ICANN63 GAC schedule (as of 4 oct)

Time	Saturday 20 October (1)	Sunday 21 October (2)	Monday 22 October (3)	Tuesday 23 October (4)	Wednesday 24 October (5)	Thursday 25 October (6)
08:30–10:15	*No GAC plenary sessions* / GNSO EPDP Team / GNSO New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures - WT5	8. HRIL WG (45 mins) / 9. New gTLDs Sub Pro WT1-4 (45 mins)	ICANN 63 Welcoming Ceremony / *Coffee Break and Transition to the GAC meeting room* / Ministers and high-level officials convene	19. Public Safety Working Group (60 mins) / 20. GDPR Discussion (45 mins)	30. Daily review of schedule (15 mins) / 31. Independent Secretariat (30 mins) / 32. GAC Operational Matters (30 mins)	ICANN Board Annual General Meeting (08:30-10:00) / GNSO EPDP Team / Community Recognition Prgm
10:15–10:30	**Morning Coffee Break**	**Morning Coffee Break**	HLGM - Welcome and Introductory Remarks	**Morning Coffee Break**	**Cross-Community (CC) Session : General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**	**Morning Coffee Break**
10:30–12:15	Introductory Session (60 mins) *[Meeting room 129/130]* / *Potential Introductory Session additional time* / GNSO EPDP Team / GNSO New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures - WT5	10. Daily review of GAC sessions (15 mins) / 11. Overview of WHOIS Compliance with GDPR incl. report of EPDP Progress (45 mins) / 12. WHOIS & GDPR: Discussion with IPC and NCSG (45 mins)	Session 1. The Role of and Opportunities For Governments in ICANN – Post IANA Transition / **Morning Coffee Break**	21. Daily review of GAC sessions (15 mins) / 22. HLGM lessons learned (30 mins) / 23. NomCom WG with NomCom Leadership (60 mins) / 24. GAC CBW evaluation report presentation (30 mins)	(GDPR continued)	**High Interest Topic (HIT): Innovation in Top- Level Domains**
12:15–13:30	**Lunch Break** / GNSO EPDP Team / GNSO New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures - WT5	**Lunch Break (GAC Leadership Meeting) / Meeting of la Francophonie (12:15-13:15)**	Session 2. Thematic Challenges in the IG Ecosystem – Cybercrime, Data Protection and Privacy	**Lunch Break (GAC Leadership Meeting)**	**Lunch Break (GAC Leadership Meeting) / Commonwealth Meeting (12:15-13:15)**	**Lunch Break**
13:30–15:15	1. Opening Plenary and overview of sessions (60 mins) / 2. CCWG Auction Proceeds Discussion (30 mins) / GNSO EPDP Team / GNSO New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures	13. BGRI (30 mins) / 14. Informal Board-GAC Dialogue on 2-char codes issues (60 mins)	Lunch Break / *PSWG Informal Meeting (90 mins)*	25. Meeting with the ccNSO (45 mins) / 26. Meeting with the ALAC (45 mins)	33. Post GDPR cc Session Discussion (30 mins) / 34. ICANN63 Communique drafting (2/2) (90 mins)	Public Forum 2 (2x90 min)
15:15–15:30	**Afternoon Coffee Break**	**Afternoon Coffee Break**	Session 3. The Internet Technological Evolution and the Role of ICANN	**Afternoon Coffee Break**	**Afternoon Coffee Break**	**Afternoon Coffee Break**
15:30–16:45	3. IGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms (30 mins) / 4. NomCom/MSSI presentation (15 mins) / 5. CCWG-WS2: Agreement on GAC position as a Chartering Organization (45 mins) / GNSO EPDP Team / GNSO New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures	15. Prep for meeting with the Board (30 mins) / 16. Meeting with GNSO (60 mins) / GNSO RPM WG	**HIT: EPDP on gTLD Registration Data - Review of Draft Report & Recommendations** / **Afternoon Break** / Session 4. Global Digital Agenda and Internet Policies	27. Meeting with ICANN Board (60 mins) / 28. Review Point for GAC Communique (30 mins)	34. ICANN63 Communique drafting (90 mins)	Public Forum 2 (2x90 min)
16:45–17:00	**Transition Break**	**Transition Break**		**Transition Break**	**Transition Break**	**Transition Break**
17:00–18:30	6. 2 Character Codes Plenary Discussion (60 mins) / 7. Meeting with PTI (30 mins) / GNSO EPDP Team / GNSO New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures	17. Geo Names WG/WT5 Discussion in Plenary (45 mins) / 18. GDPR Seminar (45 mins) / GNSO EPDP Team / GNSO RPM WG	Closing Session / Closing Reception	Public Forum 1 (90 mins) / 29. ICANN63 Communique drafting (1/2) (90 mins)	34. ICANN63 Communique drafting (90 mins) (if needed) / GNSO EPDP Team	*No GAC plenary sessions*
18:30–20:00		*Potential seminar social event* / GAC/CSG Reception			Gala Night	ICANN60 Wrap-Up Cocktail (90 min)

