ICANN | GAC
Governmental Advisory Committee

PUBLIC SAFETY WORKING GROUP (PSWG)
Work Plan – 2020-2021

STRATEGIC GOAL 1 - DEVELOP DNS ABUSE AND CYBERCRIME MITIGATION CAPABILITIES

Develop capabilities of the ICANN and Law Enforcement communities to prevent and mitigate abuse involving the DNS as a key resource

	Work Item	Description	Topic Lead
1.1	**Implementation of CCT Review Recommendations for Subsequent Rounds of New gTLDs**	Monitor and contribute to the consideration and implementation of recommendations issued by the Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team as they relate to public safety and consumer protection.	Laureen Kapin (US FTC)
1.2	**Seek and Support Improved Registries Prevention and Response to Security Threats**	Improve proactive steps registries may take against Security Threats and supporting registration practices such as Domain Generated by Algorithms (DGA). Assess effectiveness of Specification 11 3b, its related Advisory and the Security Framework for Registries to Respond to Security Threats in implementing the GAC Beijing Communique Safeguards Advice.	Gabriel Andrews (US FBI)
1.3	**Seek and Support Registrars Adoption of Proactive Anti-Abuse Measures**	Seek elevation of contractual standards and practices including: registrant validation (for the entire resale chain), certification and consideration of bulk registrants as legal entities, and removal of DGA service offerings. Encourage and monitor adoption of voluntary frameworks aimed at addressing DNS Abuse.	Gabriel Andrews (US FBI)
1.4	**Survey and Review ccTLD Best Practices for adoption in the gTLD space**	Survey and review ccTLD best practices in mitigating security threats such as abuse prediction, registrant validation and verification policies, with a view to promote their adoption and to elevate contractual standards in the gTLD space.	Tjabbe Bos (European Commission)
1.5	**Ensure Enforceability and Effective Enforcement of Safeguards Provisions in ICANN Contracts**	Monitor and contribute to implementation of relevant policies and review recommendations to ensure that related requirements in Registries and Registrars contracts are enforceable. Monitor compliance audit and complaint reporting and assess effectiveness of enforcement and remediation procedures, including in addressing patterns of recurrent non-compliance.	Laureen Kapin (US FTC)

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	Work Item	Description	Topic Lead
1.6	**Improve DNS Abuse Data Collection, Quantification, Reporting and Use by Relevant Stakeholders**	Seek the evolution of ICANN's Domain Abuse Activity Reporting (DAAR) to ensure effective registration and abuse data collection, accurate quantification of Security Threats, and enable appropriate use of granular data and reporting by all relevant stakeholders, including law enforcement, registries and registrars.	Gabriel Andrews (US FBI)
1.7	**Improve Domain Seizure And Forfeiture Process, in Coordination With Contracted Parties**	Work with Contracted Parties and ICANN org to establish standard procedures for the management of domain names seized as part of law enforcement investigations, and for which Contracted Parties may continue to bear a financial responsibility.	Gabriel Andrews (US FBI)
1.8	**Follow-up on Previous GAC Advice Regarding the Mitigation of DNS Abuse**	Follow-up as appropriate on the Hyderabad and Copenhagen Communiqués aimed at assessing the effectiveness of previous GAC Advice in relation to the 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement and the New gTLD Registry Agreement. The GAC also sought to assess the contribution of the SSR and Contractual Compliance departments of ICANN org to the prevention and mitigation of domain name abuse.	Gabriel Andrews (US FBI)
1.9	**Assess Impact and Risks of DNS Encryption (DNS over HTTPS/TLS) on DNS Abuse Mitigation**	Engage in ICANN Community efforts to evaluate the impact of the adoption of DNS encryption technologies such as HTTPS (DoH) and DNS over TLS (DoT), in particular as it relates to current capabilities to mitigate DNS Abuse.	Katie Noyes (US FBI) Janos Drienyovszki (European Commission)

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STRATEGIC GOAL 2 - PRESERVE AND IMPROVE DOMAIN REGISTRATION DATA EFFECTIVENESS

Ensure continued accessibility and improved accuracy of domain registration information that is consistent with applicable privacy regulatory frameworks

