GAC Strategic Planning

ICANN79

3 March 2024

ICANN | GAC
Governmental Advisory Committee

Agenda

1. **Why a Strategic Plan for the GAC ?**

2. **Approach to Developing a GAC Strategic Plan**

   ○ Q&A

3. **Step 1: Proposed Strategic Priority Areas**

   ○ Q&A

4. **Step 2: Strategic Objectives for Each Priority Area**

   ○ Q&A

5. **Next Steps**

Why a Strategic Plan for the GAC ?

- **For a more proactive GAC**

  - The GAC's role is naturally reactive as provided under the ICANN's Bylaws

  - The GAC has increasingly taken a proactive role, participating in community policy processes, adopting principles and statements, in addition to proving Advice.

  - This approach should be extended across all areas of governments interest as it relates to the Internet's Unique Identifiers

- **For increased readiness to provide timely and effective advice and policy input**

  - Identifying the GAC's priorities ahead of time supports appropriate focus of GAC activities

  - Defining expected outcomes drives GAC contributions at appropriate junctures

- **For communicating the GAC's priorities with governments and stakeholders**

  - Knowledge of GAC priorities, objectives and expected outcomes should help set expectations with ICANN stakeholders and facilitate consensus building were possible

  - A Strategic Plan may help higher levels of governments understand and interact with the GAC and ICANN policy

Approach to Developing a GAC Strategic Plan

Strategic Planning **can be an elaborate, extensive process**, as mandated in ICANN's bylaws

a. **Adoption of ICANN Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2021 – 2025**

Whereas, under the ICANN Bylaws Section 22.5(b), ICANN is obligated to develop a Five-Year Strategic Plan for the Fiscal Years 2021-2025, as the first Strategic Plan developed after the IANA Stewardship Transition.

Whereas, following community, Board, and ICANN organization inputs received between November 2017 and June 2018 on key trends anticipated to impact ICANN in the coming years, the Board conducted an analysis and found significant similarities across all the trend sessions, that naturally converged into five primary focus areas: security; governance; unique identifier systems; geopolitics; and financials.

Whereas, these trends were shared with the community leading into and during ICANN63 in Barcelona. Coming out of ICANN63 and following dialogue with and additional input from the community, the Board developed a draft of ICANN's strategic plan for fiscal years 2021-2025, to present for community consultation. This document included ICANN's mission, a vision of the future state of ICANN, and a set of strategic objectives and goals, along with desired outcomes and associated risks.

Whereas, a Draft Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2025 was posted for public comment in accordance with the Bylaws on 20 December 2018.

Resolved (2019.06.23.09), the Board adopts the ICANN Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2021–2025.

Approach to Developing a GAC Strategic Plan

The GAC Operating Principles do not prescribe (or prevent) a specific approach

The GAC Chair and Vice-Chairs proposes a **streamlined and agile process**

Principle 1

The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) shall consider and provide advice on the activities of ICANN as they relate to concerns of governments, multinational governmental organisations and treaty organisations, and distinct economies as recognised in international fora, including matters where there may be an interaction between ICANN's policies and various laws and international agreements and public policy objectives.

Principle 2

The GAC shall provide advice and communicate issues and views to the ICANN Board. The GAC is not a decision making body. Such advice given by the GAC shall be without prejudice to the responsibilities of any public authority with regard to the bodies and activities of ICANN, including the Supporting Organisations and Councils.

Principle 3

The GAC shall report its findings and recommendations in a timely manner to the ICANN Board through the Chair of the GAC.

Principle 4

The GAC shall operate as a forum for the discussion of government and other public policy interests and concerns.

Principle 44

The Secretariat of the Governmental Advisory Committee shall undertake such administrative, coordination, liaison and research activities as shall be necessary for the efficient functioning of the GAC. The Secretariat shall facilitate communications among the GAC Chair, Vice Chairs, other Officers, the GAC membership and with ICANN. The Secretariat participates in all GAC meetings.

