Registration Directory Service (RDS)

Roadmap of RDS Related Activities
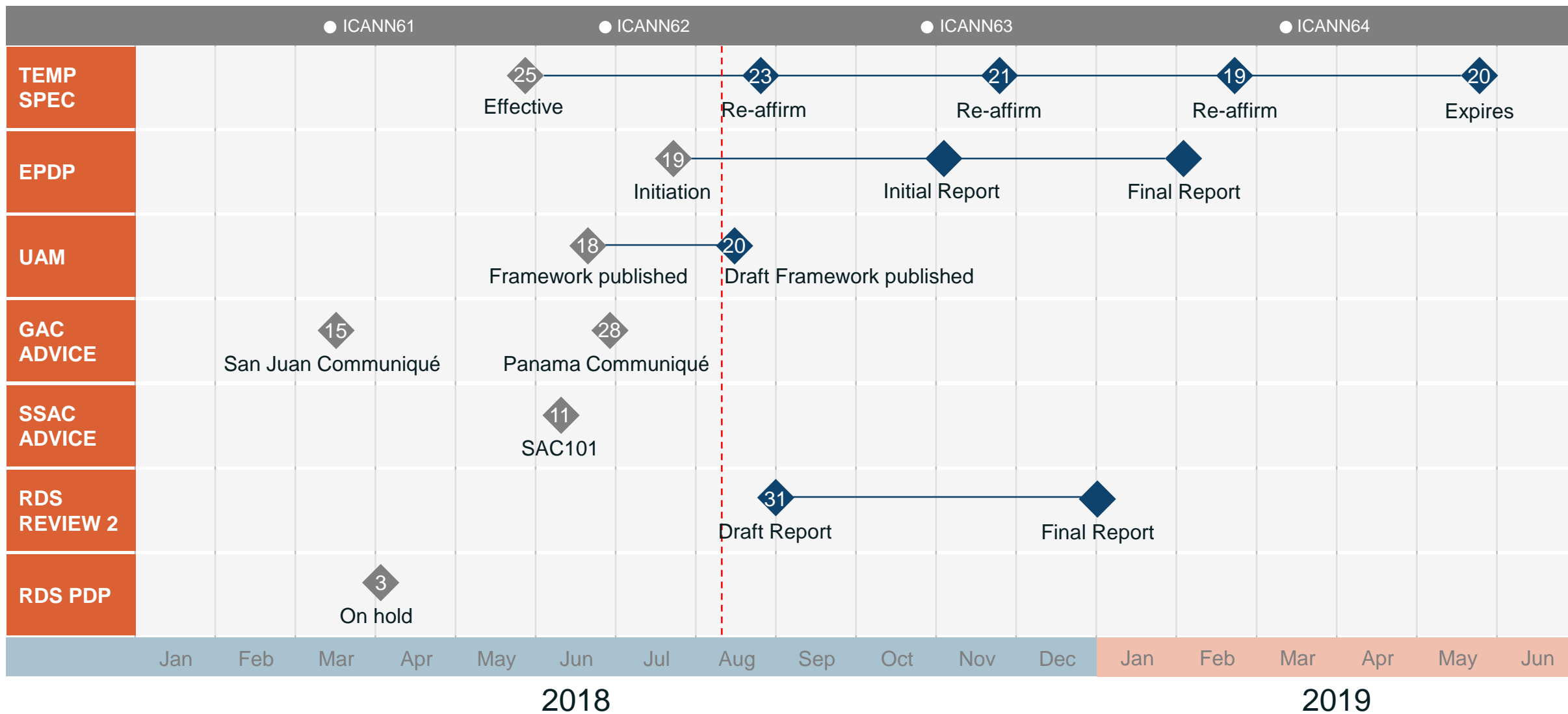
ICANN

August 2018

About This Document

This document provides a roadmap for various RDS-related activities. An update will be provided quarterly and published on whois.icann.org.

The roadmap and updates are provided to inform discussions and to provide visibility into RDS-related work by the community and ICANN org.

The roadmap and updates are provided as per the Board-approved Action Plan for the WHOIS Policy Review Team Final Report.

