Greetings from the BC Chair and Welcome to ICANN75!

It’s a pleasure to join you at ICANN’s second hybrid meeting of 2022. Just as was the case at ICANN74 in The Hague, our meeting here in Kuala Lumpur offers BC members – those participating in person and remotely – the opportunity to connect with industry colleagues and our many friends, and to contribute to the ICANN community’s deliberations and discussions.

As always is the case, the issues before the BC are many and varied, and our constituency will have the opportunity to weigh in on governance matters of the day. Whether you’re new to the BC or are a veteran of our work, your knowledge and opinions are important, and you are very much encouraged to join the discussions, ask questions, and make your input known.

ICANN75 represents ICANN’s Annual General Meeting, a six-day affair that will include constituency meetings, plenary sessions, interactions between stakeholders and ICANN leadership, a public forum, and other engaging sessions. The BC will meet as a constituency on Sunday, September 18, and I certainly hope you’ll be there to add your voice to our gathering. The BC, as usual, has been busy working toward outcomes in the interests of its global membership. Our work of late has been focused on contributing to mitigation of domain name system (DNS) abuse, WHOIS accuracy scoping, onboarding changes to international DNS regulation, and partnering with the community on prioritizing ICANN’s significant menu.

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of ongoing work. As always is the case, areas for contribution and advocacy are many. ICANN Org has done its usual superb job of preparing 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 DNS. 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 deliberations. 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 business users of the internet, 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 ICANN75. All best for a productive time in Kuala Lumpur.

Sincerely,

Mason Cole, BC Chair

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**The Business Constituency**

**A Member’s Perspective**

Members of The Canadian International Pharmacy Association (CIPA), an association of online pharmacy businesses, rely on the internet, the policies that shape it and technical stability it provides, to ensure safe and secure operations that serve our customers worldwide.

CIPA attended its first ICANN meeting in 2010 and joined the Business Constituency (BC) in 2012 to align with the constituency that promotes end-user confidence of the internet and works to ensure it is a safe place to conduct business. These are highly valued attributes for businesses and customers alike.

This year, CIPA celebrates two decades of continual presence by our association members, using the internet as our base of patient outreach.

Here are a few foundational examples of what CIPA mandates from its members:

- Requiring a valid prescription from a physician who has examined the patient and is licensed to provide diagnosis
Dispensing medication approved by the health authority in the jurisdiction in which the licensed pharmacy operates

Having a licensed pharmacist on staff to supervise dispensing of medications and to be available for consultation upon patient request

Obtaining demographic and medical information from the patient and maintaining a health profile with medication history to avoid adverse drug interactions

Prohibiting dispensing of controlled substances, narcotics, products containing pseudoephedrine or highly temperature sensitive products.

As a BC member, we have shared within our constituency CIPA’s commitment to safety and to serving people who can’t afford, access, or trust medication where they live. We also meet and collaborate with registrars and registries within ICANN; and other internet infrastructure businesses we’ve met through ICANN including the Internet Infrastructure Coalition (i2C), the DNA.org, and the Internet and Jurisdiction Policy Network (I&JPN), all of which seek to build a more trusted and trustworthy internet.

Over our 20 years history, CIPA has seen the immense good of the internet – but we’ve also witnessed and experienced the bad. Our members have been directly impacted by the presence of bad actors that exist in the fake pharmacy space. Additionally, the CIPA Seal has become so recognizable and respected that rogue pharmacy operators abuse it to trick people into believing they’ve found a legitimate website. This is an abuse of our registered trademark and causes reputational damage to our brand.

As a result, CIPA has strong concerns about DNS abuse, because bad actors erode the confidence customers have in safe online pharmacy shopping. We believe that appropriate access to Whois can mitigate those that prey upon the public; and CIPA believes in ‘One World – One Internet’, because by pursuing harmful activities together, we can collectively maximize the good of a global, interoperable internet we all wish to see.

These are relevant issues to the Business Constituency, and to all of those who have built their businesses on the internet. Users rely on trust and good reputation to confidently conduct business online. Fraudulent use of identity, misinformation, harmful messaging and false claims are issues that damage the value of the internet. The ICANN multistakeholder community provides the forum to have dialogue on all of the issues that shape the internet. For our part, CIPA is committed to continue this dialogue – and we look forward to another 20 years of safe dispensing for all who need us.
About ICANN, the GNSO and the BC

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) is a not-for-profit partnership of people from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable, and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet’s unique identifiers. To reach another person on the Internet you must type an address into your computer - a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world.