	Work Item	Description	Topic Lead
2.1	**Swift Implementation of New gTLD Registration Data Policy** (EPDP Phase 1)	Monitor and contribute to the implementation of the EPDP Phase 1 policy recommendations, including via participation in the Implementation Review Team.	Laureen Kapin (US FTC)
2.2	**Effective Interim Mechanisms for Reasonable Access to Non-Public WHOIS Data** (EPDP Phase 1 Rec. 18)	Ensure that the interim requirements for Registries and Registrars to provide reasonable access to non-public registration data is implemented in a consistent and efficient way, that meets the investigative needs of law enforcement agencies, other public authorities, cybersecurity practitioners and other legitimate third parties. Where needs are not met, ensure there are adequate mechanisms in place to report complaints and enforce compliance.	Laureen Kapin (US FTC)
2.3	**Swift Implementation of a Standardized System for Access and Disclosure to Non-Public gTLD Registration Data** (EPDP Phase 2)	Monitor and contribute to policy development and subsequent implementation efforts towards the timely delivery of the future Standardized System for Access and Disclosure (SSAD) to non-public gTLD Registration Data that is compliant with relevant data protection law.	Chris Lewis-Evans (UK NCA)
2.4	**Accreditation of Public Authorities into Future Systems for Access to gTLD Domain Registration Data**	Support implementation by ICANN and relevant authorities at national/territory level, of the GAC-approved Accreditation Principles for Public Authorities to access any future Standardized System for Access and Disclosure of Non-Public Data.	Chris Lewis-Evans (UK NCA)
2.5	**Long Term Access to Non-Public Domain Registration Data for Law Enforcement and Cybersecurity Practitioners**	Ensure that the evolving needs of law enforcement and their cybersecurity partners are met through all relevant policies, systems and mechanisms available or envisioned, including through evolutions and improvements where necessary.	Chris Lewis-Evans (UK NCA)
2.6	**Improve gTLD Registration Data Accuracy**	Pursue and monitor efforts aimed at improving the overall accuracy of WHOIS data based on regular assessments and reporting of inaccuracy, appropriate compliance enforcement and implementation of industry best practices.	Tjabbe Bos (European Commission)

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	Work Item	Description	Topic Lead
2.7	**Public Access to Legal Persons Registration Data** (Legal vs. Natural)	Monitor and contribute to efforts, including implementation of EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 17, to assess the feasibility of public availability of non-personal information of legal entities involved in gTLD domain registrations. Follow-up on relevant GAC Advice to revisit the interim redaction of such data, which is not required under applicable data protection law.	Laureen Kapin (US FTC)
2.8	**Seek Reverse Lookup Capabilities for Law Enforcement Investigations**	Pursue the development and implementation of appropriate policies, processes and technologies, in the DNS ecosystem, to enable law enforcement to identify all assets controlled by nefarious individuals and entities under investigation.	Gabriel Andrews (US FBI)
2.9	**Implementation of the Privacy/Proxy Services Accreditation Policy**	Seek to resume and contribute to the implementation of an accreditation framework for Privacy/Proxy services providers, with appropriate disclosure requirements ensuring effective access by law enforcement to shielded registrant information.	TBD
2.10	**Collection and Publication of The Chain of Parties Responsible For gTLD Domain Name Registrations**	Monitor and pursue the implementation of CCT Review recommendation 17, including the collection and publication of registrars' reseller information, through relevant policy development processes and contractual negotiations between ICANN and contracted parties, as appropriate.	TBD
2.11	**Performance of ICANN's Mission in Relation to Domain Registration Data Services**	Monitor ICANN's performance in relation to its key bylaw responsibilities regarding accuracy, access and protection of gTLD registration data. Pursue implementation of relevant recommendations of the bylaws-mandated WHOIS-RDS Reviews.	Cathrin Bauer-Bulst (European Commission)

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STRATEGIC GOAL 3 - EFFECTIVE PSWG OPERATIONS AND STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS

Ensure PSWG operations remain effective and consistent in meeting the needs of the GAC and public safety agencies.

	Work Item	Description	Topic Lead
3.1	**Maintain PSWG Work Plan**	Follow execution and adjustment of the work plan, consistent with PSWG Terms of Reference, GAC priorities, and ICANN Bylaws, taking into account current challenges and opportunities in ICANN Community processes.	Fabien Betremieux (GAC Support Team)
3.2	**Reporting and Coordination with the GAC**	Ensure alignment of PSWG activities with GAC guidance and priorities. Maintain GAC/PSWG leadership coordination. Coordinate GAC endorsement of key PSWG work products.	Laureen Kapin (US FTC) Cathrin Bauer-Bulst (European Commission)
3.2	**Develop and Maintain Talking Points**	Identify current and future policy issues and opportunities in support of the operational needs of public safety agencies. Seek expert input to inform contributions to the GAC and the ICANN Community.	Gregory Mounier (Europol)
3.3	**Develop PSWG Documentation for Effective ICANN Meetings**	Ensure continuous improvement of PSWG schedule and briefing documentation to facilitate PSWG Members' interactions with relevant ICANN stakeholders and processes during ICANN meetings.	Fabien Betremieux (GAC Support Team)
3.4	**Develop PSWG Collaboration Resources**	Develop PSWG usage of the GAC Website and other relevant resources to ensure ease of access to relevant public and private documentation	Fabien Betremieux (GAC Support Team)
3.5	**Contribute PSWG Experience into Guidelines for GAC Working Groups**	Follow and contribute to the work of the GAC Operational Principle Evolution Working Group, in particular regarding the development of Guidelines for GAC Working Group	Laureen Kapin (US FTC)
3.6	**Develop Participation and Leadership in PSWG Activities**	Provide regular and predictable structure of meetings to address the needs of interested GAC and PSWG stakeholders. Provide opportunities for participation at varying levels of expertise into PSWG work and initiatives.	Laureen Kapin (US FTC)

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