Activities In Advance of or In Board Consideration

ICANN61 · ICANN62 · ICANN63 · ICANN64

TEMP SPEC	25 Effective	23 Re-affirm	21 Re-affirm	19 Re-affirm / 20 Expires
EPDP	19 Initiation	Initial Report	Final Report	
UAM	18 Framework published / 20 Draft Framework published			
GAC ADVICE	15 San Juan Communiqué / 28 Panama Communiqué			
SSAC ADVICE	11 SAC101			
RDS REVIEW 2	31 Draft Report	Final Report		
RDS PDP	3 On hold			

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec | Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun

2018 | 2019

Temp Spec: Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data
EPDP: Temp Spec Expedited Policy Development Process
UAM: Unified Access Model
GAC Advice: Governmental Advisory Committee Advice

SSAC Advice: Security Stability Advisory Committee Advice
RDS Review 2: Registration Directory Services Review 2
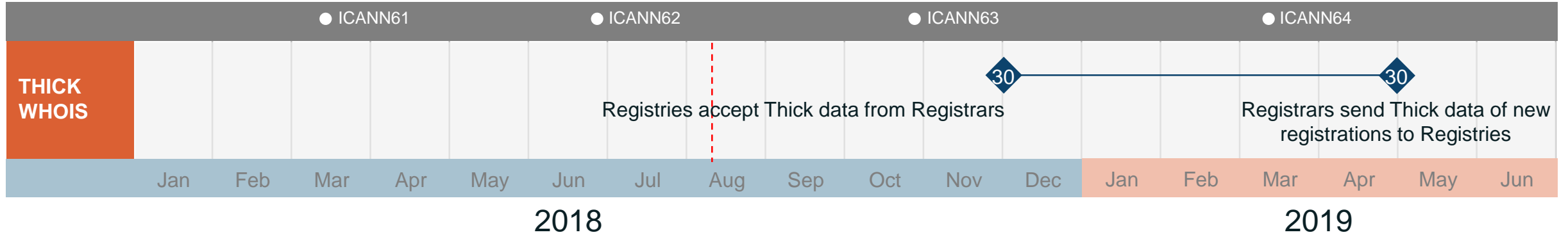**RDS PDP:** gTLD Registration Directory Services Policy Development Process

