates.

1.3.1.2 GNSO – Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information

The ICANN Board [adopted](#) the recommendations of the PDP working group in September 2015. Beginning in July 2016, ICANN org has worked with the IRT to produce a [preliminary policy document](#).

Given the connection of the implementation to the evolution of registration data policies and procedures, ICANN org assessed the PDP working group’s recommendations per Recommendation 27 of the [Final Report](#) of the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data EPDP. ICANN org will conduct the implementation of the Translation and Transliteration recommendations in consultation with an IRT.

Additional Resources and Information

- [Final Report on the Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information Policy Development Process](#)
- [PDP background](#)
- [Policy Implementation Status webpage](#)
- [IRT workspace](#)

1.3.2 Projects with Recommendations Pending Board Adoption

1.3.2.1 ccNSO Policy Development Process 4 (ccPDP4) (De-) selection of IDN ccTLD Strings

In 2019, the ccNSO Council tasked a Preliminary Review Team (PRT) with reviewing Country Code Policy Development Process ([ccPDP2](#)) (dated 2013) and evaluating the impact of various related developments. As part of that review, community discussions were held during ICANN64, ICANN65, and ICANN66. As a result of the [PRT review](#), the ccNSO launched the (IDN) ccPDP4 in March 2020. The goal of the ccPDP4 working group was to report on and recommend a policy for the (de-) selection of Internationalized Domain Name country code top-level domain (IDN ccTLD) strings associated with the names of countries, territories, or other areas of geopolitical interest listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard.

At its March 2024 meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico at ICANN79, the ccNSO Council expressed its support for the proposed policy. Following adoption by the ccNSO Council recommendation, the policy was supported by a vast majority (97%) of the votes cast (representing 56% of the ccNSO membership). The outcome of the ccNSO PDP was submitted to the Board in June 2024. Following the submission, a cross-functional team of subject-matter experts was formed to review the [ccPDP4 Board Report](#). That team is currently evaluating the feasibility of implementing the recommendations and continues to support the Board’s ccPDP4 Caucus in its consideration of the proposed policy.

Additional Resources and Information

-
- [ccPDP4 Board Report](#)
 - [Final Report ccNSO PDP4 \(de-\)selection of IDNccTLDs](#)
 - [ccPDP4 Charter](#)
 - [ccPDP4 Wiki Space](#)
 - [Notice of vote: Proposed ccPDP4-IDN ccTLD policy](#)
 - [Annex B of the ICANN Bylaws](#), which describes the ccNSO policy development process

1.3.2.2 GNSO – Internationalized Domain Names EPDP, Phase 2

As noted in [Section 1.1.3](#), in November 2022, the GNSO Council approved an EPDP Team request to divide its work into two phases, with Phase 1 covering topics related to gTLD definition and variant management, and Phase 2 issues pertaining to second-level variant management. The two-phased approach was intended to allow the EPDP Team to focus on the charter questions most likely to impact the implementation of the next round of new gTLDs and avoid potential delays.

The EPDP Team published its [Initial Report](#) for Public Comment in April 2024. Upon closure of the Public Comment, the EPDP Team reviewed all comments submitted and addressed all concerns raised. The GNSO Council resolved on the IDN EPDP Team's [Phase 2 Final Report](#) in November 2024 during ICANN81.

ICANN org has completed its implementation assessment and will meet with the Board IDN UA Working Group to present its findings. The working group will consider the analysis and advise the Board as it reviews and takes action on the recommendations.

Additional Resources and Information

- [EPDP IDNs Phase 2 Final Report](#)
- [EPDP IDNs Phase 2 Initial Report](#)
- [EPDP Team Charter](#)
- [EPDP Wiki Space](#)

1.3.2.3 GNSO – Transfer Policy Review Policy Development Process

On 18 February 2021, the GNSO Council initiated a Policy Development Process to review the Transfer Policy. The Transfer Policy aims to provide a straightforward procedure for domain name holders to transfer their domains from one ICANN-accredited registrar to another if they choose to do so. Additionally, the policy establishes standardized requirements for how registrars should handle transfer requests made by domain name holders.