Principle 47

The GAC works on the basis of seeking consensus among its membership. Consistent with United Nations practice[1], consensus is understood to mean the practice of adopting decisions by general agreement in the absence of any formal objection. Where consensus is not possible, the Chair shall convey the full range of views expressed by members to the ICANN Board.
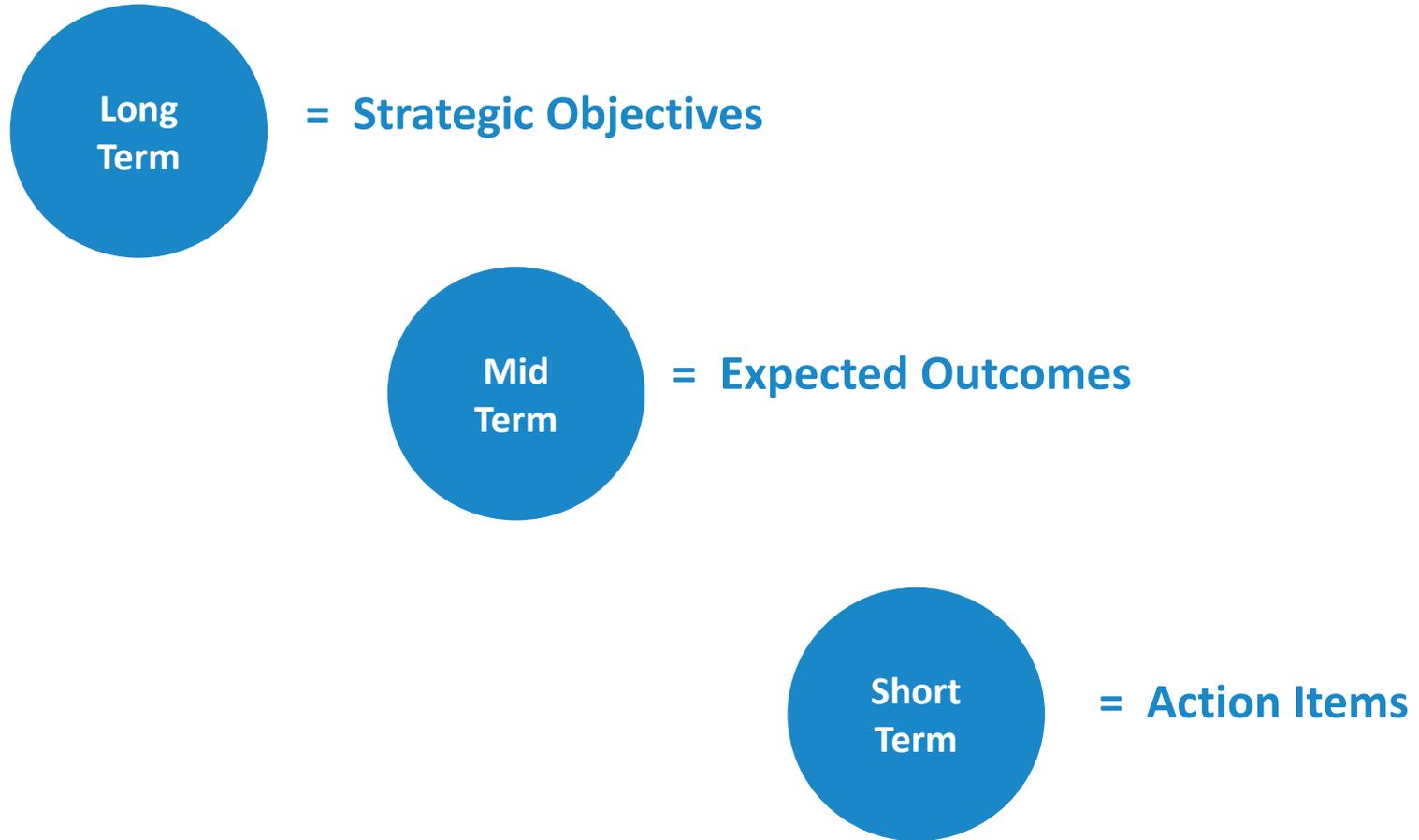
Principle 48

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.