Community and Org Implementation Following Board Action
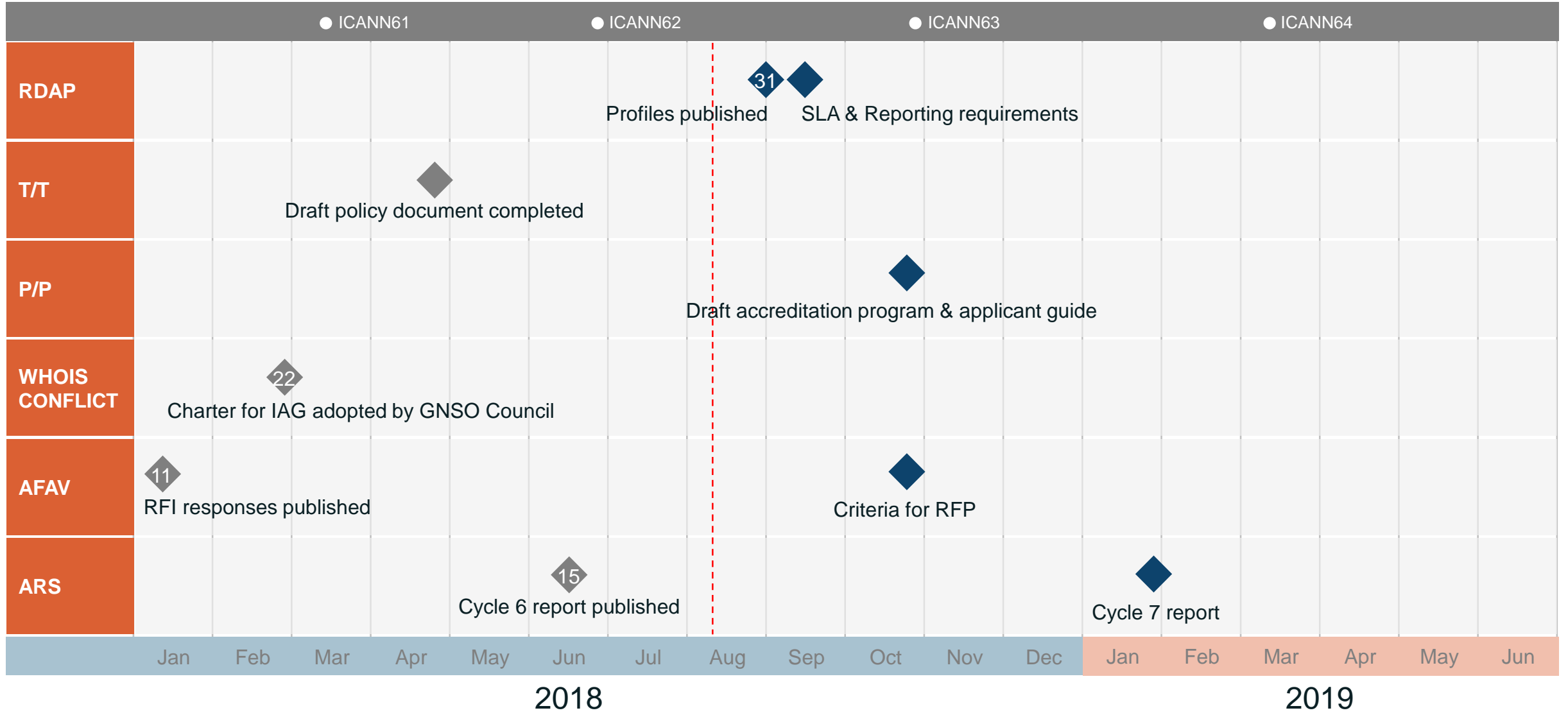
RDAP: Registration Data Access Protocol
T/T: Translation and Transliteration of Contact Data
P/P: Privacy/Proxy Service Provider Accreditation

WHOIS Conflict: ICANN Procedures for Handling WHOIS Conflicts with Privacy Laws
AFAV: Across-Field Address Validation
ARS: gTLD Registration Data Accuracy Reporting System

Contracted Parties Implementation

	● ICANN61	● ICANN62	● ICANN63	● ICANN64

THICK WHOIS

Registries accept Thick data from Registrars

30 ———————————————— 30

Registrars send Thick data of new registrations to Registries

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun

2018   2019

Thick WHOIS: Transition from Thin to Thick WHOIS Policy for .COM, .NET, .ORG

Appendix
Background Overview

Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data

⊙ The Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data (Temp Spec) establishes temporary requirements to allow ICANN and gTLD registry operators and registrars to continue to comply with existing ICANN contractual requirements and community-developed policies in light of the GDPR.

⊙ The Temp Spec was adopted by the ICANN Board on 17 May 2018 and became effective on 25 May 2018.

⊙ Pursuant to the requirements for the establishment of Temporary Policies and Temporary Specification or Policies as defined in the Registry and Registrar Accreditation Agreements, the ICANN Board shall reaffirm the temporary adoption of the Temp Spec every 90 days for a total period not to exceed one year in order to maintain the Temp Spec in effect until such time as it becomes a Consensus Policy.

⊙ Information on the Temp Spec is available at https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/gtld-registration-data-specs-en.

Expedited PDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data

- ⊙ Pursuant to the requirements for the establishment of Temporary Policies and Temporary Specification or Policies as defined in the Registry and Registrar Accreditation Agreements, the ICANN Board implemented the consensus policy development process when the Temp Spec was adopted.

- ⊙ On 19 July 2018, the GNSO approved the initiation of an expedited PDP on the Temporary Specification as well as the charter for the expedited PDP team.

- ⊙ Information on the expedited PDP is available at https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/gtld-registration-data-epdp.