The stable, predictable, and secure operation of the Internet is a critical success factor to all businesses—both large and small. Engaging with the Business Constituency (BC) at ICANN can offer helpful tips towards finding one’s way into full engagement and participation in ICANN’s policy decision making process. Through the BC, you’ll learn about Internet policy that affects the business world, and how the Internet contributes to businesses like yours and mine—nationally, regionally, and globally.

ICANN is one of the world’s most unique, and innovative approaches in multi stakeholder governance, drawing together business, the technical community; civil society and NGOs; individuals; governments; and participants from international and intergovernmental entities to participate and collaborate to analyze challenges and issues; devise consensus, bottom up policy proposals, and manage and coordinate the Internet’s unique indicators [domain names; IP addresses, root servers, protocols – technical elements upon which the Internet depends for secure and stable operations]. While they may sound mysteriously technical, their stable and secure operations is critical to online business. If the Internet, and the online world affect your business as a user, you belong at the BC, and you belong at ICANN.

We are business users of the Internet – individual entrepreneurs and micro enterprises, SMEs, large and global corporations, and associations and professional alliances of companies. The BC gives its members a significant platform for participation, engagement, policy analysis, and contribution to guide informed and accountable policy decisions and implementation.

The BC is not alone as a key Stakeholder group at ICANN, and learning more about the rest of ICANN’s organizational structure and how to be effective within ICANN is a core contribution of the BC’s services to its members. We even decode all those challenging acronyms!

The BC advises and represents business user views and concerns in the development of policy that affects business directly, and in the broader governance of ICANN as an organization.

We also undertake outreach and participation into the broader business community; and many of our members are key leaders in the broader Internet governance debates. We have conducted awareness events this year in Latin America, MENA, Europe, United States and Africa. We also work throughout the year electronically to stay closely engaged in ICANN.

We ensure that there is open and frequent interaction for our members with the ICANN Government Advisory Committee and with the ICANN Board, as well as other stakeholders within ICANN. The BC has a role in electing two of the 21 members of the Generic Names Supporting Organisation (GNSO) policy Council; and in the selection of ICANN Board members, as do other parts of ICANN.

As a consensus driven, bottom-up decision-making organization, ICANN depends on a strong foundation of informed and committed stakeholders from all these groups. In short, we need you in ICANN.

Stable, predictable and secure operation of the Internet is a critical success factor to all businesses – large and small. The BC is working closely with ICANN toward strengthening outreach and participation and engagement with business users. Join us at any of our BC events and learn how we can help to ‘demystify’ ICANN and welcome you as an integral contributor to ICANN as a part of the BC.
Why should you join the Business Constituency?

**ICANN is Important for Your Website and Business**

BC’s members engage both within ICANN, and outside to help to advance connecting users with content via the Internet. Coordinating domain name and IP addresses allocation are part of ICANN’s core coordination functions. ICANN allocates top level names and has recently allocated over 1500 new names [also called “strings”] while maintaining the stability of the Internet. It has also prioritized allocation of non-Latin scripts in Korean, Chinese, Arabic and Cyrillic. The BC is engaged in the policy development process, and is now following the issues that accompany the rollout of all the new domain names, including any challenges in the domain name space related to fraud and misuse – key issues to legitimate businesses.

**Do You Use E-Commerce and Deliver Online Services or Applications to Users?**

All BC users are interested in ensuring a stable, reliable and resilient Internet and e-commerce platform for business. You can contribute to this through participating in ICANN, helping to make ICANN more effective and improving its accountability and transparency. Business users rely on a stable and secure Internet and ecommerce 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.

**Help the Private Sector Continue to Lead in Charting the Course of the Internet Through ICANN**

There is a real threat, without the voice of business users, that certain functions now performed by ICANN related to governance of domain names and IP addressing could be taken over by governments or become more ‘intergovernmental’ in their functioning or decision making. Any change from the private sector led, multistakeholder governance model embodied within ICANN could lead to a dramatic slowing down in decision making, and limit the voice of the commercial sector that has built and operates the Internet.

**ICANN is part of an Internet Governance EcoSystem**

The BC engages within ICANN in a cross community Working Group on Internet Governance and engages externally with other organizations to enhance the voice of business users.