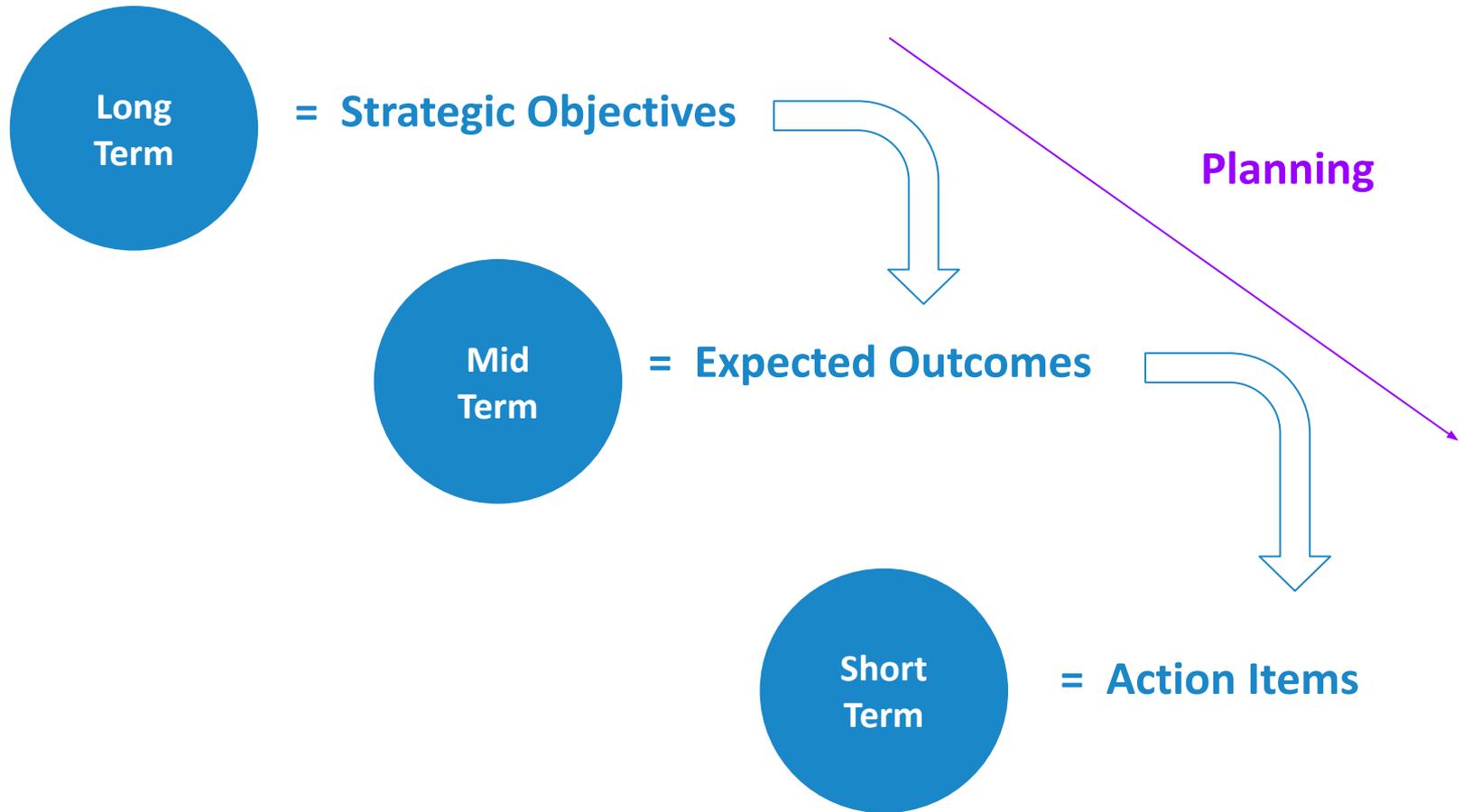# Approach to Developing a GAC Strategic Plan
