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**ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING**



Welcome to Hamburg and **ICANN78**

Greetings from the BC Chair and welcome to ICANN78!

We gather this autumn in the great German port city of Hamburg, where the community will conduct the 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM). It promises to be a full week of community consultations and collaboration. As always, there is much work to be done as we work on the myriad issues in front of our governance body.

Earlier this year, we met in Cancun and Washington, DC, amid leadership

changes at ICANN and the need to redouble our efforts to underline the efficacy of the multistakeholder model. Both meetings were successful, and the BC looks forward to further progress during ICANN78. The BC, and the business users of the internet which it represents, anticipates robust discussion of the important and varied issues before us.

Whether you're new to the BC or are a veteran of our work, your knowledge, advocacy and opinions are important, and you are very much encouraged to

join discussions, ask questions, and make your input known. As always is the case, there is much work to be done, and the BC needs thoughtful contributions from you and others who carry forward the needs of online businesses.

The AGM is a longer ICANN meeting, with time built in for extensive consultations and collaborative work. This includes expanded times for our BC and Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG) meetings, both scheduled for later this week, where we will discuss

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matters of immediate importance. I encourage you to make time for both of these sessions.

ICANN Org has done its usual outstanding job of organizing a meeting schedule and venue that is sure to be as welcoming as possible, and the BC will seize upon the opportunity to collaborate with our community colleagues toward ICANN's mission of providing a stable, secure and resilient domain name system. When you get a moment, take the opportunity to say thanks to ICANN staff for the significant effort that goes into planning an inclusive set of proceedings.

There is no shortage of challenges before ICANN, and this meeting will be dense with discussions and interactions. Further on behalf of the BC, I hope you'll raise your perspectives and thoughts as we debate the important issues of the day.

The BC very much needs your support and input. Our group represents the interests of businesses ranging from the small to multinational, and our responsibilities to our constituency have only grown over time. As challenges arise in ICANN policy work, we rely on the input of our membership in order to be most impactful.

As we embark on our work, don't hesitate to join and contribute. You'll find that your BC colleagues are open and welcoming to your input, and will help you advance your interests within the ICANN sphere.

Again, on behalf of your colleagues in the BC, welcome to ICANN78. All best for a productive time in Hamburg.

Sincerely,

**Mason Cole,
BC Chair**

ICANN turns...



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) commemorates 25 years of fostering international cooperation in managing the Internet's naming system.

Originally established by the U.S. Department of Commerce in 1998, ICANN's primary objective has been to ensure a stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifiers, most notably the Domain Name System (DNS).

The milestones:

Throughout its history, ICANN has epitomized global collaboration, increasing the number of Internet users from nearly 150 million to over half the world's population today. Significant achievements include the launch of over 1,200 new generic top-level domains (gTLDs), the introduction of Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) catering to diverse linguistic needs, and the establishment of Universal Acceptance (UA) Day to advocate for digital inclusivity.

Tripti Sinha, Chair of the ICANN Board, emphasized the organization's commitment to *"one world, one*

Internet," highlighting the pivotal role ICANN plays in ensuring a reliable and safe online experience. As the digital age continues to evolve, ICANN remains dedicated to its mission of keeping the Internet secure, stable, and interoperable, benefiting users worldwide.

Noteworthy:

- ICANN's inception in 1998 aimed at ensuring a stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifiers, vital for our digital age.
- Since its establishment, Internet users have surged from 150 million to over half the global population, reflecting ICANN's impact on digital inclusivity.
- Key initiatives such as the introduction of over 1,200 new gTLDs and Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) have revolutionized the domain landscape, accommodating the diverse linguistic needs of users worldwide.

ICANN Around the World



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ICANN Sets the Stage for Next Round of New Generic Top-Level Domains, Anticipates Q2 2026 Launch

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) Board of Directors has green-lighted the next phase of implementing new generic top-level domains (gTLDs), per a resolution approved on July 27, 2023. This is a crucial step towards the “Next Round” of the New gTLD Program, initiated during ICANN’s community forum in Cancún, Mexico, earlier this year.