On 5 February 2025, the Transfer Policy Review Working Group submitted its Final Report to the GNSO Council for consideration.

On 13 March 2025, the GNSO Council approved the Final Report and recommended that the ICANN Board adopt all 47 final recommendations from the Transfer Policy Review Working Group's report. Subsequently, the Recommendations Report for the Transfer Policy Review PDP was transmitted to the ICANN Board for consideration and adoption on 10 April 2025. ICANN org is completing its analysis to inform the Board in reviewing and taking action on the recommendations. The Board is anticipated to soon form a caucus on this topic.

Additional Resources and Information

- [Transfer Policy Final Report](#)
- [Transfer Policy Charter](#)
- [Transfer Policy PDP WG Wiki Space](#)

2. Reviews Program Updates

The Reviews Program encompasses the management of Specific Reviews and Organizational Reviews, including any work that relates to improving the reviews process. Section 2.1 includes the current implementation status of recommendations from prior Specific Reviews.

Additionally, on [19 May 2025](#), the Board directed ICANN org to initiate work to design a reviews program that is fit for the intended purposes of enhancing ICANN's accountability, transparency, and effectiveness. The Board identified a community dialogue to develop a shared understanding of the areas and issues for which reviews will enhance ICANN's accountability, transparency, and effectiveness, as a first step. This work is described below in Section 2.1.2.

2.1 Specific Reviews

2.1.1 Specific Reviews Implementation

PRSP oversees ICANN's implementation of a set of 72 Specific Reviews' recommendations that the Board approved. The tables in this section provide a status overview of these areas of work.

Accountability and Transparency Review ATRT	Periodic review of ICANN's execution of its commitment to maintain and improve robust mechanisms for public input, accountability, and transparency to ensure that the outcomes of its decision-making reflect the public interest and are accountable to the Internet community.								
	There is a set of 15 Board-approved recommendations resulting from the third iteration of the review effort, referred to as ATRT3.								
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	ATRT3 Implementation								
Complete	9								
In progress	6								
Not started	0								

<p>Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review</p> <p>CCT</p>	<p>Review of the extent to which the expansion of generic top-level domains (gTLDs) has promoted competition, consumer trust, and consumer choice. It also assesses the effectiveness of the New gTLD Program’s application and evaluation processes, as well as the safeguards put in place to mitigate possible issues arising in the New gTLD Program: 2026 Round.</p> <p>There is a set of 17 Board-approved recommendations resulting from the first iteration of the review effort, referred to as CCT.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="528 611 963 887"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">CCT Implementation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Complete</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In progress</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not started</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	CCT Implementation		Complete	5	In progress	12	Not started	0
CCT Implementation									
Complete	5								
In progress	12								
Not started	0								
<p>Registration Directory Service Review</p> <p>RDS</p>	<p>Periodic review of the effectiveness of gTLD registration data directory services and whether the implementation of these policies meets the legitimate needs of law enforcement, promotes consumer trust, and safeguards registrant data.</p> <p>There is a set of 15 Board-approved recommendations resulting from the second iteration of the review effort, referred to as RDS-WHOIS2.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="528 1330 963 1606"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">RDS-WHOIS2 Implementation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Complete</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In progress</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not started</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	RDS-WHOIS2 Implementation		Complete	15	In progress	0	Not started	0
RDS-WHOIS2 Implementation									
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In progress	0								
Not started	0								

[Security, Stability, and Resiliency Review](#)

SSR

Periodic review of ICANN's execution of its commitment to enhance the operational stability, reliability, resiliency, security, and global interoperability of the systems and processes affected by the Internet's system of unique identifiers that ICANN coordinates.

There is a final set of **25** Board-approved recommendations resulting from the second iteration of the review effort, referred to as SSR2.

SSR2 Implementation	
Complete	23
In progress	2
Not started	0

Across the four reviews, a total of 52 recommendations are complete and 20 are in progress. More information on the status of implementation may be found in the [quarterly reports](#).