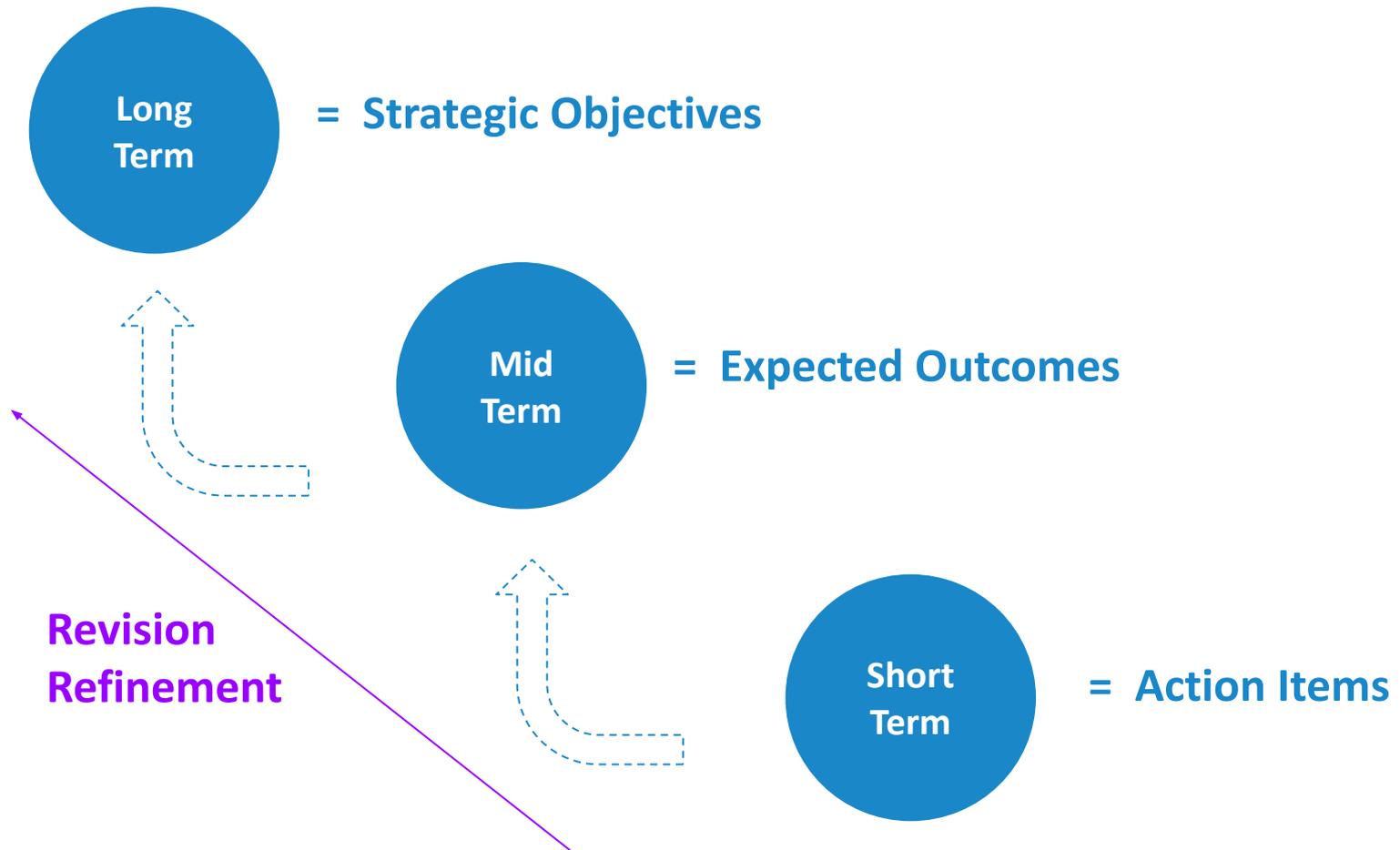
Differents horizons of time require different perspectives