Legend:

GAC Plenary Sessions	Communique Drafting
GAC Joint Sessions	High Level Governmental Meeting
GAC Working Group Sessions	Community Sessions
Cross-Community Topic Sessions	Cocktail Reception
GAC Newcomers Session	

ICANN63 Barcelona - GAC Schedule
https://meetings.icann.org/en/barcelona63 (Meeting Room 117)

Agenda Number	Item	Session Description
		Saturday 20 October
0	Newcomers Introductory Session [meeting room 129/130]	At the ICANN62 meeting in Panama City, GAC members agreed that more efforts should be made to welcome new GAC participants - particularly those who are attending their first GAC meeting. This "pilot" meeting session is designed to address that desire in an informal setting. ICANN GAC Support staff are identifying "first-time" GAC meeting participants and - prior to the start of the official GAC meeting - are offering them an informal briefing to share an introduction to the purposes, logistics and administration of a GAC meeting at an ICANN Public Meeting. The informal session agenda includes: 1. Welcome and Goal Setting 2. Overview of Expectations For GAC Public Meetings 3. Review of GAC Leadership, Support and Secretariat Roles 4. Public Meeting logistics a. What to know about an ICANN Meeting i. GAC Pre-Meeting preparation (agenda prep and schedule overview) ii. GAC's role at ICANN Public Meetings iii. GAC Membership Participation in GAC Meeting - Seating - Contributions/Participation b. Communique drafting sessions and purpose 5. HLGM special meeting at ICANN63 6. Questions and Answers
1	Opening Plenary and Overview of Weekly GAC Sessions	The GAC leadership will formally welcome GAC Members to the ICANN63 Meeting and give an overview of the schedule and highlights for the week. The Committee will also affirm the results of the recent 2018 leadership election process and confirm the 2019 GAC Leadership team by acclamation.
2	Cross-Community Working Group on Auction Proceeds Discussion	The release of the CCWG Initial Report will be noted and discussed.

Agenda Number	Item	Session Description
		Saturday 20 October
3	Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms	During this session, the GAC is expected to consider next steps following a recent exchange of letters with the ICANN Board following the publication of policy recommendations by the Curative Rights Mechanisms Policy Development Process Working Group (CRM PDP). The Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations in charge of the Office of Legal Affairs, on behalf of the Legal Counsels of the OECD, UPU, WHO and WIPO, took issue with the outcome of the PDP in a 27 July letter to the ICANN Board (https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/mathias-to-board-27jul18-en.pdf). Members of the PDP Working Group responded in defense of the outcome in their follow-up letter to the ICANN Board on 16 August (https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/igo-ingo-wg-to-icann-board-16aug18-en.pdf).
4	NomCom Implementation Planning Team and MultiStakeholder Strategies and Strategic Initiatives presentation	The leadership of the Implementation Planning Team for the Nominating Committee's second organizational review will present an overview of its progress toward implementation of operational and organizational changes recommended by the review's independent examiner, to include addressing the GAC seat on the NomCom.
5	Cross-Community Working Group-Work Stream 2: Agreement on GAC position as a Chartering Organization	The GAC will consider its position as a CCWG Chartering Organization with regard to the Final Report.
6	2 Character-Codes Plenary Discussion	The GAC plenary will discuss concerns of some of its members with the release of 2-character country codes as second level domain names in New gTLD. This discussion will likely follow-up on GAC Advice in the ICANN62 Panama Communiqué (https://gac.icann.org/contentMigrated/icann62-panama-communique) and the ICANN Board's Response that it will "defer a formal response to the GAC on this advice pending further discussions with the GAC." (https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2018-09-16-en#2.a) This session will also serve for the GAC to prepare its engagement with the ICANN Board on this matter scheduled on Sunday 21 October (see session 14.)