2.1.2 Implementation of Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review Team Recommendations

PRSP is responsible for the implementation of a set of Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review Team (CCT-RT) recommendations. Activities are as follows:

Rec	Subject	Work in Progress
1	Formalizing and Promoting Data Collection	<p>In Q2 2024, ICANN org developed a proposal to implement Recommendation 1 from the CCT-RT Final Report, which calls for ICANN to “formalize and promote ongoing data collection.” The proposal describes a mechanism for ICANN community groups to access and request data from ICANN org for their work. The proposal draws from the Implementation Plan for the CCT-RT’s recommendations, the Board implementation directive, and available capabilities and resources within ICANN org.</p> <p>The proposal is being socialized internally while corresponding mechanisms are being developed for</p>

		successful implementation. Outreach to socialize the model within the community is anticipated to begin in Q1 2026.
13	Contracted Parties survey	<p>These recommendations call on ICANN org to survey the contracted parties for the data necessary to further assess the impact and effectiveness of safeguards.</p> <p>To ensure the most meaningful and useful data is collected, ICANN org consulted with contracted parties from July to December 2023 to gather feedback on survey design. Findings from this consultation were used to develop the contracted parties' voluntary pilot survey questionnaire. The survey was launched in Q3 2025 and data collection was completed in Q4 2025. Data analysis is currently underway. Results and participation rates will be reviewed to assess whether the data brings valuable insights to ICANN org and the community, and whether these data collection efforts should be repeated at regular intervals. The anticipated completion date is Q1 2026.</p>
20		
23		
24B		
8	Domain Name Consumer Surveys	<p>These recommendations call for ICANN to conduct periodic surveys of registrants and end-users in order to better understand consumer choice and trust as it relates to new gTLDs. In Q3 2024, ICANN org launched an RFP to identify a vendor to develop and administer these surveys. In Q1 2025 ICANN org contracted with Echo Research, LLC to conduct this work. Data collection was initiated and completed in Q3 2025. Findings from the surveys will be published on the CCT Metrics community Wiki page in Q1 2026.</p>
11		
13		
26	Determining Costs Required to Protect Trademarks	<p>This recommendation calls on ICANN org to repeat a study at regular intervals to ascertain the impact of the New gTLD Program on the costs related to protecting trademarks in the expanded DNS. ICANN org will implement this recommendation alongside the Domain Name Consumer surveys. This also was included in the RFP process launched in Q3 2024 to identify a vendor to support these efforts. Data collection was completed in Q3 2025 and findings from the survey will be published on the CCT Metrics community Wiki page in Q1 2026.</p>

In addition to the above projects, the PRSP team is also continuing implementation efforts on the following CCT recommendations.

Rec	Subject	Work in Progress
6	Collecting Regional TLD Data	This recommendation calls for ICANN to collect regional TLD-related data. In Q4 2024, ICANN org completed the development of a marketplace framework based on previous regional studies to conduct this work, and contacted data providers to determine how best to collect and analyze the necessary data. Due to resource constraints, competing priorities, and the overall complexity of implementing this recommendation, ICANN org anticipates this work will be completed in Q2 2026.
7	Understanding the Implications of Parked Domains	This recommendation calls for ICANN org to collect data to understand the implication of parked domains. ICANN org is currently drafting a report that examines various definitions of parking and corresponding methodologies for detecting parking. A summary of existing parking data availability, including parking data previously collected by ICANN, and a proposal for ongoing data collection will be included in this report. CCT Recommendation 7 is currently anticipated to complete in Q2 2026.
22	Identifying Security Measures Used When Gathering Sensitive Information	This recommendation requires engagement with stakeholders to discuss best practices to offer appropriate security measures when dealing with sensitive information such as health or financial data. In Q3 and Q4 2023, ICANN org held focus groups with contracted party stakeholders to determine how best to gather this data. Based on findings from those sessions, ICANN org addressed this recommendation by engaging relevant stakeholders in a consultation session on the topics. This recommendation is expected to be completed in Q2 2026.

2.1.3 Review of Reviews Cross Community Group

PRSP supports the Review of Reviews Cross Community Group (Reviews CCG), which was established as a result of the [19 May 2025](#) Board action to initiate work to design a review program fit for the purposes of enhancing ICANN's accountability, transparency, and effectiveness. More specifically, the review program design must respond to the request that a community dialogue on review areas and issues be convened.