Framework for a Possible Unified Access Model

- ◎ Through engagement efforts with the DPAs and European Data Protection Board (EDPB), ICANN received guidance from the DPAs (endorsed by the EDPB) that "WP29 expects ICANN to develop and implement a WHOIS model which will enable legitimate uses by relevant stakeholders, such as law enforcement, of personal data concerning registrants in compliance with the GDPR, without leading to an unlimited publication of those data."

- ◎ On 18 June 2018, ICANN org published Framework Elements of a Unified Access Model for Access to gTLD Registration Data. The framework lays out a series of central questions to help frame discussions about how such a model may work.

- ◎ On 20 August 2018, ICANN org published a Draft Framework for a Possible Unified Access Model for Continued Access to Full WHOIS Data – For Discussion for community input and to continue dialogue with the EDPB to seek legal clarity for such access mechanism. Lowering the legal risk for data controllers/contracted parties is necessary to develop a workable unified access model.

- ◎ Information ICANN's work relating to a framework for a possible unified access model is available at https://www.icann.org/dataprotectionprivacy.

GAC San Juan Communique

- On 15 March 2018, the GAC provided advice to the ICANN Board in its San Juan Communique concerning the Proposed Interim Compliance Model.

- On 30 May 2018, the ICANN Board adopted the scorecard titled "GAC Advice – San Juan Communique: Actions and Updates (30 May 2018)" in response to items of FAC advice in the San Juan Communique.

SAC101

◉ On 14 June 2018, the SSAC issued [SAC101](#): Advisory Regarding Access to Domain Name Registration Data. The advice is being considered by the ICANN Board.

Registration Directory Service (RDS)/WHOIS 2 Review

⦿ Per the ICANN Bylaws, the Board shall cause a periodic review (no less frequently than every five years) to assess the effectiveness of the then current gTLD RDS and whether its implementation meets the legitimate needs of law enforcement, promoting consumer trust and safeguarding registrant data.

⦿ The first RDS Review submitted its Final Report and Recommendations to the ICANN Board in May 2012.

⦿ The second RDS Review Team began its work in June 2017 and published its Initial Report on 4 September 2018.

⦿ Information on the RDS/WHOIS 2 review is available at https://www.icann.org/resources/reviews/specific-reviews/whois.

GNSO PDP on a Next-Generation Registration Directory Service (RDS)

⊙ The RDS PDP WG began its work in early 2016.

⊙ In April of 2018, the RDS PDP WG leadership team put WG meetings on hold to seek guidance from the GNSO Council regarding the future of the PDP in light of the ICANN Board's adoption of the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data and the expedited PDP.

⊙ Information on the RDS PDP is available at https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/rds.

Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP)

- RDAP was developed by the technical community in the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF).

- On 17 May 2018, the ICANN Board passed a resolution adopting a Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data. As part of that Temporary Specification, gTLD registries and registrars are required to implement a Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) service within 135 days of ICANN org requesting implementation. The Temporary Specification also called for a gTLD RDAP Profile, SLA, and registry Reporting requirements to be developed prior to RDAP deployment.

- On 31 August 2018, the proposed RDAP profile was published for public comment.

- Information on RDAP is available at https://www.icann.org/rdap.

Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information

- In June 2013, the GNSO initiated a PDP on the Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information. The PDP Working Group delivered its final report on 12 June 2015.

- The Board adopted the PDP Working Group Recommendations in September 2015.

- Formed in July 2016, the Implementation Review Team (IRT) is in the process of reviewing a policy document. Completion of the IRT's work is dependent on implementation of RDAP.

- Information on Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information is available at https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/transliteration-contact.

Privacy/Proxy Service Provider Accreditation

⊙ The 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) contemplates the development and implementation of a privacy and proxy service accreditation by ICANN.

⊙ The Board adopted the GNSO initiated PDP on Privacy & Proxy's recommendations in August 2016.

⊙ In October 2016, an Implementation Review Team (IRT) was convened to pursue an expedited timeline in light of the upcoming expiration of the 2013 RAA's interim specification on privacy and proxy registrations (in June 2019).

⊙ The IRT is in the final stages of reviewing draft accreditation program requirements for public comment. It is expected that the public comment period window will open in the second half of 2018.