Agenda Number	Item	Session Description
Saturday 20 October		
7	Meeting with Public Technical Identifiers	The PTI, the entity succeeding to IANA following the transition of ICANN's Stewardship, will provide an update to the GAC on its ongoing work.

Agenda Number	Item	Session Description
		Sunday 21 October
8	Human Rights International Law Working Group Meeting (HRIL WG)	The GAC Working Group on Human Rights and International Law will review its work program, consider the CCWG-Accountability WS2 recommendations on human rights and get an update by ICANN Organisation on Human Rights Impact Assessment.
9	New gTLDs Sub Pro WT1-4	The GAC will meet with the Leadership of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedure Policy Development Process looking that policy recommendation for the next round of New gTLDs.
10	Daily review of GAC sessions	The GAC will review the sessions of the day.
11	Overview of WHOIS Compliance with GDPR incl. report of EPDP Progress	The GAC will discuss developments related to WHOIS compliance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) since the ICANN62 Panama meeting. These include the launch of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on gTLD Registration Data, developments related to a possible Unified Access Model to non-public WHOIS Data, and correspondence between ICANN and relevant Data Protection Authorities. It is expected that this session will serve to introduce and structure the GAC's work in Barcelona in relation to the multiple dimensions of this subject matter that has direct Public Policy implications. Since ICANN60, the GAC has issued Advice to the ICANN Board on this matter.
12	Report by GAC Representatives to EPDP on gTLD Registration Data / NEW TITLE: WHOIS & GDPR: Discussion with IPC and NCSG	GAC Representatives to the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on gTLD Registration Data are expected to update the GAC plenary on outcomes to date as well as future prospects regarding the EPDP's Team work. The GAC believes that the EPDP Team has an important role to play in developing, as part of all relevant efforts of ICANN and the Community, what the GAC believes should be a comprehensive model. This comprehensive model should allow access to non-public WHOIS data for authenticated users, with a legitimate and proportionate purpose, in a manner that is consistent with the EU's General Data Protection Regulation and other data protection legislations elsewhere.

Agenda Number	Item	Session Description
Sunday 21 October		
13	Board GAC Recommendation Implementation Meeting (BGRI)	Members of the GAC and the ICANN Board continue to participate as members of the BGRI to ensure that the spirit of previous Accountability and Transparency Review (ATRT) recommendations are implemented. In addition to continuing the follow-through on many of those recommendations, this group has continued to explore initiatives and opportunities that can improve the GAC's work and interaction with the ICANN Board. For ICANN63 the agenda includes: 1. Opening Remarks 2. Purpose of this Board-GAC consultation dialogue; possible renaming it to the Board-GAC Relations Group 3. Schedule to address GAC Advice from the Barcelona Communiqué 4. Review of Open GAC Advice Items, including placement on website of the GAC Advice Principles. 5. AOB – Future webinar/briefings for the GAC on issues of interest; for example; ICANN policy that mandates registry and registrar compliance with such policies (so-called picket fence).
14	Informal Board-GAC Dialogue on 2-char codes issues	This meeting will feature an informal discussion of the concerns of certain GAC members about the process for the release of two character country codes at the second level.
15	Preparation for Meeting with the ICANN Board	The GAC will prepare its meeting with the ICANN Board on Tuesday 23 October.
16	Meeting with Generic Names Supporting Organisation (GNSO)	Agenda: - Introduction to GNSO/PDPs, including PDP3.0 - GDPR/WHOIS - Curative Rights Protections PDP
17	Geographic Names WG Meeting (with Sub Pro WT5 Co-Chairs)	The GAC's Geographic Names WG Members and the GNSO Subsequent Procedures PDP Work Track 5 leads will give an update to the GAC about current policy consideration in the area of protections to be afforded to geograophic names and indications in furture new gTLDs.