On [5 September 2025](#), the Board approved the Reviews CCG [charter](#) prepared by the community. The Reviews CCG – composed of [18 members](#), two [expert advisors](#), and [observers](#) – is conducting its work through a phased approach. At ICANN84, the Reviews

CCG presented a [draft Purpose of Reviews statement](#) for discussion at ICANN84. Building on its fact-finding phase, the Reviews CCG plans to engage the community on a draft design proposal at ICANN85.

Additional Resources and Information

- [Board Resolution on ICANN Reviews Program](#) (19 May 2025)
- [Review of Reviews Cross Community Group Charter](#) (29 August 2025)
- [Board Resolution on Review of Reviews Cross Community Group Charter](#) (5 September 2025)
- [Draft Purpose of Reviews statement](#) (October 2025)
- [Draft Design Proposal](#)
- [Review of Reviews Cross Community Group Work Space](#) (Wiki)
- [Information on how become an observer](#)

2.2 Organizational Reviews

2.2.1 Pilot Continuous Improvement Program

The [Third Accountability and Transparency Review \(ATR3\) Recommendation 3.6](#) calls for Organizational Reviews to be evolved into a Continuous Improvement Program (CIP).

The [CIP Framework](#) was finalized on 2 July 2025 and published on the CIP community Wiki. With the finalization of the CIP Framework, four Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees have begun their respective CIP efforts and are in the process of defining tailored criteria and indicators (Assessment and Prioritization Phase). ICANN org is tracking implementation progress and will continue supporting SO, AC, and the NomCom in their respective efforts.

On 19 May 2025, the Board confirmed that the CIP should progress as planned, and continued the deferral of Organizational Reviews through the completion of one CIP cycle (estimated at three years). After completion of one CIP cycle, the Board will consider further action on the future of Organizational Reviews.

Additional Resources and Information

- [Third Accountability and Transparency Review Team \(ATR3\) Final Report](#)
- [Continuous Improvement Program Project \(CIP\) Wiki](#)
- [Board resolution on ICANN Reviews Program](#) (19 May 2025)
- [CIP-CCG responses to Public Comment feedback](#)
- [CIP Framework](#)
- [CIP Implementation Dashboard](#)

At ICANN85

For those interested in sessions, please see [Section 1.2: Relevant Sessions at ICANN85](#) above.

3. Ongoing Initiatives

The PRSP team continues to support discussions on evolution and refinement of procedures through the Policy and Implementation lifecycle. The initiatives in this section relate to the Consensus Policy Implementation Framework (CPIF) and identify some key areas for additional discussion of updates.

3.1 GNSO – Policy Status Report on Expired Domain Deletion Policy (EDDP) and Expired Registration Recovery Policy (ERRP)

On 12 June 2024 the GNSO Council passed a [resolution](#) requesting ICANN org to deliver a Policy Status Report covering two existing policies, as follows:

1. *The GNSO Council requests a Policy Status Report (PSR) for the Expedited [\[Expired\] Domain Deletion Policy \(EDDP\)](#) and Expedited [\[Expired\] Registration Recovery Policy \(ERRP\)](#).*
2. *The GNSO Council notes immediate work is not needed on this PSR and would request either (i) delivery of the PSR or (ii) confirmation that work on the PSR has begun and an updated estimate on when the PSR should be delivered, in one (1) year from the passage of this motion.*
3. *The GNSO Council leadership directs GNSO Policy Support Staff to notify ICANN org Global Domains & Services of the request for a PSR on the EDDP and ERRP.*

As a result, on 15 May 2025, ICANN org confirmed to the GNSO Council that the work had started on the PSR, and the fact that it had been published for [Public Comment](#) from 15 May - 30 June 2025. The PSR, now updated to take Public Comments into account, was discussed at the GNSO Working Session (1 of 2) at ICANN84 (see Section 1.2 above for session details). This helped inform the GNSO Council's deliberations on whether to undertake additional policy work on the expiration policies. The GNSO Council decided to discuss this issue further in future GNSO Council meetings, and is expected to reach a decision at such future meetings on the question of whether new policy work is required to update or change the existing expiration policies.



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