Long Term = **Strategic Objectives**

Mid Term = **Expected Outcomes**

Short Term = **Action Items**

Approach to Developing a GAC Strategic Plan

Strategic Objectives <u>determine</u> *Expected Outcomes*, which <u>determine</u> *Action Items (and Plans)*

Long Term = **Strategic Objectives**

Planning

Mid Term = **Expected Outcomes**

Short Term = **Action Items**
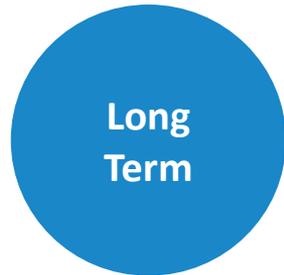
Approach to Developing a GAC Strategic Plan

Action Items <u>inform</u> *Expected Outcomes, which* <u>inform</u> *Strategic Objectives*

Long Term = **Strategic Objectives**

Mid Term = **Expected Outcomes**
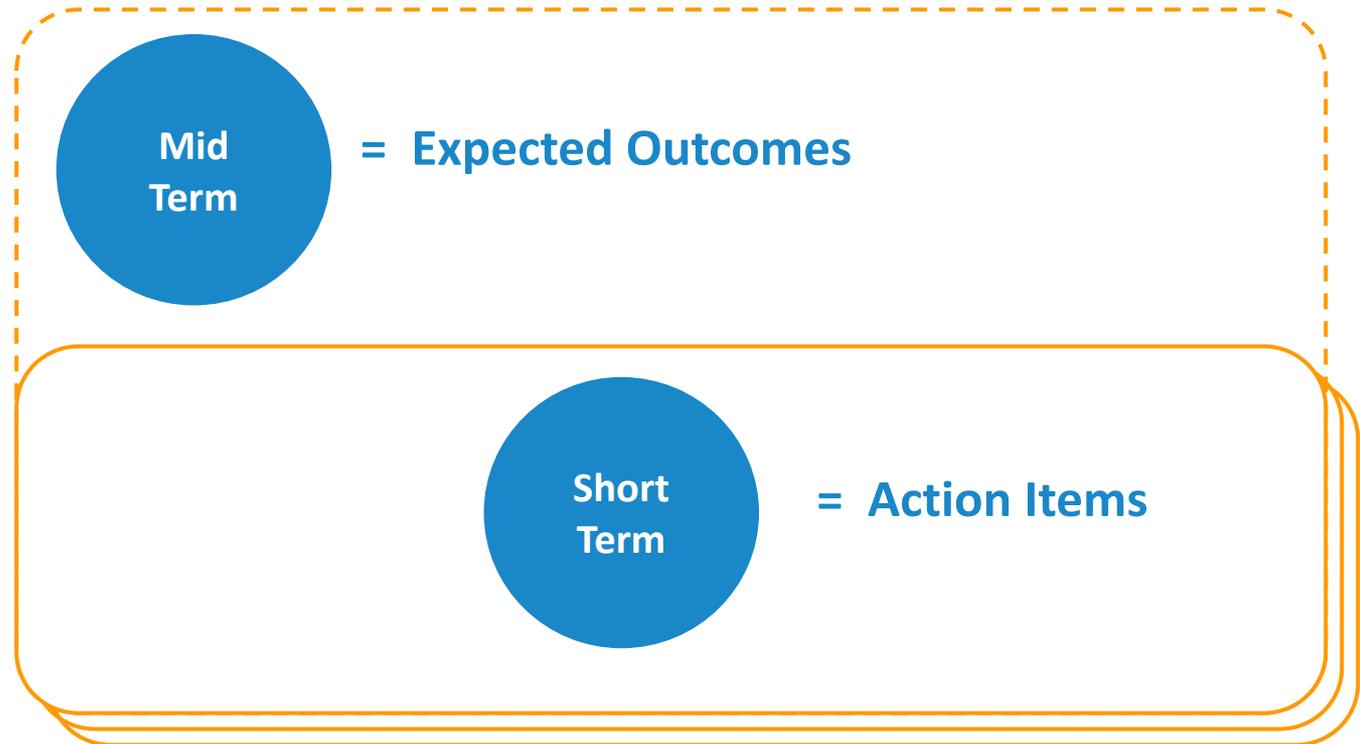
Short Term = **Action Items**

Revision Refinement

Approach to Developing a GAC Strategic Plan

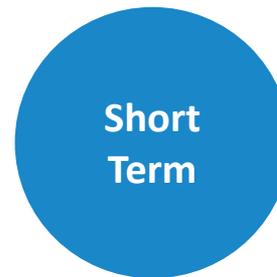The GAC currently has several planning documents and tools, that may span several horizons

Long Term = **Strategic Objectives**

Mid Term = **Expected Outcomes**

Examples:

GAC Action/Decision Radar

GAC Working Group Work Plans

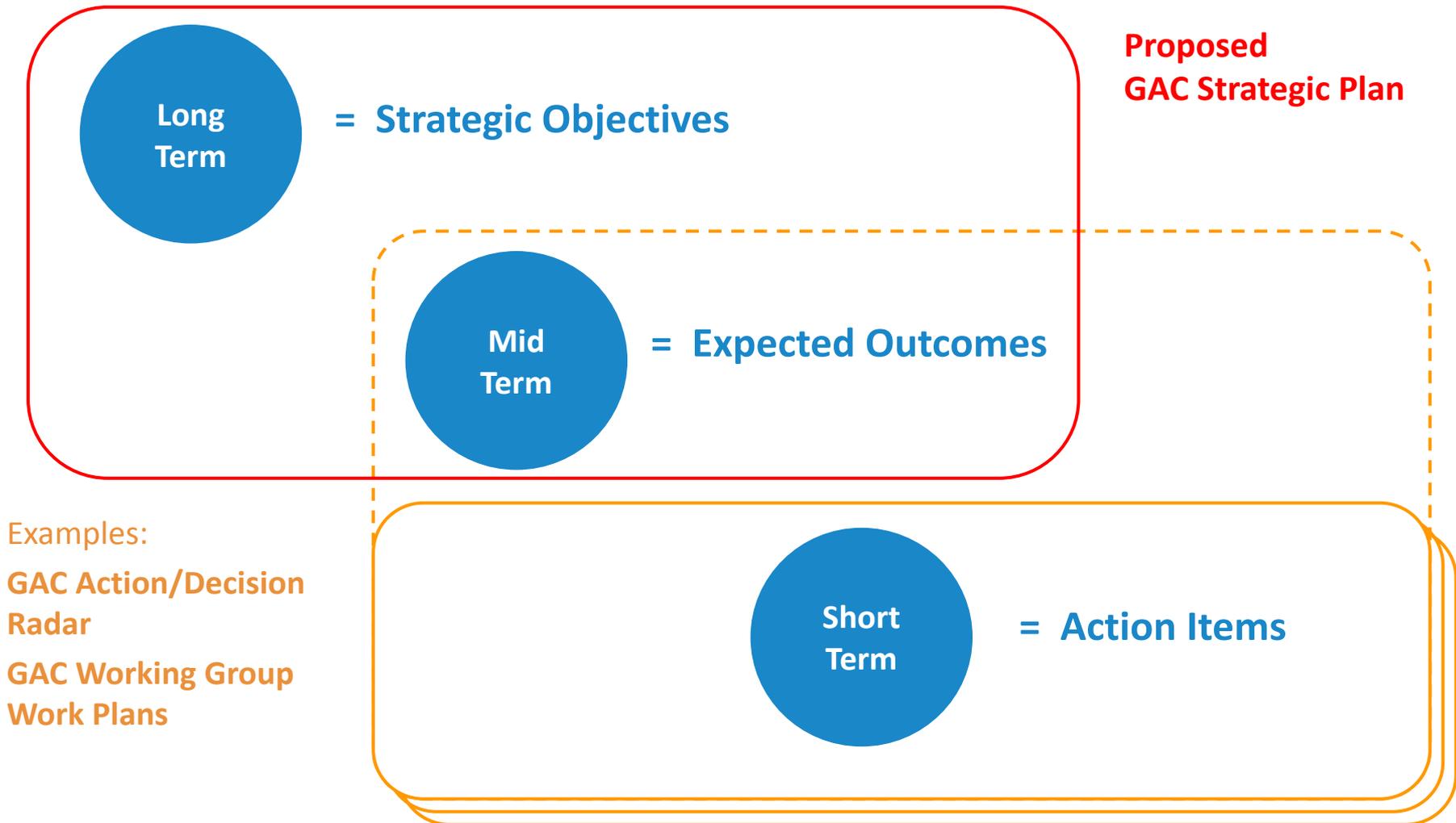