Agenda Number	Item	Session Description
		Sunday 21 October
18	GDPR Seminar for High Level Officials	The European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) has impacted numerous industries and their data protection/privacy practices. The impact on the WHOIS services, which ICANN's registries and accredited registrars, are required to provide under their contracts, has been significant. This seminar will provide an overview of GDPR's impact on ICANN's work, as well as other unintended consequences as they relate to the Internet's unique identifier systems that may arise from legislation or regulatory efforts. Expected Agenda: - Introduction and overview by ICANN President and CEO, Göran Marby - Overview of technical impact of unintended consequences by ICANN Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, David Conrad - Discussion on emerging initiatives - Closing comments by Göran Marby
	Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG) and GAC Reception 19:00 - 20:30 [VIP room]	Agenda: - Expedited Policy Development Process on gTLD Registration data (recent developments) - The GAC's potential role (as suggested by ICANN) in developing a unified accreditation and access system for non-public WHOIS - DNS abuse including noticeable trends since 25 May 2018.

ICANN 63
High Level Governmental Meeting
22nd October 2018, Barcelona, Spain

AGENDA (as of 26 September)

NOTE: The Sessions are designed to be interactive and will facilitate opportunity for Ministers and high-level officials to make interventions during the course of the day.

10:15 - 10:45: Welcome and Introductory Remarks

- Nadia Calviño, Minister of Economy and Business of Spain, Chair of the HLGM
- Göran Marby, ICANN CEO
- HLGM 2016 Host Representative: Moulay Hafid Elalamy, Minister of Industry, Investment, Trade and Digital Economy of Morocco (confirmed)
- Manal Ismail, Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee

10:45 – 13:30: Morning Meeting Sessions

Each session will begin with a brief overview of the session topic followed by an open floor and exchange of views.

10:45 – 12:00: Session 1. The Role and Opportunities for Governments in ICANN – Post IANA Transition

Background/key message:
The IANA transition has reinforced ICANN's existing multistakeholder model and enhanced ICANN's accountability. The new Empowered Community model is a mechanism through which ICANN's constituencies can organize to legally enforce community powers. In this context, governments through the GAC continue to play a critical role within ICANN. In the meantime, the governments are more and more active in developing legislative and regulatory texts related to digital issues which could impact upon ICANN's Mission.
The aim of this session is to discuss how to improve the dialogue between ICANN and governments regarding the potential impacts of new legislative and regulatory activities on ICANN and the DNS more generally.
Potential discussion points:

- Governments and Intergovernmental Organizations´ participation in ICANN: incorporating the public policy perspective into ICANN policy development
- How is the model working for governments? (in the context of the Empowered Community model
- Taking stock: the role of governmental and intergovernmental participation in the GAC
- Potential roles of governments making laws and regulations that could unintentionally affect ICANN's multistakeholder model and ICANN's role with the DNS;
- Concerns on policy and regulatory proposals in front of IGOs;
- Exploring the resilience of the multi-stakeholder model and multi-stakeholder approaches to Internet governance

Chair: Francisco Polo, Secretary of State for Digital Advancement, Spanish Ministry of Economy and Business
Moderator: Mathieu Weill (French Ministry of Economy, confirmed)
Subject matter experts: Wolfgang Kleinwächter (confirmed), Ambassador Benedicto Fonseca (Brazil, TBC)

12:00 - 12:15: First Coffee Break

12:15 - 13:30: <u>Session 2. Thematic Challenges in the IG Ecosystem – Cybercrime, Data Protection and Privacy</u>

Background/key message:
This session, recognizing the concerns government and individuals have with respect to privacy, data protection and the increases of cybercrime, will address the need to find a way, through dialogue and cooperation, to tackle these challenges.
It will also explore how to maintain human rights and an Open Internet in an environment of increasing national and regional legislation which can have a converse influence.
Potential discussion points:
- Seeking a balance between the desire to protect privacy of individuals and the need to combat cybercrime
    - Security, privacy and freedom of expression
    - Restrictions on an Open Internet and the potential for fragmentation of the Internet
- Role of the Domain Name System community and WHOIS in combatting cybercrime
- Will there be a global solution, and if so, where will it come from?