This roadmap will govern the launch of the new gTLDs and includes details about the completion timelines, cost estimates, tool and system requirements, and more. The organization will provide regular progress updates to the board while also supplying information regarding funding requirements for the project’s various milestones.

The strategy includes two years of policy implementation work, culminating in the completion of the Applicant Guidebook (AGB). Additionally, ICANN estimates the program development to take three years, two of which will be carried out concurrently with policy work.

The operational phase is expected to take a further year after the AGB is finalized. Thus, the AGB is anticipated to be ready by May 2025, potentially opening the next application round by Q2 2026.

However, any delays in the policy implementation phase could postpone the start of the round. The board stressed that the plan’s successful execution requires consistent

dedication, resources, and effort from all participants, including ICANN Board, the community, and the organization itself.

ICANN Board Takes Steps to Launch Next Round of New gTLDs

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) has adopted 98 recommendations in the New gTLD subsequent procedures policy development process. This sets in motion the start of the implementation process for the next round of new generic top-level domains (gTLDs). This process will focus on resolving 38 outputs that the board has designated as “pending,” as well as four deliverables that need to be completed by June 15, 2023.

To ensure the timely delivery of the implementation plan, the board has directed the ICANN organization to deliver a plan and timeline, a working methodology and implementation review team timeline, a GNSO Council project plan, and a project plan from the GNSO Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Working Group.

In addition, the board has authorized the ICANN interim president and CEO to spend up to US\$9 million to fund the implementation work through the end of October 2023.

The board also directed ICANN org to promote the New gTLD Program to prospective applicants, particularly in underserved or underrepresented regions, and to publish reports on the progress and status of implementation at least two weeks prior to the start of each ICANN Public Meeting.

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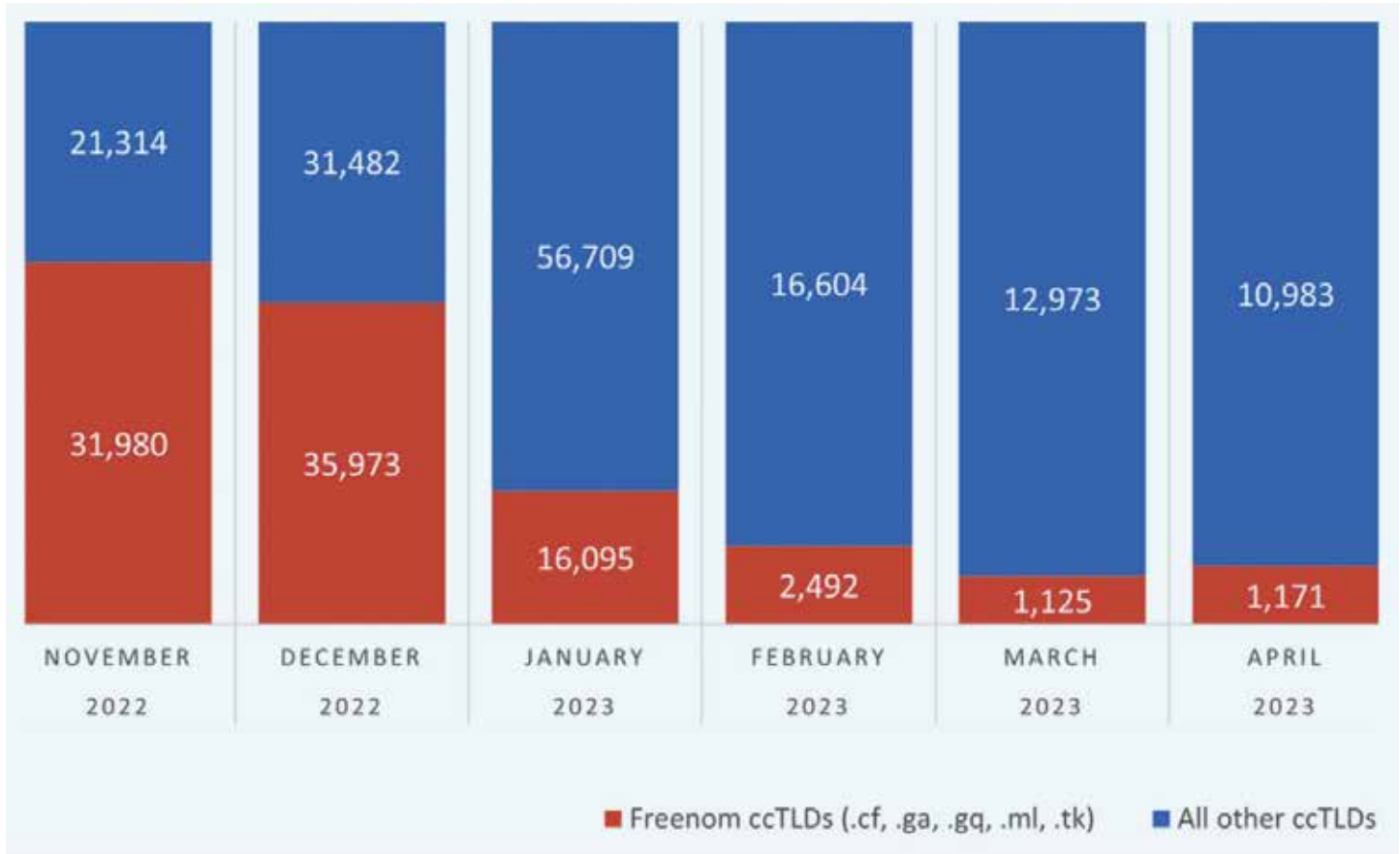