⊙ Information about Privacy/Proxy Service Provider Accreditation is available at https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/ppsa.

ICANN Procedures For Handling WHOIS Conflicts with Privacy Laws

⊙ In November 2005, the GNSO concluded a policy development process (PDP) establishing a procedure to allow gTLD registry operators and ICANN-accredited registrars to demonstrate when they are prevented by local laws from fully complying with the provisions of their respective ICANN contracts regarding personal data in WHOIS.

⊙ The ICANN Board adopted the recommendations in May 2006 and directed ICANN org to develop such a procedure. A contracted party that credibly demonstrates that it is legally prevented from complying with its WHOIS obligations can invoke the procedure

⊙ ICANN launched a review of the procedure in May 2014. In May 2016, the Implementation Advisory Group submitted its final report to the GNSO Council and recommended that the WHOIS Procedure be revised to incorporate an "Alternative Trigger," in addition to the existing trigger to invoke the procedure. In February 2017, the GNSO Council passed a resolution adopting IAG's recommendation and confirmed that the modification to the WHOIS Procedure does not change the intent of the original GNSO policy recommendations.

⊙ The revised procedures, including the alternative trigger went into effect on 18 April 2017.

⊙ On 22 February, the GNSO Council adopted a Charter for an Implementation Advisory Group, which is tasked with providing the GNSO Council with recommendations on how to address the comments and input that have been received in response to the public comment forum on the Revised ICANN Procedure for Handling WHOIS Conflicts with Privacy Law: Process and Next Steps. The IAG is not yet formed.

⊙ The ICANN Procedures for Handling WHOIS Conflicts with Privacy Laws is available at https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/whois-privacy-conflicts-procedure-2008-01-17-en.

Across-Field Address Validation

◉ The 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement ("RAA") requires ICANN org to review requirements under the WHOIS Accuracy Program Specification in consultation with the Registrar WHOIS Validation Working Group to identify a set of tools that will enable accredited registrars to complete validation actions required in the Agreement.

◉ In January 2017, the WHOIS Validation Working Group created a Request for Information (RFI) to determine if a third party could have or could produce any solutions deemed to be 'technically and commercially viable' based on the current RAA language.

◉ In February 2018, ICANN completed the Request for Information (RFI) and nine (9) responses were received. These responses contained updated information regarding current services available to complete across field address validation and verification. A summary of these nine responses are located on the Across Field Address Validation WIKI page and have been provided to the Registrar Working Group.

◉ The Registrar Working Group and ICANN org are continuing to work together on this effort.

◉ Information on Across-Field Address Validation is available at https://community.icann.org/display/AFAV.

WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System

- To implement the first WHOIS Review Team's recommendations and address GAC's concerns on WHOIS accuracy, ICANN org initiated the development of the WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System (ARS)—a framework for conducting repeatable assessments of WHOIS accuracy, publicly report the findings, and provide data to the ICANN Contractual Compliance team to follow up on potentially inaccurate records with registrars .

- Information on the WHOIS ARS is available at https://whois.icann.org/en/whoisars.

Thick WHOIS

- On 14 March 2012, the GNSO initiated a PDP on the transition to thick WHOIS for all gTLDs.

- On 21 October 2013, the PDP Working Group published the final report.

- On 7 February 2014, the ICANN Board adopted the policy recommendations.

- On 13 May 2018, ICANN Board passed a Resolution to defer THICK WHOIS contractual compliance enforcement for six months. ICANN Contractual Compliance will defer enforcing the following milestones until the dates listed below:
  - 30 November 2018: The registry operator must begin accepting Thick WHOIS data from registrars for existing registrations in .COM, .NET and .JOBS
  - By 30 April 2019: All registrars must send Thick WHOIS data to the registry operator for all new registrations in .COM, .NET and .JOBS
  - By 31 January 2020: All registrars are required to complete the transition from Thick WHOIS data for all registrations in .COM, .NET, and JOBS

- Information on Thick WHOIS is available at https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/thick-whois-2016-06-27-en.