Chair: Francisco Polo, Secretary of State for Digital Advancement, Spanish Ministry of Economy and Business
Moderator: EU Commissioner Mariya Gabriel (TBC)
Subject matter experts: David Conrad (confirmed), Enrique Factor (Spanish DPA, confirmed)
Invited discussants: Bertrand de La Chapelle (Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network, confirmed), Gregory Mounier (Europol, confirmed), Theresa Swinehart (ICANN, confirmed)

13:30 – 15:00: <u>Lunch</u> (for Ministers, Heads of Delegations and ICANN high officials)
Guest Speaker: **Houlin Zhao: ITU Secretary-General** (confirmed)

15:00 – 18:00: Afternoon Meeting Sessions

Each session will begin with a brief overview of the session topic followed by an open floor and exchange of views.

15:00 – 16:15: <u>Session 3. The Internet Technological Evolution and the Role and impact on ICANN</u>

Background/key message:

History demonstrates that Internet growth is driven, primarily, by major technological evolutions that impact the way people are using Internet and the architecture of the global Internet.

This session will explore the impact of the Internet Technological evolution (e.g., Blockchain technology, Internet of Things, 5G and Artificial Intelligence) on ICANN and the DNS, and where challenges and opportunities may lie.

Potential discussion points:
- DNS in the emerging technology space –
  - Potential impacts of blockchain technology, Internet of Things, 5G and Artificial Intelligence;
- The role of, and outreach by, ICANN in ensuring a single stable secure resilient Internet (e.g., capacity building efforts and universal acceptance);
- What measures, if any should ICANN, along with others such as ISOC, be taking to adapt to these new technology paradigms;
- The future role of gTLDs, ccTLDs and IDNs in this emerging environment; including the maximizing of their value for local internet communities

Chair: Francisco Polo, Secretary of State for Digital Advancement, Spanish Ministry of Economy and Business
Moderator: David Redl, U.S. Department of Commerce (TBC)
Subject matter experts: Tripti Sinha (confirmed)
Invited discussants: Katrina Sataki (ccNSO, confirmed)

16:15 – 16:30: Afternoon Coffee Break

16:30 - 17:45: <u>Session 4. Global Digital Agenda and Internet Policies</u>

Background/key message:
The discussion in this Panel will, hopefully address the global agenda on Internet issues, as being addressed in the OECD, UN and other bodies, and specifically how, in doing so, we can address the critical issue of the digital divide.

It will also discuss the role of ICANN in developing a more inclusive Internet on a technical level (e.g., IDNs) and also, with others, on a political level (capacity building for governments and their citizens).

Remaining obstacles to access and connectivity may well also be addressed, and how work under the UN 2030 Sustainable Agenda can address the remaining problems.

Potential discussion points:
- What is the role of governments in developing innovative and inclusive digital economies in their own countries?
- The specific needs of emerging economies with respect to the digital agenda
- Role of IDNs in offering enhanced access to the Internet
- ICANN's technical role to help "leapfrog" the digital divide

Chair: Francisco Polo, Secretary of State for Digital Advancement, Spanish Ministry of Economy and Business
Moderator: Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad (India, confirmed)
Subject matter experts: Andrew Sullivan (ISOC, confirmed) Dirk Pilat (OECD, confirmed), Nii Quaynor (confirmed)
Invited discussants: Pua Hunter (Cook Islands GAC Rep, confirmed), Khaled Koubaa (ICANN Board, confirmed)

17:45 – 18:00: <u>Closing Session</u>

- Summary remarks from GAC Chair
- Closing remarks by ICANN Board Chair
- Chairman Report/Summary and Closing delivered by Host

18:00 - 19:30: Closing Reception hosted by ICANN for HLGM attendees and participants