[slideshare.net/
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Meta Lawsuit Leads to Significant Decline in Phishing Domains Tied to Freenom

By [CircleID Reporter](#)

A notable decrease in the number of phishing sites associated with Freenom since the company faced legal action from Meta. Image: Interisle Consulting



A lawsuit filed by Meta has led to a significant decrease in phishing websites tied to the domain name registrar Freenom. Cybersecurity expert Brian Krebs in a report on Friday said that Freenom, which provides free domain name registration services, was a favored resource for cybercriminals due to its policy of protecting customer identities. The company is responsible for five country code top-level domains (ccTLDs), which have consistently ranked among the most exploited by phishers.

In December 2022, Meta initially filed

a lawsuit against Freenom, alleging that the company failed to address complaints about phishing websites and, instead, monetized the traffic to these abusive domains. This was reportedly the source of over half of all new phishing domains from country-code top-level domains at the time.

The lawsuit was withdrawn and refiled in March 2023. As a result, Interisle Consulting Group, a research company, observed a considerable decline in phishing domains linked to Freenom's commercialized ccTLDs. While these domains accounted for over 60%

of reported phishing domains in November 2022, this had reduced to under 15% in the months following the lawsuit.

The big picture: Despite these significant results, Krebs warns that this does not necessarily indicate a decrease in phishing attacks, which have continued to rise in volume over the years. Cybercriminals, he notes, tend to move towards registrars that offer minimal resistance and the lowest domain prices, demonstrating that lawsuits can disrupt but not eradicate the process.

ICANN Multistakeholder Organizational Chart



ICANN Board of Directors

From Left to Right: León Sánchez-Board Member (At-Large), Katrina Sataki-Board Member (ccNSO), Manal Ismail-GAC Liaison, James Galvin-SSAC Liaison, Alan Barrett-Board Member (ASO), Chris Chapman-Board Member (NomCom), Becky Burr-Board Member (GNSO), Matthew Shears-Board Member (GNSO), Avri Doria-Board Member (NomCom), Sally Costerton-Interim President and CEO, Danko Jevtovic-Vice-Chair (NomCom), Tripti Sinha-Chair (NomCom), Christian Kaufmann-Board Member (ASO), Harald Alvestrand-IETF Liaison, Sarah Deutsch-Board Member (NomCom), Wes Hardaker-RSSAC Liaison, Edmon Chung-Board Member (NomCom), Maarten Botterman-Board Member (NomCom), Patricio Poblete-Board Member (ccNSO), Sajid Rahman-Board Member (NomCom). For more information on the ICANN Board, [visit here](#).

Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

Alejandra Reynoso (Chair)
Adebiyi Oladipo (V. Chair)
Jordan Carter (V. Chair)

Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

John Curran (Chair)
Paul Wilson (V. Chair)

Empowered Community Administration

Jonathan Zuck (ALAC)
German Valdez (ASO)
Alejandra Reynoso (ccNSO)
Nicolas Caballero (GAC)
Greg DiBiase (GNSO)

Government Advisory Committee (GAC)

Nicolas Caballero (Chair)
Vice Chairs: Zeina Bou Harb,
Francis Olivier Cubahiro, Nigel
Hickson, Ola Bergström, Wang Lang

Security & Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

Rod Rasmussen (Chair)
Julie Hammer (V. Chair)

Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

Jeff Osborn (Chair)
Ken Renard (V. Chair)

At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Jonathan Zuck (Chair)
Joanna Kulesza (V. Chair)
Maureen Hilyard (V. Chair)

Root Zone Evolution Review Committee (RZERC)

Tim April (Chair)

Technical Liaison Group (TLG)

Christian Toche (ETSI)
Howard Benn (ETSI)
Reinhard Scholl (ITU-T)
Jie Zhang (ITU-T)
Wendy Seltzer (W3C)
Shadi Abou-Zahara (W3C)
Warren Kumari (IAB)
Tim Wicinski (IAB)

Nominating Committee 2023

Vanda Scartezini (Chair),
Amir Qayyum (Chair-Elect) and
Michael R. Graham (Associate Chair)