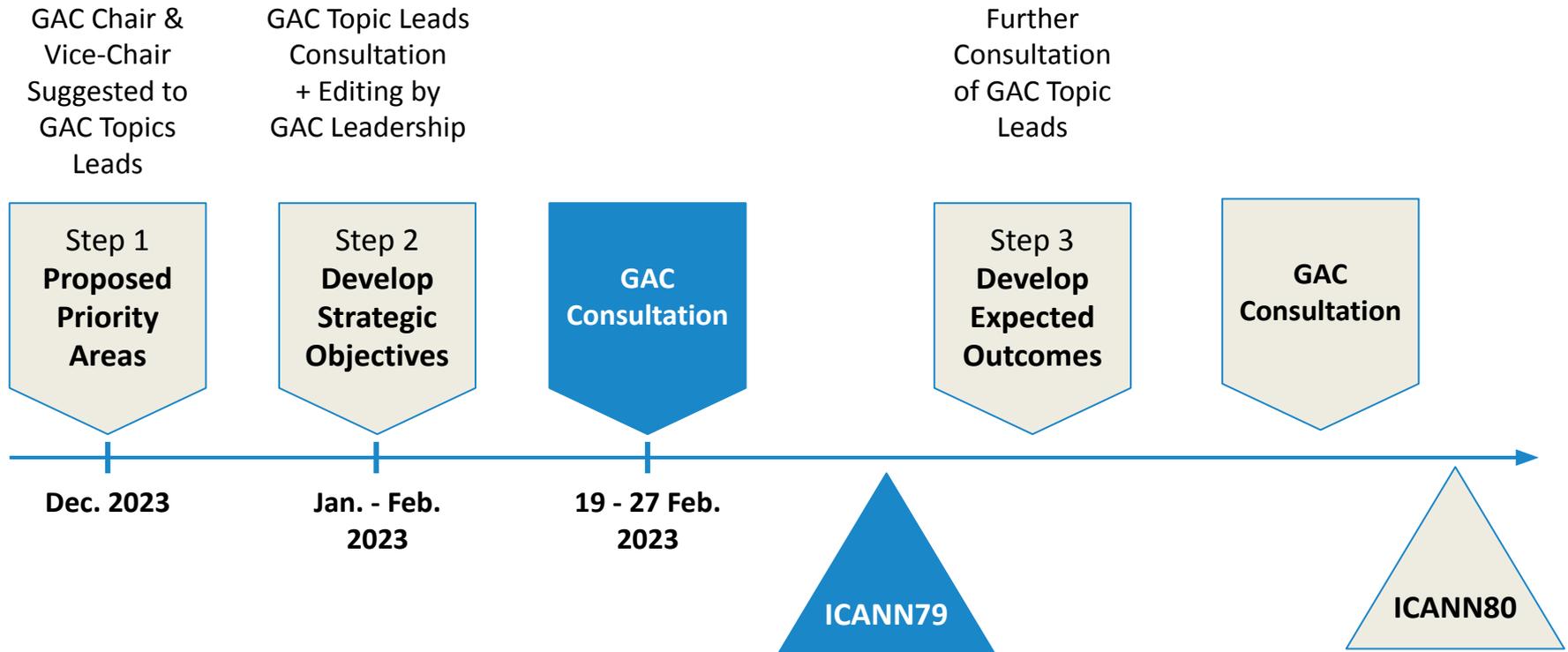**Short Term** = **Action Items**