# # #

Agenda Number	Item	Session Description
		Tuesday 23 October
19	Public Safety Working Group Meeting (PSWG)	The GAC Public Safety Working Group (PSWG) will provide an update to the GAC Plenary on its activities and discuss further relevant developments occurring during the ICANN63 meeting.
20	Discussion on GDPR	This session is a continuation of the GAC's discussion of WHOIS Compliance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The GAC is expected to discuss steps that should be taken to ensure that the various streams of work in relation to this matter (EPDP, Unified Access Model, ICANN engagement with Data Protection Authorities) deliver on the GAC's objective to achieve a comprehensive model that allows access to non-public WHOIS data for authenticated users, with a legitimate and proportionate purpose, in a manner that is consistent with the EU's General Data Protection Regulation and other data protection legislations elsewhere.
21	Daily review of GAC sessions	The GAC will review the sessions of the day.
22	High Level Government Meeting Lessons Learned	GAC Members will review the implementation of the HLGM (in the context of both the ATRT recommendations and the Barcelona meeting itself) and explore improvements for the next meeting and discuss preparations for the next HLGM.
23	NomCom WG Meeting (with NomCom Leadership)	Joined by leaders of the 2018 and 2019 ICANN Nominating Committee (NomCom) Leadership, the GAC will discuss and seek to improve its understanding of NonCom operational matters to inform its consideration of potential future interaction with the Nominating Committee.
24	Capacity Building Workshop (CBW) evaluation report presentation	The GAC Underserved Regions Working Group Co-Chairs and the ICANN Government Engagement team will present the report to the GAC on the GAC Capacity Building Workshops that have been conducted since January 2017.
25	Meeting with the country code Names Supporting Organisation (ccNSO)	Agenda: - EU States & GDPR: Experiences from a ccTLD perspective - Q&A

Agenda Number	Item	Session Description
Tuesday 23 October		
26	Meeting with the At Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)	Agenda: - New gTLD Subsequent Procedures - GDPR - Follow up on GAC-ALAC joint statement on a more accessible ICANN
27	Meeting with the ICANN Board	The GAC will discuss priority issues of interest and concern with the Board.
28	Review Point for GAC Communique	The GAC will review the first draft of the GAC Communique.
29	Communique drafting (1/2)	The GAC will start drafting its ICANN63 Communiqué.

Agenda Number	Item	Session Description
Wednesday 24 October		
30	Daily review of GAC sessions	The GAC will review the sessions of the day.
31	Independent Secretariat Discussion	The GAC will review progress to date and discuss transitioning the independent secretariat function.
32	GAC Operational Matters	During this session, GAC leadership and GAC Support staff will report on developments regarding GAC Operating Principles, onboarding work and the impact on changes in ICANN Travel Guidelines to the support of the GAC.
33	GAC Post GDPR Cross-Community Session Discussion	The GAC will discuss the outcome of the Cross-Community Session planned earlier that day to discuss relevant aspects of the ICANN Community in relation to the compliance of WHOiS with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This will also be the GAC's ultimate meeting in Barcelona on these issues. It is expected to pave the way for subsequent GAC decisions as appropriate.
34	GAC Communique Drafting	The GAC will finalize its ICANN63 Communique drafting - if necessary
Thursday 25 October (No GAC Plenary Sessions)		

ICANN63 High Interest Topics and Cross-Community Discussions

Monday 22 October	
HIT: EPDP on gTLD Registration Data - Review of Draft Report & Recommendations [Meeting Room 111/112]	https://63.schedule.icann.org/meetings/901519 In accordance with its timeline, the EPDP Team anticipates that one or more of its deliverables will be available for preview by the ICANN community at ICANN63. This high interest topic session will allow the EPDP Team to obtain input on the initial drafts as well as on any potential outstanding questions that should help facilitate finalization of its work.
Wednesday 24 October	
Cross-Community (CC) Session : General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) [Meeting Room 111/112]	https://63.schedule.icann.org/meetings/903389 How effective has the Temporary Specification been to date in being responsive to GDPR? Discussion on Unified Model for Access and Accreditation What role does RDAP play in providing access to domain registration data?
Thursday 25 October	
High Interest Topic (HIT): Innovation in Top- Level Domains [Meeting Room 111/112]	https://63.schedule.icann.org/meetings/901534 There are three goals for this high interest topic session: 1. Demonstrate that innovation is occurring through TLDs and garner community support that the DNS can benefit from new or existing TLDs that provide new products and choices 2. Uncover barriers to innovation so that innovation can be encouraged through new contractual provisions or procedures. This might be particularly valuable for the next round of new TLDs where encouragement of innovation might be one of the policy goals of the program 3. Garner some notoriety and support for new products and encourage cross-community discussions and education that might improve on the quality or uptake of current innovations.