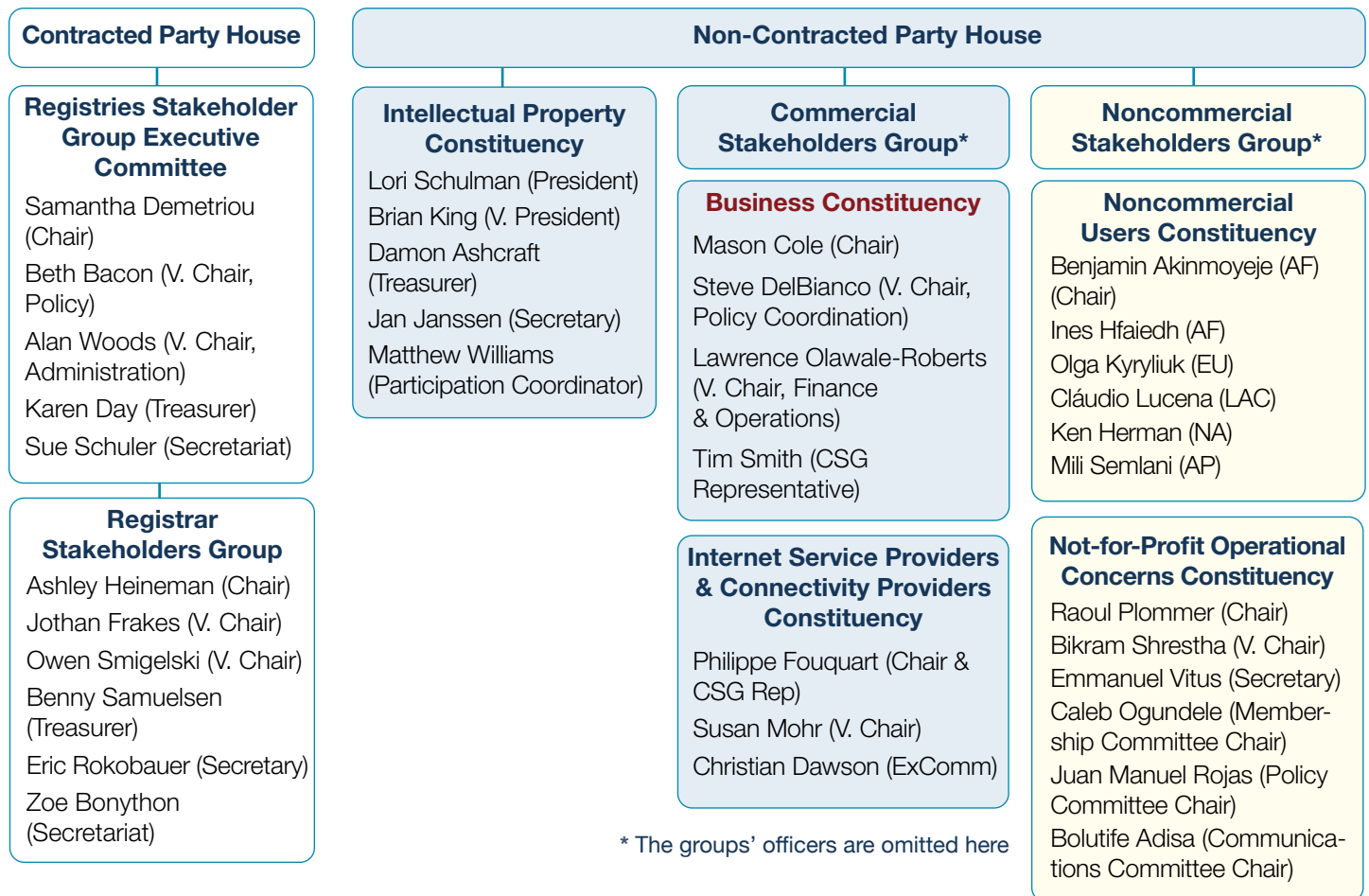
Ombuds

Herb Wayne
Linda Mainville

Customer Standing Committee (CSC)

Brett Carr (Chair)

GNSO Stakeholder Groups, Constituencies & Council



* The groups' officers are omitted here

The Benefits of BC Membership

The Business Constituency (BC) is the voice of commercial Internet users within ICANN – the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers.

Business users rely on a stable and secure Internet and e-commerce experience, one that serves their users and customers on a global basis. Through your participation in ICANN, and in the Business Constituency, your company will make a difference on behalf of business.

BC members contribute as:

- participants on the BC e-mail list to learn about and debate issues
- participants on telephone conferences to reach consensus on key issues
- participants at physical meetings coincident with ICANN global meetings
- issue managers on specific topics
- bridges for information flow between other GNSO constituencies

The mission of the BC

The Constituency fully represents the views of the Internet business user community.

ICANN policy positions are consistent with the development of business via an Internet that is stable, secure and reliable while promoting consumer confidence.

ICANN policy positions derive from broad stakeholder participation in a common forum for suppliers and users.

BC Executive Committee



Chair
Mason Cole



Vice Chair, Policy Coordination
Steve DelBianco



Vice Chair, Finance & Operations
Lawrence Olawale-Roberts



CSG Representative
Tim Smith



GNSO Councilor
Marie Pattullo



GNSO Councilor
Mark Datysgeld

2023 Nominating Committee Members

Large Business Seat

Jordyn Buchanan

Small Business Seat

Vivek Goyal

BC Finance Sub Committee:

Lawrence Olawale-Roberts (Chair), Jimson Olufuye, Chris Chaplow, Jay Sudowski, Yusuph Kileo

BC Credentials Committee:

Zak Muscovitch (Chair), Vivek Goyal, Roger Baah, John Berard, Kate Buckley

BC Communications Committee:

Vivek Goyal (Chair), Yusuph Kileo, Joseph Ambali

BC Onboarding Committee:

Roger Baah (Chair), Mark Datysgeld, Samuel Dada

BC Secretariats



Brenda Brewer



Andrea Glandon

If you would like to become a member of the BC, please contact the BC Secretariat at:
info@icannbc.org
or simply visit our website and register online:

www.icannbc.org



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