About the BC in the GNSO

The BC is a member of the Commercial Stakeholders Group (CSG) in the Non-Contracted Parties House of ICANN’s Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO). The BC was established as a constituency in 1999 and represents commercial users of the Internet.

The Generic Names Supporting Organization fashions (and over time, recommends changes to) Generic Top level Domains (gTLDs). GTLDs are usually recognized as the last few letters after the [dot], such as .com and .info; but now are widely different. Currently, there are now approximately 1500 new gTLDs on the Internet. Achieving this expansion of the “names” space was complicated and time consuming. Along with others, the BC is now engaged in assessing the effectiveness of the policies that led to this expansion. For more information about the GNSO and their policy work in relation to gTLDs, visit [gnso.icann.org](http://gnso.icann.org).

**ICANN Public Meetings**

The BC hosts face to face meetings during ICANN Public Meetings held in various cities around the world. For more information about the next ICANN Public Meeting, visit [meetings.icann.org](http://meetings.icann.org).

**How to find out more about the BC @ ICANN**

- [www.icannbc.org](http://www.icannbc.org) or contact the BC Secretariat: info@icannbc.org

**How to become a BC member**

- Visit our website and download the member application form.
- Review our Charter which describes the purpose of the BC. We represent the users of the ICANN unique identifiers – domain names, IP addresses.
- If you have questions about the membership form, or the activities of the BC, please email our Secretariat at info@icannbc.org, and a member of the Outreach Committee will be in touch with you.

**Useful Links**

- **BC Charter:** [https://www.icannbc.org/charter](https://www.icannbc.org/charter)
- **BC Members:** [https://www.icannbc.org/bc-membership-list](https://www.icannbc.org/bc-membership-list)
- **Join the BC:** [https://www.icannbc.org/joinus](https://www.icannbc.org/joinus)
# GNSO Stakeholder Groups, Constituencies & Council

The GNSO Council is responsible for managing the policy development process of the GNSO.

## Contracted Party House Councilors

### Registries Stakeholder Group
- Kurt Pritz (NA)
- Sebastien Ducos (AP), GNSO Council V. Chair
- Maxim Alzoba (EU)

### Registrar Stakeholder Group
- Ashley Heineman (Chair)
- Jothan Frakes (V. Chair)
- Owen Smigelski (V. Chair)
- Benny Samuelson (Treasurer)
- Eric Rokobauer (Secretary)
- Zoe Bonython (Secretariat)

### Nominating Committee Appointees (NCAs)
- Olga Cavalli (LAC)
- Desiree Miloshevic (EU)
- Paul McGrady (NA)

### Intellectual Property Constituency
- Lori Schulman (President)
- Brian King (V. President)
- Damon Ashcraft (Treasurer)
- Susan Payne (Secretary)
- Jan Janssen (Participation Coordinator)

### Liaison and Observers
- Maarten Simon, ccNSO (EU)
- Justine Chew, ALAC (AP)
- Jeff Neuman, GAC (NA)

## Non-Contracted Party House Councilors

### Commercial Stakeholder Group
- Mark Datysgeld (LAC)
- Marie Pattullo (EU)

### Intellectual Property
- Flip Petillion (EU)
- John McElwaine (NA)

### Internet Service and Connection Providers
- Philippe Fouquart (EU), GNSO Council Chair
- Thomas Rickert (EU)

### Commercial and Business Users
- Tomslin Samme-Niar (AP), GNSO Council V. Chair
- Wisdom Donkor
- Farell Folly
- Juan Manuel Rojas
- Stephanie Perrin
- Manju Chen

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* The groups’ officers are omitted here

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**Contracted Party House**

**Non-Contracted Party House**

**Commercial Stakeholders Group**

**Noncommercial Stakeholders Group**

**Business Constituency**

**Noncommercial Users Constituency**

**Internet Service Providers & Connectivity Providers Constituency**

**Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency**

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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, Finance & Operations
Lawrence Olawale-Roberts

GNSO Councilor
Marie Pattullo

Vice Chair, Policy Coordination
Steve DelBianco

CSG Representative
Tim Smith

GNSO Councilor
Mark Datysgeld

2022 Nominating Committee Members

Large Business Seat
Scott McCormick

Small Business Seat
Adetola Sogbesan

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

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

Join the conversation on Twitter: https://twitter.com/icannbc