Approach to Developing a GAC Strategic Plan

The GAC Strategic Plan would incorporate Strategic Objectives and Expected Outcomes

Long Term = **Strategic Objectives**

Proposed GAC Strategic Plan

Mid Term = **Expected Outcomes**

Examples:

GAC Action/Decision Radar

GAC Working Group Work Plans

Short Term = **Action Items**

Approach to Developing a GAC Strategic Plan

Timeline for Developing a GAC Strategic Plan

GAC Chair & Vice-Chair Suggested to GAC Topics Leads	GAC Topic Leads Consultation + Editing by GAC Leadership		Further Consultation of GAC Topic Leads	
Step 1 **Proposed Priority Areas**	Step 2 **Develop Strategic Objectives**	**GAC Consultation**	Step 3 **Develop Expected Outcomes**	**GAC Consultation**
Dec. 2023	**Jan. - Feb. 2023**	**19 - 27 Feb. 2023**		

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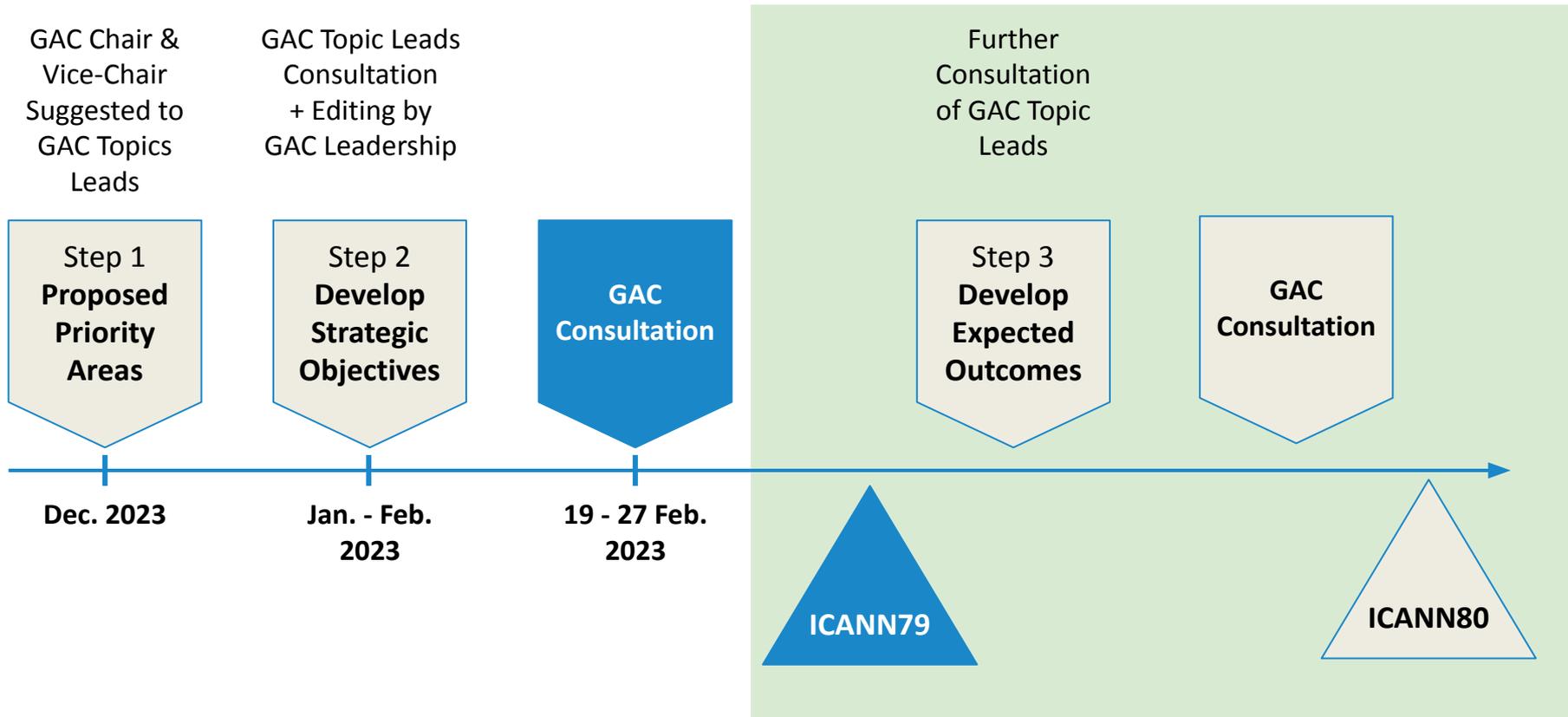
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Proposed Strategic Priority Areas

1. **Role of Governments in ICANN**

2. **Effectiveness of the Governmental Advisory Committee**

3. **Future Rounds of New gTLDs**

4. **DNS Abuse**

5. **Domain Registration Data**

6. **Universal Acceptance**

7. **Impact of New Technology on Internet Unique Identifiers**

8. **Internet Governance**

Step 2: Strategic Objectives for Each Priority Area

Refer to the [Draft GAC Strategic Objectives](#) (17 February 2024) shared for GAC Review until 27 February

Next Steps

GAC Chair & Vice-Chair Suggested to GAC Topics Leads

GAC Topic Leads Consultation + Editing by GAC Leadership

Further Consultation of GAC Topic Leads

Step 1
Proposed Priority Areas

Step 2
Develop Strategic Objectives

GAC Consultation

Step 3
Develop Expected Outcomes

GAC Consultation

Dec. 2023

Jan. - Feb. 2023

19 - 27 Feb. 2023

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ICANN79 San Juan Communiqué

- **Possible text for GAC Internal Matters:**

III. Internal Matters ▼

4. GAC Operational Matters

The GAC discussed the development of the GAC Strategic Plan and adopted set of priority areas and corresponding GAC Strategic Objectives. The GAC will continue developing an initial set of Expected Outcomes for each of these objectives, in consultation with the GAC Topics Leads, GAC Chair and Vice-Chairs, for further consideration by ICANN80.